



The Ragchew

W5NFL Newsletter



The NFL Amateur Radio Club

Meets the second Saturday of each month at 12:00 noon lunch and 1:00 PM Meeting at the NFLARC clubhouse, near Dobins Rd & CR1020 Corsicana.



There are Amazon links on our site now

If you go to Amazon by clicking our link we get .5% on purchases made there at no cost from you.

Look for it at nflarc.org And in the forum.

- The Linked Repeaters at
 - Corsicana - 2M (145.290 + with a tone of 146.2)
 - Corsicana - 440 (442.925 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Buffalo - 2M (147.280 + with a tone of 146.2)
 - Franklin - 2M (146.960 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Hillsboro - 2M (146.780 - with a tone of 123.0)
 - Fairfield * 2M (145.110 * with a tone of 146.2)
 - Lindale * 2M (145.600 simplex with a tone of 146.2)
 - Mexia * 2M (145.39 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Echolink * KD5OXM-L
- We can be Monitored via
 - <http://nflarc.org/radio.html>
 - <http://www.radioreference.com>
 - Look for (Central Texas Amateur Repeaters)

License Training Class / Testing

Testing
3-10-2015 at Ennis Library



Christine Rogalski KG5DTQ upgraded to General
Daniel Pitta, Jr. KG5GIC Passed Tech
Both scored 100%, that's awesome!

Congratulations to both

LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

New Repeater Equipment

NFLARC voted to purchase 2 new Yaesu Fusion DR-1 repeaters

- 1 for 145.29 Corsicana Repeater
- 1 for Hillsboro Repeater

We will move our very reliable Kenwood repeater from 145.29 Corsicana to another or new repeater site.

Initially DR-1 will be setup as a conventional FM repeater (no change to user) then later, as the digital side is further developed we may and can switch to a dual digital/conventional repeater.

This is exciting news for us all. As with our linked, echolink, IRLP Repeater system this will not take away from what we have, but add to what can be done in future without leaving anyone behind with older equipment.



YAESU DR-1 144/430 Dual Band C4FM/FM Digital Repeater

The YAESU DR-1 is a digital/conventional FM dual mode repeater that covers the VHF and UHF amateur radio bands. It was developed for use with System Fusion. Replacing your conventional FM repeater with the DR-1 will provide continued use of conventional FM communication while integrating the use of digital communication functions through its unique AMS capability.

More info here

<http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=249&encProdID=4105F1B8AE65079CAD2D26735B83B302&DivisionID=65&isArchived=1>

NFLARC is on Youtube.com now

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU5mUmrfdIJHuoQ3v-ZLY7g?spfreload=10>

I have taken a bunch of club pics and set them to some music for us to use...

<https://youtu.be/E2eiAhDnxI0>

And posted the 1st to our facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/NFLARC/>



Co-sponsored by the
I-20 Corridor Amateur Radio Clubs.

When: Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 7:00am until Noon

What: Free tailgate sale. Bring all of your new, old, & used amateur radio equipment to sell or trade.

Mostly outdoor event and will be held rain or shine.

Who: Anybody and everybody who has an interest in amateur radio and electronics.

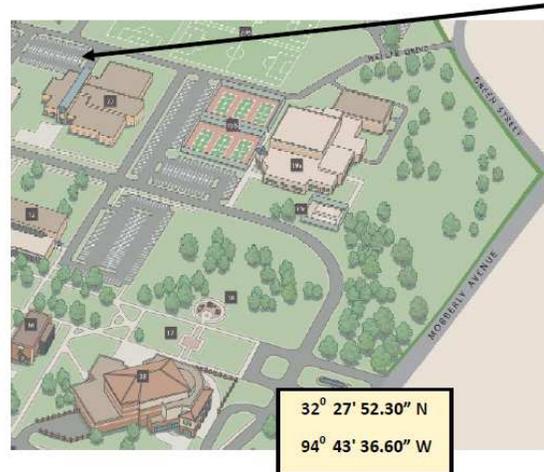
Cost: FREE! Bring ham radio sale items, tables, and chairs or other displays that you want to use.

No electricity will be available. Spaces on first come first served basis.

Bring water and sunscreen—it may be hot

Coffee: Provided by LeTourneau University Amateur Radio Club for a donation of your choice.

Where: LeTourneau University, Glaske Science & Technology Building parking lot.



LeTourneau University
2100 South Mobberly Avenue
Longview, Texas 75602

Contact Persons:

Harold Carl
HaroldCarl@letu.edu
John Zenter
j.zenter@w-rg.com

SEARCH: ARRL.ORG FOR HAMFEST LONGVIEW TEXAS
Or i20Hamfest.com

World News & Events

Vibroplex acquires the Bencher product line for Amateur Radio

Press Release - March 18, 2015

Bencher, Inc. of Antioch Illinois announced the sale today of the Bencher Amateur Radio product lines to Vibroplex, LLC of Knoxville, Tennessee. This sale ends Bencher's presence in the amateur radio field, thus allowing the principals, Jere Benedict, President, and Bob Locher, (W9KNI) to move towards retirement.

The product lines sold include the Bencher BY series of Iambic Paddles, (the world's best selling iambic paddle, with over 150,000 sold) as well as the ST series of single lever paddles, the Bencher Hex Paddle, the N2DAN Mercury Paddle, and the Bencher RJ series Hand Keys. Also included in the sale are the HK-1 Universal Hook-up kit and the YA-1 Low Pass Filter.

Vibroplex has agreed to honor the manufacturer's warranties of all covered products, and to offer parts and support for these products as well.

Vibroplex will continue to offer the Bencher products through existing marketing channels.
Vibroplex may be contacted at <http://www.vibroplex.com>, or at (865) 309-5073.

Jere Benedict and Bob Locher wish to express their gratitude to the

amateur radio community for its interest and support since the sale of the first Bencher amateur radio products in the early 1970's.

Scott Robbins, W4PA

Owner, Vibroplex www.vibroplex.com

World Amateur Radio Day 2015

March 22, 2015

This 18th April, radio amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day.



INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION

REGION I

It was on that day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris. Since its founding, the IARU has worked tirelessly to defend and expand the frequency allocations for Amateur Radio.

Thanks to the support of enlightened administrations in every part of the globe, radio amateurs are now able to experiment and communicate in frequency bands strategically located throughout the radio spectrum.

From the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the IARU has grown to include over 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio.

Today, Amateur Radio is more popular than ever, with over 3,000,000 licensed operators!

IARU - <http://iaru.org/>



The Radio Society of Great Britain has announced its participation in a programme designed to enthuse and encourage young people throughout the United Kingdom into amateur radio and a career in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Tim Peake, the first British [ESA](#) astronaut, will launch to the International Space Station in November of this year and will spend six months working and living on board the ISS.

Tim has issued a challenge to school pupils to contact him on board the ISS via amateur radio through a scheduled amateur radio on the International Space Station or ARISS contact.

The RSGB is delighted to announce that schools, who apply successfully to be part of this exciting programme, will be able to put forward students to represent them by making the radio call to Tim on orbit.

These students will have to obtain their [Full Amateur Radio Licence](#) to be eligible to operate the radio and one lucky student at each [ARISS](#) amateur radio contact will be responsible for making contact with the space station.

The RSGB will assist schools taking part in this programme by providing training courses to help students obtain their amateur radio licence and, in partnership with ARISS, will provide all necessary technical support. More information can be found on the [National STEM Centre](#) website.

[G3RJV wins prestigious technical award](#)

[RadCom](#) author and famous QRPer George Dobbs, G3RJV has been awarded the [Dayton Hamvention Technical Excellence Award](#) for a lifetime of work for QRP.

He has helped many amateur radio operators build their own equipment as well as writing columns in both [Practical Wireless](#) and [RadCom](#) and books on the subject.

Congratulations George.

Other winners are Tim Duffy, K3LR who was awarded Amateur of the Year and Thomas Medlin, W5KUB who received the Special Achievement Award.

[Cyclone Pam aftermath](#)

Category 5 Cyclone Pam caused severe damage when it hit the Pacific nation of Vanuatu last weekend.

Recovery is expected to take a very long time.

The idyllic location is a haven for tourists and DXpeditioners, with all those who have been there in the past struggling to recognise damaged landmarks now being shown on TV news.

Like other countries in the region very few local radio amateurs exist, and no communication has been heard from many islands.

[FUNcube – two million data packets](#)

The FUNcube team are pleased to announce that the [Data Warehouse](#) has received two million packets of telemetry data from ground stations around the world.

[FUNcube-1 \(AO-73\)](#) was launched on 21 November, 2013 and since then radio amateurs and schools have been receiving the telemetry packets transmitted by the satellite and passing them to the [AMSAT-UK Data Warehouse](#) for analysis and storage.

[Amateur / Ham Radio Statistics - March 2015](#)

Ofcom have released the latest stats of the number of UK amateur radio licence holders.



Monthly Amateur Licence Statistics - March 2015

Amateur Club Radio Licence - 1493 (1.79%)
 Amateur Foundation Radio Licence - 20017 (24.04%)
 Amateur Intermediate Radio Licence - 8495 (10.20%)
 Amateur Full (Reciprocal) Radio Licence - 761 (0.91%)
 Amateur Full Radio Licence - 52493 (63.05%)
 Grand Total - 83259

Ofcom - <http://licensing.ofcom.org.uk/radiocommunication-licences/amateur-radio/guidance-for-licensees/monthly-stats/>

America is also experiencing a grow in licence numbers.

At the end of 2014, the total number of radio amateurs in the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) database reached an all-time high of 726,725

The trend has continued in the first 2 months of 2015, which saw the ham population rise to slightly more than 727,000.

