

## HAM DATES:

### INDIAN RIVER CO.

May 1, 2021  
Digital University, 9am-12pm  
(Suspended due to COVID-19)

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2021  
Treasure Coast Ragchew / Traders  
Net 8:00pm 146.775 (107.2) repeater

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021  
Indian River Co. ARES NET 7:30pm,  
145.130 (107.2) repeater

May 13, 2021  
Vero Beach ARC Meeting, 7:30pm  
Italian American Civic Association

May 27, 2021  
Indian River Co. ARES, meeting  
7:00pm 145.130 repeater

### ST LUCIE CO.

May 6, 13, 20, 27, 2021  
Port St. Lucie ARA Rag chew, Traders,  
Tech NET 7:30pm, 146.955 MHz  
(107.2)

May 4, 11, 18, 26, 2021  
Ft. Pierce ARC Rag chew, Tech,  
Traders NET 8pm, 147.345  
Repeater (107.2), Echolink: 2004  
(W4AKH-R)

May 5, 2021  
St. Lucie Co. ARES NET, 7:30pm,  
147.240 MHz (107.2) repeater

May 12, 2021  
Ft. Pierce ARC Meeting, 7:30pm,  
(<https://fparc.org> for meeting details)

May 19, 2021  
St. Lucie Co. ARES, 7:30 pm, back at  
SLC EOC, Midway Rd, Ft. Pierce.

May 26, 2021  
Port St Lucie Amateur Radio Assoc.  
ZOOM meeting (request login)

### MARTIN CO.

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2021  
Rag chew net 7:30pm, 145.150 MHz  
(107.2)

May 13, 2021  
MCARA ARES, 8:00pm MC EOC  
800 SE Monterey Rd, Stuart

May 27, 2021  
MCARA Meeting, 7:00pm, Stuart  
Police Dept., 830 SE Martin Luther  
King Blvd, Stuart

# Treasure Coast Ham News

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 5

MAY 2021

## RADIO STAMPS AROUND THE WORLD



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:** FROM THE PUBLISHERS \* ARES \* VE LICENSE TESTING UPDATE \* VOLCANO ALERT \* JULIAN "RED" KORAN, (SK) \* UPDATED RF EXPOSURE RULES \* UPCOMING HAMFESTS \* FDIM EVENT \* HAM RADIO TRIVIA \* RADIO ON A GLOBE-CIRCLING DASH \* THE FRUGAL HAM RADIO OPERATOR \* G5RV HELP REQUEST \* SHORT TAKES \* GET WELL WISH \* TREASURE COAST HAM DOCTORS \* FT8 OPERATING TIP \* RAMBLINGS OF AN ANTENNA ALCHEMIST \* MORE DX'ING WITH BRUCE, W8HW \* IDXC VIRTUAL MEETING \* DX NEWS \* SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS \* HAM HUMOR \* WE NEED YOU \* COMING NEXT MONTH \* Q CODES \* HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE \* QSL CARDS

# From the Publishers

**Treasure Coast Ham News** is now well into its second year of publishing. Starting with our first issue we strived to provide timely local content and radio topics of interest to our area hams. The monthly newsletter is emailed to over 200 hams around the region and beyond and our distribution is growing with each issue. We sincerely appreciate our contributors and writers, and the many positive reader accolades we have received.

## Treasure Coast Ham News Origin

In 2019 we created the **Beacon** as a club newsletter for PSLARA members. After finishing our board terms we encouraged leadership to continue the club newsletter. Unfortunately, it ceased publication. While the **Beacon** served PSLARA members, we saw need for a regional newsletter sharing information about activities beneficial to **all** Treasure Coast hams. In early 2020 at the Bean & Bagel coffee shop in Port St. Lucie we talked about the need for a regional newsletter. A trial version was published in March 2020. The response was heartening. Issues have continued monthly since that time.

## Treasure Coast Ham News Regional Perspective

We believe our local clubs are excellent at informing their membership about club events, but we see a need to keep area hams informed about regional events.

## Newsletter Publication & Delivery Methods

Our goal from the beginning was to produce a professional newsletter rich in content that all hams would enjoy. We considered several publication methods and settled on an emailed newsletter in PDF format. We felt it was the easiest way to share ham radio news and activities across the entire Treasure Coast area.

## Newsletter Content

Gathering information about club and member ham activities has not been easy. Visiting club websites, attending events or using the Internet only gets so much information. Treasure Coast Ham News needs your help.

## What we need

This is where our clubs, their members and area hams can help by sending us information about on-air activities, ARES events, training opportunities, Hamfests and tailgating, kit building, DXing, VHF/UHF operating, Silent Keys, etc. Tell us about your club activities. Tell us about hams passing license exams or upgrading. Tell us about operating experiences and ham radio projects. Tell us about your a new rig or an old one. Tell us about a special club member. Hams would love to hear what you have to say.

We have a column called Ask the Doctors. If you need help or assistance, send an email telling us about it. We will publish it and try to find the assistance you need.

Please communicate your activities. If you do, we all benefit. Think about it.... 73, [The Publishers](#)



The [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#) (ARES) is a public service communication program of the ARRL. Over many years and following many natural disasters,

ARES volunteers have stepped up and provided valuable community services.

## Hurricane Preparedness Week May 9-15, 2021

According to the experts we can expect a higher than average number of hurricanes this season. For those of us who grew up in South Florida, we became used to the chance of a hurricane. Our parents did the preparation and we had a day or two off

from school. We did not really understand the devastation hurricanes could cause unless one personally touched us.

Hurricane seasons typically cycle between significant, moderate, and minor. Last season we ran out of names and while we did not experience a direct storm, others, especially Texas and the Gulf Coast, did.

You can never be too prepared for hurricane season. What is you and your family's hurricane risk? Do you know your hurricane evacuation zone? As ARES hams, deployment could be a reality. Start getting your equipment in good shape now. Get your go kit in order.

Next month is our annual hurricane issue.

## Treasure Coast ARES Emergency Coordinators

Martin County  
[Steve Marshall, WW4RX](#)

St Lucie County  
[Paul Horner, W4ISZ](#)

Indian River County  
[Bud Holman, WA4ASJ](#)

**Get involved, volunteer,  
and be a part of your  
county ARES.**



*If your club is testing, please let us know the location, date and examination results*

# VE License Testing Update

## Future License Exam Sessions

A date has not yet been set for Port Saint Lucie's next license exam session. Watch for an announcement by email and at club events when plans are finalized.

## **Important Reminder Social Security Number Is Out**

Effective May 20, 2021 a Federal Registration Number (FRN) must be provided on all license applications. New examinees must register in CORES and receive an FRN prior to exam day. Applications without an FRN will be rejected by the FCC.

Click for the [FRN web page](#).

## **Reminder #2 Email Address Required Soon**

Don't forget, effective June 29, 2021 all amateur radio license related applications submitted to the FCC must include a valid email address where the applicant can receive correspondence. Failure to include an email address can result in the application being dismissed as defective.

## **License Exam Contacts**

### **Vero Beach ARC**

Bud L. Holman  
(772) 559-3342  
[budholman@earthlink.net](mailto:budholman@earthlink.net)

### **Ft. Pierce ARC**

Jess Porter  
[w4dns@arrl.net](mailto:w4dns@arrl.net)

### **Port St. Lucie ARA**

Robert Brown  
(772) 201-5485  
[brownpsl@comcast.net](mailto:brownpsl@comcast.net)

## **Attention Club VE Teams**

Please keep us updated on your VE activities. Notify us when your club schedules a session, and keep us apprised of the results of your sessions.

Send your information to [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).

## **ALERT - ALERT - ALERT**

The ARRL has issued the following bulletin concerning the Saint Vincent volcanic eruption.

### **Clear Frequencies Requested for Net Providing 24/7 Coverage of Saint Vincent Volcanic Eruption**

ARRL Bulletin 12 ARLB012  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT April 21, 2021  
To all radio amateurs

The Caribbean Emergency and Weather Net (CEWN) has been providing round-the-clock coverage during the La Soufriere volcanic eruption on the island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Several neighboring islands are also being affected by the disaster.

