



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

PROFICIENCY THROUGH COMPETITION

CALENDAR

March 2007:

- 3-4 ARRL DX Test, SSB**
- 13 FRC Main Meeting, Phila.**
- 13 Remy Meeting B**
- 15 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 17-18 Russian DX Contest
- 24-25 CQ WPX Contest, SSB
- 27 Remy Meeting B**

April 2007:

- 8-9 Japan Intl. DX Test, CW
- 10 FRC Main Meeting, Phila.**
- 10 Remy Meeting B**
- 19 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 22-23 Florida QSO Party
- 24 Remy Meeting B**
- 29-30 Helvetia Contest

May 2007:

- 8 FRC Main Meeting, Phila.**
- 8 Remy Meeting B**
- 12-13 CQ-M International DX Test
- 12-13 Mid-Atlantic QSO Party
- 17 T.I.T.S. Meeting, Noon**
- 18-20 Dayton Hamvention**
- 22 Remy Meeting B**
- 26-27 CQ WPX Contest, CW

CHANGES

None this month

Deadline for April issue:

Sunday, March 25, 2007

President's Column

We have reached the end of another successful contest season for the club. Everyone who participated did their best and we will now have to wait to find out how we did. I'm sure that all those who got on to make points for the club did their usual great job.

At the March meeting, a new slate of officers will be voted on. I encourage as many members as possible attend this meeting. So far, the following members have been nominated as follows. Art – **N3DXX** for President, John – **W8FJ** for Vice President, John – **K3ZV** for Secretary, and Bob – **KQ2M** for Treasurer. At the March meeting, additional members can be nominated and then the vote will be taken. The new president will take over at the April meeting.

I want to thank all the members for their support over the past two years. This club is an awesome group and it has been my pleasure to server as your President. Being a club officer is challenging. I encourage everyone to welcome and support our next President.

I also want to thank Nick, **K3NL**, for all his work getting our repeater back on the air. If you are within range, please use it. It is always nice to talk to other members. It is also interesting to note that many other hams use our repeater. A lot of them like listening to the stories told by some of our world class operators.

73 – John – K3ZV



FRC ARRL DX SSB DXPeditions

HH7/N3BNA by N3BNA

WP2Z by N2TK

V47KP by W2OX and K3NM

MEETINGS

Main Meeting

The main monthly meeting of the **Frankford Radio Club** will be held Philadelphia on Tuesday, March 13 at 8 PM. Location is Rosenburger Hall, Room 102 at the University of the Sciences.



T.I.T.S. meeting—The Trexlertown International Transmitting Society meets on Thursday, March 15 at 12:00 noon. Location is the Hometown Diner on Route 222 in Trexlertown..

Rexy Meeting B—The Rexy's **FRC Meeting B** meets about 8 PM on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

FRC Repeater News

The **FRC** repeater has been returned from repair and was reinstalled at the site on Thursday morning. In order to access the repeater a "PL" tone of 114.8 is required. All reports to date indicate that it's working great. If you have any questions, I will be happy to answer them.

73, de Nick K3NL

WHO ARE THEY???? (Submit guesses to Doug, W3CF)



FRC CONTEST SCORES

FRC CQWW 160 Meter Contest Claimed Scores

Call	QSOs	US/VE	DX	Score	Class
AA1K	1,218	58	66	514,972	SOH
AA3B	208	29	2	15,004	M
AB2E	441	56	37	119,412	SOH
K2GN	150	38	24	32,550	M
K2PS	339	50	1	39,270	SOH
K2TTT	580	51	8	80,122	SOH
K3NL	68	26	1	4,212	SOL
K3WW	1,260	58	64	563,030	M
K9RS	346	55	52	139,207	SOH
N2ED	603	54	21	114,825	SOH
N2NC	736	57	51	265,032	SOH
N2NT	1,293	58	58	563,876	SOH
N2VW	260	48	17	46,800	M
N3KR	245	41	5	26,956	
N3MX	153	43	23	38,280	M
N3RJ				70,584	SOH
N3YW	156	33	1	12,036	SOH
N3ZA	120	40	20	25,800	M
NN3Q	472	46	26	92,960	M
W2CG	90	30	1	6,510	SOH
W2GD	1,553	56	74	822,120	
Ops K2SG, K2TW, N2EA, N2OO, W1GD, W2GC, W2GD, W2KP, W2NO, W2OB, W2RQ					
W3AP	226	41	4	23,625	SOH
W3BGN	1,206	57	60	492,921	SOH
W3FV	739	55	29	161,196	M
W8FJ	702	57	57	282,378	M