Just under half of all US licensees hold the Technician class licence which can be considered equivalent to the UK Foundation license.

Amateur Radio Statistics web pages - <http://www.ah0a.org/FCC/index.html>

Full ARRL Story - <http://www.arrl.org/news/us-amateur-radio-numbers-reach-an-all-time-high>

SARL Assist Zambians with the Licensing of Amateurs March 22, 2015

The SARL (The South African Radio League) will assist the Radio Society of Zambia with the licensing of amateurs in that country



In accordance with the requirements of the ITU, the Zambian authorities require a harmonised amateur radio examination certificate (HAREC) before issuing a license.

In the past this certificate was provided by the UK's City and Guilds after Zambian candidates passed the City and Guilds Radio Amateur Examination.. This arrangement is no longer in operation.

The Radio Society of Zambia has approached the SARL to conclude an agreement whereby the Zambian candidates can write the South African examination. Under the new agreement, set out in a memorandum of understanding, Zambian candidates will in future enter for the South African examination. For this purpose, a SARL examination centre will be registered in Zambia and the Radio Society of Zambia will provide the venue, invigilators, security arrangements and cover all costs.. The answer papers will be returned to South Africa and will be marked here.

HAREC certificates will be couriered to the Radio Society of Zambia for those candidates who pass. The Zambian authorities have already agreed to accept the HARECs issued by the SARL.

Zambian candidates who are members of the Radio Society of Zambia qualify for SADC members of the SARL.

This arrangement is similar to the arrangement the SARL already has with Namibian Amateur Radio League.

Scientist Radio Ham Named for Prestigious Award March 22, 2015

Ajay K. Poddar, AC2KG, of Elmwood, New Jersey, has been selected by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) as the winner of the 2015 International Frequency Control Symposium W.G. Cady Award



Poddar, a chief scientist at Synergy Microwave Corp and an academic, was cited for “the analysis, design and development of a host of frequency control products exhibiting state-of-the-art performance, including the development of extremely low noise crystal oscillator circuitry.”

The award marks the second honor for Synergy Microwave scientists this year, and the third in 3 years. Synergy Chairman Ulrich Rohde, N1UL (ex-KA2WEU), recently was named as the recipient of the IEEE’s I. I. Rabi Award for 2015, and last year he won the C.B. Sawyer Memorial Award.

Full ARRL Story - <http://www.arrl.org/news/scientist-radio-amateur-named-to-receive-prestigious-award>

FCC Enforcement Bureau Field Resources Poised to Shrink

03/11/2015

According to an internal FCC Enforcement Bureau (EB) memorandum, the Bureau plans to ask the full Commission to cut two-thirds of its field offices and eliminate nearly one-half of its field agents. At the same time, the Bureau would develop a so-called “Tiger Team” of field agents as a flexible strike force it could deploy as needed. In the March 10 memorandum to Enforcement Bureau field staff — obtained by ARRL and others — EB Chief Travis LeBlanc and FCC Managing Director Jon Wilkins cited the need to take “a fresh look” at the Bureau’s 20-year-old operating model in light of technology changes and tighter budgets. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed dismay at the proposals.

“The ARRL is concerned that there is already no sense of urgency in the FCC’s enforcement activities targeting spectrum polluters, such as utilities with noisy power lines, or the few violators in our own ranks,” Sumner said. “It is troubling to see recommendations for such drastic reductions in the Commission’s geographic footprint and the number of field agents at a time when the Field staff is facing ever-increasing challenges.”

The EB and the Office of the Managing Director initiated an effort last fall to modernize the Bureau’s field operations, the memorandum said.

“This project sought to ensure that the Field’s structure, operations, expenses, and equipment were properly aligned with the Commission’s overall mission and resources,” LeBlanc and Wilkins said. The Commission hired outside consultants to analyze the EB’s current “operating model,” gathering input from employees, outside experts, and internal and external stakeholders.

Under its “Phase I” field modernization scheme, the Bureau will recommend to the full Commission that it adjust the primary focus of its reduced field office complement to RF spectrum enforcement. The EB also will recommend “adjusting” the number of field agents from 63 to 33. To compensate, part of that field staff complement would include what the EB called a “Tiger Team” of agents “flexible enough to support other high-priority initiatives.” Under the plan, all field agents would have to have electrical engineering backgrounds “to support the primary focus on RF spectrum enforcement.” The Bureau also will propose standardizing its investigatory and sanctioning processes.

Management would not be spared. Under the recommendations, the EB field organization chart would shrink from 21 to 5 director positions, and from 10 to 3 administrative support positions.

Under the proposals, the field office would reduce its “geographic footprint,” from 24 sites to 8 sites and would “pre-position” equipment in several other strategic locations. Offices slated to stay

under the plan would be New York City; Columbia, Maryland — the site of the Bureau’s HF Direction-Finding Center; Chicago; Atlanta; Miami; Dallas; Los Angeles, and San Francisco. The EB would deploy equipment in or near several other cities, initially to include Kansas City, Salt Lake City, Phoenix, Seattle, San Juan, Anchorage, Honolulu, and Billings, Montana.

Part of the plan calls for the EB to establish “beneficial partnerships between the Field and other organizations that may support increasing our effectiveness.”

During a March 4 US House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology Committee hearing on the FCC’s FY2016 budget, Rep Michael Pompeo (R-KS) pressed Wilkins on whether the FCC intended to close any field offices and eliminate any personnel.

Wilkins attempted to dodge offering a direct answer and hedged on whether any cuts were planned. He also said the Bureau had not yet received a final report from the outside consultant it had worked with. US Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs the subcommittee.

A copy of the memorandum was sent to National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) Local 209 President Ana Curtis. The NTEU represents many FCC staff members.

Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 Introduced in Congress

03/05/2015

“The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015” — H.R.1301 — has been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land use restrictions. US Rep [Adam Kinzinger](#) (R-IL) introduced the bill March 4 with 12 original co-sponsors from both sides of the aisle — seven Republicans and five Democrats. Kinzinger also sponsored “The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014, which died at the end of the 113th Congress. H.R. 1301 is an essentially identical piece of legislation. “The introduction of H.R. 1301 with so many original co-sponsors, so early in this session of Congress, is very encouraging,” said ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. “Several additional members of Congress already have agreed to be co-sponsors. This bill has momentum, but introduction is only the first step. Many of the next steps will be taken as ARRL members contact their US Representatives urging co-sponsorship and thanking them as they sign on to the bill.”

If Congress approves the legislation, and it is signed by the president, H.R. 1301 would require the FCC to amend its Part 97 Amateur Service rules to apply the three-part test of the [PRB-1](#) federal pre-emption policy to include homeowners’ association regulations and deed restrictions, often referred to as “covenants, conditions, and restrictions” (CC&Rs). At present, PRB-1 only applies to state and local zoning laws and ordinances. The FCC has been reluctant to extend the same legal protections to include such private land-use agreements without direction from Congress. H.R. 1301 has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR), chairs that panel’s Communications and Technology Subcommittee, which will consider the measure. The League had worked with Walden on the 2014 bill during the 113th Congress.

Among H.R. 1301 initial co-sponsors is Rep [Joe Courtney](#) (D-CT), who attended the ARRL National Centennial Convention last

summer to speak with League officials and those attending the event about the earlier bill.

Craigie encouraged ARRL members to urge their US House members to sign on to the bill as a co-sponsor. The ARRL has an [H.R. 1301 resources](#) page on its website. If the House member is already a co-sponsor, call the member's local office or send an e-mail via the member's official website to express their thanks. She called on League members to encourage other hams to do the same, and to be sure to refer to the bill by its number, H.R. 1301.

"Remember what those pile-ups on the W1AW portable stations sounded like last year?" Craigie said. "Let's be that avid in calling for even greater support in Congress for this essential legislation."

[D-STAR Secret Nuclear Bunker](#)

George Smart, M1GEO has located a digital voice D-Star repeater at Keveldon Hatch secret Nuclear Bunker. The repeater will provide coverage throughout west and central Essex, UK.



The site is located appx 30km northeast of London, and will be using the callsign GB7KH.

George was discussing the set-up of a Icom ID-RP4000V UHF repeater with ID-RP2C controller and Procom duplexer tuned for the output frequency of 439.6125 MHz and 430.6125 MHz input, during a recent Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Skills Night.

George is currently trying to source 100 metres of LDF4-50 feeder, it's a long way to the antenna, he's also developing a remote control shutdown mechanism and sorting out the PC for the Icom G2 software.

Alongside the Icom repeater, he is working on a backup repeater which can be used in case of problems. This is a Simoco PRF10 series UHF repeater with DVRPTR_V1 GMSK modem, and G4KLX's ircddbgateway and dstarrepeater software on a Raspberry Pi.

Further information on GB7KH - <http://www.gb7kh.co.uk/>
Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society Skills Night - <http://www.essexham.co.uk/news/skills-night-feb-2015-report.html>
Repeater Map - http://www.ukrepeater.net/my_repeater.php?id=2330

[Make your own VHF or UHF transceiver](#)

Hans Van Rijse PD0AC has released a website web page describing the Dorji DRA818 modules which enable you to make your own 1 watt VHF or UHF FM transceiver

"Using these modules you can get a fully functional 1 Watt FM transceiver on either the 144 MHz or 430 MHz bands for under \$13"

Hans Van Rijse PD0AC

Make your own transceiver with a Dorji DRA818U or DRA818V -

<https://hamgear.wordpress.com/2015/02/03/make-your-own-transceiver-with-a-dorji-dra818u-or-dra818v/>

Dorji (Pdf) - <http://www.dorji.com/docs/data/DRA818U.pdf>

Klaus-Heinz Hirschelmann DJ7OO - Building Blocks for a simple VHF or UHF transceiver - <http://tinyurl.com/Using-DRA818>

[Stunning Slow Scan TV from International Space Station](#)

Amateur / Ham Radio operators are continuing to receive fascinating images from the International Space Station.

