



# The 3905 Century Club Telegraph

A 3905 Century Club Monthly Newsletter

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the July 2021 issue of the 3905 Century Club Telegraph. Two weeks to go until the start of the 2021 Eyeball!

We are always looking for article ideas and contributions. Please send articles or suggestion for articles to:

[k7qhu@outlook.com](mailto:k7qhu@outlook.com).



## Eyeball 2021 is Quickly Approaching!

### Update from Kirk, AA1NA

With just over two weeks until the Eyeball, there is still time to register and be there! Walk - Ins are certainly welcome! It'd be very helpful to register on the Eyeball website on [www.3905ccn.com](http://www.3905ccn.com). Go ahead and pay the Eyeball fee online while you are registering. Paypal makes this very easy!

And, if you're on the fence about coming, here's a partial list of the prizes being offered at the raffles!

#### Grand Prizes:

- Yaesu FT-991A HF/VHF/UHF All Mode TXCVR - new in the box - only lovingly used at Eyeball Special Nets
- Ameritron ALS-500 Mobile Amplifier - new in the box, never used
- Tarheel 100 HP Mobile Screwdriver antenna - new in the box, never used



- MFJ-998 Automatic Antenna Tuner 1500 watts SSB/CW - new in the box, never used

#### Door Prizes:

- Lots of radio gear used at the Eyeball. (some radio gear there is not part of the raffle)
- Items of interest from home states that participants bring (please bring items from your home state)
- Selected Mississippi wines (if any left over from the wine tasting sessions, hihi)
- Selected cheeses from the Mississippi State University Dairy Science Department. Their Edam cheese is famous!
- Several 3905 Century Club "metalworked" logo signs, carefully sculpted by Master # 36, N4UPX plus lots more items. . . too many to list here!
- Tickets go on sale Wednesday, July 14! See our hostesses Ms. Alyssa Danner or Mrs. Rachel Stewart to purchase as many tickets as you would like! Sales are limited to the Eyeball site, **you do have to be present to win**. There are two separate raffles - Grand Prizes and Door Prizes each raffle having a different colored ticket, but the cost for each ticket is the same! And there is economy of sale! The more you buy, the lower the price per ticket (up to a point)

Door Prizes Raffle - Tickets are \$5 each  
50 tickets for \$100!

Grand Prize Raffle – Tickets are \$5 each  
50 tickets for \$100!

Drawings at the Membership Meeting 3:00 PM with overflow ,if needed, at the Banquet 5:00 PM Saturday, July 17

- You must present the corresponding ticket stub to claim the prize! **You must be present to win!**
- And as an extra special bonus, each member gets one ticket each for the Grand prize and Door prize raffles when you register at the Eyeball!

It doesn't get much better than this!

Looking forward to seeing y'all at the Eyeball!

73!

Kirk  
AA1NA

## Mississippi



## Dean's Column

### Notes from the President

By Dean Davis, N7XG

Dean is still recuperating from his accident! Dean was attending a Boy Scout day camp with his grandson, when the mishap occurred. He tripped and fell, breaking his leg rather severely. He was transported to a local hospital and then subsequently

transferred to a hospital in Eugene, Oregon for surgery. After the surgery, he was transferred to a rehabilitation center and spent 4 weeks there. Anyone who has had to do physical rehab from an injury knows that it is not a lot of fun, but very necessary! Dean has spent the last two weeks at home continuing his rehab. Unfortunately, Dean will be unable to attend the Eyeball. The good news is that Dean hopes to resume some of his late night NCS duties soon.

Dean will resume writing his monthly column in the near future.



# Ben's Column

## Notes from the Awards Secretary

BY BEN GOLDFARB, AE4NT



**J**uly is all about the Eyeball gathering in Louisville, MS, so I will concentrate on it here.

This year's dates are July 14-18. Jenny and I are scheduled to arrive on July 14, and I am hoping to see many of you there to renew old friendships and meet some new arrivals on the 3905 Century Club scene.

