Volume 2003 ~ Issue 1

March 1, 2003

The CENTURION

The Official Newsletter of the 3905 Century Club, Inc.



Special points of interest:

- 2003 Elections Results-Page 2
- Good Amateur Radio Practices— Page 6
- Getting Started in Amateur Radio by W1BML—Page 7
- Raising and Caring for Pet Hams—Page 9
- Ham Radio—Hobby or Service by W9HG—Page 12

Inside this issue:

2003 Committees

December Awards	4
January Awards	6
Getting on the Digital Modes the Cheap but Effective Way	10
2003 Club Officers	11
Visiting Members and their Shacks	14
Announcements	16-

Make Your Plans for Eyeball 2003 Today!

Plans for Eyeball 2003 are rapidly coming together, according to our Host—Lon KØWJ.

The dates are July 31—August 2, 2003 and the location is Basswood Resort near Kansas City Missouri.

This year we will see some new program features as well as our 2nd Annual Mobile Antenna Shoot-Out, orchestrated by Tom—AA1NZ.

There will also be plenty of good food, keeping up traditions.





The main events will take place in the "Party Barn", shown in the lower left and right. And... it is air conditioned.

While the lodging facilities are already booked, there are several good motels in the area and there still remains camping

and RV parking spaces.

There are lots of activities for family members and things to do when not engaged in Eyeball activities.

The registration fee for the Eyeball will be set in

a few days and you will find everything you need or want to know on the club website.

Plan today to attend and get your reservations in early. The annual Eyeball is a good time to renew old friendships and make new ones.



3905CCN Hams Aid in Maritime Rescue

Members operating on the 40-meter net are getting at least partial credit for helping to save a hamsailor and two companions whose boat was caught up in rough weather off the West Coast December 14.

Steve Letendre, KE6FQ, said that during the late 40-meter session of the 3905 Century Club Net,

an emergency break came on frequency. "The man's boat was in high seas and taking water approximately 350 miles south of San Diego near Cedros Island," Letendre said. "High winds and waves mostly kept him from spending too much time giving us info." Letendre says he later learned from the Coast Guard that the

boat was being exposed to 12-15 foot waves and 60 MPH winds. Net Control Station John Milner, W6BUM, requested a hold on the net while Letendre and Joe Seibert, AL1F, in Alaska attempted to communicate with the vessel's skipper-whom Letendre identified

(Continued on Page 3)

Page 2 The CENTURION

Election 2003 Results

The 2003 Election concluded with the on-the-air election for the 2003 President and Vice President on January 30th.

WM4SG—Bill Martin, the current President was elected to a second term while KE3NR—Robin Stout was elected Vice President.

As well, on January 15th the Area Director elections for the odd numbered call areas concluded.

The following were elected.

Dave Smith—WQ1H was elected Director for the 1st Call Area.

Ron Rudinoff—N3EQK was reelected Director for the 3rd Call Area with 70% of the total vote.

In the 5th Call Area, Jim Arterberry—N5UJB won another term with 80% of the vote.

In a close contest in the 7th Call

Area with four candidates, Dean—KL7OR was elected Director.

In the unopposed election in the 9th Call Area, John Thornton—K9TWV was reelected.

Dwayne Randle—VE3DZR won reelection in the DX Call Area.

The new Board takes office effective March 1, 2003.

2003 Committee Appointments

Among officer appointments announced for 2003 by President WM4SG are the Club Awards Committee and the Presidential Advisory Committee.

Awards Committee:

N2XTT—Peter Summers has been reappointed Chairman of the Awards Committee. At the same time, the following members were appointed to the Awards Committee for 2003.

Jean Hurtle—KA1IFC, Jim Richardson—N5OHL, Richard Smale—W5IL, Steve Letendre—KE6FQC, John O'Keefe—NJ3V and Jim Higgins—KB3PU.

Presidential Advisory Committee:

WØMYZ—Al Remington has been

appointed Chairman of the Advisory Committee with the following members appointed to the committee for 2003.

Club Historian Jimmy Fisher—KD3O, our Club Registered Agent Ricardo Meana—K8MZA, Art Broome—KK2M, Richard Smale—W5IL, Charter President Howie Gould—W9HG and Gordon Love—K7MFG.

A Christmas Present for N50HL—Jim's New Microphone

Wow, did I ever get a real surprise for Christmas. My wife Linda (N5OJP) pulled off a good one on me. She rarely pays any attention to any of my radio equipment and is not much interested in HF operation. (At least that was what I thought).

Several months ago I was looking at a Heil ad in QST noting that they were now selling a reproduction of a classic 1930 RCA broadcast-style desk microphone. I showed the picture of the mic to my wife but never dreamed she would buy one. Bob Heil has a real winner of a microphone. Not only does it look great, but also inside there are two micro-

phones. With a flip of a small toggle switch on the back I can use either



the wide range studio-quality mic or the HC5 general-purpose mic made especially for amateur radio. Linda got advice from my good friend John Thomason WB5SYT about purchasing the microphone. You can also get the HC4 "DX" mic inside but John knew that I already had a Heil headset boom mic with the HC4. I could not believe my eyes when I opened the package. I discovered that the mic is dual impedance that can be used on today's modern rigs in the low setting and on classic rigs needing high impedance. I can use it on my Kenwood TS-850 and on my Heathkit SB-101 classic transceiver. Performance has been excellent. I am getting all sorts of unsolicited great audio reports. Many have asked me "What type of microphone are you running". Needless to say I am truly enjoying operating this mic.

Jim N5OHL

Rescue At Sea

(Continued from Page 1)

as Walter Jorgenson, W6ULT. (We later discovered that this may have been a "boot-leg" call as Walter contacted us and said it wasn't him).

"I was on the phone with San Diego Coast Guard, while Joe copied info as the questions came from them," Letendre said. "We were unable to get too much other info due to the boat getting slapped around pretty good. I'm sure the skipper had his hands full holding the wheel and a mic at the same time."

Somewhere in the excitement, Letendre said, the skipper fired a flare and a Mexican Naval vessel appeared and launched a raft. The passengers were taken aboard the naval vessel and the boat towed to safety.

Letendre is modest about the net's role in the effort. "By the time we had good relays set up, he was rescued," he said.

The incident did provide an opportunity for Letendre to acquaint the US Coast Guard in his area with the net's existence.

"The Coast Guard officer also thanked us and requested info on our group, so I gave him the home page," he explained.



Think You Can't Do CW? Think Again!

So you think your CW is too rusty to check in to the net? It couldn't be much worse than mine and you got to start somewhere. Give it a try. It's kinda fun. Want to smile... read on.

I have been told my CW Tx has been getting better but I guess my CW Rx still needs some work.

Clearly I cannot copy much when the speed gets going fast between a few of the regulars but I thought I was doing ok. Last night I was sure I got checked in as Nr 8. Then when the list was sent I didn't copy my call but someone else was Nr 8 so I asked for my number.

I copied Nr 12 and replied TNX NR12 then I copied Nr 6. I was confused but took the last thing sent as it... Nr 6. Then the list got started and at Nr 6 another station got the call.

I was beginning to think I was Nr 12 after all when I copied "Nr 6 AD6ZJ make your call". It was as if there were 2 Nr 6 stations!

I did make my call but I was still confused.

Last week I worked a couple of stations while I was mobile. Found out later the stations I thought I worked were not even checked in. The stations I worked had completely different calls then what I copied.

