



# The Centurion



## A 3905 Century Club Monthly Newsletter

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## Welcome!

Welcome to the September, 2022 issue of the 3905 Century Club Centurion Newsletter.

I am starting to see chatter on the reflectors about the upcoming 160m nets. If you are going to give 160m a try this winter, then this is the time to start thinking about setting up your 160m antenna. If you already have a 160m antenna up, then think about adding additional radials before the ground freezes!

We are always looking for article ideas and contributions. As Kirk AA1NA would say—"The Centurion would not be the same without your articles"!

Please send articles or suggestion for articles to:

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



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## Possible U.S. Postal Stamp Increase... Again!

WASHINGTON (Reuters) -Surging inflation will prompt the U.S. Postal Service to seek higher prices for stamps and other services in January, just five months after its recent hike, as it continues to lose money.

USPS raised prices in July by about 6.5%, including increasing the price of a first-class stamp from 58 cents to 60 cents after hiking stamps by 3 cents in August 2021.

U.S. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy said Tuesday inflation would cause costs to exceed its 2022 budget plan "by well over \$1 billion." DeJoy said he plans to recommend to the Postal Board of Governors that USPS raise prices again in January, 2023.

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# Dean's Column

## Notes from the President

By Dean Davis, N7XG



# ALASKA!

**A**s many of you already know, this past month I changed my call sign back to KL7OR. This is something I had been thinking about for the past 6 months and kept asking myself “should I” or just keep it the same. If you have not been to Alaska more than likely you will not understand the pull it has on you. KL7JR wrote this passage and I think it fits me exactly: *“There are those of you who are drawn to Alaska by some nameless pull and who never quite come home again.*

*For you, Alaska is a constant voice urging you to return no matter what the season, no matter what reason. You want to go back. And you will.”* I left Alaska for the second time 23 years ago and can still feel the pull. Changing my call back to KL7OR gets me a little closer.

The 2022 Eyeball is now over, and I must say that it was a very successful event. I did not catch the exact count of how many people were at the Eyeball but counted about 60 people





from all over the country. I started my trek on Tuesday night in Portland and then on Wednesday caught a flight to St. Louis and met up with Clay, WA6LBU and headed north. Our first on air event was Wednesday night on the Indiana - Illinois State line where we had a blast and made many contacts and finally faded into the wee hours of morning talking and catching up on old times. Thursday we were off again to the eyeball site headed for Broomfield. The weather was pleasant and easy to drive. Aside from some car problems we arrived in the evening at the PCARS club house just in time for the “Wouff-Hong” presentation by Bill Dobson. It was good to meet up with old friends and meet people we have never seen before. I wish I’d had notebook with me to keep track of everyone. After the get together at PCARS we headed to the Eyeball site to get on the nets (by the way the conditions on all the nets were great for the entire weekend). Thursday night was spent hovering around AA1NA’s truck working the nets and even sipping a brew thanks to Debbie (K9DBB) and even the bugs were not bad.

The normal activity for Friday is to squeeze as many QRP nets into the day as you can stand. We did manage to run the 3 sideband nets and when they were over, I was ready for a break. BTW, there was plenty of radio gear on hand to run nets and Gene provided snacks, drinks, meals throughout the day. Always something to munch on. With the exception of Kirk’s amp in his truck we were 100 watts into a vertical for the whole weekend and the Propagation Gods came through with some excellent band conditions. One other important item to mention was the venue. This place was ideally suited for ham radio. There was a main level used for meals, meetings, and food. Down the steps and to the right there was a daylight basement where we did all of the nets from. No “man-made” QRM down there.

By the time Saturday rolled around I think I had spent more time under the hood of Clay’s jeep than on the nets. As we were making our way across Indiana on Thursday Clay’s Jeep started acting up and midway during the day, we stopped at O’Reilly Auto parts store and Clay was focused on getting help. For me I just hung out a bit and watched him and the staff do stuff and at one point a little device was plugged into the car and I guess Clay decided it was time to change some of the spark plugs. He had them in the car ready to replace, but just never made the time to do it until we were eyeball bound. While Clay was getting organized, I asked one of the staff in the store more about the diagnostic device and could they explain what it can do. The told me that it helped with identifying issues, and I promptly asked if it could retrieve any kind of history from the car. Why “yes” she replied and without missing a beat I asked her if we could plug it in again and see if there was any stored history or errors. What we discovered was that the car was mis-firing cylinders 1, 3, and 5 on a rather constant basis.



This did not look good especially since we were out in the middle of no-where. So for the first time in my life, I poked my head under, got dirty, and helped Clay replace plugs for cylinders 1, 3, and 5 and once completed we continued our trek towards the eyeball. I wish I could say that the spark plug replacement did the trick, but it did not. On Sunday we found a O'Reilly Parts store in Kent, hooked up the diagnostic device and discovered that pretty much all cylinders were mis-firing. I guess I will never become an auto mechanic. I will leave the other side of this story for Clay to tell. Also note the box on the ground. It was the grand prize and let me give everyone a tip: If you are ever sharing a ride with the grand prize driver, look for an alternative source of transportation.

Back to Saturday. Very busy day, meetings, awards presentation, and raffle occupied most of the afternoon. The evening meal was something that I did not expect and I got to enjoy food that I have never eaten before. The evening was occupied with more nets and more contacts in the log. I never did get an exact count of how many contacts I made over the 4 days at the eyeball.

Sunday came and it was time to say good by to everyone and reflect on what a good weekend I had. I was able to meet up with old friends and put faces to people I have not seen before. Clay and I spent most of the day at the center, working on the Jeep, and helping where needed. After dinner we headed to the OH/PA line and worked both the 40 and 75 nets.

Dean – KL7OR  
President

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## The Key Mystery!

By Clay, WA6LBU

Dean mentioned an issue with getting my Jeep started Sunday morning. In returning to the hotel Saturday night, we had to park on the opposite side of the building. Sunday morning, I went to move the Jeep around so we could load up.

The Jeep's ignition requires a chipped key to start it and I only have one. An additional key is \$159. I keep an unchipped key on my lanyard that only opens the door. It will trigger the starter and the engine will start; however, it will only run for a few seconds. I used that key to try and move the jeep. After a dozen attempts to get the jeep running and thinking about the issues we had been experiencing throughout the week with this beast, I thought the engine was done.

I walked back to the room and started on Plan B to get Dean to the airport in Indianapolis. None of which were panning out.

After a fair amount of time making phone calls, I looked at the key that normally stays in the in the ignition switch sitting on the top the desk and picked it up and moved the

jeep without any trouble.

