



The 3905  
Century Club, Inc.

# The CENTURION

Volume 2002—Issue 5

December 15, 2002

## 25th Anniversary Draws To A Close

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The 3905 Century Club is almost 26 years old now as our 25th Anniversary year draws to a close.

During the anniversary year many events took place to mark the event and more history was made.

For starters, we added four new Master Degree holders in 2002 with the awards made to W5IL, KD8QQ, K7MFG and AA0ZP, which brings our total Masters count to 12.

Many stations participated in the program to operate a 1X1 Special Event Station in 2002 with the final count still climbing. As of the time this issue was being printed, the total had



reached 72 stations between the fall of 2001 and today. You will find a complete list elsewhere in this issue.

July witnessed our annual special meeting of the club—known as Eyeball 2002, held in New Jersey and hosted by Clay WA2JIM.

The Eyeball was a great

success and over 100 people attended. This Eyeball also marked the very first Mobile Antenna Shootout contest orchestrated by Tom AA1NZ. The shootout winner was Lon K0WJ—the Eyeball Host for 2003.

A special award was created for celebrating our 25th Anniversary, known as the 25th Anniversary Silver Certificate. A total of 19 people achieved the award during the year.

Year 25 also was the first full active year of our 3905 Century Club Callsign—K4CCN—which was in use throughout the year by many members, logging thousands of contacts across the country.

## 2003 Elections In Process

Starting on November 9th, following the approval of the Board of Directors at their meeting on that date, the voting season is underway for the 2003 election.

Members must vote for Area Director elections by either snail-mail or email

balloting and ballots for all odd-numbered Area elections should be sent to **WM4SG**.

Votes for President and Vice President can be cast during the “on-air” election on January 30th or they may be sent to **W0MYZ**—

the election monitor—via either email or snail mail.

The cutoff date for email and mail in ballots is January 15th for all elections.

A listing of candidates can be found inside this issue of the Centurion.

## Candidates for 2003 Election

Nominations are closed and the voting period is underway for officers for the 3905 Century Club for the 2003 term.

Candidates for the offices up for election are shown below. Be sure to cast your vote for the candidate of your choice.

### Candidates for President

**WM4SG**—Bill Martin, holds an Advance Class license and lives in the state of Georgia. Current Club President and past Vice President.

**KD8QQ**—Steve Wonders, holds an Advanced Class license and lives in the state of Michigan. Steve is a Masters Degree Holder and a long time member of the club

### Vice President Candidates

**KE3NR**—Robin Stout, holds an Advanced Class license and lives in the state of Pennsylvania. Robin is the Net Coordinator for the 20 Meter Digital Nets.

**KBØØKS**—Milt Whitaker, holds a General Class license and lives in the state of Kansas when not mobile. Milt is a past Net Coordinator for the 40 Meter Late SSB Net.

**AB8O**—John Bransford, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Michigan when not mobile. John is a professional driver and brings many states mobile to the net.

### Area Director Candidates

#### First Call Area

**WQ1H**—Dave Smith, holds an Extra Class license and lives in New Hampshire. Dave is the Area Awards Manager for the 1st Area and a past Director for that area.

#### Third Call Area

**N3EQK**—Ron Rudinoff, holds a General Class license and lives in the state of Delaware. Ron is the current Director for the 3rd Area and is the past Chairman of the Board.

**AA3FC**—Walter Kunz, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Pennsylvania. Walter is a past Director of the 3rd Call Area.

**W3KLF**—Ken Fleming, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Pennsylvania.

#### Fifth Call Area

**N5UJB**—Jim Arterberry, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Oklahoma. Jim is the current Area Director for the 5th Area.

**WA5YNE**—Wayne Rumley, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Oklahoma.

#### Seventh Call Area

**N1ZL**—Harold Lathrop, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Washington. Har-

old is the current Late Net Coordinator for 75 meter SSB and is former KD7EUU.

**KL7OR**—Dean Davis, holds a General Class license and lives in the state of Oregon. Dean is author of a logging program for the 3905 Century Club.

**N7OKM**—Hugh Mac Donald, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Oregon. Hugh is the Net Coordinator for 40 Meter PSK Nets.

**WM7Z**—Bill Thompson, holds an Extra Class license and lives in the state of Washington. Bill's former call is K7OLY.

#### Ninth Call Area

**K9TWV**—John Thornton, holds a General Class license and lives in the state of Illinois. John is the current 9th Area Director and also Chairman of the Board.

#### DX Area

**VE3DZR**—Dwayne Randle, lives in Thunder Bay, Ontario in Canada. Dwayne is the current Director for the DX Area.

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### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Check your mailing label to determine how many issues are remaining on your subscription. If the number looks like (0) this is your last issue unless you renew your subscription.

To renew or extend subscriptions, visit the Club web site and click on the link for The Club Newsletter—The Centurion.

## Weird Science In The 3905 Ham Shacks

At home...

When tuned a little off resonance on 40 and keying, the GFCI in the bathroom trips. Since I wear phones, I usually can't hear the XYL screaming from the darkened room. New GFCI has ( I think ) possibly saved our marriage.

In the Mobile..

40M - keying turns off 2 M yak box.  
20 M - keying causes an occasional flap or two of the wipers. 15 M - totally wipes out the rigs audio I run thru the truck 4 way stereo system.  
17 M - first touch of the key kills the engine faster than turning off the ignition switch **73, Tom AA1NZ**

I can't beat Tom, but I can add a couple. On 20 I trip the GFCI in the bathroom and on 10 I cause the iMac downstairs to boot up. Both effects are band sensitive. No strange problems in the car yet (except for the crazy drivers nearby). **Howie, AA3WD**

15-17 and 20m totally blanks out the broadcast radio in my car. In my wife's car I don't recall all the bands but 2m makes her rear wiper run. 70 cm takes out her broadcast radio. Haven't had HF in her car yet. **Larry N2OCW**

Weird Science continued.... When I transmit on 75m, the TV set in the kitchen turns on.

I also had to replace the AC powered smoke detector with a battery type. 75m operation set off the old smoke detector and sent everyone running out of the house screaming FIRE!!

I do hold another award of significance.... WANCs: Worked All Neighborhood Computer Speakers. Of all the consumer devices around, I get the most complaints from the neighbor kids with cheap computer speakers. This is pretty

easily fixed in most cases with a fer-rite. **Kevin WMØF**

Try turning on the pool pump!

I built my own solar pool heater and controller (see Circuit Cellar Aug 01). I used I2C serial communication to the temperature sensor on the roof. I exceeded the maximum distance for I2C by about 3x so the signal is weak to start with. If my mic gain is just a little too high the pool pump kicks on. This reminder keeps me from blasting the neighbors for too long as the pump is next to the shack!

Yes the solar heater works. The pool was 80 deg last night after the 75M Early net closed. And yes I did swim a few laps. **AD6ZJ, Loren**

At home the TV goes into reset mode and shuts down when on 20 meters.

In the car, keying the mic on 80 meters takes the Traction control off-line. A second keying of the mic takes the ABS off-line. If on high power, the engine shuts down. **Bill WM4SG**

Had a new heating and air conditioning system installed a couple years ago. First time I used my rig I heard an awfully poor version of my voice. Soon found that the electronic fan control WAS responding to my voice and every syllable triggered the motor momentarily. The manufacturer was no help so I found where the control leads from the electronic thermostat were spliced at the unit.

Using a 0.1 mica capacitor from each control lead to a common point at the nearest framework.

Completely solved the problem. Garage door openers usually have some low voltage control wiring. Might try the bypass idea on it.

**Earl, W1BML**

I turn the Air Conditioning and heater on in the 5th wheel!

**Hugh N7OKM**

In 1947 I was assigned to monitor a project at Pearl Harbor. Being married I checked Navy Housing for quarters but nothing available. I was lucky enough to find an apartment on Royal Hawaiian Avenue in Waikiki. This was a one story building divided into three apartments. At that time 10 meters was wide open so wanted to get on from a DX location.

I scrounged around and found enough parts to build a pretty good receiver on 10 only and an AM transmitter using a pair of 807s in the final. Not a whole lot of power out but the call letters of KH6RD was equivalent to a KW.

I made a hand rotated 2 element beam standing just outside the door. In true ham fashion I burned a lot of midnight oil. No apparent local broadcast qrm so did not worry about operating at night.