Aside from my role as Awards Secretary who brings the annual awards to the party, **Dwight, WF4H**, and I will be running the mobile antenna shootout for the first time this year after two false starts.

As the first Eyeball tidbit, we start this month's column with a description of our new Eyeball Week Award.

## Eyeball Week Award

**A** new **Eyeball Week Award** was approved by the Board of Directors last year, but never was implemented due to Covid-19. For this award, points are awarded for contacts between Eyeball attendees and non-attendees.

The Eyeball Week Award will be run every year during the two weeks surrounding the Eyeball gathering. Points will be awarded for contacts between non-attendees and attendees **ONLY**, with multipliers for digital and CW contacts. For the benefit of non-attendees seeking this award, our awesome Webmaster, **Matt, K2YS**, along with IT Workgroup mainstay **Eric, AA0HF**, have made it possible to see which stations are attending the Eyeball by making an "EYE" notation in the Netlogger comments field, which will appear only during the active contact period for the award described below. The list of attendees is also available in the Eyeball section of the website, which will be kept on-line until the end of the calendar year.

For this award, only basic call signs count – that is, /P and /M do not matter and neither does location. Regardless of location and fixed/mobile/portable status, you can work a basic call sign **ONLY ONCE ON ANY BAND/MODE**. Eyeball attendees can only count contacts with non-attendees and vice-versa; contacts between eyeball attendees and other eyeball attendees, or between non-attendees and other non-attendees **DO NOT COUNT**. Clubs and special event call signs **MAY NOT** be used for credit toward this award. However, cards earned by contacts made for this award can be used for any other applicable award in the system.



*So, to sum it up, those who are not attending need to work as many Eyeball attendees on as many bands/modes as they can during the two-week period. Similarly, Eyeball attendees need to work as many non-attendees on as many bands/modes as possible – but no more than once each per band/mode in either case.*

THE PERIOD FOR VALID CONTACTS TO BE APPLIED TO THE EYEBALL WEEK AWARD THIS YEAR WILL BE 0000Z FRIDAY, JULY 9 THROUGH 2359Z ON SATURDAY, JULY 24 ONLY.

Applications for this award will be accepted up through December 31, 2021.

Full details and rules are available in the application form, which is posted on the website. A certificate bearing the total verified points will be issued to anyone who submits a valid application. You can view a sample certificate on the website as well.

## Eyeball Mobile Shootout Competition

Last time I looked, we had thirteen good members signed up for the mobile antenna shootout. This is an excellent response, for which we thank you. However, it will make for a tight time schedule on Saturday morning. Because we will not have any slack time to accommodate “walk-in” signups, **WE ASK THAT EVERYONE REGISTER IN ADVANCE VIA THE WEBSITE.** This is very important because the private airfield we are using is closed to air traffic for **SATURDAY MORNING ONLY!**



The top three and the last place finishers will receive special hats and a recognition certificate. As **Kirk, AA1NA**, our Eyeball Host took advantage of economies of scale to procure extra baseball caps, everyone who registered in advance and participates in the competition will receive this souvenir.

The Shootout will be staffed by an excellent collection of volunteers, including (in no particular order), **David, WN1F**, who will measure each station’s power output; **Fred, K1UU**, who will be the starter who coordinates transmissions and directs stations to the starting line; **Rusty, WU2T**, who will be the event photographer; and last but not least, my XYL, **Jenny, KM4NEK**, as Spreadsheet Queen. **Dwight, WF4H**, Co-Shootout Master, will man the control station to ensure that we make adjustments for changing conditions, and I will be taking the measurements at the receiving station. Through it all, **Tom, AA1NZ**, the founder of the mobile shootout event back in 2002, will supply his wisdom. Big thanks in advance to our terrific volunteer crew!

Hats off to **Doug Camp, K5BAK**, who has provided his private airfield for our use Saturday morning and advised the FAA to issue a NOTAM to close the field to air traffic during our event.

We look forward to a fun Saturday at the Eyeball!