While I was working on Plan B, W8NET and WF4H were working on solutions from the Eyeball Venue. I really appreciate their efforts. It is nice to know that others had our back.

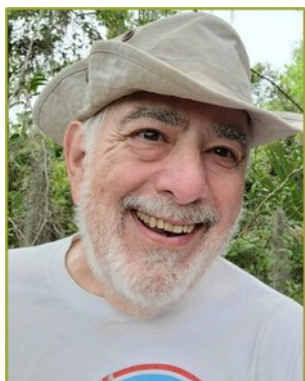
73,

Clay WA6LBU

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# Ben's Column

## Notes from the Awards Secretary



BY BEN GOLDFARB, AE4NT

### All the Nets, All the Time

**T**his month's column was inspired by a phone call from one of our hard-working area awards managers, who posed a question concerning the Worked All States variant called WAS All Nets (Intermediate). He mentioned it because he was working on a pending application for this noteworthy wallpaper.

Accordingly, in what follows I will expand upon that notion to write about three related, but different, rare awards here today: WAS All Nets (Intermediate), WAS All Nets (Expert), and Worked All Century Club Nets. Finally, I will wrap up the column with an update of its author's health.

### WAS All Nets (Intermediate)

The WAS All Nets (Intermediate) award is very rare, having been issued a mere seven times in its thirteen-year history. The idea is to cover all states and all 3905 Century Club Nets, which created an uneven division problem for the Awards Committee. At present, we have fourteen nets and fifty states. Divide fifty by fourteen and you get three, with a remainder of eight. This translates to making contacts with three unique states on each of the Club's fourteen band/mode combinations. With forty-two states thus covered, you must complete the remaining eight states with a contact with each. Those eight must be on nets operating on bands/modes other than 40M or 75M SSB, with the further restriction that no more than four of those states can be contacts on the same band/mode. Forty-two plus eight makes fifty. All states, all nets. Not very easy.

Yes, indeed, it *is* hard – hard to understand and hard to apply for, but a big feather in the caps of those who surmount its inscrutability and tough requirements. As I previously

noted, WAS All Nets (Intermediate) has been issued on the average once every two years, with a long drought between 2010 and 2018, when none were issued. Earn this one, and you will be one of the few. That's special!

If this is not challenging enough for you, please read on. In the words of the late, great Al Jolson, you ain't seen *nothin'* yet!

### WAS All Nets (Expert) – Is It Possible?

The WAS All Nets (Expert) variant is much easier to describe and comprehend than the Intermediate, but *much, much* harder to earn, if you can believe that! What you need to do is hold a 3905 Century Club WAS certificate at the 50-state level on each of the fourteen Century Club Nets. But be aware – no one has done this in our 45-year history! You can be the all-time first! And it will not cost you anything except the hard work necessary to qualify, for if you reach the pinnacle represented by WAS All Nets (Expert), it is a free award!

### Worked All Century Club Nets

Consistent with the “all nets” them of the previous two awards, but not requiring specific states, is the Worked All Century Club Nets Award (WACCN). Since its inception in 1993, we have issued just forty-six instances of this award, fewer than two per year. To earn it, the applicant is required to hold a 100-Point certificate on each of the Club's nets (currently fourteen) and then contact five holders of the 100-Point certificate on each of the nets. Easy-peasy! Well, maybe *not all that easy!*

The WACCN Award is now endorsable, by decision of the Awards Committee a few years ago. So, if you earned the award previously when there were fewer nets than the present fourteen, you can apply for an endorsement to the current level just by filling in the added nets since you initially earned WACCN. Three members have endorsed their WACCN since the AC made that decision, but I note that several active members are eligible to endorse the award upwards from their current totals of 5, 6, 12, or 13 nets.

Here's hoping that I have given you a good introduction to three of our most challenging and rewarding awards. As I mentioned in the opening paragraph, I am aware of one pending application for WAS All Nets (Intermediate). I look forward to issuing it and many others I hope this column will inspire!

### Layin' Low

As you recall, Jenny and I sadly missed the Eyeball due to my unfortunately timed illness. However, when I penned last month's column, I still expressed high hopes for salvaging at least one part of our summer plan, which involved driving up to Pennsylvania to visit friends there. That became a plan.

While I was not feeling well on the rescheduled departure date, I am a stubborn old fart,

so we attempted that trip anyway. We only made it as far as Rocky Mount, North Carolina, where a one-night hospital visit convinced me that we needed to turn around. After an overnight stop in Brunswick, Georgia due to travel weariness because I had spent that previous very uncomfortable, sleepless night in the hospital, we went home.

The acute infection has since been resolved by my doctor with a couple of courses of different antibiotics, but some other issues emerged that require medical attention, so I'm grounded for now, which gives me more time to write this drivel and more of the same for my Penn State football blog called *The Nittany Turkey*. For now, more poking, prodding, stabbing, sampling, scanning, and doc visits will be required. Nevertheless, we are hoping to revive the Pennsylvania plan for fall foliage and football season. Onward and upward!

Many thanks to Mac, W6PNY, Tenth Area Awards Manager, for unwittingly inspiring this month's column. Hope you get that vertical up soon!

Stay happy and healthy, all!

73,

Ben – AE4NT

Awards Secretary

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## 3905 Century Club Eyeball Visits PCARS Two Great Clubs, One Wouff Hong!



By Gene, W8NET  
3905 Century Club Master #47

[Published to the PCARS Radiogram and the 3905 Century Club Centurion newsletters]

**O**n Thursday, July 28, 2022, two great clubs got together at Portage County Amateur Radio Service (PCARS) "World Headquarters" (PCARS Ravenna, OH club site). This was not the monthly "ordinary" "Net Night At The Club". The Portage County Amateur Radio Service hosted the 3905 Century Club – as a part of the Century Club's annual "Eyeball", in Brimfield, OH (more info upcoming about the Eyeball next month). About 25 members of the Century Club were treated with pizza, cold drinks and, above all, great friendship and camaraderie.

For PCARS ([www.portcars.org](http://www.portcars.org)), it was a great way to "brag" about the PCARS club site, to other very interested hams. The club site has 4 HF operating stations, a VHF room; a "social room" (Bay 2 in PCARS-speak) with TV, bar, kegorator, refrigerator, etc; a "lab",



that NASA would be jealous of (maybe?); and another big room with tables, benches, racks, etc. Outside, many of the HF antennas are on the 200ft antenna tower, 30ft away from the HF room. On the roof of the building, 20m and 6m beams are poised to make contacts. But, not many in PCARS were familiar with the Century Club. Many new faces were there!

