

W9JOZ

Volume 8, Issue 12

December 2018

Christmas Dinner Party December 8th at 5:00 pm Knox time at the Country Kettle on Hwy 35 in Knox.

Weekly 2 meter Net

We are having the Saturday Night Net at 8:00 pm on the 145.410 repeater.

Hope you can check in and join us for some good conversation.

Christmas dinner is December 8th at Country Kettle in Knox at 5:00 pm.

Thanks
John W3ML



Meetings are at the Henry F. Schricker Library on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of December.

The library is located on west Culver Road, two blocks west of Highway 35.



Are you on the air?

Richard, K9QA is an official ARRL DXCC Card Checker. Contact him at k9qa@arrl.net to have your cards checked.

DX Century Club

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December Events

Birthdays

7th - KC9PM, Nita

Starke County Amateur Radio Club Weekly 2 Meter Net will be on each Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Central time.

DAY OF WEEK: Saturday 8:00 p.m. Central time

HOST: KN9OX Repeater

FREQUENCY: 145.410 - 600

PL TONE: 131.8

News Items Listed

See all the For Sale Items at

www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm

There are a lot of them there.

Tom Troike sent this in:

Here is a neat website that one of the Steamed Hams net guys mentioned today. Check it out.

<http://www.makearadio.com/>

73',

de Tom, W9QN

A little that Tom, W8FIB sent me.



**747 Global Supertanker 'Camp' fire Day 6
UPDATE McClellan Load and Return**

Take a behind the scenes look at how these huge
Supertankers are turned so quickly during the 'Camp' fire
at McC...

A New Flag Pole Antenna

<https://flagpoleantenna.com/>

Real DX Flagpole, Real Stealth OCF Vertical Dipole HF Radio Antenna for
10 bands, 80-6M and NO Radials!

Customer Review: "Got Indonesia (YB) this morning on 40m SSB with 100
watts. Over 9,000 miles!"

Customer Review: "Highly Recommended for HOA CC&R restricted Ham Radio
QTH's."

HOA APPROVED Nation-wide!

XYL & fussy neighbors love the smooth stealthy demeanor.

NO ugly stubs, traps, coils, or unsightly elements. Just One Clean Stealthy Vertical Radio Antenna, a real
Flagpole.

DX Flagpole & DXV Series

Both Lines of OCF Vertical-Dipole Antennas come in 12', 16', 20' and 28' foot tall.

High Power Now Standard on 10 Bands 80, 60, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6M - Yes, really!

November 2018 Design Reviewed:

High Power Feed System now Standard. Real Quality.

28' version added for a little extra Low Band performance

Found more dB's! Lower Loss, Lower Angles, & Higher Efficiency added

Easy Install: "1-2 hours unboxed to on the air."

Rugged Engineering: Rated for 80-100 MPH; ANSI/NAAMM FP 1001-07 regs.

Designer Review: "Equal or Better Performance than verticals requiring Radials!"

Loads of Transparent data on market comparisons illustrating why our OCF design is a very smart, well engineered HF Radio antenna for Amateur and Commercial markets alike!

Customer Review: "FB antenna for FT8 Mode, WSJT-X and SDR operations."

No Radio Tower? No Problem!

DX'ers, Remote Ham Radio (RHR), and Digital modes such as SDR, FT8, and WSJT-X are a natural all-band fit. MARS, ALE, Land, Marine, and Mobile Procomm projects enjoy our efficient RF system designs too. This is not a typical antenna. Read more in our FAQ and RF Blog.

Customer Review: "Holds its own vs. taller competitors with no radials & is also stealth!"

See for yourself. Loads of transparent performance data in our

<<https://flagpoleantenna.com/pages/faq>> FAQs and

<<https://flagpoleantenna.com/blogs/news>> RF Blog

QRP and High Power stations will love the efficiency knowing each precious watt is delivered to the antenna.

Changes To FT8 Coming Dec 10 ***Old version Incompatible with the New***

Users of FT8 should be aware that K1JT's WSJT-X development team has been busy with version 2.0. The new version makes changes in the digital format of FT8 and MSK144 that make it **INCOMPATIBLE** with older versions.

The changes have been made to allow a few more characters to be transmitted, to allow for /R to indicate Rovers, to allow for contest exchanges for Field Day, RTTY Roundup, and VHF contests, and to allow for more complex and non-standard call signs. V 2.0 also includes better error checking, resulting in fewer false decodes, and it eliminates the grid weirdness that occurred in V 1.9 when one station was using Contest Mode and the other was not..

