



HAMLETTER



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Wheaton Community Radio Amateurs

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In This Issue:

- * Hamfest Update
- * DX News
- * Calendar of Events
- * Shack of the Month
- * Christmas Party

*MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO
EACH AND EVERYONE*

HAMFEST 2002

Hamfest time is almost here and a great deal of hard work has gone into this years Fest already. But now it is YOUR turn to help the club and assure that the 2002 Hamfest is a success.

I don't know how many times it needs to be said, The Hamfest is the club's only fund raising event of the year. The proceeds from this single day funds all of the clubs activities for the

year. Hamfest is what allows us to have four repeaters which are used by members and non-members alike. Hamfest pays to rent Portapotties and pay for food for Field Day and Hamfest supports all the Public Service events

Don't miss the 35th annual

Midwinter Hamfest

Sunday, January 27, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Hawthorne Race Course -- 3501 S. Laramie, Cicero, IL

Plenty of FREE parking	For more info:
Commerical booths	Call: 630.545.9950
Flea markets	e-mail: info@wheatonhamfest.org
Hourly prize drawings	www.wheatonhamfest.org
Grand prize HF transceiver	Talk-In 145.390 -
or \$1,000	Tickets \$8
VEC Testing on site	

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and keeps the truck running.

We need your help in many ways to make this years event a success. First and foremost, we need you to BUY and Sell tickets. Many other clubs simply send 10 tickets to each

member which they are expected to sell. WCRA has always avoided doing this, believing that our members could be counted upon to do the right thing to support the club. But that has not happened in the last several years. Total Pre-sales of tickets have not come close to 10 tickets per member and that is with people from outside the club selling 30, 40 and even close to 100 tickets for OUR Hamfest. It is time for the membership to step up to the plate and BUY tickets. Certainly, we realize that not everyone can afford 10 tickets (\$60.00) but what (continued pg 3)

WCRA Staff

Elected Officers

President	Joe LeFebvre	N9WRO	630:587-8059
Vice President	Chris Cieslak	KC9L	708:343-5507
Secretary	Robert Mitiileri	N9EF	630:510-9783
Treasurer	Kim Wiese	N9XE	630:545-9950
Custodian	Kurt Rubin	KB9RTO	630:530-4812

Volunteer Committee Chairs

Club Call Trustee	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630:545-9950
Christmas Party	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630:858-8541
Club Awards	John Truitt	W9LQL	630:682-0304
Club Truck	Steve Peterson	N9OA	630:739-2930

Elmer/Know-Code			
Elmer/Know-Code	George Reichert	W9GWR	630:871-1786
Field Day	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630:653-9090
Field Day	Dale Kwarta	NJ9E	630:858-8541
Hamfest	John Cheney	N9MWF	708:848-2885
Chaplain	Harry Sheaffer	W9AXI	630:483-2044
Historian	John Lauder	N9LIN	630:968-4101
Interference	Greg Buttimer	N9SA	630:832-4499
Refreshments	Janie Gallina	AE9JG	630:530-4812
Membership	Carol Schroeder	KB9FYL	630:665-3228
Membership Retention	Robert Noles	N9XS	630:372-7036
Public Relations	Eileen Terry-Block	N9TWS	630:393-0742
Public Service	Joe LeFebvre	N9WRO	630:587-8059
VHF/HF Awards	Peter Barr	W9UF	630:971-8581

Amateur License Staff

Training Classes	Jack Feldman	KA9HEL	630:515-0377
Novice Instructor	Rich Weimer	AA9KZ	630:279-5288
Nov/Tech Instructor	Robert Mitiileri	N2EFT	630:510-9783
General Instructor	John Broughton	WB9VGJ	630:690-1473
General Instructor	Pat Byrne	K9JAU	630:858-1959
Extra Instructor	Sang M. Lee	N9ZGS	630:260-0736
Volunteer Exam.	Harry Kamer	K9HK	630:953-0519

WCRA Repeater Administrative Board (RAB)

Trustee/Tech Adv	Tom Geletka	N9CBA	630:545-9950
Chairman	Don Motz, Jr.	N9NYX	630:665-7757
Secretary	Marty Kennedy	KA9RCC	630:653-6698
Member	Gary Henle	N9VLL	630:736-9102
Member	George Henry	KA3HSW	630:830-6659
Tech Advisor	Larry Schroeder	KA9KDC	630:665-3228