For the Century Club ([www.3905ccn.org](http://www.3905ccn.org)), it was a chance to visit the PCARS club site and meet new faces and enjoy our perfect Ohio weather. The 3905 Century Club was formed in 1977, and is the premiere HF Worked All States and DX award nets on the air. They operate on 160m, 75m/80m, 40m and 20m, using phone/SSB, CW, PSK and RTTY. They enjoyed meeting PCARS!

When a group meets each other for the first time, who really know if they will mesh well. As a member of both clubs, I THOUGHT it would work. IT DID! Everyone had an enjoyable time. Some of the highlights:

### HF Radio Room

The Century Club members were salivating when they saw the HF operating stations – THREE Icom IC-7300! (as a Yaesu guy, I was nonplussed, but I digress...). A couple were questioning why one Kenwood rig. It was explained that PCARS has a blind ham, and that the Kenwood has better features for the blind. Their reaction? “Wow!” On the tables in the HF Radio Room was a cache of miscellaneous radio and other electronic. PCARS members were pouring over everything. One of the Century Club members asked if it was a “mini-flea market”. We told them that it was the remnants of Terry Morris, KB8AMZ’s (SK) estate. Terry was a long-time, and very active, member of PCARS. Again, the Century Club member response was “Wow!”



### The Wagner Clan and PCARS Members

PCARS has many great people and fine hams. And, many are “ham families”. My son John, KE8MXR (16yo) got his license at 13yo. I was proud of him (still is!). But, one family takes the cake: The Wagner Family. First, Nick Wagner, AC8QG, is the PCARS president. Before that, he was the vice president. His daughter, Bernadette, KE8LWO (16yo) (Technician), got her license at 13yo. His son, Ben, AD8FQ (14yo)(Extra), got his license at 11yo and his Extra at 12yo. Ben is frustrated now, because he can’t break through ~18wpm on CW... WITH A STRAIGHT KEY! Oh, to be young!





But, it gets better. His daughter, Agnes, AD8IR (12yo)(Extra), got her license at 10yo! AND, both Agnes and Ben spoke at the 2022 Hamvention in Dayton (Xenia) at the Youth Forum! What a gene pool! The Wagner kids are home schooled (kudos, mom!), very polite, very brilliant, and very... VERY EVERYTHING!

Every member of the Century Club said the PCARS members were just outstanding and pleasure to chat with. One member in particular sat down with Bernadette, Ben and Agnes for many, many minutes. Karl Peterson, KC0MS, Century Club Master #50 from Des Moines, Iowa, talked about his “funny” QSL cards that he makes for himself. One of his club call



signs (he has a few) is AD0RK. You must see his HILARIOUS card for it! And, he also make beautiful “dragon” cards, not only funny ones. Three days later, Karl was still talking about the Wagner kids, especially Agnes. He was somewhat smitten with Agnes. (DON'T TELL NICK!)

### Century Club Members

Likewise, the PCARS members in attendance were very happy to meet and chat with the Century Club members. I heard many complements from PCARS about how nice and friendly the CC members were.

Nick, AC8QG, suggested to Dean Davis, KL7OR, Century Club president, that someone in the Century Club speak at



one of the PCARS monthly meetings. I believe your intrepid reporter has been “volunteered” to do the task.

## Presenting the Wouff Hong

If you read the PCARS Radiogram for August 2022, you read about the Wouff Hong, its history, and the one which would be presented to PCARS. In short: the Wouff Hong is a “mystical and legendary” device from the mind of one Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, founder of the ARRL (see a brief synopsis here: <https://www.onallbands.com/what-is-a-the-wouff-hong/>). Wouff Hong was given away at ARRL and other conventions and gatherings. Bill Dobson, N3WD, Century Club Master #43 from Baltimore, Maryland, was in possession of an exact such Wouff Hong. As the former president of the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club (BARC), he was the caretaker of the device in question. When BARC closed its doors for their formal club site, he took care of it – until the PCARS visit.



Bill presented the 70+ year old, storied Wouff Hong to PCARS president Nick Wagner, AC8QG. The only stipulations were: this Wouff Hong will have the letter of the history, written by Bill, al-

ways with it, to preserve the ongoing history if THIS Wouff Hong; and, IF PCARS decides to close its doors, this Wouff Hong will be preserved and gifted to another deserving club. Nick agreed to the stipulations. And, with a handshake, PCARS had a genuine, bona fide, real life Wouff Hong! Nick also said that PCARS will hang the Wouff Hong in the PCARS club site in a place of honor.



What a great couple of hours! I need to acknowledge a few folk who made it happen (and I am sorry if I miss someone). Bill Dobson, N3WD, CC; Nick Wagner, AC8QG, PCARS; the PCARS BoD; Dean Davis, KL7OR, CC; the 3905 CC BoD; Tom Sly, WB8LCD, PCARS/ARRL. Thank you all.

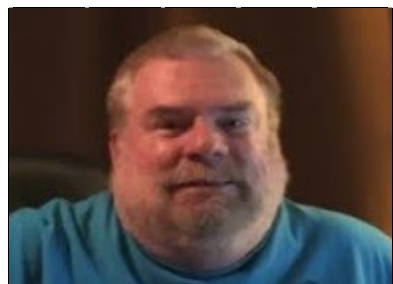
I am blessed to be a member of both the Portage County Amateur Radio Service and the 3905 Century Club. Both epitomize the best in amateur radio and people.

73 de

W8NET, Gene, 3905 Century Club Master #47 and PCARS member

## On the Road to the 45th Anniversary Oakleaf Cluster — “Lessons Learned and Strategies”

By Marty Blaise, AG5T



When I first saw the 3905 Century Club 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary awards and the advanced oakleaf clusters award, I looked at the Basic Award and saw it needed 90 contacts! Then when I saw the Oakleaf Award needs 180 total contacts including 45 specially designated contacts to, I originally did not have much confidence in pursuing the awards. That was just too many contacts. However, remember it is TWO awards, not ONE. The 45<sup>th</sup> Basic needs 90 contacts and the Oakleaf needs

90 contacts (including the required Basic Award).

(I also thought about those DX testers who say they make 180 contacts in one hour. Too negative – quit thinking that way!)

*Note: my suggestions are just that – suggestions/tips, I am in Texas, and you may have other things that work better for you.*

But then I thought about something from the progressive awards – working backwards! What that means is get the hard contacts first and then finish with the easier ones.

On the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Basic Award you have to get 45 early contacts (or non-late net) and 45 late net contacts. That is 90 unique calls. No clubs, no special events – 90 different callsigns. Basically, that is 90 different people unless someone changes their call and then you can work them again.

