



January 2009

Storm Warning!

The January program will be a look at severe weather and Ham Radio – how it affects our operation and stations.

The January Western Washington DX Club meeting will start with dinner at 6:30pm and the program at 7:30pm on Tuesday, January 13th at the Lake City Elks Club (145th and Lake City Way).

January Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2009
Dinner at 6:30pm – Program at 7:30pm

Lake City Elks Club
N.E. 145th and Lake City Way

WWDXC Membership News

By Jim Hadlock, K7WA

New Members: Gregory Fischer AB7R, Oak Harbor, WA
Robin Mackay W7ABC, Vancouver, WA

Re-Activating Member: William E. Whitney WO7O, Quilcene, WA

Welcome to Greg, Robin, and re-welcome to Bill! We look forward to greeting you at a WWDXC meeting or activity soon.

The December Renewal Notices and Reminders went out via snail-mail in December. All Western Washington DX Club activities are supported by your annual dues. We look forward to continuing to support significant DXpeditions in 2009, along with our other activities, including club-sponsored plaques for 7QP, CQ and ARRL DX Contests, June Field Day, August Picnic, and Washington Salmon Run.

Thank You for supporting the Western Washington DX Club!

2008 Washington Salmon Run Results – sorted by county

CALL			MODE	PWR	QTH	CW	PHONE	DIGITAL	CTY	ST/VE	DX	BONUS	SCORE
KD7KST	SINGLE-OP		DIGITAL		BEN	0	0	13	4	8	0	0	624
K7YR	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	CHE	0	261	0	32	37	0	500	36518
W7CH	SINGLE-OP		PHONE		CHE	0	103	0	31	9	0	0	8240
K7INA	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	CLAL	309	571	0	13	53	28	0	223532
W7DX	MULTI-OP	UNLIM	MIXED	HIGH	CLAR	119	329	17	34	46	14	0	112988
KD7RUS	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	CLAR	0	13	0	8	4	0	500	812
A19Q	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	CLAR	1	10	0	2	9	0	500	764
WI7F	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	COW	0	216	0	35	42	0	500	33764
KW7N	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	DOU	0	148	0	39	9	0	500	14708
N7VPN	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	FRA	0	97	0	36	11	0	500	9618
N7PP	MO-2T	EXP	MIXED	HIGH	GAR	528	1099	0	39	54	40	1000	574230
W7WMO	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	GRAN	195	71	0	25	35	6	0	60852
W7PU	MO-ST	EXP	MIXED	HIGH	GRAY	205	241	1	32	48	12	1500	121652
N7AAL	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	GRAY	151	84	0	36	39	1	500	59172
K7KHC	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	GRAY	116	0	0	16	26	4	500	21844
W7FLY	MO-ST	WA CLUB			ISL	325	474	2	35	49	13	1000	219832
N7WI	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	ISL	83	191	0	19	43	3	500	46910
W7AUM	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	ISL	4	203	0	30	30	3	0	26586
WA7JT	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	ISL	6	35	0	3	20	0	0	2162
AD7T	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	JEFF	0	192	0	29	31	0	0	23040
K7AMS	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	JEFF	67	0	0	3	27	0	0	8040
W7PRC	MULTI-OP	UNLIM	MIXED	HIGH	KING	332	969	4	39	54	25	1500	388776
W7OM	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	KING	327	198	43	26	53	17	500	180596
N7KE	MO-2T		MIXED	HIGH	KING	280	137	8	38	44	9	1500	131266
W7VXS	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	KING	272	123	16	34	45	12	1000	128218
K7NWS	MO-ST	WA CLUB	MIXED	HIGH	KING	120	289	0	19	48	8	500	79850