"Receiving SSTV from the ISS really CAN be simple: For my first time ever, I simply fired up a \$3 iOS app, and held my iPod touch near my Yaesu FT-60R's speaker, and downloaded one of the images from the ISS."

— Clint Bradford K6LCS

Twelve different images depicting space pioneer Yuri Gagarin - the first human to orbit Earth - are being sent on 145.800 MHz using the SSTV mode PD180, with a 3-minute off time between transmissions.



The transmitter on the ISS uses 5 kHz deviation FM. If your rig has selectable FM filters (most mobiles do) make sure you choose the wider setting designed for 20 or 25 kHz channel spacing, usually marked FM or FMW.

Images received so far by radio amateurs worldwide -

http://www.spaceflightsoftware.com/ARISS_SSTV/

Find out more about receiving these transmissions and links to decoding software - <http://amsat-uk.org/2015/02/11/more-iss-slow-scan-tv/>

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[VHF Society Call for Papers](#)

The Central States VHF Society is calling for the submission of papers, presentations and posters for the upcoming 49th Annual Central States VHF Society Conference 23-26 July 2015 taking place in Denver, Colorado.



Suggested topics include but are not limited to antennas, propagation, satellites, test equipment, digital modes, contesting and the like. Non-weak signal topics, such as FM, Repeaters, packet radio and other utility communications modes are generally not considered acceptable, however, there are always exceptions.

Registration - <http://www.csvhfs.org>

NASA Moon Bounce Signal Heard

Date : 07 / 03 / 2015



When the National Aeronautic and Space Administration (NASA) Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) decided to bounce a signal off the moon, it had listeners around the world including at Mildura and Geelong. On Tuesday March 3 between 0600 to 0900 UTC, the JPL tested its Lunar Ranging Experiment. With JPL using 20 kilowatts into a 34-metre antenna, it was suggested that reception of the reflected signal would be possible on a basic receiving antenna.

This inspired Noel Ferguson VK3FI in Mildura, who decided to have a listen. As his three metre dish was out of service, he decided to try an old "grid pack" pay TV antenna to pick up the reflection on 2115 MHz. The initial noise floor was about strength five. The reflected signal first appeared as the moon rose over the tree line at about 0820 UTC, with the moon's distance at that time about four hundred and three thousand kilometres from earth. Signals in Mildura peaked at strength seven using the FT847 as an IF on 164 MHz. Noel VK3FI reports that reception continued through to 0900 UTC, when the JPL test was terminated.

Chas Gnaccarini VK3PY at Lara near Geelong also checked the signal using a spectrum analyser, 1.2 metre dish antenna and pre-amplifier. He saw a huge signal, 20dB above the noise.

[Changes to Frequencies available for Radio Microphones in New Zealand](#)

From 11 March 2015, radio microphones (and other wireless audio devices such as in-earpieces), will no longer be permitted to operate in the 698-806 MHz frequency range in New Zealand.

This date was set in 2010 and the sale or supply of radio microphones in this frequency range has not been permitted since 1 January 2014.

Cellular operators are now deploying 4G mobile services on these frequencies.

The Ship That Wouldn't Die

Best-selling author and active radio amateur operator **Don Keith N4KC** has just published his 29th book.

The Ship That Wouldn't Die is an epic and true World War II story about a crucial but little known incident at the Battle of the Coral Sea.

The USS Neosho was a tanker assigned to the Allied fleet preparing for the upcoming showdown with Japan in the Coral Sea. Because of her value to the fleet, the tanker was sent 200 miles to the south for safety. However, enemy scouts mistook her for one of the Allied aircraft carriers and sent more than 80 dive-bombers to attack her. Though seriously damaged and afire, her crew worked miracles to keep her afloat for four terrifying days until help finally came. Her escort destroyer was sunk. Almost 200 men went into the shark-infested sea during the attack. Many of them ended up on life rafts. They drifted nine days before rescuers found them. Only four men were still alive by then.

Keith has written both fiction and non-fiction on many subjects including submarines, college football, broadcasting, WWII history, and inspirational fiction. His thriller *FIRING POINT*, co-written with former Navy submarine skipper George Wallace, is in pre-production as a major motion picture, set to release in 2016 under the title *HUNTER KILLER*.

THE ICE DIARIES, N4KC's book on USS Nautilus and her historic voyage through the North Pole in 1958, was submitted for consideration for the Pulitzer Prize. Keith headed up an amateur radio special event operation as N9N to commemorate the 50th anniversary of that event, operating from Historic Ship Nautilus in Groton, Connecticut, in 2008.

Don is active in all aspects of the hobby, is an ARRL member, and holds the Extra Class amateur radio license. His book *RIDING THE SHORTWAVES: EXPLORING THE MAGIC OF AMATEUR RADIO* talks about the captivating allure of ham radio and gives others—especially newcomers or those considering getting their licenses—ideas on how to get the most out of the hobby. The amateur radio book—as well as all of N4KC's works—is available wherever books are sold.

Keith's web site is www.donkeith.com.

His amateur radio web site, which includes many articles for ham radio enthusiasts, is www.n4kc.com.

New Gear



FTM-400DR
C4FM FDMA / FM
144/430 MHz DUAL BAND TRANSCEIVER

The FTM-400DR is the first mobile introduced to be a fully compatible radio partner for use on the YAESU System Fusion Dual Mode system. Compared to other digital modulation schemes within FDMA, C4FM has excellent communication quality (BER: Bit Error Rate characteristics). C4FM is the standard method for professional communication devices in FDMA, and is therefore considered to be the main stream digital communication mode in the future.

Download our "Digital Communications Guide for Amateur Radio Operators" available on our web site that explains more about this efficient and reliable digital mode.

The FTM-400DR operates in three (3) Digital modes and an (1) Analog mode to suit your needs. This feature packed radio is our first Digital Mobile equipped with our new Automatic Mode Select (AMS) function that instantly detects the received signal mode. The AMS function enables stress-free operation and eliminates the need to manually switch between communication modes.

·V/D Mode (Voice/Data simultaneous communication mode)

The digital voice signal is transmitted in one half of the band width. Simultaneously the other half of the 12.5 kHz band width channel is used for error correction of the voice signal and other data. By incorporating powerful error correction technology developed for professional communication devices, effective error correction codes provide the advantage of fewer interruptions to conversations. The Clear Voice technology developed for the C4FM FDMA Digital mode provides the ideal balance of error correction and sound quality.

·Voice FR mode (Voice Full Rate Mode)

This mode uses the full 12.5 kHz bandwidth to transmit digital voice data. The increased amount of voice data permits high quality voice communication, providing superb sound quality for a "rag chew" with friends.

·Data FR mode (High Speed Data Communication Mode)

This high-speed data communication mode uses the full 12.5 kHz bandwidth for data communication. The transceiver automatically switches to Data FR mode when transmitting snapshot pictures, and can be used to transmit large quantities of data at high speed.

·Analog FM mode

Analog FM is effective when weak signal strength causes audio drop out in the digital mode, and enables communication up to the borderline of the noise level. Also the use of established Yaesu low

power circuit designs provides greater efficiency than the digital modes. This is the typical FM mode used by most typical non-digital handhelds and VHF/UHF mobiles.

Digital and Analog FM Capable

There is no to lose communications with friends who have not yet chosen to transition to Digital. The FTM-400DR performs perfectly well using both Analog FM and C4FM Digital.

Compact Packaging

Case Size:

Radio Unit 5.5"(W) x 1.6"(H) x 4.9"(D) w/o Fan

Controller 5.5"(W) x 2.8"(H) x 0.8"(D) (140 x 72 x 20mm) w/o Knob

Weight:

Approx. 2.64 lbs with Radio Unit, Controller, Control Cable

Big Beautiful Display

Enjoy the easy of operation that comes from the FTM-400 big 3.5-inch full color and its touch panel operation. The icon symbols, multi-function key display and pop-up messages are all displayed in high-resolution color thanks to the full-color, high luminance TFT liquid crystal screen. The settings and status of the wireless devices are displayed in an easy-to-understand format. You can perform various operations simply and easily by gently touching the screen.

Screen options include:

- Band Scope Screen
- Altitude Screen
- APRS® Screen
- Smart Navigation Screen
- Frequency Direct Input Screen
- Clock / Timer Screen

Rugged Powerful Transmitter

Transmitter RF Power Output: 50 W / 20 W / 5 W. Modulation Type: F1D, F2D, F3E: Variable Reactance Modulation, F7W: 4FSK (C4FM)

High Audio Output Power

Loud 3 Watt Audio Outputs with the internal speaker. 8 Watt output using Optional External Speaker (MLS-200-M10)

Frequency Range

Receive

108 - 137 MHz (Air Band)

137 - 174 MHz (144 MHz HAM)

174 - 400 MHz (GEN1)

400 - 480 MHz (430 MHz HAM)

480 - 999.99 MHz (GEN2) Cellular Blocked (North American model)

Transmitter

144 - 146 MHz or 144 - 148 MHz

430 - 440 MHz or 430 - 450 MHz

APRS® Included

1200/9600bps APRS® (Automatic Packet Reporting System) Data communication capability included.

Cross-band Capable

The FTM-400DR is cross-band capable when in Analog mode; a very important feature for emergency situations, etc.

GPS Included

Built-in GPS receiver and antenna provides location, time, direction and APRS® information. A GPS Logging Function is included. External GPS devices can be connected.

