

Fall 2018 Classic Exchange Newsletter

CQ CX de K3MSB.....

Greetings to all!

Another CX has come and gone! If I don't get this newsletter out shortly after Thanksgiving and before Christmas we'll be playing in the Winter 2019 CX and wondering what happened to the Fall 2018 Newsletter! So cease the anticipation, extinguish the angst, and start the heart palpitations – here it is! Some superb reading material as you wander into the Outhouse on a cold winters night! Never used an Outhouse? Our radio club has one; nothing like it in mid-February Pennsylvania at 0200 Local during the DX contest!

Band conditions. They are what they are. Band observations varied among individual stations so I'll leave propagation comments to the individual soap boxes. For historical purposes, here's the data for Tuesday evening of the CX: SFI 68 SN 0 A11 K3. Not the best by far, and we're all wondering if we'll ever see a non-zero sun-spot number again! The good news is that the gang at Spaceweather.com noted on November 19th that a sunspot belonging to the next solar cycle, evidenced by reversed magnetic polarity, was observed. We're all hoping that 2019 is the inflection point leading to the next solar maximum.

I'd like to extend a warm welcome to three 1st-time CXers! Jason N3YUG of Patuxent River MD, Paul W6MZ of Del Mar CA, and Gary K3OS of Hickory NC. We're glad you showed up for the Fall 2018 CX and hope to see you in the Winter 2019 CX event!

Bad weather impacted several CXers – JA3KNB and JO3TAP informed us that they had to contend with a typhoon during some of the fall CX. I also recall that there was some very bad weather along the US eastern seaboard during the fall CX. We're all thankful that all of you impacted by bad weather got through safely.

As per our plea in the Fall 2018 Announcement, Ron K2RP and I received quite a few comments on how to improve the CX; We had a LOT of back and forth on the future of the CX, and several of the older members chimed in as well. What Ron and I decided is to “stay the course” for the Winter 2019 event. We didn't come up with anything that we felt would significantly improve the CX, and we didn't want to be changing the format each event. We're still discussing this issue and all comments are welcome – regardless of whether you're an old CXer or a new participant. One change we did consider was making the winter CX a week long event. We decided against this as several CXers made the observation that CX contacts are hard enough to come by over two days and they were concerned that it would be harder over one week. We were informed this was a malady of some of the existing vintage radio related full week events. So, no change in format (except bonus points) are planned for the Winter 2019 CX.

Ron and I discussed the apparent lack of CX activity yet a decent amount of QSOs. I think Ron hit the nail on the head when he answered my question as to why I find little west coast activity around 0300Z, which is 1900 PDT or 2000 PST. Ron said that probably most of the west coast stations had already qualified their radios. I think Ron may be right. But isn't the CX more than just qualifying

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radios? I get a thrill working stations across the country, or even into the mid west! I don't stop making QSOs after I've qualified my radios; I stop making QSOs when my CQs go unanswered and I hear no CQs being sent!

Ron and I observed that there were a few stations that appeared in multiple logs yet did not submit a log themselves. Please submit your log! It makes no difference if you make 3 or 300 QSOs. Submitting a soapbox report and photos without a log is fine! Let's see what you've been up to!

We may have a chatroom up and running for the Winter CX. Mac WQ8U had one for a few years, but it is not currently up and running. If we decide to make this available during the event, the details will be in the 2019 rules.

Bonus points were award for qualifying a crystal controlled transmitter and for qualifying a home brew transmitter. There were quite a few folks that took advantage of this. What surprised me was the entries whose HB radios were not vintage, but quite state of the art! Check out the entries from N5GW and KB8TL. I was glad to see this cross-pollination between old and new gear!

Ron K2RP and I want to thank all of you for participating in the CX! See you in January 2019!

73 Mark K3MSB

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THREE OR FEWER PAIRS

CALL	NAME	CW	AM	SSB	FM	BONUS	TOTAL
JO3TAP	TOMO	14616	7830	11484			33930
K2RP	RON			16704			16704
KA3OCS	BOB	13524				2000	15524
WD8RIF	ERIC	8060				2000	10060
VE7BGP	GERRY			7500			7500
K3MSB	MARK	7488					7488
VA7MM	MARK	2200	500			4000	6700
W7OS	"DOC"	5544					5544
N3YUG	JASON			3894			3894
N5GW	GENE	1710				2000	3710
W2JEK	DON	3250					3250
KB8TL	BOB	700				2000	2700
KK4BZ	DUANE	294				2000	2294
W6MZ	PAUL	972					972
K4JYS	BILL	804					804
K3OS	GARY	800					800

FOUR OR MORE PAIRS

CALL	NAME	CW	AM	SSB	FM	BONUS	TOTAL
JA3KNB	KAZUTO	460788	82320	182600		2000	727708
N6KN	ROCCO	238980		393924			632904
K2RP	RON	185416		16704		4000	206120
W8KGI	JIM	95536				4000	99536
KF6C	BRIAN	51900				2000	53900
WB2AWQ	HOWIE	42336				4000	46336
K3MD	JOHN	28600				2000	30600

HIGH SCORES

	Total	Hi CW	Hi SSB	Hi AM
< 4 TX/RX Pairs	JO3TAP	JO3TAP	K2RP	JO3TAP
4+ TX/RX Pairs	JA3KNB	JA3KNB	JA3KNB	JA3KNB

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WA1LSH – John (Westport MA)

I was only in there for a little while just giving out points to those in the contest. I was using a Swan 500 with a D-104 mic. My antenna was an A3S Tribander.

WB2AWQ – Howie (Reno NV)

Howdy CXers!