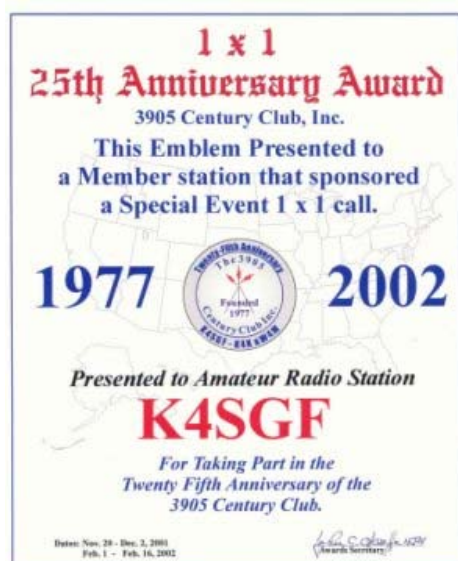
One morning the lady in the other front apartment was talking to the XYL. She was quite upset and was sure the place was haunted and was going to find another place to stay. What scared her was the low power night light over the bed kept flashing on and off even though the light switch was turned off.

Took a bit of convincing to get her to drop the apartment search. Solution, unscrew the bulb. Apparently that part of the wiring was just right to pick up my signal and was flashing with every word I spoke.

That was a wacky place and time. One day the XYL saw the second floor neighbor in the adjacent building leaning over the porch railing hanging some laundry from my ten meter beam elements.

**Earl, W1BML**

## 25th Anniversary 1X1 Special Event Stations



More than 70 stations participated in the program for 1X1 Special Event Calls in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the 3905 Century Club.

Following is a list of those stations that did participate and—in so doing—were awarded the certificate shown above.

### Start-End Dates \*\* 1X1 Callsign\*\* Sponsor Call

1.	11/15/01-11/29/01	W5W	AC5SU
2.	11/20/01-12/02/01	K4K	K4SGF
3.	11/20/01-12/02/01	W8K	W8UY
4.	11/23/01-12/05/01	K5O	N5KAD
5.	12/01/01-12/15/01	N8F	W8FSJ
6.	12/01/01-12/15/01	N9J	N9JZ
7.	12/05/01-12/15/01	W4W	W4CKT
8.	12/03/01-12/15/01	K3Q	KD3O
9.	12/04/01-12/18/01	W2W	WA2JIM
10.	12/17/01-12/24/01	K9H	WM9H
11.	12/21/01-01/02/02	N1Z	N1ZT
12.	12/19/01-01/01/02	W7M	KK7SR
13.	01/01/02-01/08/02	N1H	KB1DFE
14.	01/01/02-01/15/02	K6K	KO6CS
15.	01/01/02-01/15/02	W5W	AC5SU
16.	01/01/02-01/15/02	KØG	KL7QW
17.	01/01/02-01/15/02	K9P	K9TWV
18.	01/01/02-01/15/02	N4C	K4RWS
19.	01/01/02-01/16/02	W6M	WS6AM
20.	01/02/02-01/15/02	K9R	N9YDQ
21.	01/02/02-01/16/02	K8K	N8ISY
22.	01/04/02-01/19/02	W7U	K7MFG
23.	01/11/02-01/25/02	WØW	WA2PQE

24.	01/16/02-01/31/02	WØF	WMØF
25.	01/16/02-01/31/02	KØQ	KCØJIR
26.	01/17/02-01/31/02	K7K	KG7YQ
27.	01/17/02-01/31/02	K1R	N1RR
28.	01/27/02-02/09/02	K5K	W5UOT
29.	02/01/02-02/14/02	N5B	KA5UOA
30.	02/01/02-02/15/02	K9K	AA9ZF
31.	02/01/02-02/15/02	W5W	AC5SU
32.	02/01/02-02/16/02	W4M	K4SGF
33.	02/02/02-02/16/02	W1R	N1RR
34.	02/08/02-02/24/02	K7K	NS7K
35.	02/08/02-02/24/02	K7R	KB7RUQ
36.	02/09/02-02/23/02	N7N	KK1A
37.	02/15/02-02/28/02	K3K	N3EQK
38.	02/15/02-03/01/02	KØW	KØWJ
39.	03/01/02-03/15/02	WØM	WØMLM
40.	03/01/02-03/15/02	N8N	N2OCW
41.	03/01/02-03/16/02	N7W	KD7EUU
42.	03/01/02-03/15/02	K4K	WD5BJQ
43.	03/03/02-03/17/02	N1V	KB1VU
44.	03/15/02-03/29/02	N5N	N5OHL
45.	03/15/02-03/30/02	WØW	WØKRE
46.	03/16/02-03/30/02	W7A	WW7AS
47.	03/16/02-03/31/02	K8Q	KD8QQ
48.	03/17/02-03/31/02	K8M	KC8LTL
49.	04/01/02-04/15/02	K7H	K7ZH
50.	04/01/02-04/15/02	W7K	WL7K
51.	04/01/02-04/15/02	N7E	K8BR
52.	04/15/02-04/25/02	K3N	KE3NR
53.	04/15/02-04/30/02	K5T	KG5RJ
54.	04/15/02-04/30/02	WØC	WAØSMQ
55.	04/16/02-04/30/02	N8V	N8DXR
56.	04/25/02-05/09/02	N6N	AD6ZJ
57.	05/01/02-05/15/02	N2J	N2XTT
58.	05/04/02-05/18/02	N9J	N9JZ
59.	05/13/02-05/27/02	K9D	KA9DZM
60.	05/15/02-05/31/02	W2V	WV2X
61.	05/26/02-06/09/02	W8W	N8SI
62.	06/01/02-06/15/02	W5W	WT5J
63.	06/06/02-06/16/02	K7L	N7OKM
64.	06/29/02-07/13/02	K7O	K7OLY
65.	06/29/02-07/13/02	W8K	W8UY
66.	07/01/02-07/15/02	K6R	WB6LRI
67.	07/25/02-08/10/02	K1A	K1FAL
68.	08/01/02-08/15/02	N8P	AA8RU
69.	08/03/02-08/19/02	N4V	W4LTF
70.	08/20/02-09/03/02	W6W	AC6LU
71.	08/23/02-09/03/02	W5W	WA5YNE
72.	10/25/02-11/06/02	W1G	KB1VU



## Short Takes

### Using Old QSL Cards—W1RRD

Hi Bill,

I saw your note concerning possible articles for the Centurion.

This does not quite qualify in that category, but for your information, I qualified for the 75M SSB 100 pt award using QSL cards that I had received 22 years earlier.

A friend of mine, Willis - WAIWMS ( now a SK) had got me started. In looking through my cards a few weeks ago, I found enough old cards to qualify. So I submitted them and received certificate # 2454 the other day. Dick—W1RRD

### More on QSL Cards—AD6ZJ

My kids are not ready to follow my footsteps into amateur radio but they are starting to look at the QSL cards and that's a start.

Yesterday I received a rather large envelope from one of our favorite truck drivers. I would like to thank Gene, KG4NBL/M for a QSL card that had me and my family in stitches. Ham standing on a mountain top and transmitting: "going where no man bzzzt..bzzzt.." on another mountaintop far, far away "ROGER CONTACT".

Ain't this a great club!

Loren, AD6ZJ


### Want A Big Signal?



Then you might need to find a BIG radio, like this king-sized TS-940.

Picture (and idea) submitted by Larry N2OCW.

## New 3905 CCN QSL Cards

		<b>SOUTH CAROLINA</b> AIKEN COUNTY - EM93		<b>W4MPY</b>	
SPACE FOR CERTIFICATE NUMBERS		<input type="checkbox"/> EARLY NET <input type="checkbox"/> LATE NET YOU <input type="checkbox"/> MOBILE <input type="checkbox"/> PORTABLE ME <input type="checkbox"/> MOBILE <input type="checkbox"/> PORTABLE			
CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE DAY MONTH YEAR	UTC	FREQ MHz	MODE CW/SSB	QSL PSE TX
<b>STYLE WVB-5</b>		<b>WAYNE CARROLL</b> 662 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Monetta, SC 29105 U.S.A.			
The QSL Man® - W4MPY					

Wayne Carroll (W4MPY), the QSL Man in South Carolina now has QSL Cards designed specifically for the 3905CCN available on his web site — [www.w4mpy.com](http://www.w4mpy.com)

The cards are available plain vanilla or on different paper and multi-colored inks. The cards include space for 3905 Certificate Numbers, blocks for Mobile and Portable operation and the other information our club requires for the Awards program. Contact Wayne directly or visit his web site for easy ordering.

## Top Ten Signs You Picked The Wrong Internet Service Provider

1. Their company logo: two tin cans and a length of string.
2. You check out their address, and it's a phone booth containing a portable PC and an acoustic coupler.
3. Their chief technical officer lives in a 10-foot-by-7-foot shack in the woods.
4. Their proud boast: "We've been on the Internet since it was CB radio."
5. Their promo materials use the words information & superhighway in the same sentence.
6. You order an SLIP/PPP connection, email, and 2MB of server space for your personal Web site, and the voice on the other end of the phone asks "Would you like fries with that?"
7. "As seen in Better Business Bureau special reports."
8. "Access speeds up to 9,600 BPS in most areas."
9. They hawk both domain names and Rolexes on street corners.
10. They charge by the word.

