

## Winter 2018 Classic Exchange Newsletter

At long last, here's the 2018 Winter Classic Exchange (CX) results!

There's good news and bad news. The good news is that even with marginal conditions for the CX event (low sunspots, high A index), event participation was good! We had 19 entries from 13 states and 2 DX countries (Cuba and Japan). There were about 27 major brands of equipment represented in addition to some nice home brew and military equipment. I attempted to list all the different brands and you can see those at the end of the newsletter.

The bad news is that your new editor (me...Mark K3MSB) is an engineer and not an English major. I had exactly one English class in college. And...this is the first newsletter I've ever composed. But please, read the newsletter anyway..... good stuff within!

I decided to write the CX results as a PDF newsletter instead of a web page as had been done in the past. I had technical issues getting a single web page to look the same on various computers, and felt these issues could be mitigated by a PDF approach. By the way, what really helped me with the newsletter was the soapbox comments and photos provided by the participants!

So, without further delay, let the drum rolls, ruffles and flourishes commence, and 21 gun salutes be heard around the world! Here's the details of the 2018 CX

### THREE OR FEWER PAIRS

CALL	NAME	CW	AM	SSB	FM	BONUS	TOTAL
K4JYS	BILL	28084				4000	32084
N3TE	STEVE	16920				1000	17920
JO3TAP	TOMONORI	7290	4050	5940			17280
NV1X	BOB	4598				4000	8598
K0PK	PAUL	7080				1000	8080
W8KM	GARY	4953					4953
CM8NMN	NOEL	400				3000	3400
K6ZI	CHUCK	608				2000	2608
KB8TL	BOB	999				1000	1999
K9HT	PAT	1596					1596
W2JEK	DON	336					336
N4UJ	GENE			312			312

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### FOUR OR MORE PAIRS

CALL	NAME	CW	AM	SSB	FM	BONUS	TOTAL
JA3KNB	MATSUMURA	415840	120736	268160		4000	808736
K2RP	RON	184415		90770		2000	277185
N6KN	ROCCO	20064		60324			80388
W8KGI	JIM	69701				4000	73701
WB2AWQ	HOWIE	50587				3000	53587
K2MD	JOHN	44368				2000	46368
W7OS	RANDY	18090		20412		1000	39502

### HIGH SCORES

	Total	Hi CW	Hi SSB	Hi AM
< 4 TX/RX Pairs	K4JYS	K4JYS	JO3TAP	JO3TAP
4+ TX/RX Pairs	JA3KNB	JA3KNB	JA3KNB	JA3KNB

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### KB8TL – Bob, Belleville MI.

Bob entered the CX with a very nice looking HB transmitter he made a few years ago, paired with a Drake R4B. Nice work on that TX Bob!!



Bob also qualified his TS-830S transceiver. I owned an 830S for almost 25 years and I considered it to be the equivalent of the DC-3 of radios! It simply worked well and reliably!

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### K3MD – John, Winfield PA.

John provided us with some photos of his well appointed vintage operating positions.

Note the pair of ARC-5 transmitters in photo #2 – you can't have too many of them!





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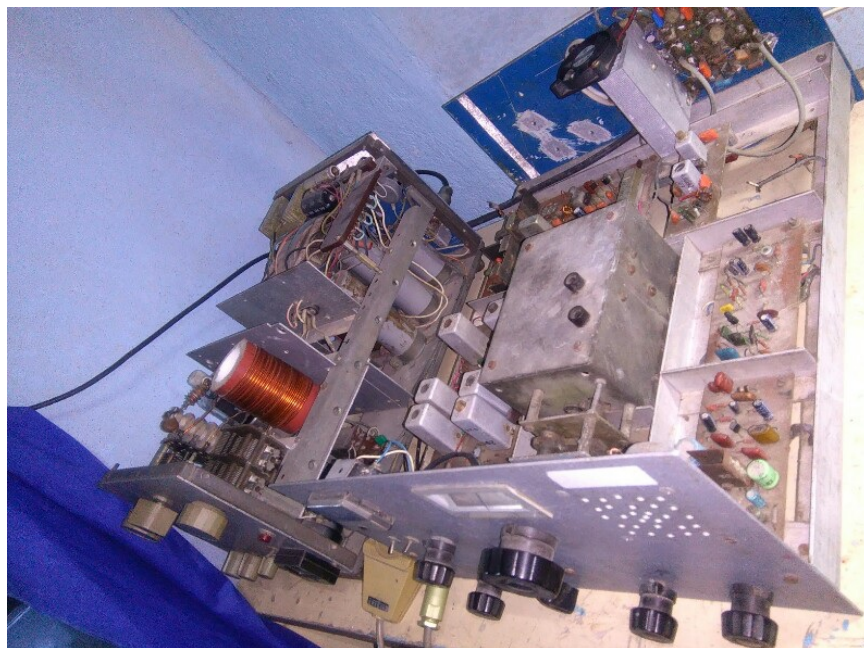




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### CM8NMN - Noel, Santiago Cuba

Hello my Name is Noel Matos Sardiña, I live in Santiago the Cuba city and I enjoyed my participation in your contest. We have bad conditions of propagation and I didn't make more than 8 contacts but it was fun! I used my homebrew radio and his power amplifier. I am using this station since I build it many years ago (Ugly but work) Hihhi .



