Operating awards

There are many

By Tom Lewis, N4TL RARS Meeting December 9, 2025



First Contact Award

This Certificate is Being Presented to:

As Recognition of Your
First Two-way Communications by Amateur Radio

QSO with: Date Time Frequency Mode

May this first contact serve as a reminder of when and where your radio journey began and may you have many contacts with amateur radio operators from around the globe who share a similar desire to connect with people through the magic of radio.





Login
Register Account
Login Help



Home On The Air Licensing, Education & Training Membership Regulatory & Public Service Technology Get Involved ARRL Store About ARRL Features

First Contact

A-1 Op

Awards Committee

Awards Managers

Code Proficiency Certificate

DXCC

FFMA

QRP DXCC

Triple Play

VUCC

WAC

WAS

Mentor Award

First Contact

Rag Chewers Club

Awards Branch Contacts

First Contact Award

Commemorate your first contact or present this beautiful certificate to a new ham for making that first memorable contact.

Go Now



First Contact Award

This handsome certificate commemorates that special first on-the-air contact. It comes completed with the contact information that you provide in the form below and has a place for you to sign and date when presenting the award.

This would be a wonderful surprise to send a ham when you are THEIR first contact.

Download and fill out the PDF Certificate to print and present the First Contact Award.









The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. presents this certificate to

Type Name and Callsign Here

For making and logging sixty-four or more separate station contacts on the 146.64 W4DW Repeater

Log Verified:
Awards Manager
Approved:
President, RARS
Date:
RARS

SPECIAL ENDOR	SEMENTS							
128 Contacts								
initials 192 Contacts	date							
initials	date							
256 Contacts	date							
64 RARS Men								
initials	date							





Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

64 on .64 Award Application

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Call</u>	First Name	RARS Member
1 2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7 8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13 14					
15					
17					
18					
19 20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					

To receive this award, you must make contacts with sixty-four or more different stations on the W4DW repeater (146.64 MHz, -0.6 MHz offset, no tone). That means no duplicate stations. You can receive two endorsements on the award; one for each additional 64 contacts made and also one for contacting 64 or more RARS members on the .64 repeater

F

RARS Congratulates the Following Recipients of the 64-on-64 Award

- Denyse Walter, K4DAW, Denyse also earned the 64 RARS members and 128 contacts endorsements. (from December 2004 Exciter)
- Virgina Enzor NC4VA (ex KG4PFA) 2004
- Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ 2018
- Joe Squashic W4TTO 2018
- Bob Brown N4GEB 2018
- Mike Butler K4MBX 2018
- Carl Davis W8WZ 2020
- Kathy Wiandt N4KLW 2020
- Larry Lehman K4LEW 2020

WAC, worked all Continents

- You must work and confirm all six continents
- Sponsored by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)
- Cost of the WAC award certificate is \$20.00 for U.S + postage
- WAC program applications can be checked by an official ARRL DXCC card checker.
- ARRL website has the forms
- When Ham Radio was new, this was hard to do.





WAC Award Application Please print clearly and complete all sections



ailing Address						
ty/Town		State	Zip	Code		
ountry:		Email Address:				
ward(s) applied for: Basic certificate CW certificate Phone certificate Image certificate Digital certificate		QRP endo 1.8 MHz e 3.5 MHz e 50 MHz e 144 MHz e	ndorsement ndorsement endorsement	utput or less)		
	llsigns of the QSG	_ Other End	endorsement lorsement(s) not LoTW) acco	ount that you	ı want	to clair
Cards listed below of ou must list the cal	Ilsigns of the QSO	1296 MHzOther End J DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (note that the courrently not eligible other MHz and callsigns:	not LoTW) acc	ount that you	ı want	
Cards listed below of ou must list the calculate the calculate that the calculate the calculate that the calculate the calculate that the calculat	llsigns of the QSC	1296 MHzOther End y DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (scurrently not eligible	endorsement lorsement(s) not LoTW) acco	ount that you	ı want	to clair
Cards listed below of the calculation of the Note Band Info ⇒ North America	Ilsigns of the QSO	1296 MHzOther End J DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (note that the courrently not eligible other MHz and callsigns:	not LoTW) acc	ount that you	ı want	
ou must list the call pecial Note: Contact am claiming credit for the Note Band Info ⇒ North America South America	Ilsigns of the QSO	1296 MHzOther End J DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (note that the courrently not eligible other MHz and callsigns:	not LoTW) acc	ount that you	ı want	
ou must list the calcapted Note: Contact am claiming credit for the Note Band Info ⇒ North America South America Oceania	Ilsigns of the QSO	1296 MHzOther End J DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (note that the courrently not eligible other MHz and callsigns:	not LoTW) acc	ount that you	ı want	
Ou must list the calcapted Note: Contact am claiming credit for the Note Band Info ⇒ North America South America	Ilsigns of the QSO	1296 MHzOther End J DXCC account. Os from your DXCC (note that the courrently not eligible other MHz and callsigns:	not LoTW) acc	ount that you	want	