Hands-free Operation

Law abiding (where required) Hands-free operation is available by using the optional wireless Bluetooth® unit and headset. Optional Bluetooth® unit (BU-2) and Headset (BH-2A) are required.

Snapshot Function (Image Data Transmission)

Simply connect an MH-85A11U (option) microphone with camera. Press the microphone shutter button to take snapshots, and then the image data can be displayed on the screen, and easily sent to other C4FM FDMA digital transceivers.

Image data which was sent from a group member is displayed on the full-color screen. This image data also retains a time record and the GPS location data of the snapshot. It is easy to navigate to that pictured location by using back track function. In addition, you can observe on the screen, whether or not transmitted data was successfully received by the member station. The snapshot image or received data is stored in a high capacity micro SD card. You can recall and send that image data from the SD card anytime. The pictures and data files may be easily viewed and edited by using a personal computer.

* Micro SD card (not included) is required for the Snapshot function

Digital Group Monitor (GM) Function

The digital GM function automatically checks whether members registered to a group are within the communication range, and displays information such as the distance and orientation for each call sign on the screen. This useful function not only enables you to see which friends are within communication range, it also permits you to see at a glance where all group members are located. Additionally, this function can be used to send messages and image data between group members. The Digital Group Monitor applies to direct communications between members; it is not applicable through a repeater.

This is valuable feature for public service group activities, Search & Rescue operations, and any number of other uses limited only by your imagination!

Smart Navigation Function

Real-time navigation function enables location checking at any time. In digital V/D mode, information such as position data is transmitted together with voice signals so the distance and direction to the other stations can be displayed in real-time while communicating with them.

Backtrack Function

The Backtrack Function enables navigation to a registered location at the touch of a button. When hiking or camping, simply register your starting point or campsite before departure, and the distance and orientation from the current location are displayed on the screen.

This is valuable feature for Search & Rescue operations as well as casual hiking and camping.

Voice Guide and Recording Function

Optional Voice Guide Unit (FVS-2) announces your current operating frequency, band change and APRS® messages. You can record up to 5 minutes of received signals, or continuously record the last 30 seconds of received audio.

Other Useful Features

- Real-time Band Scope with uninterrupted RX audio
- 500 Memory Channels for each A(Main) band and B(Sub) band
- Storage of the Memory channels and personal settings on an inserted micro SD card
- By using a micro SD card, it is easy to copy and transfer the radio data to other compatible radios
- Versatile Scanning Receiver for Monitoring Enthusiasts (VFO Scan, Memory Scan, etc)
- Analog and Digital Clock
- Timer function: Event timer with Lap or count down functions

***Trademarks**

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* *APRS® is a registered trademark of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR.*



FT1DR C4FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band Digital Handheld Transceiver

The introduction of our FT1DR 12.5 kHz C4FM/FDMA 144/430MHz Dual Band Digital Handheld Transceiver ushers in The Dawn of a New Digital Communications Era in Amateur Radio. Yaesu has introduced the DR-1 Digital Repeater and FTM-400DR Mobile Transceiver products to work with the FT1DR to provide efficient and large data handling capabilities not currently available on the Amateur Radio bands.

The most attractive benefit of digital communication is its ability to transfer large amounts of data. The new FT1DR uses 12.5 kHz C4FM FDMA digital modulation mode to enable high speed data communication capability, reliable voice communication with strong error correction performance. C4FM FDMA provides 9.6 kbps data baud rate speed. It is significantly different from existing digital Amateur Radio and expands the opportunities for Amateur radio operators activities in the future.

The new FT1DR provides three digital modes (V/D mode, Voice FR mode, Data FR mode) and a Analog mode:

- V/D mode is Voice and Data communication in the same time frame. This mode enables the transceiver to send voice data with GPS position data and ID data in the same time frame. Also, this mode can pass the voice data with strong error correction data to stabilize the digital communication. This mode will be the basic mode of C4FM FDMA Digital HAM radio.
- Data FR mode uses the full rate of data capacity for transferring data. This mode enables you to transfer large amounts of data, text messages, images, and voice memo data with double speed in V/D mode.
- Voice FR mode uses the full rate of data capacity for voice data. This mode enables you to transfer clear, high quality voice data.
- Analog FM mode is the same as current FM mode allowing you to communicate with all VHF/UHF HAM radio operators.

The new FT1DR has very useful Automatic Mode Select function to identify and automatically select these four modes and when the radio receives a signal.

We included many additional features in the FT1DR to make it standard digital communication equipment for all Amateur Radio operators. Please see the detailed Feature descriptions below. We also recommend viewing and/or downloading the FT1DR Brochure that is available by clicking on the "Files" at the top of above this

Compact Size

Case: 2.4"(W) x 3.7"(H) x 1.1"(D) without knob, antenna and belt clip

Weight: 9.35 Oz with FNB-101LI battery and antenna

Rugged Case with Water Protection

The FT1DR has a very rugged case with a Water Protection IPX5 Rating making it PERFECT for extreme environments, field and outdoor use

High Power and Long Life Operation

You can depend on up to 5 watts of reliable power output. There are four steps of power output, 5 watts, 2.5 watts, 1 watt and 0.1 watt. There are two types of Li-Ion battery. The optional FNB-102LI battery will provide up to 8 hours of typical 5 watt operation.

Illuminated Keyboard

Fully illuminated keyboard that will permit easy operation in dark environments

User-friendly Intuitive and Easy-to-Master Operations

The FT1DR is extremely user-friendly, with a wide range of functions that can be called up directly. An easy-to-understand hierarchical menu is also used for the setting modes that allows customization of the FT1DR and makes it convenient to use. Press the ENT key to move to a lower level of the hierarchy, press the DISP key to return to a higher level, and turn the dial to select items or set values. These simple operations can be used to adapt the FT1DR/FT1DE to many communication situations

Real Dual Band Operation (V+V/U+U/V+U)

With two independent receivers, you may listen to either the same or a different band simultaneously.

AF Dual Control

Listen to AM or FM radio stations while monitoring two frequency channels! Two independent receivers will allow you to listen to your favorite AM or FM broadcast station, and monitor two different bands ("Band A" and "Band B") at the same time.

Four (4) Communication Modes

The FT1DR operates in one traditional analog mode and three digital modes! Enjoy communication in the mode that best suits your needs, purpose.

1. V/D Mode (Simultaneous Voice/Data Communication Mode)

Half of the bandwidth is used for voice signal with error correction. The transceiver uses powerful error correction technology developed for professional communication devices. The very effective error correction code provides benefits such as minimal interruption of communication. The basic digital C4FM FDMA mode provides a good balance between sound quality and error correction.

2. Voice FR Mode (Voice Full Rate Mode)

This mode uses the entire 12.5 kHz bandwidth to transmit digital voice data. The larger voice data size allows voice communication with high sound quality. Use this mode for pleasing sound quality communication between amateur radio friends.

3. Data FR Mode (High-speed Data Communication Mode)

A high-speed data communication mode that uses the entire 12.5 kHz bandwidth for data communication. The transceiver automatically switches to this mode when sending and receiving images, allowing a large amount of data to be transmitted quickly.

4. Analog FM Mode

Analog FM is effective for communication with a weak signal that causes voices to break up in the digital modes. The analog mode allows communication even at distances where noise and weak signals make communication almost impossible. The tried-and-trusted low-power circuit design uses less battery power than the digital modes.

The Automatic Mode Selection

The Automatic Mode Select function detects the receive signal mode

The transceiver automatically selects one of the four communication modes according to the signal received. This is extremely convenient when listening for communications, as you do not need to be aware of the other party's communication mode. The transceiver can also be operated in a fixed communication mode.

Snapshot Picture Taking Capability

When using the handy speaker microphone camera (optional MH-85A11U), press the shutter button to capture a snapshot, then press the image transmit button to easily transmit the image data.

The snapshot image or received data is stored in a high capacity micro SD card that is installed in the radio. You can recall and send that image data from the SD card anytime. The image data size is

320 x 240 dots or 160 x 120 dots. Image quality can set from 3 types, and you can choose a format that is suitable for the image and purpose.

This image data also retains a time record and the GPS location data of the snapshot. It is easy to view and edit the data file after taking the pictures by using a personal computer.

A snapshot aids in navigating and returning to the pictured location; other various uses are possible.

Digital Group Monitor Function

The digital GM function automatically checks whether members registered in a group are within communication range, and displays information such as distance and direction for each call sign on the screen. This convenient function makes it possible not only to see whether any friends are in communication range, but also to instantaneously determines the location and relationship between all members of the group.

This function can also be used to send messages and data such as images between members of a group, permitting convenient and fun communication between friends when out for a drive or hike. Sent and received messages and images can be checked on the LOG List screen, with icons making them easy to distinguish.

Band Scope

The FT1DR includes a high resolution band-scope with about 50 channels.

Wideband Receive Coverage

Covers 504 kHz - 999.900 MHz (A Band), 108 MHz - 580 MHz (B Band), continuous reception for short-wave, FM/AM broadcasts, aircraft, public service channels, etc.

Preset Receiver Function - NOAA Weather, Marine, Shortwave

Preset Receiver Function with an Extensive Range of Major Broadcasting Stations and Various Wireless Information Services. The FT1DR has a preset receiver function with various frequencies in memories, making it easy to call up stations in the various communication services. The frequencies include short-wave broadcasts, international (marine) VHF and NOAA Weather channels.

Built-in GPS

Integral GPS receiver and antenna (located on top of the radio) provides location, time, direction and APRS® information. The FT1DR has a very useful GPS data transmission capability.

1200/9600bps APRS® Data Communication

The built-in worldwide standard AX.25 Data TNC Modem permits uncomplicated APRS® (Automatic Packet Reporting System) operation. You will be able to display the information, station list; and use the message, SmartBeaconing™ function. You will be able to track your APRS® movement on the Internet websites.