Final Winter Savings

- **IC-P7A** 2m/70cm VHF/UHF HT \$ 199.95
- **IC-746PRO** HF/2m Base \$ 1,329.95
- **IC-756PROIII** HF Base \$ 2,269.95
- **IC-7800** BIG GUN XCVR \$ 9,399.95
- **IC-PW1** HF KW Amplifier \$ 4,149.95



All current factory rebates & incentives apply.

All radios recently serviced by ICOM Service Department and include a **Full 90-Day Factory Warranty!**

Owned and Operated by an FRC Member • Prices reflect FRC Member discount

Prices subject to change without notice. Some prices are shown after mail-in rebate. Visit our website or contact us for more information.

www.HamAv.com

E-mail Inquiries: info@HamAv.com

What to Do When Everything Goes Wrong? (Keep Trying)

By Dale Long, N3BNA

I committed to going on a work trip to Haiti. When I later realized it would coincide with the ARRL-CW contest... that's when I got really excited. Then I was invited to go to visit my friends in Paraguay...could I somehow do both? After a lot of scheduling, I was able to fit it in. Paraguay is a wonderful, beautiful and quite modern country with good infrastructure, and I was operating from a superstation.

Then I went to Haiti. I had prepared for everything, because I have often gone on DXpeditions to remote spots on the globe. But first of all, I was traveling with a work group and we did not get back until after dark every night and there was no way to erect antennas. Finally I had a few daylight hours, and nothing went right...trees were in wrong places, ropes tore, insulators caught in other trees, antenna too long...it was all very frustrating. Finally after dark I threw an old 40m dipole over a low palm tree and I was finally on...or so I thought. After working a few stations, I found that my radio kept sticking in transmit...it just would not work. The next day I took it apart and resoldered the T/R relay to see if I could free it up. No change! I had all the gear for a decent operation in a rare location and my radio didn't work!

After sharing the situation with my local host, he suggested a friend who might have a radio. Later (when the workteam was in transit, we went to visit him, but found only his wife. We went back the next day, the last day before the contest, and found that he had an old TS50, but I had only Icom accessories. Not a contest rig, but I had to try

All this time, I had wanted to operate from the village, but our project leader was suggesting I stay in the mission compound and operate from the radio station, which houses a FM station. I had ordered a small generator to come from Port-au Prince, but our leader suggested it would be inconvenient and I should call the guy and tell him not to bring it...I didn't like that idea, and fortunately, we didn't contact him...I began the contest in the radio station, with a half-square wave antenna for 40 that worked acceptably well on 15m. But when evening arrived I found 10 over 9 local noise. I discovered that there was local line noise that made it very difficult to hear anyone, and my hearing is not very good.

Finally, late Saturday morning, I got good news. The generator had arrived and there was a way to the village. I jumped at the chance, and took my multiband RadioWorks antenna (previously used by N2EA). In the hour before dusk, I made a perfect cast over a huge mango tree, and a local climber climbed an enormous breadfruit tree. I had a perfectly erected antenna in short order.

But my operating position was very difficult. I was seated on a low cement step, leaning low over a chair which held my radio, with my only hearing ear cocked toward the speaker. My Heil headphones had a ¼ inch plug and would not fit the TS50, which was dirty and rusty. In addition, my glasses had broken, so I tried to keep them on like monocles, or switch to my shades. At night, I held a flashlight in order to see to enter the call signs. I was using a very small generator that was a bit testy to run my power supply and the old laptop. Unfortunately there were power problems, and my helper tried to wire the power supply and battery in parallel and there was a bang, and that was the end of my power supply. For the rest of the contest, I was dependent on the battery, which I had purchased for the project, knowing that I might need it myself. And then there were the mosquitos,

I got to the village with 200 odd contacts and finished the contest with 1176 QSOs. At times I could run, but many times I could tell I was not called out. A low power station needs those callouts, and there were well-known **FRCers** who neglected to call me out. I know who you are, and I suffered for hours with few callers after working an **FRCer**. The F4 key takes very little time.