While V 2.0 is currently in Beta, it's well-advanced beta, and works very well. **Those using 1.9 cannot copy or transmit to stations using V 2.0 and those using the latest V 2.0 betas cannot copy stations using V 1.9.** The non-beta release of 2.0 is scheduled for Dec 10. (Early 2.0 beta versions DID allow 1.9 and 2.0 users to communicate, but this capability has been removed to allow the final version to work better.)

Users are encouraged to switch to the new version as soon as possible. The only downside is that most users are still using V 1.9, so you won't be able to work them, but this will gradually change as more users upgrade, and the transition will happen more quickly as more users upgrade. K1JT's Quick-Start Guide is here.

https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Quick_Start_WSJT-X_2.0.pdf

Links to installation packages are here.

<https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>



If you know someone that wants to be a ham and keeps saying they can't do it, show them this article from his Bio on QRZ. This is determination.

I CAME FROM AFRICA

NIZAR A MULLANI, K0NM

I was born and raised in Tanzania (originally VQ3 and now 5H3 land). I almost got my ham license as a 5H3 but could not quite pass the 10 wpm test before coming to the USA for college at Washington University in Saint Louis, Mo. Finally, after I became a citizen I was able to get a ham license in the USA and quickly upgraded to Extra with the K0NM call sign.

Most of my career has been spent in designing, building and using Positron Emission Tomographs (PET scanners), which are used to detect cancer and managing cancer patients. I retired from the University of Texas Medical School as an Associate Professor in 2004 and now own and operate two medical equipment companies. One is located in California and specializes in skin cancer detection (www.dermlite.com). The other is located in Sugar Land and specializes in finding veins for blood draw and IV access (www.veinlite.com).

After I retired from the University, I decided I wanted to learn CW again. So, at the age of 69 I started looking around for a technique to learn CW - again. I definitely did not want to repeat my experience with the ARRL method of going through 5, 13 and then 20 wpm. So, I decided to treat CW as a language and looked at how

my son learned to speak English. Incidentally, he could carry out a decent conversation by the age of 5 but could not spell anything. So, how did he learn to speak? The answer was obvious - he learnt the sounds and meanings of word sounds. Mama was the first word he learnt by the age of 1 year old. So, I decided I would use the same technique as him and learn the word sounds in CW. I started with the sounds of letters at a minimum of 20 wpm. Next came the 100 most common words and the regular words like CQ and RST used in QSOs. Then the 500 most common words. I would speed up the speed to 25 wpm so that I could not decode the letters. Thus, forcing myself to learn the sounds in my head. On the way there I also used Morse Runner and RufzXP to practice typing what I heard. It took daily practices to get to the level of being able to have my first CW QSO, but when it happened, I was empowered. I could carry out simple QSOs with anyone at about 20 wpm. Six years later, I am hooked on CW contesting. I actually prefer to call CQ and Run in a contest. Having LOTS of FUN with CW now. It is my most preferred mode of operating the radio. I submitted a paper on Learning CW at 70 to CQ magazine and they have accepted it for publication soon.

My interest in amateur radio is in antenna design. I have published five papers so far on antennas. One in QST and four in 73 magazine. Send me an e-mail at mullani@tlite.com if you want copies of the papers.

Mullani NA: Vee Antenna with Vertical Tails. 73 Amateur Radio Today. 431:16-21, 1996

Mullani NA: Top-Fed, Out-Of-Phase, Phased-Verticals (TOP) Antenna. 73 Amateur Radio Today.pp 44-47, March 1997

Mullani NA: The Bent Dipole. QST May 1997 pp 56-57

Mullani NA: Antennas for Amateur Television, Part 1. 73 Amateur Radio Today. 442:27-30, 1997

Mullani NA: Antennas for Amateur Television, Part 2. 73 Amateur Radio Today. 443:17-20, 1997

DX Opening Alert

Ten-Six-Two Meters

By Steve Mollman -KD9HL

On December 13th and 14th the Geminid Meteor Shower will peak and is expected to be stronger than normal. Jupiter's gravity has pulled the meteor stream closer to the earth. Some shooting stars associated with the shower are expected to be visible each night from December 7 to December 16.



A Time-Lapse Photo of the 2017 Geminid Meteor Shower

When fast-moving meteoroids strike Earth's atmosphere they heat and ionize the air in their path. The luminous ionized trails are not only visually striking -- they also reflect radio waves. The meteors tend to peak about 2 a.m. local time but can be seen as early as 9-10 p.m. The most productive path is expected to be North-South from about 10 PM to Midnight and 5 AM to 7 AM. Because the Geminids move at a slower speed than some other meteor showers such as the Perseids, the propagation is expected to be best on ten and six meters with okay conditions on two meters. At the shower peak, SSB contacts are expected to be possible. FT8 should be fairly easy on all three bands.



If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 20th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

73

John, W3ML

