



Solid Copy

The International CWops Newsletter

June

2016

Issue No. 77



The Neat Station at NJ8M

CWops "CWT"

Every Wednesday

Regular Tests: Full Speed

Start times: 13Z, 19Z, 03Z (+1)

1-hour each session

Exchange: name/number (members)
name/SPC (non-members)

(**Avoid DX pileups!**)

CWops "neighborhood"

Look for CWops on 1.818, 3.528, 7.028,
10.118, 14.028, 18.078, 21.028, 24.908, 28.028,
50.098

CWops Officers and Directors

President: Rob Brownstein [K6RB](#)

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Treasurer: Craig Thompson [K9CT](#)

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Director: Vidi La Grange [ZS1EL](#)

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Dayton is over and the DC Area CW Enthusiasts weekend bash is now history. Unfortunately, this year I missed DC. I did, however, make Dayton and the turnout at the Thursday night dinner was impressive. So was the turnout for the group photo on Friday morning.

I was very honored at the dinner to be one of the three recipients of CWops' Annual Award for Outstanding Achievement in Advancing the Art of CW. In accepting that award I told the guests that CW Academy is a team effort and its success is largely due to the efforts of the advisors who make it all possible. On that note, I also announced that as of that night CW Academy would no longer be

[continued on next page]

co-managed but would be under the sole management of Jerry Weisskohl, AC4BT. Jerry has been just outstanding in taking on the monumental task of matching CW Academy student signups with appropriate CW Academy advisors.

Coming up the first weekend of September is our annual international contest – the CW Open. This year we have a manager for each of the three IARU regions, and Alan, AD6E will again be orchestrating the effort while adjudicating the logs received and tabulating the scores. I ask every one of you please to participate in at least one CW Open session. As with every contest, the more who participate, the more fun it is for everyone.

By the time you read this, I will have mailed out all the CWT and QTX medallions. There were 64 recipients in the USA, five in Canada, and 24 in Asia and Europe. In addition, I gave out more than 20 medallions to recipients in Dayton. These are very nice awards, and you have earned them.

The summer solstice is nearing and many of us use this season to maintain and repair our stations and antennas. Others will be going on vacations. Some may even go to the Summer Olympics in Brazil. Wherever you go, whatever you do, please be safe and take care of your health. To our members in the Northern Hemisphere, have a wonderful summer; and to our members in the Southern Hemisphere, enjoy your winter.

73,

Rob K6RB

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From the [Editor](#)



Dayton!

Well, May came and went and no one was surprised that the annual Dayton Hamvention happened with barely a noticeable glitch in planning or execution. The DARA folks really know how to do it except ... [Rant ON] ... for their perverse insistence on returning, year after year, to the absolutely abysmal Hara Arena. That pig sty was a significant reason that I let about 20 years pass between my first visit and my second, last month. To say that Hara is the worst convention venue I have ever seen is to give it too much credit. Of course, as They all say, we don't go to Dayton for the Arena. We go for the friendships, the off-campus hotels, banquets and un-banquets, the vendors and forums (scattered seemingly at random around a literal maze of incomprehensibly connected rooms in and around the Arena itself), and, for some but not for me, the flea market. That last one is interesting – it is one of the reasons I've heard given for not moving the whole affair to the downtown Dayton Convention Center, across the street from and connected to the Crowne Plaza Hotel, because downtown does not have the acres of empty space that are necessary to host the nation's largest ham radio flea market. And there may well be other suitable venues in and around Dayton, probably also lacking a suitably vast wasteland. I would love to see a count of how many Hamvention attendees actually set foot in the flea (gingerly, I'm sure, with or without rubber boots). Or how many would feel that an off-campus flea, a bus ride away from the programs and exhibits, would negate any possible improvement to the main convention venue? After all, most attendees have to park off-site and take a shuttle to the arena. What's important, folks – forums, vendors, basic sanitation, a clean place to grab a tasty lunch (at Hara? Fuggedaboutit!), or browsing Junque? But the convention program

brochure makes it clear that Hara is it for at least the next few years. Let's pray that Dayton authorities condemn the dump as they should have 20 years ago. Sigh. [Rant OFF, with apologies to any of our members who are also DARA members. But for venue selection, you guys really do do a great job.]

CWops again had a booth and on the Friday morning over 50 of our ranks posed for this photo:



Your editor is absent from the photo. I was in the building, elbowing my way diligently through hall after crowded hall, searching in vain for the booth or a map or an information provider and finally arriving about ten minutes too late. I did do a shift or two of "booth duty," preaching the gospel of CWops to whomever would listen. We were visible, audible, and appreciated.