## My Mobile Ops and Awards Issuance Schedule

**I**'ll be participating in the pool of Eyeball attendees during the Eyeball Week Award period of July 9 to July 24, both as a fixed and mobile station. You will get credit for working me once per band/mode on which I operate regardless of whether I am fixed or mobile. For other awards where my location status is important, I will be operating from the Alabama capital, from Mississippi, from Arkansas, and from the IA-MN-SD Tri-Point. Other possibilities outside the Eyeball Week Award period will be Illinois, Pennsylvania, and one or more Eastern Seaboard states. We will be wrapping up our vacation and returning to Florida on or around August 6.

I will be taking a vacation from awards issuance for four weeks. No award certificates will be created on the following Fridays: July 16, July 23, July 30, and August 6. Then, I will be playing catch-up. Keep earning awards during that time – just be aware that your certificate will be delayed.

*There will be no “Ben’s Column” in the August issue of The Telegraph. In future months I will continue to keep you abreast of current developments on the awards front. In the meanwhile, stay healthy and good DX!*

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## Speaking of Awards

Thanks to Marty AG5T for submitting this article on the oldest town in Texas.

### Oldest Towns Award

#### Texas' oldest town: Nacogdoches

The city of Nacogdoches was founded in 1779 by Don Antonio Gil Y'Barbo. It is pronounced Nack-oh-doe-chus. The city is in the Piney Woods of East Texas. The earliest settlers were a Caddo tribe that are believed to come to the area around 800 A.D.

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As for history, the city flew under nine different flags (unlike six for the rest of Texas). The flags were/are: Spanish, French, Gutierrez-Magee Rebellion, Long Expedition, Mexican, Fredonia Rebellion, Lone Star Republic, Confederate and United States. As you can imagine, many battles took place in this area. There are numerous museums and landmarks, making it a popular tourist city. It's also the official garden capital of Texas.

Stephen F. Austin University is in Nacogdoches. Austin was a very prominent founding father of Texas - the Texas capital is named Austin. The Stone Fort Museum is well known. It is located on the campus of the university. It's a 1936 replica of a structure from circa 1779.

The Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club has the call sign W5NAC. Their web site is <http://www.w5nac.com>. The club has a special event station honoring San Jacinto Day, when Texas defeated Santa Anna and Mexico to become independent. This club is very active in amateur radio.

Nacogdoches is 142 miles northeast of Houston. It is about 160 miles southeast of Dallas. There are at least 11 motels in Nacogdoches if you are planning an "oldest towns" trip there. If you need more information, email AG5T at [martingblaise@gmail.com](mailto:martingblaise@gmail.com).

## July Contests

**Contests in July that could impact net operations:**

**DL-DX RTTY Contest 1100Z, Jul 3 to 1059Z, Jul 4**

**IARU HF World Championship, 1200Z, Jul 10 to 1200Z, Jul 11**

**North American QSO Party, RTTY, 1800Z, Jul 17 to 0559Z, Jul 18**

**RSGB IOTA Contest, 1200Z, Jul 24 to 1200Z, Jul 25**

**Russian WW Multi-Mode Contest, 1200Z, Jul 31 to 1159Z, Aug 1**



## Upcoming Events and Special Nets in July, 2021

### Upcoming Events:

- 3905CCN Board Meeting: Saturday July 17, 2021 at the Eyeball..
- 2021 Eyeball Louisville, MS, July 14 –18, 2001



### Special Nets:

**No Special Nets have been submitted to the newsletter for July.**

## Road Trips!

Fred K1UU is planning a road trip in conjunction with his visit to the Eyeball. For all you folks striving for the Tri-point Award, You should follow along with Fred on the nets as he makes his stops at several Tri-points! Below is the skinny from Fred:

**K1UU, AC1UB** and **W7T** are planning to put **7 Tri-points** on the air around the time of the Eyeball. I'll try to work both 40M and 75M SSB nets. I'll adjust early vs. late nets depending on conditions.