Monday it was back to work, and I made an effort to be on in the evenings. Again, when at the station the noise level was high, so I decided to overnight in the village. The first night was good, but I wanted to try 160. I got some good advice from AA1K and WT3Q on the rare lunch breaks when the shared computer was open. I had asked the local guys to buy me some stuff including 50m of wire, but it was Mardi Gras all week and everything was closed in the town.

FRC MEMBER SUBMISSION

So I patched a few pieces of wire together and put up an 80m dipole on the north face of the 240 foot tower. Fortunately, I had taken a whole roll of military green rope and about 250 feet of RG8X. I needed it all. That night was my real success of the trip. I had to carry all the equipment and the generator about ¼ mile out in the middle of a field of manioc and sweet potatoes, and lots of goats. I was under the huge tower, with my sloping dipole starting at 220 feet... well away from the tower. With less than 100 watts, I was LOUD !!! I ran to my hearts delight and made a special effort for EU and West Coast stations. It was great fun while it lasted. About 2 AM we got a rain squall...did I mention that we were ¼ mile in the middle of a field? Everything got drenched including the laptop and clock. We ran back to the village and I overnighted in someone else's bed, but could not sleep. And the roosters crowed all night.

The next morning was our last day and I was up early and ready for work. During lunch I returned the TS50 and a broken FT847 that the kind missionary had lent me, because I would be leaving at 4:30 AM. Against everyone's advice I wanted to go one more night to the village and be LOUD on 160. I had to take down antenna at the station and do all packing and return loaned radios at lunchtime. I decided (sadly) to scavenge my 40m half square to make the 160m dipole. After work, I quickly worked to cut the wire and make several solder joints. I had help from some young boys who enjoyed helping, and got the antenna up at nightfall, ready for a great night. I turned on the radio, and at 1811 I heard a SSB signal...then I heard SSB all over the band. I tried calling on CW, but nobody could hear me over the ruckus. What a terrible coincidence, my only day on 160 was the first night of the SSB contest. Horrors. Finally I gave up and tried SSB. I worked W4PV and N4PN when he announced he was listening south, and NJ2F who called me along with HI3C on the same island. I couldn't get a run going and could not break the USA din...W3BGN and W4MYA were running stateside...BGN was running fast, and MYA was saying hello to friends. But I couldn't break the pileups. I worked a few other Caribbeans and that was that.. Then my radio stuck in transmit again. I tried and tried and could not find a way to make it work. I decided to wait a while, but that did not help. The radio started to go blank screen on transmit. Finally I had to give up, with only a handful of QSOs. But I tried and tried and tried some more... Did I mention that there were mosquitos? Yes there were mosquitos. And then there was the 35 minute riding shotgun on a decrepit motorcycle with a bad transmission and almost no brakes (not to mention suspension) over incredibly rutted and bumpy dirt roads at 3:00 AM hanging on to my ham radio gear. I lost all feeling in my one arm from the bag I was carrying on my shoulder, but just gritted my teeth and finally we got there. There was no time for a shower, but I had taken a "bucket bath" in the village. A real experience for those of you who have never done it. I am not as limber as I used to be when I did that in Africa years ago. Finally, we made a mad dash for the airport and waited 30 minutes for the guard to open the gate.

I felt very sad leaving Haiti. It had been difficult but I met some wonderful people and I saw that Haiti is a beautiful place, despite the problems that it is having. I left behind lots of equipment and tools for the radio station and the local technician. And I left a 160m dipole sloping down from 240 feet on the big tower. If only I could have stayed longer...

The one thing I learned is that it is incredibly difficult when everything is uncertain. You cannot depend on what will happen next and everything seems to fail. But I know I did my best, and I know I was a new one for some guys. And made a couple points for the club.

GO FRC

73, Dale N3BNA

<http://www.qsl.net/lz1jz>



CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the January 10, 2007 Contest Rate Sheet

Trying to keep one's mind on the job is difficult in almost any competition, but in radio contesting, it's crucial. For a whole collection of ideas, browse to the January 2007 archives of cq-contest at <http://lists.contesting.com/archives/html/CQ-Contest/> then click "Thread" and search for "Improving Concentration".