W7QN	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	KING	217	119	0	19	39	13	500	79026
W9PL	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	KING	147	80	0	23	39	7	500	52112
WA7KYI	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	KING	153	1	0	11	33	6	0	30700
K7GLM	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	KING	71	55	0	26	18	2	500	18624
K7MCR	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	KING	1	115	17	37	18	1	0	16912
N7BK	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	KING	0	122	0	36	15	0	500	12944
AF7O	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	KING	0	118	0	36	13	0	500	12064
N7MY	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	KING	0	93	0	37	5	0	500	8312
K7S	MO-2T		MIXED		KING	2	88	9	20	11	2	0	7260
W7AFA	SINGLE-OP		MIXED		KING	18	3	0	7	3	0	0	780
K7LOG	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	QRP	KING	14	1	0	2	2	0	0	232
W7GTO	SINGLE-OP		DIGITAL	LOW	KING	0	0	8	2	4	0	0	192
W7DRA	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	KING	6	0	0	4	1	0	0	120
N8JD	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	KING	0	4	0	2	1	0	0	24
K7QQ	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	KITS	677	0	0	21	51	37	500	295672
N7IZ	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	KITS	0	105	6	35	12	0	1000	11998
K7UPG	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	KITT	0	67	0	34	3	0	500	5458
KI7JG	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	LEW	0	64	0	25	6	0	500	4468
K7CEX	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	LEW	0	65	0	24	3	0	500	4010
W7LKG	SINGLE-OP		CW	HIGH	PIE	200	0	0	8	37	16	0	48800
W7DK	MO-ST	WA CLUB	MIXED		PIE	46	131	0	34	19	0	1000	24638
K7EK	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	QRP	PIE	39	119	0	37	14	0	500	20594
KD7GTI	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	PIE	71	0	0	12	21	2	0	9940
W7NNN	SINGLE-OP		DIGITAL	LOW	PIE	0	0	38	4	19	2	0	3800
KE7EMW	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	PIE	0	27	0	21	1	0	500	1688
WA7PVE	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	QRP	PIE	0	22	1	2	13	0	0	720
K7ED	SINGLE-OP	MOB	MIXED	LOW	SAN	127	32	0	21	33	6	1000	35320
N7AN	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SKAG	247	104	0	37	45	7	1000	107444
K9JF	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	SKAM	161	171	0	24	48	10	1000	81852
W7VV	MO-ST		MIXED	HIGH	SNO	401	540	0	36	53	18	1000	288188
W7GKF	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	SNO	365	444	0	39	52	21	1000	263976
N7NKO	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	SNO	0	644	0	21	54	2	500	99676
W7IU	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	SNO	0	455	0	30	44	4	500	71480
WA7SRZ	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	SNO	0	279	0	36	37	0	500	41234
K7HBN	SINGLE-OP		CW	QRP	SNO	158	0	0	16	35	3	0	34128
W7TSQ	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SNO	69	90	0	13	39	3	0	25080
K7II	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	SNO	27	62	0	23	21	0	500	10708
WA7BRL	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SNO	0	100	1	32	10	0	500	9068
WA7PRC	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	SNO	23	59	0	23	16	0	0	8190
NG7Z	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SNO	51	44	0	21	0	0	500	6632
KX7L	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	QRP	SNO	55	3	0	11	14	0	0	5650
AE7DB	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	SNO	0	72	0	30	9	0	0	5616
N7TK	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SNO	7	53	0	29	2	0	500	4654
K7GS	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	SPO	206	0	0	18	36	6	500	49940
WA0WWW	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SPO	116	130	0	4	46	9	0	42716
K7OX	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	SPO	144	48	5	17	34	2	500	37176
WX7P	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	STE	0	644	50	28	50	6	0	124992
N7DRK	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	STE	0	176	21	38	18	1	500	25352
KC7H	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	STE	0	76	0	26	5	0	0	4712
KB7UJI	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	STE	0	22	0	13	4	0	0	748
KE7LOQ	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	THU	0	88	0	32	6	0	0	6688
KB7STO	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	HIGH	THU	0	48	0	19	13	0	0	3072

AD7HE	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	WAL	3	109	0	34	13	1	500	11540
KD7PTG	SINGLE-OP		PHONE	LOW	WAL	0	104	0	35	6		500	9028
N7RO	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	WHAT	1	751	0	5	54	13	0	108432
N7OC	SINGLE-OP		CW	LOW	WHAT	390	0	0	15	49	5	500	108140
K7MM	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	HIGH	WHI	184	297	0	29	49	22	1000	134000
K7HC	SINGLE-OP		PHONE		YAK	2	226	0	1	42	0	0	19780
WN7T/M	SINGLE-OP	MOB	MIXED	LOW	MULTI	74	348	0	36	35	6	500	76884
K7WA	SINGLE-OP	ROV	MIXED	LOW	MULTI	184	86	0	31	35	7	500	66784
WW7LW	MO-ST	ROV	MIXED		MULTI	57	281	0	36	23	0	500	47110
N7GCO	SINGLE-OP	MOB	PHONE	LOW	MULTI	0	239	0	35	16	0	500	24878
KB7HDX	SINGLE-OP	EXP	PHONE	LOW	MULTI	0	161	0	36	25	3	500	21108
W7AML	SINGLE-OP	MOB	PHONE	LOW	MULTI	0	161	0	27	29	0	500	18532
AB7RW	SINGLE-OP	MOB	SB CW	LOW	MULTI	102	0	0	4	27	3	0	13872
N7EIE/M	SINGLE-OP	MOB	CW	LOW	MULTI	42	0	0	4	22	1	0	4536
W7CEG	SINGLE-OP		MIXED	LOW	MULTI	0	36	0	22	1	0	500	2156
KB6OLL/7	SINGLE-OP	MOB	PHONE	LOW	MULTI	0	37	0	3	13	0	0	1184

WWDXC Contest Activity

By Mike Dinkelman, N7WA

December is a busy month for contesting, especially if you like to preface it with the post Thanksgiving CQWW CW test. We had a big turnout for CQWW CW – my thanks to all how turned out since it is a trophy competition event. Upcoming trophy events include the ARRL RTTY Roundup (which will be over by the time you read this) and CQ WW RTTY WPX and ARRL DX CW tests in February.