Smart Navigation Function

This is a real-time navigation function that records the location and direction of Group Monitor (GM) stations. Digital V/D Mode communicates information such as position data at the same time as the voice signal, allowing you to view the distance and direction of the other party in real time while communicating. This makes it possible to confirm your position and the other party's in situations such as hiking and driving where your positions are constantly changing, providing an easy way to meet up or join routes.

Backtrack Function to Return to Departure Point

This function allows navigation back to the departure point, or a point previously added to the memory. When hiking or camping, just register the starting point or the position of your tent and then you can constantly check the direction and distance from your current position. The arrow of the compass display constantly shows the direction to the registered point, making it extremely convenient in finding your way back to the registered place – just move in the direction so that the arrow in the heading-up display

points straight upward.

Lots of Memory Channels and Features

The FT1DR includes 1266 channel memories; 24 100-channel memory banks; memory TAG up to 16 characters.

Scanning

We were sure to include versatile scanning capabilities for the monitoring enthusiasts!

DTMF Features

Functional DTMF Encode and Memory features are included

Selective Call / Pager Features

Built-in CTCSS, DCS and an all new PAGER function encode/decode enables multiple-use selective calling features.

Vibrate Alert

Select from three types of Vibrate Alert functions

Data Terminal for Data Communication

A Data terminal is located on the side of the radio. The optional camera equipped microphone (MH-85A11U) may be connected to

this terminal. Your Personal Computer may also be connected to this terminal to transfer the data or update the firmware of the radio

Micro SD Card Slot

A micro SD card slot is provided on the side of the radio. Memory back-up, the picture image data and other useful information is stored on the high capacity micro SD card (Maximum 32GB). The GPS logger records the location and track information of your moving station, which may be shown later by using Map software on your personal computer, By using the SD card, it is also possible to clone the radio data to the other compatible radios.

Accurate 24 Hour Clock

The FT1DR GPS receiver is used to provide a highly accurate 24 hour Clock for your various needs.

Password Lock

Password Lock function to meet your security concerns.

Improved AM Broadcast Reception

An Internal Bar Antenna ensures better than normal AM broadcast band reception

Other Features

- High-intensity White LED for Emergency Illumination
- Built-in sensor provides accurate temperature readings.
- Built in On/Off Timer
- Automatic Power Off
- Time-out Timer
- Battery saving features



FT2DR C4FM 144/430 MHz Dual Band Digital Handheld Transceiver with 1.7" Touch Screen Display

This exciting leading edge Transceiver is designed with ease of use in mind now packing an oversized back-lit touch panel display. At 1.7-inches the high resolution touch screen display provides loads of information through an easily navigable interface, providing stress-free operability and a high level of on-screen visibility for the FT2DR operator.

The advanced FT2DR is loaded with various new features including: 700 mW of clear loud audio, Built-in High Sensitivity 66 ch GPS with antenna, 1200 bps / 9600 bps APRS® function, Dual watch (V/V, U/U/, V/U), Dual Monitor (C4FM Digital/C4FM Digital), GPS Logging/Recording capabilities, Water resistant (IPX5 Rating), microSD Card Slot, 2200mAh high capacity Li-Ion battery and Battery charger included as a standard supplied accessory.

Analog/C4FM Dual Monitor (V+V/U+U/V+U)

With two independent receivers for both Analog and digital, you can listen to either the same or different bands simultaneously.

Loud Vibrant Audio

with 700mW of Loud, Crisp and Clear audio the FT2-DR is the perfect choice for noisy and crowded environments.

Wide Band Receiver

Covers from 500kHz to 999.990MHz, continuous reception for Short-wave, FM/AM broadcasts, analog TV stations, audio aircraft, public service channels, etc. (Cellular band blocked)

1200/9600bps APRS® Data Communication

The built-in worldwide standard AX.25 Data TNC Modem permits uncomplicated APRS® (Automatic Packet Reporting System) operation. You will be able to display the information, station list; and use the message, SmartBeaconing TM function . You will be able to track your APRS® movement on the Internet websites.

Digital Group Monitor Function

The digital GM function automatically checks whether members registered in a group are within communication range, and displays information such as distance and direction for each call sign on the screen. This convenient function makes it possible not only to see whether any friends are in communication range, but also to instantaneously determines the location and relationship between all members of the group.

This function can also be used to send messages and data such as images between members of a group, permitting convenient and fun communication between friends when out for a drive or hike. Sent and received messages and images can be checked on the LOG List screen, with icons making them easy to distinguish.

Backtrack Function to Return to Departure Point

This function allows navigation back to the departure point, or a point previously added to the memory. When hiking or camping, just register the starting point or the position of your tent and then you can constantly check the direction and distance from your current position. The arrow of the compass display constantly shows the direction to the registered point, making it extremely convenient in finding your way back to the registered place – just move in the direction so that the arrow in the heading-up display

points straight upward.

Snapshot Picture Taking Capability

When using the handy speaker microphone camera (optional MH-85A11U), press the shutter button to capture a snapshot, then press the image transmit button to easily transmit the image data.

The snapshot image or received data is stored in a high capacity micro SD card that is installed in the radio. You can recall and send that image data from the SD card anytime. The image data size is 320 x 240 dots or 160 x 120 dots. Image quality can set from 3 types, and you can choose a format that is suitable for the image and purpose.

This image data also retains a time record and the GPS location data of the snapshot. It is easy to view and edit the data file after taking the pictures by using a personal computer.

A snapshot aids in navigating and returning to the pictured location; other various uses are possible.

Automatic Mode Selection (AMS)

The Automatic Mode Select function detects the receive signal mode

The transceiver automatically selects one of the four communication modes according to the signal received. This is extremely convenient when listening for communications, as you do

not need to be aware of the other party's communication mode. The transceiver can also be operated in a fixed communication mode.

Four (4) Communication Modes

The FT-2DR operates in one traditional analog mode and three digital modes! Enjoy communication in the mode that best suits your needs. purpose.

1. V/D Mode (Simultaneous Voice/Data Communication Mode)

Half of the bandwidth is used for voice signal with error correction. The transceiver uses powerful error correction technology developed for professional communication devices. The very effective error correction code provides benefits such as minimal interruption of communication. The basic digital C4FM FDMA mode provides a good balance between sound quality and error correction.

2. Voice FR Mode (Voice Full Rate Mode)

This mode uses the entire 12.5 kHz bandwidth to transmit digital voice data. The larger voice data size allows voice communication with high sound quality. Use this mode for pleasing sound quality communication between amateur radio friends.

3. Data FR Mode (High-speed Data Communication Mode)

A high-speed data communication mode that uses the entire 12.5 kHz bandwidth for data communication. The transceiver automatically switches to this mode when sending and receiving images, allowing a large amount of data to be transmitted quickly.

4. Analog FM Mode

Analog FM is effective for communication with a weak signal that causes voices to break up in the digital modes. The analog mode allows communication even at distances where noise and weak signals make communication almost impossible. The tried-and-trusted low-power circuit design uses less battery power than the digital modes.

5 Watts Solid RF Power

The FT-2DR outputs a maximum of 5 Watts of clean RF power, with selectable power-saving choices of 2 Watts, and ½ Watt also being available with a simple touch of the screen.

High Capacity Lithium-Ion Battery

With a high capacity 7.2v 2200 mAh battery pack (SBR-14LI) every operator can enjoy reduced charge time, and extended periods of talk time in between charging cycles.

Integrated 66ch High Sensativity GPS

Integral GPS receiver and antenna (located on top of the radio) provides location, time, direction and APRS® information. The FT2DR has a very useful GPS data transmission capability.

Smart Navigation Function

This is a real-time navigation function that records the location and direction of Group Monitor (GM) stations. Digital V/D Mode communicates information such as position data at the same time as the voice signal, allowing you to view the distance and direction of the other party in real time while communicating. This makes it possible to confirm your position and the other party's in situations such as hiking and driving where your positions are constantly changing, providing an easy way to meet up or join routes.

Specifications

Frequency Ranges:

A(Main) Band

RX : 76 - 108 MHz (FM Broadcast) 108 - 137 MHz (Air Band)

RX : 0.5 - 1.8 MHz (AM Broadcast)

TX: 144 - 148 MHz, 430 - 450 MHz

1.8 - 30 MHz (SW Band) 30 - 76 MHz (50 MHz HAM)

137 - 174 MHz (144 MHz HAM) 174 - 222 MHz (VHF Band)

222 - 420 MHz (GEN1) 420 - 470 MHz (430 MHz HAM)

470 - 774 MHz (UHF Band) 774 - 999.90 MHz (GEN2)

B(Sub) Band

RX: 108 - 137 MHz (Air Band)

TX: 144 - 148 MHz, 430 - 450 MHz

137 - 174 MHz (144 MHz HAM)

174 - 222 MHz (VHF Band)

222 - 420 MHz (GEN1)

420 - 470 MHz (430 MHz HAM)

470 - 580 MHz (UHF Band)

Circuit Type: NFM/ AM:Double-Conversion Superheterodyne

FM /AM Radio: Direct-Conversion

Modulation Type: F1D, F2D, F3E, F7W

RF Power Output: 5 W (@ 7.4 V or EXT DC)

Channels: 1245

Waterproof Rating: IPX5

Case Size(W x H x D): 62 x 110 x 32.5 mm (w/ SBR-14LI, w/o Knob and Antenna)

62 x 110 x 27 mm (w/o SBR-14LI, Knob and Antenna)

Weight: 310 g With SBR-14LI and Antenna

Warranty: 1 Year

Ham Software



New release

Ham Radio Deluxe Version 6.2.9.353 now available !