Among the many attractions of Hamvention is the annual CW pileup contest sponsored by the Kansas City DX Club. Many of our members participate and do well. The real-time scoreboard is quite clever, turning rather solitary competition into a spectator sport. The results for this year had not been posted when I wrote this but I'm sure our members will grace the list in many positions. I joined in, despite ample excuses for probably poor performance, and made the bottom half of the top 20, not great but at least passable. I also attended Contest University, produced by our own Tim Duffy K3LR. It was excellent, with program options for the beginner as well as the advanced competitor. Of course, the Spurious Emissions band (N0AX, KX9X, K4RO and W4PA) performed their unique combination of Rock n' Roll tribute and radio-related doggerel, to the delight of all. CQ Contest Hall of Fame member, our own John Crovelli W2GD, keynoted the Contest Dinner, giving a stirring speech about his trials, tribulations, and triumphs. Elecraft announced the amazing, 13 ounce, pocketable KX2, sporting the same display and quite a few of the features of their larger portable KX3 and even the desktop K3S. FlexRadio promoted their remote capabilities, cable-saving architecture, and new Maestro control panel. That panel may assuage some serious contestants and DXers who have complained that they need knobs and buttons as well as mice and monitors. Of course, it costs almost as much as an entire IC-7300, not exactly new but still creating buzz as a

cost effective, entry-level and then some radio, albeit only for single-transmitter, single-receiver environments.

CWops Dinner and Awards Presentation

Once again, Bill KC4D organized the CWops Dinner, held on the Thursday night of Dayton, with about 80 of our number in attendance. The highlight of the evening was the presentation by Award Chairman Riki Kline K7NJ/4X4NJ of the first three **CWops Awards for the Advancement of the Art of CW** to Rob Brownstein K6RB, Carlo Consoli IK0YGJ, and Chuck Adams K7QO. Although his contributions as a founder and officer of CWops are numerous, President Rob's crowning achievement that earned him the award was being a driving force behind CW Academy. Carlo wrote the book *Zen and the Art of Radiotelegraphy* which is available in four languages through Amazon and downloadable for free in English. This book is encyclopedic about CW, and especially about learning it. Perhaps the most interesting part concerns techniques for learning to copy at speeds above 50 WPM. [Can you do that?!] Long time Morsemeister Chuck wrote and published a CW training course manual and CDs and personally teaches CW classes.



Alas, my sources provided no picture of Chuck. Perhaps we'll have one in time for the next issue of *Solid Copy* which should also include some of the remarks made during the presentation and via correspondence.

And here's a broader view of the CWops dinner. Note carefully the expressions on the faces of the diners, one of whom appears to be praying. This says something about the quality of the food at Spaghetti Warehouse. On the other hand, the room was excellent and the service ... served.



For a full photo montage, see

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipPjHePqBA2S143x74alPFaDM8J75lNALqiPwmpH36DRNg8RNhLFvZ39s-Al-hZdg?key=NThFVHE3WF9Bb2xBZl9LNDZhU0M4dFhPZi1JbWR3>.

North American CW Weekend

John N3AM and Nigel G3TXF provided links to a couple of quality photo montages from the North American CW Weekend. Here are [a few from John](#):



[...and from Nigel:](#)



But do follow the links above for the full sets. Your Editor attended several of these events when he had family in the Washington, D.C. area. There is a lot of good fellowship to be had and I need to get back into the groove Real Soon Now. You, too?

Webmeister John Miller K6MM notes “Have you worked CWops members in all 50 US States? If so Congratulations! You can now print your own personalized commemorative award certificate via the website.” <http://cwops.org/members/index.html>

I would like to offer a hearty Thank You to those who get their columns and articles to me “ready to go” or nearly so. Most of this month’s issue went together in just a few hours, even with the usual i-dotting and t-crossing on my part. The Dayton material, however, was pretty disjoint – about 30 incremental emails from many, independent sources, with much overlap and lots of unfiltered picture libraries. It was all Good Stuff but a lot of work to filter, write, and format. I have extracted a few comments and photos from the lot for this and other columns in the issue, but in the future would welcome a concise but complete article.

That’s it for this month. Enjoy the issue and, as always, let me know what you want to see in *Solid Copy*.

73,

Rick N6XI

Editor

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News & Notes

Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT

This is a column where members can report their activities, happenings and achievements, both radio-related and personal. Please send brief notes to Jerry AC4BT at jweisskohl@gmail.com.