## September Awards by NJ3V

### 75 Meters

#### 100 point

2450 AG4PP      2451 KB3BPZ  
2452 KC8TRP

**500 Point Endorsement**    N1UU

#### 1,000 point

415 W6BUM      416 N1UU

#### 2,000 point

144 WM9H

#### 5,000 point

29 AK8R

#### Alphabet

350 KB3BPZ      352 WA1CWG

#### Bakers Dozen

1127 KD4IN      1134 AD6ZJ

#### Bakers Mobile Endorsement

W6BUM(2)

**Certificate Hunter**    336 AD6ZJ

#### Nomad -300 Point Endorsement

83 AG4LB

**25th Anniversary**    18 KA5QOF

**Officers Award**      675 KB3BPZ

**WAS-YL**      107 AK8R

### Call Sign Changes

KC8IMK    now    AK8R

### 160 Meters

#### 100 point

307 W5ACS      308 N3WD

#### Wise Mobile

#1 K7NZ

### 40 Meters

#### 100 point

2211 N8FK      2210 AG4VC  
2213 KC8TRP    2212 W9BFD  
2214 W1RRD

**500 point endorsement**    WT5J

#### 1,000 point

#428 KØHNM

#### 3,000 point

#92 KBØOKS

#### 7,000 point

#24 N5OHL

#### Alphabet Award

#347 KE6FQC      348 AD6ZJ  
349 K8BR      351 N9KNJ

#### Bakers Dozen

1127-29 KD4IN    1130 WT5J  
1131 KM5SA      1132 N9KNJ  
1133 K8BR      1135 K8BT  
1136 K9TWV      1137 KØHNM

**Bakers Mobile**      #139 N6M

#### Bakers Mobile Endorsement

W6BUM(5)    KD7KHC  
K4CCN      K5DUG

#### Certificate Hunter

#335 KØMRC      334 KE6FQC

#### Nite Owl

#220 KØHNM      221 N9KNJ

#### Nomad

#126 KO2Q      127 N4UPX

#### Numbers Racket

#110 KO2Q      111 W3KMA

**Officers Award**    #674 W4LTF

#### WAS (all mobile states)

#867 K8BR

#### WAS/YL

#106 AK8R

### WAS Capitals

#461 KE6FQC    462 KØHNM

**45-50 state endorse.**    KK1A

**W/VE endorsement**    KD8QQ

### Wise Mobile

#18 W5IL      19 K7NZ

### NCS Certificate

Dean KL7OR

### Journeyman NCS Certificate

John K9TWV

### Expert NCS Certificate

Peter N2XTT  
Joel N5LXI  
Larry N2OCW  
Bill WM4SG

### PSK 20 Meters

#### 100 point

#21 ABØJH



## October Awards by NJ3V

### 75 Meters

#### 100 point

2453 KG0DX      2454 W1RRD  
2455 AD5FX      2456 KE6KZJ  
2457 WB6CYK    2458 WA3KYY  
2459 AC4PY      2460 AG4VC

#### 500 point endorsement K8TLC

1,000 point      #417 K8TLC

#### Bakers Dozen

1141 WM9H      1148 KA2WQR

#### Bakers Mobile endorse

W6BUM(2)

#### Certificate Hunter

337 WA1CWG      338 N0PUI

#### Nomad w/300 pt endorse.

84 W6BUM      85 K4RWS

400 pt. endorse.    AG4LB

#### Numbers Racket

#84 WA1CWG

SWL #15 William Goff

#### Officers Award

677 KE6FQC      679 N0PUI

WAS

#873 N0PUI

Wise Mobile

#8 W6BUM

### Call Sign Changes

N8ISY now K1ARL

WD5BJQ now K4KAL

### 40 Meters

#### 100 point

2215 K2GQ      2216 N1XYF  
2217 NS2X      2218 WA1CWG  
2219 WA3KYY    2220 N4ABC

#### 500 point endorsement KV7S

#### 1,000 point

429 KI0AZ      430 KV7S

#### 2,000 point

#182 AA6HB

#### 3,000 point

94 WM0F      #93 W6BUM  
95 W4YJM

#### 4,000 point

#63 K9TWV

#### 5,000 point

#48 NJ2LH

#### 6,000 point

#34 AK8R

#### 7,000 point

#25 K7MFG

#### 12,000 point

#10 KB5GVR

#### 16,000 point

# 2 N2XTT

#### Alphabet

353 AB0JH      354 K9TWV

#### Bakers Dozen

1138-39 N2XTT      1140 WM9H  
1142 KK2M      1143 K9TWV  
1144-47 KE6FQC    1149 KA2WQR  
1150 K8BR

#### Bakers Mobile

#140 KC0LPD

#### Bakers Mobile endorse

W6BUM(3)      W9JAY  
KC0LPD      K5DUG  
KD7KHC      VE6TG

#### Nite Owl

#222 K4RWS

#### Nomad

#129 N0PUI

w/5900 pt. endorse. 128 W6BUM

#### Numbers Racket

112 K4RWS      113 WY5S  
114 K8BR      115 N0PUI

#### Officers Award

#676 K4RWS

WAS

868 WB4RYR      869 K2SBV  
871 KV7S      874 KB7RUQ

#### WAS Same Station Mobile

#11 N2XTT

#### WAS Capitals 50 state endorse

AK8R

#### Wise Mobile

#20 W6BUM

### 160 Meters

#### 100 point

# 309 K4RWS

#### Alphabet

#7 WA1CWG

WAS

# 872 K8BR

#### NCS Certificate

Dale AK8R

Robert KE4DYG

#### Journeyman NCS Certificate

Hugh K7OKM

#### Expert NCS Certificate

Nadine WA0SMQ

Harold KD7EUU

Lawrence N2OCW

Bill WM4SG

### CW 40 Meters

Nomad

#5 AA0ZP

## DX on the 20 Meter PSK Net—OE4SMS in Austria

This gentleman checked into the 20m PSK net two weeks ago. I received his QSL cards in 4 days.

I sent him my usual package of 8 x 10 QSL cards (visible in front of monitor) . He was kind enough to send a picture back.

Peter, N2XTT

Peter,  
Thank you, many—many Thanks for your QSL Cards.  
Please, send me a mail, if you want



info from my City or other Info. I will send to you. But sorry, my English is not very good.

I was very happy to see a old Picture of my City in one of your Card.

Your cards shown on my Station.

Peter, I wish you and your Crew all the best, 73 de Sigi OE4SMS

## Super VIP's On The Nets

During our anniversary year, we were fortunate to have many of our Super VIP's on our nets frequently.

Several times during the year our Charter President—W9HG checked into the nets along with Original Charter Signers K5WSC, KD3O, N0SD and WA9KKM. Nice to see these gentlemen still active on our nets.

As well, out of our 12 Master Degree

holders, at least 11 of them were on our nets, bring their Super Wild Card numbers to the members.

Of the Master Degree holders, we are fortunate to have several regulars throughout the year, including AA0ZP, W4NNO, KD8QQ, K7MFG, W5IL, N2XTT, KK2M, W0MYZ and W3QZ along with occasional visits by KC1NA.

## Some Legends Just Should NOT Be Reborn Or Impersonated



## Visiting Shacks



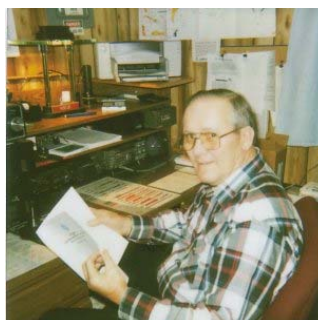
Rudinoff —N3EQK—in Delaware.

Continuing our visits of the radio shacks of members.

Here is a shot of the shack of Ron

In this below picture we see Ron N3EQK at his operating desk.

Ron is the 3rd Call Area Director and a past Chairman of the Board..



**PLAN NOW ON ATTENDING  
EYEBALL 2003  
IN THE KANSAS CITY AREA  
July 31—Aug 3, 2003**



## How About A Contest (Test Your Knowledge of 3905CCN History)

In the 25 year history of the 3905 Century Club, the membership has been served by no less than 233 club members that have held office.

Many of these members have held several offices over the years. Some held or hold multiple offices at the same time or have held an office on more than one occasion.