WAS, ARRL

- WAS, worked all states
- must be done from one location (50 mile limit)
- Confirmations are required, either paper QSL cards or LoTW
- Many variations. WAS one band, one mode, etc.
- 5 band WAS with endorsements for additional bands.
- If you move more than 50 miles, start over again.
- Triple Play WAS. WAS on voice, CW and digital, all confirmations on LoTW

DXCC, ARRL

- DXCC, work 100 countries.
- Many variations here too. Various modes and bands.
- Work the first 100 using any mode or any band. Mixed DXCC
- Do it again all CW or all Phone. Or QRP
- Confirmations are required, either paper QSL cards or LoTW
- eQSL cards are not allowed. Its to easy to make a forgery.
- All stations worked must be on land.
- 5 band DXCC + endorsements for the others

Endorsement stickers

- for affixing to certificates or pins will be awarded as additional DXCC credits are granted. For the Mixed, Phone, CW, Digital, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10-Meter DXCC, stickers are provided in exact multiples of 50 (i.e. 150, 200) etc. between 100 and 250 DXCC credits, in multiples of 25 between 250 and 300, and in multiples of 5 above 300 DXCC credits.
- For 160-Meter, 80-Meter, 6-Meter, 2-Meter, Satellite, and 70 CM, 23 CM, 13 CM, and 3 CM DXCC, the stickers are issued in exact multiples of 25 starting at 125 and in multiples of 10 above 200, and in multiples of 5 between 250 and 300 and above. Confirmations for DXCC credit may be submitted in any increment, but stickers and listings are provided only after a new level has been attained.



DXCC Honor Roll & #1 Honor Roll

- To qualify, you must have at least 331 entities confirmed.
- There are 340 current DXCC entities
- Deleted entities do not count towards the DXCC Honor Roll.
- #1 Honor Roll: To qualify for a Mixed, Phone, CW or Digital, you must have worked every entity on the current DXCC List.
- There are some entries that are very hard to work, BS7H Scarborough Reef, there have only been 2 expeditions to it that count. (<25K)
- North Korea, ham radio not allowed, but some visitors have been allowed. A little over 16,000 contact have been made.



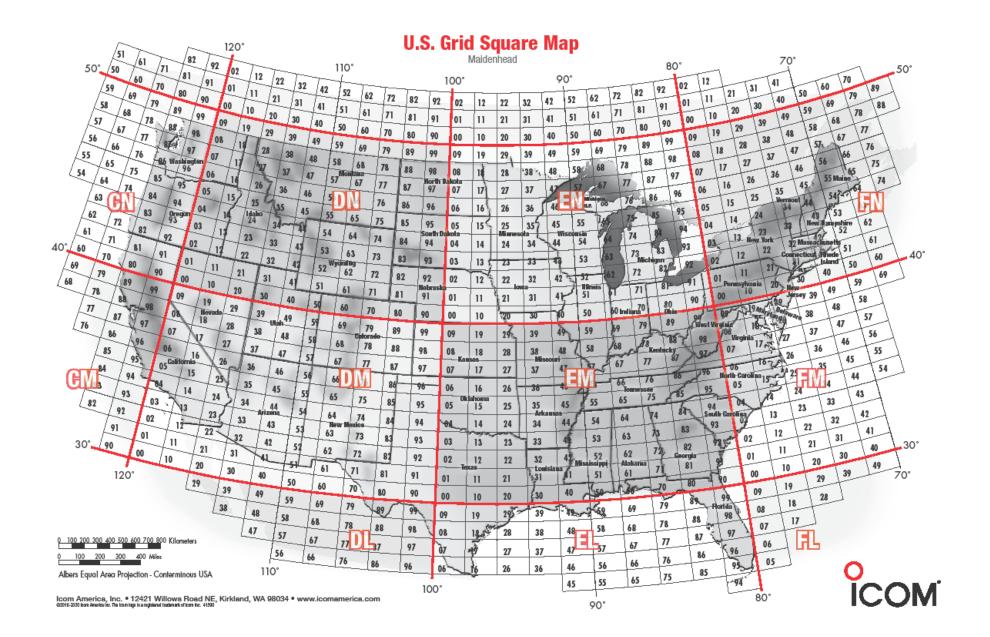
ARRL DXCC Challenge

- Work 1000 band-countries for this one.
- Work 100 DXCC on each of the HF bands 160 to 6 will do it.
- 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6
- 60 meters and deleted entities don't count.
- Most people work 200 or more on 20, 15, 10 and not so many on the other bands.
- Endorsements in 500 increments
- Making it to 3000 is a real challenge.



