

# Centurion



## 3905 Century Club



### 3905 Century Club 2020 Eyeball

# SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, July 15 – Sunday, July 19, 2020

Lake Tiak O'Khata Resort

Louisville, Mississippi

Let's go to Mississippi!

Besides being very centrally located to most members, Mississippi offers a wide range of reasons to host the 3905 Century Club Annual Eyeball! Primarily, Mississippi is the home of Mr. Martin Jue, Founder of MFJ Enterprises in Starkville, MS! MFJ manufactures and catalogs the largest selection of amateur radio gear in the world! It is safe to say the majority (if not all) ham radio operators use, have used or talked to another operator that have MFJ products in their shack! Mr. Jue has offered for MFJ to roll out the red carpet for the 3905 Century Club!

And there's food! Our resort, Lake Tiak O'Khata (<https://ltok.com/>) offers all we need in one location! Hotel, restaurant, banquet hall, meeting rooms, waterfront, RV spaces, tall pine trees and parking in one location. The resort is located in Louisville, MS (the natives pronounce it "Lewis-ville"). Plan for a great time! The goal is to have members together in one QTH for visiting, enjoying, relaxing, operating and all the great things that go along with the annual 3905 Century Club Eyeball!

See more details Page 6

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### Corrections from the Eyeball edition

page 1 K3HAAY should be KE3HAY  
 page 1 KPZ should be K9FZ  
 page 2 K3HAY should be KE3HAY  
 My apologies for any confusion

- Dean would like photos from the eyeball sent to him.



# Awards Highlights

By Ben Goldfarb – AE4NT, Awards Secretary ([ae4nt@mrbig.com](mailto:ae4nt@mrbig.com))

August 23, 2019

Awards highlights include listings of major awards – new members, major progressive awards, DX Awards, and WAS awards – along with other awards-oriented information. Each month, we'll wrap up the column with either an in-depth presentation of one of the Club's more than sixty awards, or with hints and tips for efficient pursuit of that wallpaper we all seek.

There was no Awards Highlights column in the special Eyeball edition of *The Centurion* due to its author taking a well-earned vacation.

## Awards Issued for the Quarter

During the period from May 16, 2019 to August 15, 2019, we issued 76 awards to 43 members in ten call areas. What you'll see below are the highlights of several categories of awards; a complete listing is provided elsewhere.

### New Members

Earning their first 100-point awards on our nets during the period, our newest members are: **Tracy Warren, W9TLW**, of Fountaintown, IN; **Chuck Renfroe, AE0FC**, of Barnett, MO; **Virgil Warren, W9WWG**, of Fountaintown, IN; **Doug Freeman, KE0GVY**, of Limon, CO; **Doug Wittich, N3VEJ**, of Nottingham, MD; **Taylor Trettin, K6VOR**, of Bethel, CT; **Dave Slowik, KN4LEL**, of Bradenton, FL; and **Greg Conlon, KE8GC**, of Jenison, MI.

Also, the **Sharon K. Dobson Memorial Club, W3DUH (N3WD, trustee)**, earned a membership as a club.

Congratulations and welcome to all!

*(Continued on page 3)*

In the prior issue, we neglected to list the **Ginger Hurst Memorial Club, WF4ROG (KG4ZOD, trustee)**, as a new membership conferred in April. We regret this omission.

## Major Progressive Awards

In this section, we'll shine the spotlight on those who have earned major progressive awards during the period. Starting with the 100-point award, progressive awards recognize significant, well-rounded achievements on our nets. The Master's Degree, our awards system's highest honor, requires 1000- and 2000-point certificates on primary and secondary bands. Here, we'll list from 1000-point and up, except that we'll also include 500-point awards for CW, digital modes and 160M all modes.

Minnesota shone brightly this quarter, as our top two progressive awards winners hail from the North Star State.

### 10,000 Points

**Jay Wieland, N0PUI** (Master #25), of St. Peter, MN – 40M SSB. Congratulations to Jay, who has been a member since 2001!

### 4,000 Points

**Bob Kyvig, WA0ROH** (Master #68), of Centerville, MN – 40M SSB. Bob earned his membership back in 1988. Congratulations, Bob!

### 2,000 Points

**Randy Hanrahan, K7PGL** (7<sup>th</sup> Area Alternate Director), of Whitetail, MT – 75M SSB.

**Rich Walbert, AC2MT** (160M SSB Early & Late Net Coordinator), of Cottekill, NY – 40M SSB.

### 1,000 Points

**Steve Davis, K7QHU**, of Melbourne, FL – 40M SSB.

**Al Lapinski, K9FZ**, of Hudson, WI – 75M SSB.

## WAS Awards

We issue several flavors of WAS awards. The **WAS General Award** can be earned on each band/mode combination. WAS General is required on both primary and secondary bands for the Master's Degree, as well as WAS YL at Level 35 on the primary band.

### WAS General

The **Ginger Hurst Memorial Club, WF4ROG** (KG4ZOD, trustee), earned WAS on 40M SSB in little more than one month of persistent operation. That's worth a special shout-out!

Also earning WAS General on 40M SSB during the period was **Carol Carstensen, W8AYL**.

## WAS-YL

**Al Lapinski, K9FZ**, earned the WAS-YL Award at Level 45. Earning the WAS-YL at the entry level of 35 were **Rob Lunsford, KB8UEY** (QSL Bureau Manager); **Kirk Frazier, AA1NA** (Fifth Area Awards Manager); and **Clark Ashworth** (160M Late Late Net Coordinator), **KBOEL**. All of these were on 40M SSB.

## WAS – All Nets (Intermediate)

This rare award requires a mix of operations on all 3905 Century Club Nets resulting in 50 states, which was accomplished by **Dan Michnay, K9EA** (Club Secretary) during the quarter.