The Basic Award is doable, but you have to work 90. That is a lot of net time. You will not get 45 contacts on one net. I did some homework and planning – First, I could check in on 40-meter SSB early, but I am not a master, so even if I got on the list 30 minutes before the net, there might be 15 Masters and DX checking in. So, I really was not first even if I checked in early. And a new check in was gone by the time it was my turn. So, I did not check in much on 40 meter early at first. And the 40-meter early check-in last had 50 check ins, so I could maybe get two contacts the whole net. I started focusing on other nets and modes. I also did note that some people only checked in on 40 early, so I did go to that net to work them.

Note: when I received the club call WE4FUN, people did want to work me on 40 early, so that was one way I did get some contacts. If they said club only, I would say I need their call for the 45<sup>th</sup>. Plus they would get a club card and old timer card from me. They could not use my club call for the 45<sup>th</sup> but it did get them a Texas contact with WE prefix.



## Strategies & Tips

**Strategy #1** – if you have a club call and/or special event call, check it into the net. You will get credit for your personal call when the person works the club. Remember again if they say, “club only” though, tell them “I need you for the 45th.”

**Strategy #2** – tell people you need them for the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary. And if they are a relay, ask them to add relay to their card.

The 75-meter SSB early nets were usually shorter, so I tried to make most of my early net contacts there. Then I realized something – if I really wanted to work for both awards, I needed to start working the second award FIRST and start working all the VIP categories. Then I could pick up the other contacts as needed. Like you start on the 2K, then 1K and back to the 100 point.....

The 45<sup>th</sup> Oakleaf has 45 required contacts – that is why it is the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary award, plus 45 additional contacts.

To be honest, 45 is a lot of VIPS and special contacts. Again, nobody is going to get all 45 on one net. So, I set up a strategy to contact as many VIPs as I could. I looked over the list of contacts needed and determined what would be hard for me. DX obviously was the hardest, so that meant checking in to the 40 meter late net where I noted most of the DX check ins were. Relays were a bit tricky as I tried to use people not used anywhere else. Like saving a NCS and not working them when they were a relay. By the way, the club has some great people who act as relay stations, and they are truly appreciated in poor propagation conditions.

State capital stations were limited as well. One I used was Dean, N7XG. Another strategy...

**Strategy #3** – make a stack of cards that can be used in multiple slots. Example – I used N7XG as a capital, but could have used as a club officer, NCS or VIP. Since capitals are limited, you might want to set them aside and then only use them, if necessary, in a different category.

I figure YLs might be hard and directors and possibly club officers. But any time I came across one I worked them. Even if a tripoint or combo or something was on that everyone was working, I set my priorities and worked the YL or club officer. After all I was trying to tick off items on my 45 needed contacts.

**Strategy #4** – work the 20-meter nets and the PSK and RTTY and CW nets. The lists are shorter, and you should have a great shot at working the NCS. Some stations are only NCS on some of the digital nets.

## More Strategies & Tips

**Strategy #5:** keep checking the web site for new old timers (new old?) - Old Timers Award holders – can be found on any net and remember we keep adding new old timers as they meet the time requirement. I am old timer #7.

**Strategy #6:** plan how you will use your cards (and switch them later if needed). Example: K4TER, KC1YL are YLs AND net controls, so use them wisely as your contacts.

The Board of Directors can be found on most nets. Use Netlogger and N7XG to see who is on the list for a particular net.

I have found that most Master's Degree Award holders check in on the 40-meter early net. I see 12 to 15 on the list at times.

**Strategy #7:** Remember that some mobiles go to state capitals. But you can only use the call one time.

Unique DX entity contacts – my suggestion is the 40-meter late net for these, and you can only use one Canada

Relay stations – try to use someone who is not an officer, NCS, etc.

**Strategy #8:** Club Officers – any net – use the website to find these. Direct link is <https://www.3905ccn.org/officers.php>.

VIPs – if you need help to see who a VIP is, check website as well.

The remaining 45 contacts may be with any Call Sign for a total of 90 contacts.

At this point, I started organizing my cards while waiting for the DX cards and a few others.

**Pitfalls and Murphy's Law** - I e-mailed some of people I worked who had not sent me a card for about three months. Very few of them responded, so I guess it was new stations who had checked into nets without knowing much about the club. In other cases, I worked people who were not on the nets often and it took a while to get a card through the bureau. In some cases, you might want to send direct, even if they are in the bureau.



Thanks for the Old Timer contact on 40!

**An optional strategy** - Finally, I know some do not like eQSL, but I believe in the honor system, and I can honestly say everyone I worked on eQSL was a legitimate 3905 contact. I did use eQSLs for these awards. I checked the eQSLs against my logs to verify. The club does accept eQSL cards for awards. Should you use them? It is up to you. In many cases, I replaced the eQSL with a paper card I received direct or from the 3905 QSL bureau (I used the eQSL as placeholder).

**Another tip:** I made a file in Microsoft Excel and typed in the call signs of my stacks of 45 cards. Then I cut and paste so that I had a column of 180 different call signs. I used the sort - a to z function and lined up all the cards in alphabetical order. That way I could see if I possibly used a call sign more than once.

Hopefully, these strategies and tips will help you have fun while working on these awards. Keep making contacts – you have until February 6, 2023.

## Bonus Tip!

From Steve, K7QHU – “I marked my contacts in Netlogger by entering “45” in the “Member ID” of each 45<sup>th</sup> contact I made. Then every week or so, I would bring up Netlogger and sort on “Member ID.” Then “select” those contacts and export them to a CSV file. Then open the CSV file with Excel and sort on the Call Sign. Saved a lot of typing! You could skip the “export to CVS file step” and use the “custom filter” in Netlogger to achieve the same results. ”



Let me remind you one more time,  
nobody owns a frequency!

73,

Marty, AG5T



I promise to help with the  
painting after I finish the  
yagi, quad, dipole and  
vertical!



## From Tri-Point to High-Point!

By Debbie K9DBB and David AI4K



**Debbie at the Mississippi High Point**

**E**yeball 2022 was a blast! David and I enjoyed the hospitality shown by Gene (W8NET), his family and friends. Thank You so much!

On the way to Eyeball we were able to work Mobile from KY and picked up a few contacts. We were looking forward to working mobile from the Eyeball and even talked of going to Ohio Capital but our plans were quashed when we couldn't get anything to work on the car. Once at Eyeball we brainstormed with several members and could not figure out what was wrong. Thank you all for your thoughts and input! We knew once we got back home we would have to figure it out because we were planning to go to Alabama for the Huntsville Hamfest and wanted to work mobile.