[PyQSO v0.2 Released](#)

Version 0.2 of PyQSO, a simple contact logging tool that runs on Linux, has been released.

PyQSO is a logging tool for amateur radio operators. It provides a simple graphical interface through which users can manage information about the contacts/QSOs they make with other operators on the air. All information is stored in a light-weight SQL database.

This new release contains a number of fixes and updates to the user interface, and additional features such as an 'insert current date and time' button and the option of specifying default values for the power and mode fields.

Key features include

- Customisable interface (e.g. only show callsign and frequency information).
- Import and export logs in [ADIF](#) format.
- Perform callsign lookups and auto-fill data fields using the [qrz.com](#) database.
- Sort the logs by individual fields.
- Print a hard-copy of logs, or print to PDF.
- Connect to Telnet-based DX clusters.

- Progress tracker for the [DXCC award](#).
- Grey line plotter.
- Filter out QSOs based on the callsign field (e.g. only display contacts with callsigns beginning with "M6").
- Remove duplicate QSOs.
- Basic support for the [Hamlib](#) library.

PyQSO - <http://ctjacobs.github.io/pyqso>

PyQSO documentation - <http://pyqso.readthedocs.org>



Hi All,

Just a quick note to let you know that...

Africa All-Mode International DX Contest Log 1.0 is Now Available!

Just in time for tomorrow's inaugural Africa All-Mode International DX contest, this program includes all the features you've come to expect in N3FJP Software including dupe checking, scoring, DX spotting, rig interface, super check partial, sending CW, Cabrillo output, etc. Best of all, you'll likely find it very easy and intuitive to use!

This program is literally hot of the presses. I apologize for the really late notice, but I was only made aware of this new contest a short time ago myself. As a result, I haven't had the opportunity to test this program quite as extensively before release as usual, but I will certainly correct anything that comes to light promptly.

As always, additional programs I add to the N3FJP Software Package are free to N3FJP Software Package users. Just e-mail Kimberly and me and we will send you a password for this new program!

You'll find Africa All-Mode International DX Contest Log 1.0 here: <http://www.n3fjp.com/africaintdx.html>

The Africa All-Mode International DX Contest looks like a lot of fun! Everyone can work everyone for points, and of course you earn more points and multipliers when you work stations on the African continent. You'll find complete details here:

<http://www.africadxcontest.org/>

One unusual scoring rule for this contest is that the total score is points X multipliers per band, added together, not total multipliers X total points.

Enjoy the new software and have fun in the contest! Hopefully you will catch some new African DX entities!

Hi All,

If you've been following along, you know that after the conclusion of ARRL's super Centennial QSO Point Challenge, my friend Dave, N3HCN, son Chris, KB3KCN and I were lamenting its conclusion and wishing it was an annual event. Just for fun, we started brainstorming what an annual contest would look like if we could develop our own. I mentioned the possibility in some previous e-mail, we received a lot of enthusiastic support, a brainstorming group formed, suggestions ensued and to make a long story short, our Annual Worked All States / Counties QSO Party is now up and running!

I want to extend a huge amount of thanks to my son Chris, KB3KCN, who solely created all the web site infrastructure. This is a much bigger job than you likely imagine! This event would not be happening without Chris' skills, time and very hard work.

You'll find the rules on my web site under the Additional heading. This link will take you directly to the rules <http://www.n3fjp.com/wascntyqsoparty.html> and I've pasted them below for your convenience.

Enjoy the Annual Worked All States / Counties QSO Party!

Worked All States / Counties QSO Party

Click here to upload your log, see your current rank and score now!

How to play in the Annual Worked All States / Counties QSO Party:

The Annual Worked All States / Counties QSO Party is a fun, year long operating event that facilitates reaching your Worked All States (WAS) goals, county hunter objectives and DXCC achievements. Every new station you work on each band and mode is worth a point and each new county and DXCC entity is a multiplier. Just upload your log in ADIF here often! The web site will process your score for you and display your real time current standings.

Great ways to play in this contest are to participate in other contests throughout the year including the DX contests, state QSO party contests and any other contest or activity that puts Qs in your log. Contacts you make in those contests count for this one too!

When you aren't working contests or making rag chew QSOs, call "CQ Counties" ("CQ CNTY" on CW and digital) and work as many folks as you can!

In short, work as many stations as possible, seek out county and DXCC multipliers and upload your log often. That's all there is to it!

Here are all the details, with additional thoughts and future possibilities below.

Worked All States / Counties QSO Party Rules

Objective:

Create a fun operating event that will be engaging and encourage on air activity on multiple bands and modes for a long duration (12 months). This event will facilitate reaching personal, multi band Worked All States (WAS) goals, county hunter objectives and DXCC achievements.

Rules:

- Contest Period: This is a 12 month, annual contest, January 1, 00:00:00 UTC through December 31, 23:59:59 UTC. Everyone starts fresh January 1st each year.

- Bands: Any Amateur Radio band except 12, 17, 30 and 60 Meters.

- Modes: CW, PH and DIG. PH includes any voice mode such as SSB, AM, FM, etc. DIG includes any digital mode such as RTTY, PSK31, etc.

- Choosing an Operating Frequency: In addition to FCC rules and regulations, please always be mindful of the Considerate Operator's Frequency Guide and be careful to choose a frequency that will not interfere with other QSOs and operating nets.

- Making Contacts: Call "CQ Counties" on phone and CQ CNTY on CW / Digital, similar to the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. All QSOs, including QSOs made during other contests, as well as casual operating, can be counted for points and multiplier credit.

- Exchange: Exchange of state and county is encouraged, but not required. The county and state do not actually have to be exchanged during the QSO, but must be included in your upload for multiplier credit. It's fine to use another data source to determine the state and county after the contact and add it to your QSO record before uploading.

- Score: QSOs are one point each. Multiply the number of unique counties and DX entities worked on each band and mode (CW, PH and DIG) times the number of QSOs. Your score will be calculated for you when you upload your log and we encourage you to do that often. Please see Reporting / Score Tracking for more details.

- Multipliers: 3,077 counties and 340 DX entities are counted for multiplier credit on each band and mode. For example, assuming you work Harford County MD on 5 different bands on CW, SSB and Digital, Harford County MD will be counted as a multiplier 15 times (5 CW, 5 PH and 5 Digital).

- Duplicates: The same station may be worked once on each band and mode for QSO points and multiplier credit (if applicable). There is no penalty for working the same station on the same band and mode again, but no additional points or multipliers will be earned. Exception - if the station worked is a rover and has activated a different county, the contact is eligible for QSO points and multiplier credit.

- Country List: Country multipliers are the 340 DXCC entities documented here. The DX ADIF country code must be included in your ADIF file (most logging programs include the country code

number in their ADIF export).

- County List: Counties and their spellings must match this list. Missing or misspelled counties will not be counted for multiplier credit.

- Categories:

Power: High (1,500 watts or less), Low (150 watts or less) and QRP (5 watts or less).

Operator: Single, Multi

Rover: A rover is any station, mobile or stationary, operating outside of their home county. There isn't a separate rover category, but rover operation is fine. Rovers may activate any county and apply QSOs made while rover to their yearly total. Rovers who work the same station on the same band and mode from a different county do not receive additional QSO points as defined by the duplicate rule.

Reporting / Score Tracking:

Please upload your log in ADIF format often throughout the year! Track your current score and leader board rank on line here!

Please include your entire year's data with each upload, as your previous data is replaced. When you upload your log, any duplicates and ineligible bands are removed, so simply uploading your entire general log for the contest period is fine. Your final log file submission must be uploaded before January 7th, 23:59:59 UTC of the following year.

Achievement Levels:

First Level:

10,000 points (Could be achieved with 100 QSOs with 100 unique multipliers)

Second Level:

150,000 points (Could be achieved with 500 QSOs with 300 unique multipliers)

Third Level:

500,000 points (Could be achieved with 1000 QSOs with 500 unique multipliers)

Fourth Level:

2,000,000 points (Could be achieved with 2000 QSOs with 1000 unique multipliers)

Top Level:

10,000,000 points (Could be achieved with 5000 QSOs with 2000 unique multipliers)

These QSO and unique multiplier values are just examples. Points can be earned with any QSO / multiplier combination.

More Details and Back Story:

With the success of the 2014 ARRL Centennial QSO party fresh in our minds, my son Chris, KB3KCN, good friend Dave, N3HCN and I started brainstorming. We thought it would be great fun to develop an annual, year long, Worked All States / Counties QSO Party, with a similar flavor to the ARRL Centennial!

With lots of great input from other interested folks, we developed a set of rules to facilitate reaching personal, multi band Worked All States (WAS) goals, county hunter objectives and DXCC achievements. By making all counties multipliers, virtually all stations will be sought after when calling "CQ counties" on the air, encouraging lots of fun activity!

Simultaneously, in early January, 2015, ARRL President Kay Craigie reflected on the success of the Centennial QSO Party and included these thoughts:

President Craigie said some have asked what the ARRL will do next. She said that while the League doesn't want to wear out the exuberance and goodwill the Centennial events engendered, "it's clear that operating challenges outside of the traditional menu of contests and awards have a great appeal." She expressed the hope that, in the months and years ahead, all hams will seek out other operating challenges sponsored by all sorts of ham radio groups and keep the bands alive with signals.

We'd like to think this contest fits in beautifully with President Craigie's hopes!

Future Suggestions:

This Worked All States / Counties QSO Party is now up and running as we originally envisioned. Meanwhile, we've received lots of additional suggestions to our basic rule set including:

- Schedule an emphasis on specific states each week, similar to the Centennial. The schedule for each state may be close to the time of that state's QSO party weekend. Coordinators in that state would encourage activation of as many counties as possible.

