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February 2007

## Field Day – 1955 Style

Remember back when radios hummed when you turned them on and heated up the room throughout the night? If so, then you'll enjoy this trip into the past - *Field Day 1955 from the "W7DK Chicken Coop"* presented by Nick Winter, K7MO, from the Radio Club of Tacoma.



Join your fellow WWDXC members for this great program on Tuesday night (February 13<sup>th</sup>). We'll also have dinner and conversation at the Lake City Elks Club (145<sup>th</sup> and Lake City Way).

See you there!

### February Meeting

Lake City Elks Club  
14540 Lake City Way NE  
Seattle, Washington  
206-364-1800

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>  
Dinner at 6:30 PM  
Program at 7:30 PM

# Pacific Northwest DX Convention - August 10-12

*Mark your calendars!*

The 2007 PNW DX Convention will be held on August 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> at the Everett, WA Holiday Inn. More information will be posted on the WWDXC web page, here in the *Tabloid* and on the club's email reflector ([wwdxc@yahoo.com](mailto:wwdxc@yahoo.com)) in the coming months.....

## Puyallup Fleamarket – March 10, 2007

By <http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>

The Mike & Key Electronics Show & Fleamarket is one of the largest annual Amateur Radio events in the Pacific Northwest. It is held on the Western Washington Fairgrounds in Puyallup during the first part of March, up to 3,000 Hams and non-Hams alike are drawn to a modern 40,000 square foot facility located on two floors of the Exhibition Hall with room for over 300 tables selling radios, computers, and general electronics equipment. Lots of radio and computer related items are available for sale and/or trade. Check out their flyer at <http://www.mikeandkey.org/FLYER2007.pdf>

There is an on-site snack bar and a consignment area. License examinations are also given on-site.

- Saturday, March 10, 2007
- Ticket Sales open at 8:00 AM; Doors open at 9:00 AM
- Most Dealers Close at 3:00 PM

PAVILION EXHIBITION HALL  
WESTERN WASHINGTON FAIRGROUNDS  
9th Avenue SE. & Meridian Street South  
PUYALLUP, WA 98372  
<http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>

## Contest Corner

By Mike Dinkelman, N7WA

There were three major tests this past month – 2 domestic (NAQP's) and one (RTTY Roundup) that counts towards the Trophy competition. In February, the ARRL DX Test (CW version) will be held and does count towards the NW Trophy.

### 2007 Winter NAQP CW

Call	QSOs	Mults	hr	Score
All Single Op LP				
K7RL	961	188	10	180,668
W7OM	651	137	8.5	89,187
N7ZG	432	114	10	49,248
NG7Z	380	119	8	45,220
N7BF	125	57	2.8	7,125
N7WA	72	29		2,088

### NAQP CW soapbox

K7RL: The 40m and 80m antennas suffered some damage in the endless string of storms in the last few months. Needless to say, it was tough going on those bands. At least I was able to get on and partake in the NAQP fun.

N7ZG: Started off running 20 and S&P 15. Was slow at first. Took 2 hours to get 100 in the log. So, I had a half hour lunch break. Hit it again and the rate got better. The meter was over 150 for awhile. 15 never seemed to really open. By 4pm PDT I had 300 in the log so I grabbed dinner and had a full hour break. I was hoping to hit the low bands hard afterward. The low dipole didn't really cut the mustard on 40 (I decided not to put up the K1WA sloper array for this test). Consequently, the low band totals are a little disappointing. It took 3.5 hrs to put another 130 Q's in the log. Had a couple of good moves, but still have to work on that.

It was fun though. The NAQP's are becoming my favorite domestic tests. Thanks to Chris KL9A for inviting me to join the Corner Pocket team.

N7BF: Limited amount of operating as my computer kept freezing. Finally reformatted the hard drive and reinstalled the operating system and the logging program. Worked fine after that but it took 5 hours of fiddling around to get things working right. Then in the evening watched a DVD movie with the XYL....3 hours or so. Maybe better next year.

N7WA: Hated not doing a serious effort in this test - one of my favorites. Antennas are still dysfunctional from December windstorms and will be until weather is good enough for climbing. So..., I played here and there in the evening for an hour or two (total). At least the SWR on the antennas is still OK.