Once home and planning our trip to the hamfest we realized that the AL-GA-TN Tripoint was only 1 ½ hrs. away from our hotel. We decided we would go work from there Friday night. We also thought the timing would work out for us to hit the MS High Point on Saturday night after leaving the hamfest. We were excited to try something new!

David worked on the antennae and figured he had it working for the Alabama trip but as fate would have it; the car battery died and we had to alter which vehicle to take. Our truck is not set up for mobile (yet). We packed up the truck with multiple options to work portable without knowing if it would be possible at the chosen sites. We arrived in Huntsville and grabbed a quick bite to eat and headed out to the Tripoint.

The AL-GA-TN tripoint is a pretty easy drive and there is a great area to park and work either mobile or portable. After parking we set off up the short trail to locate the actual 'marker'. We found where the 3 paths came together and the orange flag where the marker was supposed to be but we could never find the marker on the ground. With time ticking by we gave up and walked back to the truck to set up. We managed to get set-up and tuned in when Jeff (K4JEL)



**David setting up at the Tri-point**



called for general check-ins on the 40m early net. The surprise in his voice as I told him we were at the Tripoint and by the way....we brought a club! (hi hi) Sorry Jeff; we planned on being set up in time for the pre-list but it just didn't happen. 31 contacts were made on the 40 early and everyone sounded great! We left the net after round 2 and crossed our fingers that we'd be able to tune for the 75m early net. Success!!! We were able to work every station checked into the 75m net and when no new stations checked in; we wrapped up and headed back to the hotel.

The Huntsville Hamfest was fun – this was our second year going – but I think we were both more excited about getting to work from the MS High point. (hi hi)

Our timing was much better and we arrived and got set up early enough to check in during the pre-list.

Woodall Mtn. was easy to find and has a nice area to park and set up portable. The



**Antenna up at the Tri-Point!**



**David at Mississippi High Point**

downside; power lines and communication towers! About every 10 mins something was transmitting and causing us to lose reception. Thank God it only lasted for about a minute at a time so we could get most of the signal reports when we were contacted. With just a couple stations left in round one; a truck came up the hill, turned around, shut his lights off and backed up about 30 feet from us. It was pitch dark and we have no idea where he went. We both were staring out the windows, looking for him, as we made the last couple contacts on the list. We had planned to stay for the second round but we both were feeling a bit uncomfortable. I didn't know we could break down and bug out so quickly while keeping our eye on the truck parked near-by. Just as we were

finishing up our packing; a guy got out of the truck and yelled over to us, "Hey, I'm not disturbing ya'll, am I?" At this point we were a bit relieved but we had already put everything away so down the mountain we drove. Sorry to those that were hoping to contact us

on the second round. Safety has to be the first priority and the way the truck came up the hill was a bit alarming! Not to mention....its pitch dark up there! In conclusion; both these locations are great for mobile or portable operation. I would not recommend



going to Woodall Mtn. in the rain though as it is pretty much a one lane dirt road and could be slippery when wet. We were using our Wolf River Coil vertical antennae and our IC-7100 and it didn't let us down! A total of 62 contacts were made! We just finished printing off 429 QSO cards to be mailed. Thank you to all who contacted us – We had a great time!



**All set up at the High Point!**

73

De K9DBB & AI4K

Debbie and David

## Memorable QSOs with Amateur Radio

by John Reisenauer, Jr. KL7JR



I consider myself very fortunate to have enjoyed some memorable ham radio QSOs over the past 45 years. I'll tell you about a few and save the very best for last.

In early 1990 from Anchorage, Alaska I worked a Russian scientist on 10m almost daily from his floating ice island (floating Ice Station Raushia, sp?) off Siberia. I got to know operator

Sasha for 3 months until he went silent for a few days. Finally on sked he gave me a call to tell me the iceberg had cracked in two and he had to cut his coax and watch the antennas float away.

Then there was the time I was guest operator at club station VY1DX in Whitehorse, Yukon and in competition with the gun range next door. It was quite comical. Some hams asked are you in the middle of a war zone they asked? Often times on the air I had to explain the loud gun shots.



Then from Anchorage there was the QSO with a pair of missionary hams who had to fire warning shots at a crocodile that got too close to their boat on the Congo River. One ham explained what the loud "bang, bang" was.

Or the time I was operating in the Arctic Ocean on Barter Island, Alaska when a polar bear was looking through the frosty window at me! I guess he considered me a Big Mac, hi hi! Pun intended W6PNY! The local natives quickly scared the big white bear away with fire crackers.

In late 1994 (pre-cell phone era), I was involved in a Mayday situation on Atlin Lake, British Columbia. We, my son-in-law Will and the entire boat including the captain's elderly family, were in trouble 15 miles from civilization, Atlin. Like a cork in an angry swimming pool, a tornado like wind was blowing our 30 foot boat closer to the rocky shoreline. Too close for comfort. The boat's motor had stalled 20 minutes before and the VHF radio did not work, so ham radio to the rescue! I was able to reach my friend AA5AT in LA on 20 meters to call the RCMP for help. An hour later we were towed back to Atlin. The captain was amazed how we got rescued and vowed never to take the boat out without first checking the radio!

Then in the spring of 2005 I met a 14-year-old boy on 10 meters when I was on Kluane Lake in the Yukon. I do not remember his novice call but have not forgotten the note I received from his mother a few weeks later. I knew someone desperately wanted to contact me but I just could not pull out a complete call sign on a crowded noisy band. After a good 5 minutes of "please repeat your call, you are 3x3 with me".

Then I finally heard him and exchanged names and better signal reports. His mother then took over the mic to tell me Bobby had been chasing "Yukon John" for 3 days on 10 meters and was so thrilled I took time to talk to him that he was speechless. I was deeply touched and promised to send my QSL and photos of my operating position when I returned home. She said all the while I talked to her explaining the highlights of my trip, where I was, poor band conditions and so forth, his face just glowed!

When I returned back to Anchorage, I immediately fired off my QSL and a bunch of pictures to Bobby. A few weeks later, I received a thank you note from his mother explaining Bobby had severe MS and other complications and how excited he was, and told everyone he came in contact with, about his new friend in the Yukon. She said he carried my QSL and pictures everywhere!

She ended the note saying "thank you so much for making my little boy very happy". I was saddened to learn Bobby became a SK.

*Amateur Radio is not only a fun hobby but sometimes it also reminds us of what's really important in life. I know it did me.*

*73 de Yukon John KL7JR*

## September 2022 Contests

Contests in September that could impact net operations:



- **CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY :** 0000Z, Sep 24 to 2400Z, Sep 25
- **SKCC QSO Party :** 1800Z, Oct 1 to 1800Z, Oct 2

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## September 2022 Club Events

Note: Regular Board Meetings are always held on the second Saturday of each month, local time at 9PM Eastern, 8PM Central, 7PM Mountain, 6PM Pacific.