When I started doing CW on the CCN I had not successfully worked a single CW call. It was a struggle just to get checked in and if I got a call I went into panic mode with beads of sweat and everything.

Aside from all the confusion above I am actually beginning to enjoy CW. A thanks to all the CCN CW regulars who put up with my sloppy copy and always make me feel welcome.

73 de AD6ZJ, Loren

Ed Note: I can sympathize with Loren, having recently started on the CW nets as well. And he is right—the folks there always make you feel welcome.

Famous Hams-Who Have You Worked?

There are many hams who are famous personalities in one way or the other. Here is just a partial list of some still active. Following their call is their name and profession.

WØORE Tony England—Astronaut K1JT Joe Taylor—Scientist K1OKI Mickey Schulhof— SONY US KB2GSD Walter Cronkite—Journalist WB4KCG Ronnie Milsap—Singer N4KET David French—TV Journalist WA4SIR Ron Parise—Astronaut WD4LZC Larnelle Harris—Country Music Singer W5LFL Owen Garriot—Astronaut N5QWL Jay Apt—Astronaut
WB6ACU Joe Walsh—Singer/Songwriter
N6FUP Stu Cook—Baseball player
N6GGM Laura Cooks—XYL of N6FUP
KB6LQS Dick Rutan—Pilot/Adventurer
W6OBB Art Bell—Radio personality
W6QYI Cardinal Roger Mahony—Cleric
WB6RER Andy Devine—Actor—
(Now A Club Call)
NK7U Joe Rudi—Baseball player
9N1MM Fr. Marshall Moran—Renowned
Missionary
EA0JC Juan Carlos—King of Spain
UA1LO Yuri Gagarin—First Cosmonaut

Page 4 The CENTURION

December Awards by NJ3V—Club Awards Secretary

75 Meters 100 point 2470 WT7K 2472 KB3AAH	2469 N8RWE 2471 N7PJP 2473 WA7NVT	40 Meters 100 point 2227 KG4RXD 2229 W5NMX	2228 KB3IFH 2230 KGØVG	KBØOKS(4) WCØPD (3) AB8O	W9JAY AB8MW
500 point endor	rsement	2231 K4HTV	2232 WA7NVT	Nite Owl	
KGØDX	N1ZL			224 KB9TQI	225 KA5QOF
1,000 point		500 point endorsement			
421 WT0A	422 N1ZL	K5HKG	KB9TQI	Officers Award	685 KCØLPD
2,000 point	146 WMØF				
11,000 point	#5 NC8U	1,000 point	434 NØPUI	WAS	877 K5ENA
Alphabet	#357 K8BR	435 AD6ZJ	436 K5HKG	878 KB9TQI 880 WT5J	879 N9KNJ
•		2,000 point	184 KM9X		
Nite Owl		, 1		WAS Capitals	463 AA6HB
242 W6BUM	243 WB6CYK	4,000 point	66 W1SYZ	45 state endors	ement N9KNJ
		, <u>-</u>			
Officers Award	684 W6BUM	6,000 point	35 KD8QQ	WA Nets	16 AA3FC
686 AD6ZJ	687 KOMRC	, <u>-</u>			
		17,000 point	2 N2XTT	XTT WAS Same Station Mob.	
Poker Player	45 WQ1H	, <u>-</u>		12 KD8QQ	
-	•	Alphabet	358 KØHNM		
WAS endorsement WB6CYK		_		NCS Certificate	Jim WJ7Z
Bakers Dozen					
WAS Same Station Mob.		1163KB5WCZ		Journeyman NCS	Phil VE3OII
50 state end WAØSMQ 11641164-66 AA6HB		6HB			
		1167-68 N9KNJ		Expert NCS	Robin KE3NR
WAS-YL	109 KD8QQ	1169-73 K0HNM		DOTT 10 3 5	
		1174 KJ7CU		PSK 40 Meters	
160 Meters				100 point 24 KD	08QQ 25 KJ7CU
100 point		Bakers Mobile endorsement			
313 KB9TQI	314 ABØJH	W6BUM	KØMRC (2)	PSK 80 Meters 100 point 9 WY	Y5S 10 KD8QQ
				11 W8UY 12 N5	
			<u> </u>	11 WOUT 12 IND	OIIL 13 WUNIIL

The 12 Rules of Life to Remember

Sometimes we just need to Remember what the 12 Rules of Life really are...

- 1. Never Give Yourself a Haircut After Three Margaritas.
- 2. You need only two tools: WD-40 and Duct Tape. If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn't, use the duct tape.
- 3. The five essential words for a good relationship are "I apologize" & "you are right."
- 4. Everyone seems normal until you get to know them.
- 5. Never pass up an opportunity to visit the bathroom
- 6. If he/she says that you are too good for him/her -- believe them.

- 7. Learn to pick your battles; Ask yourself, "Will this matter one year from now?"
- 8. When you are wrong, make amends fast. It's easier to eat crow while it's still warm.
- 9. If You Woke up Breathing, Congratulations! You have another chance!
- 10. Living Well Really is The Best Revenge.
- 11. Money is Nice, But You Can't Take It With You. Ever seen a U-Haul hooked up to the rear of a hearse?
- 12. And Finally ... Be Really Good To Your Family And/Or Friends. You never know when you are going to need them to empty your bedpan.

PSK 20 Meters

100 point 22 K2SBV 23 KD8QQ 24 KJ7CU

RTTY 40 Meters

100 point 71 K4RWS

RTTY 20 Meters

100 point 34 K4RWS 35 KJ7CU

RTTY 80 Meters

100 point 23 K4RWS

Call Sign Changes

N8SI & AJ8T now AB8O KCØLPD now WCØPD

Not All E-Mails on the Chat Group Are Serious

Often times emails on the 3905 Chat Reflectors get a little strange. For those that may have missed them, here are some "threads" and individual noteworthy emails from the chat group.

A New Award?

Ya know, every now and then something happens that just brightens up your day... And so goes the latest round of QSL'S OF THE MONTH or maybe less than a month...

I got a pack of cards today from Wil...and I also got something special from KD8QQ...so this will be a special edition of O.O.M.

Thanks to Steve for the coveted SIX QUACK AWARD!!!! as it states, it is not to be confused with a 6 Pack... !!!! but it's is great to get something unexpected.. The SIX QUACK AWARD is to commemorate working the" Duck " on six 3905 bands! What a hoot!!! (or maybe a quack) Gotta love the creativeness and effort! Thanks Steve and it's up on the wall!!!

Other neat cards that just jumped out at me: KB3IFH with a fantastic view of Baltimore Maryland! WT5J has a very neat card and looks as if much time and expense has been put into that one...a classy home made card.

And the AI9D card .. OK... I did design the thing, but it was the first time I saw one in actual card format! pretty neat play on the call sign, if I say so myself!

Thanks to all for the cards and the creative work put into the confirmation pasteboards and I'm waiting on the 2000 point award now..

73 Dan KM9X Six Quack # 17

Too Many QSL Cards! A Thread Started with this one

from KØWJ

It's a bad situation when you go from filling out QSL cards to sending Christmas cards and on the first Christmas card that you sign, you write, "No Card Needed!"

73-Lon, KØWJ

Last night as I was working the 75 meter net and doing Christmas cards, I signed one to a non-ham family, "73, Bob and Gretchen."

It was late. I was tired. So I just mailed it without explanation.

73-Bob Young/W5UOT

I'll tell you what I have done, talking on the telephone ,is to say 73s - KB9TQI and hang up.