When responding to disasters and emergencies such as this, the CEWN utilizes 3.185 MHz LSB and 7.188 MHz LSB.

CEWN is requesting that radio amateurs not involved in the volcano response to keep these frequencies clear.

## Julian "Red" Koren, W9YMO (SK)

Julian J. "Red" Koren of Port St. Lucie, Florida and formerly of Des Plaines, Illinois, became a Silent Key unexpectedly on March 12, 2021, just shy of his 91st birthday.

He was the devoted husband of Dolores "Dee" (Stayer) and loving father of Julie (Patrick) Hickey, John (Melissa), Janet, Paul (Peyton) and Gary (Barb) Koren.

His parents emigrated from Podgorje, Slovenia in the 1920s, and Red was proud of his heritage as a first generation American.

Red served as a Eucharistic minister at St. Stephen's Church in Des Plaines and was an active member of Holy Family Church in Port St. Lucie. He proudly served four years in the United States Air Force in a Communications Unit attached to the Strategic Air Command in



California and Guam.

He was a successful sales executive in the graphic arts industry and was awarded the Harold E. Sanger Award in recognition for his support and commitment to graphic arts education.

Red was an avid fisherman, amateur radio enthusiast and history buff. He was a member of Port St. Lucie ARA and a participating member of the 2x4 DX Group. With his wife he enjoyed traveling the world and maintaining family ties and friendship with his cousins in Italy, Slovenia, Croatia and Argentina. Red enjoyed sharing conversation and a glass of wine in the company of family and friends.

73 Red ...

## Updated Radio Frequency Exposure Rules Become Effective on May 3, 2021

The FCC has announced that rule changes detailed in a lengthy 2019 Report and Order governing RF exposure standards go into effect on May 3, 2021. The new rules do not change existing RF exposure (RFE) limits but **do require** that amateur radio stations be evaluated against existing limits, unless they are exempted. For stations already in place, that evaluation must be completed by May 3, 2023. After May 3 of this year, any new station, or any existing station modified in a way that's likely to change its RFE profile - such as a different antenna or placement, or greater power - will need to conduct an evaluation by the date of activation or change.

The Amateur Service is no longer categorically excluded from certain aspects of the rules, as amended, and licensees can no longer avoid performing an exposure assessment simply because they are transmitting below a given power level.

"For most amateurs, the major difference is the removal of the categorical exclusion for amateur radio, which means that ham station owners must determine if they either qualify for an exemption or must perform a routine environmental evaluation," said Greg Lapin, N9GL, chair of the ARRL RF Safety Committee and a member of the FCC Technological Advisory Council (TAC).

"Ham stations previously excluded from performing environmental evaluations will have until May 3, 2023, to perform them. After May 3, 2021, any new stations, or those modified in any way that affects RF exposure, must comply before being put into service," Lapin said.

The December 2019 RF Report and Order changes the methods that many radio services use to determine and achieve compliance with FCC limits on human exposure to RF electromagnetic fields. The FCC also modified the process for determining whether a particular device or deployment is exempt from a more thorough analysis by replacing a service-specific list of transmitters, facilities, and operations for which evaluation is required with new streamlined formula-based criteria. The R&O also addressed how to perform evaluations where the exemption does not apply, and how to mitigate exposure. Amateur radio licensees will have to determine whether any existing facilities previously excluded under the old rules now qualify for an exemption under the new rules. Most will, but some may not.

The Report and Order can be found online in PDF format at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-19-126A1.pdf>

(From the ARRL Letter)

## Upcoming 2021 Florida Hamfests

### 08/14/2021 - [Ft Pierce Hamfest](#)

Location: Indian River State College, 3209 Virginia Avenue Fort Pierce, FL 34945  
 Sponsor: Ft. Pierce Amateur Radio Club. Website: <https://fparc.org>

### 10/8-9/2021 - [56th Annual Melbourne Hamfest](#)

Location: Melbourne, FL  
 Sponsor: Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society (PCARS)

### 12/10/2021 - [Tampa Bay Hamfest, ARRL West Central Florida Section Convention](#)

Location: Plant City, FL  
 Type: ARRL Convention  
 Sponsor: Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council  
 Website: <http://www.fgcarc.org/>

### Don't forget Hamcation 2022 <https://www.hamcation.com>



## Come one! Come All! Virtual FDM is Saturday May 22, 2021

It's time to register for **Four Days in May (FDM) 2021**. You do not want to miss out on our first ever virtual FDM.

Register Here [QRPARCI.ORG](http://QRPARCI.ORG)

See who is registered: [2021 FDM Registrants](#)

The line up this year includes:

- Jerry Wolczanski KI4IO - Making an Antenna Coupler
- Dr. Jack Purdum W8TEE - How to Select a Microcontroller for a QRP Project
- Dave Benson KISWL - Anatomy of a Transceiver; Building a Better Mousetrap
- Han Summers G0UPL - Reach for the Skies: Extreme QRP at 35,000 Feet
- Dino Papas KL0S - Bench Setup Using Inexpensive Test Equipment
- Tim Snodgrass KC0DN - Breaking Free of the Sunspot Cycle
- Ashhar Farhan VU2ESE - sBITX - An Open Source SDR that YOU can hack!  
 (We will also have evening sessions with the authors, and vendors.)

Registration is \$10.00. One week before the event you will receive a link to the event and a link to a PDF of the Proceedings Book. Please register as soon as you can so we have some idea of headcount. Also, registrants will be eligible to win fabulous and certainly valuable door prizes, like always! You do not need to be present to win but you DO need to be registered.

## Ham Radio Trivia

### Answer to last month's question:

Last month we asked you a question with an entertainment theme. How did you do?

Question: This pianist and band leader's handle is Bob and his call sign is K6YBV. He is famous in his own right, but his daughter is even more famous, having starred in the movies 'Sixteen Candles' and 'The Breakfast Club.' Who is she?

Your answer choices were:

- A. Ally Sheedy
- B. Annie Potts
- C. Haviland Morris
- D. Molly Ringwald

Bonus question: What is her father's last name?

The correct answer is:  
D. Molly Ringwald

And her father's last name is also Ringwald. In 1998 Bob appeared with his daughter in the movie 'Twice Upon a Time.'

### May Trivia Question

This month's question should be easy for the many DXperts out there. But for the rest of us, I'm

not so sure. Let's give it a try.  
(Question is from [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com).)

Question: South Georgia Island is #33 on the current DXCC most wanted list. What country's hams were responsible for activating South Georgia, prefix VP8, for many years?

- A. Great Britain
- B. Argentina
- C. Norway
- D. Australia

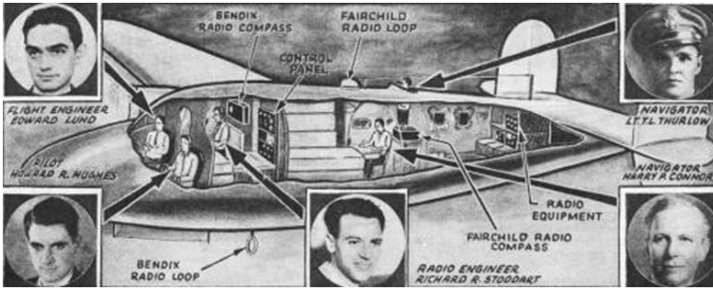
The answer will appear in next month's newsletter.

(Have a good trivia question? Send it to us at: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).)

"Brush up on your radio knowledge, skills and trivia."

## Radio on a Globe-Circling Dash ala 1938

(Editor's note: We can thank [Howard Hughes](#), one of America's greatest entrepreneurs for his worldwide aeronautical radio communications insight.)



**Radio Facilities** were extensive aboard Hughes's airplane named **New York World's Fair 1939** as this illustration shows. The homing compass enabled Hughes to hone in on the WEA-F broadcast station program for a perfect landing at Floyd Bennett Airport. Automatic equipment proved invaluable.

A "flying laboratory," hurtling around the world at 200 miles-per-hour, counts an extensive radio installation as a necessity and means of world-wide contact. Last month, bloodless wars were fought on 2 major fronts. First, was the battle successfully waged, by Howard Hughes and his crew of 4 experts, against Time, and Nature; second, and less heralded, was the perhaps tie contest between the several networks for 1st Place in the radio sun.