## DX Award

Our DX Award is simple in concept, but difficult to complete when we run afoul of the propagation gods, requiring twenty-five confirmed contacts with twenty-five unique countries other than the US. Alas, for this period of low sunspot activity, once again, we issued none.

## Progressive Award Hints and Tips

Members repeatedly ask the question, "Is there a strategy for earning progressive awards." The answer is a qualified "yes." While we all develop our own individual approaches, here are some hints that will help you with yours when seeking progressive awards of 1,000 points and higher. Remember that contacts with a given call sign may not be duplicated in future progressive awards, unless that call sign is mobile or portable in states other than those already used.

First and foremost, familiarize yourself with the progressive awards' rules. Download the PDF version of the award application from the Club website, read it and understand it thoroughly. There are many nuances to comprehend. Knowing the ins and outs of progressive awards will be invaluable in developing your strategy.

For the 1,000-point award, manage your contacts with the "states" section in mind first. You need five different prefixes in each of 48 states plus Alaska and Hawaii. Then, if you haven't yet earned the 500-point award, go back and fill in its "states" section with "leftover" contacts. That award level requires 25 states, so choose states that are easier for you, and try to save unusual prefixes for future progressives.

For the 1,000-point award, next fill in your 10 required mobile and 15 required DX contacts. The DX section requires a minimum of 5 different DX countries, so use 11 Canada contacts first and then fill in the other four slots with increasingly rare DX entities.

Then go back and fill in the non-required parts of the 500-point award application,

(Continued on page 5)

*(Continued from page 4)*

using contacts you don't think you'll need for future progressives. In other words, "leftovers" from the 1,000-point application.

Use wildcards and super wildcards on your 1,000-point award "states" section. You can use up to four wildcards and one super wildcard except for Alaska and Hawaii. Especially if you'll be progressing further, use them! They get rarer as you apply for higher level progressives.

The tips above apply to the 2,000-point and higher awards, where Level I is the equivalent of a 100-point award and Level II is the equivalent of a 500-point award, and Level III is the same as the 1000-point award. If your goal from the start is to earn a 2,000-point award, consider working backward from there applying the principles above.

If you have developed some additional strategies for progressive awards, please share them with us for publication in a future *Centurion*.

## Eighth Area Awards Manager

We welcome **Carmen Labbato, WB8SDA**, of Lyndhurst, OH, as our new Eighth Area Awards Manager. Carmen goes way back with the Club, having earned his 40M SSB 100-point award (#22) back in 1978.

Carmen replaces **Vicki Mate, K8VGM**, of North Olmstead, OH, who served in the position almost seven years. We thank Vicki for her loyal volunteer service and wish her well in future endeavors!

*Want to see a specific award featured in this column? Send me an email with your suggestions for what I should include here.*

*We hope you enjoyed reading about the awards earned by your fellow members and other interesting awards factoids. Please look for Awards Highlights in the next issue of the Centurion. In the meanwhile, Awards News, listing all the awards issued during each week is published on the 3905ChatGrp, 3905Checkins, 3905AwdTalk, and Hamtown reflectors each Friday except around Eyeball and Hamcation® weeks.*

# Eyeball 2020

Information from our host Kirk Frazier AA1NA

The venue is reserved! Members may call Lake Tiak O'Khata for room or RV reservations now! The phone number for LTOK is 1-888-845-6151. The website is: [ltok.com](http://ltok.com)

The guest speaker, Martin Jue, K5FLU, has us on his calendar for tours of MFJ Enterprises, Inc, Ameritron, Cushcraft and HyGain. He will be our guest speaker on Friday evening!

Eyeball information, registration, and updates will be available soon on the club website. Registration fees will be able to be paid via PayPal on the club website soon.

Please mark your calendar and plan your trip now! There are lots of state capitals, state lines, tripoints, high points, low points, etc. between you and MS!

## Mississippi

It's home to a wide variety of historical monuments and museums. The state is also known for its magnolias, catfish, blue-grass music, and southern charm.

**Capital:** Jackson

**Population:** 3 million

**Nickname:** The Magnolia State

**Key Cities:** Biloxi, Jackson, Hattiesburg, Gulfport

**Postal Abbreviation:** MS

**Major Industries:** Agriculture, manufacturing, mining, fishing

**How did Mississippi get its name:** The name Mississippi was originally given to the Mississippi River by the Chippewa Indians. In their language, "Mississippi" means "large river." The French explorer [Robert Cavalier Sieur de La Salle](#) used the name on his map of the area in 1695.

**Date admitted to the Union:** Wednesday, December 10, 1817

## Geography

**Size:** 48,430 sq. miles

**Lowest point:** Gulf of Mexico at sea level



**Highest point:** Woodall Mountain at 806 feet

**Counties:** 82

**Famous locations:** Biloxi Lighthouse, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Elvis Presley Birthplace, Old Capitol Museum, Vicksburg National Cemetery, Windsor Ruins

## Famous Mississippians

[Jim Barksdale](#) (born 1943), president and CEO of [Netscape](#) ([Jackson](#))

[Joseph A. Biedenharn](#) (1866–1952), confectioner, first [Coca-Cola](#) bottler ([Vicksburg](#))<sup>[38]</sup>

[George W. Bryan](#) (born 1946), [Sara Lee](#) executive ([West Point](#))

[John H. Bryan](#) (1936–2018), [Sara Lee](#) executive ([West Point](#))

[Fred Carl Jr.](#), founder of [Viking Range Corporation](#) ([Greenwood](#))

[Cully Cobb](#) (1884–1975), agricultural publisher ([Starkville](#))

[Cynthia Cooper](#), [WorldCom](#) vice president, [whistleblower](#) ([Clinton](#))