If you can identify the person who has held the most offices in the past 25 years of the club (and the number of offices that this person held), then you will win a \$50.00 Gift Certificate from Ham Radio Works for 3905CCN Club Gear.

There is no second prize—just one for the first person to answer the two questions—Who held the most offices and How many offices did that person hold.

You can either mail (USPS) or email your answer to the Editor at [wm4sg@wm4sg.com](mailto:wm4sg@wm4sg.com). Earliest receipt time stamp wins. If you would rather send it by U.S. Mail, the earliest postmark or email time stamp wins.

AA0KK - AA0ZP - AA1ME (SK) -

AA1Q (SK) - AA3FC - AA3RR  
AA4US - AA5ES - AA9DX - AA9ZB  
AA9ZF - AB6TX - AC5EB - AC6LU  
AD1OS - AD4HJ - AD4IA - AG5T  
AJ8Y - AL7HG - K0AFY (SK) -  
K0LJ (SK) - K0NL (SK) - K0SQS -  
K1BYE - K1DUG/3 (SK) - K1IVX -  
K2LJJ - K3HPG (SK) - K3SI -  
K3TYW (SK) - K4BZD - K4KAL -  
K4KWN - K4NJQ - K4NK -  
K4RWS - K4SSO - K4UQP -  
K5CWR - K5IUO - K5WSC - K6ACX  
(SK) - K6SSD - K6WPK (SK) -  
K7MFG - K7NZ - K8MO - K8MZA -  
K9TWV - KA1IFC - KA1OEI -  
KA3SQL - KA5HFB - KA8MVV -  
KA9JAC - KB0OKS - KB1DFE -  
KB1GN - KB2DK - KB3ATI -  
KB3GN - KB3PU - KB4CN (SK) -  
KB4JO - KB5FR - KB5FT -  
KB5GVR - KB5IPQ - KB5MRU  
(SK) - KB6FR/3 - KB6HM -  
KB8MP - KB9QP - KB9XA -  
KC0FA - KC1NA - KC2RB (SK) -  
KC3EC - KC4CZ - KC4IVI -  
KC4KY - KD1BM - KD1IA - KD3FM  
(SK) - KD3O - KD3XP - KD4EPK -  
KD5FW - KD7BVO - KE3NR -  
KE4UP - KE6FQC - KE9OI -  
KF0DF - KF4EO - KF7CT -  
KF7EG - KF8KW - KF9EB -  
KF9GP - KG8WL - KI5E - KI5RN -  
KJ8H - KK2M - KK7SR - KO4VI -  
KO6CS - KO6OP - KQ4CJ - KR7B -

KZ3K - N0SD - N1ABY - N1ZL -  
N2CFD - N2XTT - N3AIA -  
N3DPF - N3EQK - N3PM -  
N4OKX - N4VZZ - N5GAP (SK) -  
N5OHL - N5OHN - N5UJB - N5ZA -  
N7IGX - N7OKM - N8BO (SK) -  
N8DXR - N8RYD - N9OZI - NJ3V -  
NJ3Z - NN0O - NO5C - NT4Z -  
NW0L - NZ5M - VA3TA - VE3DZR -  
VE3FNM - VE3HR - VE3IKN -  
VE3ITA - VE3IVU - VE3KFO -  
VE3LRL - VE3OII - VE4FJ (SK) -  
VE4ROY - VE4XJ - VE7CX (SK) -  
VY2TA - W0KRE - W0MYZ -  
W0WVO - W1BML - W1BYH -  
W3LQY - W3PYZ (SK) - W3QZ -  
W4BKP (SK) - W4MNZ - W4NNO -  
W4PNV (SK) - W4PTW - W5IL -  
W5LJW - W6PIO - W7DO -  
W7IWB - W7LXR - W7ST -  
W8GJK - W8MJ - W9GBC - W9HG -  
W9RMP - W9YN - WA0QMV -  
WA0SMQ - WA1FYO - WA1ROI -  
WA1VQY - WA2HWG (SK) -  
WA2JIM - WA2TEW - WA2ZYM -  
WA4SGP - WA8WZX - WA9CNV  
(SK) - WA9KKM - WB0NNI -  
WB0NNI - WB0VRN - WB2K -  
WB2LSK - WB2RWT - WB4CHK -  
WB5BRF - WB6FM - WB7DTG -  
WB7NSE - WB7QOM - WB8MPU -  
WB9QEZ - WD0GAH - WD4CQY  
(SK) - WD4ROD (SK) - WD5FQQ -  
WD5IJQ - WD8JYN - WD8KKF -

## Contribute to the Flower & Memorial Fund

Please consider contributing to the 3905 Century Club Flower and Memorial Fund.

When members are found to be seriously ill or in the event of a member becoming a Silent Key, our memorial fund does provide flowers or memorials depending on the wishes of the families. Contributions to the fund should be sent to **WY8V**—the Club Treasurer.

**Thank you!**



## Stevie and His Friend Johnny

Once upon a time, in a little mountain village in Southern California, little Stevie found some folks on the radio playing a card game called 3905.

Having never heard of this, he asked if he could play also, and the nice folks let him in and said he would be number 28, whatever that meant. All the other players talked to Stevie because they wanted number 28.

They told him that their cards would be coming in soon, and if he wanted he could send them his cards for their bureau. Stevie figured they must be from back east, because he had a bureau when he lived there.....now he has a dresser and a nightstand.

One night while playing again with some new people, Stevie's phone rang and the caller said he was number 17 and his name was Johnny and he lived in the same little village less than a mile from Stevie. The two boys decided to meet each other to talk about this strange card game.

As it turned out, Stevie found out that his new friend had been playing the game for quite some time and always enjoyed it. Stevie began to play every night. Soon he had a dresser full of cards from other peoples dressers. They were everywhere.

Over the years, Stevie and Johnny grew closer.....also older, grayer, and wiser. Stevie decided to help the other players win the game by checking other peoples cards and making sure nobody was cheating. Lots of people asked for Stevie's help and Stevie's room began to fill with cards.....there was no more room on the dresser.

One summer day, Johnny told his now close friend Stevie, that he was

going to drive away from their little village and see what the big cities looked like. Johnny was going to be away for a month and told Stevie to keep playing the game and maybe we could hear each other from far-away places.

The month dragged on with only a few conversations between the two friends. Stevie wondered if his friend would ever return to tell him about the big cities. One dark night, there was a knock on Stevie's door....it was Johnny, and he looked like he hadn't slept since he left. The two shook hands and started talking about the adventure that Johnny had just experienced.

Johnny was glad to be home because he never saw the big cities, or very many small ones either. All the players in the games wanted Johnny's cards from places he went so he had to go there and find where the game was being held. After the game was over, he had to go somewhere else right away so he could play the game again from wherever that was.

Johnny sounded very tired to his friend. He said when he was in a place called New Jersey, he went to his eyeball with the other players but that confused Stevie so much, he didn't want to hurt his friends feelings by asking him what he meant. Johnny went home to get some sleep.

A few days later, Stevie was at work and ran into Johnny who had two big boxes in his arms. Stevie wondered if his friend brought him a surprise from the big city and was very excited.

It was quite a surprise when Johnny told Stevie that these big boxes were all the cards he collected from the other players in the game. With that many cards, Stevie thought,

Johnny would win the game hands down. In the same instant, Stevie realized that it was his responsibility to make sure Johnny wasn't cheating.

Over the next two weeks, it was Stevie's turn not to sleep, eat, or play golf.....no golf??? Stevie was beginning to wonder about the friendship that had been growing over the years. Was it coming to an end? Would he ever speak to Johnny again? How big was Johnny's dresser to be able to hold all these cards? There were enough there to cover the entire village as deep as the winter snows.

Stevie's wife to the rescue. She picked and sorted, grouped and banded, filed and read.. Stevie was getting through the piles faster and faster. In the third week, he started talking to Johnny again and Johnny apologized for playing the game so good. It looked like they were going to remain friends, but Johnny had another trick up his sleeve.

He played the game in more than one area of the radio dial and had more large packages delivered to Stevie with a simple note saying "you have mail".

The friendship was really getting close to ending as far as Stevie was concerned. Stevie wanted to stop playing the game and stop looking at cards. Stevie's wife was beginning to know the other players names and addresses and she wasn't even in the game.

Stevie had decided the best way to get even with his so-called friend was to finish going through all the cards, put them back in their boxes, and return them to Johnny with a simple note saying "now YOU have mail".

**(Continued on Page 11)**

## Stevie & Johnny

(Continued from Page 10)

Johnny would have to make room for all the cards at his own house now. “That should settle the score”, Stevie and his wife chuckled.

A few days later, more mail for Stevie. What now?. Well, there are different variations of the game and Stevie had to make sure they were all being played correctly. Well, Stevie did not want to stop playing the game, and didn’t want to stop being friends with Johnny, so the ultimatum was given.