WCRA Radio Nets

Sunday 8:00 pm	145.390/(-600)	Net Control: Rotates
Sunday 8:30 pm	224.140/(-1.600)	Net Control: Marty KA9RCC
Tuesday 8:00 pm	145.390(-600)	ARES Net
Tuesday 8:30 pm	444.475/(5.0)	UHF Net

WCRA Repeaters

145.390/ 144.790	103.5(1A) or 107.2(1B) PLEncode/Decode
224.140/222.540	Carries Access - SKYWARN Service Liaison
444.475/449.475	114.8 Hz(2A) PLEncode/ Decode
145.310/144.710	WCRA, W9CCU-1 Full Duplex Packet Reprtr

HAMLETTER

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Features	Peter Barr	W9UF	630:971-8581
Features	Frank Krozel	KG9H	630:653-9090
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From the President's Gavel

by Joe LeFebvre WCRA President



Firstly I would like to invite you all to join my wife and I at our Christmas Get-Together to be held at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, December 2nd at Old County Buffet at 551 Roosevelt Rd in Lombard. The cost will be under \$10.00 for adults and children under 12 are \$0.50 per year of age. Ruth spent a lot of time trying to find a suitable location and after a discussion at our last meeting this appears to be best bet at this time. I enjoy eating there and always come away stuffed. We will be meeting in a private room for food and fellowship. In these trying times I for one am looking forward to a little holiday cheer.

Secondly, our 2002 HamFest is just around the corner and we are still missing several key committee positions. We can only ask so much from our current HamFest committee. They can not, and should not, do everything themselves. Other members need to come forward now and volunteer. The committee needs you, the Club needs you and the membership needs you. I know you must be getting tired of hearing this, but the HamFest is our only moneymaking venture and the future of our club depends on good HamFests.

Also, we need to form a new and separate committee to search for a new venue for the 2003 HamFest. Our current HamFest committee has their hands full dealing with all the problems associated with bringing off the current HamFest and we need to keep them focused on those tasks. The club needs other members to come forward and undertake the task of searching out a new home for our HamFest. This may take a long time and the sooner we can start the better off we will be. Without the revenues brought in by the HamFest our club will only survive for 2 or 3 years. If anyone has any ideas about alternate revenue sources please let us know, we are willing to explore any and all options.

Finally let me say in these very trying times, think smart and be smart out there and lets all take care of each other.

73, N9WRO

THE INFO ON THE CHRISTMAS PARTY IS:

What: WCRA Christmas Party
When: Sunday, December 2nd, 2001
Where: Old Country Buffet (located at 551 E Roosevelt Rd in Lombard, just east of Highland Ave - in the Cub Foods Plaza)
Who: For all WCRA members and their immediate families
Cost: Adults (12 & older) is \$9.28 payable when you arrive
Children under 12 is figured by their age times 55 cents.

We will have a private room at the Old Country Buffet (unless we do not have enough to have the whole room to ourselves, and you will pay Old Country Buffet when you arrive. Please contact Joe (N9WRO) or myself (Rkwarta@aol.com) by email if you want to join us by Sunday - November 25th!!!!

HAMFEST 2002 (Continued from page 1)

about buying 5 and selling the other 5 to people you know. We've attempted to make that easier by making the Grand Prize a choice of a radio or \$1000.00 CASH. Certainly you know people who approach you for things at their children's school, their church or other activities. See if they will now help you with YOUR GOOD CAUSE. Contact the Club Info line at (630)545-9950 to request your tickets on a consignment basis.

We also need your help to setup the Hamfest Saturday evening and Sunday Morning and to staff the show and clean up on Sunday afternoon. We know that many of you just show up, but we would like to know ahead of time who will be available when. This really helps in our planning. Again, call the Info Line to let us know how you will help.

We look forward to making this years Hamfest another in the long line of events which have earned WCRA a great reputation. Thank you in advance for your help in achieving this goal.

THANK YOU

I would like to say thanks via the Hamletter for all the cards, and condolences received by our family from all the club members in the passing of my father. We really appreciated all support we received from WCRA members.