The Fall CX went ...OK... for me I guess. I didn't get everything I'd hoped to get qualified (in fact only one transceiver out of the three I own made it), but considering the general state of Old Sol these days, things went alright. No smoke this time, in fact the ISM RF generator that went into ethereal heaven last CX on a cloud of smoke and stink was resurrected, along with a band change, and it did its thing. An interesting piece, it was made by Henry Radio for commercial/industrial use – the ISM crowd - and has a 6AG7 oscillator/buffer, 2E26 driver, and a 4-65A final. But it's not pretty, very "industrial" looking. I haven't been able to find a reasonably accurate date for it, but based on the tube lineup (old old) and its general construction and parts vintage I'm guessing it's about 1960. Sue me if I'm wrong.....



The Henry ISM RF Generator with PS (L) and inside (R) Told you it wasn't pretty!

I have to say that CXers seem to be a bunch of sleep-in types. My first CX contact was at 1333Z (6:33 AM PDT) with a non-CXer, Rob, K0RU/M who was heading from Cedar Rapids IA to Kansas City KS. We had a good QSO, exchanging all the requisite information early on as I kept him company for over a half hour on 40M. The next CX contact was, again, with a non CXer on 20, K5KV Benny in TX, a regular QSO for me and the head of the Bug Users Group. It wasn't until 1800Z that I hit the first dedicated CX station, K5IX. I did spend a fair amount of time listening and calling CQ at the

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opening of CX, and for an hour before heading out to brunch with the XYL. After brunch things started to pop a little. As has been the case lately, 40 meters was the star band, yielding 22 of my 36 QSOs. 20 gave up a few, more so than last CX, but 80 was a disappointment. Seem the east coasters go to bed too early!!! And the middle of the country seems to be AWOL on CX. Had two coast-to-coast contacts, with Fearless Leader Mark K3MSB on 40, and stalwart from NJ John N2BE on Tuesday, 20 meters. Signals from back east were weak but there.

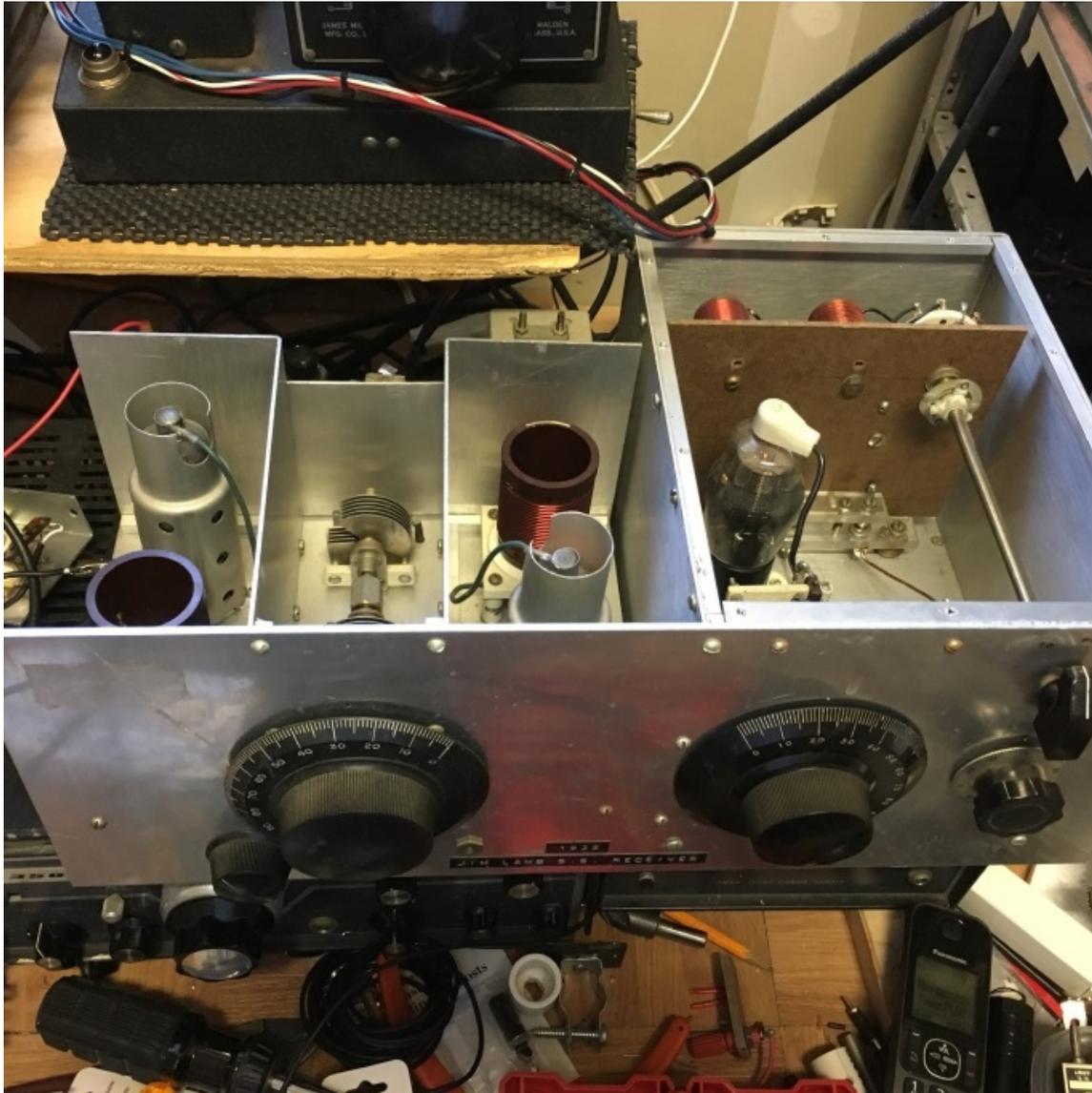
Met some new CX faces: Dave K5IX, Bob AE7EE, Dave N4DAG, Bob KA3OCS, and Brian KF6C (with a first ever for me Eddystone RX). Bob and I were both using Halli SX111 receivers for our CX QSO. Hope you guys all return next CX! And either the really squirrely classic signals were not present, or some of us have done some work on our rigs. No “standout” signals this time. Most popular op name: Mark - W7ESN, VE7CA, KG7OKI, an interesting but totally useless CX observation. The spread of equipment was good, all the popular major manufacturers were represented, along with some good mil gear.