VHF/UHF Century Club, VUCC

- Work 100 Grid Locators on 6 or 2 meters.
- 50 on 222 MHz, or 432 MHz
- Less on the higher bands.
- All contacts must be made no more than 200 KM apart.
- When uploading to LoTW, edit your station location in the TQSL application.
- Endorsements in 25 increments
- Most of Raleigh is in FM05





Fred Fish Memorial Award

- Fred Fish, W5FF (SK) was the first amateur to work & confirm all 488 grids in the 48 contiguous States on 6 meters.
- Fred completed it in 1995.
- The FFMA Leader board website lists 61 Amateurs who also have worked all 488 grids on 6 meters.

County hunting

- Dave W4YDY, provided a lot of information about County hunting in the December RARS Exciter.
- The main site for county hunting is the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (https://marac.org/)
- They took over the Worked All Counties award from CQ when CQ went out of business.
- The first achievement in county hunting is usually USA-CA, where you work and confirm all 3077 United States counties.





17th Annual 13 Colonies



Special Event

JULY 1ST - 7TH 2025







K2C/RI



K2D/CT



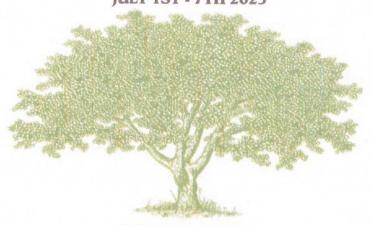
K2E/DE



K2F/MD



K2G/GA





















THIS CERTIFICATE CERTIFIES THAT ARS: N4TL HAS PARTICIPATED IN THIS ON - AIR AMATEUR RADIO EVENT HONORING THE ORIGINAL THIRTEEN COLONY STATES, OUR INDEPENDENCE, & OUR ACTIVE MILITARY / VETERANS.

THIS YEAR'S EVENT HONORS KEN VILLONE (KU2US), WHO CREATED THE 13 COLONIES SPECIAL EVENT IN 2009









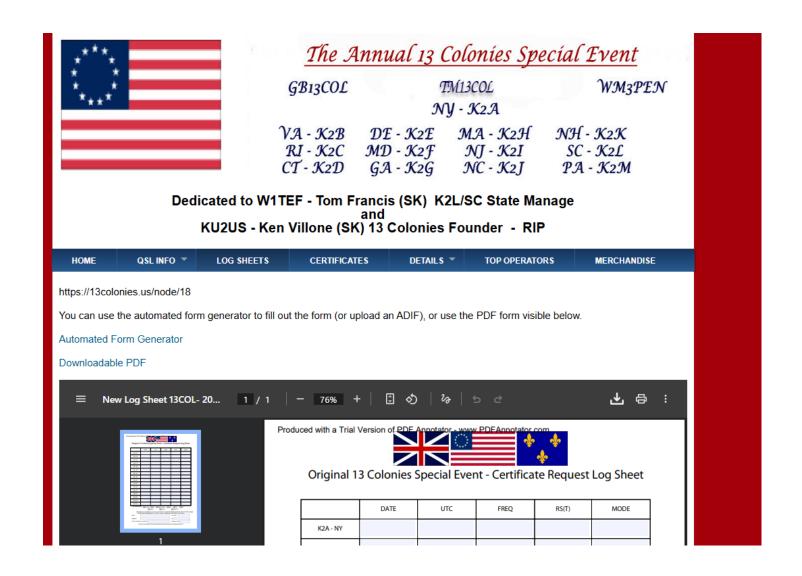
QSL

TM13COL

18 contacts



http://www.13colonies.us/logsheet





Original 13 Colonies Special Event - Certificate Request Log Sheet

	DATE	итс	FREQ	RS(T)	MODE
K2A - NY	20250701	1514	21.07400	-08	FT8
K2B - VA	20250701	1445	18.10100	-06	FT8
K2C - RI	20250701	1812	14.31000	59	USB
K2D - CT	20250701	1752	10.13600	+26	FT8
K2E - DE	20250701	1809	14.07500	-06	FT8
K2F - MD	20250701	1941	7.17790	59	LSB
K2G - GA	20250701	2314	7.22496	59	LSB
K2H - MA	20250701 194	1942	7.19306	59	LSB
K2I - NJ	20250701	1938	14.26801	59	USB
K2J - NC	20250701	1510	18.10500	-01	FT4
K2K - NH	20250701	1803	14.07500	+14	FT8
K2L - SC	20250701	1425	7.07500	+19	FT8
K2M - PA	20250701	1631	14.03000	59	cw
WM3PEN	20250701	1817	7.22500	59	LSB
GB13COL	20250701	2113	10.13600	-16	FT8
TM13COL	20250701	1542	14.07400	-16	FT8