Ruth KA9RZG

WCRA Meeting Minutes

by: Robert Mitilieri
N9EF
WCRA
Secretary



The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by the President, **Joe, N9WRO**. Vice President, **Chris, KC9L**, reported that the Sweepstakes (CW) is this weekend. The SMC (Society of Midwest testers) would like to see good participation from the Midwest area. If you are participating in the contest and would like to assist, submit your logs under the SMC name. **Kim, N9XE**, gave a report of the club's financial condition. **Bob Fairbairn, KE9A**, offered to conduct a presentation on portable QRP operation for this evening's program. RAB, **Don, N9NYX**, reported that the 440 machine is currently running without the final

amplifier so the output is about 1 watt. Christmas Party, Joe, N9WRO for **Ruth KA9RZG**, suggested that the party be held at a restaurant with members paying for their own meals. A suggestion was made to hold the party at Old Country Buffet. They have a separate room with a fixed price and a wide variety of food. Hamfest, **John, N9MWF**, reported that there are three open positions for Subcommittee Chairpersons, Flea Market, Commercial Vendor, and Workers Scheduling. It is very important that these positions are filled very soon! There is also an immediate need for subcommittee members. Sign up sheets for various positions were passed around. Joe, N9WRO, volunteered to assist with the Worker's Subcommittee. A separate committee will be formed and charged with searching for a new facility for the Hamfest.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 and refreshments were served. A very interesting and informative program on portable QRP operation followed.

BIRTHDAYS OF DECEMBER

Charles	WJ9N	12-06-31
Robert	W3MDM	12-09-28
Bill	KA9ALO	12-11-44
Don	K9MUF	12-13-31
Marty	KA9RCC	12-15-48
Doug	W9NJM	12-15-46
John	N9GLZ	12-19-24
Larry	WA9RTE	12-21-44
Robert	N9YLG	12-25-61
George	KA3HSW	12-27-56

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Activities on the HF Bands

by:
Peter Barr
W9UF

Ed, 4L4FN, works at the U.N. World Food Program in North Korea and has tried for over two years to get permission to operate ham radio. Finally in mid November, he was given verbal permission to bring his Icom 706 Mark 2G into the country and to operate. He made a 20 meter dipole that tunes on 10. Ed is now awaiting written permission and this will be required before the ARRL can give credit for the QSO. It's not known how long that will take, although they have told him it should be around Christmas. Hopefully the active date will be back dated to November, otherwise, all these contacts will have to be made again after the effective date of the written license. Although Ed is working with the WFP up to 12 a day, he will try to be

on as much as possible. Remember, he is not a DXpedition and will not be on the air around the clock for three weeks. Friends will try to post his operating schedule at <http://www.amsatnet.com>, on the ARRL website, and the DX lists.

Please keep in mind that many people would like to work Ed for their last DXCC country. Be kind and patient and he will try to work everyone as long as permission to operate continues. Presently, Ed only has SSB and prefers 14.205 and 28.575 MHz. Weekdays 1400z-1500z and 2200z-2300z. Weekends more operating time is available to him. All operations will be split, listening up 5-15 KHz. He did not have a key when he first came up in November, and although he tried tapping 2 wires together, it was not a pretty picture. Around the Holidays he will be going home for a short vacation, and return with his keyer, a PSK232 modem, and maybe a few other items. This will allow him to do some digital modes as well. He is going to build a small beam for 10m and 20m to hopefully help his signal. QSL via KK5DO, Bruce Paige, PO Box 310, Alief, TX 77411. Include appropriate envelope and postage for the return of the card to you.

Members of the Royal Amateur Society of Thailand (RAST) have obtained permission to operate from Tarutao Island (AS-126) in December. The group expects to be QRV as E29AL from December 8 to 15. Team members include HS0GBI, HS1CKC, E21EIC, E20NTS, HS0/G3NOM, E20RRW, HS0XNO, HS4BPQ, E20HHK, HS9EQY and HS0ZCW (K4VUD). Look for them on the normal IOTA frequencies and on RTTY on 14086, 21086 and 28086, on PSK31 on 14070, 21070 and 28070 on SSTV on 14230, 21340 and 28680. On the low bands they will try 1834 and 3524. QSL via HS0GBI, Cherdchai Yiwlek, P.O. Box 1090, Kasetsart, Bangkok 10903, THAILAND.

Mark Haynes, M0DXR, informed the DX community that he has recently established a group of DXers which consists of members of the younger generation. The group is named the "Crystal Clear DX Group". They plan to undertake a DXpedition to the Maldives in August 2002. The team will consist of five to six operators with 3 stations on air for as much time as propagation will allow. The group has 3 main objectives:

- 1) To promote DXpedition and HF DXing for the younger generation and encourage similar future operations.
- 2) To show that a group of youngsters are capable of setting up and running a DXpedition to the point where it is recognized for its quality.
- 3) To concentrate on those stations who need 8Q7 as a new country on various band/mode slots. They plan to make at least 30,000 QSOs!