I liked the bonus for this CX (the fact that one of my HB rigs is crystal controlled helped...), and encountered one or two other crystal controlled ops, notably Jim W8KGI and his xtal controlled Knight T-150.



WB2AWQ HB rig 42 oscillator, 807s final very conservatively run at 75W input, 40-45 out.

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HB 1932 Jim Lamb single signal superhet built by W4AWS (SK)

I listened and called for the phone portion of CX, but I got no responses, and heard no one doing CX on phone. Guess I'll put the mics back in hiding for another few months.....

See ya all in Jan/Feb

73, Howie WB2AWQ

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W2JEK – Don (River Edge NJ)

Don entered the CX on 80M CW and qualified the following rigs:

Johnson Ranger 1 / Drake 2B
Harvey-Wells TBS50C / Hallicrafters S-76
Heathkit HW-8

Done writes: “Had a good time. Was all set to use my HW-7 with XTAL control but the pins on my FT 243 XTALS were too thick to fit in the holder. Maybe next time.”

K2RP – Ron (Encinitas CA)

Some of my rigs ready to go for CX CW.



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My sad story:

Got to qualify about 40 units, but missed a few. DX100, HQ120X, and HW16, all old reliables, gave up the ghost. After qualifying the Lysco 600, one of the electrolytics exploded in spectacular fashion. It blew the guts out of the can type cap as the aluminum can hit the inside of the cabinet. (If it hadn't been in the cabinet, it might have gone into Earth orbit).



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[Editor's Comment: Hey Ron, further on down is some comments from the guys at W5RRR, the Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club; perhaps you should let them know about the new booster you've developed.....]

Got a good start in the SSB session. I was only planning to do a 3-pair entry. After a couple of hours of operation on Sunday, the balun on my G5RV, which has been up for about 15 years, decided to short out. Since it is the only antenna I have on the air, that was it for the day. I was leaving for a trip the following morning, so I couldn't put something else up for Tuesday.

Antenna already fixed, and will have the others back for next time.

Ron K2RP

K3OS – Gary (Hickory NC)

Gary was another 80M CW monoband entry and qualified his Atlas 350XL. He writes:

This is my first time in the CX!

This was the first time I had put the Atlas 350-XL on CW. While it is full QSK, the thumping in my ears was difficult to take. I pulled out an old Telex mono headset. It's the one with the two ear tubes. The frequency response is poor on the low side, which reduced the thumping to a tolerable level. My only regret is that I was not able to participate in the phone contest. Hopefully the next time.



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It was a lot of fun to work everyone with the old rigs. I'd never worked anyone using an ARC-5, but there he was. There was plenty of drifting, chirping and hand key use. *[Editors Comment: Ah yes, drifting and chirping...you realize Gary those are all compliments to us ARC-5 folks?]*

I'll drag out my Nye key next time. In retrospect it seems appropriate to use it for CX as opposed to my keyer.

I hope word about this contest spreads. It was great fun.

K3MD – John (WINFIELD, PA)

I was quite discouraged by the lack of 40M daytime activity on both Sunday and Tuesday morning, despite your excellent work on the website and the WA7BNM.com announcement.. Things livened up on 80M at night. Heard Rocco N6KN on 40M, but he did not come back. Did not qualify the AC1-T or the AT-1, due to not enough stations on 40M CW. However, all the rigs worked well. Am attaching some new rig pictures. The ARC-5/40M still has a T7 note... it needs an outboard buffer stage... too much work. The ARC-5 oscillators are non-keyed and plate regulated. Use modified HP-23 supply (400V), 105V for oscillator.

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Only made 1 xtal controlled QSO with the Heathkit AT-1.

Have been doing CX CW since 1979.

Often do not do the CX SSB, as am not an SSB op, except in SS, VHF, and DX contests.



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K3MSB – Mark (York PA)

I qualified all four components of my SCR-274N system on 40M and 80M and managed to eek out 24 QSOs with stock receiver bandwidth that you could fly a Lockheed 1649A Starliner through with room to spare!



This time around my transmitters were powered by the dynamotor on the BC-456 modulator. 28V Was derived from a pair of tractor batteries hanging off the float charge port of a 28V power supply.



You may be wondering if that's a small anvil sitting on top of the dynamotor. Indeed it is, as it keeps the vibrations down! To the left of the dynamtor is a HB meter box; the bottom meter is plate current, and the top meter is switchable between plate, screen, or oscillator voltage. To the left of the

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HB meter box is my HB matching unit. It consists of a 4:1 UNUN in series with a modified air variable capacitor from an old HT-37 transmitter.

The black wire hanging down near the BC-442 antenna relay goes to my frequency counter so I can watch my frequency slowly drift as I'm in QSO.....

The receivers are powered by an external 28V power supply and the plate voltage is provided by an HP-23B power supply. There is too much noise when using the receiver dynamotors and I have yet to solve that issue. I suspect better grounding is needed.

I started off on 40M just after 1700Z on Sunday and qualified the 40M TX/RX part of my SCR-274N with a half hour. I stayed on 40M until 1800Z and then things dried up. Between 1800Z and 2130Z I made just two CX QSO. I hit 80M around 2300Z and stayed on for about an hour, qualifying the 80M TX/RX radios of the SCR-274N. I returned to 80M around 0100Z and heard no CX activity on the band! I returned to 40M and worked 6 stations until CX activity dried up around 0233Z.