73 (for real) - Jeff -KB9TQI

How many times have those of you, who are like me, in police, fire, EMA and other public safety radio services, and in the heat of the moment sign with you ham call...

That gets weird to explain if they don't know you really well!!

73-Dan KM9X

I find myself on the telephone asking QSL instead of ok.

John-K9TWV

I have been having fun with it, teaching my Granddaughter to answer her parents' questions with "Roger", "Negative" and "QSL". She loves it and it drives them nuts.

Bill WM4SG

Meeting Members



Left: Joel—N5LXI Joel is a regular NCS on the 40 M Late Net on Monday nights.

First licensed as WN9LHL in 1964, Joel got his ticket again as WD8QIB in the 70's while living in Columbus, Ohio.

He moved to Texas in 1986, changing to a 5th area call and now has an Extra license.

The station HF rigs are an Icom IC-756 Pro and a Yaesu FT-817 QRP rig. Antennas are an 80-meter dipole fed with ladder line at 35 feet and a Cushcraft D3 10-20 meter trap dipole at 25 feet. He also has some antennas in the attic. The FM rig is a Kenwood TM-V7 and a Comet G-15 at 28 feet. Mobile rig is an Icom IC-706MKIIG and Hustler antennas

Main computers are an Apple Macintosh dual G4 and a Powerbook G3 running OS X. He also has PC's running Windows 2000 and Linux.

The QTH is the Lake Highlands area in northeast Dallas, just North of White Rock Lake. He lives with XYL Judi, who is a programmer, and Carlita, their cat.

Joel works as an artist, primarily in collage and photography.

AA1NZ-Tom's New Mobile Antenna



Tom—AA1NZ has installed a new antenna on his mobile, as shown in these pictures.

Tom will be running the 2nd Annual Mobile Antenna Shoot-Out at Eyeball 2003 and it would appear that he fully intends on being a serious contender this year.

Seems that I even heard something about a crane involved in this somehow.

Personally, I would picked a better time of year to do this (given the obvious snow and cold), but that is dedication to the cause.



Page 6 The CENTURION

Riley's Suggestions for Good Amateur Practices

During a recent interview, Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC was asked to give suggestions for good amateur radio operator practices. Here is what he offered.

- Give a little ground even where you are in the right.
- Respect band plans, so that every mode has a chance.
- Don't transmit a widebandsignal on a busy band.

- Don't act like an idiot just because you were stepped on.
- Don't damage or disgrace Amateur Radio just to save face.
- Keep personal conflicts off the air.
- Cut nets and contesters a break.
- Operate so that your listeners will be impressed with amateur radio.
- Operate so Hams hearing you

437 N9KNI

Expert NCS

1 000 noint

won't be sorry they ever got into Ham radio in the first place.

- Recognize that every right carries responsibilities.
- Understand that you don't "own" or have preference to use any frequency.

All in all, good suggestions and in keeping with the 3905 Century Club Code of Conduct—which can be found on our club web site.

John K9TWV

January Awards—by NJ3V

75 Meters

2475 N9DWG	75 Meters		1,000 point	437 N9KNJ	Expert NCS	John K91WV
186 W8UY	100 point	2474 KB3BMT	438 K8TLC	439 N9CUL		
2479 KIØHS	2475 N9DWG	2476 KJ7WN	2,000 point	185 KJ7CU	PSK 40 Meters	
11,000 point 14 KB6HM PSK 20 Meters PS	2477 N2OCW	2478 K2JGL	186 W8UY	187 KA2WQR		
Solo point endorsement KE4DYG K5ENA AG4DO Alphabet #359 WW3K 1,000 point 423 AG4DO 5,000 point 30 K1DWI Bakers Dozen 1175 KK2M 25 W0MYZ 23 KD8QQ 9,000 point 8 N2XTT 1176 N9CUL 1179 WW3K Alphabet 1180 K8BR 1183 N2XTT 1176 N9CUL 1179 WW3K Alphabet 1180 K8BR 1183 N2XTT 1177 KB7RAC 1178 WW3K 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ Bakers Dozen Mobile endorsement KB0OKS(2) W6BUM(2) KG4NBL(2) NØAOP AG4LB Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC Millennium 12 W6BUM M18enium 13 KE6FQC Millennium 12 W6BUM M18enium 13 KE6FQC Millennium 12 W6BUM M18enium 13 KE6FQC Nomad 130 KA2WQR M18enium 14 W3K M3KY 688 W3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 47 VE3OII Prefix 16 KJ7CU Pref	2479 KIØHS	2480 KD7JOR			100 point	26 W0MYZ
Alphabet	2481 K4HTV	2482 K1SO	11,000 point	14 KB6HM	-	
1,000 point 423 AG4DO 5,000 point 30 K1DWI 30 K1DWI 1175 NEXL 25 W0MYZ 23 KD8QQ 25 W0MYZ 23 KD8QQ 25 W0MYZ 25 W6EUM 25 W0MYZ 25 W6EUM 25 W0MYZ 25 W6EUM 25 W0MYZ 2	500 point endor	sement	· -		PSK 20 Meters	
S,000 point 30 K1DWI 9,000 point 8 N2XTT 1176 N9CUL 1179 WW3K 1176 N9CUL 1179 WW3K 1180 K8BR 1183 N2XTT 1184 KA2WQR 1184 KA2WQR 1184 KA2WQR 1184 KA2WQR 1187 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 144 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 145 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1184 KA2WQR 146 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ 148 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1184 KA2WQR 148 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 128 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 128 K1FAL 128 K1F	KE4DYG K5I	ENA AG4DO	Alphabet	#359 WW3K		
1176 N9CUL	1,000 point	423 AG4DO			100 point	
Alphabet 1180 K8BR 1183 N2XTT 360 WW3K 361 NJ2LH 1184 KA2WQR 1177 KB7RAC 1178 WW3K 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ Bakers Mobile endorsement KB00KS(2) W6BUM(2) KG4NBL(2) NØAOP AG4LB Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC Millennium 13 KE6FQC Millennium 13 KE6FQC Millennium 13 KE6FQC Nomad 130 KA2WQR Millennium 130 KA2WQR Nomad Nomad	5,000 point	30 K1DWI	Bakers Dozen	1175 KK2M	25 W0MYZ	23 KD8QQ
184 KA2WQR Bakers Dozen Bakers Dozen Mobile 100 point 72 AD6ZJ	9,000 point	8 N2XTT	1176 N9CUL	1179 WW3K		
Bakers Dozen 1178 WW3K 143 K1FAL 1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ Bakers Mobile endorsement KG4NBL(2) NØAOP AG4LB Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC Millennium 13 KE6FQC Nite Owl 226 W1SYZ 317 N0PUI 318 WT0A	Alphabet		1180 K8BR	1183 N2XTT	RTTY 40 Meters	
1177 KB7RAC	360 WW3K	361 NJ2LH	1184 KA2WQR			
1181 N2XTT	Bakers Dozen		Bakers Dozen Mobile		100 point	72 AD6ZJ
KG4NBL(2) NØAOP	1177 KB7RAC	1178 WW3K	143 K1FAL			
KG4NBL(2) NØAOP AG4LB Certificate Hunter 342 WW3K 100 point Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC Millennium 12 W6BUM 315 N9KNJ 316 KF4HAY Millennium 13 KE6FQC Nite Owl 226 W1SYZ 317 N0PUI 318 WT0A Numbers Racket 85 WW3K Nomad 130 KA2WQR NOPUI 318 WT0A Officers Award Nomad 130 KA2WQR Nomad 185 N5LXI 688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI Poker Player 47 VE30II Prefix 16 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts WAS-all mob. contacts Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE30II 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Oapitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net	1181 N2XTT 1182 KN6DQ		Bakers Mobile endorsement		160 Meters	
Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC Millennium 12 W6BUM 315 N9KNJ 316 KF4HAY Millennium 13 KE6FQC Nite Owl 226 W1SYZ 317 N0PUI 318 WT0A Numbers Racket 85 WW3K Nomad 130 KA2WQR Sakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI Officers Award Numbers Racket 117 WW3K Bakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI 688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J Was Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	Bakers Dozen Mob endorsement		KB0OKS(2)	W6BUM(2)		
Millennium 13 KE6FQC Nite Owl 226 W1SYZ 317 N0PUI 318 WT0A Numbers Racket 85 WW3K Nomad 130 KA2WQR Officers Award Numbers Racket 117 WW3K Bakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI 688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts WAS-all mob. contacts KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE30II 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ WAS #882 KE4DYG 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	KG4NBL(2) NØAOP AG4LB		Certificate Hunte	er 342 WW3K		
Numbers Racket 85 WW3K Nomad 130 KA2WQR Officers Award Numbers Racket 117 WW3K Bakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI 688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB Poker Player 47 VE3OII Prefix 16 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts S78 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J Nite Owl #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net 2235 K10HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS CW 80 Net 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	Certificate Hunter 343 KE6FQC		Millennium	12 W6BUM	315 N9KNJ	316 KF4HAY
Officers Award Numbers Racket 117 WW3K Bakers Dozen 1185 N5LXI 688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB Poker Player 47 VE3OII Prefix 16 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	Millennium	13 KE6FQC	Nite Owl	226 W1SYZ	317 NOPUI	318 WT0A
688 WA3KYY 689 KE4DYG Poker Player 46 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB Poker Player 47 VE3OII Prefix 16 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J Nite Owl #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	Numbers Racke	et 85 WW3K	Nomad	130 KA2WQR		
Poker Player 47 VE3OII Prefix 16 KJ7CU Bakers Mobile endorse KG4NB WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts 884 KF4HZH 885 N8RWE 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS #882 KE4DYG 100 point WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS CW 80 Net 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	Officers Award		Numbers Racket	117 WW3K	Bakers Dozen	1185 N5LXI
WAS 881 W6BUM WAS-all mob. contacts 884 KF4HZH 885 N8RWE 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ WAS Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	688 WA3KYY	689 KE4DYG	Poker Player	46 KJ7CU		
884 KF4HZH 885 N8RWE 883 W1SYZ 878 KB9TQI Nite Owl #19 N5LXI WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ 100 point WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC		47 VE3OII	Prefix	16 KJ7CU	Bakers Mobile end	lorse KG4NBL
WAS-YL 110 VE3OII 879 N9KNJ 880 WT5J WAS Capitals 463 AA6HB Officers #8 KA2WQR 40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ 100 point WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC						
40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ 100 point WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ CW 80 Net 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	884 KF4HZH	885 N8RWE			Nite Owl	#19 N5LXI
40 Meters 45 state endorsement N9KNJ 100 point WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC	WAS-YL	110 VE3OII	879 N9KNJ			
100 point WA Nets 16 AA3FC WAS #882 KE4DYG 2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC					Officers	#8 KA2WQR
2233 KT4AN 2234 KD7SJS WAS Same Sta. Mob. 12 KD8QQ 2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK CW 80 Net Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC			45 state endorser	nent N9KNJ		
2235 KI0HS 2236 KC0EAK Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC			WA Nets	16 AA3FC	WAS	#882 KE4DYG
Journeyman NCS 500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC			WAS Same Sta. N	Mob. 12 KD8QQ		
500 point endorsement Ben WY4D Joe K2SBV 100 point #56 W7RRC					CW 80 Net	
1			Journeyman NCS			
K8TLC			Ben WY4D	Joe K2SBV	100 point	#56 W7RRC
	K8TLC					