The HF Systems section of the Australian Government IPS Radio and Space Systems Web site (http://www.ips.gov.au/HF_Systems) makes quite a bit of tasty ionospheric and propagation data available with a couple of mouse clicks. The North America section will be of interest to most Rate Sheet readers, but the coverage is worldwide. Of particular interest at the HAP charts that indicate the preferred band to contact mobile stations from a particular city, a situation typical of most contest operations.

Lots of answers to questions about RFI are addressed in the tutorial that has just been published by Jim K9YC. He says it's not finished, but far enough along to publish. Grab a copy at <http://audiosystemsgroup.com/RFI-Ham.pdf> (Thanks, Jim K9YC)

Reprinted with permission from the January 24, 2007 Contest Rate Sheet

Care to watch the world turn? Here's another attractive daytime/nighttime display program for keeping an eye on the Gray Line or just to look at - <http://www.die.net/earth/hemisphere.html> Those are live clouds, too! (Thanks, Matt WV1K)

If you are an ARRL member and have submitted logs for ARRL contests there is a gold mine of information for you available in your "Log Checking Reports" (also known as "LCRs"). For a list of your LCRs go to <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/contests/lcr.html> Basically you want to look at your log checking reports and detect patterns where you make the most mistakes. You can then practice in these areas or at least be aware of them in your next contest. It might be things like:

- Mixing up similar numbers like "55" and "65" (in CW or SSB)
- Mixing up similar sounding sections like "VA" and "VT" (CW)
- Perhaps you have problems with certain letters or numbers
- Etc...

(Thanks, Marc W6ZZZ)

To move towers and other long, skinny things like antenna elements and booms, Steve WB2WIK/6 recommends renting a large boat trailer; they're available up to and beyond 24 feet long, are very strong, are pre-wired with lights & signals and have a license plate. Hector XE2K points out that rental agencies such as U-Haul and Ryder also have trailers that can do the job.

A large tribander boom makes an excellent rotatable 40 meter dipole. Sound interesting? Here's how Kirk K4RO does it: <http://www.k4ro.net/tcg/pix/40boom.html>

A nifty article on using an extension ladder as a temporary ("It's just temporary, dear!") tower has been written by Fred W8FR. The Weak Sister Amateur Radio Group has posted it under "Pipeline" at <http://min.midco.net/wsn> This could be handy in all sorts of ways.

Got a "stuck" Rohn TB-3 thrust bearing? Here's an article by K1IR on repairing such a beast. <http://lists.contesting.com/towertalk/1998-12/msg00112.html> (Thanks, Fred K1VR)

CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the January 24, 2007 Contest Rate Sheet

If you are erecting a tower near an airport, here's a simple process to get through the FAA review:

- 1) download form 7460-1 from the FAA web site
- 2) fill it out accurately and completely.
- 3) send it to the FAA regional office that covers your area. (You might need to enclose a "topo quad" map)

The office will review the application and report:

- 1) how high you can go IF there is a FAA limitation
- 2) Type of Marking and lighting IF required.

Many other questions about FAA rules for towers are answered in the FAA advisory circular on "Objects that May Affect the Navigable Airspace" at <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaaEXT/content/advisoryCirculars.jsp> (Thanks, Dave K1TTT and Fred K1VR)

"I went up the tower yesterday to take down the Christmas lights and noticed something disturbing. I happened to notice that the boom to mast plate (stock 1/4" aluminum plate) on my KLM 40M4 had stress cracks radiating out from the points where the four clamps attach the plate to the mast. There were no signs of problems from the ground level and it was easy to overlook even standing 2 feet underneath the beam on the tower. Next time you're up the tower, take a careful and close look at your boom to mast plates to make sure stress cracks aren't developing." (Thanks, Bob K6ZZ)

After Jim K5LAD repaired his HAMII rotator the other night, he wrote up the details, partly to jog his own memory later and partly to share with others. It's available on his Web site at <http://tinyurl.com/yx4xkr>.