I heard Jim W8KGI on Sunday evening (I forget which band) but was unable to attract his attention.

Tuesday after work produced only a single CX contact – Eric WD8RIF. I heard Mark VE7CA on 80M but could not work him.

I was surprised that I missed working two of the “local” CX regulars – John N2BE and John K3MD.

This year I sent “SCR-274N” instead of the individual TX and RX numbers as it's not only easier on the fist but it's quicker for those QSOs that are marginal. I can never remember the individual TX and RX numbers and didn't think anybody would care enough to ask. Except Howie.... he cared enough to ask! So I had to quickly roll over to the computer and look it up. I'll have a cheat sheet next time!

I was delighted to do a pair of coast-to-coast QSOs on 40M with Mark VE7CA and Howie WB2AWQ.

Looking forward to the January 2019 CX!

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KA3OCS – Bob (Montross VA)

I enjoyed the event for sure. After qualifying all my rigs I used the Hallicrafters for the majority of the QSOs. Really learning how to get the old rig on the same frequency as the station I am in QSO with. Could not join the AM and SSB days as I had a failure to the HT-37 and the Drake TX-4B power supply. The Hallicrafters needed one new tube and the Drake power supply was producing unstable bias voltage.

Radios qualified:

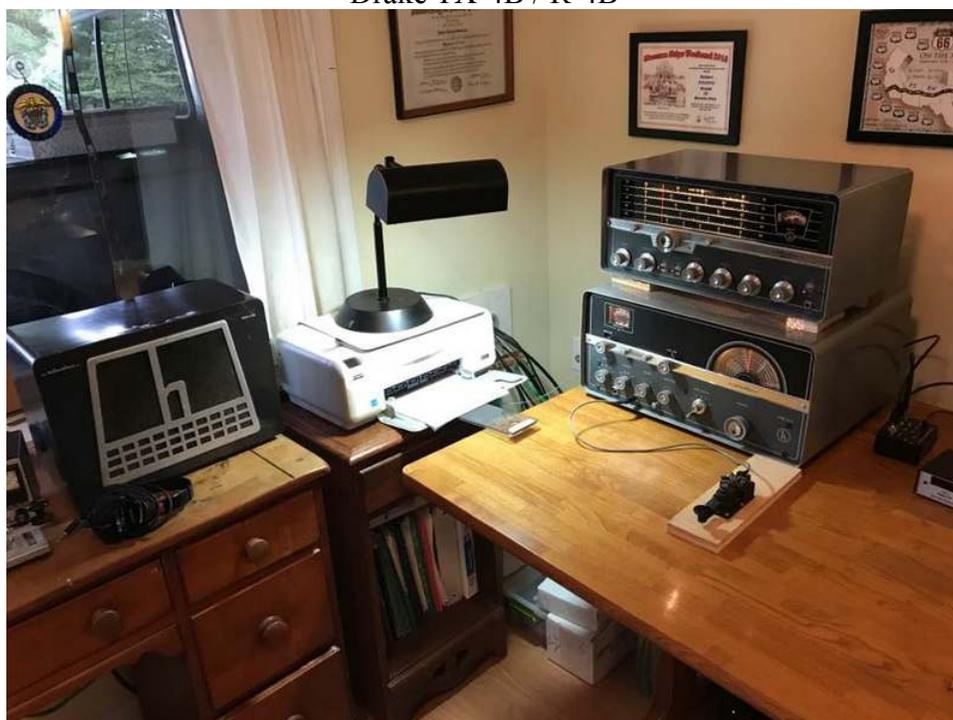


Drake 2NT / 2C

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Drake TX-4B / R-4B



Hallicrafters HT-37 / SX-111

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N3YUG – Jason (Patuxent River MD)

I very much enjoyed my first venture into the Classic Exchange. I found the Sunday CW session to have plenty of ops out there with the old rigs. I did not find any during the SSB evenings. I guess I should have called CQ for the SSB. I just got my Swan 500CX back on the air the day before the CX, so I was happy to have another rig to play with.

Equipment I Qualified on CW

Heathkit SB-102

Yaesu FT-101E

Swan 500CX

FT-990



I ran a Navy Flameproof key on each one of the rigs and a Bazooka inverted Vee antenna. The SB-102, with CW filter worked wonderfully, and the FT-101E was pretty good. The Swan was much more geared to SSB, and I was having to do the filtering between signals in my head. I can appreciate what the guys had to endure with stations back in the earlier day now! My FT-990 was my first HF rig, and

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I got it from my Dad when he upgraded. It has a special place in my heart for that reason, and it is the rig I first enjoyed CW on. I put many hours of CW in as a Tech Plus going for General with the FT-990.

I really love these old rigs, and this kind of exchange doesn't help me stop buying more of them. That is ok, because we are supposed to enjoy Ham Radio, and that is very much what I did during this Classic Exchange! Thanks to all who put it on, and got on the bands with those classics!

73 and CUL
Jason N3YUG

JA3KNB – Matsumura (Osaka Japan)

Dear Ron-San

How are you doing Ron- San!

In September and October this year, major disasters in Japan were experienced. Especially the Phone contest was hit by the typhoon.

I experienced a big disaster for the first time in a while. Most radio stations were in a situation where radio waves could not be output due to power failure or the like. I hurried to the contest after the typhoon passed away. Fortunately the antenna, the house did not suffer great damage.

[Editors Note: We are all delighted and thankful that you and your family are OK. We also had some very bad weather along the southeastern seaboard of the United States during the CW part of the CX and fortunately all of the CXers came through OK !]