Jim, NJ3T: Dayton 2016. I found the flea market less compelling this year than ever before. Whether that is me aging and having less temptation to buy things that I don't need or whether there was more "junque" there than I had remembered from previous years is not clear.

I bought a \$3 drill bit sharpener, a few 5V USB charger modules, and some miniature toggle switches for my Heil headsets. The switches turned out to be too large! But the fun of socializing with old friends made the event vastly well worthwhile.



John, K4HQK: Dayton's ARA has Hamvention down to a science. This was my second, and both were managed very well. Highlights for me included the forums, dinners, and for the first time meeting so many previously-QSO'd amateurs (especially from CW Ops). I also enjoyed looking over the vendors' new equipment offerings—when I could get near them--but less so the outdoor flea market, too much like my basement storage room ;-)

I only wish DARA could find another venue. Hara Arena is an overcrowded, decrepit, dilapidated warren of newer buildings grafted onto a ratty old stadium. Is there no other place in Dayton that's newer, cleaner, roomier, and less confusing?

Emil, I5EFO: I wanted to do something useful to remind everyone how important CW was in WWII, between the years 1939 and 1945.

For this reason, I invite any CWops member to visit the Web site <http://www.h2g2.com/u1600338> to read the story of Ray G3ASG, who served with the Voluntary Interceptors in British Radio Security

Service. He is now 94 years old and has made CW QSO with me in the last May.

I must confess that for me it was very exciting to hear the CW of a person who has been an active part (using CW and radio) in one of the most important events of the past century.

Gary, N5PHT: Field Antenna Launcher. I have set up in about 70 different counties and my throwing arm is getting very sore. I made this to try for a better way to get wires in the campground trees.

Eager to experiment and will be in Oklahoma and Arkansas most of June to give it a good try. An old reel and some PVC and a "Daisy" slingshot from Academy and a few radiator clamps did the trick.



Chris, G4BUE: There seems a jinx on Chris getting fully back on the air after the Easter Storm Katie that damaged his tower and three element SteppIR.

He has had the tower repaired but while waiting for spare parts from SteppIR, he did some gardening and has pinched a nerve in his right arm causing restricted use of it and a lot of pain (especially when trying to send CW!).

John, K3GHH: is visiting his daughter and her husband in Anchorage, AK for a few weeks again this summer. About five minutes after he got the GAP Eagle (stashed in the garage since last year) set up and turned on his other Eagle (Ten-Tec), he discovered the CQ WW DX contest was going on and snagged the first station he called (a W6 on 20m).

Dayton [convinced him?] not to expect much of conditions this summer, especially barefoot to a vertical, but in a couple of hours he worked 30 stations, including several in China and one in Hong Kong. After rapping out "KL7/K3GHH" a few dozen times he wished he'd found room in his duffel bag for a memory keyer.



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CW Academy

Jerry Weisskohl AC4BT

We have just concluded the April – May 2016 semester of CW Academy (CWA). Student signups to our popular and unique service for teaching CW continue to roll in at a record pace. We have had approximately 450 new signups since the beginning of this year and are on pace for 1,000+ signups for the calendar year.

Our CW Academy program continues to grow. Many aspiring CW operators sign up for our programs after hearing the positive results and success stories that others have experienced using our proven methods. The Academy's personal and interactive approach to teaching is unique. There are many Web sites that offer advice to aspiring CW students, but the Academy goes several steps further by placing students in a classroom setting – paddle in hand, evaluating the students CW strengths and weaknesses in real time and then tailoring the 16 sessions in the semester to help each

student build confidence and overcome CW obstacles. The student who stays the course emerges as a competent CW operator.

Our eight-week Internet-based classroom instruction for Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 courses offers an opportunity to work with some of the most accomplished CW operators serving as Advisors. These advisors make themselves available to our students because they love CW and want to pass on their passion for our great hobby. What better way is there to ensure that CW continues to be heard on the bands well into the future?

As always, with an unrelenting flow of incoming applications, CW Academy needs more Advisors. Anyone who knows CW well and has a passion to help others can become an Advisor. Seize the opportunity to give something back to our great hobby and serve as an Advisor. It's not a huge time commitment. Classes are held two times a week for an eight week period. We have three semesters a year – Jan/Feb, Apr/May, and Sep/Oct. We offer Advisor training and provide the curriculum materials that are utilized in our courses.

I get many emails at the end of the semester from our graduating students thanking the Academy and its Advisors for giving them the opportunity to be successful in learning CW. You can really feel the excitement and gratitude from this Level 1 student's comments:

“...In the intervening years I tried various methods to learn CW: Koch, Farnsworth, K7QO, Gordon West, LCWO ... nothing worked. I'd stay with whatever method I was using for a week or so, then discouragement or frustration would always derail me.