My Introduction To Ham Radio by Earl W1BML

It was the fall of 1936 in the truly beautiful community of Ridgway Pennsylvania with a population of about 6500. I had quickly finished my brown bag lunch (No cafeteria then. Schools were for educating children not care taking).

I wandered down the street to the News Stand to see if there was any thing interesting there. Browsing the racks I came across "Short Wave Craft" by Hugo Gernsback. In it was an article about building a one-tube short wave radio. That was interesting and, as it happened, I had just enough change in my pocket to buy it.

Now this was in pre-historic times for most of you and power had just been extended out to the suburbs where my home was. Up to then radios were battery powered using four or five big 1.5 "A" batteries (the standard filament voltage was 6.3 volts then), a 22 volt "C" battery for grid bias (needed to limit the no signal electron flow between the plate and filament, and two or more 45 volt "B" batteries for Plate) voltage. These were now being replaced by AC powered radios.

There was no garbage hauling then. Unless you hauled your refuse out to the Town Dump you usually had your own dump out at the back end of the lot. One man's trash is another man's treasure surely held true for we kids.

Allow me to digress a bit, as I may not have an opportunity to tell this again. I happen to own one of De-Forest's original Audion tubes. If you look at it you will see why the control grid became known as the "grid" and the anode called the plate.

The filament, grid and plate are in

line with one another instead of surrounding each other as later tubes were made. The filament is sort of carpet beater shaped of fine wire. The grid element is obviously hand formed zig zag (grid shaped) between the filament and anode and the anode is a single flat rectangle, probably about an inch square. Therefore, the name plate.

This grand daddy of electronics has a flash light type screw on base for the filament voltage and two wires out the top for grid and plate. The bulb is round ball in shape. If I get to the next Eyeball, and some one reminds me, I will bring it to show you how it all started.

Back to the story.

I dismantled a couple radios for parts and found enough batteries to have the needed voltage. I had no test meters but you could get an idea if anything in the 405 volt batteries by latterly tasting them (tongue across the terminals) and wet finger tips across the higher voltage batteries would give you a tingle enough to judge if it had any life or not.

The tuned coil was wound on the base of a defunct tube, soldering was done using Dad's soldering iron (heated in the gas flame in the kitchen stove). The design was called regenerative, so called as it used signal coupled from the output circuit to the control grid. Tremendous gain could be had to the point it would go into self oscillation at which point CW could be copied. Just under oscillation you could receive voice.

Well, some how I got the thing to oscillate and by chance came upon a voice signal. It was a Ham in Punxsutawney Pa. Handling emergency traffic. There had been a cloud burst and the community was flooded. I learned from the newspapers that he was a Dentist. That was exciting and I was hooked.

There being no one around to teach me I had to practice the code myself. Spelling out any thing readable in dits and dahs. To get my code speed up to the entry level of 13 words per minute I used Mac Kay radio (Probably not spelled right but it was something like that), which sent out Press dispatches. Sending speed was either 20 or 25 words per minute.

Needless to say, I passed the code speed with flying colors. I got my first call letters, W8QXF, in June of 1937. Before one of you youngsters jump up and say "Hey, Pennsylvania is in the third call area", Western Pennsylvania was actually in the eighth's area before World War Two. I was issued W3QXF when we were finally allowed to be active again.

So that is how one old timer got into the hobby. That was a time when you built your own transmitters and receivers.