If you're wondering about retuning your 80/75 meter antennas for the new phone allocations, George K5TR's final solution was to use the W6NL coax trick described at <http://www.cebik.com/trans/wb.html>. George uses one wavelength of RG8X from sloping dipoles cut to 3.700 MHz back to an RCS-8V switch. The 1/4-wavelength of 75-ohm coax is inserted there.

If you're looking for good band-pass filter designs, W3NQN's are classic. Both of these articles are available through the ARRL TIS Web site and you do not have to be an ARRL Member to access them. Wetherhold, "Clean up your signal with band-pass filters--Part I," QST May 1997. Wetherhold, "Clean up your signal with band-pass filters--Part II," QST June 1997. (Thanks, Mike, W5UC)



Spring is Coming!!!

Work Wanted:

Experienced tower climber immediately available to perform antenna and tower maintenance.

Install/repair/remove antennas, replace feedlines and cabling, rotator servicing, guy wire renewal, new tower installations (guyed and self-supporting), and tower removal.

Reasonable hourly rates and scheduling that meets your needs.

Contact: John Crovelli W2GD

w2gd@hotmail.com

New Reach Number: 908 391 5611 (Mobile)

CONTESTING — TIPS, TECHNIQUES, RESOURCES

Reprinted with permission from the February 7, 2007 Contest Rate Sheet

Two well-known causes of key clicks can be easily addressed in many radios, including top-of-the-line units. The first, rise and fall time for the CW keying waveform, is often a menu setting. Don't just take the setting's word for it, though - verify it on a 'scope. Change the menu setting so that the rise and fall times are at least 4 msec. The second cause is driving the ALC system too hard. This is harder to diagnose, but if you are driving the rig such that the ALC is activating on transmit, back down the drive. When in doubt, have some local friends (but not next-door neighbors) check for clicks with everything at full power. Have them use the narrow CW filter and tune immediately adjacent to your signal as if they are the "next" station on the band. Then fight the urge to turn it up "just a little bit" when you're actually on the air! For more information, browse http://www.w8ji.com/what_causes_clicks.htm by Tom W8JI.

Reprinted with permission from the February 21, 2007 Contest Rate Sheet

Jim AD1C reports that with the help of Scott KA9FOX the recently inactive DX Cluster Resource by Connection by Chuck K6PBT has been relaunched at its old URL, <http://www.dxcluster.info/> containing a worldwide listing of both RF and Internet DX Cluster nodes. Special He is updating the list of Telnet (Internet) clusters and other areas of the site. The list is also available to software developers - contact Jim at webmaster@dxcluster.info.

Recently on the CQ-Contest reflector (<http://www.contesting.com/FAQ>) Tonno ES5TV asked about our vision of contesting in 10 years. He got a *lot* of responses! "I consolidated all the answers and sorted them into categories with submitters call added and the full package can be found as pdf file at <http://www.lhv.ee/images/files/2017.pdf> In February 2017 I will post a follow-up and we will see who was right and who was wrong!"

An extremely useful set of statistical data from the Russian DX Contest is reported by Igor UA9CDC, including World Stations Statistic by Band/Time/QSO (<http://tinyurl.com/yvysqgh>) and World Stations Statistic by QSO Points/Band (<http://tinyurl.com/2b7z3v>). Igor gives a big thank you (spacibo!) to the RDXC Committee.

Larry F6FVY has created a small "point and click" interface (<http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator>) to Google Maps that gives your QTH-locator (grid square), and coordinates. There is also a full screen page (<http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator/fullScreen.php>) that allows entry of a 6-char grid square, to which the map will be automatically centered and zoomed.

URL of the Month - After listening to those ops in the Caribbean having *so* much fun this weekend, wouldn't it be nice to do it yourself? <http://www.qsl.net/oh2mcn/license.htm> and <http://www.dxholiday.com/> will help you get started on the licensing process. And don't forget <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/> (Thanks, Bob N7XY and Paul K4UJ)

Jim KG0KP offers this easy, no-filing way to expose the brass body material of a PL-259 for soldering. "A drill press, a wooden jig clamped in a drill vise, and a quarter inch drill bit (a normal one, not those goofy new ones with the outer cutting point) used like a countersink bit (just cone the hole) does this 'filing' in a jiffy. Easy and quick." (Thanks, Jim KG0KP)

If you worry about the size of wire for ground plane radials, Steve N0SM provides a sample calculation. "Say you are dumping 2000W CW into the vertical antenna, and it has a base impedance of 34 ohms. Ohm's Law says that you've got a current of around 8 Amps total. If you're dividing that up among 60 radials, that's 130 mA per radial, well within the current handling ability of AWG26." And that's how to figure it out!