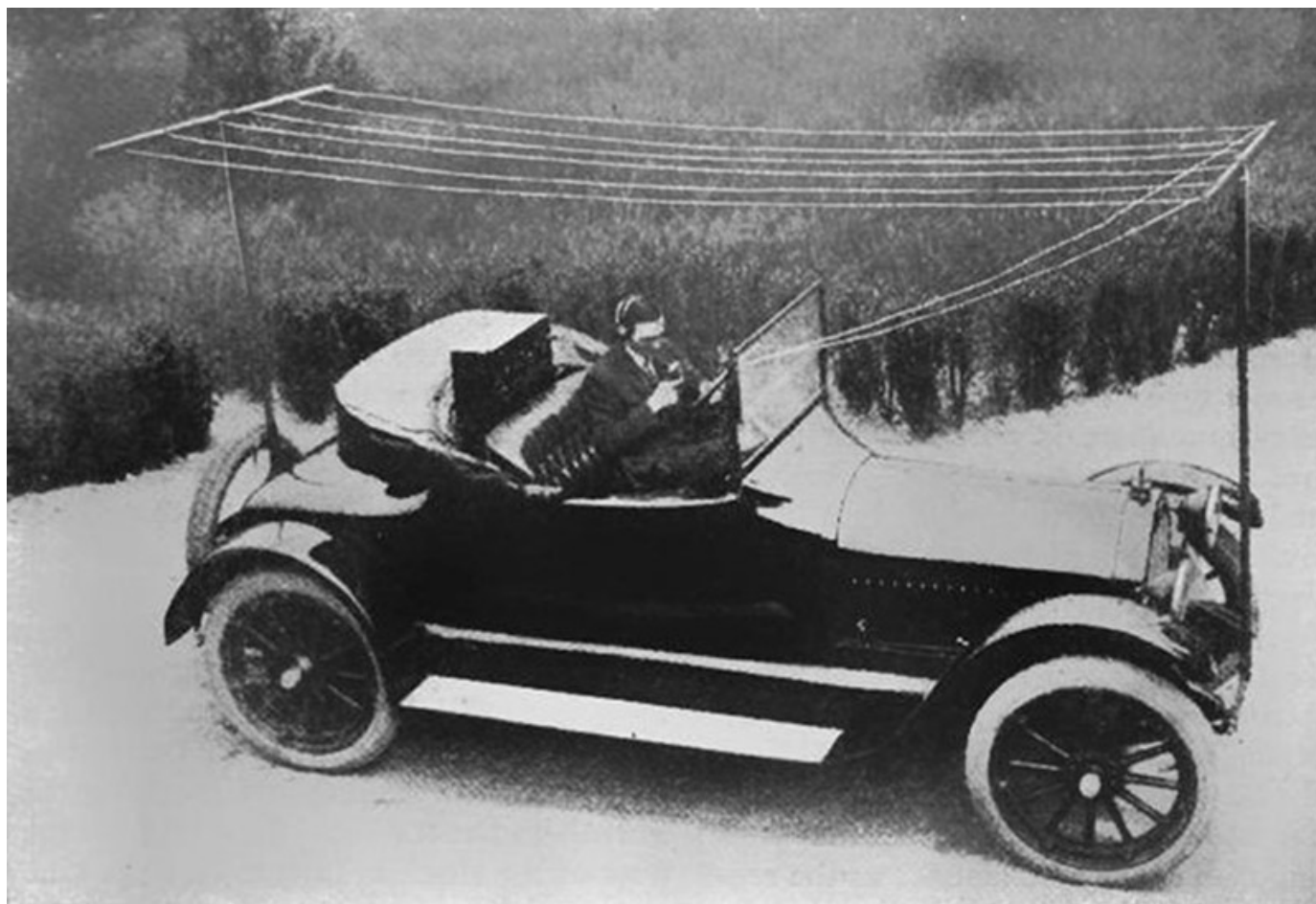
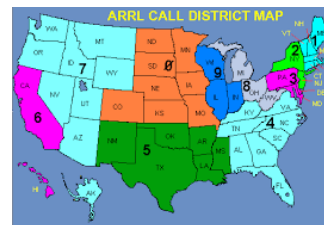
- **3905CCN Board Meeting: Saturday September 10, 2022**



- **Weekly Zoom Meeting on Wednesdays at 01:30pm Pacific Time. Check your email for the Zoom log-in information.**

## Road Trips!

After all the great road trips that graced these pages over this spring and summer, we have no reported road trips for September. Be sure to check the reflectors often to catch notice of members making a spontaneous trip!



## Ham Radio Mobile Operations Circa 1919



## 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 30th of the month.

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## Fun Facts About Our Nets In August

Did you know we had **585 unique U.S. Stations** that checked into our nets during the month of August. Check to see if you made the list!