- July 11 – DE-MD-PA tri-point
- July 12 – NC-TN-VA tri-point (if accessible)
- July 13 – AL-GA-TN tri-point
- July 14 – Eyeball
- July 15 – Eyeball
- July 16 – Mobile Florida – see below
- July 17 – Eyeball
- July 18 – AR-LA-TX tri-point
- July 19 – KS-MO-OK tri-point
- July 20 – IA-NE state line
- July 21 – MN-ND-SD tri-point
- July 22 – IN-MI-OH tri-point

I've worked mobile from every state east of the Mississippi on 40M. On 75M, I've worked them all except Florida. We had a pretty bad intentional interference problem when I was there in 2010. On Friday night July 16<sup>th</sup> I plan to operate from Florida mobile on at least 75M SSB.

If everything goes as planned, I should complete the Tri-point Border Patrol award and get my Clint Wise count up to 33 on both 40M and 75M SSB.

Be aware that I have not worked from many of the states listed as K1UU and AC1UB...I worked from them as WB1I.

Looking forward to seeing old friends and new faces at the Eyeball!

Fred

K1UU

**AE4NT**- Please check out Ben's Column for his road trip surrounding the Eyeball.

**KL7JR** - Yukon John continues his month long road trip. Keep an eye on the reflector for updates!

## Tech Corner!

Thanks to Clay, WA6BLU for submitting this article and for getting permission from Dennis so we could publish it in the Telegraph.



Here is a little trivia for you on the origins of the lengths found on antennas today.

First 108 inches. While most people would associate this length with that of a 1/4 wave CB antenna, it's use long predates CB. In the 1920's & early 30's there was a great deal of experimentation on the then "ultra-high frequencies" above 30mc (5 & 6 meters). The easiest method of coupling an antenna to transmitter was a direct connection to the plate of it's output tube. This represented a high impedance load. An end fed 1/2 wave antenna also is high impedance. 108" = 1/2 wave on 52mc! Whips of this length have been in production since the 30's (though the common 3/8x24 thread would not see much commercial use until the mid-50's\*). In the late 50's with the introduction of Citizen's Band at 27mc the industry began producing these antennas at 102 inches to compensate for the springs which became popular.

Skip ahead to 1944/WW-II and the introduction of one of the first radios to me called a "Handie Talkie" (which would result in a copyright grant to Motorola, then Galvin). The SCR-300(BC-1000) the very first VHF FM man portable transceiver ever fielded. It operated 40-48mc and would set the stage for every VHF/FM tactical radio to this day. With the introduction of the SCR-300 came it's long whip antenna, the AN-131. It was a sectional/collapsible antenna that was 126 inches long when extended, and 17 inches long when collapsed. Remember, end fed half wave, 1/2 wave at 45mc is 125 inches.

Though the SCR-300 would remain in service in the US into the mid 1950's, development of a new generation of equipment began shortly after WW-II that would result in the PRC-10 family. Though three variants operated with the range of 20-54mc, the most common was the PRC-10 at 50-54mc. This shift to a higher frequency required a shortening of the old AN-131 whip antenna down to 109 inches which would become the AT-271(one of the AN-131's 17" sections was removed).

The AT-271 would become the most common military whip antenna EVER! It is still in widespread use today. Even It's 17" collapsed length has become a de facto industry standard. Out-Backer, Buddy Pole, and various others, all produce antennas that will collapse to a 17" length, and now you know why.

\*One more tidbit. The use of the now standard 3/8x24 thread on whip antennas began on that WW-II vintage AN-131 whip antenna.

Dennis Starks  
Military-Radio-Guy  
KBØSFP

## CLASSIFIED ADS

This section is for members who would like to sell, swap, or purchase ham gear. If you would like to list your equipment here, please send the information to [k7qhu@outlook.com](mailto:k7qhu@outlook.com). The deadline for ads is the 25th of the month.



**No Classified Ads Placed This Month!**

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## The End - Exit with a Smile!