[Bernard "Bernie" Ebbers](#) (born 1941), founder and CEO of WorldCom, convicted of fraud and conspiracy ([Brookhaven](#))

[Joshua Green](#) (1869–1975), shipping magnate, banker ([Jackson](#))

[Toxey Haas](#) (born 1960), founder and CEO of [Haas Outdoors, Inc.](#) ([West Point](#))

[Robert L. Johnson](#) (born 1946), founder of [Black Entertainment Television](#) ([Hickory](#))

[Ken Lewis](#) (born 1947), [Bank of America](#) executive ([Meridian](#))

[Matteo Martinolich](#) (1860–1934), master shipbuilder ([DeLisle](#))

[Walter E. Massey](#) (born 1938), corporate executive ([Hattiesburg](#))

[Glenn McCullough](#) (born 1954), chairman and CEO of GLM Associates, LLC ([Tupelo](#))

[Charles Moorman](#) (born 1953), CEO of [Norfolk Southern](#) ([Hattiesburg](#))

[Clarence Otis Jr.](#) (born 1956), CEO of [Darden Restaurants](#) ([Vicksburg](#))

[Hartley Peavey](#) (born 1941), founder of [Peavey Electronics](#) ([Meridian](#))

[Pig Foot Mary](#) (1870–1929), culinary entrepreneur ([Mississippi Delta](#))

[Robert Pittman](#), founder of [MTV](#), executive at [AOL](#) ([Jackson](#))

[J. H. Rush](#) (1868–1931), founder of Rush's Infirmary ([De Kalb](#))

[Fred Smith](#) (born 1944), founder of [FedEx](#) ([Marks](#))

[James Breckenridge Speed](#) (1844–1912), industrial pioneer

[Antonio Maceo Walker](#) (1909–1994), president, Universal Life Insurance Company ([Indianola](#))

 [Zig Ziglar](#) (1926–2012), motivational speaker, author, salesman ([Yazoo City](#))

[David Abney](#) (born 1956), CEO of [UPS](#) ([Greenwood](#))

Mississippi residents go to church more than people in any other U.S. state.

There are also more churches in Mississippi per capita (for each person) than in any other state in the country.

The nation's largest Bible-binding plant is located in Greenwood, Mississippi

If you've ever wondered where to find the world's largest shrimp, it's in Pascagoula, Mississippi at the Old Spanish Fort Museum.

In 1902, Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt [refused to kill a trapped bear](#) while hunting in Onward, Mississippi. A candy shop owner who heard about the event decided to make a stuffed animal that he called "teddy bear."



63 percent of Mississippi's land is covered in [forest](#). That's 19.5 million acres of forest!

Belzoni, Mississippi is considered the catfish capital of the world. The state of Mississippi contains over 100,000 acres of catfish ponds. 94% of all farm-raised catfish in the United States are raised in Mississippi. In Jackson County, you can find the Mississippi Sandhill Crane, the rarest crane in North America. It's about 44 inches tall and has a wingspan of eight feet!

Information from Kirk Frazier AA1NA

## News from Call area 1

Be sure to read the article in QST written by member Lisa KC1YL and note the mention of the 3905 Century Club.



## News from Call area 2

Call area 2 is providing the humor on the final page this month. Thanks Peter N2XXTT

## News from Call area 4

By Ben Goldfarb AE4NT Fourth Area Director ([ae4nt@mrbig.com](mailto:ae4nt@mrbig.com))



August 23, 2019

The 3905CCN Eyeball in Newark, DE was attended by several Fourth Area members: **Lisa Neuscheler, KC1YL**; **Jim Higgins, KB3PU**; **Dwight Greenberg, WF4H**, and wife **Beth**; and Jenny and I (**AE4NT**). We had a fun time getting together with old and new friends.

### Member

### Spotlight

Fourth Area member **Lisa Neuscheler, KC1YL**, was highlighted in September 2019 QST's Member Spotlight column, featuring a full-page write-up with picture. Turn to page

13 for some excellent coverage of an accomplished area member!

### Happy Anniversary!

We wish a very happy Thirtieth Wedding Anniversary to **Fourth Area Awards Manager Ron Stanley, Jr., NC4JR!**

### Congratulations to Donnie Again!

Congratulations to **Donnie Hurst, KG4ZOD**, for earning a WAS on 40M SSB for the **Ginger Hurst Memorial Club, WF4ROG!** In only a few months of dedicated operation, Donnie has accomplished what re-

quires years for some.

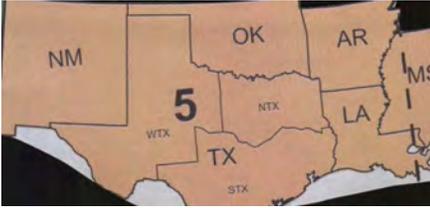
### Sad News

The Area and the Club mourns the loss of **Jim Wood, N4ACS**, who became a silent key on July 22. Our condolences to his wife **Kathy, KD0HER**.

Condolences to **Bob Hall, KN4EUK** (Club VP), whose wife's mother passed away recently.

### Until Next Time...

Did you know that the Fourth Area has its own message board and email reflector? We use it for communications of interest to area members, including agendas and minutes of Board meetings. To subscribe to it, email [3905ccn-4th-area+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:3905ccn-4th-area+subscribe@groups.io). We do accept guest subscriptions from other call areas, which are read-only. Fourth area members get full posting privileges. Your Fourth Area Team, **Dave, KI4DFS** (AAD), **Ron, NC4JR** (AAM) and I, are here to serve the needs of area members. Please feel free to discuss matters of importance to you with any of us either directly or through the Fourth Area reflector. Our email addresses are available on the Club website.