### 2007 Winter NAQP SSB

Call	QSOs	Mults	hr	Score	Club/Team
All Single Op LP					
K7RL	1350	212	10	286,200	WWDXC
W7OM	616	115	8.5	70,840	WWDXC
NG7Z	120	68	3.6	8,160	WWDXC

### NAQP SSB soapbox

K7RL: My deepest thanks to Tom (K7RI), Jack (W7JK), and Paul (KW7Y) for their tremendous help repairing the recent storm damage to the station's antennas. It was a lot of work in the cold snowy weather, and I am extremely grateful for their assistance. It's great to have the station whole again. As for the contest, the raw score is down about 18K from 2006. The highlights were a 180+ hour on 15m at the start, and a 200+ hour on 40m. I thought 1,500 Qs was a possibility until I ran into a propagation brick wall at about 03:30Z. 40m got funky, 80m went flat, and 160m was a struggle to work back East. Thanks to all the great operators for the Qs and another Saturday of NAQP fun.

NG7Z: Boy, I can really see where my beam antenna makes a difference in numbers. I lost it during the big windstorm last month. So I was using an 80M delta loop and a tunable 160M inverted L. The L actually worked pretty well on all bands and was less noisy than the loop. That's surprising. Anyway, was glad to see some activity on 15M. Lots of loud signals on all the bands. Kudos to the fine ops who pulled my puny signal out of the noise. Worked several of the big stations on several bands. Thanks for the q's

### 2007 RTTY Roundup

Call	QSOs	S/P	Cntry	hr	Score	Club
All M/S HP						
K7BTW	1058	56	35	24	96,278	WWDXC
NN7SS	878	55	25	16.	70,240	WWDXC

All Single Op HP						
W7OM	526	54	31	15	44,710	WDXC
N7BF	602	53	20	19	43,946	WDXC
W7TAX	420	52	21		30,660	WDXC
K7EG	410	48	17		26,650	WDXC

All Single Op LP						
KT7G	65	27	5		2,080	WDXC
W7MRC(NG7Z)	19	8	4	1	228	WDXC

### RTTY Roundup soapbox

K7BTW: We operated from N9ADG's qth High above Preston, Wa in the Jet Stream. At least it seemed like it with the wind blowing as hard as it did. We used a 4 element steppir and bobber dipoles on 80 and 40. In case you don't know what a bobber is, it is a dipole attached to trees on both ends which causes the feed point to bob up and down in high wind. You try to transmit while the feed point is bouncing up. That helps launch your rf with extra force. The result is an extra 3 db of gain. Of course, the opposite is true when the feed point is dropping, so you try to be receiving at that point. We also found that 3500 volts will burn through 3/16" pvc. The resulting arc caused us to have to change amps. Conditions sucked, but it was a fun contest.

NN7SS: My first RTTY RU from the Pacific Northwest. Lots of US stations (thanks!) and enough South America to keep things interesting, but sure couldn't connect with Europe? I went to sleep and didn't get up for the 10Z (2 AM) time for JAs. Ward, N0AX, came over both days and had some great runs. All the antennas survived the big winter storm of last month, though a couple yagis were pointing in slightly new directions.

N7BF: Europe almost non-existent this year to me here in the Seattle area. Also Japan...just a few contacts compared to last year. Of course, it doesn't help when Sunday morning we were experiencing a heavy rain, and my tri-bander got water-logged and wouldn't work on 20-mtrs. It seemed to work on 15-mtrs ok, so operated there and with my vertical until the rain stopped and the yagi dried out. It worked ok on 20 after that.

K7EG: I juggled my discretionary time between four post-season football games and this contest. I enjoy RTTY contesting but I also like the playoffs. Band conditions were lousy for DX multipliers with openings being sparse and shallow. Almost did WAS.

W7MRC (NG7Z): I couldn't spend much time this year. Too bad as this is one of the events that count toward the PNW Traveling Trophy. Maybe next year.

## **2007 Traveling Trophy Contests**

Mark your calendars for these events in 2007 – all points that we earn will be counted in the traveling trophy contest with the Oregon and British Columbia clubs:

CQ WPX RTTY - FEB 10-11, 2007  
 ARRL DX CW - FEB 17-18, 2007  
 ARRL DX SSB - MAR 3-4, 2007  
 CQ WPX SSB - MAR 24-25, 2007  
 CQ WPX CW - MAY 26-27, 2007  
 IARU - JUL 14-15, 2007

# Totem Trader

Wanted: GA45GD guy bracket for Rohn 45 tower and ½” x ½” turnbuckle right hand thread screw with jaw end.