2008 CQWW CW - 3830 Claimed Scores

Call	QSOs	Zones	Cntry	hr	Score
~~~~~					
All M/2 HP					
N7BV	1315	112	244	48	1,178,716
All M/S HP					
VP5W	5384	141	485	48	8,363,986
W7VJ	1841	137	357	48	2,461,108
All SOAB HP					
K7RL	1964	130	312	44	2,305,000
K7ZA	652	108	238	30	603,000
All SOAB LP					
N7ZG	461	89	155	39	301,340
N0AX	416	76	183	26	278,943
K7HBN	399	79	139	30	233,696
W7TMT	301	103	71	26	138,504
W7QN	242	87	63	15.2	94,950
N7WI	30	17	16		1,815
All SOAB QRP					
NN7SS(K6UFO)	279	61	117	20	125,134
All SOAB(A) HP					
K7LAZ	558	86	162	30	385,144
K7EG	373	62	145	36	204,516

All SOSB(A)/20 LP NG7Z	205	26	60	~8	46,096
All SOSB/160 HP N7UA	567	30	79	30	149,112
All SOSB/20 HP W7RN(K6KR)	900	35	117	24	365,408
N7XY	21	8	9	0.9	1,020
All SOSB/20 LP N7WA	443	27	77		121,368
All SOSB/20 QRP K7SS	242	28	63		52,052
All SOSB/40 HP W7WA	1145	36	126		521,478

### 2008 CQWW CW - Soapbox

**N7BV** Conditions seem more of the same – Poor! We had two new Elecraft K3's and were taken by the rigs features and selectivity. Really easy to listen to hour after hour. Thanks for all the QSO's.

**VP5W** Wow! The Turks and Caicos Island geckos were cheering us on as we toiled through the nights on 160, 80 and 40 meters. We all look forward to next year.

**W7VJ** To say this was a spectacular contest would be an understatement. It could even be called magical. There are so many highlights that it would fill several pages highlighting them all; EU on 160; short path EU on 80; EY8MM on 80; working EU on 40 at 1:00 PM local time and through the afternoon; C98LW on 40 long path Sunday morning local with no pile up; the JA runs were back on 20; TO3R on 40 15 minutes before the end of the contest after all of us tracking him through the weekend; working the TT8 on one call through the pile; JA on 15 meters on Sunday for a double mult. – amazing but true; working friends DK9TN and DK4YJ both at HB0; and much more. Being on 40 was like operating from another QTH. Now I have a feeling for what the East Coast U.S. experiences.

It was also exceptionally gratifying to see the synergy of the team come together, despite two missing members; one due to a funeral, the other to a new birth. The post-contest debrief resulted in a list of minor improvements; quite a change from the previous lists which had major “to do” improvements.

Congratulations to the team. Thanks to everyone for the QSOs. Wishing you and your families the best of the holiday season.

**K7RL** Excellent activity and quiet solar conditions made for a fun contest. Going in, my goals were fairly simple:

- Have fun.
- Keep my butt in the chair as long as possible.
- Make the best of propagation and band openings.
- Try to keep my score close to the west coast competition like N6MJ@W6YI, K6XX, K6NA, N6TV, KO7AA, K7GK@K7ZSD, and any others I may have missed. That's certainly no easy task with this group of great operators.

If I don't achieve the last goal on my list, I can't necessarily blame propagation. The low bands were terrific. 160m was full of EU signals both nights, and my total represents the most countries ever worked on top band in any contest. It was only a few short years ago that 1.8 MHz was a contest wasteland. Work the typical ten or twelve mults and Qs, and move on. It's amazing how the band has come to life this year. 40m was as good as I have ever heard it; there was always action somewhere. It is strange to see 7 MHz totals that rival 14 MHz in DX contest. All things being equal, I didn't think that was possible from the west coast. Thank you to all for

the Qs, and Happy Holidays!

**K7SS** Good fun in this one. Decided to try for a QRP single band on 20. Started out great with LOUD JA and Asia. Pacific Islands were pretty much non-existent with only a couple ZLs in the log, and the usual very loud KH6s. Didn't get a VK double mult til late Sunday. As everyone up in this neck of the woods noted, the middle of EU was just not there for us this year. Never worked a G, SM, DL, I, OK, etc etc. However CT and EA was loud and workable, but I can't recall a recent DX contest, on 20, in which we didn't work a single central EU station. 20 felt pretty much like being on 15 in a low to mid-cycle year, with only the edge of EU and zone 33 pretty much being the DX in that direction. Had to laugh listening to the D4C and 3X5A pileups....like a swarm of hornets and it lasted for hours. Didn't even try on the first day, hoping there might be a minor lull and a shot on Sunday, which there was. Decided to get on 160 in the late evening and wound up getting my first ever 160 WAC, was short only Africa and on Saturday nite 3X5A rose above the noise beautifully and was worked. YEAHH!!

Back on 20 what was missed into EU was made up for with great ASIA opening both afternoons. Heard and missed the JT and the HS, but was able to work most others. Almost all S&P, and found that if there were more than two or three calling the DX, it was most likely unworkable. Pretty much had to have a clear shot to work anyone. Rarely able to call over anyone to get the DX. Did hear zones 36 and 37 calling folks, but they never sat still long enough to call em. Leaving a pileup and coming back in 10 minutes often proved fruitful, however once the packet swarm found someone you could pretty much forget them for some time. The swarming on newly found and spotted stations seemed ferocious. All in all great fun and would do it again. One last note, I just have to comment on the wonderful CW skill level noticed this weekend. Sounds like CW is here to stay. Great ops with great ears everywhere!

**K7ZA** Really strange conditions here. 40m was open to Europe all most all day light hours here! Wish I had a beam for that band. Heard my first JA on 40 Friday night at 7:30 local time, around 11:30 AM in JA land.

**N7ZG** The K index was 0 for most of the contest period with periods of 1. The EU openings in the morning on 20 were even shorter than recent years and strictly limited to the EU western seaboard. The funny thing is the countries missing that would normally be worked were worked on 40 instead. The law of conservation of energy must apply,,,, oh wait, there is no explanation for the behavior of 10 and 15. That won't work. Oh well... 40 has become a daylight band with predictable (and short) openings to EU in the latter part of the afternoon. This has been the trend of the past few years so nothing new really. The big change has been 80. The extreme western part of EU is now workable from the PAC NW. Some surprises are pleasant in the face of very limited EU openings and non-existent JA runs. Just like last year I could only run 20 on Sat (very briefly). New for this year, K3's replace the K2 and ICOM-751A. Also, a new 80M vertical dipole in the big tree out back. The score is down by almost 100K compared against 2007 (did that one HP from N7BV's QTH). Held the line pretty well on mults and feel good about that. Q's are down by almost 100 due to limited openings. Most of that was 15 while 40 and 80 made up for some of the slack. I'm learning to really appreciate and enjoy the low bands.