“CW Academy, on the other hand, clearly works. I know the code. What a tremendous thing to be able to say! I never thought I would get to this point. It is still surprising even to me that I can walk over to my desk, sit down, and tap out the alphabet, some numbers, and prosigns -- and at 23 WPM no less! It is so very, very cool!”

Please help us out so that we can continue to provide this unique service to the many aspiring CW operators out there who are looking to improve their CW skills with the CW Academy. To sign up as an Advisor go to our web page at <http://cwops.org/cwa-advisor-su.html>.

The CW Academy April – May 2016 semester graduated **124** CW students led by 36 Advisors and 7 Associate Advisors. This total includes another successful CW JA Academy semester, spearheaded by Atsu, JE1TRV - Nine JA students graduated Level 1 led by three JA advisors.

Below is a list of advisors, Associate Advisors, and student graduates from this semester:

April – May 2016 Semester – 36 Advisors and 7 Associate Advisors

Advisors – 4 classes

Jerry AC4BT

Advisors - 2 classes

Rob K6RB, Ed K6HP, Joe KK5NA

Advisors – 1 class

Atsu JE1TRV, Aki JA1GEL, Kazu JA1GQC, Matt NG7W, Kate K6HTN, Ed K6HP, Bill N7YT, Scott KF7GGN, David KM6ZT, Danny KF7Z, Dallas K1DW, Paul K4JAZ, Mac NN4K, Don K6ZO, Bill K5LN, Andy WB7DKZ, Bill W0EJ, Steve ZL2KE, Barry W4LSV, James VK4TJF, Stew GW0ETF, Phil G4NVR, Dave M0GGK, Vic 4X6GP, Mike WH6YH, Ron WM9Q, Alex PA1FOX, Joe N3HEE, Bill KC4D, Will WJ9B, Eric G0HHC, Jack, NI8N

Associate Advisors

Randy K4ODL, David AK4IC, David WW9S, David AE4QQ, Jim W5TUF, Mike WH6YH, Doug VE3MV

April – May 2016 Semester – Students who completed: 124 graduates

Level 1 Graduates: 76

JM1PVZ, JA2SCL, JH4JBL, JH1RFU, JK8XHZ, JG3POW, JK7CNB, JP7HEB, JI1TPV

Duncan W6WQY, Loren, K7CWQ, Paul N7PVA, Daniel KG7WQI, Carter NS7I, David AA6DT, Brad KF7BA, Michael KX6A, Mike WG7D, John W7JJL, Nicholas KG7EES, Alan KB7YSP, Stuart KK6VYS, Jim W7ZND, Paula K7PAX, John N6QX, Kerry K3RRY, Scott W7SLS, Pete W6PAN, Casey W7CLO, Hoyel KD0ZWJ, Steve N1TYH, Chuck KD2EIB, Matthew KA9BBQ, Bob AC5BG, John KJ6GLQ, Daniel KD2ALV, George W4GWS, Alan KD2EJP, John AK4AT, Ken W4KGH, Alex KD2FTA, James K3SE, Alex KM4NOF, John KD2HEK, Karl W4CHX, Scott KW4JM, Mike W5MJD, Paul Bonham, Andrew KK4VLE, Glenn KO5TER, Michael KT5MR, Nick N4TAE, Mark K9BOO, Mark AG5AW, Steve KD0TPK, Terry W0TDL, Onzo WW5OBA, Glen N5GP, Jean-Paul N5GP, Marcus N5ZY, Don KK4QAM, Rocky AF5AF, Darron KG5ABL, Phillip N5ZKF, Jerry AE4XW, Joseph AG0D, John WB3IFD, Praveen VU3CKP, Lorne ZL3LSD, Graham G4NMD/N4GJS, Gareth M5KVK, Peter M0LRQ, Graciano IW2NOY, Billy KG4ZXN, Bryan KB9QVT, Mel K9ZAV, Victor K5VL

Level 2 Graduates: 32

Tom KT4XN, Jason AK0W, Tom AD0BI, Matt WM4AA, Bill AD6JV, Dave K4EET, Guy N9NK, Christian W4ALF, John K9DRS, Ron N4KPJ, Mark W5NWO, Al WS4P, John N7BHP, Bob K4DJG, Bruce K8UDH, Matt AB3KP, Neil N5EIL, Gerald KD2FSH, Jim KD5KJ, Donnie KF4A, Bob KR6N, Trung W6TN, Fred AD6FC, Ronald K0PGE, Aubrey W7OLY, Birton N6UG, Bill K7WEH, Jim K7AJM, Dave K7AHF, Richard AB6XG, Richard AG5M, Al KA1SOL

Level 3 Graduates: 10

Mike KC6SSE, Gary AE7OV, Woody K1LB, Dennis WU6X, George VK4GSF, Kevin VE4MR, Carl W8WZ, Derick AB9PR, Don KR3A, John WI4P



[And here is K6RB modeling the prestigious leather jacket award for our most dedicated CW mentors. – Ed.]