The team includes Tony/EA2AIJ, Simon/M0CLW, Fabian/DJ1YFK, Mark/M0DXR, and one more youngster from the UK. Activity will be on all bands including the WARC bands. However, since most of the members on the team are still full time students in education, they are currently looking for assistance, contributions to help with their finances and sponsoring. If you can help, please contact Mark at: m0dxr@qsl.net.

Chris Post,N3SIG, a Firefighter/EMT in the United States Antarctic Program at the McMurdo Station on Ross Island in Antarctica (IOTA AN-Ø11), is now active as KC4/N3SIG until March 2002. He informs OPDX that he will be active (usually) every other day starting around Ø1ØØ-Ø2ØØz. His main mode of operation is phone on 20/18/15 meters. Look for him on 14243 kHz to start. Special QSOs can be arranged by sending an E-mail to the following address: n3sig@arrl.net. All QSL cards go to AI3D, please include a SASE.

And speaking of Antarctica, Skip,WBØBBE is again operating KC4AAA. This is his third tour at the South Pole where he does communication-engineering duties along with part time hamming. The station can usually be found on 14243 from ØØØØ to Ø4ØØz plus or minus work schedules and propagation. QSL with SASE via K1IED. At least one ham will be part of the next over-wintering team at Russia's Antarctic Base Vostok, which uses the callsign R1ANC. Alex,RA1PC will keep the station active and Alan,UA1PAC might be there as well. And finally, reports indicate that SANAE, (the South African Base in the Antartic) ZS7ANT, is back on the air with a new operator Anton,ZS4AGA, who will stay there until February 2002. Plans are in the works to organize a traffic-like net for those interested in WABA (Worked All Antarctic Bases). Other stations to look for from the Antarctic Continent are CE9NKR, CE9MFJ, EM1HO, EM1KCC, KC4USA and VKØKMT.

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club in Hamilton, New Zealand, has applied for and been given the callsign ZL6JAM for use during and after the "16th New Zealand Scout Jamboree" at Mystery Creek Hamilton from December 29th to January 6, 2002. The station will be active from the site from 2ØØØ-Ø5ØØz during this period, and outside these hours if possible. As this station is being set up for Scouts (both boys and girls aged 11 to 16), these kids would love to talk to kids around their own age, as well as Hams from around the world. The frequencies planned are: 3593, 3677, 7075 and 14260 kHz. They will be as near as possible to those frequencies. Operation on 15m and 10m will depend on conditions. A special QSL card is being printed for the Jamboree. QSL details are direct with 1 IRC or 1 USD to: ZL6JAM, P O Box 606, Hamilton, New Zealand. Please include an addressed envelope with direct QSL applications. No postage or greenstamps are required.

Attention Stamp Collectors! Carlos,CU3FT now active as 4W/CU3FT in East Timor, as been heard in the last few weeks on 12 and 14 meters. Carlos's QSL Manager Jose,CT1EEB, announced that QSLs for 4W/CU3FT have been arriving at his postal box at a rate of 4 to 5 a day. QSLs are not ready yet, as they are waiting for word from their sponsors and and the QSL sketch. Meanwhile, you can send your card via CT1EEB: Jose Emanuel Ribeiro de Sa, P.O. Box 79, 3860 Estarreja, Portugal. If you collect mail stamps you can request your card directly from Carlos in East-Timor (UNTAET mail stamps will be issued once full independence is achieved next May 2002), Carlos's direct address in East-Timor is: Carlos Poinho, Apartado 93, Dili, Timor-Leste / East-Timor.

Paolo,I2UIY has announced that a Website has been created to support the upcoming DXpedition to Niger that will take place in January/February 2002. The address is: <http://www.qsl.net/niger-2002>. On the Web page there is survey for the DX community to fill out to help them determine what bands/modes are needed. Additional information will be uploaded as soon as they get things finalized. Exact dates and callsigns will be announced shortly.