Stevie would keep Johnny’s cards for a while at his house, then Johnny had to keep them at his house for a while. Stevie would only keep cards that he hadn’t kept before, but always with the option to give them back to Johnny after looking at them. Johnny was happy with this, Stevie was happy with this, and Stevie’s wife was REALLY happy with this so they all lived happily ever after in their little mountain village.

### CONGRATULATIONS JOHNNY (JOHN W6BUM)

- NOMAD AWARD WITH 59 ENDORSEMENTS ON 40 METERS
- NOMAD AWARD WITH 38 ENDORSEMENTS ON 75 METERS
- 3000 POINT AWARD ON 40 METERS
- CLINT WISE AWARD ON 75 METERS
- CLINT WISE AWARD ON 40 METERS

(AND YOU STILL HAVEN’T SEEN THE BIG CITY)

Your friend,

Stevie (STEVE KE6FQC)

6<sup>TH</sup> AREA AWARDS MANAGER

And special thanks to Stevie’s wife Debbie, KE6IRN from both of us.

## WA3EOP and the Pocket Rocket

Frequently we will hear WA3EOP and W3HAM mobile on our SSB nets. That would be Page from Hagerstown, Maryland. Page is also known by the phonetics of his call sign—We Are 3 Elephants On Patrol.

To begin with, here is a picture of the “Pocket Rocket” (Page’s mobile) with his 9’ tall Outbacker.



The picture above is Page—WA3EOP— being interviewed by Mary Estacion of WHAG TV 25 News.

Page has been and remains active on the Century Club Nets for many years, bringing several state lines and capitals to the nets while mobile in the Pocket Rocket.



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## N8DXR Column

I have GOT to thank KD8QQ for letting me hijack that CD of photos from the Eyeball this summer. Having a CD burner at this place really helps out with getting a copy of my very own (and I trust no copyright laws were violated in the production of my disk; even if they were, I had gained the express written consent of the NFL and Major League Baseball to reproduce, retransmit and re-whatever I wanted to do to them. . .)

All I can say after looking the disc over is there are a lot of you out there who are pretty darn good lookin'. . . now if I only had *names* to go with all those photos. . .

Oh, almost forgot: I have sent the editor a shot of me for the end of the year Centurion by the time you read this, in order to save the majority of you good money on fresh dartboards for your friends and relatives.



Let me know if you will be taking advantage of this offer so I can autograph them wherever possible . . . one thing that might ease the pain of the sharp objects is that I should have cards for KL7QW and KC0JIR (plus K0G and K0Q) finished and off to the bureaus by the time this sees print. Anyone out there who feels they got jobbed as to a QSL from these calls, let me know and I'll see what my fat hide can do.

I also still need a *title* for this column; any ideas out there??????

Now, to update the ongoing requests for information and other news:

- Stephen Anderson, ex-AA8DP, is still running for his hide according to the *America's Most Wanted* website ([www.amw.com](http://www.amw.com) for those of you with a short – or *shot* – memory). Our former member (as loose a term as you can imagine) is way on the lam in the Kentucky woods (or any reasonable facsimiles, including Artic encampments and Mexican deserts) for taking target practice on a sheriff's vehicle and deputy, the kind of act that brings out the worst with those folks. A nice thing for YOU to do is support your local police by letting them (OR the AMW website) know if you hear from our erstwhile former checkin at any time, and the sooner the better.

- Still no information forthcoming on the sites of three Eyeballs from ancient times that I am seeking for a future CCN website page. Once again, those locations are:

1. 1987 Eyeball X East, sponsored by WA2ZYM (list shows Indiana only)
2. 1988 Eyeball XI East, sponsored by N3FOC/WB2K (list shows Northeast Pennsylvania as the location; Peter/N2XTT thinks the community was Scranton, but is not sure)
3. 1989 Eyeball XII, sponsored by NY9L/KE7IL (list shows Indiana only)

And no further word on the status/ whereabouts of KM4MK (ex

N4GKP) who hosted Eyeball VIII East in 1985 at Maggie Valley, North Carolina. Am going to try a few other databases to see what I can come up with, the hope being we have a Rusty Key instead of a Silent one...

- Am still looking for dates as to when the first 160 Meter LATE net was held, and the date the *first* 80 Meter RTTY net was suspended or closed down for good. We know the first 160 EARLY net was held on January 1, 1984 but no firm data exists as to when the first LATE edition was held (for Nite Owl purposes).

Also, the first 80 RTTY net began on January 1, 1987 but nothing is at hand as to when that one was shelved for keeps. As mentioned, the *current* 80 RTTY net began on May 13, 2000 and should be starting up soon, along with the 80 Meter CW and 160 Meter SSB nets (we need CW on that band one of these days); I will do my best to get my hide up there and check in once all is settled with my situation.

Again, if YOU can help out with these holes in our history, get in touch with me or Jim/KD3O or any Century Club officer and pass along what you have. We'd appreciate it!!

Next up, a quick update on how the biennial Cross Reference revision is going – and I am going to need some help right now! Thanks to the RAC Callbook making the decision to fly off into the sunset, I'm going to need

**(Continued on Page 13)**



## N8DXR Column (Continued)

(Continued from Page 12)

a new CD route of checking calls and expiration dates, the sooner the better.

I have a bit of a partiality toward the SAMS database (I feel Buckmaster and QRZ are OK for online work, but on CD they *suck* thanks to some very mediocre interfaces and commands), but if anyone has some thoughts/suggestions/ideas/threats, you know where I am and by all means don't hold back.

Using the Summer 2002 callbook CD I purchased at the W9DXCC convention this September in Chicago (memo: If you are ever in the area at that time of year and you can make this one day convention, go! It is worth the money, believe me, and you'd be surprised how easily you can find a CCN member, more in a moment), I found 80 members of our club have renewed their licenses for fresh 10-year terms.

The bad news is that I still have exactly 400 calls left to check, but a majority of these are calls that *are* good but have older call signs that we need to confirm as to if they were brought onto the nets in the past.

Figure about 100 to as many as 150 of those left to do are expired calls that either need further research as to their being Rusty/Silent Keys or have just plain forgot to re-enlist!

Oh yeah, about finding a member or two at a place like the W9DXCC: KU9C/Steve, who holds # 1057 on 75 meters and helped a LOT of us out on that band with the WP2Z call in June, says hi!

And if his call is familiar besides our club rosters, just check through

some of your DX cards. . . as he is one of the biggest QSL managers in the entire country (hey, he takes in more cards in a day than I handle in an entire *season*)! And also a wonderful gent to boot, trust me!

Now we go to the Power Ranking department...as in who is nearing their Masters' Degree and who is right behind them...and since it's college football season, what the hey, time for the first annual 3905 CCN BCS Championship Poll (drop the C at your own risk):

First, no changes as far as the duo chasing Masters' Degree # 13, but they do have updates on how close they are. And since one is from Oklahoma, let's assign Nebraska to the other:

- NJ2LH, the club station of New Jersey's Lyndhurst High School, has the Net Controller award in hand as of the September awards update and no longer needs to get the 75 meter Poker Player, at least as per the current application's requirements.
- N5OHL tipped me off in an early September email that he had picked up another two DX on 75 and is still working on the Nite Owl on that band. And keep in mind Jim's got his Poker Player on both 40 and 75 — which means when he gets these two finished, he joins KK2M as the only other Masters' holder to get the award without getting his NCS certificate.

Still close behind are KD3O, for Virginia Tech (yeah, Jim, yer up in Maryland but the Terrapins are having a real off year, so go with the flow for now) and WK5S in Texas Longhorn country, with all the required basic awards but both still need their 1k and 2k awards on a single band.

Jim needs to get his pair on 40 meters while Steve lacks his duo on 75 meters to be the 4th ex-President (W4NNO, KI5RN and AA0ZP) with the Super Wild Card on their QSLs.

AA1NZ/Boston College and AA4US/Florida Gators still have all required Basic awards, as has been reported since the earliest days of this column, but yet do not have their 1k and 2k certificates (or any new RTTY/PSK net awards) on *any* bands. Sigh . . .

Next are those stations that need only one Basic certificate to have all the required point awards in the pocket; add WM9H to this section after he finally got his 75 meter 2k in September (by the way, noting that two of the calls in this area are CCN QSL bureau managers, there is a very strong rumor that Wil/KB5IPQ, has more than enough QSLs in his hot hands to make the Masters' on his first shot, if only someone would sort through them and lay them out for his applications).