	TM13COL	20250701	1542	14.07400	10	
	ENDOURSEMEN	TS C ALL QRP	© VET ☐ AME	R. LEGION ONR	A OVFW	⊖ cw
n4tl2@yahoo.com		○MC	OBILE (DIGITAL		
			TION OF \$5.00, CASH, CHECK, OR MONE REOUST TO: TONY - N4ATJ - PO BOX 62:			
	NAME	TOM LEWIS			CALL SIGN	N4TL
	ADDRESS	10709 MARTH/	S WAY, RALEIGH NC 27615		CITY	ЭН
	STATE / PROVINCE	E/COUNTRY NC			ZIP/MAIL CODE	27615

WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE SPECIAL EVENT.PLEASE HAVE A HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

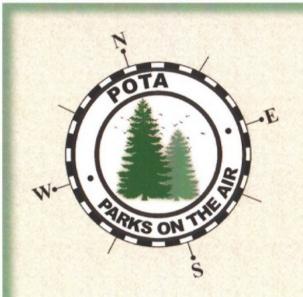
Parks on the air, POTA

- Parks on the Air® (POTA) started in early 2017 when the ARRL's National Parks on the Air special event ended. A group of volunteers wanted to continue the fun beyond the one-year event, and thus, POTA was born
- https://parksontheair.com/
- There are Activators and Hunters
- https://docs.pota.app

POTA Awards

- Parks activated, parks hunted, late shift activator, late shift hunter, and more
- 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 75, 100, 200, up to 1,000, 1500, 2,000, and up
- More than 15 different awards for Activators and Hunters.
- https://docs.pota.app/docs/awards.html
- Awards Parks on the Air Documentation







That

Charles A. Swindell

WB4DCM

has submitted proof of at least 50 QSOs with activator

Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT

50

08/27/2024

Date

Jan Jeth

Jason Johnston, W3AAX, POTA Coordinator

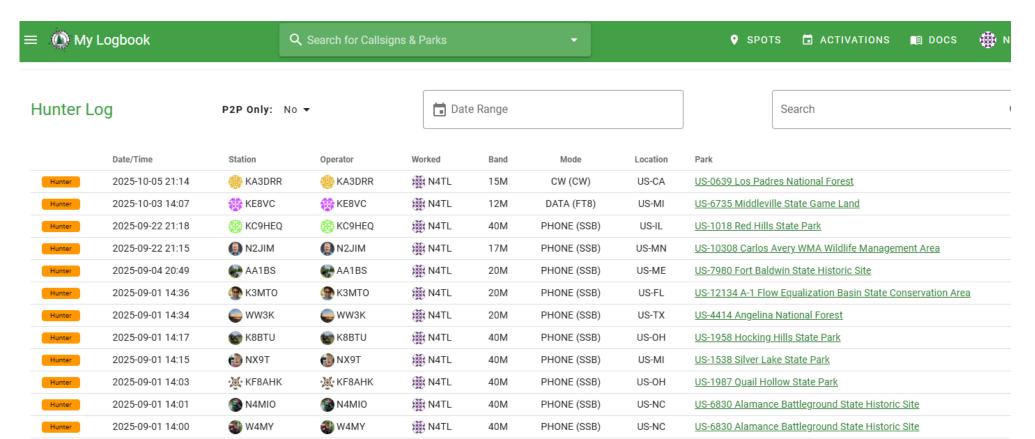


https://pota.app/#/

≡ № Parks on the Air	Q Search for Callsigns & Parks	▼ SPOTS 🛅
Active Spots Data will refresh in 60 seconds.		
Band: All 82 ▼ Mode: All 82 ▼ Program: All 88	QRT: Show 82 - Hunted: Show 82 - S	Sort: Time ▼
VE1NR @ CA-0042	TA1UT @ TR-0307	KD9DI @ US-7368
CA-0042 Kejimkujik National Park CA-NS 14074.0 kHz (FT8) W2NNN-# RBN via W2NNN-# Last heard 2 sec ago at 17:04 UTC	TR-0307 Büyükçekmece Lake Conservation Area TR-IB 14014.0 kHz (CW) RK3TD-2-# RBN 17 dB 25 WPM via RK3TD-2-# Last heard 3 sec ago at 17:04 UTC	US-7368 Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site US-IL 14074.0 kHz (FT8) K1RA-# RBN -3 dB via K1RA-# Last heard 3 sec ago at 17:04 UTC
K5SJC @ US-4404	⊕ K0VIK @ US-2484	DK4TN @ DE-0299
US-4404 Pike National Forest US-CO ↑ 14075 kHz (FT8) WA5HRO No spot information Last heard 11 sec ago at 17:04 UTC	US-2484 Frontenac State Park US-MN 14241 kHz W4JH0 57 TN Last heard 12 sec ago at 17:04 UTC	DE-0299 Moore im Salzach-Hügelland Natura 2000 DE-BY 5357.0 kHz (FT8) S54L-# RBN -1 dB via S54L-# Last heard 13 sec ago at 17:04 UTC
RE-SPOT () 4912	RE-SPOT \circlearrowleft 12	RE-SPOT \circlearrowleft 2

