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Http://www.hwcn.org/link/harc/

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A Wish Come True

Mardy VE3QEE – President

When I was a youngster of nine or ten years old in the days of tube radio, and before television, a favourite story I enjoyed was that of Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp. In that story, Aladdin came to possess a magic lamp in which lived a genie who would do his master's bidding. When Aladdin rubbed the lamp out came the genie who could provide whatever was demanded whether it be a sumptuous banquet or forty bowls of purest gold. At that time I dreamed of having such a lamp and wished for a genie that would do my bidding. Of course, I came to understand, that could never be.

About 19 years ago I got my first computer, a Commodore 64. That machine allowed me to do word processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and play a few games. Since then there have been successive computers, and fancier programs and lots of thousand-page manuals to show you how the programs work. The computers allow you to do all kinds of things. I planned a wallpapering job using the computer. I used it to organize the placement of furniture in a room. I have made fleamarket flyers, maps, and signs. All of my teaching lessons, income tax returns, picture collection, e-mail, and internet browsing are done by computer. The computer is even helping with my hobby, Amateur Radio, by logging contacts. In the near future it will control the rig, and be used for sending and receiving digital mode communications.

After all, the computer is the first general machine. By this, I mean the computer is not dedicated to a single task, like a car jack, or a typewriter, but it can be used to do any task you desire, from cutting vinyl lettering for truck signs, to producing a newsletter like this one.

Suddenly, now, I realize my childhood wish of having a genie to do my bidding, has come true. The computer is, truly, like Aladdin's lamp. If you can imagine a job to be done, sooner or later the computer can make it happen.

Incidentally, if you want to read the story of Aladdin, or Sinbad, or Ali Baba, an e-text of the Arabian Nights is found on the web at: <http://classiclit.about.com/library/>. Key in this address and the computer can take you there. On this same site many other classic texts are listed.

Web Program Available To Create Cabrillo Format Logs

The following news appeared in the ARRL members weekly e-bulletin.
Some of our members who casually make a handful of contacts during a contest might find this program convenient, in the future, for submitting entries from a log recorded with pencil and paper.

The ARRL Contest Branch has announced that a Web-based "applet" program <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/> now is available that can create and e-mail

contest logs in the Cabrillo file format ARRL requires for contest entries.

"Thanks to Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, and the support of several other amateurs, it is now possible for all contest participants to create Cabrillo-format logs on the Web," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "These will allow participants who log on paper or whose logging software will not generate a Cabrillo file to create an electronic log to submit to the League."

The first ARRL contest for which the Web applet is available is the recent 2004 RTTY Roundup <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2004/rtty.html>. Henderson says Horn is developing templates for additional ARRL contests, and these will also become available via links from Horn's Cabrillo Web Forms page.

The Web routine first prompts users to provide the required information to create a Cabrillo file header. This includes basic information such as ARRL/RAC section, call sign used, call signs of operators for a multi-op entry, entry class, the operator's name and address and possibly other data. Where appropriate, drop-down boxes allow submitters to select the correct information.

A second screen allows users to input data for each QSO. Users may either manually keystroke the information for each contact or cut and paste it--band, date, time, call sign copied, received RST, received exchange--from another source. A space is necessary between each QSO data element, and each QSO belongs on a separate line.

Once QSO data have been entered, click on the "SUBMIT QSO INFO" button. The program checks for formatting errors, and, if everything is correct, will display the completed file. At that point, users can check their information one last time.

Click the "SUBMIT CABRILLO LOG" button to e-mail the entry automatically to the correct address for the contest.

This also will send a record copy of the Cabrillo-formatted log to the user.

Applet-created logs will be processed just as all other log submissions are. If the contest robot finds problems, it will send the appropriate e-mail message to the submitter. If the log is okay, the robot will send a numbered receipt. Users with questions about the Web applet routine should contact the ARRL Contest Branch via e-mail <contests@arrl.org>. The ARRL thanks Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, for his work in developing this helpful and useful Web application

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Dis & Dat
by Bernie Granby, VE3EKY, VA3XJ

The Genesis of CW...

This item, by Bernie, first appered in The Canadian Amateur, Oct. 1997.