**New York World's Fair, 1939**, the silver Lockheed 14 monoplane of aviator Hughes (a millionaire many times over), zipped around the Northern portion of the Northern Hemisphere, as illustrated on the next page, at a record-breaking pace of 205 miles-per-hour. The ship completed the approximately 15,000 mile flight in 91 hours, 8 minutes, 10 seconds - figures which include the slightly zig-zag course over Germany, at a comparatively slow speed (185 m.p.h.) and above 10,000 ft. altitude as prescribed by Nazi officials. (Magellan took 1,083 days to circumnavigate the globe in 1519-22.) Flight expenses were said by official sources to total over \$300,000. The plane, with its elaborate radio installation as illustrated above, cost \$200,000. Starting quietly enough, the flight ended in a blaze of glory - a tumultuous greeting by 30,000 persons at Floyd Bennett Airport, from whence they had started only a few days previously, and a triumphal parade by motorcade up Broadway the next day for more enthusiastic reception by 500,000 New Yorkers, who "baptized" the fliers with tickertape and other forms of paper - tons of it! Included in the 500 lbs. of radio equipment carried on the flight was a 15-watt, 10-inch-square, portable emergency radio outfit.

This waterproof radio set was powered for 4 hours of continuous operation, and was supplied with a balloon, to be filled from an available nitrogen tank, for carrying an antenna into the air in the event of an emergency landing on land or water.

A "casualty" of the flight was the loss, twice, of trailing antennas, which, in the second instance, temporarily put Hughes' plane out of radio contact with the listening world.



**Flight Headquarters ...**  
... On the grounds of the New York World's Fair 1939. W. A. Rockefeller, meteorologist and Charles Perrine, radioman, are listening-in for flashes from Hughes.

Important benefits of the flight included a 40-page report of flight minutiae, and information that Siberian mountains mapped as no higher than 6,500 feet, actually are more than 9,500 ft. - which is something that aviators flying blind would like to know. A night flight out of Yakutsk (Siberia) might have ended the flight in a crack-up, Hughes intimated. This information may spur research on the ultra-high frequency "absolute altimeter" now under development by the U. S. Bureau of Air Commerce in collaboration with the Bureau of Standards, and mentioned by Richard C. Gazely in a recent issue of the Air Commerce Bulletin. The device operates on the principle of reflection from a body (water, mountains, etc.). The "echo" time then determines the distance of the reflecting body.

In one of 4 rooms of the Business Systems Building on the New York World's Fair site, a corps of radio engineers maintained almost unbroken contact with the Hughes plane. In one of these rooms an enormous wall map was used to keep track of the plane's progress. As radio position reports came in, a toy plane was moved forward to a new position on the line-of-flight. In another of the rooms, meteorologists and weathermen kept close tabs on incoming weather reports, and from them prepared forecasts for the aviators. In addition to the official reports given to network announcers by Hughes' radio staff, listeners-in heard reports by the various press services, and listened to scheduled pick-ups from radio services and from radio stations en route, as well as actual contact with **New York World's Fair 1939**.

(continued on page 7)

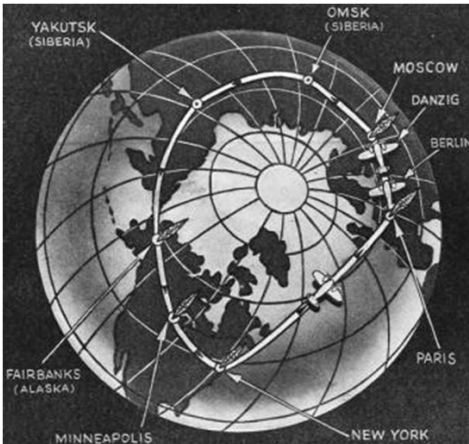
## Radio on a Globe-Circling Dash ala 1938

The following are reports supplied to Radio-Craft by the several networks that participated in bringing this epochal event into so many homes, both here and abroad.

### N.B.C.

From the moment Howard Hughes and his crew of 4 lifted their silver ship from Floyd Bennett Field to smash the existing round-the-world flight radio was almost as busy setting records of its own. N.B.C. in fact, began long before the plane left the ground. Then as the swift eastward flight astounded the world N.B.C. followed every move of the intrepid aviators for the benefit of its nation of listeners.

Broadcasts began at the New York field, continued from mid-Atlantic, and multiplied when the Hughes crew set their plane down in Paris. The novel 2-way conversation carried on between N.B.C. officials at Radio City and the Hughes plane somewhere east of Newfoundland was broadcast via the RCA Communications stations at Rocky Point and Riverhead, L. I. N.B.C. scored a clean scoop at Le Bourget in Paris when Fred Bate, N.B.C.'s European representative was on the air as the ship landed and continued broadcasting through the frenzied welcome after the crew stepped from the plane.



**Radio Map ...Of the Hughes world-girdling flight. Antennas indicate points from which transmissions were made via land stations. Intermediate silhouettes of the plane indicate non-scheduled transmissions from it.**

The N.B.C. crew, communicating with the United States over AT&T facilities at Netcong, NJ, also reported the take-off from the French capital. As the networks remained open to bring news of the flight's progress over Germany, N.B.C. again picked up the fliers, including Hughes himself, as they passed Berlin. This was effected through the facilities of the Reichs Rundfunk and RCA Communications, with the program originating in the plane and passed out over one of the 3 radio transmitters installed before Hughes left on his historic venture.

At 4:20 A.M. EDST Tuesday Hughes again came to the microphone, this time at the Moscow airport where he reported over the Russian government radio facilities, in touch with N.B.C. through RCA Communications.

Then, as Hughes and his crew roared over Siberian wastes and touched at 2 points they were beyond reach of shortwave radio. N.B.C. was forced to rely on relayed reports reaching American listeners through an extension to Flight Headquarters, at the New York World's Fair ground, Flushing, L. I.

It was not until the now weary crew set foot on ground at Fairbanks, Alaska, that the world next heard the voices of the record smashers. The arrival and take-off was reported Wednesday night (July 13) over the shortwave facilities of the U. S. Army from Fairbanks to Seattle, where the program was fed into the N.B.C. networks. Again, Hughes and his companions were silent for several hours as they proceeded toward St. Paul. But from that point on reports came thick and fast from all the towns along the course. And as the plane again set wheels on Floyd Bennett Field, N.B.C. had its pack sets, microphones and mobile unit placed strategically about the airport to give a complete, running account of the end of the fastest round-the-world journey in history.

### WNYC

Although on the Hughes hop-off and landing WNYC only took "feeds" from N.B.C., the Municipal Station went in for coverage of the Hughes reception that was as extensive as any station's. WNYC utilized its mobile shortwave transmitter WASJ, housed in a truck and followed the Hughes party from Battery Park to City Hall. Since the parade moved slowly, a WNYC announcer with a mike and several hundred feet of extension cord, was able to hop out during the parade and interview not only Stoddart, Thurlow and Connor, but their wives as well. The WNYC man was the first radio man during the parade to reach the cars of Thurlow, Stoddart, Connor and Lund, and scooped N.B.C. men with their portable pack transmitters. WNYC's announcer also got the first parade interview with young Tommy Thurlow, son of navigator Thomas Thurlow.

**WOR - M.B.S.** (ed: MBS is Mutual Broadcasting System) Howard Hughes, his crew of 4 and the great silver-winged monoplane **New York World's Fair 1939** are back in New York. From Saturday (July 9) WOR and the Mutual network, under the (continued on page 8)

## Radio on a Globe-Circling Dash ala 1938

direction of Special Features head G. W. Johnstone, remained on the air 24 hours a day, covering the plane's round-the-world flight almost mile by mile, bringing listeners broadcast after broadcast, either direct from the plane itself, or from one of the foreign airports at which the plane landed, or from the flight headquarters at the New York World's Fair in Flushing, New York. Included in this coverage - the most complete ever given such an event - were history-making exclusive broadcasts, each of which brought to America the first word of their latest position. These included exclusive broadcasts from the plane's cabin on Sunday (July 10) as it crossed the Atlantic Ocean, on Tuesday (July 12) as it reached Moscow, on Wednesday (July 13) as it landed at the airport at Fairbanks, Alaska, and on Thursday (July 14) when the plane first touched United States territory at Minneapolis on its final lap homeward bound.