## Call area 5

Thanks to AG5T Martin Blaise for the puzzles page 21 & 22

## News from Call area 6



The unofficial end of Summer, Labor Day Weekend, is here. I have another 6 months remaining in my term as 6<sup>th</sup> Area Director. I WILL NOT BE SEEKING RE-ELECTION. This is a firm decision. It is past time for others in the 6<sup>th</sup> area to step up and take an active role in 3905 Century Club if it is to truly be a Worked All States club.

For the last 9 months I have been asking for a volunteer to step up and become the Assistant 6<sup>th</sup> Area Director. I have not had any volunteers, and the position remains open.

I've only one member has contacted me regarding issues before the BOD. How can I possibly represent the needs of 6-land if I do not hear from you?

That brings me to an update on my personal station. The last time I was able to check into one of our nets was in March 2019. I still do not have a working antenna, and I have given up hope that the members of my local club that volunteered to help me last April. We all know about the road paved with good intentions. I am seriously considering selling off my home station.

I have talked with other ham friends around the country, and the ham community is changing. This is especially true in urban areas. Younger hams are not there to help older hams stay active in the hobby. A couple of months ago, I was contacted by the wife of a life-member of our club requesting help for her disabled OM with newer technology. Both of them had given years of service to ham radio and our club. All she was looking for was a phone call, and once again no one stepped up. Years ago this would not have been the case. Members would have dropped by his house to assist. Years ago, my antenna would have been up by now. Time marches on.

I will be trying to check into mobile our 20M SSB and make the few contacts I still need to my 100 pt. number. Please listen for me. I'll also continue as 6<sup>th</sup> Area Director for the remaining months of my term. Beyond that, I will be taking a step back from ham radio clubs administration and try to return to the fun our hobby once offered.

If you just want to share your feelings or ideas for the club contact me. I can be reached via email at [ab6yl@earthlink.net](mailto:ab6yl@earthlink.net).

73, Ginger, AB6YL

## News from Call area 8

I am pleased to announce that the new 8th Area Awards Manager is WB8SDA Carmen Labbato, Sr

Ralph KG8WL 8th Area Director

Congratulations...a future member! In the making... John Marsh, (son of Gene Marsh W8NET) passed his technician test this month and is waiting on his license.



## Century Club Cares

The 3905 Century Club created Century Club Cares (CCC) 2010-May-09. The CCC Fund will provide caring notes/cards/etc. to Century Club members who are ill, injured, or have had a serious illness or death in the immediate family. Since the volunteer managing this program cannot be aware of every situation, if you are aware of a Century Club member who might like to hear from the club during their illness, convalescence or grieving, please send an email to our [CCN Cares Chairman](#) with the details. Notes and cards will typically go out within 1 to 2 days.

If you email the Centurion editor ([msack@verizon.net](mailto:msack@verizon.net)) she'll work with you to publish notice for members who might need further assistance.

Good afternoon everybody. Jo and I would like to express our gratitude for all the prayers from the members. They are extremely appreciative during this crises of losing Jo's Mom. Mom was 95 years. She lived a good life and now she rests with the Almighty. Again, thank you all for your prayers and well wishes,

Jo & Bob Hall KN4EUK

# Presidential column

This summer for me has just been in high speed mode since early June. As for the club I am happy to report that we have gotten a number of new members despite poor band conditions and that most people step back from amateur radio to enjoy the summer. Earlier this year the board approved the Eyeball in Newark, DE hosted by Keon Hayes, KE3HAY with barely 121 days to plan. Congratulations go out to Keon for another successful Eyeball. It was rewarding to meet up with members I have known a long time and meet people for the first time. This is always what makes for a good time. I think a number of people set new records for working the PA, MD, DE Tripoint. Our QSL bureau will be buried for some time with the incoming cards. At the Eyeball during the general membership meeting there was some good discussion of several items for the board to consider over the next 6 months. One of these will to take a look at redefining many of 212 club officers back into VIP status. Please keep checking back on the club website for more details. By the time the next Centurion is issued we will be in the election cycle that includes President and even call areas 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, and 10th.

The club has also approved the 2020 Eyeball to be posted by Kirk Frazier, AA1NA in Louisville MS at the Tiak-O-Khata lodge next July. He has a lot planned and if you would like more information take a look at the July Board meeting minutes on the club website or contact Kirk directly.

As for our nets I wish I had good news. Everything I am reading is telling me that the poor band conditions will continue well into next year. Over the past several weeks I have noticed, at least on 40m late, that the band has been flip-flopping back and forth quickly and frustrating a lot of folks. All I ask is be patient and what I can guarantee is change. Also expect that 40m may get worse into the fall where 75m should improve. We are also in the process of releasing some new procedures for relay stations that will be included in the NCS Guide along with net scripts for both CW and digital nets. If you have comments about either of these please send your comments to your area director or if you are a NCS to your corresponding Net Coordinator.

73's Dean, N7XG

# About our newsletter

## This is our newsletter!

It is to share news and information about the club, its activities, and its members. Since the club is spread across the globe, the editor can't be everywhere and therefore relies on the rest of the members to provide the information. Please help make this the best by being my eyes & ears there.

Did you do a mobile expedition-send where you went, what you visited, who you contacted, what you learned, & pictures. Made a new discovery, learned a new mode, or got a cool QSL card - please share. Have a question we have lots of members...I suspect some member knows an answer.

Did you think of something that you want to share with fellow members? Know a fellow member who could use some assist? Think of a column that would be useful to see in the newsletter...send me a note.

Please be patient as we build the newsletter to what you like...but let me know suggestions and especially columns you like or don't like. I'm not trying to just copy what is elsewhere but want to highlight and inform our members. I can't report if folks don't let me know. I'm especially interested in getting input from the members about the members. See the Who are we question of the quarter!