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### K6ZI – Chuck, Las Vegas NV.

Chuck's entry included a BC-458A TX and BC-453 RX.

Didn't get to operate much but enjoyed getting the old Command Sets on the air. The BC-458A was left in original shape using 24 VDC to powers the relays and filaments. The unit was keyed using its original internal selector relay.(The contacts bent slightly to ensure the oscillator powered on slightly ahead of the amplifier to prevent chirp... a trick I learned in the 1950's, HI). Only a variable capacitor was added to tune the output link to the antenna. The BC-453, with its HB converter, made a great selective "single signal" receiver. Immediately after the contest, worked into KH6 with the combo! Looking forward to the next one!





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Very nice Chuck! Lord willing I'll have my SCR-274N on the air for the September event. I didn't participate in the winter event due to other commitments so missed working you. Fantastic on working KH6 with those pair; I've worked some European DX with my 274N and the gang at the local radio club thinks I'm nuts for even trying – but you can work DX with ARC-5s!



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### W8KM – Gary, PARMA, MI

Gary writes “I had a great time operating in the CX although my score is a bit on the low side! “

I think Gary gets the “Most Tidy and Neat” BA operating position!



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310B-1 & HRO-5TA1



Valiant / 75A-4 & Ranger / 75A-4 Stations



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### W7OS - Radio Club of Tacoma's "Antique Radio Museum"

Operators for the CW portion of the event were Randy WB4SPB and Rich(Rick) KR7W (he uses both names on the air). We made 2/3 of our QSOs on 20M, with the remainder on 40M, using three radio sets. We got one email during the contest from a self-styled (not an official) OO who complained of the drift, jumpy 20M signal sometimes emitted by the VF-1/Globe Chief. Also he thought we were too close to W1AW's frequency, but we thought 2.5 KHz was far enough.

*Editors Note: I received an OO card from a CX a few years ago..... It's right up there with my best QSL cards!*

We have been working on the Eldico SSB100F transmitter for some time and finally have cobbled together a power supply that fits inside the cabinet (replacing the cooked power transformer and the rectifier tubes with two old TV transformers plus solid state rectifiers and modern caps). It's not ready for SSB yet, but it works pretty well on CW, if at rather low power (30W). A 20M yagi at 80ft helps to make up for this. The Collins 75A4, a Johnson TR switch and HA-1 "T.O." keyer make this a great old-timey QSK CW station. The op is WB4SPB.





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Our trusty Globe Chief often finds use on Straight Key Night, and it was handy to pull out for a bonus during this CX. KR7W operates along with our Collins R388. In the background, an SX-28A helps to keep the room warm, but we didn't use it in CX this time around.



On Tuesday, we pulled “Harvey” (a TBS-50A) off the shelf, swiped the VFO from the Globe Chief, and paired it with our HQ-120X (once suitably warmed up, like for a couple of hours). We were able to make a good handful of QSOs with this third radio set, despite the fact that Harvey could muster only 9W output on 20M.

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Operators for the SSB portion of the event were Mike W7XTZ, Mike W7MKE, Adam W2NCC, Randy WB4SPB and Rich(Rick) KR7W. We found nobody to talk to on 80M or 40M, but we operated those bands only during the early parts of the day and weren't able to try evenings. We looked around for AM operators (could have used that mode with our Drake equipment), but we didn't hear any. In fact, we didn't hear anybody else at all calling CQ CX. Most QSOs were with non-participants who just enjoyed making contact with someone operating old equipment.

The Galaxy III was a special hit – many people said they'd never even heard of it or had only seen a Galaxy V. Mike W7XTZ enjoyed a 35-minute pileup operating the “Gorgeous Gal”.



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Mike W7MKE is relatively new to ham radio and really enjoyed operating CX using our Drake TR4, recently refurbished after many years of non-use.





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Our third radio set for this CX was comprised of the foundation (75A4) and the topper (T4X) in this picture showing all of the equipment we used for phone CX.