Leo,K8PYD and Jon,WB8YJF leaving on December 1st for the Austral Islands. They expect to arrive on December 3rd, and will leave on December 14th. They should be active all days inclusive December 3-14th. Operation will be mostly RTTY and some CW (Leo states maybe he will take a mic also if any room is available) on 80-10 meters. Jon Severt, WB8YJF, will use the callsign FOØSEV and Leo Fry, K8PYD, has the callsign FOØFRY. All cards are to be sent to the home callsigns. They hope to provide a new one for a few that still may need the Australs on RTTY.

Bill,W7TVF will be operating from Western Samoa until December 10th. He will be operating from the Kitano Tusitala Hotel and hopes to put up a big vertical antenna in the courtyard. His activity will be on 160-6 meters, mostly on CW. Special attention will be given to Europe and Africa during their low band grayline openings. Bill will be trying to provide an online log search that can be accessed daily. More details will be forthcoming. Also, watch the Web page at: <http://www.air-internet.com/~w7tvf>

Take, JI3DST will be active as JI3DST/3 from Miyako Island (AS-079) from December 29 to January 5. He plans to be QRV on 6, 10, 12, 15, 17 and 40 meters SSB. QSL via JI3DST either via the bureau or direct to 2-18-26 Hannan-cho, Abono-ku, Osaka-city, Osaka 545-0021, JAPAN.

Due to security reasons (prevailing military action in the West Bank) the planned activity of Guenter, E4/OE1GZA out of Ramallah for the CQ WW SSB Contest had to unfortunately be cancelled. Guenter's E4-activity will resume after the situation in the West Bank calms down (hopefully by the time you read this). Keep an eye on his URL at <http://sites.netscape.net/vr2gz/amateurradioe4> for details and periodical updates. QSLs requests for previous operations of E4/OE1GZA in 2000 and 2001 should go direct via P.O. Box 1133, Ramallah, Palestine for all who need a QSL fast. Cards received via bureau will take an extensive period to respond.

Sierra Leone now has another active Amateur Radio operator. Polish operator Zbyszek (Zbig) Belchacz, SP7BTB, part of the UN Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), was recently issued the call 9L1BTB. He will be operating from Freetown for about 10 months using a Barrett radio running 120 watts and a multi-band dipole. So far he has been active on 10, 15 and 20 meters SSB. He expects to be on all bands from 10 to 80 meters. Zbig will be going back to Poland for a Christmas holiday. When he goes back to Sierra Leone he will take more antennas. For the time being, look for him on the high end of the 20 meter phone band. Check between 14252 and 14280 from 183Ø to 22ØØz. QSL via SP7CDG.

Hiroo, XWØX/JA2EZD, has a new 70 foot tower and Kenwood TL-922 amplifier at his office station in downtown Vientiane, Laos. He plans to use this very soon on the low bands. Hiroo is currently on 6, 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. He hopes to be on the WARC bands very soon. JA7MYQ recently donated a RTTY system, and he should be operating on this mode by now. Hiroo also reports that Italian operators Mauro, IN3QBR and Fabrizio, IN3ZNR are heading back to Southeast Asia next spring. The two have received a license to operate from Laos for a 2 month period between March 22 and May 20. More details to follow on this one.

Hiroo has stated that sending US dollars to Laos is not a good idea. He says, "It is not a violation to possess US dollars, however the average postman in Laos makes about \$17 a month. The temptation is very high to take these envelopes. He asks that you please send IRCs. QSL XWØX via Hiroo Yonezuka, P.O. Box 2659 Vientiane, Laos.

Bill Moore, NC1L, the ARRL DXCC Manager, reports OJØVR and HK5QGX/0M operations have been approved for DXCC credit. The documentation has been reviewed and they are now OK. Anyone who has submitted them and had them rejected can contact DXCC to have their record updated without having to re-submit the card(s). Otherwise, they can be included with the next submission.

German operators Rudi, DL7VFR, and Tom, DL2RUM, have rescheduled their trip to Midway Island for March 2002. The two had originally planned an operation in late September of this year but had to cancel at the last minute. They now expect to operate from this Pacific island between March 10 and 23 of next year. They will use KH4/homecalls on 6-160 meters on CW, SSB and RTTY. Tom has a web page at <http://www.qsl.net/dl2rum/>, which is not up-to-date. QSLs go via their home calls.