I accept input **all the time** but if received by 1 week before the 1st of March, June, September, & December can be in that edition otherwise will appear in the following quarter.

Provide input by emailing to **msack@verizon.net** or **your area director**.

**Snail mail Michelle Sack PO Box 1182, Waldorf, MD 20604**

## WHO ARE WE?

So we can get to know each other better, lets do a member column. With the size of our club, a quarterly newsletter- the chance of featuring each would be improbable.

So a Question of the Quarter will be a way to get to know folks. Respond to the editor (msack@verizon.net) for inclusion in the newsletter, talk about it on AIM during nets (leaving the radio open for exchanges), or on the radio airways outside of the nets.

Question of the quarter: What radio do you use for the nets?

I regret to inform of the passing of Richard Elie, KN4ELD July 26, 2019. Rick started his "career" in amateur radio in 1973. From that time on, he was busy with either amateur radio or Citizen's Band, as he could afford equipment. His main interest was HF and he preferred phone over CW. He also used WINSYSTEM, ECHOLINK, and Allstar.

Rick belonged to the GCARA Club, SETFN, South Cars, 3905 Century Club, OMISS, and World and Friendship Nets. Another hobby he enjoyed was restoring antique art-deco phones.

Richard's Mailing address is P O BOX 11325, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33339-1325 if anyone wants to send a card to the family.

Info from Ricky Eaton KD4HGR

Per Ben AE4NT-Richard was not officially a member, but has checked into our nets from time to time.



Richard Elie KN4ELD  
Silent Key

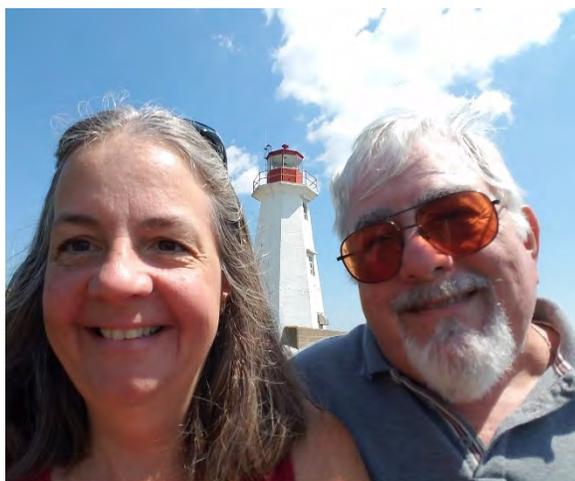


# July 2019 Road Trip

By Ben Goldfarb, AE4NT

The 3905 Century Club Annual Eyeball gathering in Newark, Delaware, provided a good excuse to get away from the heat of the Central Florida summer. Jenny and I used the Eyeball trip as a springboard to visit Pennsylvania, New England, & Canada for a few weeks of getting together with friends, sightseeing, and doing lots of eating.

The main attraction was to be a week at an AirBnB we had rented just outside Halifax, Nova Scotia. With an average temperature of 75° F in the offing, it would be just what the doctor ordered to beat the heat. We didn't know at the time that the Maritimes would be having a heat wave, too, which prompted accusations that we had brought the Florida heat with us. Fortunately, temperatures never exceeded about 86°F, which is a mild spring day in Florida.



Jen and Ben at a Lighthouse - Liverpool, Nova Scotia

It turned out to be a wonderful vacation, which provided plenty of opportunities to operate the mobile rig in many diverse locations.

Knowing that Vermont is a much sought-after state for 3905 Century Club members for WAS and progressive awards, I was determined to include it on the agenda even if it was a little out of the way. We also operated from Maine, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, New Hampshire (including from the top of Mt. Washington), and New Jersey. What follows is a narrative of my mobile ops.

## Augusta, Maine

Yes, we're in the state capital!

We hit Augusta around dinner time, and were hampered by a desk clerk at the hotel who was operating at the human equivalent of 3 WPM CW. With that 45-minute check-in experience and road hunger driving us, we needed to get fed before we could even think of operating on the nets. It was raining off and on, but the lobster roll was good, and the beer was cold. Thus fortified, we headed to an operating location I had scouted earlier on the way to the hotel.

It looked ideal: a big, empty parking lot on high ground. We checked in to the 40M SSB Early Net from there but we had to go back to the hotel for a computer so we could live-log our contacts with Netlogger and a cell phone tether for an Internet link.

While Jenny retrieved the computer, I worked Peter, N2XTT from the hotel parking lot and we drove back to the big, empty parking lot. Whereas Peter had heard me well, other people on the net were having difficulty hearing me. Why? I wondered.

I soon found out. The power setting for my IC-7000 mobile rig was still set to five watts from working the Eyeball QRP nets back in Delaware, and I hadn't operated since! So, after increasing my power to 100 watts I informed Peter that he could add QRP to his contact.

It is, too, the state capital!

Around that time, Jenny informed me that Augusta was the capital of Maine. I thought I knew my capitals, but duh! She checked it online just to make certain I was as stupid as I seemed,

*(Continued on page 16)*

and indeed I was! So, we had unwittingly chosen the Maine state capital as an operating location – just a happy coincidence. So, I got to tell Peter that he could also add “State Cap” to his contact.

### Secure the Area

As we settled into an operating rhythm, we were approached by a security guard who informed us we were on private property, although he confided that he was “impressed by [our] setup – I’ve never seen something like that!” I told him I’d be leaving forthwith.

We moved to another nearby empty parking lot. While I was working Gary, K9GWS, our new security friend approached again. “Let me guess,” I said. Still private property?” Yep. So, we moved to a convenience store parking lot on the main drag to finish off the 40M SSB Early Net.