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W7OS is the call sign of the Radio Club of Tacoma's "Antique Radio Museum". This call sign formerly belonged to Dr. Clifford J. (Doc) Spike, a dentist, who was a founding member of the club and active in it throughout his long life. Radio Club of Tacoma (W7DK) was founded in 1916 and has a facility (The Clubhouse) we have owned since the mid-1950s. Over the years, RCT has accumulated a collection of older radio equipment that various Museum Committee members restore and make available for operation by club members.

### JA3KNB -Matsumura

Matsumura writes:

Please continue your favors toward the future.

Seven years have passed since I joined the CX as a trigger to revive the COLLINS S LINE which was decorated on the desk.

At first it was difficult to understand the rules and I asked many questions to W8KGI JIM-San.

JIM-San taught me carefully in a way that I can understand. I am nostalgic now. And I am also a respected friend.

In Japan, permission is required for all transmitters even if they get the first license. Application is complicated, it takes time and money, and now I have permission of 23 transmitters.

In the future it will be hard to use the old Rig in Japan!

We would like to make efforts to allow members of Japan to join XC as long as possible.

Matsumura qualified a "boatload" of boatanchors" in all 3 modes as follows:

CW	SSB	AM
Collins 75S-3C 32S-3	Collins 75S-3C 32S-3	Drake Cline NO1
Collins 75S-1 32S-1	Collins 75S-1 32S-1	Drake T-4XC Collins 75S-1
Collins KWM-2	Collins KWM-2	Drake T-4XC Collins 75S-3C
HeathkitHW-8 NO1	Drake Cline NO1)	Hammarlund HQ100-A Heathkit DX-40
HeathkitHW-8 NO2	FRDX400 FLDX400	TRIO 9R-59 TX88A
Drake Cline NO1	FT200	FRDX400 FLDX400
Hammarlund HQ100-A Heathkit AT-1	Drake TR-4 NO1	FT200

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Hammarlund HQ100-A Heathkit DX-40	Drake Cline NO2	Drake TR-4 NO1
TRIO 9R-59 TX88A	TS-130	Drake Cline NO2
FRDX400 FLDX400	FT101S	FT101S
FT200	Heathkit SB-102 NO1	Hallicrafters SX-111 HT-37
Drake TR-4 NO1	Heathkit SB-102 NO2	Hallicrafters SX-99 HT-37
Drake Cline NO2	Hallicrafters SX-111 HT-37	FT101ES
TS-130	Hallicrafters SX-99 HT-37	FT101
FT101S	Heathkit SB-104A(1)	Drake TR-4 NO2
Heathkit	Heathkit SB-104A(2)	
Heathkit SB-102 NO2	FT101ES	
Hallicrafters SX-111 HT-37	FT101	
Hallicrafters SX-99 HT-37	TS510D	
Hallicrafters S-19R HT-37	TS510X	
Heathkit SB-104A(1)		
Heathkit SB-104A(2)		
FT101ES		
FT101		
TS510D		
TS510X		
Drake TR-4 NO2		

Whew..... !!!

### **W8KGI – Jim, SANDIA PARK, NM**

First of all, let me thank you for taking over the CX. Mac did a great job for a long time, as did Jim (moi), W8KGI, Marty AA4RM (sk), and Stu, K8SJ (sk) before him. It's amazing to me that this little celebration of ours has lasted without any organization sponsorship since 1976, and I'm happy to see that you guys will be carrying it into the future.

*Editor's Note: It will be a tall order to fill the shoes of you, Stu, Marty, and Mac!*

I'm attaching my info for the January 2018 CX. My wife had come down with a very bad cold which it turned out lasted for the whole month of January, so I spent only a limited amount of time on the CX this running, about an hour and three quarters on Sunday and about the same on Tuesday. The weather here was also such that it was bone-chilling cold out in my garage where I have the bulk of my boatanchor gear, so I confined myself to my "inside shack" which was toasty warm. I made 4 contacts on 20 and 43 on 40, so I had good fun, and I got all of my inside gear on and qualified except for the 80 meter Command Sets. It was great to work so many friends, old and new.

As I put together my score, I had to marvel at the age of my gear and how well it still works. Even my gear 80 or more years old, an NC-101X, HRO, RME-69, FB7, and NTX-30 are still in there doing their jobs. It's a real tribute to the Engineers and Manufacturers of that era that their gear has lasted so



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well - and I guess to the guy who has been maintaining them too, HI.  
Hopefully the Fall CX will be accompanied by better weather and health. Till then, 73,

Jim W8KGI

With all the challenges Jim had, he still managed to qualify a nice lot of radios:

Transmitters: HT-32, CE 100V, TBS50C/D, NTX-30, Wn4VIV, T4X, T150, Meissner Signal Shifter

Receivers: HRO, HRO-50, BC459, BC455, NC-200, NC-101X, National FB7, SX28, R4B, 32V3, 75A4, NC173, RME69

### Howie WB2AWQ/7 -- Reno, NV

Howdy CXers!