**NØAX** First DX contest from the Midwest since 1982 and with a very simple station as described in the Contest Update newsletter (<http://www.arrl.org/contest/update>). One radio, one wire, one operator, two ears, and two pieces of hacksaw blade comprising a paddle - just like the Goodle Days. Every QSO came with a big helping of that "Wow!" sauce! To help the numerous visitors understand what was going on, I even put up a ham radio world map and stuck pins in for each new country - since I was S&P all weekend, this was easy to do and a lot of fun as they asked, "Are you going to work Greenland?" (maybe, found one on Sunday morning) and "How come there aren't any pins in the US?" and then having them cheer when they saw a new pin added in their favorite country, such as VK or KL7 or G. (This is fun - if you're doing a casual effort, quilting pins are cheap and visible to let everybody see your progress without disturbing your concentration.)

Best contest moment - discovering a 5H3 calling relatively unmolested on 20 CW just before I was going to pull the plug for a break on Sunday about local noon. That "599 37" sure catches one's ear! So if could bag Zone 37, what else was on? I kept going and wound up discovering a very weak 9J2 for Zone 36. Way up at the top end of the band, a ZS and a TO from Reunion were handing out zones 38 and 39 - why not give them a

try through the big pileups? Double bingo! So within about 20 minutes, four majorly exciting zones were logged after I almost shut the station down. Moral of the story, of course, is to keep that VFO knob turning.

Strangest contest moment - realizing that I did not hear one single OH station all weekend. Whatever happened in the ionosphere made northern Zone 15 quite rare from Missouri. I did find SM, ES and LY on 80 meters of all bands, but not a peep from the dominant signals I'd grown accustomed to hearing from Scandinavia. Nary an LA or OZ, either. Weird, but that's life at the solar minimum.

**W7QN** Nothing heard from central EU this year.

**NN7SS** Despite lack of solar flux, 15m was pretty good, and I even worked another continent on 10m! (NA to SA) I soared past my goal of 100K QRP points, thanks to all the JAs and VEs. As usual when QRP, CQing was next to useless, so lots of tune and call, tune and call. The computer had to be reboot a couple times when it got slug-ish. Lots of good ears out there – Thanks!

**K7LAZ** Nice to work the WWDXC guys at VP5,,,Sounds like all the runs were good. My first scheduled attempt from home on CQ WW CW and I had fun but need a better plan next time re hours and bands to work (Simple eh? a band Plan and some sleep ahead of time). Turned the amp off at noon on Sunday and I think I did as well at S&P. K7EG Jim stated it best about the big RF hole re Zones and EU.. AF nnd Asia are fun but the little guys need the common EU countries to show. Lotsa busted calls on the clusters and I can hear why...Really need to copy what you hear not what you read... Pretty simple for those that copy cw, but the high speed slang and computer enhanced CW makes it harder at times. Lotsa fun and will enjoy what the OT guys talk about when 10 and 15 return...

**K7EG** A real blast despite poor prop. Excellent openings to Asia/Pacific. Good openings on N/S path to Central/So America. EU openings were poor with contacts mainly Western EU and Western Africa. Central EU (Zones 17,18,19, 21, 22) were MIA as was African 34,37,& 39. I think they took a holiday. It was fun working the JT1.

**NG7Z** Didn't put a whole lot of effort into this year's contest. Did a single band job on 20M using the new Microkeyer and spotting assistance for the first time. I was looking for some fillers for WAZ. Still missing Zone 34. Got all the others though. EU seemed to be MIA on Sunday. Best contact was ZS1EL after a long pile up. Almost 100% was S&P. I tried CQing a few times but stateside stations kept calling so gave up on that. Kinda neat clicking on the bandmap and watching the radio respond. Too easy actually. I can see how a guy could get real used to using the mouse instead of the dial on the radio. Think I'll pass on the bandmap gizmo and stick to true S&P. Thanks for the q's.

**N7UA** Great conditions in this contest; a real treat from here. Was able to run both Europe and JA. Running Europe from here is a rare thing, so I felt very lucky to finally have a hole right through what would normally be the aurora curtain. Northern Europeans worked me from their full day light. Here's a partial break down:

Zone	Q's
25	210 (Thanks JA)
14&15	106
16	37
17	11
18	8
19	6

Note that, until this year, Zones 16 and 17 have only been worked a few times from here in the last 20 years, except for long path. I hope the sun stays quiet for quite some time. I did not work much in Southern Europe but did snag 5B4AI. No SV or even I stations were worked. Also no Zone 26 (usually able to be worked from here)or Southern Asia, South Africa and almost no South America from here. It was as if the Southern Hemisphere had a large attenuator circling the equator. But it was really a thrill to be able to work over the pole, which more than compensated for the lack of Southern propagation. Best missed but heard were 3V8BB,

EY7AF and UA0YAY (Zone 23, which I never worked). Before the contest I had phased three North/South beverages together in attempt to get rid of some bad local noise that was in the beam pattern of my wire 4 square. This turned out to be an excellent receive antenna for over the pole, even though I spent a lot of time at the controls cancelling noise and peaking signals. Great contest, great fun.

**W7RN(K6KR)** Thanks to Tom and Midge for being such great hosts!

**W7WA** This was my first time operating the CQ WW CW in the single band 40 meter category. Not sure I would recommend this category to others. I prefer to sleep at night.

**2008 ARRL 160M - 3830 Claimed Scores**

Call	QSOs	Sec	Cntry	hr	Score
~~~~~					
All Single Op HP					
N9ADG	248	55	5	5	31,200
K7SS	140	49	1	5	13,867
All Single Op LP					
W7TMT	359	64	1	26	46,144
W7QN	143	25	2	12.2	7,150
NG7Z	106	31	0	5.6	6,572
K7WA	50	14	0	2.5	1,400
All Single Op QRP					
KX7L	87	27	0	5.5	4,698