For Sale: New EP 25343 – 3 hole guy wire equalizer plate for Rohn45. \$25 each (have 4).

Joslyn porcelain insulators 4½” long by 3” high by 3” wide. Type 504 size. New. Have 6 - \$4 each.

Ron, W7GAX 206-246-1915

Telrex Model 20M436 4 ele Heavy Duty beam (36 foot boom) - \$230 – John Owens, N7SEJ, 425-745-0577

## DX Packet Alert Network Frequencies

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

W7DX Bellevue (AR-Cluster node) 145.75 MHz, N6MZ sysop.

Telnet to w7dx.net

User documents at <http://www.ab5k.net>

W7PKT Auburn (DX Spider Node) 145.73 MHz, KA7CSE sysop.

Telnet to w7pkt.net, port 7300

user documents at <http://www.dxcluster.org/main/usermanual.html>

N7XY Bainbridge Is. (DX Spider Node) 145.77 MHz, N7XY sysop.

Telnet to n7xy.net, port 7300

K7EK Spanaway (DX Spider node) K7ED Sysop.

Connect on 144.97 MHz to W7DK-5 and type “DXC” to connect to the cluster node.

Direct packet access on 145.71 MHz coming soon.

Telnet to k7ek.dyndns.org, port 9000

If you need help, email [n7xy@oz.net](mailto:n7xy@oz.net).

## CasualDX – Antarctica February/March 2007

By Jack Fleming, WAØRJY from information provided by Marc Weinberg, K9PET

Another of the CasualDX expeditions to the far south will take place this month. You can get information about these DXing opportunities at [www.casualdx.com](http://www.casualdx.com).

The radio operations will be mostly on 20 meters with these likely frequencies: CW 14.000 - 14.030, PSK 14.030- 14.070, and SSB 14.200 - 14.250. Watch for K9PET, W3ASA, and W3SKP either /KC4 or /MM or /C6A. They'll also be heard as VP8DJU (K9PET), VP8DJV (W3ASA), VP8DKG (W3SKP).

As Marc tells your *Tabloid* newshound, “If other frequencies are open well do our best to be at the low end of the band, we want to give most people in US a shot at making a contact – so emphasis will be on 20 meters. My biggest concern, especially on S. Georgia and Orkney, is that there is so much to do and see and photograph that making a decision as to when to be on the air will difficult. I know that for some this would be a no brainer, but remember this is "Casual DX"-- *Adventure, Radio & Travel*.”

Updated schedule:

Feb 11, 5PM depart Ushuaia on National Geographic Endeavour

Feb 12, At Sea

Feb 13, King George Island

Feb 14 – 18 Exploring Antarctica

Feb 19, Elephant Island

Feb 20, At Sea

Feb 21, South Orkney

Feb 22, At Sea

Feb 23-26 South Georgia

Feb 27 - 28 At Sea

Mar 1, Port Stanley, Falkland Islands

Mar 2, Carcass Island and New Island

Mar 3, At Sea

Mar 4, Arrive Ushuaia

## Visalia International DX Convention 2007

From the Visalia DX Convention Committee

**T**he 2007 International DX Convention will take place April 27, 28 & 29, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Visalia, California. This is an ARRL sanctioned convention that is sponsored this year by the Northern California DX Club. It is expected to draw visitors from around the World and will feature programs from recent DX-Peditions and contest operations.

The Convention theme this year is, "Elmering New DXers is Job Number One!" Accordingly, a portion of the programming will be devoted to helping new DXers learn about how to be noticed in a pile-up, snag a "new one" and get that elusive QSL card.

Other Convention offerings will include: DX, Top Band and Contest Forums, technical talks, many door prizes, both Friday and Saturday evening "attitude adjustments", Saturday Barbecue Lunch, Saturday night banquet, Sunday morning "power" breakfast, Vendors Exhibits and QSL card checking.

Current information and registration forms are available on the Convention web page, which can be found at [www.dxconvention.org](http://www.dxconvention.org). Additional registration information can be obtained by contacting Convention Registration Chairman, Dick Letrich, W6KM via Email at [dlw6km@aol.com](mailto:dlw6km@aol.com).

If you're interested in DX or DXing, the Visalia International DX Convention is *the* place to be. We hope to see you there.

TOTEM TABLOID  
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Mercer Island, WA 98040

***The Totem Tabloid***

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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:

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**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).