The standard design for a transmitter was to build it into a six foot tall rack and panel with layer upon layer of power supplies using those beautiful old mercury vapor rectifier tubes, the exciter for RF, the final amplifier, the audio amplifier, the Modulator and of course the Antenna Tuner for tuning the open wire feed line.

My last home built transmitter was 1,000 watt RF with 500 watt audio modulator AM. It worked.

(Continued On Page 10)

Page 8 The CENTURION

Starting In Radio

(Continued from Page 9)

Got an SWL card from Australia giving me the log of an entire evening operation on 75 meter phone.

Of course the antenna was 265 feet long, center fed with 6" spaced feed line, mounted on 65 foot high power line type poles and on top of the highest hill in the area. A dream location I hated to leave when moving to Connecticut.

Most of the romance of old time Ham Radio is now lost in the days of rice box transceivers, commercial antennas that do not work very well and behavior that would not have been tolerated in "the old days"

73 from Earl, W1BML

Only In Wisconsin?





I don't see a gun anywhere here so perhaps the rider simply ran into the deer.

This was sent to me by a weird friend in Minnesota. The good news is that I don't see an antenna either.

He swears this was in Wisconsin, but I have no clue.

More History with W1BML-Visiting An Interesting Ham Station In The 30's

One of the most interesting Ham Stations I ever visited.

This would have been about 1939 and as a newly minted Class A operator, tops for that time, I had permission to operate on the 75 meter phone band.

One outstanding signal was W8BRC, if I remember right, a little west of me in Western Pennsylvania. I believe his name was Hal Myers.

A couple of us decided to pay him a visit one Saturday. He said "Fine. Will be glad to see you".

Now Hal lived out in the country at that time and (This was before the REA came into existence) made his own electricity using low voltage direct current (around 32 volt DC if I remember right) for house power.

Hal took us youngsters to his shack which was on the second floor or a rather large vehicle garage. He showed us the rig which was home built as was the usual case in those days.

It was in a rack assembly five or so feet square and about six feet high. The final tube was huge. Must have been a couple feet long. This was a 1,000 watt input Amplitude Modulated station (long before the use of SSB) so it included a 500 watt output audio stage to modulate it.

Hal hit a switch and an engine started up in a small building outside the garage, I image it was a safety precaution as it ran off natural gas from a well on his property. A long belt ran from the engine house through an opening in the wagon shed. A generator provided power for the transmitter.

The tubes lit up in all their glory including a bunch of mercury vapor rectifier tubes. Now here is the truly unusual feature of his station. He had a clutch arrangement activated by a large lever at his operating position which he pushed forward to start up the generator that provided the high voltage for the transmitter.

Quite a sight to see him leaning back in his chair with his food braced against the lever to keep it engaged while he was talking away. When he finished a transmission he had to lean forward and pull the lever back to turn off the carrier. One outstanding feature of his signal was that it was completely free of hum.

He was a truly fine and ingenuous Ham operator.

Earl W1BML

Raising and Caring for A Pet Ham

(Courtesy of Rich AE4NR)

Pet Hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. In case you do, here's a guide to the basics:

Living Area -

A pet ham needs a private nest area, an entire room where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures - boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, plastic, paper, etc., that it will bring home whenever it ventures out.

You will want to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter, and the boring of holes in walls.

Expenses -

Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but unlike most pets, a pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

Feeding -

A well-behaved pet ham will eat with the family occasionally, but it usually will feel more comfortable and secure taking its meals in the nest room. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone in there, even if it does not beg or whine.

Obedience Training -

A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks, the easiest and most common being "sit" and "speak". Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in its nest room.

Health Problems -

The pet ham typically suffers lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking, but health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

Travel -

Your pet ham will gladly travel with your family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the nest room. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families.

Breeding -

If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its nest room collection.

Ancient History from George—KB3GN (From the Early 90's)

George—KB3GN was digging through his archives recently and ran across this letter to several of the BOD members at the time—early 90's. Judy—WDØGAH was President from 1990-1992.

Hi: While I was at the Midwest Eyeball Judy, WDØGAH informed me that I owe a letter expanding on my BOD approved proposal for a "THANK YOU" award. Here are my thoughts:

- 1. Did I agree to that?
- 2. What did I let myself in for?
- 3. It is necessary so get the job done.

We all agree that thank yous are needed - it is the form and degree that need definition. Volunteers appear to come in sizes, from elected to appointed and everywhere in between.

Background: I have been associated with the 3905 Century Club since late 1979. I have held so many positions I can't remember them all! I would like to. It is/was not my intent to make the "thank you" retroactive. It is intended that all those who contribute be thanked for it on paper in the future

I have received a Multipurpose ARRL

"Certificate Of Merit" from the Frederick Co. Virginia ARES "for outstanding service to the Amateur Radio community". I wasn't outstanding, I was out-sitting in my Station wagon as a 2M mobile providing comm support for about 5 hrs to a Appalachian Trail hike. I also spent a similar amount of time providing 2M support at the Command Post for a Forest Fire without a word of thanks. Evens out I guess.

Operating on the theory of "Do the best you can, for whoever you can, whenever you can" I suggest a Yearly effort to say thank you to all involved. (Random Thought for special events nets "Volunteers Night"). I include Relay Stations above not to be all inclusive, but to acknowledge the efforts over an extended period of some individuals.

In my case as Net Control for the 40M Late Net, W5GMT was there every Sat. night (only authorized late net then in 1980/81) not for a four hour period, but many nights till we relinquished the frequency to the RV Net at Dawn (no time limit on the net then).

In recent memory KBØYX and others have been a Pre-net Person that contributed to smooth and more rapid operation.

Judy opened a can of worms! The maligned/ praised Net Controllers Guide, not read recently, (first authored by K1DUG with my "chop") has NO mention of "Thank You" letters to Relay Stations. Harold, W4NNO cringed when I mentioned a Net Control Coordinator "Job Description" but, what better place to hang a hook to remind "management" to thank the troops if only by letter (and a note to the Awards Secretary re service towards the Net Controllers Award).

A 3x5 Card of guidance may have helped me to remember to thank the folks who contributed to the 80M Late Net, 40M Net, CW/RTTY Net or 160M Net that I have been responsible for (and neglected to do).

K3TYW, who may well be the longest serving VIP and as a "Double Dipper" as Awards Manager for both 2nd and 3rd Call Areas is probably the least thanked member of the 3905 Century Club (and I didn't do it as 3rd Area Director either).

I was, as recipient of a 80/81 service award as the 40M Late Net Control, consulted by President WA2ZYM as to the 81/82 award. I nominated K3TYW, but W3LQY the retiring 80M QSL Bureau Manager received it. There was no recognition for "runner-ups".

My award was a Gold Seal about 2 inches in diameter attached to a 3x4 typewritten note.

(Continued On Page 11)

Page 10 The CENTURION

Getting on the Digital Modes on the Cheap by Loren—AD6ZJ

So you want to get on the digital nets and see what all the hype is about.

You just want to give it a try and not break the bank getting the slick commercial setup. If you have a PC running windows with a soundcard you are close already. I assume of course that you have some sort of HF transceiver or you wouldn't be getting this publica-

Software for the digital modes can be had for free off the Internet and there are many choices. I will not go into detail on the software as many have done that already. Suffice to say I use Digipan for PSK and Hamscope for RTTY.

Following is one way but certainly not the only way to build the interface.