The whole series of broadcasts, numbering over 10 a day for 5 days, finally was brought to a conclusion with the breathless description of the end of the trip at Floyd Bennett Field on Thursday at 2:37 P.M. Immediately following that, announcers, engineers and fliers all went to bed. The Hughes flight, which proved radio's boast of almost world-wide coverage, did not present as many technical problems as the layman might imagine. WOR and the Mutual network described the take-off from New York's Floyd Bennett Field from the land and from the air. The broadcast was kept on the ground until the plane taxied to the end of the runway for its long dash down the field. Control was then switched to Dave Driscoll flying in an Eastern Air Line transport plane overhead. WOR engineers, under the direction of Charles Singer, had installed in the plane the network's regular relay broadcast transmitter, designed by station engineers. An intermediate frequency of 2,790 kilocycles was used for this broadcast. The signal was picked up at the Press Wireless station at Baldwin, L. I., and relayed to the network.

At 2:30 A.M., July 11, Howard Hughes made a dramatic 8-minute broadcast from **New York World's Fair 1939**, then more than 1,500 miles out of New York. This broadcast originated with the 100-watt composite transmitter aboard the Hughes plane, the signal again being received at Press Wireless with fine quality.

The next contacts with the ship were made early the next day, Tuesday, as it winged its way from Paris to Moscow. Two broadcasts, one from a point over Germany, the other from above Poland, featured 2-way conversations with

an English-speaking announcer of the Reich Rundfunk Gesellschaft in Germany. The signal was relayed to Press Wireless over the regular trans-Atlantic channels of the German transmitters. The landing in Moscow was described by an English-speaking Russian announcer stationed at the field. The Russians failed to make any tests prior to the actual broadcast so the signal was picked up cold at Baldwin, but with good understandable quality. This broadcast originated from one of the 500,000-watt shortwave Russian transmitters.

No further phone transmissions either from airport or plane were heard until the ship landed at Fairbanks, Alaska, Wednesday evening. While the Hughes Lockheed was flying from Moscow to Omsk and from Omsk to Yakutsk, Siberia, the flight was covered through bulletins received at flight headquarters in New York. The bulletins were transmitted in C.W. from a ship to Russian ground stations which in turn relayed then to Moscow. Moscow forwarded the messages to New York. Because no wire lines could be made available from the Fairbanks field to the U. S. Army Signal Corps transmitter located some distance away, Mutual contacted Pan American Airways and after talking with its Fairbanks manager, Joe Crosson, famous pilot of the North, arranged to have the air line operators and Crosson describe the landing and take-off through their own transmitter. The broadcast was picked up by the Signal Corps and relayed through their regular circuits to Seattle where station KOL of the Don Lee leg of Mutual made arrangements to feed the coast-to-coast network. Mutual scooped the country on the Minneapolis landing by maintaining flash service with A.T.&T. through Wednesday night and early Thursday so that network lines could be reversed to the Twin Cities if Hughes decided to land there. Arrangements were also made to pick up a shortwave broadcast from a Winnipeg transmitter which was to relay its description from the airport to its 2,000-watt transmitter by means of a mobile unit. This signal would have been picked up by Press Wireless with whom tests had been made. Hughes landed in Minneapolis. A.T.&T. reversed lines instantly and interviews with the crew and a description of the take-off were heard exclusively over Mutual.

For the landing at Floyd Bennett Field two positions were used, one in the tower of the Administration Building, the other on the concrete apron to which Hughes taxied. At the latter point a pack transmitter was used in addition to land lines. (R. D. Bernard—*Radio Craft*)



## The Frugal Ham Radio Operator

I have been accused a few times as being cheap. Frugal yes, but cheap, hardly. What I am is careful with my ham radio dollars. Sure, when I read those QST and eHam reviews about the newest SDR radios my eyes water, but what is the fun of buying a radio that is operating on autopilot rather than my brain, skills and operating ability. My 10 year old FT-857D, while a great rig, has far too many menus. If you need to change a setting, push the A, B, or C buttons. Push and rotate a knob for a submenu. Find the function from a large list. Use the main tuning knob to change. Then it's to the large manual to figure out what the heck I am really changing and importantly **why**. Then press another button, or the on/off button to save. And let's not get into the extended or advanced menu and what damage can be done unless a very specific procedure is followed. Please, all I want to do is operate.

Recently, I was looking at a FT-1000 rig that a local ham had for sale. That rig is what ham radio is all about. Yaesu put many thousands of hours into its development and it shows, even 30 years after introduction. Now I know what you are saying, it has many controls and buttons. You are right, but their functions don't require a computer programming degree to understand how to change.

I know it's a sign of our times. For most of my career I worked as a geo-spatial professional. We use to be called cartographers, but starting a couple of decades ago, out

went map making skills and in came SQL databases and automation. Our finely honed map making skills were replaced by what a computer programmer thought a map should be. Ditto for our TVs, cell phones, and car radios.

Which leads me to a project my publishing partner and I are working on. Both of us do FT8 on a regular basis and like to keep track of the Maidenhead Grids worked. We also like to know the country and worldwide location. Now, I know you are saying some logging programs can map your contact. True, mapping apps are available, but most were never developed by a cartographer.

Over the last few months we have been working on a grid/country atlas. We searched to see if anything like that existed. ARRL publishes one. But please, DON'T buy it. Somebody at the league should gather all the copies and have a book burning on Newington's front lawn.

My publishing partner developed a grid list by country using Excel. Pretty good for representing the grids. For me, I also wanted to know where the country was located and what countries surrounded it. In a future TCHamNews we will be showing it to the readers. Why use a grid map instead of a logging app? Simple, it's better than the logging map apps and most importantly, much easier to use.

73, The Frugal Ham

### Short Takes

#### 2021 International DX Convention

Originally scheduled for April 16-18 for part one and April 23-25 for part two, the convention will now be May 15-16. Each day, Saturday and Sunday, it will be from 0800-1700 PDT, with eight DX related webinars, and eight Exhibitor Webinars.

Pre-registration is required, but free. Pre-registration will open April 18.

There will be door prizes. The entire event will be recorded and posted to the NCDXC website for viewing at a later date. More details will be forthcoming. Direct questions and comments to K6MM and KE1B at:

[info@dxconvention.com](mailto:info@dxconvention.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Info and used pricing for your rig:

<https://rigreference.com/home>

\*\*\*\*\*

#### MARS in Emergencies Disruptive by Design: Ham

[Radio in C2 Denied and Degraded Environments.](#)

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#### Signal Magazine web site

<https://www.afcea.org>

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#### Ham Radio History Chapters: Ham Radio History (w2pa.net)

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#### Buying your first VHF/UHF radio. (this page needs updating for digital modes)

<http://www.arrl.org/buying-your-first-radio>

### Get Well Wishes

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to long time PSLARA member Donn, WY5I, who is recovering from reconstructive foot surgery and will be confined to bed rest in a hard cast for several weeks.

A phone call from Donn's radio friends would help make the time go by more quickly. So give him a call and wish him well. Donn can be reached at (772) 882-2489.

# Treasure Coast Ham Doctors



## Might There Be a Bug in WSJT-X?

An FT8 operator wrote the following:

I operate FT8 using WSJT-X. I have the Auto Log option checked, but I also

maintain a paper log. I use TQSL to upload WSJT's ADIF log to LoTW. I've noticed instances where a few of my QSOs were not being uploaded to LoTW.

Further checking revealed that the missing QSOs were not in the WSJT-X logs. This would definitely explain why the QSOs were not uploaded to LoTW; but it does not explain why they did not get logged by WSJT-X.

So my question is this: What gives? Could there be a bug in WSJT-X.