### Unique U.S. Stations on the Net for the Month of August, 2022

AA3JF	K3UHU	K9MOE	KC3ONU	KD9TPE	KI4LZP	KO4ENR	N3DME	NW4JG	W5UOT	WB7WVG
AA4FA	K3UNX	K9PHK	KC3QPC	KD9VBY	KI4MOX	KO4FT	N3VZV	VA3TUV	W5WES	WB9DQU
AA9TC	K3WPA	K9SMC	KC3SPY	KE0IDP	KI4PIL	KO4FUD	N3XN	VY0RST	W5WJN	WD0J
AB4GH	K4CCN	KA1EFD	KC3TIU	KE0SPN	KI4WCQ	KO4GOQ	N4DLT	W0FLZ	W6IKE	WD5BGP
AB5SJ	K4CLL	KA1FLH	KC3TNC	KE0TXL	KI5DQ	KO4HEF	N4HWK	W0HM	W6PNY	WD5JB
AB6ME	K4DAI	KA2IYB	KC3TUY	KE3UY	KI5SML	KO4HGD	N4ITS	W0JFK	W7EN	WD8MBO
AB8YZ	K4ELW	KA2OSV	KC4NEH	KE4LJH	KI5SSR	KO4MEX	N4MSI	W0JKT	W7PML	WE4AU
AC0DQ	K4GCD	KA2YDS	KC4ZUA	KE4VIS	KI5SVL	KO4MKP	N4NHT	W0YY	W7SCD	WE4FUN
AC2MT	K4HXV	KA3JPE	KC5RBG	KE4ZPS	KI5SZO	KO4MRJ	N4RAH	W0ZIM	W8BI	WE4HAM
AC3JD	K4IAZ	KA4CSM	KC5TJT	KE7RG	KI5TFZ	KO4NRT	N4RDX	W1CLT	W8CNZ	WE5GNF
AC4LA	K4JEL	KA4EVR	KC5VHO	KE8HAG	KI5TKD	KO4OIG	N4SKI	W1IP	W8DDS	WE6M
AC4RR	K4JNG	KA7EII	KC7HFL	KE8HBY	KI5UOP	KO4SKC	N4UMD	W1PEF	W8E	WF4H
AC4WM	K4KCP	KA8GOV	KC7ZO	KE8HZZ	KI5UPP	KO4SOW	N4UPX	W1QIY	W8HQ	WF4ROG
AC9XU	K4LO	KA9DZR	KC8SDL	KE8IYS	KI5UXC	KO4UOJ	N4YDQ	W1SDC	W8JCS	WG0I
AC9YX	K4LXJ	KB0EL	KC8WVG	KE8PCQ	KI5VCD	KO4WSW	N4ZMP	W1WWA	W8KRK	WG4MC
AD3AA	K4MEE	KB0FFF	KC9JQN	KE8PMM	KI5VPF	KO4YWD	N5BWC	W2JLD	W8LOU	WG8X
AD3C	K4NAJ	KB1LSK	KC9LFD	KE8QFT	KI6DHL	KO4YZI	N5DY	W2QJ	W8LUE	WI8W
AD5XD	K4PVK	KB1XP	KC9MRO	KE8RRG	KI7PM	KO4ZJL	N5EKC	W2RCH	W8NET	WJ1W
AD6UV	K4RWS	KB2ENF	KD0SVH	KE8RYW	KJ4JUA	KO4ZMT	N5IPU	W2TI	W9BLI	WK1J
AD7OY	K4SKT	KB3LPE	KD1JL	KE8SXM	KJ4NLB	KQ4ANE	N5KB	W2VOA	W9BUM	WN0P
AD8FK	K4TER	KB3SHV	KD2IOB	KE8URA	KJ4OFD	KQ4BAP	N5KON	W2WCM	W9PEM	WN1F
AE0QG	K4VVE	KB3USA	KD2JO	KE8UYF	KJ4PR	KQ6OB	N5KUC	W3BAT	W9ROG	WQ7V
AE0S	K4ZH	KB3WAH	KD2SUM	KE8VEU	KJ4RM	KR0DS	N5MIG	W3FBI	W9SAM	WR3V
AE4NT	K5CV	KB4BJM	KD2TZX	KF0BFU	KJ4UAU	KT0G	N5OHL	W3GAF	W9WWG	WR8WM
AF5NN	K5F	KB4GJD	KD2VOK	KF0COM	KJ4UL	KU1V	N5RNR	W3GMT	WA0O	WS2Q
AG4JH	K5GEB	KB4GT	KD2WCY	KF0CQK	KJ4ZMV	KU1V/VE7	N5UGA	W3JHK	WA0ROH	WU2T
AG5T	K5HYC	KB7OUZ	KD2YBU	KF0EAO	KJ6EEP	KU4AC	N5UYP	W3JP	WA1ITU	WV7MS
AG5Z	K5O	KB7RAC	KD2YCK	KF0HUK	KJ6RY	KU4VG	N5WGA	W3LHD	WA1LNY	WV8AH
AI1V	K5PTG	KB8FBZ	KD2YSR	KF0IJ	KJ7LPO	KX4WC	N5WTA	W3TJH	WA1MAD	WW0DB
AI4JU	K5TAN	KB8UEY	KD2YST	KF0IPD	KJ7ODB	KX7VHF	N6GC	W3WKD	WA2BTC	WW4OCF
AI4K	K5VG	KB8UGP	KD2ZSA	KF0JNE	KK0LD	KY1KY	N6WWW	W3WWP	WA3CUC	WW5DD
AI8O	K6ODI	KB9IYO	KD3U	KF4AHW	KK4RZV	KY4FF	N7CJW	W4AJN	WA4ALA	WW8WWW
AI8W	K6YEK	KB9LXM	KD4AKM	KF4KFL	KK4TE	N0CAL	N7ENS	W4BOG	WA4BKL	WX6BUD
AK1NH	K7BAC	KB9VUI	KD4GUB	KF4THX	KK5XU	N0DRX	N7KEI	W4BTJ	WA4CCN	WY6N
AK1SS	K7ENS	KB9YHE	KD4RAX	KF4WNU	KK7AVH	N0GEW	N7SNT	W4CBH	WA4ERS	WZ5K
K0BBC	K7MKA	KC0DVV	KD4TT	KF4YOO	KK7GAU	N0GJW	N7XG	W4CPO	WA4FQZ	
K0BCD	K7O	KC0GXM	KD4TZW	KF5BIC	KL0CP	N0PUI	N7ZS	W4CXT	WA4HZR	
K0OLG	K7OSI	KC0MS	KD4VZI	KF5GPQ	KL7GLK	N0SEX	N8BF	W4KFH	WA4NID	
K0OMH	K7QHU	KC0RZA	KD6RRR	KF5GTX	KL7JR	N0YNT	N8DQU	W4MJH	WA4QBE	
K0RWD	K7SW	KC1DBR	KD8DDQ	KF5MAS	KL7OR	N1ABY	N8NIF	W4PRK	WA5YNE	
K1BA	K7TSW	KC1FSZ	KD8GIJ	KF5S	KL7WG	N1CFB	N8TAW	W4RHB	WA6LBU	
K1TCP	K8DUB	KC1IVQ	KD8PSB	KF5XX	KM4AJP	N1FAM	N8XS	W4SPB	WA7BHC	
K1UVH	K8EG	KC1NJU	KD8TJB	KF6IJZ	KM4DCQ	N1PGF	N9BFI	W4TIP	WA7WJR	
K2ACY	K8ICE	KC1NWN	KD9DLE	KG4JDJ	KM4INA	N2DLP	N9OPB	W5BUS	WA9DIY	
K2KZ	K8JCR	KC1OPD	KD9DST	KG4NMS	KM4P	N2DMI	N9PAR	W5FKO	WA9SZM	
K2SFS	K8MSF	KC1PAH	KD9HCO	KG4ZOD	KM4YVX	N2EWC	N9SES	W5FYR	WB0BBY	
K2UNI	K8SSN	KC1PSK	KD9LFN	KG5KHV	KN4CQB	N2FSH	N9UUX	W5HAR	WB1ANA	
K2V	K8SYA	KC1QIA	KD9MAK	KG5OZ	KN4LGM	N2HYD	N9VDT	W5HRP	WB1GFF	
K2WDS	K8TA	KC1YL	KD9NCI	KG5PTE	KN4MFB	N2IGW	N9ZIV	W5HWZ	WB2AFC	

Did you know we had 41 unique DX Stations that checked into our nets during the month of July. There were 30 Canadian DX stations and 11 Other DX stations. As for new stations, we had 295 unique new stations check into the nets in July.