73,

Jerry AC4BT

CW Academy Manager

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How We Were – WN4AFP, CWops #1208

by [Hank Garretson W6SX](#)



Dave Edmonds - WN4AFP - 1975

Dave was twelve years old in this picture.

Dave recently upgraded to Extra and is enjoying a whole new world below 025.

Please send YOUR *How We Were* Photos to w6sx@arrl.net

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CWops Tests

by [Rich Ferch VE3KI](#)

As I mentioned last month, I've been thinking a bit about techniques to improve results in contests. The most important improvement technique is simply to practice. The CWTs can help here. You won't be able to rack up the proverbial 10,000 hours of practice in CWTs, but you can at least keep your hand in and get a CW contesting fix every week.

As the sunspot cycle continues its decline, we will find it increasingly difficult to make contacts. At the top of the sunspot cycle, you can work the world with QRP. At those times, the difficulty with QRP is not so much the raw ability to make the contact as the ability to be heard over other callers. QRP and low-power DXers and contestants learn to use operating techniques such as small changes in frequency, in CW speed or in the timing of their calls to make their calls stand out from the crowd. As conditions worsen, however, there comes a time when even with no other competition you can't get through because your signals just aren't strong enough.

One easy answer (well, maybe not so easy on the wallet) is to increase power. If you can hear other people but they can't hear you, increasing power may help, and certainly in a competitive situation where you are vying with other callers to be heard, being louder can be a real advantage. However, declining propagation conditions not only make your signals harder for others to hear, they also make other stations' signals harder to hear in your receiver. If you can't hear 'em, you can't work 'em. (I wish some of the callers in DX pileups would pay more attention to this adage!).

For most of us, the best we can do to hear better is to improve our antenna(s). For receiving, the primary antenna characteristic to consider is directivity rather than gain. While the gain of an antenna has a direct impact on the strength of transmitted signals, for receiving it is more important to exclude noise and signals from unwanted directions, especially on lower frequencies where band noise, not receiver gain, is the limiting factor. That is why separate receive antennas with low efficiency but high directivity are popular on the lower bands despite their negative gains.

As the solar flux continues to decline, 10m and 15m will be open less and less. Many of us don't have room for full-size antennas on 160m and 80m. So more and more of us can expect to be squeezed into the remaining two HF contest bands. We can already see this in the CWTs. Most of the action in the 1300Z and 1900Z sessions is on 20m and 40m. As these bands become more crowded, the importance of immunity of receivers to close-in interference will increase. Recent receivers have been making great strides in this direction – a look at the Sherwood Engineering table of receiver test data demonstrates the improved performance of many recent receiver designs.

Transmitter technology seems to be lagging behind. As CW operators, perhaps our major problem in this area is key clicks. A clicking signal may not sound bad when you are tuned to it, but if you tune away by a few hundred Hz so that the signal is just outside your filter passband, you can often hear clicks or thumps riding right through other nearby signals you are trying to copy.

A look at the band with a panadapter during a major CW contest (or in a DXpedition pileup) can make clicking CW signals apparent. Key clicks can easily be seen on a waterfall display as sharp spikes at each of the on and off transitions in CW, and in the worst cases you can see some of these spikes extending across several kHz of the spectrum.

Not every CW signal has clicks. At the same time as you see some signals with the characteristic spikes, you will see other signals equally loud but with no sign of clicks in the waterfall. You can tune quite close to these clean signals without hearing an impact on other signals within your receiver. A click-free CW keying waveform is what every transceiver designer should be aiming for, but unfortunately this aspect of design has not yet received as much attention as it should. It is in the interest of CW operators to demand better CW keying performance from transmitter manufacturers, and hopefully this will be an area where we will see improvements going forward.

'Til next time, I hope we can all keep on having fun in the CWTs.