Members of the Diamond DX Club will be heading to Sonsorol Island (OC-NEW), Belau early next year. The group was originally scheduled to go this month, however their trip was postponed due to the WTC disaster. Team members include Nando, IT9YRE; Maury, IZ1CRR, and Erminio, IZ8AJQ. They will use T88SI mostly on 10, 15 and 20 meters SSB from February 9 to 11. Financial support is being requested. Check out the web-site at <http://www.425dxn.org/dxped/t88si/> for complete details. QSL via IT9YRE, Ferdinando Rubino, P.O. Box 30, 96012 Avola SR, ITALY.

A new website has info on an upcoming DXpedition to Niger scheduled to happen in January and February next year. The webpage is www.qsl.net/niger-2002. There is a survey to let the ops know which bands and modes are most needed. Exact dates and callsigns will be announced shortly.

LIGHTHOUSE NEWS

Jim, K2JXW Founder and President of the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS), announced the ARLHS second annual "ARLHS Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party" will take place December 22-23rd. See the following Web site for guidelines and prizes: <http://www.waterw.com/%7eweidner/arlhs/xmas-guide.htm> Or visit pages 2 and 3 of the society's web site at: <http://www.arlhs.com> ARLHS members Anita, N5AOK and WA5MLT will activate Boliver Point Light, Texas, during the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society's second annual Lighthouse Christmas Lights event 2001. The event period will start 0001z Saturday, December 22 and will continue through 2359z Sunday, December 23rd. Listen for the special event callsign N5L. Activity during the daytime will be on 20/15/10 meters and during nighttime on 40 meters. QSL direct with SASE to N5AOK.

One of the contacts most wanted by lighthouse chasers will be available early next year. The Metro Amateur Radio Club (MAC) here in Chicago will activate Chicago Harbor Lighthouse, Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society USA #171, on February 9th and 10th, 2002. Special event station K9Y will be operated from Columbia Yacht Club, according to Mike Dinelli, N9BOR. The usual ARLHS frequencies will be used:

SSB - 3970, 7270, 14270, 21370, 28370

CW - 3530, 7030, 14030, 21030 and 28030 kHz.

Questions may be directed to: mac@qsl.net. A special QSL will be available.

DX POTPOURRI

As of October 26th, many Belgian stations were on the air using the special prefix "OQ" prefix instead of the regular "ON or OT" prefix. The Belgian telecom authorities have issued this special prefix in celebration of the birth of "Princess Elisabeth". The permission to use this prefix runs until December 31st.

Charlotte, KQ1F/5H1F and Paul, K1XM/5H1X, may show up between now and December 10 from various locations in Tanzania, operating portable. All QSLs go to KQ1F.

Clemens, DL2GAN informed the DX community that he will be in the Seychelles until December 5. Look for S79GAN to be QRV on 10-40 meters CW and SSB. He'll be using a FT-7B with 50 watts along with multi-band dipoles and verticals. QSL to his home call.

9N7RB from Nepal likes 12 meters CW most days around 0130 to 0230z. QSL via W4FOA.

A DXpedition is planned for June of 2002 from Midway Island. Activity is expected to be on 160-10 meters as well as 6 and 2 meters. For more details, check the Web site at: <http://community.silverlink.net/midway/DXpedition.html>

Western Samoa will be activated by Bill, W7TVF November 20-December 10, (call still unknown). Bill plans to be on 160-6, mostly CW with special attention to Europe and Africa on the low bands. You can find more information about this one at www.air-internet.com/~w7tvf.

Julio, AD4Z/HI3K will be on from the Dominican Republic as HI3K, his own callsign, and HI3J, his father's callsign, November 21-December 9, all bands, mostly CW, emphasizing 160 and WARC. You can ask for skeds at USA002@hotmail.com.

Francois Normant, VE2XO will be back in Guinea at the end of December or beginning of January and will be operating from Conakry as 3XY6A. On this trip he expects to operate from Rooma Island (AF-051) with a special callsign which was not available at press time. Keep one ear on the IOTA frequencies, and an eye on the cluster.

IOTA frequencies -

CW 28040 24920 21040 18098 14040 10114 7030 3530
SSB 28560 28460 24950 21260 18128 14260 7055 3765

Jim,N6TJ returned to Ascension Island in mid November where he is signing ZD8Z until December 18. Also, Glenn,K6NA/ZD8A and Rick,N6ND/ZD8R will arrive around November 28 or 29 for some more activity.

Missionaries Trudie,7Q7TV, and Richard,7Q7RV, are newly licensed Amateur Radio operators in Malawi. Currently they have antennas for 20, 30 and 40 meters and are QRV on SSB, but will soon be active on CW. They also plan to operate on other bands. QSL via ZS6DX.