I had great hopes for this CX.....A and K indices were looking pretty good in the days leading up, I had two pieces of gear I planned on introducing to CX – one a very old replica receiver from 1932, built by good friend Art Hale W4AWS (now SK), a superhet made from the August 1932 QST article by Jim Lamb featuring single signal reception. Complete with a full set of National SW-3-type plug in coils covering 250 Khz to 33 Mhz, well made, and a hoot to operate, I used this RX for many contacts on both 80 and 40 meters in years past. The other newbie to my shack is an odd beast, an industrial RF generator probably designed for RF cleaning or sputtering, set to 13.56 Mhz, commonly called an ISM frequency, and using a 3 tube lineup of 6AG7 oscillator, 2E26 buffer/multiplier, and a 4-65A final, which I modified slightly to accept a 7 Mhz VFO input. I'd played with it for a while, and it reliably provided contacts on 20M with about 60W out for 900V on the final plate.

I started CX pretty early, like before 7 AM local here in Reno, on 7 Mhz, picking up Mario N2AK on a very weak path but we got the requisite info across. Then no more CX signals. Guess most of the west coast boys hadn't awakened, and the east coast was now in bright sunlight. Amazing I even got Mario. This first QSO was made using the 1932 superhet, paired with my GO-9 mil transmitter. I went back to bed for a few, and three hours later tried again, this time first on 20M, where I heard a few weak signals but no CX ops. I called and called using the ISM unit, but got nowhere. Went to 40M, with the GO-9 and 1932 superhet, and made several more QSOs. Then I went to brunch with the XYL, leaving the industrial generator on in the hopes of qualifying it in the afternoon. We got home from brunch, and the garage (my shack is one section of a 3 car deal) smelled like a rig had released all its smoke. Sure enough, the ISM unit was dead, transformer tar leaking out, the LV transformer and choke not looking very pretty. No idea what actually happened, but the 1.5A fuse in the power supply input eventually did its job and probably prevented more damage. Later inspection revealed that a resistor in

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the PA screen circuit to ground had shorted. Never heard of that but.....

I did eventually make one QSO on 20M, with John N2BE in NJ, but that was the only CX signal I had heard on 20. Back to 40, where there was some pretty good action, although signal were not reliable. Turns out, the A index had risen significantly, and atmospheric absorption along with it. 80 meters, usually my CX star band, yielded only 8 of my 38 QSOs. The bulk of CX action was on 40. The only "Signal of Distinction" belonged to friend Mike, W7DRA, with his ARC 5 VFO driving a pair of 810s, as it wandered helter skelter up the band. The most interesting rig has to go to Mark W7ESN, with his HB transceiver. Darned few HB transceivers out there!!!

With the exception of two QSOs to NJ, and two to MN, all my QSOs were here in the west. Rigs heard was a curious mix, with National receivers leading the way, with variations of the HRO, a couple NC125s and an NC173, followed closely by HB rigs. Oddly, there was not one Johnson on my list, nor Collins, or Swan, and only one Heath.

See ya all in September!

Howie WB2AWQ/7

Here's the rig combinations Howie qualified:

GO-9, BC-348Q  
MILLEN 90800, BC-348Q  
GO-9, HB 1932  
SWAN 350  
Johnson Invader, Drake R-4B  
Kenwood TS-440S  
BC-458A, HRO SR  
Johnson Invader, Hallicrafters SX101-A  
Johnson Navigator, Hallicrafters SX101-A  
Drake T-4XC, Drake R-4B  
GONSET G76  
HB 807S, National NC-125  
Heathkit SB-102

I didn't get any write-ups from the following CX'ers, so I'm just going list their qualified equipment:

### **JO3TAP – Tomo, Osaka Japan**

FT-991AM, FT-2000D, FT-101B

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### **NV1X – Bob, Milton VT.**

RME-6900, Globe HG303, Lafayette HA90 VFO, RME 69, Eico 723, Knight VFO

### **K2RP – Ron, Encinitas, CA.**

TX: SB401, GSB100, Knight T50, Adventurer, Knight T60, Viking Challenger, Drake T4XB, B&W 6100, DX35, DX40, HB 1625, Lysco 600, DX100, 32S3, Globe Chief, DX 20, AT1, Viking I, HT32