73,

Rich, VE3KI

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CWops Member Awards

[**Pete W1RM and Peter W1UU**](#)

The Annual Competition Award (ACA) is based on the number of members worked each calendar year. You get one point per member worked, once per year. It resets to zero at the beginning of each year. The Cumulative Member Award (CMA) is based on how many members you've worked since January 3, 2010 on each band and continues to grow in perpetuity. The CWops Award Manager (CAM) software, available at no cost, will help you keep track of your ACA and CMA totals.

Call	ACA	CMA	Call	DX Total	Call	WAS	Call	WAE	Call	WAZ
W1RM	581	4175	W1RM	167	N5RR	50	W1RM	48	W1RM	38
VE3KI	564	3806	F6HKA	144	W1RM	50	F6HKA	44	F6HKA	38
N8BJQ	506	3970	W4VQ	139	W4VQ	50	N5RR	43	W4VQ	37
AA3B	485	5442	G4BUE	119	F6HKA	50	G4BUE	43	G4BUE	37
K6RB	456	3403	N5RR	114	W1UU	50	OK1RR	42	N5RR	36
G4BUE	432	3142	OH2BN	112	VE3KI	50	EA8OM	42	VE3KI	35
F6HKA	408	4012	EA8OM	111	G4BUE	50	W4VQ	41	IK0YVV	32
N5RR	387	3781	VE3KI	110	EA8OM	50	VE3KI	41	N5PHT	28
NA6O	369	1387	N8BJQ	101	W0EJ	50	N8BJQ	41	JF2IWL	25
K1ESE	355	2246	K1ESE	96	F6JOE	50	OH2BN	40	W6NS	19
IT9MUO	354	1198	SM6CNN	93	W6KY	50	AA3B	40		
W4VQ	314	2374	OK1RR	93	N1EN	50	SM6CNN	37		
N5PHT	306	1623	AA3B	93	N5PHT	50	F6JOE	36		
IT9VDQ	303	835	EA1WX	89	F5MNK	50	W0VX	34		
DL8PG	284	1703	W0VX	88	K5IX	50	KZ5D	34		
W0VX	260	2583	N1EN	86	K3SEN	50	KR3E	34		
K3WJV	238	882	W9ILY	85	W9ILY	49	K1ESE	34		
EA8OM	235	2758	F6JOE	80	W0VX	49	W1UU	33		
NU7Y	232	479	PA7RA	79	N8BJQ	49	IT9MUO	33		

Call	ACA	CMA		Call	DX Total		Call	WAS		Call	WAE		Call	WAZ
K3SEN	225	846		IT9MUO	79		K6RB	49		W9ILY	32			
F6JOE	221	2510		KZ5D	78		K6DGW	49		N1EN	32			
N1EN	200	1928		DL8PG	77		K1ESE	49		F5MNK	32			
K5IX	200	630		W1UU	74		GW0ETF	49		EA1WX	32			
W6NS	199	970		KR3E	73		AD1C	49		PA7RA	31			
K6DGW	194	1508		AD1C	73		AA3B	49		DL8PG	31			
W9ILY	184	2575		N1ZX	70		WB9G	48		IT9VDQ	30			
KE4S	169	757		F5MNK	68		W6NS	48		IK0YVV	30			
W1UU	136	1939		NN6T	67		SM6CNN	48		NN6T	29			
I5EFO	128	233		GW0ETF	67		NN6T	48		N1ZX	28			
K2ZC	112	767		N5PHT	61		NA6O	48		GW0ETF	28			
NN4K	106	784		IT9VDQ	59		N1ZX	48		AD1C	25			
JF2IWL	96	877		IK0YVV	57		KZ5D	48		K6RB	23			
4X6GP	63	941		W6KY	54		KT5V	48		JF2IWL	23			
AB7MP	46	483		K6RB	54		IK0YVV	48		HB9ARF	23			
KZ5D	0	3239		4Z1UF	50		DL8PG	48		G4DRS	22			
SM6CNN	0	2477		WB9G	48		AB7MP	48		N5PHT	21			
W6KY	0	1840		JF2IWL	47		NU7Y	47		4Z1UF	21			
N2UU	0	1774		G4DRS	45		KR3E	47		K2ZC	20			
EA1WX	0	1655		NA6O	41		JF2IWL	47		I5EFO	20			
AD1C	0	1630		KE4S	41		WX7SJ	46		WB9G	19			
OK1RR	0	1618		HB9ARF	41		NN4K	46		KE4S	19			
NN6T	0	1577		K6DGW	38		KG5U	46		G3YJQ	18			
GW0ETF	0	1451		K3SEN	38		K0DTJ	46		KG5U	17			
KG5U	0	1322		K2ZC	37		IT9VDQ	46		W6KY	16			
PA7RA	0	1200		W0EJ	36		EA1WX	46		K3WJV	16			
KR3E	0	1136		KG5U	35		KE4S	45		NN4K	15			
F5MNK	0	1111		W6NS	33		K3WJV	45		NA6O	15			
PA4N	0	955		KT5V	32		K2ZC	45		K3SEN	15			
N1ZX	0	940		I5EFO	28		IT9MUO	45		K6DGW	12			
WB9G	0	888		NN4K	27		PA7RA	44		KT5V	11			
W5ASP	0	869		G3YJQ	27		OK1RR	44		W0EJ	10			
KT5V	0	814		K3WJV	25		KM4FO	43		G3XLG	10			
IK0YVV	0	767		K0DTJ	25		HB9ARF	43		W6NS	8			
W0EJ	0	754		NU7Y	21		G4DRS	43		W5TM	7			
HB9ARF	0	723		K5IX	20		OH2BN	42		G0DJA	7			
K0DTJ	0	668		G3XLG	18		NV9X	38		K5IX	6			
WX7SJ	0	610		WT2P	14		G3YJQ	37		K0DTJ	6			
WT2P	0	574		AB7MP	14		4Z1UF	36		KM4FO	5			
OH2BN	0	530		W5TM	11		WT2P	34		WT2P	4			
KM4FO	0	500		KM4FO	10		I5EFO	34		AB7MP	3			
N7WY	0	403		G0DJA	10		W5TM	32		NV9X	1			
G4DRS	0	353		NV9X	4		G3XLG	31						
W5TM	0	235		KE6K	4		KE6K	17						