### 30 CANADIAN DX STATIONS

KU1V	VA3TTF	VE3NXA
N8MFE	VA3TUV	VE3OHC
VA2LUC	VA3YKT	VE3RR
VA2OOO	VA6RV	VE3SIQ
VA3BNS	VE3AJF	VE3YDK
VA3CDV	VE3CMB	VE3YWN
VA3GMO	VE3FVD	VE3ZSZ
VA3LVW	VE3GJP	VE4PN
VA3NRF	VE3HMK	VE7JER
VA3TBN	VE3IXR	VY0RST

### 11 OTHER DX STATIONS

6Y5DQ	JAMAICA	40m L SSB	OE5SLN	AUSTRIA	40m L SSB
6Y5PW	JAMAICA	40m L SSB	ON5ALD	BELGIUM	40m L SSB
DK7LJ	GERMANY	40m L SSB	YN9H	NICARAGUA	40m L SSB
DL7AT	GERMANY	40m L SSB			
EA8DMF	CANARY IS.	40m L SSB			
F5VDM	FRANCE	40m L SSB			
I2VRN	ITALY	40m L SSB			
IV3XYC	ITALY	40m L SSB			

### 295 NEW STATIONS

AA4FA	K7MKA	KC1QIA	KD8GIJ	KF6IJZ	KO4MEX	N4RDX	W3JHK	WB7WVG
AA9TC	K7OSI	KC2WWZ	KD8PSB	KG4NMS	KO4MKP	N4UMD	W3JP	WB9DQU
AC3JD	K7SW	KC3IWE	KD9HCO	KG5KHV	KO4MRJ	N4ZMP	W3TJH	WD5BGP
AC4LA	K8DUB	KC3MVS	KD9LFN	KG5OZ	KO4OIG	N5BWC	W3WKD	WD5JB
AC4RR	K8SYA	KC3ONU	KD9MAK	KG5PTE	KO4SKC	N5KON	W3WWP	WD8MBO
AC9YX	K9KEV	KC3QPC	KD9NCI	KI4GRN	KO4UOJ	N5RNR	W4AJN	WE4AU
AD6UV	K9LFD	KC3SPY	KD9NLQ	KI4MOX	KO4WSW	N5UGA	W4BOG	WE4HAM
AD8FK	K9PHK	KC3TIU	KD9NVJ	KI4PIL	KO4YWD	N5WTA	W4BTJ	WE5GNF
AE0QG	KA1EFD	KC3TNC	KD9OME	KI5SML	KO4YZI	N7KEI	W4CBH	WG4MC
AI1V	KA2IYB	KC3TUY	KD9RSE	KI5SSR	KO4ZJL	N7SNT	W4KFH	WP4SLU
AI4JU	KA2OSV	KC4NEH	KD9RUA	KI5SZO	KQ4ANE	N7ZS	W4SPB	WS2Q
AK1NH	KA3JPE	KC4ZUA	KD9SDX	KI5TFZ	KQ4BAP	N8DQU	W5BUS	WV7MS
K0BBC	KA4CSM	KC5RBG	KD9VBY	KI5TKD	KQ6OB	N8NIF	W5FKO	WV8AH
K0BCD	KA8GOV	KC5TJT	KE0IDP	KI5UPP	KU4VG	N8TAW	W5MHG	WW4OCF
K0RWD	KA9DZR	KC5VHO	KE0TXL	KI5UXC	KX4WC	N8XS	W5WES	WX6BUD
K1TCP	KB1LSK	KC7HFL	KE4LJH	KI6DHL	KX7VHF	N9OPB	W7EN	
K1UVH	KB3LPE	KC7ZO	KE4ZPS	KJ4JUA	N0CAL	N9ZIV	W8CNZ	
K2KZ	KB3SHV	KC8WVG	KE8HAG	KJ4PR	N0GJW	NR9V	W8KRK	
K2WDS	KB3USA	KC9MRO	KE8PCQ	KJ4UAU	N0PUI	NW4JG	W8LOU	
K3FPE	KB4GJD	KD2IOB	KE8PMM	KJ6RY	N1CFB	VA2LUC	W8LUE	
K3WPA	KB4GT	KD2JO	KE8SXM	KK5XU	N2DMI	VA3CDV	W9PEM	
K4CLL	KB7OUZ	KD2SUM	KE8URA	KK7AVH	N2EWC	VA3NRF	W9SAM	
K4DAI	KB9IYO	KD2TZX	KE8UYF	KK7GAU	N2HYD	VA3TBN	WA2BTC	
K4ELW	KB9LXM	KD2VOK	KE8VEU	KL0CP	N2QCP	VA3TTF	WA3CUC	
K4HXV	KB9VUI	KD2WCY	KF0COM	KL7GLK	N2QM	VE3GJP	WA4ALA	
K4IAZ	KB9YHE	KD2YBU	KF0CQQ	KM4AJP	N2STC	VE3YDK	WA4CCN	
K4JNG	KC0DVB	KD2YCK	KF0EAO	KM4INA	N3DDD	VE7JER	WA4ERS	
K4KCP	KC0GXM	KD2YSR	KF0IJJ	KN4MFB	N3DME	W0HM	WA9SZM	
K4LXJ	KC1FSZ	KD2ZSA	KF0IPD	KN4SUB	N3VZV	W0JFK	WB0BBY	
K4NAJ	KC1IVQ	KD3U	KF0JNE	KN6IXX	N3XN	W1CLT	WB1ANA	
K4SKT	KC1NJU	KD4AKM	KF4AHW	KO4CLD	N4HWK	W1WWA	WB1GFF	
K5CV	KC1NWN	KD4TT	KF4THX	KO4ENR	N4ITS	W2VOA	WB2AFC	
K5PTG	KC1OPD	KD4TZW	KF5BIC	KO4GOQ	N4MSI	W3BAT	WB4HZA	
K5TAN	KC1PAH	KD6RRR	KF5S	KO4HEF	N4NHT	W3FBI	WB6JUI	
K7BAC	KC1PSK	KD8DDQ	KF5XX	KO4HGD	N4RAH	W3GAF	WB6SVM	



## Exit with a Smile!