- 1) Start by taking apart a few base units for the older cordless phones. These are the ones found at garage sales for about a buck. Inside you will find an audio transformer a little larger than 1" square. Or you can buy new ones but you need 2 audio transformers. (Save the rest of the guts for more fun projects...).
- 2) Find a shielded audio cable with 1/8" stereo connectors on both ends (I use Radio Shack #42-2387).
- 3) Cut the audio cable in half and hook up to one end of each transformer. Shield to one contact and one of the shielded wires connected to another contact. I never can remember right vs. left so I just guess and swap it if it is wrong. You now have 2 identical isolated connections for TX and RX out of your PC.
- Figure out the best place to connect to your rig. I like to use the RCA jacks found on many Kenwood products for AFSK (TS440S) or Phone Patch (TS820S). Some rigs

will require using the ACC connection or the mic and speaker connections. If you need to do this it's a different set of connectors on the Rig end of things but other liking. With the rig into a dummy load, VOX selected and mic gain down select TX in the software. Slowly turn up your mic gain until the ALC just starts to budge then

Ultra Simple Ultra Cheap Digital Mode Interface J3 1/8" stereo plug J1 RCA JACK Audio XFMR 1:1 or 2:1 J2 RCA JACK 1/8" stereo plug Т2 <u>2</u> Audio XFMR 1:1 or 2:1 Use shielded cable for all connections J4 1/8" stereo plug

Audio XFMR 1:1 or 2:1 ~ 500 ohms ~10 ohms Option for potentiometer hookup. Values are not critical

than that it is the same.

- For the RCA connections to the AFSK input I use a good quality RCA jack type audio patch cord. Cut it in half and wire each half to the other end of the transformers. Now you have 2 identical patch cords for hooking your rig to your PC.
- The hookup: Plug the AFSK out on the RIG to Line in on PC. Plug the audio out on PC to the AFSK in on rig.
- PTT or VOX. I have always used the VOX setting and it works fine. Try VOX first if that doesn't work consult another ham for PTT hookup through the serial port. Note that on some rigs (TS440S) VOX through the AFSK will not work if the mic is connected. I unplug the mic when going digital.
- Run your favorite digital mode software and adjust the "line in" input level for the programs

back off the gain until the ALC has no deflection at all. You now are readv to QSO digital.

Options: Install a potentiometer in each connection going to the PC to adjust levels. Really not necessary but it gives

more flexibility.

Pitfalls: Don't use unshielded audio cables! RF has a way of getting into you PC and spoiling your fun. Try to avoid ladder line near the PC for the same reason. Don't be tempted to run in digital mode with an ALC indication - it causes harmonics and makes your signal harder to lock onto not stronger.



Here is a interface cable that I made in a hurry one day.

PSK and RTTY on the CC nets can be lots of fun. In any given digital net you are usually given the opportunity to work all the stations you can copy. Hope to print you soon.

73 de AD6ZJ, Loren

Page 11 The CENTURION

Ancient History (Continued)

(Continued From Page 9)

The note read "Dear Century Club member, Enclosed please find your service award for 1980-81. Awarded to you in appreciation for your service as" (The ... Was handwritten in "Net Control Station") "73 Dave WB3AMO"

I was elated to receive the unexpected, but was most curious as what to stick it to.

To tackle the WHO it is suggested that "Thank You" Awards be authorized by the BOD for all those volunteers and that the Awards Committee Chairman does the work involved. The BOD to take action at the February meeting WHEN those whose term of office is ending 1 March.

For those to be considered for Thank You Awards, the "Minutes of the last meeting/ Agenda for January should solicit IMMEDI-ATE nominations, in writing, from the appointer to be provided for approval to the next rung up the ladder to be reported at the February BOD meeting. Presidential nominations should not require further approval. Area Director nominations to be approved by the Vice President. Net Coordinator nominations to be approved by the Vice President.

Net Control nominations to be approved by the Net Control Coordinator.

For the WHAT a unique name for each level of contribution (or levels) may be desirable consistent with cost considerations.

Now if there was a volunteer with a Laser Printer....but any Computer generated Graphics "Thank You" might suffice for some levels. A plaque for president and vice president doesn't seem out of line.

OK Guys, get to work and smooth this rambling out to something workable....and thank YOU for your involvement in the 3905 Century Club!

Sorry this took so long and Respectfully,

George—KB3GN

Copy to: WB2K, KZ3K, KB0YX, NJ3V, WD0GAH, W4PNV, WA4SGP

Editor's Note: The Club now has Certificates of Appreciation which are awarded each year, along with the special KD3FM Service Award.

To the right, you will see an award presented to George—KB3GN.

3905 Century Club-2003 Officers

The 2003 elections have concluded and most all appointments have been made for the coming year.

Following are your 3905 Century Club officers for 2003.

President—Bill Martin WM4SG • Vice President—Robin Stout KE3NR
Secretary —Earl Hubbard WY8V • Treasurer—Earl Hubbard WY8V
Chairman of the Board—John Thornton K9TWV • Historian—Jim Fisher KD3O
Registered Agent—Ricardo Meana K8MZA • Web Master—Jim Fisher KD3O
Awards Secretary—John O'Keefe NJ3V• Information Officer—Jim Higgins KB3PU
Eyeball Host—Lon Martin KØWJ• Public Relations Officer—Kevin Burkhart WMØF
NCS Training Officer—Hugh Armstrong NT4Z • Past President—Steve Sparks WK5S
Assistant to BOD—Gladys Zickler WB2RWT•Centurion Editor—Bill Martin WM4SG

Area Officers (Area Directors are members of the Board of Directors)

1st Area Director—Dave Smith WQ1H

Alternate—Earl Smith W1BML • Awards Manager—Dave Smith WQ1H **2nd** Area Director—Peter Summers N2XTT

Alternate—Clay Statmore WA4JIM • Awards Manager—Clay Statmore WA2JIM **3rd** Area Director—Ron Rudinoff N3EQK

Alternate—Ron Cox W3QX • Awards Manager—Ron Cox W3QZ 4th Area Director—Robert Duckworth KE4DYG

Alternate—Ben Hall WY4D • Awards Manager—Ron Statzer K4RWS **5th** Area Director—Jim Arterberry N5UJB

Alternate—Fred Frederick • Awards Manager—Jim Richardson N5OHL 6th Area Director—Ray Krank AC6LU

Alternate—John Milner W6BUM • Awards Manager—Steve Letendre KE6FQC **7th** Area Director—Dean Davis KL7OR

Alternate—Russ Fillinger W7LXR • Awards Manager—Mel Hickman KK7SR 8th Area Director—Earl Hubbard WY8V

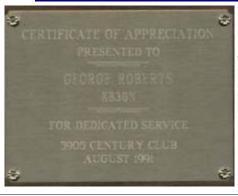
Alternate—Jim Maxwell N8RYD • Awards Manager—Margaret Jenvey W8GJK

9th Area Director—John Thornton K9TWV

Alternate—Ron Kaufman N9KNJ • Awards Manager—John Meyer AA9ZB 10th Area Director—Frank Taylor AAØZP

Alternate—Hal Bronkala WØKRE • Awards Manager—Nadine Hopson WAØSMQ **DX** Area Director—Dwayne Randle VE3DZR

Alternate—Phil King VE3OII • Awards Manager—Phil King VE3OII



Pictured to the left is a plaque sent to the wife of George KB3GN by Judy WDØGAH, with instructions to get him on the air for the actual presentation.