Answer: The operator went on to provide a couple additional clues that helped in understanding what happened. First, the missing QSOs occurred during busy periods when he was handling multiple replies to his CQ calls. And second, in many of the missing QSOs the respondent skipped the grid identifier and responded with a signal report, which reduces overall time to com-

plete the QSO.

Armed with these clues this doctor did some testing and was able to confirm the report. I found that while the log box on WSJT-X is open, subsequently completed QSOs will not log.

Similar to the writer, I also maintain a paper log. At one point while I had the WSJT log box open and was inserting the just computed QSO into my paper log I processed two additional stations that had responded to my CQ call. Both of these successful QSOs did not get logged by WSJT-X.

In conclusion, the solution to this problem is easy. Be sure to close WSJT's log box before replying to subsequent contacts.

So is this a bug? Not in my opinion. Typically a bug crashes a program, or results in a significant error of some kind.

WSJT-X logging works as designed. I look at this as a limitation of logging in the present design. Perhaps a future version of WSJT-X will allow multiple log boxes to be opened at the same time. Let's hope so.

Thanks for the question.

(So what do you think? Send your comments to [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).)



## HAM RADIO HELP

### Assistance Needed with G5RV Antenna

PSLARA life member Roy Young, KJ4YF, is looking for assistance interfacing his ham station with a newly installed G5RV antenna.

We know there are many antenna experts among our readers. So please reach out to Roy and offer assistance.

Roy can be reached at 772-801-7063.

\*\*\*\*\*

*This column is reserved to post your questions and problems about any amateur radio subject.*

*Our hope is that other readers can offer answers and provide assistance.*

*Send your questions and comments to: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com)*

## FT8 / WSJT-X Operating Tip

At one time or another all of us have become frustrated at the lack of success making contacts on FT8 or FT4.

If this happens resist the urge to crank up power. FT8 and FT4 protocols work very effectively with minimal power. Here's an easy way to check your performance.

1. Check your computer clock. Be sure the time delta (DT) of received signals is 1 second or less.
2. Send out a series of CQ calls. Do this for several

minutes. Then check PSKreporter to see where your station's signal is being received. Grid squares are shown for each station.

3. If no stations show up in your WSJT-X main screen with grids matching those where your signal was spotted on PSKreporter, then you will not have successful QSOs. Try another band or try again later.

Have an Operating Tip to share with the ham community? Send it to [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).

## Ramblings of an Antenna Alchemist



*Gap Challenger DX antenna is an asymmetric elevated vertical dipole, 31.5 ft high. It uses low loss linear decouplers for loading the different bands. The capacitor is for 80 meters. The three 25 foot counterpoises are used for 40 meters. The center tubing has about 65 ft of coax. A center gap in the shield is used to attach the decouplers.*

A multiband YAGI antenna and tower is probably every ham's dream. Reality however, can be vastly different. If we are lucky maybe we have a dipole, end fed, or flag-pole vertical in the backyard. To make matters worse, problematic neighbors or an HOA can make amateur radio nearly impossible.

Many years ago we lived in Royal Palm Beach Acreage on an acre of land. Putting up a tower and a YAGI was easy. A few years later we moved to a house in a Wellington HOA. Forget the YAGI and tower. For over a year I tried to explain the benefits ham radio could provide to the HOA. They would not budge - not even an inch. Resistance was futile. Outside was out *for now* and inside was in.

Our Wellington house was two story with a 25 ft. high roof. I could crawl around the attic, but it was darn near impossible to route antenna wire where it needed to go. After trying to prune the antennas for a good match (no tuner for me!) and not having much success, I gave up and went for magnetic loops - one mounted vertical and one mounted horizontal. They worked ok, but I still longed for an outside antenna.

One Saturday morning I asked my wife if she wanted to go for a drive to Lake Placid. She agreed but gave me a suspicious look when I said we might also go to Sebring. Ok, the gig was up, Sebring was having a Hamfest. As it turned out the Hamfest was more of a tail-gate. So what could be expected? As I soon found out, Sebring held a significant bargain!

It was hot that morning, so my wife decided to forgo the walkabout and found some shade to read her book. I began to walk up and down the rows. About half way through I spied a bunch of aluminum tubing tied on top of a car. As I got closer I recognized the pipe as a GAP Challenger DX antenna. I had seen George Henf KK4CW(SK) at the WPB ARC meeting describe his multiband vertical dipole. His design intrigued me, especially the feed point impedance of around 45 ohms

without the need for gimmick matching.

One should never act too interested in something you want to buy at a Hamfest, the price almost always seems to go up. I violated my rule and expressed interest in the antenna. The ham said the GAP had taken a lightening hit, fried the 80 meter matching cap and maybe the coax. The cap was definitely gone, but the rest of the antenna looked (and smelled) ok. So I asked the most important question, what would he take for the antenna. He thought for a moment. I could almost see the dollars ratcheting up, but he surprised me and said \$20. Immediately, I said "sold" and off the GAP Challenger DX went to my van.

Next morning, I laid out the GAP Challenger DX in the driveway. The manual had "new in 1989" written on the cover. The mounting pipe, 5 telescoping aluminum tubes and 4 decoupler tubes of various sizes looked in good condition. The Schedule 80 PVC center pipe and decoupler PVC supports looked fine as well. The cap unit was not original. Instead of a high voltage ceramic or mica, three door-knob caps were soldered together and wrapped in electrical tape. One cap was definitely blown as it had a gaping hole in it. I had plenty of silver micas and ceramics, so finding a value that matched the portion of 80 meters for operating, would not be too hard. The nylon ties used for the decoupler PVC supports would need to be replaced. The three 40 meter 25 foot counterpoise wires also went on the missing/replacement list. I debated on the RG-8X coax, but figured replacement was good insurance. All told about \$60 dollars (circa 2000) would do it.

I put the antenna aside temporarily until I could acquire the replacement items. Days became weeks. Weeks became months and months became years. Up it went to Virginia and back it came to Florida. The GAP was doing more traveling than operating!

Next month, it's GAP antenna rebuild time!  
73 for now, The Antenna Alchemist

## More DXing With Bruce, W8HW

*(Editor's note: This is part 4 of a continuing series on DXing and the QSL process. This month Bruce discusses propagation and its importance when looking for DX.)*

Last month I promised we would explore the science of HF and DX by looking at:

- **When and where to find DX** (and dealing with the doldrums when you don't find them).
- **How to work the DX you find.**
- **Working the rare ones.** (The pileups are the key.)
- **Antenna efficiency and how to improve it.**

This knowledge should give you lots of reasons to use your new QSL skills learned in the last two newsletters.

**Emergency Communications** - As we know, man made systems always fail at the worst time. Amazingly, HF works even when other man made systems fail. Your knowledge of HF (3-30 MHz) and propagation will allow you to get the emergency message through during times of disaster while other hams operating on VHF or UHF may be unable to do so. HF propagation can serve you well during emergencies, allowing communications at distances of 100 miles, 1,000 miles, or even more.

In this multi-part series we will cover many of your unanswered questions about long and short distance HF propagation that will help you solve typical problems such as the fun example questions below. Remember that when I speak of DX (Distant Transmitter), in an emergency you may substitute "Important Emergency Station" for DX, as HF propagation knowledge serves all communication needs. DXing helps you test and increase your propagation knowledge, better preparing you for emergencies.

**We will begin with an exploration** of WHEN, WHERE and HOW to find and work the DX (or Important Emergency Stations). HF propagation is a complex science. Today's discussion is an introduction to the simple part of propagation, laying a foundation for a more advanced discussion in a future article. Believe it or not, a simple understanding of propagation can be the most valuable piece of your communication tools.

**Fun questions with a learning point.** Even if you do not use a directional (beam) antenna, understanding propagation direction and distance is important to your HF communication success. With that in mind, ask yourself the two questions below. Answer them now, and then again after you read this article and next month's article.

See how your answers change.

Thinking about the questions in multiple ways will pay huge dividends in understanding propagation. The intent is to cause you to consider all angles of the problem as we walk through the discussion. The reason for this will become clear as we progress. Don't worry if you answer incorrectly. The correct answers should become clear as we learn more about propagation.