RX: SB303, HRO60, SB300, SX100, HQ120, R4B, 75A4, SX25, SX25, Drake 1A, NC190, 75S3B, HQ140X, 75A2, Drake 2B, Drake 2C

TCVR: HW16, SR400A, Galaxy V, NCX3, Drake TR3, HW12, HW22, Swan 140,

### **N6KN – Rocco, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA**

Kenwood TS-870

Kenwood TS-820

Drake TR-4

B&W 6100, Collins 75A4

Collins 32S-3, 75S-3B

National NCX-3

Heathkit SB401, 301

Yaesu FTDX-570

Hallicrafters SR-400A

Hallicrafters HT32B, Drake R4B

Galaxy V

Collins KWM2-A

National NCX-5

Kenwood TS900

Drake T4X-C, R-4C

Drake TR7A



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### **W2TEK – Bill, Vidalia, LA**

Johnson Ranger & Drake 2B

### **K4JYS – Bill, Smithfield, NC**

Johnson Viking Navigator

Hammarlund HQ170

Heathkit DX40

Hammarlund HQ100

HB 2A5 (1933 'RADIO' mag)

National SW-3

### **N4UJ – Tom, Lilburn, GA**

1966 Collins KWM-2

### **K0PK – Paul, Eveleth, MN**

HB 807 MOPA, Elecraft K2, HB UX210, Yaesu FRG-100

### **N3TE – Steve, Washington Grove, MD**

T-22/ARC-5 , OMNI-A, OMNI-C , BC-457A, TEN TEC DELTA, Kenwood TS-440S, Lafaayette KT-340, Hammarlund HQ-129X, Kenwood TS-440S

### **K9HT – Dave, West Lafayette, IN**

Navy TCS, Collins 75A4

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## Equipment List from Submitted Logs

### B&W

6100 (2)

### Central Electronics

100V

### Collins

310B-1

32S-1

32S-3 (3)

32V3

75A-2

75A-4 (8)

75S-1

75S-3B (2)

75S-3C

KWM-2 (2)

KWM2-A

### Drake

1A

2B (2)

2C

R-4B (6)

R-4C (3)

T-4X

T-4XB

T-4XC (5)

TR-3

TR-4 (4)

TR-7A

### Eico

Eico 723

### Eldico

SSB100F

### Galaxy

Galaxy V (2)

### Gonset

G76

GSB-100

### Hallicrafters

HT-32 (2)

SR-400A (2)

SX-25 (2)

SX-100

SX-111

SX-28

SX-99

SX101-A

HT-32B

HT-37

### Hammarlund

HQ-100

HQ-100A (2)

HQ-120

HQ-129X (2)

HQ-140X

HQ-170

### Harvey Wells

TBS-50A

TBS-50C/D

### Homebrew

HB (2)

HB 1625

HB 1932

HB 2A5 (1933 'RADIO'  
mag)

HB 807 MOPA

HB 807S

HB UX210

HB Wn4VIV

### Heathkit

AT-1 (2)

DX-100

DX-20

DX-35

DX-40 (3)

HW-8 (2)

HW-12

HW-16

HW-22

SB-102 (2)

SB-104A (2)

SB-300

SB-301 (2)

SB-303

SB-401 (2)

VF-1

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### HRO

HRO  
HRO SR  
HRO-50  
HRO-60  
HRO-5TA1

### Johnson

Adventurer  
Invader (2)  
Navigator  
Ranger (2)  
Valiant  
Viking I  
Viking Navigator  
Viking Challenger

### Kenwood

TS-130  
TS-440S (2)  
TS-510D (3)  
TS-510X  
TS-820  
TS-830S  
TS-870  
TS-900

### Knight

T-150  
T-50  
T-60  
Knight VFO

### Lafayette

HA90 VFO  
KT-340

### Lysco

Lysco 600

### Meissner

Signal Shifter

### Military

BC-348Q  
BC-453  
BC-457A  
BC-458A 92)  
BC455  
BC459  
GO-9  
T-22  
TCS (Navy)  
Collins R-388

### Millen

90800

### National

FB7  
NC-101X  
NC-125  
NC-173  
NC-190  
NC-200  
NCX-3 (2)  
NCX-5  
NTX-30  
SW-3

### RME

69 (2)  
6900

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### Swan

140

350

### TEN TEC

Delta

OMNI-A

OMNI-C

### TRIO

9R-59

TX88A

### WRL

Globe Chief (2)

Globe HG-303

### Yaesu

FLDX-400

FRDX-400

FRG-100

FT-101B

FT-101ES

FT-101S

FT-200

FT-2000D

FT-991AM

FT101

FTDX-570