Hunter log

- Activators upload their logs
- Your hunter log is updated automatically (329)



Hunter log

Hunter	2002-02-03 22:42	VP8GE0	₩ N5KO	∰ N4TL	15M	PHONE (SSB)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	2002-01-30 19:26	VP8GE0	∰ N5KO	∰ N4TL	40M	CW (CW)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	2002-01-29 00:59	VP8GE0	∰ N5KO	∰ N4TL	20M	CW (CW)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	2002-01-28 17:59	VP8GE0	∰ N5KO	∰ N4TL	20M	CW (CW)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	2002-01-28 01:17	VP8GE0	∰ N5KO	∰ N4TL	17M	PHONE (SSB)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	2002-01-27 18:17	VP8GE0	🎇 N5KO	∰ N4TL	17M	PHONE (SSB)	GS-G	GS-0001 South Georgia Marine Reserve
Hunter	1999-01-24 08:22	ZL9CI	₩ N5KO	∰ N4TL	40M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-AI	NZ-0601 Campbell Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1999-01-22 01:48	ZL9CI	₩ N5KO	∰ N4TL	17M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-AI	NZ-0601 Campbell Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1999-01-21 07:43	ZL9CI	₩ N5KO	∰ N4TL	20M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-AI	NZ-0601 Campbell Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1999-01-17 19:56	ZL9CI	🎇 N5KO	∰ N4TL	15M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-AI	NZ-0601 Campbell Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1999-01-10 20:08	ZL9CI	₩ N5KO	∰ N4TL	15M	CW (CW)	NZ-AI	NZ-0601 Campbell Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1998-12-20 12:27	FT5ZH	FT5ZH	∰ N4TL	20M	PHONE (SSB)	TF-AM	TF-0003 TERRES AUSTRALES FRANCAISES FR3600161 National Nature Reserve
Hunter	1984-03-23 11:05	ZL8BQD	ZL1BQD	∰ N4TL	40M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-KI	NZ-0286 Kermadec Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1984-03-22 22:20	ZL8BQD	ZL1BQD	∰ N4TL	20M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-KI	NZ-0286 Kermadec Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1984-03-22 22:18	ZL8BQD	ZL1BQD	∰ N4TL	10M	PHONE (SSB)	NZ-KI	NZ-0286 Kermadec Island Nature Reserve
Hunter	1982-09-21 11:22	3D2RJ	ZL1BQD	∰ N4TL	20M	PHONE (SSB)	FJ-C	FJ-0004 Colo-i-Suva Forest Reserve National Park

Many others

- A-1, Operator club, a potential member has to be nominated by 2 members. On the air proficiency.
- IOTA (https://www.iota-world.org/)
- Summits on the air (https://www.sota.org.uk/)
- Jamboree on the air
 (https://www.scouting.org/international/jota-joti/jota/)
- Satellites (WAS, eQSL, AMSTAT, VUCC)
- EME, Earth Moon Earth, (WAS, WAC)

More

- Anyone can download and give these from the ARRL
- Mentor Award
- 2. First contact award
- 3. Rag Chewers' Club

Radio Society of Great
 Britainhttps://rsgb.org/main/operating/amateur-radio-awards/