**Question 1** - Imaging working on either of the middle HF bands (20 or 17 Meters), and the SFI (Solar Flux Index) is 85 or less, and the time is about 2 hours after sunrise. What direction and distance would you expect you're best DX to exist? If you are not sure, try to answer again after completing this article and again after reading next month's article. For more fun ask yourself the same question about the low HF bands (160-40 Meters). And what about the high HF bands (15-10 Meters)? Remember this is not a test that requires the correct answer, it's just a valuable exercise.

**Question 2** - What are the daytime HF bands and what are the nighttime HF bands?

We will ask these two questions again after we have covered the topic in greater detail. Have fun with this and see how your answer changes as we progress.

**How would you like a direct "pipeline"** to that Important Emergency Station or rare DX that you need? The answer is simple, but powerful. With the challenge of today's small properties, HOA antenna restrictions and low power, this would be just what the doctor ordered. The good news is that you are in control as you are the doctor of propagation. What! You say that sounds too good to be true! Let's explore an often forgotten point.

**What do I mean by "Pipeline?"** When you were kids did you ever speak to a friend through a garden hose when your friend was 30 foot away? You could speak softly (QRP voice) and still be heard loud and clear. You were amazed by the fact that without the hose (pipeline) you had to speak loudly to be heard, but through the hose you only needed to whisper.

You also noticed that the hose (pipeline) did not have to be in a straight line. The sound was equally as loud if the

*(continued on page 13)*

# More DXing With Bruce, W8HW

hose was coiled up or in a straight line. Even at a long distance apart, there seemed to be no difference.



**Can we apply this simple concept to the science of HF propagation?** Yes indeed! It does not happen automatically; you must know how to use it. Understanding this concept will be a very powerful tool in getting your signal around the world and putting your signal where you want, or need, it to be. You don't need a big amplifier or big antenna when you have propagation knowledge. Knowledge is power! Buckle up and let's explore this tool.

**So what is this amazing tool and how do I use it?** Where do I find it and how much does it cost? The "OT's" (old timers) knew it and used it when all they had available was early radio technology and homemade wire antennas. Hams today seem to have forgotten this important tool, which costs nothing.

This tool has gone by several names, Edge of Darkness Communications and Twilight zone are two examples. Today it is known as gray-line propagation. Many hams doubt the importance of gray-line, saying it is too thin. NOT TRUE at all. The 9 graphics nearby will help you master the gray-line pipeline to communicate with many different parts of the world on any day and at any SFI, thus putting you in control. Let's explore further.

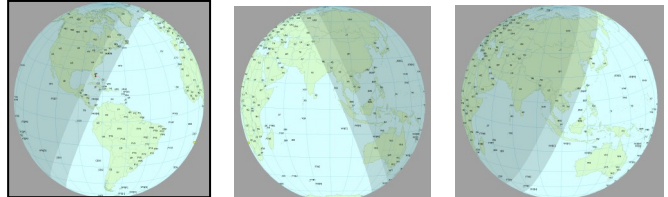
**Look closely at the 9 graphics nearby.** Enlarging the images to provide more detail is not necessary. For our purposes the wide view gives better perspective. Note the many parts of the world you can work on HF and then consider all the varied possibilities as the gray-line constantly moves. Realize that as the earth rotates and the seasons change most of the world will be on a gray-line pipeline to you at one time or another.

By now you should understand that timing on your part is both a science and art. Out of all of the propagation laws, gray-line is perhaps the most powerful. It is up to you to use the physics of pipeline as your friend and your secret DX weapon. You can generate your own gray-line

graphics at any time and in your own home. More on that later.

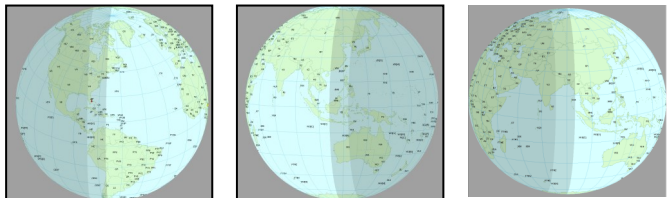
## Gray line on 1st day of winter

Our Dawn      Dawn other side of the earth      Our Dusk other side of the earth



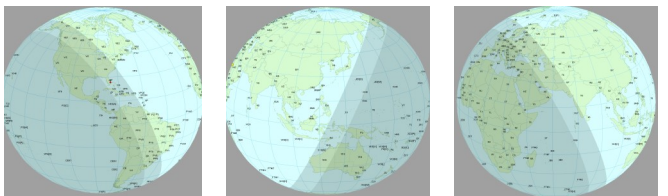
## Gray line around Spring Equinox

Our Dawn      Dawn other side of the earth      Our Dusk other side of the earth



## Gray line on 1st Day of Summer

Our Dawn of the earth      Dawn other side of the earth      Our Dusk other side of the earth



**Many points in-between as well.** Take some time and use your minds eye as a tool. Think about all the countries on or near the gray-line. These make good DX opportunities. The gray-line is constantly shifting minute-by-minute and day-to-day, meaning DX possibilities constantly change. This exercise will help you in your ability to communicate to many, if not all, places in the world. Redundancy is the key. The more often you think about gray-line the stronger and more accurate your HF instincts will become. The rewards will be enormous.

**What about the hours before and after Gray-line?** Propagation is different all day long. Each hour it changes as you move further from gray-line hour. What are Noontime Doldrums and why do we have them? Understanding this is power, giving you another tool for DX

*(continued on page 14)*

## More DXing With Bruce, W8HW

success and enjoyment. We will discuss how this works in next month's newsletter. Daytime band and nighttime band selection will also be discussed.

**DX Atlas** is the tool that generated the graphics we viewed in our gray-line discussion. In this article we looked at gray-line around the world with respect to Port Saint Lucie, Florida. DX Atlas allows us to spin the globe and look at any point on the earth. On the graphics note the huge difference in the gray-line between the different seasons. Also notice the difference between Dawn and Dusk of the same day. As one of the many powerful tools offering a pipeline to almost any place in the world, DX Atlas also allows you the power to predict future conditions. There's wonderful power in this knowledge. The link to download DX Atlas and many other great programs is <http://www.dxatlas.com/Download.asp>. There is a small cost for the software. We showed small thumbnail images in this discussion. DX Atlas will give you almost a full page view, making DX viewing easy and DXing or emergency communications simple.

**Knowledge is power.** Someone once wrongly said that with HF all you need to do is hang some kind of antenna in the air and talk. That is a false statement based on lack of knowledge. The person making that statement is not a bad person, he was probably just passing along information someone else passed on to him.

You can guess his DX count and HF Emergency capabilities are likely low or non-existent. True HF will be a life-time of honing our skills, and exploring new facts and concepts. DX is exciting. It is a journey - not a destination - that will help you evaluate your HF knowledge as you progress. HF is where the rubber meets the road. It is where we work the world, direct antenna to antenna. As an Important Emergency Station, you never know when your HF skills and propagation knowledge may be called on to save someone's life.

**Summary** - In this article we looked at when to find the DX and the hourly, daily and the seasonal changes in propagation. Next month we will look closer at longer term and shorter term changes in propagation. We will also talk about the what's and why's of Summer Doldrums and Noontime Doldrums and how to manage them.

Now is the time you should review the two questions

asked earlier and see if your answers have changed. I hope you enjoyed this article and have strengthened your knowledge of HF propagation.

Do you have a question or comment? Drop me a line directly at [W8HW@comcast.net](mailto:W8HW@comcast.net) or through the newsletter at [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com). I will answer your question and possibly include it in a future article. Questions can be either operating or technical. Remember: DX is both science and art. The fun part is you will never stop learning.

73, Bruce, W8HW

### 72nd International DX Convention May 15-16, 2021 Virtual Meeting



The two-day Virtual Meeting will be held on  
Saturday, May 15 & Sunday, May 16  
via Zoom Webinars

What you can expect from IDXC 2021:

- . A safe, front-row seat without having to leave your QTH
- . 8 DX-related webinars on Saturday, May 15, 2021
- . 8 Vendor webinars on Sunday, May 16, 2021
- . Some great door prizes (including over \$5,000 in cash awards from NCDXC)

Pre-Registration is required, but it is FAST and FREE. All Zoom Webinars will be recorded and posted to the NCDXC website for review at a later date. Program link is <http://www.dxconvention.com/pages/program.html>.