- Create a web site of specific calls signs in counties to look for and when.

- Issue plaques, certificates to leaders in each state, overall, etc.

- Issue awards to stations who have the largest number of states with a "clean sweep". You earn a "clean sweep" for a state when you have worked all the counties in that state.

Current Status and Future Possibilities:

We have to reign in some expectations for now, while opening the door to these and other possibilities. This project is something Chris, Dave and I are working on in our "spare" time. I'm not planning to write a program for this project. AC Log (or any program that exports in ADIF) will work fine, as it did for the Centennial.

With the volume of work I already have creating, supporting and maintaining N3FJP Software, my involvement in this QSO party is

very enthusiastic, but limited to helping craft the rules and working with Chris to create the web site infrastructure for log scoring. Answering contest support e-mail, organizing on air scheduling, coordinating plaques, etc., simply isn't something we have the resources to do here.

We've created the rules, built the basic web infrastructure and set it on automatic pilot, so we are up and running! If we remain at this level, that's fine, we will have a lot of fun! Go make contacts, upload your log and see your current score!

That said, it's clearly possible this can become much more! I couldn't be more pleased if an experienced organization or contesting group would like to take the lead on this contest and take it to the next level. If your group would like to support this event and make some of these other suggestions happen, please e-mail me!

Thanks for your interest in the Worked All States / Counties QSO party!

73, Scott
N3FJP
<http://www.n3fjp.com>

Hi All,

An excellent way to keep our QSO rates up and hobby vibrant is to introduce and encourage young and new folks to Amateur Radio. What's more, the time we spend will likely pay dividends far beyond radio in these young people's lives. Much of the recent coding effort at N3FJP headquarters has been in support of these sentiments.

The announcements in this e-mail include:

- ARRL Rookie Roundup Contest Log 1.0 Now Available (free)!
- Jamboree On The Air Log 1.0 Now Available (free)!
- Field Day Planning: A School Club Roundup Challenge!
- ARRL Kid's Day Log 2.0 Now Available (free)!
- Winter Field Day Log Submittal E-mail Address

ARRL Rookie Roundup Contest Log 1.0 is Now Available!

This new program, designed for use by both new hams and veterans, has all the features you've come to expect in N3FJP Software including dupe checking, sections changing color when worked, scoring, DX spotting, rig interface, super check partial, sending CW, etc. Best of all, you'll likely find it very easy and intuitive to use! Please encourage the new folks at your club and community to give contesting a try and work them on the air during the event!

Whether you are an N3FJP Software package subscriber or not, Rookie Roundup Contest Log 1.0 is free to everyone. I've

developed this program to help encourage new folks to pursue the great hobby of Amateur Radio. All I ask is that you help spread the word and enjoy the software!

You'll find Rookie Roundup Contest Log here:
<http://www.n3fjp.com/rookieru.html>

Jamboree On The Air Log 1.0 is Now Available!

I've also developed free software to support the scout's Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) event as well. I've never operated JOTA and since JOTA doesn't have a defined exchange, I sought input from users. The varied suggestions more than stretched the limits of what one of my contesting templates could be morphed into, but I did my best. This program might not meet everyone's JOTA style, but feedback so far has been positive. Please give it a try and if you find it useful, enjoy it!

You'll find Jamboree On The Air Log 1.0 here:
<http://www.n3fjp.com/jota.html>

Field Day Planning: A School Club Roundup Challenge!

If you haven't been paying attention to the School Club Roundup (SCR), held twice a year, you should! It may not be evident by the name, but the SCR rules are designed to encourage participation, not only from schools (worth 5 multipliers), but non school clubs (2 multipliers) and individuals (everyone is worth a point) as well! It means a lot to these kids to have an active radio experience during the contest and every QSO you and your club provide makes it that much better!

The text covering all the great reasons for you to operate during SCR here would be too long, but what I'd like to challenge you to consider is, as you plan your Field Day event, also spend some time planning how your club can partner with your local school to bring the School Club Roundup opportunity to more students.

Many schools don't have anyone involved with radio on their faculty, so they never have the opportunity to be exposed to Amateur Radio. We demonstrate every year we can set up quickly and operate entirely on our own resources. Not that you'd have to bring your own power, but there is no doubt that setting up a station for a few hours during SCR week as an in school or after school activity is well within our ability and very worthwhile!

Think about what your club can do, whether it be a one day set up on 20 meters, a week long event or maybe even an ongoing after school activity and then meet with your school's principal to discuss it. You won't earn extra Field Day bonus points, but the rewards for everyone involved will be far greater!

If you have questions about SCR and to learn more, the SCR folks have an e-mail group here:
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SCR-L/info>

I have free software for SCR as well:
<http://www.n3fjp.com/schoolclubru.html>

ARRL Kid's Day Log 2.0 is Now Available!

I've supported Kid's Day for quite a while, but I've just rewritten the software in C#.net, so it now has the appearance, features and functionality of the rest of my new rewrites. Kid's Day Log is still free, and you'll find it here: <http://www.n3fjp.com/kidsday.html>

Winter Field Day Log E-mail Submittal Address.

The SPAR folks have a new e-mail address for you to submit your Cabrillo Winter Field Day Logs. Please be sure to address your e-mail and send your log here: winterfd@att.net

BUY, SELL, or SWAP**Looking for a manual tuner for hf.**

I have a like new LDG Electronics z-100 plus auto tuner to trade. Also needing a microphone for a Kenwood TS-930S 903-641-3201 or chiefellington@yahoo.com.

Hamfests & Events**03/28/2015 | [Texas State Convention \(Greater Houston Hamfest\)](#)**

Location: Rosenberg, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.houstonhamfest.org/>

06/12/2015 | [West Gulf Division Convention \(Ham-Com\)](#)

Location: Irving, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Plano ARC, Dallas ARC, & Irving ARC

Website: <http://www.hamcom.org>

07/18/2015 | [Tidelands Hamfest](#)

Location: Texas City, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://tidelands.org>

08/07/2015 | [South Texas Section Convention \(Austin Summerfest 2015\)](#)

Location: Austin, TX

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Austin ARC and Texas VHF-FM Society

Website: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

10/31/2015 | [South Texas Hamfest](#)

Location: Aransas Pass, TX

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: South Texas Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.southtexashamfest.org>

NFLARC Weather Nets**NFLARC Weather Net Frequencies:**

- Corsicana - 2M (145.290 + with a tone of 146.2)
- Corsicana - 440 (442.925 + with a tone of 146.2)
- Buffalo - 2M (147.280 + with a tone of 146.2)
- Franklin - 2M (146.960 - with a tone of 146.2)
- Hillsboro - 2M (146.780 - with a tone of 123.0)
- Fairfield - 2M (145.110 * with a tone of 146.2)
- Lindale - 2M (145.600 simplex with a tone of 146.2)
- Mexia - 2M (145.39 - with a tone of 146.2)
- Simplex Frequency - 146.500 MHz
- Echolink - KD5OXM-L

NFLARC Weekly Information Net

Net meets every Wednesday night at 9:00 PM local time

- The Linked Repeaters at
 - Corsicana - 2M (145.290 + with a tone of 146.2)
 - Corsicana - 440 (442.925 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Buffalo - 2M (147.280 + with a tone of 146.2)
 - Franklin - 2M (146.960 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Hillsboro - 2M (146.780 - with a tone of 123.0)
 - Fairfield * 2M (145.110 * with a tone of 146.2)
 - Lindale * 2M (145.600 simplex with a tone of 146.2)
 - Mexia * 2M (145.39 - with a tone of 146.2)
 - Echolink * KD5OXM-L
- We can be Monitored via
 - <http://nflarc.org/radio.html>
 - <http://www.radioreference.com>
 - (Central Texas Amateur Repeaters)

Net Control Schedule

- March
 - 04 Rebekah / Wil
 - 11 Wil / Rebekah
 - 18 Michael
 - 25 Rebekah / Wil
- April
 - 01 Wil / Rebekah
 - 08 Michael
 - 15 Rebekah / Wil
 - 22 Wil / Rebekah
 - 29 Michael

If you would like to learn or practice being net control, contact us here <http://nflarc.org/email.html>

NFLARC Scheduled Club Meetings

April 11, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

May 1, 2015

NFLARC Dues **Time:** Untimed event

May 9, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

June 13, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

July 11, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

August 8, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

September 12, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

October 10, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

November 14, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

December 12, 2015

NFLARC Lunch **Time:** 12:00pm - 1:00pm

NFLARC Meeting **Time:** 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Other Area Nets

- **HF**
 - 10 mtrs Tues 8:00p 28.437 + or - W5DXS net
 - 40 mtrs M-Sat 10:00-noon 1:00-2:00p Sat 10:00a-noon 7.290
 - 80 mtrs 24/7 6:30p SW Traffic Net 3.873
 - 80 mtrs 24/7 8:00p-9:00 Gulf Coast Hurricane Net 3.935
- **U/VHF**
 - **Daily-**
 - 4:00 a -an informal net on 146.580 Simplex every morning, Come and visit with the bunch!
 - **Mon-**