2008 ARRL 160M - Soapbox

N9ADG Although one of my favorite contests, I couldn't devote the right amount of time to it this year due to getting a release out at work (www.onehub.com - try it!), and just getting back from VP5 the previous Tuesday evening. At the contest start, I didn't even get home until 0315; put a few in the log, but it seemed that band conditions weren't as favorable as they'd been earlier in the week.

Highlights were getting called by VE8 just before the contest end, and getting KG6ZHC into the log with six seconds to spare. It's also always great to hear familiar calls. And an apology -- when I was searching through the DX Window, I left my TX VFO on 5K0T while calling HI3A three times before I noticed ... I'm sorry if my boneheadedness caused interference.

K7WA Got on to work the locals and surprised myself! 50 watts, short wire and big tuner.

W7TMT Propagation is the strangest stuff! Given the conditions on Topband in the week or two preceding this years ARRL 160 I was optimistic. However, as it turned out for me Mark Twain was right when he wrote that "The only thing worse than a young pessimist is an old optimist". His observations about life were always astute. Preparations for this year's 160M events included a plan to get the boat out of the marina and hopefully away from some of the noise sources. The worst emitter disappeared when an old boat a couple of slips away left the marina. I suspect he had a junk dime-store battery charger that was radiating a lot of trash. Things are better now but there are still several of what sound like loud switching power supplies there to clog up a few spots on the band especially the top end of the DX window.