This quartet needs only their 80 meter CW net prize:

- WQ1H/hmmm. . . anybody know a good Div. II team that would fit?
- KA4BHL/Tennessee, obviously (take the Gator game out on AA4US, ok?)
- N8DXR/Michigan (thanks, Notre Dame, another year shot to hell!)
- WM9H/On Wisconsin. . .

And K1DWI (same dilemma as Dave, just don't know Div. II all that well) needs his 40 meter RTTY basic award. Still waiting to hear from Bob as to how close he is on that one.

(Continued on Page 14)

## N8DXR Column (Continued)

### (Continued from Page 13)

Finally, here's the rest of the poll in the form of the crew (way too many of them for me to think up the schools at *this* hour of the day) needing only these Basic certificates to have worked 100 point awards on all our required nets.

The new RTTY and PSK nets are still not counted toward the Masters', at least for now; when they are, any and all adjustments will be made, in the spirit of the BCS program.

160 SSB - WMØF, N1EM (route all QSLs via KV1J) and K5YAA

40 RTTY - W2WW, WV2X, AA3FC, KG7Q, K8PG, WK9O

40 CW - W9VB

80 CW - KØWJ, W1BYH, KE3ZZ, AC5SU, K6FO, W7DO

As for stations in this section regarding other point needs to go straight to the very top level and join NJ2LH and N5OHL, a change:

Add in WMØF needing his 2k on 75 meters as he got his 1k in September. As for the others, W9VB still needs the 2k awards on 40 and 75, and W7DO needs his 1k *and* 2k on 75 meters.

And our first two Masters' holders – AB6TX and KC1NA – still do not have their 80 CW awards!

Let's get 'em up there this winter, what say?

Until next time.

Thom in Michigan  
N8DXR

## Contributing to the Smithsonian Museum

There's this guy who digs things out of his backyard and sends the stuff he finds to the Smithsonian Institute, labeling them with scientific names, insisting that they are actual archeological finds.

**Paleoanthropology Division  
Smithsonian Institute  
207 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, DC 20078**

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your latest submission to the Institute, labeled "211-D, layer seven, next to the clothesline post. Hominid skull."

We have given this specimen a careful and detailed examination, and regret to inform you that we disagree with your theory that it represents "conclusive proof of the presence of Early Man in Charleston County two million years ago". Rather, it appears that what you have found is the head of a Barbie doll, of the variety one of our staff, who has small children, believes to be the "Malibu Barbie".

It is evident that you have given a great deal of thought to the analysis of this specimen, and you may be quite certain that those of us who are familiar with your prior work in the field were loathe to contradict your findings. However, we do feel that there are a number of physical attributes of the specimen which might have tipped you off to its modern origin:

1. The material is molded plastic. Ancient hominid remains are typically fossilized bone.

2. The cranial capacity of the specimen is approximately 9 cubic centimeters, well below the threshold of even the earliest identified proto-hominids.

3. The dentition pattern evident on the "skull" is more consistent with the common domesticated dog than it is with the "ravenous man-eating Pliocene clams" you speculate roamed the wetlands during that time. This

latter finding is certainly one of the most intriguing hypotheses you have submitted in your history with this institution, but the evidence seems to weigh rather heavily against it. Without going into too much detail, let us say that—A. The specimen looks like the head of a Barbie doll that a dog has chewed on and—B. Clams don't have teeth.

It is with feelings tinged with melancholy that we must deny your request to have the specimen carbon dated. This is partially due to the heavy load our lab must bear in its normal operation, and partly due to carbon dating's notorious inaccuracy in fossils of recent geologic record. To the best of our knowledge, no Barbie dolls were produced prior to 1956 AD.

Sadly, we must also deny your request that we approach the National Science Foundation's Phylogeny Department with the concept of assigning your specimen the scientific name "Australopithecus spiff-arino." Speaking personally, I, for one, fought tenaciously for the acceptance of your proposed taxonomy, but was ultimately voted down because the species name you selected was hyphenated, and didn't really sound like it might be Latin.

However, we gladly accept your generous donation of this fascinating specimen to the museum. While it is undoubtedly not a hominid fossil, it is, nonetheless, yet another riveting example of the great body of work you seem to accumulate here so effortlessly. You should know that our Director has reserved a special shelf in his own office for the display of the specimens you have previously submitted to the Institution, and the entire staff speculates daily on what you will happen upon next in your digs at the site you have discovered in your back yard.

Yours in Science,  
Harvey Rowe  
Curator, Antiquities

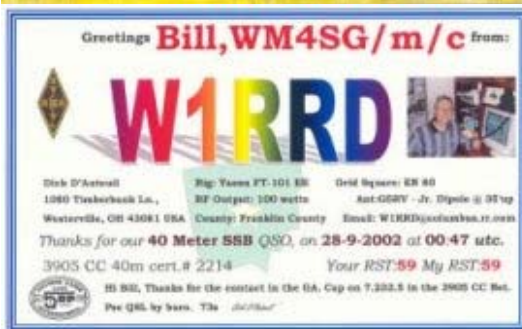


## More Cool QSL Cards



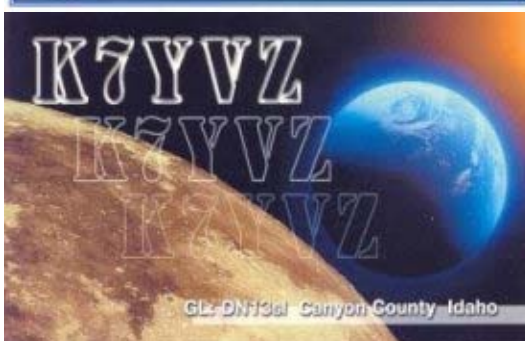
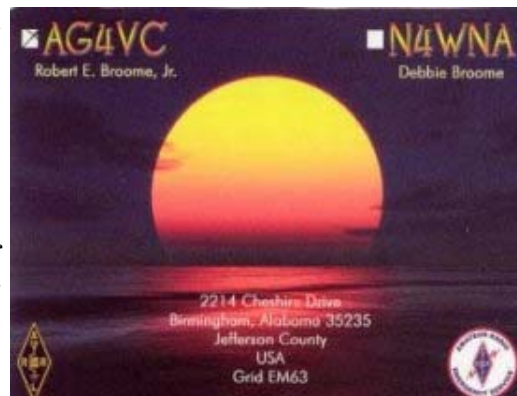
Our Club members have many different cards, some that are home-brew and others that come from commercial shops. Here are some more cool cards from contacts on our nets.

Top Left: Homebrew card of Paul—WAØNXZ of Denver Colorado. Top Right: Neat card of Robert AG4VC in Alabama.



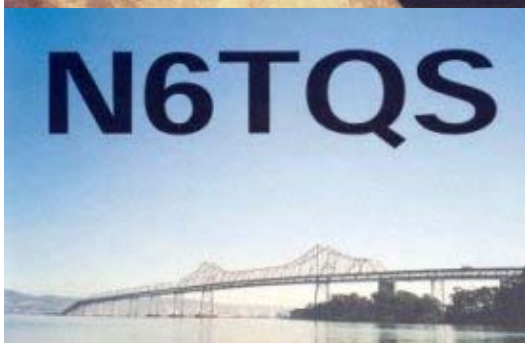
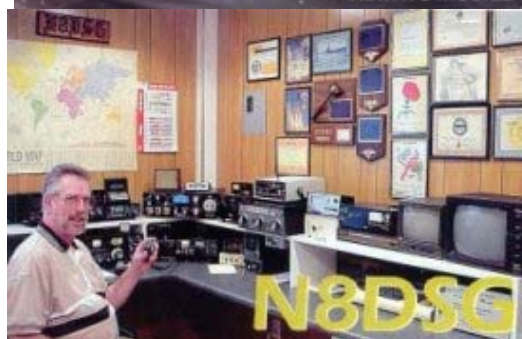
Left: Homebrew card of Dick W1RRD in Ohio with picture and color.

Right: One of the many cards used by Gene KG4NBL—always mobile.



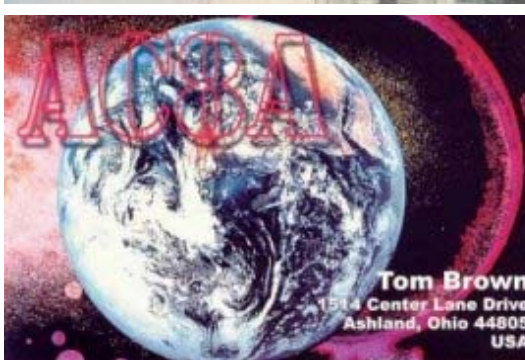
Left: View of earth from K7YVZ—Jerry in Idaho.

Right: Full color card of Bill N8DSG in Michigan with his shack (and himself) as the focus of the picture.