- 7:00p 146.82 and Waco area 146.660 linked Temple ARC
- 8:00p 145.150 Hotarc Bakers Dozen Training net (WX Net)
- **Tue-**
 - 7:00p -147.180 Bosque County ARC Round Table Net
 - 7:30p 147.180 Pink HAMster net
 - 7:30 P. M The 2-meter SSB group is using 144.200 USB on Tuesday nights.
 - 8:30p- 147.24 (97.4 tone) Slo-scan Emergency Preparedness Net
 - 9:00p- 147.140, 97.4 SlowScan-ATV Talkabout Net
 - 10:00p 147.360 PL Tone 110.9 Tarlton Area ARC
- **Weds.**
 - 7:30 p.m. W5TSG Emergency Relay Net SIMPLEX . 147.550 All checkins during the 7:30 net will have an opportunity to make comments on the 8:00 p.m. net
 - 8:00 p.m. W5TSG Traffic and Training Net 147.320 with a tone of + 123
 - 8:00pm ON THE LAST WEDS. OF THE MONTH ON 145.31 TONE 123 THE W5TSG TRAFFIC AND TRAINING NET. All licensed radio operators are welcome to check in. Bud AD5SK Net Control
 - 9:00p- 146.78 Quad County net (access Hill County repeater)
- **Thurs.**
 - 7:00p 146.78 LWARS Training Net
 - 8:00p 147.14 Central Texas ARC Net (WX Net)
 - 8:00p 145.310, 123.0 Central Texas Amateur Radio Net
- **Sun.**
 - 7:30p 444.00 tone 136.5 and 145.45 tone 88.5 Johnson County ARC (Cleburne)

AREA CLUB MEETINGS

- All-Ham Breakfast
 - Every Sat.9:00am GRIFFS at China Spring Road & Wortham Bend Road in China Spring. Come join your fellow hams every Saturday morning.
- Bosque County ARC
 - 2nd Sat. 6:30pm Johnny's Café on HWY. 6 In Clifton
 - VEC team there to give a test or upgrade at 5:30 each meeting
- Central Texas ARC
 - 1st Tues. 7:00pm Belton EOC
- HOTARC
 - 4th Thurs. 7:00pm W5NCD Workshop 12772 Chapel Rd., Lorena
- Lake Whitney ARS
 - 3rd Sat. 10:00am Whitney Fire Department
- Temple ARC
 - 1st Thurs. 7:00pm Western Hills Church of Christ Adams & I-35, Temple
- W5TSG ARC
 - 2nd Monday 6:30pm TSGARC Clubhouse 3292 Speegleville Road, Waco
- Tarleton Area ARC
 - 1st Tuesday of each month Stephenville (also a 70cm repeater available 444.775 PL tone 88.5)
- CCARC - Cedar Creek Amateur Radio Club
 - Second Saturday of each month at the [Mabank Cafe, 301 N. 3rd. Street in Mabank.](#)
 - Their meeting room is a no-smoking area for us all morning.

CONTEST CALENDAR

April 2015

± QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 1
± SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 2
± QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 3
± LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 4
± Missouri QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0400Z, Apr 5 and 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 5
± Mississippi QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 5
± SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 4 to 1500Z, Apr 5
± Montana QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 4 to 0559Z, Apr 5
± UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Apr 5
± ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 7
± QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 8
± QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 10
± JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 11 to 1300Z, Apr 12
± New Mexico QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 11 to 0200Z, Apr 12 1800Z, Apr 11 to 0359Z, Apr 12 and 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 12
± Georgia QSO Party	1200Z-2200Z, Apr 12
± WAB 3.5/7/14 MHz Data Modes	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 12
± Hungarian Straight Key Contest	2100Z, Apr 17 to 2100Z, Apr 18
± Holyland DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 18
± TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest	0500Z-0859Z, Apr 18
± ES Open HF Championship	1200Z, Apr 18 to 2359Z, Apr 19
± CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest	1200Z, Apr 18 to 0200Z, Apr 19 and 1700Z-2300Z, Apr 19
± Nebraska QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 18 to 0400Z, Apr 19
± Michigan QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19
± North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19
± Ontario QSO Party	2100Z, Apr 18 to 1700Z, Apr 19
± YU DX Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Apr 19
± ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	0001Z, Apr 25 to 2359Z, Apr 26
± 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	1200Z, Apr 25 to 1200Z, Apr 26
± SP DX RTTY Contest	1300Z, Apr 25 to 1259Z, Apr 26
± Helvetia Contest	1600Z, Apr 25 to 0159Z, Apr 26 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 26
± Florida QSO Party	

DX News

Swiss Special Event Station - HE200GE

Special event station HE200GE will be on the air during 2015 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Republic of Geneva joining the Swiss Confederation



The beginnings of modern Switzerland - Helvetia, the Swiss Confederation - go back to the year 1291, when the three German language Alpine forest areas, or 'Urkantone', of Schwyz, Uri and Unterwalden signed the Federal Charter ('Bundesbrief'), a pact of eternal alliance and mutual self-defence. Over the centuries more and more German, French, Italian and Romansh speaking cantons allied themselves to the original three, and today the Swiss Confederation counts 26 multilingual cantons.

Among the last to become Swiss was the Republic of Geneva on 19 May 1815. On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of this historic event USKA's Geneva section (HB9G) will be active on all amateur

bands throughout 2015 with the special callsign HE200GE. Contacts will, of course, be valid for the Diplôme de Genève (QSL via HB9AOF).

USKA (Google English) - <http://tinyurl.com/SwitzerlandUSKA>

National Mills Weekend

The National Mills weekend will take place this year on the 9-10th May 2015.

Members of the A54 VERON section will be active, from an old corn mill known as the 'The Old Mill' (which dates from 1846) located on the Oudemolensedijk 16 at Oudemolen we will be QRV on all HF bands and 2 meters with the special call PA05MILL. The team will be using the special event callsign - PA05MILL. All stations that have a qso with PA05MILL receive a beautiful special QSL card via the QSL bureau.

A beautiful digital mill award will also be issued - for more information visit - <http://www.qrz.com/db/pa05mill>

Amateur Radio World Castles Award



Hello All!

15/03/2015 - WCA petition of LZ2OQV/P to Vrana Palace!
- Georgi LZ2OQV/I will be active on the 15th of March 2015 from Vrana Palace, WCA: LZ-00026. He plans to work as LZ2OQV/P only CW on 10 meters with QRP - 2 watts from 09:00 till 11:00 UTC. QSL via Home Callsign, bureau or direct. 73 & 11! [tnx info LZ2OQV/I].

15/03/2015 - WCA & COTA-RU petition of UA1AVA/P and RA1ABH/P to Koporje Fortress!
- Vladimir UA1AVA and Grigory RA1ABH will be active on the 15th of March 2015 from Koporje Fortress, WCA: UA-00008, COTA-RU: C-108, RDA: LO-30. They plan to work QRP from 09:00 UTC as Home Calls/P. QSL via Home Calls, bureau or direct. 73 & 11! [tnx info UA1AVA].

73 & 11! de **Andrew RNICW**
THE CASTLES HUNTER
WCA coordinator & award manager
<http://www.wcagroup.org>



Island

LINKS

QRZ now

<http://qrznow.com/>

<http://new.dxsummit.fi/#/>



<http://www.qrz.com/>



<http://www.repeaterbook.com>

SILENT KEYS



Mike Shaw's (KD5CB Corn Bread)

passed during the night last night 3-26-2015. He fought a hard battle before expiring. He will be missed by many as he touched so many of us.

Chuck WQ5B

FYI

- NFLARC Club Dues are due every May

Ham Radio Glossary

E

E region -- The second lowest ionospheric region, the E region exists only during the day. Under certain conditions, it may refract radio waves enough to return them to Earth.

Earth ground -- A circuit connection to a ground rod driven into the Earth or to a cold-water pipe made of copper that goes into the ground.

Earth station -- An amateur station located on, or within 50 km of, the Earth's surface intended for communications with space stations or with other Earth stations by means of one or more other objects in space.

Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) or Moonbounce -- A method of communicating with other stations by reflecting radio signals off the Moon's surface.

Electric field -- An invisible force of nature. An electric field exists in a region of space if an electrically charged object placed in the region is subjected to an electrical force.

Electromotive force (EMF) -- The force or pressure that pushes a current through a circuit.

Electron -- A tiny, negatively charged particle, normally found in an area surrounding the nucleus of an atom. Moving electrons make up an electrical current.

Emergency -- A situation where there is a danger to lives or property.

Emergency traffic -- Messages with life and death urgency or requests for medical help and supplies that leave an area shortly after an emergency.

Emission -- The transmitted signal from an amateur station.

Emission privilege -- Permission to use a particular emission type (such as Morse code or voice).

Emission types -- Term for the different modes authorized for use on the Amateur Radio bands. Examples are CW, SSB, RTTY and FM. Energy -- The ability to do work; the ability to exert a force to move some object.

2013-2014 Officers

President: Doug S - KE5CDK

Vice President: Rodger W - W5UOK

Secretary: Rebekah M - K5RCM

Treasurer: James S - KD5OXM

Director (1yr): Mary S - KE5FGU

Director (2yr): Kevin M - KW5MOS

Director (3yr): Michael B - KF5KHS

Field Day Committee:

Testing Committee:

Ken P K5KCP,

Rebekah M - K5RCM

VE Team

Ken P K5KCP,

Rebekah M - K5RCM

Public Relations Chairman

Ken P K5KCP

Activities Chairman

Rebekah M - K5RCM

Ragchew Editor

Doug S - KE5CDK

Address Book

- Staff@nflarc.org - Is sent to pres, vp, sec, tres, & board
- members@nflarc.org - Is sent to all members on the mailing list
- vec@nflarc.org – Is sent to our VEC's
- ve@nflarc.org - Is sent to the VE team
- ares@nflarc.org – Is sent to pres, vp, sec, tres,
- fd@nflarc.org - Is sent to pres, vp, sec, tres,
- ragchew@nflarc.org - is sent to the newsletter editor

If you have Questions, Comments, Links, Submissions, Corrections,
Etc.

Send them to ragchew@nflarc.org

73