In order to keep my options open and not deal with the balloon I needed to come up with a vertical antenna solution that didn't require a second support like my inverted L at the dock does. The solution was to scale up (in length - down in frequency) one-half of a linear loaded antenna design by K4VX (<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0207040.pdf>) for an overall length of 90'. The antenna described in the article produces a short 40 meter dipole. I simply scaled it to 160 using the published 40 meter dimensions. Turned out it resonated too low by a fair amount (1650 kHz) Trimming a little over two feet off the linear loaded section brought it to resonate at the 1840 mark. 2-to-1 SWR bandwidth is barely 60 kHz so that's pretty good given the

situation. I reworked the fiberglass mast I hoist to the top of my 50' main mast and got the upper end to just short of the 90' level. That long slender fiberglass section really gets whipping around when the boat rolls (visualize the action of a good fly-casting fishing rod) but it stayed all in one piece. (Perhaps I need to make it longer.)

Friday morning I moved the boat over to the north end of Blake island. At that location I have saltwater all around with no land closer than 2.1 miles at its closest over most of the compass. The island only blocks from 170 to perhaps 210 degrees true. Plus the island is so low I doubt it matters since I was anchored more than two wavelengths off-shore. One down side is that this is a very unprotected anchorage especially if it blows out of the north but the weather guessers were saying no winds on Friday night and out of the south at 10-15 on Saturday. The other negative, from an anchorage perspective, is that it is exposed to the constant large ship traffic in the sound. The big deep draft vessels headed south to Tacoma at 20+ knots and the regularly scheduled Washington State ferry's headed to and from Rich Passage on their way back and forth to Bremerton all provide for a pretty bumpy ride more or less around the clock. But no sacrifice is too great for a dedicated 160 meter contester.

The real surprise was on the noise front. The junk from the surrounding boats at the dock was replaced by intermod problems. It seems that the location is perfectly triangulated between numerous high powered AM broadcast band stations and given the clean open saltwater propagation path this was a problem. Even with a W3NQN BCB filter inline (the one you can transmit through) I still had intermod and this was with a K3 no less! This was something I hadn't expected. Once I was there I decided to just go with it and pressed on. Another negative about the location (that I had anticipated) was the proximity, just four open water miles to the east of me of three local stations all who could probably see me if they looked out their window and that generally run high power. With the K3 and 400 Hz. filter however, I thought "no problem". As it turns out there was a problem from one of them (who shall go nameless). The signal strength was only about 20 over 9 but lot's of trash being generated up and down the band none the less. The phenomena appeared on only one signal of the two I heard and the other was actually stronger. Friday night things sounded pretty good initially with my first mid-west QSO appearing in the log at 1530 local time and the evenings final efforts were only slightly down from last years rate. Saturday night was a different story. High noise levels and weak and water signals from everything east of the Rockies for much of the night. At times early Sunday morning even the big guns like W8JI and K9DX were weak and watery. Additionally, their signals were infused and/or modulated by atmospheric noise. The north east was nearly non-existent and accounted for the majority of missing sections. From my perspective conditions were not good.

I was 16 mult's and 170 Q's down for a score that's 39,936 points below the winning LP WWA score in 2007. I guess that's part of the challenge. I'm already looking forward to the Stew Perry Topband Distance Challenge at the end of the month and have picked another anchorage for that event. Not quite as much open water but perhaps a less noisy location. See you in the Stew.

NG7Z Now I see the necessity of a receiving antenna. The inverted L works OK on transmit but I couldn't hear real well. I guess it's a summer project waiting to be done. The QRN here is normally above S-9 which means that I work only the stronger stations. Sunday was the only day I joined the contest and the QRN was around S-6 so I was able to work a lot more stations than I would normally hear. This could be one of my favorite contests if and when I get around to building a decent RX antenna. The QTH is only a couple of hundred feet away from the PUD right of way with twin 500kv power lines. I wonder if a RX antenna would even work in this environment. Anyway, thanks for picking out my puny signal. Will try the SP later this month. 73 to all and may your Christmas be very blessed.

KX7L Power line noise didn't plague me this time, but it seemed harder than usual to be heard, especially to the south. (Couldn't get anyone in TX to hear me!) I got someone excited when he thought I was OX7L! All-in-all, lots of fun. Thanks to those who persisted with my QRP signal!