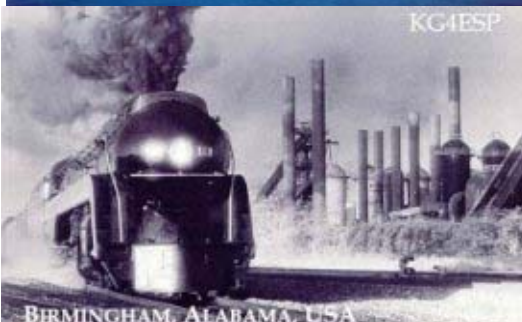
Left: N6TQS—Doug uses a picture of the San Francisco—Oakland Bay Bridge, which is scheduled to be replaced in 2004.

Right: K7ETT—Patrick uses the Montana (his home state) Big Sky Country as the theme on his card.



Left: AC8A—Tom of Ohio with a colorful picture of Earth.

Right: Train fans will love this card from KG4ESP of Alabama—featuring the Norfolk-Western 611 passing through Birmingham.



## November Awards by NJ3V

<b><u>75 Meters</u></b>		<b>1,000 point</b> 432 AB8MW	431 WA2STH 433 WA4BKW	<b><u>NCS Certificate</u></b> Loren AD6ZJ	Ben WY4D
<b>100 point</b> 2461 KA7SAG      2462 KM5MS 2463 W9BFD      2464 K5WPN 2465 KD4POJ      2466 KCØLPD 2467 N8FK      2468 KB8IFH		<b>2,000 point</b>	183 N1OBQ	<b><u>CW 40 Meters</u></b>	
<b>500 point endorsement</b> WA2STH      WA1CWG		<b>4,000 point</b> 64 W6BUM	65 WA0NXZ	<b>100 point</b>	105 N1CKM
<b>1,000 point</b> 418 KD4IN      419 WA2STH 420 WA1CWG		<b>7,000 point</b>	26 W5IL	<b><u>PSK 40 Meters</u></b>	
<b>2,000 point</b> 145 WA0SMQ		<b>11,000 point</b>	13 WB2RWT	<b>100 point</b>	23 WY5S
<b>3,000 point</b> 48 WA1VQY		<b>15,000 point</b>	3 K5FNS	<b><u>PSK 80 Meters</u></b>	
<b>7,000 point</b> 19 WAØROH		<b>Alphabet</b> 355 K5HKG	356 NT7Y	<b>100 point</b>	8 KK2M
<b>Bakers Dozen</b> 1158 N0PUI      1160 N2XTT		<b>Bakers Dozen</b> 1151 KK2M      1152-54 WA3SYR 1155 WB4RYR      1156 K8BR 1157 N0PUI      1159 AC6LU 1161 N2XTT      1162 N3EQK		<b><u>RTTY 40 Meters</u></b>	
<b>Bakers Mobile</b> 141 WA1VQY		<b>Bakers Mobile</b> 142 WM4SG		<b>100 point</b> 69 AA3FC	70 WY5S
<b>Bakers Mobile endorsement</b> KG4NBL		<b>Bakers Mobile endorsement</b> W6BUM      N8MFB KG4NBL(2)      KCØLPD KBØOKS(2)      KC5BFK		<b><u>RTTY 20 Meters</u></b>	
<b>Certificate Hunter</b> 340 WY5S      341 N3EQK		<b>Certificate Hunter</b> 339 K5I		<b>100 point</b> 32 AD6ZJ	33 N1CKM
<b>WAS</b> 876 WD5AFR		<b>Nite Owl</b> 223 KCØLPD		<h3>Be A Writer</h3> <p>Have an interesting story or pictures about your experiences with the Club or Ham Radio in general?</p> <p>Really want to be a writer? Think about writing a regular column or series of articles for The Centurion.</p> <p>Contributions to the newsletter are rewarded—when an article gets published, your subscription gets extended by one issue for each article of substance (two paragraphs gets you a pat on the head).</p> <p>Articles can be submitted in text or MS Word formats. Pictures can be submitted by email or you can mail a hard copy to be scanned.</p> <p>It's your newsletter—join in the fun.</p>	
<b>WAS Same Station 48 state end</b> WA0SMQ		<b>Numbers Racket</b> 116 N3EQK			
<b>Call Sign Changes</b> N7QHH now WT0A KD7EUU now N1ZL AF9FA now K9PQ W8FSJ now AB8MW		<b>Officers Award</b> 680 W5FMJ      681 K5HKG 682 WA3KYY      683 N3EQK			
<b>40 Meters</b>		<b>WAS</b> 875 KE4DYG			
<b>100 point</b> 2221 KB7RAC      2222 WD5AFR 2223 K5WPN      2224 KD4POJ 2225 W4PWC      2226 N7PJP		<b>WAS endorsement</b> K5HKG			
<b>500 point endorsement</b> WA2STH      WA4BKW      AB8MW		<b>WAS Capitals 50 state endorse</b> WA2JIM			
		<b>WAS-YL 108 W6BUM</b>			
		<b><u>160 Meters</u></b>			
		<b>100 point</b> 310 N7VU      311 KC8TRP 312 WB6CYK			



## Remembering 50 Years of Ham Radio—by WA2ZYM

**Editors Note:** The following is an article written by WA2ZYM—Bill Herbert—for The Road Runner, the club newsletter for the MARAC (County Hunters). Bill is a Past President of the 3905 Century Club—having served during 1983-84. Bill is also an Original Charter Signer and has held a number of offices.

I was sitting in the truck trying to get a readable signal from the net the other day when it hit me – I had been a ham for 50 years. I then had the idea of putting some of my experiences down on paper. Maybe someone might enjoy some of them.

While some of these experiences are probably unique to me, many are not. I am sure other hams have operated for as long or longer than I have and I know many have operated from more exotic locations or more unusual circumstances. I also know that many, many hams have accomplished much more in the way of awards, ARRL activities, club participation, etc. than I have done.

However, I have always looked on ham radio as a hobby – something done at leisure. There have been times over the years when I have been very active and involved. There have also been long periods of time when the hobby was more or less an afterthought. But I have enjoyed all of it.

Fifty years - That's half a century and believe it or not I can remember almost all of it, including getting my first ham ticket. The circumstances were memorable to say the least.

In those days (1952) you had to go to the FCC office to get a license or wait for one of the examiners to make an infrequent trip to a large city near your home. I was a college freshman at the time (Manhattan College) in New York City. After some intensive study, I cut classes one bright morning and took the subway down to the FCC office in NYC.



**Bill—WA2ZYM & Shack**

I arrived at the office about ten minutes before it opened. As luck would have it the first person to show up was the district examiner. He greeted me, opened the place up and sat me down for the exam.

His suggestion was to “let’s do the code test first – without that the rest is a waste of time”. I took his friendly smile with a grain of salt. After all this was UNCLE. I was to be proven wrong very quickly.

In those days you had to pass the whole thing at once or wait 30 days to take it over. No certificates of completion! Nervously I agreed with him. Now at the time you had to both send and receive. He had me receive first. I flunked. The examiner decided that I had come very close and no one else was there so “let’s try one more time” I didn’t realize it then but he sent the second test group about twice as fast as the first. I still flunked.

He then asked me to send to him since I had only missed by a letter or two. He said that if I could send well he would try one more time with the receiving. Still no one else in the office. I took the key (a straight key) and proceeded to send the text that he gave me. With a strange look on his face he suggested that we go and get a cup of coffee down the hall. He said I needed to relax. I was ready for the bad news.

Over coffee he asked me what I did for a living. When I told him I was in college he wanted to know what I did during vacations. I told him, truthfully, that I was a telegraph operator for the New York Central Railroad.

The examiner burst out laughing. “I thought it would be something like that”

I asked him what he meant and he said that on the sending test he timed me at 30 words a minute, but there were some strange letters in there. The light finally dawned as I realized then that I was unconsciously using what we called “Land Line Morse” or technically the American Morse code instead of International Morse.

There were subtle but telling differences in the two, enough to cause one to flunk the FCC exam. For example, the letter “P” is 5 dots, same as the international numeral 5. A “C” was two dots, a short space and another dot. In international Morse this would be an “T” and “E”. Obviously, a land line op would copy the “T” and “E” as the letter C. One result of this is that the land line operator would copy W5IE as WPC. This would obviously cause one trouble when trying for a ham ticket!

The examiner at this point gave me credit for the CW portion of the test and I took and passed the novice written. Three weeks later I was on the air from the college club station as KN2OSS. My very first contact was with California in the novice portion of 80 meters and I was hooked.

I worked a number of contacts during the school year that followed. During the summer I was back at the railroad key or teletype (high tech in those days).