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Radios Qualified: on CW:

Collins 75S-3C & 32S-3, 75S-1 & 32S-1, KWM-2

Drake C line (2 pairs), TR-4 (2)

Hallicrafters SX-111 & HT-37, SX-99 & HT-37, S-19R & HT-37

Hammarlund HQ100-A & Heathkit AT-1

Hammarlund HQ100-A & Heathkit DX-40

Heathkit HW-8 (2), SB-102 (2), SB-104A (2)

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Kenwood TS-130, TS-120V, TS-510D, TS-510X
TRIO 9R-59 & TX88A
Yaesu FRDX400 & FLDX400
Yaesu FT-200, FT-101, FT-101S, FT-101ES

Radios qualified on SSB:

Collins 75S-3C & 32S-3, 75S-1 & 32S-1, KWM-2
Drake C line (2 pairs), TR-4
Hallicrafters SX-111 & HT-37, SX-99 & HT-37
Heathkit SB-102 (2), SB-104A (2)
Kenwood TS-130, TS-120V, TS-510D
Yaesu FRDX400 & FLDX400
Yaesu FT-200, FT-101, FT-101S, FT-101ES

Radios Qualified on AM:

Drake C line (2 pairs), TR-4 (2)
Drake T-4XC & Collins 75S-1
Drake T-4XC & Collins 75S-3C
Hallicrafters SX-111 & HT-37, SX-99 & HT-37
Hammarlund HQ100-A & Heathkit DX-40
TRIO 9R-59 TX88A
Yaesu FRDX400 FLDX400
Yaesu FT-200, FT-101, FT-101S, FT-101ES

JO3TAP – Tomonori (Osaka Japan)

Dear Ron San

How are you doing Ron San!

I also enjoyed a wonderful CX Contest without problems this time.

But Japan was hit by a big typhoon and it was hard during the contest.

Besides FT 101 B this time, Drake C-line is newly added.

[Editors Note: We are all delighted and thankful that you and your family are OK.]

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Radios qualified for CW:
Yaesu FT991AM, FT101B
Drake C-line

Radios qualified for SSB:
Yaesu FT991AM, FT101B
Drake C-line

KK4BZ – Duane (Gainesville, VA)

Mark, Ron,

Thanks for putting on the CX event, I had fun with it. I think what you are doing is terrific and I would like to support CX. To that end, I pulled out a Realistic HTX-100 that came in a box of cables and a broken HT I bought a couple of years ago. Cut down an old CB antenna, rewired a cigarette lighter plug for an HT charger, and tried it out. Took quite a bit but found 2 replies to about a million CQ calls. Was getting discouraged before then because found stations tuning up or calling CQ but they never heard my replies. So, I had 2 of the 3 QSOs needed. It was getting late in the first period of the event so made a few QSOs on my only other HF radio just to ensure I had an entry. The complication and worry is that I was leaving on a business trip the next day. But then again, that Realistic HTX-100 was designed to be mobile, right? And I was going to southern Florida and 10m was widely used in Cuba... I Had to pick the right suitcase to get the antenna in, but with some disassembly and bending it everything fit. Flew from VA to FL, got the rental car, slapped on the antenna, plugged in the radio, turned it on, and started spinning the VFO knob there in the parking lot. Did not hear Cuba, but did pick up Argentina! Did not get any response to my replies to their CQ calls, but it was a start. Headed east for the beach and ocean. Did hear one faint Cuban station and other activity I could not make out. Parked as close to the ocean as possible. Over the next hour heard a few faint calls and a strong Brazil station but still no success making a QSO. The band was way up and way down at times. Finally, picked up a Panama station working JOTA. Success with 25 watts! Thank you propagation! Just completed the exchange when the band went down, so I headed for the hotel. Tried again that evening and at various times over the next few days and never heard another station. Am I glad I tried before leaving the rental car parking lot!

[Editor's note: I think Duane gets the award for best innovation to get a signal out for CX!]

Rigs qualified:
Realistic HTX-100
Kenwood TS-570S

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73, Duane, KK4BZ

K4JYS – Bill (Smithfield, NC)

Ron,

Here is my pitiful log. Didn't have much time for this one.

Tnx to you and Mark for your efforts.

Rigs Qualified:

Johnson Viking 2 / Hallicrafters SX-71

[Editors Note: Hi Bill – The number of QSOs really doesn't matter – what matters is that you participated! 6 QSOs or 60 QSOs..... get on the air for the CX!]

73 Bill

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N5GW Gene (Vicksburg MS)

Here's a pic of one of my totally HB stations is included, featuring a VXO TX, superhet RX, tuner, rake tine straight key and SWR bridge. Hope you can use it.



In addition to that VERY nice HB setup, Gene also qualified his Tentec 544 and Heathkit HW-9

[Editor's Note: Great to work you on your HW-9 Gene!]

73, Gene, N5 GW

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W5RRR – JSC Amateur Radio Club (Houston TX)

NASA Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club

We participated in the CX contest but constraining our limited operations to AM only, the club only made 3 contacts. We did hear far more SSB activity but the objective was to make AM contacts only. The log is at the Club shack (W5RRR) so if those 3 contacts are desired, I can obtain them some time later.

The conditions on Tuesday evening were horrible (no contacts at all) and the three contacts were made on the first day of the contest. I had thought Tuesday would result in more contacts but conditions were horrible.



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The participants in the CX contest (two club members) had a good time since we were trying to shake down the old AM equipment. Ended up replacing the HQ-145C with a 75A-4 for the second week.

The ugly guy in the picture is myself, Ken Goodwin, K5RG. I came to Houston in 1968, retired from the space business in 2003 and have been a member of the NASA JSC Amateur Radio Club since 1972.

The picture was taken by Dave Lee, W5OC who was Vice President of the JSC ARC (club) until the end of the 2018 GFY.

73, Ken Goodwin, K5RG

KF6C – Brian (San Marcos CA)

Here is my Classic Exchange log for the CW section.

I was active in the Sundays and Tuesdays CW CX, I believe I operated within the rules even though I may have been a little outside the norm.