Call	ACA	CMA		Call	DX Total		Call	WAS		Call	WAE		Call	WAZ
G3YJQ	0	234					G0DJA	8						
G3XLG	0	201												
NV9X	0	149												
KE6K	0	116												
G0DJA	0	23												
PA1FOX	0	5												

73,

Pete W1RM

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New Members

[Colin Jenkins KU5B](#)

With great pleasure we welcome the following new members to CWops:

1624	K7GS	Gary
1625	AE4QQ*	Dave
1626	K5TU*	Kim
1627	W2APF*	Thaire
1628	W5LNI*	John
1629	WA5PFJ*	John
1630	W5LA*	Jim
1631	W5BQ	Bruce
1632	WU6X	Greg
1633	K1LB*	Woody
1634	NF8M	Frank
1635	N5EIL*	Neil

* = Life Member

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Current Nominees

As of June 11, 2016:

Need Sponsors: KC3CVN, W8WZ, W6STR, N4KW, K4FXN

Invitations Extended: (none)

For more details about nominees and up-to-date status, check the “Members Only” pages on the Website: www.CWops.org.

For information about joining CWops, check the Website under “Membership.”

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QTX Report

Enjoying the Art of Conversational CW

by [John Huffman K1ESE](#)

QTX is a way of counting conversational CW QSOs. One point is awarded for each QSO of 20 minutes or longer. We have two ways to recognize QTX activities - the QTX Plaque and the QTX Achievement Medal.

Here's the latest tally of this month's CW conversations of 20 minutes or longer. Remember, you can work anyone, anywhere, as many times as you like. They all count for QTX.

QTX Monthly Standings

Below find the May QTX reports received:

<u>Call</u>	<u>May</u>
K5KV	61
WB6BEE	60
N5PHT	55
K1ESE	53
KI4XH	52
N5IR	44
AC4BT	29
K4AHO	28
K5YQF	27
KB6NU	23
K6RB	20
KC0VKN	14
NN6T	12
K6HP	10

W3WHK	10
KE6OIO	10
K0DTJ	10
HB9CVQ	9
I5EFO	2
W5JQ	2

Benny K5KV slid past Don WB6BEE to take the May lead, but only by a slim margin of one contact. Well done by both operators. The real surprise was Gary N5PHT who roared into third place out of nowhere. Gary's submissions for the year were 2 in March, 3 in April, and 55 in May. I can't wait to see what June will be for him. Fred KI4XH and I were close behind.

Reporting stations were down by three, but QSOs were up by 23.

Personal bests for the year were submitted by N5PHT (ya think!), K6RB, and K0DTJ.

QTX Medal Standings

We award QTX medals for the following totals at the end of the year -

Gold Medal - 400 QTX points

Silver Medal - 300 QTX points

Bronze Medal - 200 QTX points

It will be fun to see if you can accumulate the contacts needed to reach each level. Average about 18 rag chews each month to receive an award.