IDXC has always been the premier DX Convention in the United States, attended by hundreds of avid DXers looking to improve their skills, their stations and their connection with fellow Hams. Although we can't meet in person this year because of COVID-19, we intend to make IDXC 2021 a memorable DX event, and hope you'll be able to join us.

Please register now: <http://dxconvention.com/pages/registration.html>

John Miller, K6MM    Rich Seifert, KE1B  
IDXC 2021 Co-Chairs



Listings from the weekly **ARRL DX Newsletter** and other sources.)

## DX OPPORTUNITIES

**SOMALIA, T5.** Ali, EP3CQ will be QRV as 6O100 from Mogadishu for two months beginning on April 25. Activity will be in his spare time on the HF bands using mostly FT8. QSL direct.

**KALININGRAD, UA2.** Special call signs RK75AK, RK75FF, and RK75FU are QRV until July 31 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Kaliningrad. QSL via UA2FAK, UF2F, and RA2FU, respectively.

**SVALBARD, JW.** Tom, LA6VDA will be QRV as JW6VDA from Spitsbergen Island, IOTA EU-026, from April 26 to May 9. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB. QSL via LoTW.

**ANTARCTICA.** Mark, W5MED is QRV as KC4USV from McMurdo Station on Ross Island, IOTA AN-011, until October. Activity on 20 meters SSB and FT8 at various times of the day. QSL direct to K7MT.

**FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8.** Clint, VP8DKP is usually QRV on 40 meters using FT8 during his evenings. QSL direct.

**SRI LANKA, 4S.** Nadika, 4S6NCH has been active on 17 meters using FT8 around 1800z. QSL direct.

**SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS.** Lee, DS4NMJ is QRV as DT8A until December 31 while on work assignment from the King Se-Jong Korean Antarctic Base on King George Island, IOTA AN-010. Activity is on various HF bands using CW, SSB and FT8 in DXpedition mode. QSL via DS5TOS.

**IRAN, EP.** Saeed, EP2LSH has been QRV using FT8 in DXpedition mode on 20 meters between 1645 and 2015z. QSL via EA5GL.

**NIGER, 5U.** F4IHM, Adrien, is heading back to Niamey, Niger where he plans to once again be QRV as 5UAIHM from May

10 to June 15. Activity will be CW on 40 and 20 meters. QSL direct or via the bureau to F4IHM.

**CHRISTMAS ISLAND, VK9X.** Steve, VK6SJ, will be active in his spare time as VK9XX from May 7 to May 28 using FT8 on 80, 40 and 30 meters. QSLs via EB7DX.

## DX SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

**GREECE, SV.** Special event station SZ200P is QRV until the end of 2021 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Greek Revolution of 1821. QSL via LoTW.

**JAPAN, JA.** Members of the AI and Denpaken clubs are QRV with special event call sign 8NIMORSE until the end of 2022 to celebrate Samuel Morse's 230th birthday and the 120th anniversary of Marconi's first transatlantic transmission. QSL via bureau.

**MONGOLIA, JT.** Members of the JTDXA Team are QRV with special event call sign JU100DX to commemorate the 100 years since the Mongolian People's Revolution. QSL via JT1CH.

**BELARUS, EW.** Special event station EV76F is QRV as part of the Brest Hero-Fortress memorial station in honor of the 76th anniversary of the end of World War II. QSL via EW3W.

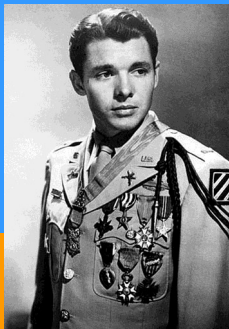
**ENGLAND, G.** Special event station GB0DOE is QRV until May to honor the memory of the recently deceased Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. QSL via GB0DOE.

**AZERBAIJAN, 4J.** Special event station 4J880M is QRV to commemorate the 880th anniversary of the birth of 12th century Persian Sunni Muslim poet Nizami Ganjavi. QSL direct to 4J3DJ.

*(Know of a coming DX station or Special Event? Please submit info to: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com))*



## Special Event Stations



### Audie Murphy

Commemorating WW2 hero Audie Murphy, tragically killed in a plane crash 50 years ago, May 28, 1971

Operating from Brush Mtn. on the Appalachian Trail near the crash site.

**May 29, 1300Z-2200Z, W2A,**

New River Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Frequencies:  
3.860 (80m), 7.262 (40m),  
14.262 (20m)

QSL info: Danny Wylam,  
710 McDaniel Dr.,  
Christiansburg, VA 24073.  
[dannywylam@gmail.com](mailto:dannywylam@gmail.com)

From **ARRL** and  
other sources.)

### Armed Forces Day Crossband Test

**May 7-May 8, 1600Z-2000Z, Various,** Fort Huachuca, AZ. US DOD. 5330.5, 14438.5, 14383.5, 13164 FM 2484. QSL: Armed Forces Day station contacted. Military stations transmit on DOD frequencies and announce the amateur frequency they are monitoring. For a list of participating stations, modes, frequencies, and times, go to [www.dodmars.org](http://www.dodmars.org) after 19 April 2021.

### Golden Spike Special Event

**May 7-May 10, 1500Z-2300Z, W7G,** Corinne, UT. 14.255, 7.235, 7.074, 7.040. QSL: Ogden Amateur Radio Club (OARC) - W7SU, PO Box 3353, Ogden, UT 84409. Commemorating the anniversary of the 1869 Driving of the Golden Spike, completing the Transcontinental Railroad at Promontory Summit, Utah. Golden Spike National Historical Park - NPS 6200 North 22300 West, Promontory Summit, UT 84307. <http://ogdenarc.org> or <http://w7g.org>.

### Jamestown Landing Day Event

**May 8, 1400Z-2000Z, K4RC,** Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club. 7.265, 14.265. Certificate & QSL: QSL Manager, P.O. Box 1470, Williamsburg, VA 23187. 414th anniversary of England establishing the oldest English-speaking colony on the American continent. [K4RC.net](http://K4RC.net).

### USS Midway Museum Ship — Battle of Coral Sea

**May 8, 1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW,** San Diego, CA. 7.250, 14.320, 14.070 (PSK31), DSTAR via PapaSystem repeaters. QSL: USS Midway CV-41, COMEDTRA NI6IW, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. Please include SASE. [www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw).

### National Police Week - Honor Our Fallen Heroes

**May 9-May 15, 0000Z-2359Z, K3FBI/0-9,** Quantico, VA. FBI Amateur Radio Association. 14.275, 14.074, 7.275, 7.074. All bands, all modes. Certificate & QSL: Jay Chamberlain, NS4J, 27 Fox Run Lane, Fredericksburg, VA 22405. Multiple FBIARA members will operating to honor all Law Enforcement Of-

ficers who have died in the line of duty. Look for K3FBI/0-9. A 9x12 SASE required for certificate and QSL, with a minimum of \$1.25 USD postage for US stations, \$2.08 USD postage for Canada, \$3.39 USD postage for Europe. [www.qrz.com/db/k3fbi](http://www.qrz.com/db/k3fbi).

### Ogden ARC Centennial Celebration

**May 15-May 23, 1500Z-2300Z, W7SU/100,** Ogden, UT. 14.255, 7.235, 7.074, 7.040. QSL: Ogden Amateur Radio Club -W7SU/100, P.O. Box 3353, Ogden, UT 84409. Celebrating 100 years. Founded May 1921, ARRL affiliated January 1937. [QRZ.com](http://QRZ.com) (lookup W7SU/100/) or [ogden-arc.org/100](http://ogden-arc.org/100).

### World War I Commemoration

**May 15, 1300Z-2300Z, WWIUSA,** Kansas City, MO. 14.030, 14.250, 7.030, 7.250. Certificate: WWIUSA, The National World War I Museum and Memorial, 2 Memorial Drive, Kansas City, MO 64108. <https://www.theworldwar.org/amateurradio>.