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Receivers have always been more interesting to me than transmitters; as such, I have spent more time renovating them and in fact have worked professionally on receiver design far more than transmitter design.

For this CX I concentrated on what brings me the most enjoyment, playing with receivers. I set up my K3s, only 3 years old so hardly a CX contender, as the transmitter with 7 receivers including the two internal to the K3s, tied to the K3s antenna switching circuitry. See below for details of the 5 Boat Anchor receivers. At the start of the CX I began calling CQ using each of the Boat Anchor receivers in turn until I had qualified all 5. Running 500 watts output there were times when I could not pull weak signals out of the noise and resorted to using the K3s receivers to work these stations, they were duly credited to the K3s. I had completed qualifying these receivers with a bonus of 6 years for the K3s. This was a lot of fun and really highlighted advantages and disadvantages of each receiver type. Conditions not being the best this was all I could manage on the Sunday.

On the Tuesday I started out by I qualifying Kenwood 599 Twins simply using them to make contacts. I don't think I made any QSOs with other CX stations, just made sure I was given the rigs used by the other stations.

By the time I had finished with the "Twins" 40 meter had gone dead and I needed that band to qualify the TCS12s, Drake 2c/2NT, Palomar PTR130 and another T599 TX with an HRO SN . I had set our RV up with two KX3 and its built in, sort of home brew, SDR so that my son KK6EME could go out and work me to qualify these other radios. This went well with the exception that the PTR 130 blew up with half a QSO to go before qualification (I designed this radio, so it was particularly annoying to me). We worked through all the other radios except the T599 and HRO which was left for me to qualify in an expected 40 meter opened later that evening.

Not being a very proficient CW operator qualifying the T599 and HRO SN on a 40-meter band that certainly seemed very busy on a HRO Senior was not so easy, but I did it, and although very challenging a lot of fun.

I only got the RA17 a few days before the event, it was a workable when I received it: However the MHz dial was a little off and most of the lettering had been worn off the front panel, so I could not resist messing with it. One thing leading to another I ended up doing a full calibration and making the front panel readable before the event. It performs about as well as the K3s on CW, making its qualification easy.

Radios Qualified:

Elecraft K3 (XCVR)

Elecraft K3 / Eddystone EA12

Elecraft K3 / AR88D

Elecraft K3 / Racal RA17

Elecraft K3 / Eddystone 888A

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Elecraft K3 / Drake 2B

Kenwood T599 / Kenwood R599

Collins TCS12 #1 / Collins TCS12

Collins TCS12 #2 / Collins TCS12

Collins TCS12 #3 / Collins TCS12

Kenwood T599 #2 / HRO Senior



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W6MZ – Paul (Del Mar CA)

This was my first CX contest. Only two QSOs were with other CX participants, and the other seven were short rag chews with casual (unsuspecting?) CW operators replying to my CQ CQ CQ CX.



Photos attached:

Drake R-4 and T-4X.

Inverted vee 45 feet above ground, T-300-2D balun, dual resonant on 40m and 20m.

-- 73, Paul W6MZ

N6KN – Rocco (Rancho Palos Verdes CA)

Began preps early. Ron, K2RP, called, and we agreed to try 80 meters to begin the CW CX. I found a LOT of problems in my "standard" list of rigs: the antenna tuner had a loose coax at the back; no output from the "trusty" 32S-1; very low out put from one of the KWM2-A's; the R390A is dead; SX 73 has lost ~40 dB gain; the Ranger 2 mode switch froze; the FPM-200 has an even worse CW note

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than usual; and so much more. After a day of swapping spare rigs in and out, I had 20 "stations" operating on 80. At least the newly refurbished antennas seemed to be working ok. Began operating the CX portion on 7045 at 1302Z and quickly worked Mark, W7ESN, and Doc, W7OS with excellent signals. I was impressed that both of them had Homebrew transmitters on the air (guess that bonus ploy worked). Bob, W0YBS, had a good signal from Colorado with his CE200V. One surprise was working Alan, W9ATB, in Indiana at 1439, which is a long haul in the daylight on 40. At 8 am PT, I met up with Ron, K2RP, on 80 meters with good signals (for once) both directions using low power. We ran through a long list of vintage stations at both ends. Later in the evening, I worked Paul, K2LMQ with his decent-sounding Gonset G76. Bill, K4IBZ, had a good signal into the west coast with his Knight T-150, as did Dave, W4EJ, with a DX-60.

Rigs Qualified on CW: T4X-C, R4-C, TR-4, KWM2-A, 32S-3, 75S3-B, BW-6100, 75A-4, SR400A, HT32B, R4B, Galaxy V, Ranger 2, RM# 6900, 75A-2, Swan 500 CX, HT-44, SX 117, NCX-5, DX60, SB-303, GSB-100, NC-300, SB401, SB301, NCX-3, and FTDX 570. In some cases, I qualified two of them.

SSB Notes: On Thursday before this portion of the CX, I managed to sell a pile of boatanchors to make room for smaller, more manageable stuff. Adios SX-73, R390A, GSB-100, HT-37, 2K2 amp, and two 75A-1's! But that allowed me to quickly move other, smaller gear into the vacated operating shelves, after a LOT of cleaning and dusting. Began the event with Ron, K2RP, on 3895 (the local vintage SSB watering hole for the SW US.) Murphy hit - one of the KWM2A's died. Ron and I ran through another long list of radios, although he was staying the in the three rig class for this portion. At 1943, I moved to ~14270 and began the afternoon "run." The receiver rack now includes my SX-100 and NC-155, which were easy to qualify with the "pack" calling with strong signals. Mike, K8NS, had a great sounding NCX-3; Jason, KG5WPE sounded wonderful on his rare KW-2000A; Ken, W5RRR, gets the "fearless" award for calling with his Ranger/Courier on AM (love the Courier, by the way, and wish I had one); John, WA1LSH, had great audio from his Swan 500; and Steve, KC6NDC called me from his motorhome near LAX on an excellent Atlas 210X. He also helped me qualify my Galaxy V, after I figured out that the CW key has to be closed on SSB (same as a TR4). Monday, I managed to get the SX 146 working and qualified it with the HT-46 on 20 SSB Tuesday afternoon, barefoot. I really must operate more on Tuesdays - I just have not figured out how and when to operate on that day.