Thanks George for sharing this part of club history with us—and a late congratulations on the award.

Page 12 The CENTURION

" Ham Radio — Hobby Or Service" by Howie Gould W9HG

Sometimes, we just have to stand back and take stock of ourselves, and maybe examine our direction and aims. The beginning of a new year always offers an excellent time for us to do just that.

How about if we take a thoughtful look at amateur radio itself?

Well, this discussion is not only interesting but very important. Amateur radio is at a pivot point in history where it is critical for us to know just what we are: members of a radio service or electronic hobbyists?

I like to believe we are both and even more. There is no doubt that our mission statement has changed even though Part 97 is relatively unchanged in its wording. Handling traffic, checking into nets, chasing DX, learning to use CW as another Ham tool, building antennas, working with QRP, and experimenting with things like PSK31, satellite communication and digital voice transmission are just a few of the fun parts of amateur radio today.

However, we cannot hide from reality. Look at the coming of powerful home computers, high speed electronic connections, world wide communication and information transfer via the Internet, cheap long distance rates via phone cards, hand held Cell phones that can reach parties around the globe, global positioning satellite equipment that tells us at all times where we are and where we are going, and on and In my opinion only a fool would say that Amateur Radio is the same thing that it was twenty years ago.

We are at a new page in Amateur Radio History. It is not the

end of Ham Radio. That is a prediction that has been made each time in the past when new electronic communication technology has been developed.

Also, it is not the dawn of a new age where Amateur Radio will only be some form of charity or community service organization. Nor will Ham Radio be just a fun pastime for the electronically talented or technically curious. Nor will it be just another market for the commercial sale of high tech toys like high fidelity stereo sound or high definition TV. (Yes, Virginia, Radio Shack was once a serious source of electronic parts for Ham Radio Operators before it became an electronic toy store to survive in today's market.)

What then are we to become in this new phase of our history?? That depends on us. Yes, we are to some extent all of the things mentioned above and more. But there are new challenges now before us.

We are faced with a foreign world that is developing highly skilled engineers, scientists and technicians faster than we are. Our educators have not been able to generate the spark of curiosity and the desire to learn in many of our young Americans.

That "spark" in the past has made our country the most innovative and productive in recorded history. We are faced with new technologies that both make our lives more comfortable than ever before. And yet, most of us feel exhausted and overwhelmed by the speed of ongoing new developments.

Our automobiles are the best and safest in history, yet highway accidents are the leading cause of death for young people between 15 and 20 years old.

We know more about alternate fuels, recycling our waste, the protection of our natural environment, and the dangers of smoking than ever before. And yet smog still hangs over our city, our streams and lakes are still polluted. People still throw their waste out of car windows and leave trash to float down the rivers.

We have not been able to help people stop a deadly habit that causes them to spend billions of dollars just to kill themselves with lung cancer.

And we think we have problems in Ham Radio??? It is my opinion, however, that the challenge has never been greater for Amateur Radio to demonstrate the importance of electronic communication and the use of sound methodology for the transfer of information.

The challenge is to experiment and develop new and better methods. The challenge is to create a spark for our young Americans who will become the leaders of our Country when most of us have already "shorted to ground."

The challenge is to serve our communities and demonstrate the need for an amateur radio service whether it is in providing safety through communications at a parade, setting up demonstrations of ham radio for public education, enjoying benefits of a 3905CCN, or helping with the myriad of communication problems associated with public safety during foul and dangerous weather.

The challenge is to provide a well trained cadre of volunteer radio operators to provide back up for communications necessary for the defense of our homeland from terrorists.

(Continued on Page 13)

Page 13 The CENTURION

" Ham Radio — Hobby Or Service" by Howie Gould W9HG (Continued)

(Continued from Page 12)

There are some who say that Ham radio is no longer needed and the valuable frequencies we have should be sold to commercial interests to help with the national debt.

What if tomorrow they were to outlaw visible ham antennas and towers everywhere? What if they reduced our maximum output power to five watts? What if they made the sale of commercially manufactured ham radio gear illegal? What if they said all future ham activities would be restricted to 11 meters?

Well, it has happened before. The frequencies being used in the early days of ham radio were stripped away by the government and given to commercial interests. Ham radio was restricted to the spectrum we now call the HF frequencies which at that time were thought to be worthless.

The hams of that day met the challenge and found through experimentation that the HF frequencies could be used for long distance communication by bouncing signals off of the ionosphere.

Ham radio transmissions were silenced completely during World War II Thank God for the trained ham operators that were able to step in and help train the radiomen needed at that time.

After the war AM was challenged by a new technology called single sideband. Many felt it would be "the end of Ham radio as they knew it."

So where are we now?? Same as before?? As I said earlier, in my opinion we are at a pivot point. It is time once again to discuss what we are and what we can be.

A wise man once said, "Science

is the study of why things are what they are. Engineering is the study of what things can become."

We need to decide what we can and should become. We need to establish a new mission statement to supplement Part 97. And most important we need to get started right now.

2003 should be the year that we redefine ourselves in light of current technologies and the challenges of the future.

Amateur Radio is a "service" and a "hobby" and much more.

We are public servants, we are pseudo scientists. We are "electronic dream weavers." We are historians. We are both student and teacher. We are the first level volunteer communicators of last resort during some emergencies. We are the first communicators on the scene of other emergencies.

We can be the spark that lights the creative fires for a young person who may become the next Edison, Armstrong, or Faraday.

Whatever we are, I believe it is critically important and I take it seriously. I believe amateur radio operators should stand proudly and let others know why Ham radio is and what it can be.

I hope that during the coming year we can begin to establish a new and proper mission statement that will enable us to carry our antennas, our batteries, our gear, our log books and a proud commitment to the meaningful operation of amateur radio (practice, hobby, service and much more) well into the next century.

Enjoy your Hobby/Service to its fullest and support it to the best of your ability as we have come a long way from yesterday, and tomorrow is bringing us glints of the future technology that will change our lifestyles.

I hope that everyone finds a bit of uplift in this message for a fantastic 2003.

Howie W9HG

AN AWARDS Q & A From the Archives

Question: I am going through my cards and trying to figure out how to do the 1K award. If I need a Wild Card for my 1K award, if I use one call for the call, may I use the other call for the Wild card, e.g. W9JFM and AA9ZB.?

Finally, for now, I can use 4 wild cards. Also, one Super wild card?? For a total of 5??

Chris-VE7HCB

Answer: Chris, It sounds like you have a pretty good idea of how it works.

To answer your question about AA9ZB and wild cards a better example would be Peter (N2XTT). For example: If you work Peter (N2XTT), you can use this one QSL card to fill in three slots on the prefix section of the 1k award.

- 1. N2XTT prefix for New Jersey
- 2. N2XTT regular wild card
- 3. N2XTT super wild card (Master Degree)

Now in the case of AA9ZB. If you have used AA9ZB 1k wc# on the 1k award and AA9ZB changes callsign you can not use the wild card # again on the 1k award with the new callsign. But you can use the new callsign as a new prefix.

You may use AA9ZB and W9JFM to fillin three slots on the 1K prefix section.

- 1. AA9ZB prefix
- 2. AA9ZB wild card #
- 3. W9JFM prefix

A total of 5 wild cards may be used. Four regular wild cards and 1 super wild card (Master Degree holder)

Ron (K4RWS) 4th Area Awards Manager Page 14 The CENTURION

Visiting Members and their Shacks



Pictured Above: Kevin WMØF at his desk in the shack. While we can't see it in this shot my bet is the computer is on the left.