In the spirit of "Use It Up, Wear It Out, Make It Do", Julius N2WN has found a good use for the new plastic coffee cans. "The 39- and 52-ounce cans are excellent forms for winding coaxial choke baluns, almost exactly 6 inches in diameter. I've also used them as weatherproof housings for matching components and switching. Holes can easily be made and sealed in them (I use hot glue or RTV). If you goof on a layout, it's not a big deal. They work fine for low power applications (no information on high power). I use the smaller ones for beverage component housings."

ARRL Marks Transition to New Amateur Service Rules

A new Amateur Radio Service regime now is in place. The requirement to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF privileges officially disappeared from the FCC's Part 97 rules February 23 at one minute past midnight Eastern Time. At the same time, some 200,000 Technician licensees without Morse code exam credit acquired HF privileges equivalent to those available to Novice licensees. The League is marking the occasion with a W1AW special event aimed at welcoming newcomers to the HF bands. The "W1AW HF Open House" has included exam sessions under both old and new rules. ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, points to the still-growing number of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) test sessions now on the schedule across the US as evidence that the rule changes will provide a shot in the arm to Amateur Radio.

"ARRL VEC has been extremely busy scheduling new exam sessions," Kramer said. "We normally coordinate about 5500 sessions per year, but we've already scheduled close to 5000 sessions and it's only the end of February."

ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, reports some 175 ARRL VEC test sessions were on the schedule through the February 23-25 period, "and these are just the ones that have registered with us," she added. Two dozen applicants showed up at League Headquarters, either to sit for an exam or apply for license upgrades.

"I was surprised at the number of people who wanted to take the test at 12:01 AM," Somma remarked. All but two test applicants took their exams under the new rules. "After people took their exams, some went over to W1AW to use their new privileges," she added.

Somma says her department now is bracing for an anticipated application avalanche as paperwork from initial sessions shows up. She and Kramer predict test demand will surge even further in the days and weeks ahead. Not only has the number of test sessions increased dramatically, Kramer pointed out, the number of applicants at each session is up as well. To keep up with demand, ARRL VEC has hired additional help. Staffers from other HQ departments also have been lending a hand.

March QST includes an eight-page "tearout" section "Now, New Opportunities for Every Ham!" between pages 48 and 49. <<<http://www.arrl.org/HFWelcome/Welcome.pdf>>>. It focuses on various topics of interest to those gaining new HF privileges through upgrading or owing to the new rules as well as to veteran licensees. Among other things, it covers mentoring -- or Elmering -- newcomers, "The Top 10 Reasons to Try Morse Code," earning ham radio operating awards by using Logbook of the World (LoTW) and a "Welcome to the fascinating world of high frequency (HF) radio!" by ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

"The FCC's decision to eliminate the Morse code examination as a licensing requirement opens the door to HF for all amateur licensees," Sumner points out in his remarks. Sumner also addresses the topic in his "It Seems to Us" editorial in March QST (page 9).

"As these new HF operators join us on our favorite bands, we old timers need to set a good example and to be patient, welcoming and positive," he writes. "Let's all remember how little we knew when we got started, and honor those who helped us along the way by doing the same for others."

The March QST special section includes a new ARRL band chart <<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>>>.

The new rules seem to be driving greater enthusiasm for ham radio in general. There's been an uptick in ARRL publication sales, particularly in licensing manuals and licensing guides, and enrollment in the online ARRL Ham Radio License Course (EC-010) <<<http://www.arrl.org/cce/Tech.html>>> is at an all-time high. Additionally, Kramer notes, DXCC applications are up by 350 from last year, while LoTW has exceeded 121 million QSO records.