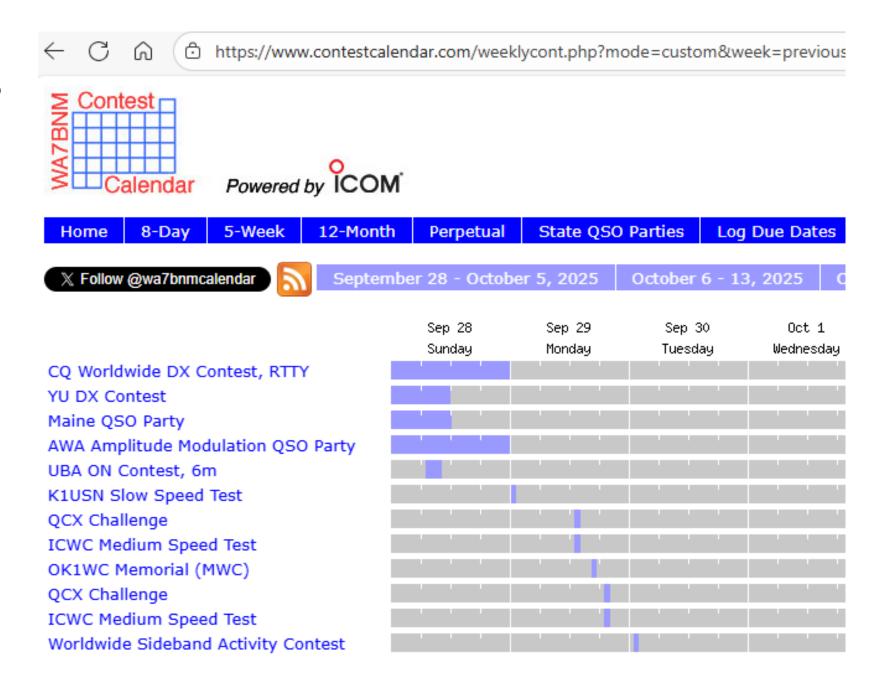
Code Proficiency Certificate

- Copy one of W1AW's qualifying runs and submit one minute of solid copy (legible) along with your \$10 fee for a certificate to:
- W1AW Qualifying Run
- 225 Main Street
- Newington, CT USA 06111
- Slow Code = practice sent at 5, 7-1/2, 10, 13 and 15 words per minute (wpm).
- Fast Code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm.
- W1AW Qualifying Runs are sent on the same frequencies as the Morse code transmissions.
- Check the ARRL website for dates and times.



Contests

WA7BNM
Contest
Calendar





Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) Amateur Radio Contesting





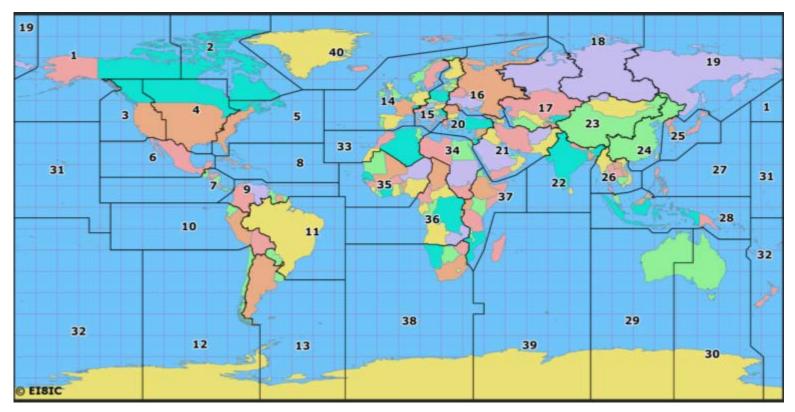


CQ Awards

- Earlier this year CQ Magazine stopped publishing.
- They sponsored a number of very popular contests and awards
- The World (WWROF) are keeping many of the CQ contests going.
- Confirmations on LoTW use to be sent to the CQ awards manager, but that person in unknown now.
- Worked all Zones, WAZ, N4BAA has taken it over, search on CQ WAZ Award.

CQ 40 Zone map

- Basic WAZ any band or mode
- 5 band WAZ is hard







Home	Rules	Results	Records	Awards	Resources	News	FAQs

Welcome to the Annual

DX Marathon

Starting January 1 of each year and running until the end of December, the DX Marathon is the perfect answer for the DX-er who needs that extra incentive to get on the air every day.

Simply work as many **countries** and **CQ Zones** as you can in each calendar year, regardless of the band or mode. Each country and zone counts only once, so you can concentrate on working new ones, rather than working the same ones on multiple bands and modes. <u>Find more information in</u> the rules.

Check our constantly updated Resources to improve your 2024 score.

Latest News

- Sep 25: <u>GROUP IO DX</u> MARATHON
- Sep 12: <u>501C3 for DX Marathon</u>, Inc
- Aug 24: <u>Sprint Rules Posted to</u> Website
- Aug 12: <u>Our First Corporate</u>
 <u>Sponsor</u>
- Aug 9: <u>Guest Speaker, W3LPL</u> <u>August 25, 2025</u>
- Aug 6: <u>LeaderBoard Now Available</u>
- Jul 30: <u>DX Marathon Sprint</u> October 18-27, 2025

Help fund the DX Marathon with a donation.

Platinum Sponsor:

eQSL, eAwards

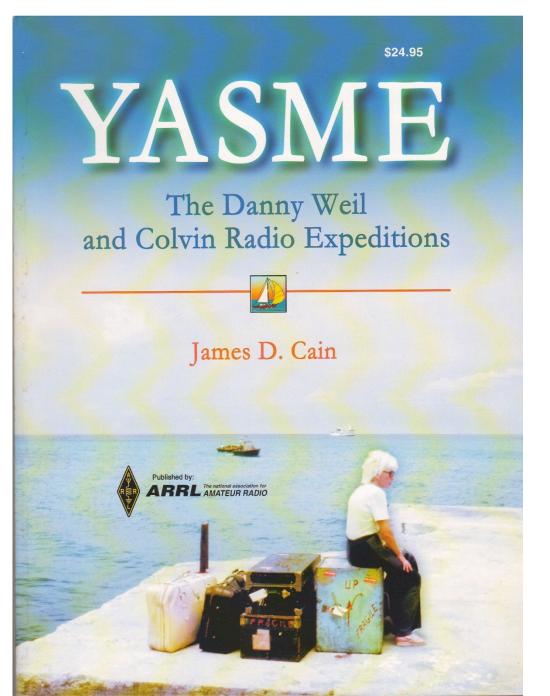
- There are 129 different eAwards and endorsements available.
- eDX100, eWAC, eWAS, eAFRICA
- eEchoLink, eJapan,
- And many more.