Kevin is also an accomplished photographer and you can see some of his work if you visit his web page—www.verinet.com/~kpb/home.htm

Kevin is our Club Public Relations Officer and has put our club out in front of the radio world several times during the past year.



Pictured Above: Howie—W9HG, our first and founding President of the Century Club in his shack. Howie is located in Lilburn GA East of Atlanta.

An interesting and timely article by Howie appears elsewhere in this issue.



Pictured Above: Wayne—WT5J at his operating desk at home in Garland Texas. Wayne is President of the Garland Amateur Radio Club and is active in the 3905 Century Club, most often heard on the 40 meter SSB nets.



Pictured Left: Brian—K8BR Brian's current station includes a Kenwood TS-140, a Kenwood TS-570DG, a Yaesu FT-840, a Ameritron ALS600 amp, a 53 foot Hytower vertical and separate inverted V's on 160, 75 and 40 Meters.

Two meter antennas include a discone, a ground plane, a Ringo Ranger II and a cross polarized 16 element beam.

Brian's HF Rigs run on 12 VDC, using his solar power system. He currently has six Siemens SR-100 and four Kyocera KC120-1 solar panels. The system is rated at 1080 watts. Maximum daily power production is rated at about 6.5 kilowatts. On a nice sunny day, he will see 50 plus amps coming down from the solar panels on the roof. In use is a Trace C60 charge controller.

The battery bank is currently fourteen 220 amp hour, 6 volt, deep cycle batteries, wired in seven 12 volt sets, producing a total of 1540 amp hours. Brian has two Prosine true sine wave inverters, a 1 KW for lights and light appliances and a 1.8 KW with a 2.9 KW surge rating for the fridge, microwave, toaster, furnace, cooler and medium duty power tool AC needs.

Page 15 The CENTURION

Visiting Members and their Shacks

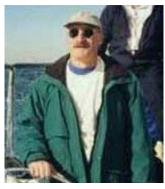


Pictured Above: A really nice picture of the shack of Dan—KM9X. Active on about all bands and modes of the Century Club nets, it is easy to see how Dan always has such a clear and strong signal.



Pictured Left: Reverend Our William—KV4DT at his operating desk at his home QTH. William is the 40 Meter RTTY Net Coordinator and is active across the bands of the club. Picture was taken by Steve

AD6AB during a recent visit to Tennessee.



Pictured Left: Howie—AA3WD pursuing another obviously favorite hobby of sailing.

Howie is also active across the bands of the club and his "home port" is in Maryland.

Photo courtesy of Howie's QSL Card.



Above: The Test/Work Bench of Loren—AD6ZJ in California.

Below: Loren's operating desk and it is obviously used.



Below: To wind up the tour, here is picture of Loren's shack, operating desk in the center, work bench to the left. Kind of cool seeing all the high iron there.



Page 16 The CENTURION

3905 CENTURY CLUB GEAR from HamRadioWorks.com



New additions to Club Gear for 3905 Century Club members including mouse pads, shirts, jackets, sweatshirts and more.

Plus closeout specials on some remaining

25th Anniversary Gear.

Visit either

www.hamradioworks.com

-or-

www.custommagic.com







RULES FOR CHOPPING YOUR OWN WOOD

- 1. Never park downhill of a tree you are cutting.
- 2. When in doubt, park twice as far from the tree as the tree is tall.
- 3. Just because you live within driving distance of a forest, that does not make you a Lumber Jack.
- 4. Always use the neighbor's truck.



It's time to turn off your computer when...

- ...you wake up at 3 am to go to the bathroom, but stop to check your email first.
- ...you turn off your modem and get this awful empty feeling as if you pulled the plug on a loved-one.
- ...you spend half of the plane trip with your laptop on your lap, and your child in the overhead compartment.
- ...you decide to stay in college for an additional year or two, just for the free internet access.
- ...you laugh at people with 14.4 baud modems.
- ...you start using smileys in your snail mail (if you even remember what that is).
- ...you find yourself typing "com" after every period when using a word processor.com
- ...you can't call your mother...she doesn't have a modem.
- ...you don't know what gender your three closest friends are because they have neutral screennames, and you never bothered to ask.
- ...you start tilting your head sideways to smile.

Personalized Logbooks by Page—WA3EOP—Available Now

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

Anyone who wants one should specify whether or not they want laminated covers + the name and call requested. I can

Amateur Radio Logbook

This log is property of

Page Pyne WA3EOP

include an ARRL member emblem, or an ARRL life member emblem, and perhaps a 3905 CCN member emblem if desired by the recipient.

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

enable the logs to lay flat when open or closed.

Each log will have included at no charge a DXCC Country Checklist.

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

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

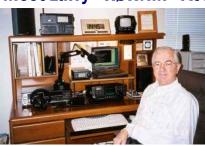


Page Pyne WA3EOP 230 N. Potomac St. #3 Hagerstown, MD 21740-3814

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

Page WA3EOP

Meet Larry-KØHNM-At His QTH and On The Road



Larry Snyder–KØHNM–is one of the net regulars that can be counted on for the internet checkin lists. Above is Larry in his shack.



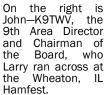
During his recent travels, he took this picture of WM9H with one day's mail at the 75-CW-Digital QSL Bureau.

And he also took the picture of Gene's shack on the back page.



To the left is Larry's GAP Vertical, showing the glow of electrons, which is mounted high on his house.

To the right is a shot of Larry's backyard—which is labeled "What Trees? And you can tell there isn't going to be any dipoles running through trees anytime soon.



To the far right is Larry visiting Gene WM9H at home in his Bureau with radios at hand.





Above: What Trees?
Below Gene—WM9H and Larry—KØHNM





The Official Newsletter of the 3905 Century Club, Inc.

Editor: Bill Martin WM4SG

P.O. Box 642 Ellijay, GA 30540

Email: wm4sg@wm4sg.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB WWW.3905CCN.COM

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.

The Club 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 and awards for contacts made on its nets.

For more information on awards or our net schedules, visit the club website or contact our Club Information Officer—KB3PU.



Gene—WM9H in his shack. Photo by Larry—KØHNM during a recent visit to the bureau.

HOW OFTEN DO YOU THINK ABOUT CHANGING YOUR CALLSIGN?



If you ever do change, you will probably use the Vanity call web site—

www.vanityhq.com



If you use the Vanity HQ website, consider making a donation while you are there.

Subscription Information

The CENTURION is published five times annually and is available in both hardcopy and electronic versions.

On the mailing label you can find how many issues are remaining on your current subscription.

Subscriptions may be renewed or started by going to the Club Website and clicking on the link for the Centurion. You can renew using PayPal on-line or you can mail your subscription fee for the Centurion directly to:

Bill Martin—WM4SG P.O. Box 642 Ellijay, GA 30540

The subscription rate for hardcopy is \$13.00 annually and electronic version in PDF format via email is \$6.00 annually.

A few back-issues are available for \$3.00 per issue. Email for list of back-issues that are currently available.



Please contact me if you need help:

- Researching the former holder of a callsign
- Locating the callsign of a friend or relative
- Documenting the license status of someone in the past

All research is free.

73 de Steve W3HF w3hf@arrl.net

P.S. Please contact me if you know of old callbooks I can purchase to add to the collection.