N2SS
FRC DX NEWS
Editor

MARCH **22ND YEAR** **2007**

Notes From Your Editor

The March FRC DX Honor Roll listings reflect the elimination of inactive participants. So, using January 2006 as the baseline, if your totals have not changed and I have not heard from you since that time, your call has been removed from the listings. Please check those listings and if you find that your call has been removed and wish to be relisted, please let me know. It has not happened that I am aware but if I have inadvertently removed your call in error please know that it was unintentional. In any event, just drop me an email at the address below with your current totals so that I can relist you.

N2SS SUNSPOT CYCLE PREDICTION

The reporting observatories and scientific experts typically wait 12 months before declaring with certainty the end of one Solar Cycle and the start of the next. Based on my observations I believe the old cycle ended in October 2006 and that we are now several months into new Cycle 24. I am out on my limb, you read it here first!

1S – SPRATLY



A group of JA ops plus 9M2CF, 9M2KT and 9M2TO will be operational with multiple stations on air 'round the clock, signing as 9M4SDX from Mar 9th to 20th. They

will be on all bands and modes from Pulau Layang island in the Spratly group. You can check their web site for latest info:

<http://island.geocities.jp/layang9m4dx>. QSLs will be handled by 9M2TO.

J5 – GUINEA BISSAU



F6BUM will be operating as **J5BI** from Bubaque Island, IOTA AF-020. Operation will be on 40 thru 10 Meters, SSB only. QSL direct or via the French (REF) Buro. For the latest information and for log check once the operation begins, visit:

<http://www.f6bum.net/fr/une/guinee-bissau/guinee-bissau.html>

JW – SVALBARD

Look for **IN3SAU/JW** and **IN3TCH/JW** from Mar 8th to 11th. Operation will be on all bands but with a focus on the low bands. QSLs will be handled by IN3SAU.

KH8/S – SWAINS ISLAND

Look for a major all band and mode operation as **N8S** by K1LZ, K3LP, N3KS, N6TQS, RK3AD, RA3AUU, RZ3AA, SV2BFN, UA3AB, YT1AD, YZ1BX and YZ7AA. They will be on from Apr 4th to 15th and QSLs will be handled by YT1AD.

V8 – BRUNEI

JA4ENL will be signing as **V85NL** from Mar 8th to 12th. He will be on all bands 160 thru 10 Meters and

concentrating mainly on CW. QSL to his home address.

XV – VIETNAM

SM5MX will be on assignment in Vietnam from March 18th to Apr 30th. As time permits he will operate CW only on 20 and 15 Meters. His call will be **XV9SW**. QSL to his home address.

XU – CAMBODIA

JA3DFM, JA3EGZ and JA3PPH will be on as **XU7DFM**, **XU7EGZ** and **XU7PPH** between Mar 16th and 19th. They will operate on 160 thru 6 Meters on CW and SSB. QSL via JARL or direct to: Himeji Armature Radio Club P. O. Box 6 Himeji, 670-8691 JAPAN

CURRENT OFFICIAL ARRL DXCC STATISTICS

Active Count.....	337
Deleted Count.....	58
Last Addition.....	KH8/S
Last Deletion.....	ST0

DX ALERT LEGEND

- 160 METER ALERT
- IOTA ALERT
- RTTY ALERT
- WARC BAND ALERT

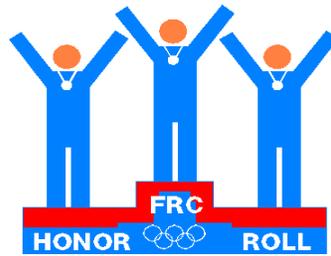
"S"pecial "S"alute

Have you made your contribution yet? Contribute to your Newsletter and get the "S" "S".