After overnighting in Augusta, our intent was to proceed directly to our AirBnB in Nova Scotia, where we would stay for a week.

## Nova Scotia

The focus of our time in Canada was to enjoy the scenery, the people, and the culture, not to mention the weather. Operating the radio was secondary, but I wound up making plenty of contacts from VE1-land. We tried to work both Early and Late nets on 40-meters, and the 75-meter Early Net.

### Cross-Province Mobile Ops

One evening of incidental operation as AE4NT/VE1 happened during our cross-province sightseeing tour that took us through Liverpool and Digby. Between those two cities, we listened to the 20-meter SSB net, but couldn’t hear very well so I decided not to check in. However, later, after dinner (of course) in Digby, we managed to make many contacts on the road back to the Halifax area. We were not logging, so if you contacted AE4NT/VE1 on July 21 (UTC) and you’re wondering why you didn’t receive a QSL card, you’ll have to send me one first.

## New Brunswick

### Fundy National Park



**Digby, Nova Scotia**

We had a good trip from Halifax to Alma, NB, which is the gateway to Fundy National Park. On the way, we stopped at the wonderful town of Truro, NS, where we had an excellent lunch at a friendly outdoor café. We also stopped by the NSLC to pick up some Nova Scotia wine Jenny wanted to bring home.

We checked in at our rustic motel – more on that later – and hit the road back to Fundy National Park. Jenny wanted to do a couple of short hikes in the park – one to a waterfall and one to a beach on the Bay of Fundy. Hiking is one thing but ascending and descending endless wooden steps was enough to finish off my bad right knee! Nevertheless, I persevered, and the scenery was well worth the effort.

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*(Continued from page 16)*

In case you hadn't heard about the Bay of Fundy, the tides there rise and fall 40 feet! It is an amazing place I wish we had had more time to explore it.

Checking in to the nets was delayed a bit because of a gas shortage in Alma causing a big back-up at the only gas station, and by a restaurant that kept us waiting for what seemed like hours. However, the lobster was worth it, and there were hummingbirds right outside our window. We finished up about a half-hour into the 40M SSB Early Net and proceeded back to the park.

Our operating location was perfect, overlooking the Bay of Fundy. As the sun set, we could see lighthouses in the distance. We worked the 40M SSB Early and Late Nets, plus 75M Early Net as AE4NT/VE9, and we made lots of contacts, for which we thank you all!

Lodging at the Pine Cone Motel

That night, we stayed at what looked like a run-down 1950's roadside motel but turned out to be the best night's stay we enjoyed during the trip – at the most reasonable price, too. Outside looks can be deceiving. The rooms at the Pine Cone Motel (all 12 of them) had been renovated and updated, and were clean and comfortable, if a bit small. The best thing about this place was the owner, David, who personally welcomed us and made a point of saying goodbye as we were leaving. Good old-fashioned hospitality, New Brunswick style!

## New Hampshire

Gorham, New Hampshire was on the agenda for the next day. This town is a mecca for hikers, bikers, kayakers, and other outdoor recreation seekers wanting to enjoy the White Mountains. This, of course, was reflected in the price of the hotel room, which offered the least value for the money of the entire trip.

After dinner, Jenny opted to chill out in the room while I found an operating location in the shadow of Mt. Washington. Frankly, I didn't know how well I would be heard operating with the Presidential Range surrounding me. I guess it worked out OK, because I made many contacts on the 40m early net, but I didn't do well on the 75m net.

## Mt. Washington

The next day, we took the Mt. Washington Auto Road up to the peak of Mt. Washington, scaring the crap out of Jenny with my mountain driving. After doing the usual tourist stuff, we went back to the car to operate on the 20m SSB net, which was great fun.

I remember the good old days back in the 1970s, when I would go up to Mt. Washington and find a few dozen people on a good weather day. Nowadays, it's like a few thousand up there. Nevertheless, the scenery is worth it!

## Vermont

The Vermont capital is about a four-hour drive from the White Mountains. Arriving in what I thought was Montpelier, we questioned the hotel clerk and found we were instead in Berlin, just outside the city limits of Montpelier. Turns out Montpelier is very small, a town of only 7,500 people. So, I pored over maps and Google Earth to find a location where I could operate to provide 3905 CCN members with not only a relatively rare state, but also its capital.

What I found was the National Life Group insurance complex, built on a hill with lots of great, empty parking lots. It was Saturday night in Montpelier, so no one would be there.

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While Jenny soaked in the luxurious hotel bathtub, I worked 40M SSB Early and Late nets, as well as the 75M Early Net from top deck of a large, deserted insurance company parking lot.

## Impressive Setup!

At some point during my operation, the inevitable security guard approached. Evoking memories of Augusta, his first comment was, "Impressive setup!" I explained to him what I was doing there, and that contacts were worth more for a rare state like Vermont, and particularly, its capital. "Perfect location," I told him. "High elevation right in the middle of Montpelier!"



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**Montpelier, Vermont operating location**

He asked how long I would be there, so he could tell his partner who would relieve him. I figured about 1 AM, gave him that information, and I was good to go.

As the 40M SSB Early net cranked up, I noted that another mobile had checked in from Montpelier, W1QZE. Wow! When it rains, it pours. Being GIB has its benefits, though, as does offering liberal supply of officer/VIP points. After a while, started feeling sorry for QZE because I was getting all the calls. At least I would give him a call when my turn came around, I thought. I could

sure use Vermont! Alas, by that time, he had given up and flown the coop. Before the night was over, I had made 85 contacts on 40M Early, 75M SSB Early, and 40M Late. That lonely parking lot, not Mt. Washington, was the *true* high point of my mobile operations on this trip!