First He made a dot. He looked at it and saw it was good.
But it wasn't good by itself so He made a dash to go with it and He knew it was complete.
So He gave it to the man and his mate to name and they called it **Morse Code** and thus began the history of communications.
They did it with each other often and it was good!
They took it with them wherever the went but they had to move a lot because of that thing with the apple.
But false prophets appeared and they spake like the serpent, saying "CW is too much trouble."
They invented other modes and they sneered at the true believers with their brass pump handles. This was not good.
Then they hired a tower-builder called Babel to build them a tower so they could have a giant Field Day.
But when they came down from the tower they were angry. The packet people couldn't copy the AM. The AM people couldn't understand SSB because it all sounded like Donald Duck.
So they said, "Count me out. Keep your club!" The snake scorned CW saying "Who needs it?" He even said, "who needs a licence? Let's have a Citizen's Band of our own" and pretty soon they were all jawing away and no one knew what was said because they were all talking at once with "10-4 good buddy".
Noah tried to stop them, "Don't listen to the snake," he said. "It's not too late. Re-learn Morse Code and we can get together again. Let's have a Field Day and we'll talk to each other again."
But they paid Noah no heed and soon

no one QSO'd Noah anymore. Then it started to rain. It rained and it rained.
When the water started getting dangerously high they called on Him to save them and He said, "Call Noah on your ham radio and he will come to save you with his boat."
But there was no one left who could send SOS in Morse Code and they all perished.
Beware, when the flood comes, that you can still call SOS.

Canadian Amateurs may lose part of the 220 MHz band

RAC Bulletin 03-034E – received from the RAC e-mail reflector.

After studying the spectrum needs of various services over the past 18 months, the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC) has decided to recommend to Industry Canada that the 220-222 MHz band be transferred from the amateur to the mobile service. The RABC also recommends that:
- Amateur repeaters in this portion of the band be grandfathered to continue operation for a number of years, with the number to be decided by Industry Canada.
- A section of 150 kHz of spectrum in the 220-222 MHz band be designated as public service spectrum to be shared by amateur and mobile services for special public safety and disaster communications applications.
- The band 219-220 MHz is allocated on a secondary basis to the Amateur service in Canada, which would be in harmony with a similar allocation in the USA.
- The band from 222-225 MHz remains as a primary exclusive amateur allocation.
Following consultation with Canadian amateurs in a survey conducted in July 2002 RAC, as a member of the RABC, has vigorously opposed these proposed changes without success.
Industry Canada must now take this

advice, together with input from RAC, decide on a course of action, and in all likelihood conduct a public consultation before issuing a decision. The prospects do not look good. For the full story, visit the RAC web site at http://www.rac.ca/news/canada.htm
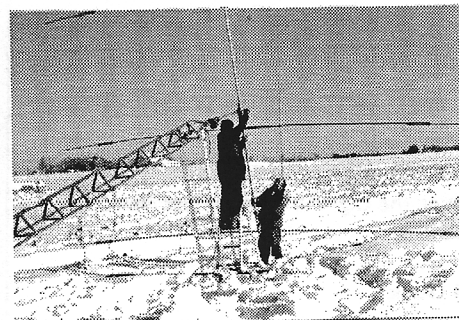
Upcoming Contests Announcement

Messager from the Contest Group - VE3DC will be operating in January, February and April. We are appealing for operators. If you are interested contact Rick VE3BK

Hi everyone, I am announcing the times for the CQ World Wide 160m contests:

CW 0000z January 24 to 2359z January 25, 2004.

SSB 0000z February 28 to 2359z February 29,2004.

Also we will have the **Ontario QSO Party** at the end of April which will require a Multi-multi effort. A fun Contest. Will let you know the exact date for it later.

73s cul Rick

If you would like to operate with the team at the contest site they can put your talents to work. Contact Rick, VE3BK/VE3OZY and offer your services for a specific time. Rick's phone number is listed elsewhere in the Bulletin. If you can't make a firm commitment, make a note of the contest dates and times then tune in and listen for VE3DC on the air. Give them a couple of contacts from your QTH. Every contact counts. Successful contesting needs to be a group effort, so whether you are at the site or in your shack (or the shack of a friend) you can lend your support and help our boys get to the top.

Note to VE3DC

The following note was received on the back of a QSL card from Bob Hynes, KI2G from Orlando Florida confirming a contact during the CQWW CW contest Nov 23, 2002.

Hi Guys,

Tnx for the contact during the DX Contest. I am not supposed to have antennas at this QTH but have some verticals with a lot of radials. At the last minute I strapped together as much metal as I could get in the air for 80 meters.

It took about 5 pieces which gave me about 57 feet, I was spray painting as I was assembling, green on the bottom and gray on the top.

Using a tuner and connecting all the radials, the antennae seemed to load OK. I know I did not knock anybody's tubes out of the socket but I am sure glad you could hear me in there. It seemed condx were pretty good on 80 meters.

It took me 40 years to work about 125 on 80 meters. I don't remember anything easy. Since I have put up this scrap heap I have worked about 25 new ones on 80. I am not going to touch it till they make me take it down.

73, Bob

Note: We worked Bob on the CQWW CW contest the end of November 23, 2002 at 10:51 UTC with a 599 report.

Book Review

The Voice of the Crystal
How To Build Working Radio Receiver Components Entirely From Scratch
by H. Peter Friedrichs.