QTX Year to Date

<u>Call</u>	<u>YTD</u>
WB6BEE	318
KI4XH	301
K5KV	299
K1ESE	270
N5IR	222
AC4BT	192
K5YQF	170
K4AHO	125
KB6NU	118
NN6T	108
KC0VKN	91
K6HP	61
N5PHT	60
W3WHK	57

K6RB	54
KE6OIO	47
N1ZX	39
HB9CVQ	35
WA8IWK	28
I5EFO	25
N9SE	20
WC5W	17
K0DTJ	15
K3TN	9
W5JQ	7
K6DGW	2

The year to date lineup is the same as last month – Don WB6BEE is on top. Fred KI4XH is second. Benny K5KV is third.

At the five month mark we have these folks qualifying for Medals -

Silver - WB6BEE, KI4XH

Bronze - K5KV, K1ESE, N5IR

It's not too late to start now and still earn a medal this year. Good luck!

Thanks to all for your participation.

73,

John K1ESE, CWops #792, *QTX Manager*

QTX – Encouraging Conversational CW

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Upcoming CW Operating Events

by [Joe Staples W5ASP](#)

This brief list of operating events is intended to provide members with options for using and improving their cw skills in less intense and more casual on-the-air activities.

It's that time again ... Field Day ! Although this event has been covered previously in this column, it's worth repeating. It is a unique opportunity for CWops members not only to enjoy a fun weekend operating CW, but also to make a positive contribution to the appreciation of CW among the new and uninitiated amongst us. All of us know that ARRL Field Day is "Not a Contest." But it is a chance for the savvy CW operator to exhibit his skills in a very active environment. Most Field Day groups are eager to have additional operators for their CW stations. Even if your club isn't doing Field Day this year, there are others waiting to welcome you with open arms. Look around, you'll find a slot.

Depending on your skill level and/or preferences, hook up with a less experienced operator and work together as a team. Get a second set of headphones and share the station. The more experienced operator can take the lead as the primary with his partner as observer, spotter and log checker. This is a great way to pass on the fundamentals of real time CW operating at Field Day. If your partner is reasonably new at CW, they'll pick up the techniques fast while operating at the side of someone who has "been there, done that." And as an "old hand" you'll really get a kick out of showing the ropes to your less experienced partner.

All Asia CW and IARU HF are well known events with lots of activity. For some the 24 hour duration of IARU can be a relief from many other international events. Chasing the various IARU headquarters stations can lend a special incentive to getting involved. Lists of these stations expected to be on the air are usually posted on the Internet and various contest reflectors.

This year the Canada Day Contest falls on a Friday, a bit more convenient than during mid-week. It's a good opportunity for most US members to say "Hi" to our neighbors to the north. Lots of them will also be CWops members. They'll appreciate your stopping by.

The GACW WWSA CW DX Contest sponsored by Grupo Argentino de CW could provide a different experience. It's a 24 hour event where everybody works everybody, exchanging CW zones, and is limited to 100 watts max. The Venezuelan Independence Day Contest is another chance to explore the transequatorial path with the diminishing sunspot count.

Till next time ... Keep on pounding.

JUNE / JULY EVENTS

All Asian DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Jun 18th to 2400Z, Jun 19th
https://www.jarl.org/English/4_Library/A-4-3_Contests/2016AA_rule.htm

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Jun 18th to 1500Z, Jun 19th
<http://www.kkn.net/stew/>

West Virginia QSO Party 1600Z, Jun 18th to 0200Z, Jun 19th
<http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc/wvqp/2016wvqsrules.html>

ARRL Field Day 1800Z, Jun 25th to 2100Z, Jun 26th
<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

RAC Canada Day Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1st
<http://www.rac.ca/wp-content/uploads/files/pdf/2015%20Canada%20Day%20Contest%20Rules%20English%20and%20French.pdf>

IARU HF World Championship 1200Z, Jul 9th to 1200Z, Jul 10th
<Solid Copy June 2016.docx>

FISTS Summer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Jul 9th
<http://www.fistsna.org/operating.html#sprints>

NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 10th
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 17th
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 24th
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 1st
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 8th
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 15th
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Jun 15th
NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Jun 23rd
www.naqcc.info/

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Jun 11th to 2400Z, Jun 12th
SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Jun 22nd
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Jul 9th to 2400Z, Jul 10th
http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest 1500Z, Jun 11th to 1500Z, Jun 12th
<http://www.wwsatest.org/english>

Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest 0000Z, Jul 2nd to 2359Z, Jul 3rd
<Solid Copy June 2016.docx>

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