• I don't use eQSL so I was not able to find more information.



YASME

- Yasme is a storied word in amateur radio DX circles. DX stands for "distance" and the sailboats for which Yasme is named certainly covered their share of DX, crossing the oceans and dropping anchor at exotic islands some six decades ago. In turn, amateurs around the world, the "DX-ers," would then try to contact the Yasme captain, Danny Weil, VP2VB, an amateur operator of renown.
- Danny got his ham radio license in the British Virgin Islands after sailing the Atlantic in the Yasme. He used G7DW before he was licensed.
- Dick Spenceley, KV4AA helped Danny get his license
- Danny is considered the first Dxpeditioner.



This book is now free.
Type Yasme book in
Google and search.
The first one that came up
on my computer was the
www.yasme.org and a link
to the book. Down load in
a pdf.



plaque

• The Yasme Foundation offers a beautiful plaque to anyone who submits proof showing contacts with 30 different call signs of YASME officers, directors and/or operations. For proof of 60 contacts, a trophy in the shape of the sailboat "Yasme" is awarded. Eligible call signs are listed on the Yasme Awards Call Sign Directory page.





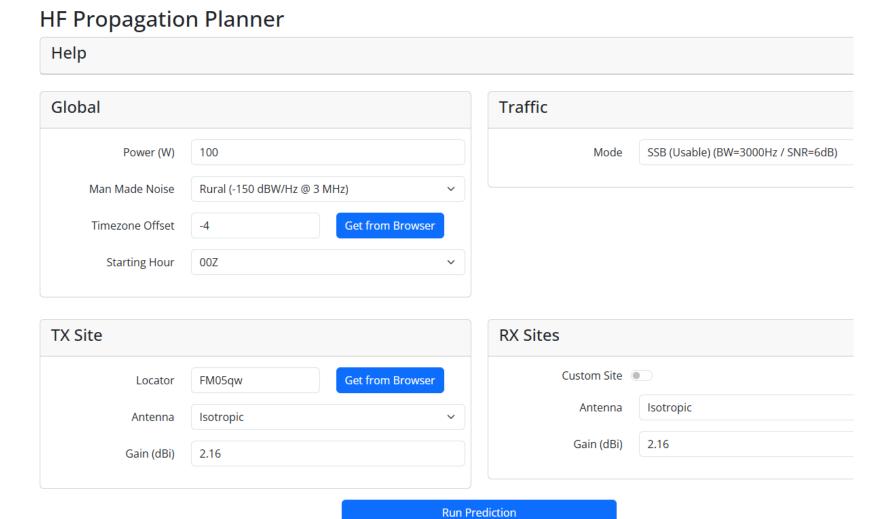
Questions

- One question was "are there still 10-10 nets". Yes, they are still on the air. See the <u>Ten Ten international website</u>.
- Marty Young reminded us that there is the <u>ARRL Field Day</u> and the <u>NC QSO party</u>.
- Bob Starkenberg stated that State QSO parties are good for getting WAS. If you need a state, search for their QSO party.
- The N1MM contesting software supports state QSO parties.

Propagation & DXing

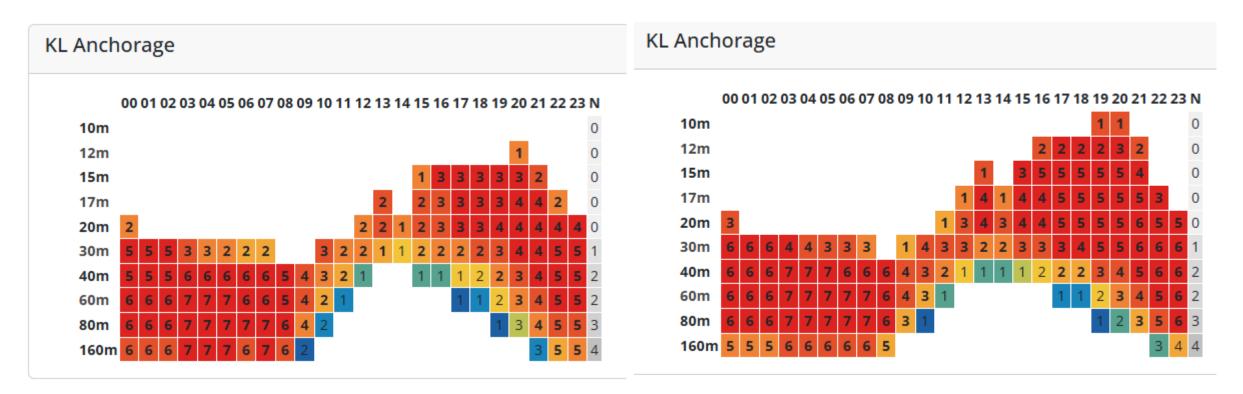
KC2G HF Propagation Planer

 Doing research for this presentation, I found this.