### Lindbergh's Transatlantic Flight

**May 20, 1400Z-2000Z, K2CAM,** Garden City, NY. 14.240, 7.240. QSL: LIMARC, P.O. Box 392, Levittown, NY 11756. Held at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. Please QSL SASE. <https://limarc.org/special-events>.

### K0S Strange Antenna Challenge

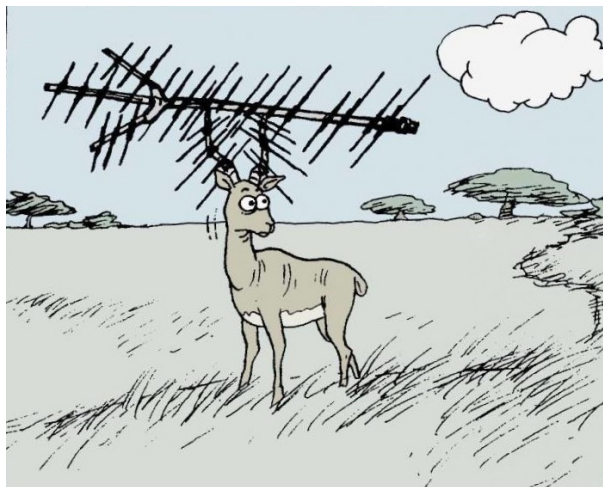
**May 28-May 31, 1800Z-2359Z, K0S,** Springfield, MO. NOEW. 28.500, 14.300, 7.200, 3.900. QSL: Erik Weaver, 4857 E. Farm Rd. 136, Springfield, MO 65809. Anyone may operate as a "satellite" K0S station, simply add /K0S to your call sign; each satellite K0S station is responsible for their own QSL. Strange Antenna Challenge is to utilize antennas \*not\* made of normal antenna materials. Fences, statues, vehicles, and bridges have all been pressed into service as Strange Antennas. [erikeweaver@gmail.com](mailto:erikeweaver@gmail.com).

Please tell us about your special event QSOs. We will publish in a future edition.

(Know of an upcoming Domestic Special Event? Please submit info to: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com))



## Ham Humor



A rare glimpse of the African Antennelope.  
(He gets great reception!)

### Is It True?

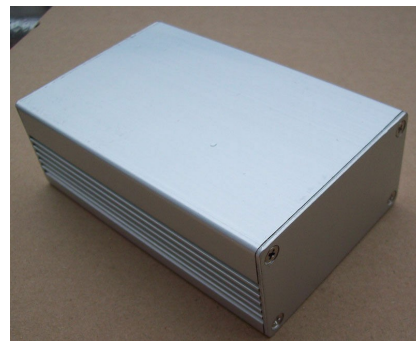
If you make a mistake during assembly of a QRP kit, your number of contacts will not be affected.

### A Truth-ism of Our Times

Some people believe a face mask is a political statement. It is not! It is really an IQ test!

### For Sale on eBay

1pc Assembled Forty-9er  
3W HAM Radio QRP CW  
Shortwave Radio Transmitter +case - eBay item #  
[121636914388](https://www.ebay.com/itm/121636914388).



Here are a few comments and phrases extracted from the listing.

- a note says "The need to assemble their own"
- "... power output using an American ring..."
- "... ordinary sense of hearing frogs ..."

Q: telegraph can talk it? A: CW transceiver cannot talk...

Q: key need to buy it? A: For just beginners, amateur production expensive ... recommended homemade, find old mouse + MP3 headset ...

Check out the full listing. Let us know if you figure out the meaning of "hearing frogs" and "American ring."

## TREASURE COAST HAM NEWS



The editors like to reserve the last couple of pages of *Treasure Coast Ham News* for the readers. With your help these pages will include:

**For Sale Section** – Have something to sell or trade? Send us a description and/or picture to have it listed in this section. Looking to buy something? Provide a description and we will print it.

**QSL Card Section** – Many hams enjoy viewing QSL cards, especially those with colorful pictures. Send us scans of your favorite QSL cards. Maybe the first card you ever received. Or perhaps your favorite card, or your personal card. We will include some in each issue as space permits.

The last few newsletter pages are yours. Help make them a success by submitting your photos, For Sale listings and QSL cards to [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).

**Want to be published?** Treasure Coast Ham News invites you to write about your ham radio activities, kit building, DX operations, or any other amateur radio subject. You don't need to be a polished writer, or a writer at all. We will help you edit your work. While we don't pay for articles, you will receive a full byline. Please contact us at: [tchamnews@gmail.com](mailto:tchamnews@gmail.com).

## What's Coming Next Month

June is our annual hurricane preparedness issue.

Are you ready for the 2021 hurricane season? Is your radio equipment in good working order? How about your Go-Kit if an ARES Member? Have you taken the ARRL Emergency Communications course? Have you had your SKYWARN Spotter training?

As hams, we can never be too prepared for a hurricane event. Hurricanes can be huge issues not only during the storm, but for many days after.

Have a hurricane related story you would like to share? Please send it to us and we will include it in the June issue. Email us at [tchamnews@gamil.com](mailto:tchamnews@gamil.com).

\* \* \* \* \*

Also, Bruce, W8HW continues his very informative series for HF & DX operators: **More on DX** - The Science, Art, Mystery, Fun and Excitement of DX. Topics include: The sun drives propagation; the best and worst hours of operation; cause of summertime and noontime doldrums; HF bands by night and day; and, split time bands.

W8HW also tells his story of learning CW, making initial QSOs and building up speed in **When it comes to ham radio, CW is the KEY.**

## Q Codes & CW Abbreviations

### COMMON Q CODES

QRK	What is my signal intelligibility (1-5)
QRM	Is my transmission being interfered with
QRN	Are you troubled by static
QRQ	Shall I send faster
QRS	Shall I send slower
QRT	Shall I stop sending
QRU	Have you anything for me
QSD	Is my keying defective
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt
QSM	Shall I repeat the last message sent
QSW	Will you transmit on _____
QSX	Will you listen for _____ on _____
QSY	Shall I change frequency

### COMMON CW ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
AR	over de from or "this is"
ES and GM	good morning
K	go
KN	go only
NM	name
QTH	location
RPT	report
R	roger
SK	clear
TNX	thanks
UR	your, you are
73	best wishes

## Ham Radio Gear For Sale

phone 305-505-5461, email [serrano\\_51@icloud.com](mailto:serrano_51@icloud.com).

**ORIGINAL NON-SMOKING OWNER** - YAESU FT1000 HF XCVR 160-10M. 200 WATTS with factory options (DVS-2 voice keyer, MHI-B8 hand microphone) and service manual. Has factory shipping box. \$795.00 or OBO.

**ORIGINAL OWNER** - Create Extra Heavy Duty Antenna Rotator – Model RC5A-3 and preset control box. Includes mounting hardware and factory manual. Rated for antenna up to 20 sq. ft. Test/Demo cable included. See [EHAM.NET](http://EHAM.NET) Reviews for info. \$495.00 or OBO.

For both items, contact BOB, W7MAE, (772) 444-5845, or email [w7mae@aol.com](mailto:w7mae@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**REPEATER** — 220 Mhz. repeater system, rack mounted. Consists of VHF Engineering repeater, Mirage amplifier, microwave cavity and 50 amp power supply. Asking \$1,200 OBO. For details contact Andrew Jarrett,





(Above card courtesy Bruce, W8HW)



(Above 3 cards courtesy Bruce, WA3RHW)

If you are considering QSL cards or need to refresh your old card, please discuss with Fabrice at [QSL Concept](http://QSL Concept). Email: [info@qslconcept.com](mailto:info@qslconcept.com), or Fabrice directly at [fertron@bftechnicarts.com](mailto:fertron@bftechnicarts.com). Phone 604-729-6454.

**TCHamNews** wants to publish QSL cards received by our local amateur radio community. If you have an interesting QSL card to share with your fellow hams, please send a scanned image (jpeg) to [TCHamNews@gmail.com](mailto:TCHamNews@gmail.com) and we will include it in an upcoming issue. (If you send us a paper card, we will scan it and send the original back to you.)

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