## New Jersey

The homeward swing required two overnight stops. Anticipating having to deal with New York City weekend traffic and the infamous New Jersey Turnpike, I resisted making choices that would be too taxing for a day's drive while still leaving the NYC metro area well behind us before moving on. Princeton, New Jersey, was the chosen destination.

## Blast from the Past

Along the way, an interesting sidelight was stopping in Greenwich, Connecticut to eat lunch at a hotel where I had worked 50 years ago. It has been completely remodeled – perhaps several times. The owners had attempted to make it an upscale place, but my memories of the joint would not allow me to buy into that attempted deception! As for the Sunday Brunch, they were getting away with charging New York prices without the service and food quality to match, but it was a blast from the past and those are always cool for an old guy.

Speaking of prices, the highest gas prices on the entire U.S. part of the trip were found in good old Greenwich, Connecticut.

We reached our chosen hotel in Princeton, New Jersey around dinner time. Jenny wasn't hungry enough to go out for dinner, so she once again stayed in the room to catch up with Facebook while I set up to operate from the glamorous location of the Hampton Inn parking lot on U.S. 1. I worked only the 40M SSB Early Net from there.

Clay, WA2JIM, had contacted me to ask where in New Jersey I would be, as he was considering joining me. I was over an hour away, so that didn't work out for us, but I appreciated the thought anyhow.

Peter, N2XTT, reminded me that the Jersey Turnpike was where you could go 70 mph bumper-to-bumper traffic in a straight line. My acquaintance with the famed 12-lane strip of I-95 confirmed his assertion.

I was surprised to have made as many contacts as I did from New Jersey. However, after da Joisey Toinpikie, da Bronx, and Connecticut traffic, I was ready for a good night's sleep, so I called it quits after the 40M SSB Early Net.

### Is Yours Raisin, Too?

Another highlight of the trip was our breakfast at the hotel in Princeton. Jenny and I were in line at the buffet. I spotted some toasted raisin bread in the toaster, so I grabbed it, not knowing it belonged to a lady who had gone back to a table while waiting for it to pop up. Jenny told me, "That was hers!" So, I put it back in the toaster. "She probably doesn't want it now," said Jenny. The woman concurred, "NO, I DON'T!" Oops! So, I took it.

I generate fond travel memories for everyone

## Heading Home

We were ready for the day's journey to Fayetteville, North Carolina, which would take us through some now familiar territory in Delaware, followed by Baltimore and DC traffic. We had to deal with heavy traffic pretty much all the way down to Richmond. It finally yielded to the wide-open spaces and a comfortable drive the rest of the way.

We didn't operate from Fayetteville, but we had some steaks at the Outback.

All in all, it was a great trip, and remember that I had operated with Dean, N7XG, from the Maryland-Delaware line the night before the Eyeball, which now seemed like a long time ago. Thinking back to all those contacts in all those great places reminded me that once I got home, I would have a mountain of QSL cards to send out – 297, in fact.

From Fayetteville, we had a nine-hour drive back to the Orlando area. After three weeks away from home and 5,000+ miles on the road, the prospect of Florida was such a welcome thought that we even skipped our favorite steak and seafood restaurant in Darien, Georgia. It was good to be home.

*(No jellybeans were harmed in creating this story).*

# WWROF RECEIVES MAJOR DONATION for Youth Contesting Initiatives

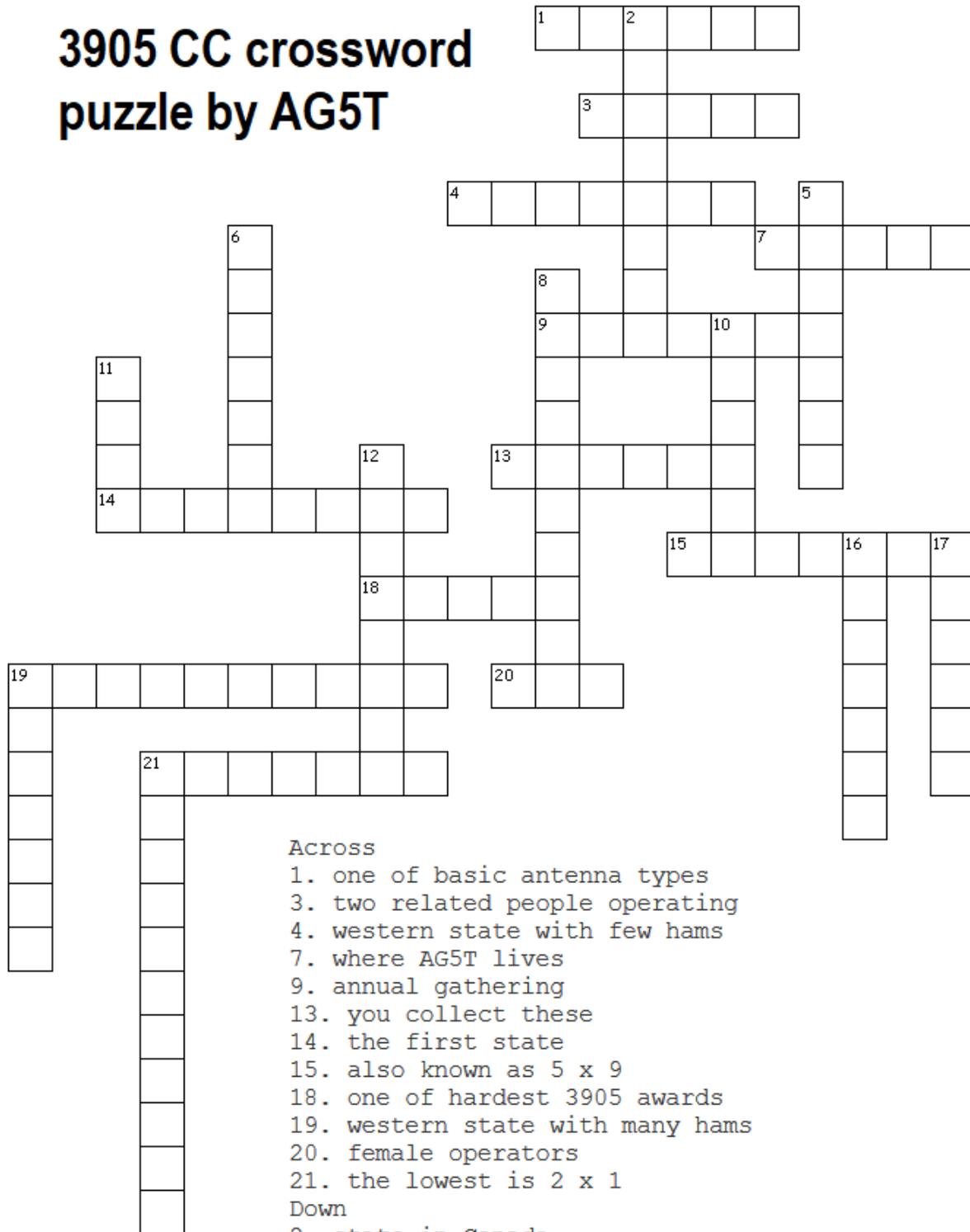
Fredericksburg, TX - August 8, 2019 - The World Wide Radio Operators Foundation, Inc. ("WWROF") is pleased to announce that it has received a donation of \$25,000 from Chick Allen, NW3Y. Chick's contribution is to be used at the discretion of the WWROF board of directors to promote and enhance youth involvement in radio sport contesting. "On behalf of the WWROF I want to express our gratitude for Chick's donation and am excited about what it will mean for the future of contesting," says WWROF Chairman, Tim Duffy, K3LR. This significant contribution is especially meaningful as it is well-aligned with WWROF's mission of improving the operating skills of amateurs around the world, including those that are new to ham radio. "It is truly an honor to work with WWROF by providing support for one of amateur radio's greatest needs – encouraging youth to discover and enjoy radio sport in new and creative ways," says Chick Allen, NW3Y.