Run Prediction



With a vertical

With a 3 element beam

DXLab Propagation Prediction

DXLab is a freeware suite of eight interoperating applications that can be installed independently in any order. When multiple applications are running, they sense each other's presence and automatically interoperate to support your Amateur Radio DXing activities:

CMD Commander Transceiver Control

DXK Keeper, logging

DXV DX View DX info

PF Pathfinder for QSL info

PV PropView, Propagation prediction

SC Spot collector

Ww WinWarbler, for Digital modes.



For propagation only to need launcher, DX View & Propagation prediction.

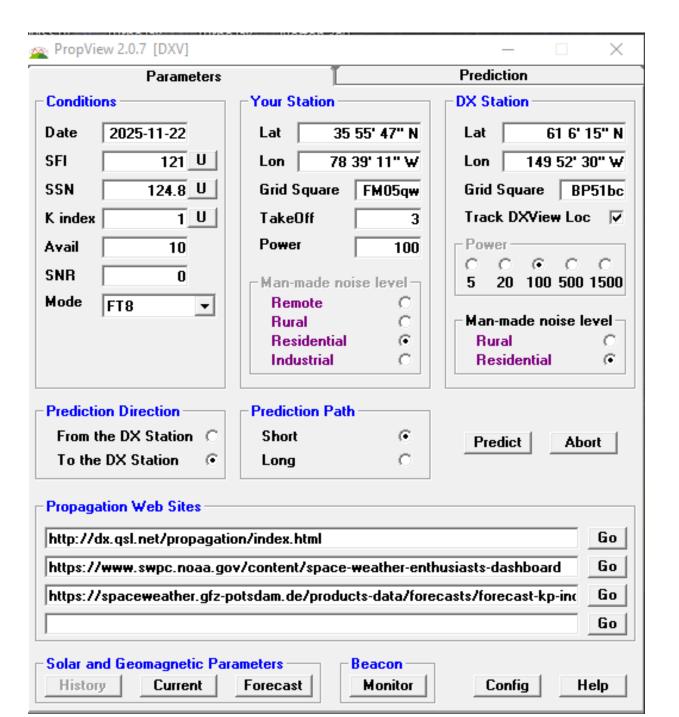


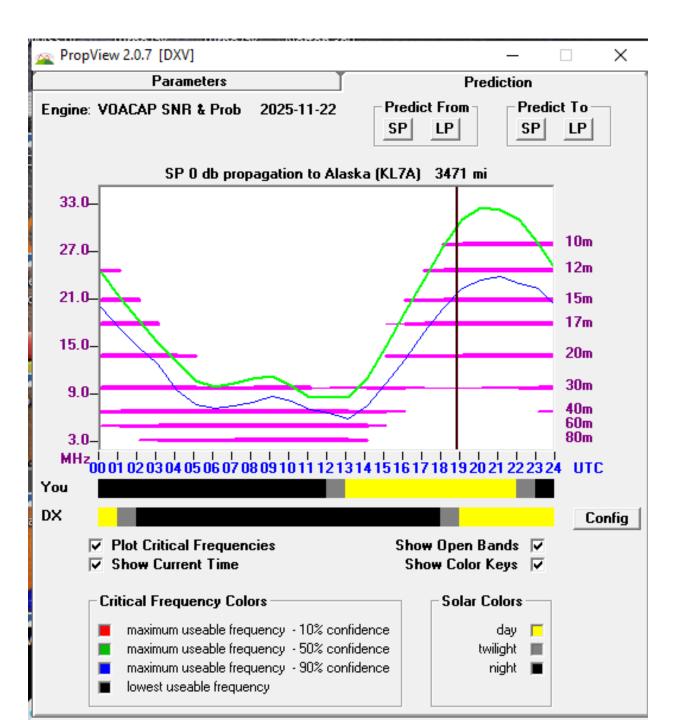
DXView

2 DXView Info 4.9.8 @ 2025-11-22 18:44:36 Z [PV] New DB!	_	\square \times
Search Go DXCC prefix entity code KL7A Alaska ▼ 6 323 143 Location @ 2025-11-22 09:44:36 local USAP database GeoMag	Antenna presets 0 45	
latitude longitude SP DX cont grid CQ ITU max K 61 6' 15" N 149 52' 30" W 3471 ~ NA NA BP51bc 1 64 64	90 135 180	
location IOTA time zone Alaska < Pri: AK> UTC-9	225	
Map World Plot MapQuest Xlate Sun QRZ SC Lock Config	270	
Country Clear Google Scan DX DXCC Help	315	

Use DXView Configuration/general to set your own call and location







End



46 years on six meters for Worked all States



November 1, 2024 PSK reporter 6 meters

Very rare opening on 6M between Alaska and eastern USA