Rigs qualified were pretty much the same as on CW, except for the departed boatanchors listed above, plus adding the SX 100, NC-155, and SX 146. I really like the new layout. All the radios that were on the floor are off of it, and the dust level is way down.

All in all, I improved the station significantly here and feel great about moving some heavy equipment to others who will value it, making room for some smaller stuff that has been sitting on the shelf far too long. It was great to run into some of the CX regulars, and thanks to Ron, K2RP and others who helped me qualify the pile of gear!

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W7OS - "DOC" (Tacoma, WA)

Doctor Clifford J. Spike Memorial Museum

Operators were Randy WB4SPB, and Rich KR7W and Chris N7CPM. We all gave the operator name as "Doc", since we like to think we're channeling the spirit of revered Radio Club of Tacoma member Doc Spike W7OS (SK). Entirely new to operation at the W7OS Museum are the Heath HR20 and HX20 twins. The Globe Champion made its first appearance in Classic Exchange. The "Acme" 2x807 transmitter was built by Rich KR7W about 10 years ago, using 1940s-era parts and design. The Collins receivers are favorites and get a lot of use here. Sorry, we failed to take pictures this time.

Rigs Qualified:

TX: Globe Champion, Homebrew 2x807, Heath HX20 transmitter

RX: Collins 75A4, Collins R388/URR, Heath HR20 receiver

VA7MM – Mark (Coquitlam BC)

I'm using late 1960's vintage Heathkit DX-60B transmitter and HR-10B receiver. Transmitter was crystal controlled for all CW and AM contacts, output is about 50 watts and the antenna is a dipole. The score calculation includes crystal control bonus points for CW and AM contacts, I hope this is correct.



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VE7BGP – Gerry (Nanaimo BC)

Radio Qualified: IC-751A, SB-101, IC-720A, FT-757GX

KB8TL – Bob, Belleville MI.

Thanks for the contest, it was fun and challenging what with a homebrew receiver still in the building phase.

Equipment all homebrew: DDS VFO, PIC controlled keyer / switcher / sequencer, push-pull IRF-510 transmitter and solid-state interpretation of 1960s band imaging receiver. Inspired by AA8V's 6x2 superhet receiver

Only operated on 40 meters, receiver is currently just one band capable.



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The stack on the left, from the top downwards, consists of the DDS VFO, keyer / sequencer / antenna switch, and the transmitter running push-pull IRF-510 MOSFETs.

The Band imaging receiver (a work in progress) is on the right.

[Editors Note: Very nice Bob!]

W8KGI – Jim (Sandia Park NM)

First off, thanks to Ron and Mark for taking over and keeping the CX going!

Here's my report for the September 2018 CX. I operated only on CW, with four and more pairs. Things were kinda disjointed here in September, so I just got on with the equipment from my "inside shack" which fortunately was all working.

My equipment multiplier was 1706 years. I made 56 QSOs, for a total base score of 95,536 points. I used a homebrew transmitter, a reproduction of my 1952 Wn4VIV Novice Transmitter, 6AG7/6146, for 2000 bonus points. I ran my Knight T-150A on crystal control on 3545 from 2150 through 2246 (noted as T150X and XTAL - T150) for another 2000 bonus points. So my total score is 99,536 points.

I am attaching copies of my log and of my equipment list.

Equipment Qualified:

HRO-50,	CE 100V,	NTX-30,	NC-200,	FB7, BC455,	BC459
NC-173,	HT-32,	32V3,	75A4,	HRO, R4B,	RME-69
T4X,	TBS-50C/D,	Wn4VIV (HB),		T-150A,	SX-28
NC-101X,	BC454,	Meissner SS,		Millen 90800,	CBY52209

73,
Jim Hanlon, W8KGI

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WD8RIF – Eric (Athens OH)

I qualified two T/R pairs this year:

Drake 2-NT + Hallicrafters HA-5 + Drake 2-C/2-CQ

Heathkit HW-16 + Drake 2-C/2-CQ

I made 15 QSOs with the HW-16 under crystal control.

I had a great time hearing the classic old rigs and using my own vintage gear. I'm looking forward to next time!

73,

WD8RIF – Eric

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Equipment Lists.

I received one or two nice comments about this part of the last newsletter so here it is again – but with a twist. I'm not indicating how many of each type of radio were used; that requires me to cross check logs to make sure I'm not counting things two or three times and it's just too time consuming and error prone. So, the list now indicates the different types of radios that were used, or heard, at least once during the CX. To make the list a radio has to be out of production for at least 25 years (or 1993 for the Fall 2018 CX). I'm certain I missed a few. Several logs were submitted as scanned paper logs and the handwriting and/or scanning wasn't the greatest. If I can't figure it out, I just move on.

By the way, when a person sends “ARC-5”, I assume they really mean an ARC-5 and not an SCR-274N or ARA/ATA radio. So, for example, I list an “ARC-5” Transmitter used on 40M as a T-22 (not a BC-459 or CBY-52211).