Inquiries regarding youth projects should be directed to the WWROF Web site Contact Us page at <http://wwrof.org/contact/>.

The Carrington Event was the strongest geomagnetic storm known to have hit the Earth since at least the 14th century. Based on examinations of ice samples, scientists believe that geomagnetic storms two and three times stronger have occurred prior to the 14th century. Here's a first hand report of the affects on telegraph operations, as reported on September 5th, 1859 in the New York Times.

<https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1859/09/05/79574906.pdf>

# 3905 CC crossword puzzle by AG5T



## Across

1. one of basic antenna types
3. two related people operating
4. western state with few hams
7. where AG5T lives
9. annual gathering
13. you collect these
14. the first state
15. also known as 5 x 9
18. one of hardest 3905 awards
19. western state with many hams
20. female operators
21. the lowest is 2 x 1

## Down

2. state in Canada
5. cannot operate mobile here
6. where your signal should go
8. runs the nets
10. largest state
11. such as 80, 40, 20
12. three state lines come together
16. highest level
17. operate while driving
19. usually center of government
21. smallest state

# 3905 Century Club word search by AG5T

L C A P I T A L U O E N I L N  
 L O P S A E R A N P T Q P P Y  
 A B T R B R N Y Y B V Q W I P  
 B M S Y O X J T E N C S T O S  
 E O E M N V E T R I P O I N T  
 Y C W A A L I C S L A N G I S  
 E G C S E W O N B T T D A N K  
 M K R T O N A A C S R N J E J  
 O T P E T U N R L E N O L T S  
 B I T R W D T P D E F C P S G  
 I R O S E O N H T S U Z V E P  
 L L E T A A P N O R T H C W R  
 E K A L J E A Y L X D V E N F  
 B T S G H F M E L H G R Z Y F  
 S Q Z M J G G W T S C C G Y J

ANTENNA  
 AREAS  
 AWARDS  
 BAND  
 CAPITAL  
 COMBO  
 CONTROL  
 EAST  
 EYEBALL  
 LINE

MASTERS  
 MOBILE  
 NCS  
 NETS  
 NORTH  
 POINTS  
 POWER  
 PROVINCE  
 QSL  
 REPORTS

SIGNALS  
 SOUTH  
 STATE  
 TELETYPE  
 TRIPOINT  
 WEST  
 YLS

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 PROMOTE THE CENTURY CLUB
 

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## H ms in action

Cape Cod, Massachusetts ARES and SKYWARN operators responded as a storm system on July 23 produced three tornadoes there. Hurricane-force winds resulted in significant tree and utility wire damage. Amateur Radio SKYWARN spotters were the first to provide critical information as the net ran for several hours on the Barnstable repeater. They provided communications with a shelter, supported initial damage assessment, and helped to diagnose the areas for NWS meteorologists to survey to determine whether a tornado or straight-line wind damage occurred.

<http://www.arri.org/news/cape-cod-ares-and-skywarn-provide-support-in-rare-cape-cod-tornado-event>

## Leave laughing



<http://clipart-library.com>

To the surprise and relief of many Americans, the Washington Redskins will apparently drop their politically sensitive name in 2020. Dan Snyder, owner of the NFL Washington Redskins, announced yesterday the organization is dropping "Washington" from the franchise name, which, beginning with the 2020 season, will be simply known as "The Redskins." Snyder stated in his surprise announcement (he finds) the word "Washington" imparts a negative image of poor leadership, mismanagement, corruption, cheating, lying, and graft, and does not conjure a suitable image for young fans of football.

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