2008 ARRL 10M - 3830 Claimed Scores

Call	QSOs	Mults	hr	Score
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~

All SO CW LP				
K7HBN	128	15	15	7,680
W7TMT	51	8		1,632

All SO Mixed HP				
K7LAZ	204	24	15	15,456

### 2008 Stew Perry TBDC - 3830 Claimed Scores

Call	QSOs	hr	Score
------	------	----	-------

All Single Op LP			
W7TMT	190	13	1,184
N7WA	194		1,041
N9ADG	166	7.5	1,008
W7QN	72	11	262
NG7Z	46	1.5	248

All Single Op QRP			
KX7L	52	4	1

### 2008 Stew Perry TBDC - Soapbox

**N9ADG** The band conditions seemed strange -- I could hear EU underneath many domestic stations, but the domestic stations I heard mostly seemed in the western half of the US. Not very many east coast stations heard here. Heard, but missed ce1/k7ca; found OG2P CQing underneath me once; UA?FF, IV3PRK. Even managed to put GM3POI into the log with 100w. Thanks for you patience! HQ9R had a big signal, but don't think I was able to get even an ? out of him. FM5BH, same thing. Tried the real-time scoring web site with N1MM -- easy to set up and fun to watch - [www.getscores.org](http://www.getscores.org); wanted to stay up and battle it out with N7WA and W7TMT, instead went to bed at about 0640. Next time!

**KX7L** A foot of wet snow on the ground thwarted my intentions of adding radials to the inverted ell for Stew, but I bettered last year's attempt anyway. Had some local QRN, but was able to hear anyone who could hear me, I think. Wish there were more KH6's on for SP, seems like a natural; almost all Q's are >9 pts, and I'd think the all-water path to the west coast would be an advantage over the SA guys. Still, Thanks to KH6LC for the 36 pointer, and to everyone who pulled through my QRP sig.

## DX Packet Alert Network Frequencies

By Bob Nielsen, N7XY ([n7xy@clearwire.net](mailto:n7xy@clearwire.net))

K7EK-1 - Spanaway (DX Spider Node), K7EK sysop.

Telnet to: [k7ek.dyndns.org](http://k7ek.dyndns.org), port 9000

RF: 144.91 MHz - Connect to network node W7DK-5, then type DXC.

145.01 MHz - Connect to network node SEA, then connect to network node K7EK-5, then type DXC.

N7XY Bainbridge Is. (DX Spider Node), N7XY sysop.

Telnet to [n7xy.net](http://n7xy.net), port 7300

W7JD-2 - Spanaway (CC Cluster Node - South Tacoma Contest Club), K7EK sysop

Telnet to [k7ek.dyndns.org](http://k7ek.dyndns.org), port 7373

RF: 144.91 MHz - Connect to network node W7DK-5, then type DXC2.

145.01 MHz - Connect to network node SEA, then connect to network node K7EK-5, then type DXC2

W7PKT Auburn (DX Spider Node) 145.73 MHz, KA7CSE sysop.  
Telnet to [w7pkt.net](http://w7pkt.net), port 7300

W7DX Bellevue (AR Cluster node) 145.75 MHz, N6MZ sysop.  
Telnet to [w7dx.net](http://w7dx.net)

AR Cluster user documentation is available at <http://www.ab5k.net>

DX Spider user documentation is available at [http://wiki.dxcluster.org/index.php/DXSpider_User_Manual](http://wiki.dxcluster.org/index.php/DXSpider_User_Manual)

Lee Sawkins, VE7CC has written a versatile Windows user program which works with AR Cluster, CC Cluster or DX Spider nodes. It can be downloaded from <http://www.bcdxc.org/ve7cc/default.htm>

## Totem Trader

For Sale: Kenwood TS 850s transceiver with Inrad filters. Great condition. Comes with power cord, microphone and original box with foam. \$695. Dick [k7btw@arrl.net](mailto:k7btw@arrl.net)

Wanted: Kenwood DFC-230 Digital Frequency Controller (used with the TS120 and TS130 rigs). Bryan Swadener WA7PRC, [bswadener-at-yahoo.com](mailto:bswadener-at-yahoo.com)

For Sale: Force 12 EF-180C Rotatable Dipole antenna with 2 relay control box and balun - 83Ft long (Full 80M band coverage). New condition. Very similar to Current Top of Line Version (Sigma 180 Magnum from Force 12) which sells for around \$1500 without shipping. Asking \$600 and prefer local pick up in Seattle, WA area. Shipping is not practical. Works very well on 30M also. Bagged me 120 countries on both bands in less than 3 years. John Owens - N7TK [jcowens1@comcast.net](mailto:jcowens1@comcast.net)

I also have a Kenwood Model SM-220 Station Monitor in new condx that has the BS-8 Panadapter. It works with Kenwood xcvr's that have thte 8.83 MHz IF. (eg TS-850, etc.) that I would like to sell for \$350. John Owens - N7TK [jcowens1@comcast.net](mailto:jcowens1@comcast.net)