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## Remembering 50 Years of Ham Radio—by WA2ZYM (Continued)

(Continued from Page 17)

I actually spent two summers working with a real old time op. The stories you hear are not fiction.

I watched him answer a call with a flick of the key. As the other end started sending (about 45 words a minute) he would roll some paper in the typewriter, get out his pipe, fill and light it and, finally, after all this, he would start typing and never miss a letter.

Since most of what we handled were train consists made up almost exclusively of car numbers this was no mean feat. To say that I stood in awe of him was a gross understatement.

Unfortunately my school work came first and I let the license lapse. Then came military service, marriage and several years of getting established in civilian life as a teacher and basketball coach. In 1962, I got interested in starting in again and took the test for a Tech license and was successful. I shortly received WA2ZYM as my call and I have held it ever since.

In the first couple of years I operated almost exclusively 6 meters, using a Lafayette HE-45 on AM that I had modified to accept 8Mc crystals (no hertz, yet). I bought the rig from Fort Orange Radio in Albany, NY (anyone remember Uncle Dave Marks?) for the grand total of \$15.

Originally it took 3<sup>rd</sup> overtone crystals which were notoriously unstable. Of course, in those days, you also had to fight the TVI battle with the neighbors who were using really bad black and white TVs! They heard everything from your rig to the diathermy machines in the local medical center.

In 1976, after a rather on and off operation, I found myself with a little money that I was able to use to obtain a new Yaesu FT-101. After a lot of listening and practice I was back up to speed. I took the CW test and

upgraded to General. I was off and running. To coin a phrase, I never looked back. The 101 was supplemented by a FT-1200 amplifier, antenna rotor, tuner, and a whole bunch of miscellaneous gear. The photo shows the ham shack as it looked in about 1982, not neat, but effective.

I operated more or less haphazardly for a year, although I did manage to get WAS and DXCC along the way, and then stumbled onto the **3905 Century Club** on 75 meters. One of the regular check ins in those days was WA2SRM, currently our well known NCS – K2JG/KZ2P.

I got interested in the club and operated it almost exclusively for about six years. During this time I held every office in the club and even had a hand in drawing up the original constitution and by-laws.

One of the most active members was WA3ZMY (SK) who was also an active county hunter. Bill and I developed a very strong friendship, went to eyeballs together, and visited each other several times. A good many people said – 1. We were nuts and 2. We looked just alike and deserved each other.

At one time we had a very good NCS who was blind and operated with a Braille typewriter. Lynn, WA1KKP, took a lot of ribbing about how good she was and how we expected to see her get confused some night. “Never”, she said. To ZMY and me that was a red flag.

After a couple of phone conversations to work out the details (we didn’t want any listeners to spill the beans) Bill and I sent letters to every ham in the country that had the letters Z, M and Y in his or her call.

We asked them all to check into the net on a night when Lynn was going to run the net. The idea of course was that she would never get all the ZMY, YZM, ZYM, MYZ, etc. calls straight.

As luck would have it, Lynn was ill that night. NCS was taken

over by Ray, WA4SGP, who heard WA2ZYM, WA2ZMY, W2YZM and WB2MZY check in and decided that “I have been sandbagged!” There were 24 check ins with some version of the letters “ZMY” in their calls and a lot of fun was had by all.

Bill and I also went to an Eyeball in Bowling Green, KY one time. The net was run from the eyeball and as my turn came up I took the mike from NCS, called Bill and gave him a 59 report.

I handed him the mike, whereupon he gave me a 22 and asked for a repeat of his report THREE TIMES, interspersing his requests with comments on the lousy propagation in KY. Everyone in the room was in stitches and those not at the eyeball had no idea that the NCS, Bill and I were all standing within a foot of each other and all using the same mike..

Once in a while, I would get on the county hunters net. I gave out a few (very few) and made some contacts but I was not at all serious about it. Next to my Century Club operating I was most active in the local RACES group. I eventually became Chief Radio Officer and for about a year served as ENY Section Emergency Coordinator for ARRL.

I can remember working with the local authorities during the annual spring floods on the Hudson. Probably our hardest emergency was in October of 1980. We had 29 inches of snow on Halloween.

Power lines were down, a lot of communications were out and RACES was the backbone of the job of keeping things in the right priority with local police, fire and utility companies. We received commendations from several communities and some very nice write ups in the local media because of our work.

Shortly after this storm we submitted a \$10000 dollar (that’s right – thousand) budget to the director of emergency services. Even after

## Remembering 50 Years of Ham Radio—by WA2ZYM (Continued)

our work during the blizzard he adamantly refused the budget saying that we didn't need all that stuff. Looking back on it I think he was afraid we were after his job – the furthest thing from our minds.

I told him that we were going to go over his head and take it to the county legislature. When we got a hearing with the public safety committee, he was very smug about us not getting our way.

That lasted until he found out the committee chairman was a college classmate and teammate of mine and the chairman of the county legislature (who stuck his head in the door and said, "Give these guys what they want – we need them") was my next door neighbor. Ah, politics!

About this time (1981) I got interested in mobile work. I installed a rig that had been loaned to me in my van and operated all over the country. By the mid 80's I had operated from over 45 states and several of the provinces of Canada. I still stuck mostly to 75 and 40 meters along with an occasional side trip to the YL system on 20.

I can remember working Perth, Australia on 20 at 9 AM one morning from Myrtle Beach, SC. I don't think that the Aussie I was talking to believed I was mobile until I told him my van was parked with the back bumper (consequently the antenna) sticking out over the Atlantic.

One heck of a ground plane. My mobile rig then was an Alda 103, if anybody remembers them, which I obtained from a friend in S. Carolina.

Once in a while, I would get on the county hunters net but, as I said before, I wasn't serious about it at all. It was just something to do for a change of pace.

I retired in 1989 and we started traveling even more than before. The rig was in the van and I operated more and more often as a mobile. There were long lapses but in 1998 I started to get serious again.

At the Orlando Hamfest in

1999 I traded in the 101 for an Alinco DX-70 and my general ticket for the advanced one. The amplifier, tuner, antennas, etc. were long gone since we had started full time RVing in 1992.

My first contact with the new rig was a local ham. Then I tuned around and found the county hunters on 14.336. I remembered what Bill, now a SK, had told me so often about the fun of county hunting.

I tried it for about three weeks and was hooked. Since then I have operated almost entirely on 14.336. I have given out counties as often as possible and, hopefully, have been able to help some hams get needed counties.

A few days before writing this, I realized that I had spent 50 years in ham radio. I went from CW and AM to SSB, packet and computers, from 6146s and 6L6s to Pentium 4 and digital synthesizers and from novice to extra.

My first computer in the shack had less computing power than my current Casio watch!

I often wonder what some of the real old timers who are silent keys and who started in the early 30's would think if they saw today's equipment. My original goal was to someday have a Hammerlund rig.

I upgraded that dream to a Drake transceiver and now I have an Icom handheld that is no bigger than the microphone on my HE-45. With respect to the availability of equipment and the plethora of technical information available, I am glad the "Good Old Days" have got up and went.

There are many things I have missed over the years – SSTV, satellite work and contesting. I did enter some contests from time to time but never seriously. But, all in all, I am satisfied.

I have worked all bands from 160 up to 440 and enjoyed it thoroughly. I have operated from 49 states and most of Canada (screwed up and didn't take the rig to Hawaii). I have

operated on land and water, from mountains and canyons and in the process of putting this article together (in early September) ran a county while parked in the middle of a buffalo herd.

I don't know what the RF did to the bison but I don't mind admitting that the bison made me a little nervous. When several animals the size of your truck are all around you, you become very cautious.

I am still operating, now mostly HF and all mobile, and still getting a big kick out of hearing my call on the air. Many hobbies have organizations and get-togethers but Ham radio is the only one where you talk to others in the hobby on a day to day basis.

The friends and acquaintances that I have made could never be duplicated in any other hobby. Many of them I have been fortunate to know on a face to face basis as well as over the air. Some of them are now silent keys but I hope they see this and realize how much they meant to me over the years.

I have no idea how long I will be around but I know I will be county hunting as long as I can talk and key a mike. Since I now operate entirely mobile I don't think I will do much CW but who knows? I am even kicking around the idea of satellite mobile work that I have seen written up lately.

We still travel all over and we are headed for Florida for the winter (from Wyoming) so if you need some special county e-mail me ([wa2zym@yahoo.com](mailto:wa2zym@yahoo.com)) and, if I can, I will try to get it for you.

73 and may you all have as many years and as much enjoyment out of ham radio as I have had.

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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 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 callbooks for several years) or any answers you may need are available on the club web site.

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