©

73, Tony N2SS

You can reach me as follows:
H:856-227-4896 C:609-221-4899
n2ss@n2ss.com



MARCH **CONDUCTED by N2SS** **2007**

WARC BANDS

<u>30 Meters</u>	<u>17 Meters</u>	<u>12 Meters</u>
K2FL.. 335	K2FL...339	N2TK ..329
N2TK333	N2TK 338	K2FL.....327
N2LT321	N2LT 335	N2LT.....321
W3BGN320	W3BGN ... 332	W3BGN ...315
W2YC306	W3CF 332	W3CF303
N2SS294	N2SS 324	N2SS.....302
W8FJ292	W2UP 317	W2YC278
K2PS284	W2YC 309	K2PS.....268
W2UP284	K2PS 303	W2UP265
N3RD268	W8FJ 295	W8FJ232
K3II234	N1RK 257	N1RK218
W2LE221	K3II 252	K3II203
W2IRT183	W2LE 244	W2LE198
W2RQ182	W2IRT 209	N3KN191
AA2WN...174	W2YR 202	W2YR.....187
K3CT134	K2AX 192	NA2U156
AB2E132	W2RQ 192	W2RQ119
W2YR131	N3KN 171	W2IRT105
N3KN126	NA2U 167	AB2E92
N1RK116	K3CT 126	K3CT83
NA2U110	AA2WN...122	K2AX69
W3CF61	AB2E 110	K3GYS30
K3GYS17	K3GYS 85	AA2WN.....20
K2AX15		

K2FL and N2TK still duking it out for that elusive, undisputed **KING OF WARC**

Rules for FRC Honor Roll Listings.
Provide me with your total IOTAs worked, or countries (including deleted) worked for: WARC Bands, 160 Meters, Digital modes, Mobile, 6 Meters or your total for 80,40,20, 15 and 10 for 1.5K Club. Countries do not count until HQ Awards Committee takes action and announces a start date for a new country.

160 Meters

W3BGN297	K2PS 106
AA1K291	AB2E 100
WT3Q264	W2CG 95
N2LT254	NA2U 83
N2TK254	W2YR 81
NO2R241	N2SS 79
K3SX237	K2AX77
W8FJ219	W3CF77
W2UP204	W2IRT 74
K3JIG215	K3NL 70
W2YC191	W2LE64
W2RQ166	K3CT 63
K3II158	N1RK 51
N3RS156	AA2WN 50
K2FL143	N3KN 34
.....	K3GYS 12

W3BGN continues as the undisputed Top of Top Band.

Digital

W2UP.....340	W2YR..... 132
N2LT336
K2PS288	W2CG 66
W2YC267	N2SS 53
AA2WN187	N1RK 39
N3KN181	K3GYS 15
W2IRT141	W8FJ 12
W2LE141	

MOBILE DX

W2YC276	K3GYS 143
AA1K273	AA2WN 131
N2SS234	W2YR 28

1.5K Club

K2FL..... 1718	K3II1449
W3BGN 1706	W2CG1408
N2TK 1697	W3CF1403
N2LT 1691	AA2WN1379
W2UP 1676	NA2U1365
W2RQ 1645	K2AX1334
N3RS 1626	N1RK1300
W8FJ 1602	W2LE1193
W2YC 1571	AB2E1185
N3RD 1553	K3CT1180
NO2R 1552	W2YR1153
N2SS 1529	N3KN1120
K2PS 1524	W2IRT1014

Islands On The Air

K2FL..... 1012
N2SS 841	W3CF253
W2YC 645	W2YR244
W8FJ 620	W2IRT232
N1RK 549	K3GYS232
WA3RHW ...292	AB2E205

6 METER DXCC

N2LT.....107	N3KN52
K2PS..... 101	W2YR44
AA1K 99	W2YC29
K3OO 80	K2AX18
K3SX 75	AA2WN15
N1RK 57	N2TK12
N2SS 55	K3GYS10



THE FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 431 Albury, PA 18011-0431



Affiliated Club

The Frankford Radio Club

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Email: kq3f@comcast.net
Email: w2rds@arrl.net

Repeater - 2 meters, 145.43/144.83 Output PL tone, 167.9

Home Page - www.gofrc.org

Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (Sep through May) at 8 PM at the University of the Sciences, Philadelphia. Summer meetings are held at member homes (one Saturday/ Sunday per month).

Packet Cluster Contest/DX System

144.950 K3ZV
145.530 AA1K
145.530 K3WW
145.570 WT3Q
145.670 W3PP

Telnet DX Cluster

k2ut.gofrc.org
k3ww.gofrc.org 7300
kf3b-2.gofrc.org 7300
w3frc.gofrc.org 7300