### W7TMT Tabloid For Sale – January 2009

**Palstar AT1500BAL Dual Roller-Balanced Line Antenna Tuner.** Balanced double L network configuration. Dual precision edgewound silver plated coils with vernier drive. 1500 watts PEP. 160M to 10M band coverage. Like new. Excess to me needs since I no longer try to operate 160 from my tiny city lot. \$500. Patrick, [W7TMT@dayshaw.net](mailto:W7TMT@dayshaw.net)

**Logikey Keyer, Model K3** (factory built): Great little keyer. Currently out of production but full info available on Idiom Press Web site. Manual and power cord included. Programmable for Logikey, Accukeyer and Curtis A emulations. Four programmable message buttons. **\$50** Contact: [w7tmt@dayshaw.net](mailto:w7tmt@dayshaw.net)

**RIGblaster Pro PC-Radio Interface** - Microphone out cable wired for TS-850 but easily rewired to other radio. All jumpers for internal configuration and the factory power brick. Manual and factory CD. Excellent cosmetically and perfect operationally. - **\$75** Contact: [w7tmt@dayshaw.net](mailto:w7tmt@dayshaw.net)

**Yaesu FT-1000 Mark V Field** – Purchased new in Oct 2005. Late model serial number (5J330091). Nearly fully loaded with Inrad filters including roofing filter, 2.1K SSB, pair of 1K CW, pair of 400 Hz CW and 500Hz Collins in sub-receiver. Nearly perfect cosmetically (very small paint chip left side of radio) perfect operationally. Includes matching SP-8 speaker. All manuals, quick reference card and original factory boxes.

Non-smoker. Selling because SO2R just isn't for me. - **\$1500** Contact: w7tmt@dayshaw.net

**Icom IC-820H** – all mode 2M/440 transceiver. Original owner purchased new in 1995 (SN 01853). Rarely used in all this time. Nearly perfect cosmetically and perfect operationally. Factory Boxes. Non-smoker. - **\$450**  
Contact: w7tmt@dayshaw.net

**B&W VS-300A Transmatch/Tuner** – 160-10M. Two coax inputs plus balanced and single wire line options. Input selection switch. Built-in VSWR meter with 300 and 30 W scales. Great for both portable and fixed operation. Rated for up to 300 watts. Small size yet has good wide range matching capabilities. Excellent cosmetically and perfect operationally. Manual. - **\$50**. Contact: w7tmt@dayshaw.net

**Mirage B-108G 2M Amp** – This is an original Mirage unit not the MFJ/Mirage. 10 watts in provides 80 Watts out. Built-in pre-amp. Factory manual. Rarely used. Excellent cosmetically and perfect operationally. - **\$50**  
Contact: w7tmt@dayshaw.net

## JA QSLs

**O**utgoing JA QSL cards to JARL will be collected at the March club meeting and the DX lunches on March 3rd and 17th. So get those cards prepared. Rate is \$4 per pound with a \$2 minimum.



# 54th Annual Pacific Northwest



## DX Convention

Presented by the Spokane DX Association

**AUGUST 7 – 9, 2009**

**SPOKANE, WASHINGTON**

At The Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center

1100 N. Sullivan Rd.

Spokane Valley, WA

1-866-584-4674 or 509-924-9000

[www.MirabeauParkHotel.com](http://www.MirabeauParkHotel.com)

Special Convention Rates

Seminars – Saturday Banquet – Sunday Brunch

Commercial Displays – Door Prizes – Raffles –

Hospitality Room – DXCC Card Checking

Registration and more Information available soon at  
the Spokane DX Association web page:

[www.sdxa.org](http://www.sdxa.org)

TOTEM TABLOID  
Western Washington DX Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 395  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

***The Totem Tabloid***

The *Totem Tabloid* is published 11 times per year (no August issue) by the Western Washington DX Club, Inc, P.O. Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

**Advertising**

The *Totem Tabloid* accepts commercial advertising. For rates and specifications, please direct inquiries to the WWDXC at the address listed above. Totem Trader non-commercial ads are free to WWDXC members.

**Articles, News Items and Classified Ads**

The *Tabloid* depends on submissions of articles and news items from its readers. Send all items of interest to the *Tabloid* editor:

Jack Fleming, WAØRJY  
20148 6th Avenue NE  
Seattle, WA 98155  
206-361-2732  
oolon@yahoo.com

**Deadline for each issue is the last Friday of the preceding month.**

Material from the *Totem Tabloid* may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, provided credit is given to the *Totem Tabloid*, the author or source (if noted) and the WWDXC (except for author copyrighted works bearing the author's copyright notice).

**Joining the Western Washington DX Club**

To join the WWDXC or sponsor a new member, please send an SASE for a membership application form to the WWDXC, P.O. Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Annual dues, including a subscription to the *Totem Tabloid*, are \$25.00.

**Internet Access**

Information on the Western Washington DX Club is also available on the internet at [www.wwdxc.org](http://www.wwdxc.org) or by email to [info@wwdxc.org](mailto:info@wwdxc.org).