Need a QSL route for one of the stations you worked in the CQ WW SSB 2001? You can probably find it on line. Check out <http://www.arrakis.es/~ea5eyj/cqssb01.htm>.

Mohammed,9K2MN reports the 9K2USA QSL card can be seen at <http://www.qsl.net/9k2mn/images/9K2USA.jpg>.

The 3D2AD, 3D2CI, 3D2CY and 4W/CU3FT logs are now online at <http://dx.qsl.net/logs>. Also, look for The 6W1/F5JJW logs at http://www.qsl.net/f5nod/6w_f5jjw_01.html.

SPECIAL EVENTS.

To commemorate Marconi's radio experiments between 1901 and 1931, look for special event station IY1SP to be active on the air until December 31st. The station has been heard on 10 meters SSB on various frequencies. QSL via I1FNX, direct or via the bureau.

Another Marconi celebration will be held on this side of the pond. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the reception of the first transatlantic signal on Signal Hill in St. John's, Newfoundland, the Society Of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) will be operating with the special callsign VO1S during the entire month of December. Special QSL cards will be designed and printed for all contacts made. These cards will be sent via the bureau March 1, 2002. Anyone wishing to receive a card directly can do so by providing a SASE to the club address: SONRA, Box 23099, St. John's, NF A1B 4J9, Canada. In addition, the club will be operating for a 24-hour period (0000 to 2400Z) December 12, highlighted by an official contact with Poldhu at 12:30 pm local time (1600Z). For all contacts made during this 24-hour period, a certificate will be awarded to those who send a SASE. For more information on these events, check the SONRA web site at: <http://www.sonra.ca/>

2000z December 2 QRP ARCI
2359z December 2 Holiday Sprint 160- 6M CW

2200z December 7 ARRL
1900z December 9 160 Meter Contest 160M CW

2300z December 7 Six Club
0300z December 10 6 Meter Contest 6M CW & SSB

ØØØz December 15 ARRL 10Meter
2359z December 16 Contest 10M CW & SSB
14ØØz December 15 Croatian
14ØØz December 16 CW Contest 160-10M CW & SSB
ØØØØ December 29 RAC Canada
2359 December 29 Winter Contest 160- 2M CW & SSB

I seem to have gotten a little wordy this month, but there was a lot to share. Hopefully everybody is enjoying the DX that's out there just waiting to be worked. Here's wishing you all a Happy Holiday Season and what we can hope is a Peaceful New Year.

Special thanks this month to The Daily DX, ARRL, OPDX Bulletin, DXNL and World Radio for information used.

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Icom Ic-3200a w bracket, mic, manual \$200
MFJ 300w roller inductor tuner Model MFJ969 \$150
Icom FL52A 500Hz CW filter \$160
Yaesu Memorizer 2m rig (no power out) \$25



Bob KE9A

Shack of the Month (continued from page 4)

Today his home shack is based around a Kenwood TS-570D driving an Ameritron 811 amplifier. His antenna farm consists of a Gap vertical and a Force 12 three-element beam on the roof. For two meters, he relies on a Motorola GM 300 driving a homemade five-element two meter yagi in his attic. "I built that out of a QST article. I really like putting stuff together, whether it's an antenna, a rig or a microphone for a friend."

He says he does most of his operating from his mobile setup – a Yaesu FT 100 and an ATLAS 100 motorized antenna. "I have more time to get on the air when I'm out running around than when I'm at home," he says.

Chris joined WCRA a couple of years ago, and last year was elected vice president. He says he enjoys being involved in the club and meeting other hams.

"The people I meet in the club keep me interested and give me the chance to try new things," he says. "There is so much to try – new equipment, new circuits, new modes. I don't think anyone could do it all unless they were at it full time. What really impresses me is getting on a new mode like PSK and talking to an 80-year-old guy who is running new modes and doing a good job of it. There are people who have been playing with this stuff for 50 or 60 years and are still building things and experimenting."

Chris says he enjoys operating mainly on 40 meters and 20 meters, both sideband and CW. He dabbles with the digital modes and when the bands are open he "likes 10 meters a lot."

He thinks his next challenge may be getting into ATV on 440. At last year's Field Day Chris impressed many visitors with an ATV equipped remote control car. "I'm an experimenter more than anything else, and there's plenty in this hobby to try."