This book is published by The Xtal Set Society, Inc. P.O. Box 3026 St. Louis, MO 63130. Cost: 14.95 US plus 3.50 Shipping and handling. It is a 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" soft cover book, of 184 pages.
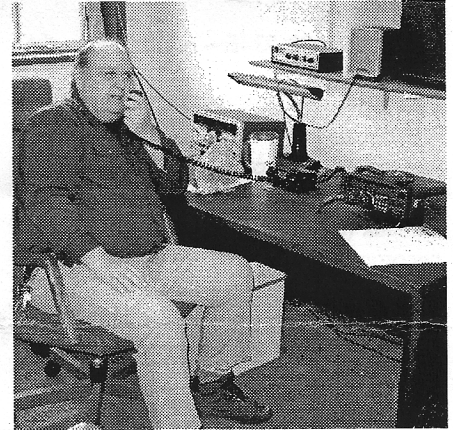
Voice of the Crystal rekindles a spirit of curiosity and inventiveness that is absent in the plug and play method of learning about radio. Peter, the author, shows how a person can make headphones, detectors, condensers and coils out of simple available materials. He illustrates how these components work and explains different ways they can be built. Simple drawings and photographs accompany the text and show how the author has created each of the parts he is explaining. If you are looking for a book that shows to build a high quality crystal receiver, this book is not the answer. But if you are looking for a delightful book that explains parts with utter simplicity and encourages your tendency to tinker this book accomplishes that aim.

Voice of the Crystal offers a way for each of us to get in touch with those early days of radio.

VA3SEE Station

VA3SEE is located at the CNIB Transitional Training Centre 1686 Main Street West in Hamilton. Here is peek inside the station with our own Mike Krebs, VA3WXS. at the controls.
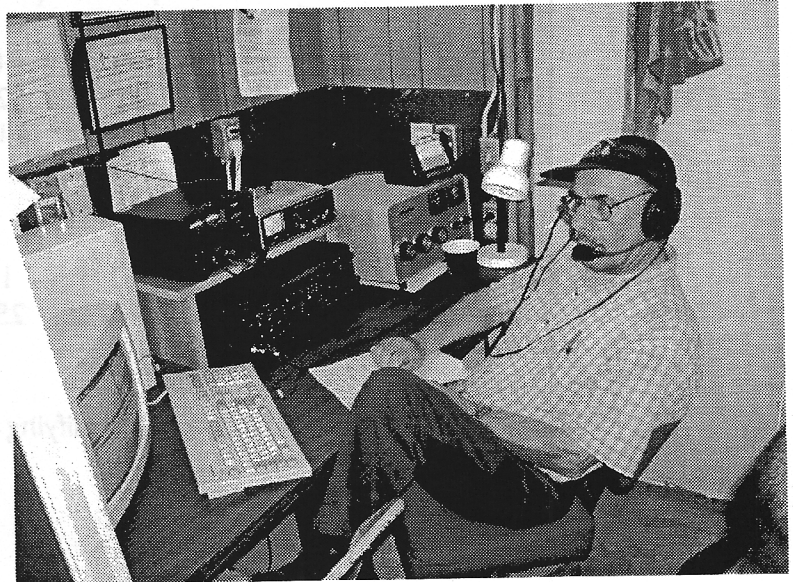
December Christmas Party
courtesy Fred VE3GCP
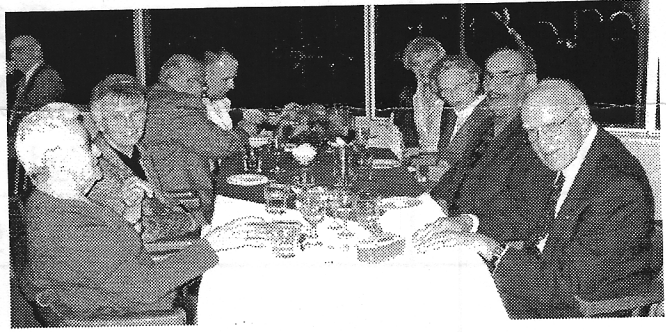
At the Contest Site.
Joe, VE3OCD, operating
courtesy Rick VE3BK

WIAW Winter 2004 Transmission Schedule

East	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 am		Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code
10 am-noon 1-3:45 pm	Visiting Operator Time				
4 pm	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code
5 pm	Code Bulletin				
6 pm	Teleprinter Bulletin				
7 pm	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code
8 pm	Code Bulletin				
9 pm	Teleprinter Bulletin				
9:45 pm	Voice Bulletin				
10 pm	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code	Slow Code	Fast Code
11 pm	Code Bulletin				

Frequencies (MHz)

CW:	1.818	3.5815	7.0475	14.0475	18.0975	21.0675	28.0675	147.555
RTTY:	3.625	7.095	14.095	18.1025	21.095	28.095	147.555
VOICE:	1.855	3.990	7.290	14.290	18.160	21.390	28.590	147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.