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Atlas
350-XL

B&W
6100

Central Electronics
CE-100V
CE-200V

Collins
30L-1
310B
32S-1
32S-3
32V-3
75A-1
75A-2
75A-4
75S-1
75S-3 (JA)
75S-3B
KWM-2
KWM-2A

Drake
1A
2B
2C
2C/2CQ
2NT
R-4
R-4A
R-4B
R-4C
T-4X
T-4XB
T-4XC
TR-3
TR-4
TR-4C
TR-7

Eddystone
75888
888A
EA12

Eico
720

Galaxy
Galaxy 5

Gonset
GSB-100

Hallicrafters
DX-40
HA5 VFO
HT-32
HT-32B
HT-37
HT-40
HT-44
S-19R (JA)
S-76
SR-150
SR-400
SR-400A
SX-100
SX-101A
SX-111
SX-115
SX-117
SX-146
SX-25
SX-28
SX-71
SX-71
SX-99 (JA)

Hammarlund
Comet Pro
HQ-100
HQ-120
HQ-140

HQ-160
HQ129X
HX-50
SP-600

Harvey-Wells
TBS-50C
TBS-50D

Hombrew
1625
1932 Millen
2E26
6146
6MJ6
807s XTAL
RX
Wn4VIV TX
XCVR 6146

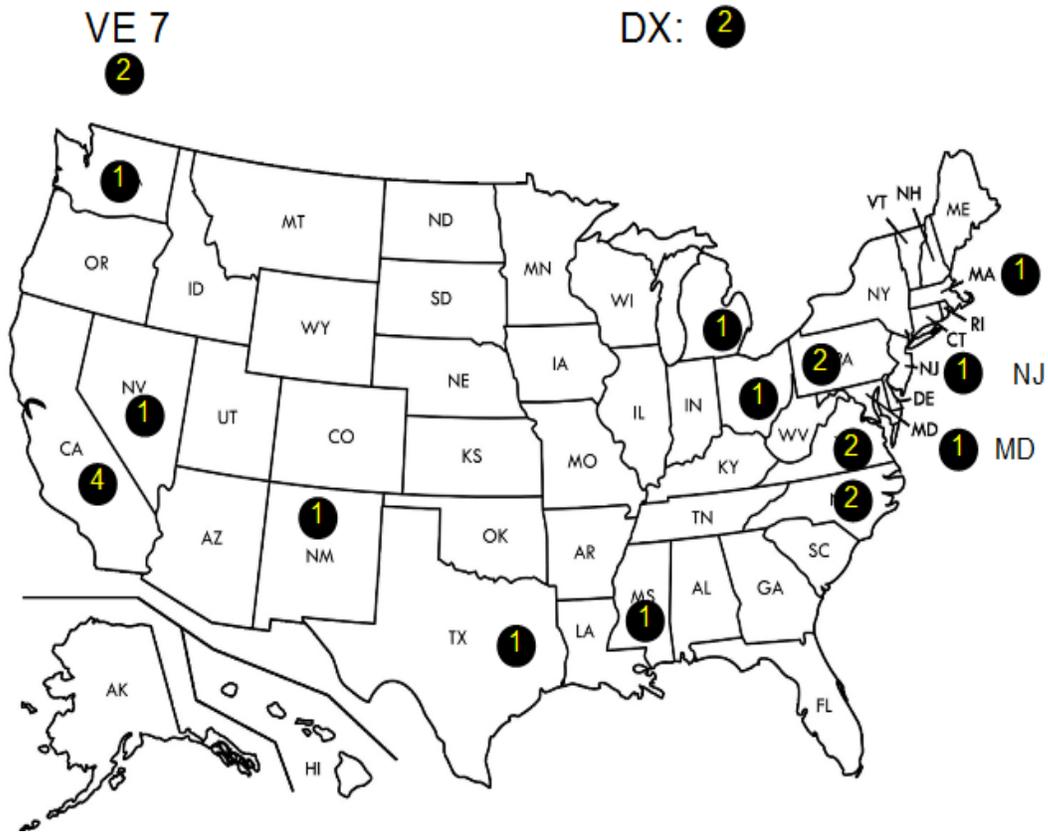
Heathkit
AT-1
DX-20
DX-40
DX-60
DX-60B
HR-10B
HR-20
HW-101
HW-16
HW-8
HW-9
HX-20
SB-100
SB-101
SB-102
SB-104A (JA)
SB-300
SB-301
SB-303
SB-401

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Henry	T-50	NCX-5
ISM RF GEN (4-65A FINAL)	T-60	NTX-30
Tempo 1		
HRO	Lysco	Racal
HRO	600	RA17
HRO SR		
HRO-50	Meissner	RCA
HRO-60	Signal Shifter	AR88D
Johnson	Military	Realistic
Viking 1	T-22	HTX-100
Viking 2	T-19	
Viking Adventurer	BC-348Q	RME
Viking Challenger	BC-454	69
Viking Invader	BC-455	6900
Viking Navigator	BC-458A	
Viking Ranger	BC-459	Swan
Viking Ranger 2	CBY52209	350
	Collins ART-13	500
	Collins TCS12 RX	500CX
	Collins TCS12 TX	
	GO-9	Ten-Tec
Kenwood	R-388	Century 21
9R-59 (JA)	R-390A	Triton
R-599	SCR-274N	
T-599	R388/URR	WRL
TS-120V (JA)		Globe Champion
TS-130		Globe Chief 90
TS-140S	Millen	Globe Scout 65B
TS-440	90800	
TS-440S		
TS-480		
TS-510D (JA)	National	Yaesu
TS-510X (JA)	FB-7	FLDX-400 (JA)
TS-520	NC-101X	FRDX-400 (JA)
TS-530S	NC-125	FT-101B (JA)
TS-570S	NC-155	FT-101E
TS-590	NC-173	FT-101ES (JA)
TS-590S	NC-190	FT-101S (JA)
TS-850SAT	NC-200	FT-200 (JA)
TX-88A (JA)	NC-270	FT-650
	NC-300	FT-757GX
Knight	NC-303	FTDX-570
T-150	NCX-3	FT-990
T-150A		

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Log Submissions



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