

REFEREES

The Organizing Committee has voted unanimously to promote Dave Summner, K1ZZ, as the Chief Referee.

The Referee's Team, which will be responsible to process the scores after the dust settles, has now been completed and is represented by:



K1ZZ
Dave Summner

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

JA0CIU taught me the keying with straight key then I was interested in CW very much. Without the meeting with him, I'd not be interested in CW...

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

KH0AM in Saipan. I personally made 3times but they were so hard. I promoted the real Multi/Multi to JA contesters and had very nice experiences together with them.

I'm wishing to have it again but I do not know when I can do.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I've building my own contest station in Yamanashi. Now I self-standing 30m tower with yagi. I'll have one more 30m self-standing and one guyed 30m+ tower someday soon. I'm preparing aluminum for 40-10m HF yagis.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

The 1990 event was most impressive event for me and I extremely wished to attend 1996 one. But I could not make it. I heard a lots of interesting stories from my friends so I would be there in any situations.



JE1CKA / KH0AM

Tack Kumagai

Born: 1950

Address: P O Box 22, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8791,
Japan

E-mail: je1cka@jzap.com

WEB: <http://jzap.com/je1cka/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was interested in amateur radio at age of 16 and passed the Phone only class license in Oct 1966 and got the station license as JA0CUV in April 1967. I moved to Tokyo in 1968 for work+university then started DXing and Contesting as JA0CUV/1. I made a first DXpedition when I graduated the University as C21/JE1CKA and I had been really interested in DX-pedition. I operated from the numerous Asian and Oceanian countries as C21CW, S21CW, VR1AK, VR4CW, VR8D, YJ8CW, KH0/JE1CKA, WH0/N1BTP and KH0AM. I lost interest in DXCC hunting around 1985 or so. Since then my operation has been targeted in CW contesting. The 1st WRTC was the really impressive event for me (tks to Danny + Co).



K4VX

Lew Gordon

Born : 1929

19800 P.O. Box 105, Hannibal, MO 63401-0105,
USA

E-mail : k4vx@nemonet.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I studied for my license in 1941, but WW-II happened. I received my first license in 1947 while I was still in high school. Callsign W9APY. I later held WA4RPK and W4ZCY. XYL Terry was licensed in 1955 as K5BRQ. Later she received W4BFA, and then NS0Z.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

While I had no Elmer for getting my first license, my real "contest" Elmer was Lennie Chertok, W3GRF (SK) who provided me with towers, rotators and construction techniques. Lennie is a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I was the 10M operator for PJ9JR M/M SSB in 1978. I made 4965 QSOs on 10M before dupes. In 1979 I was the 80M operator from PJ2CC M/M CW. Made somewhere around 700 Qs in a horrible thunderstorm environment. I have no future plans for expeditions.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Not much I can do to "upgrade" this station!

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I have been a friend of Tine for over 20 years. I was also Chief Judge at WRTC-96 in the SF Bay area. No way I can miss this event!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

As long as we can continue international interest in contesting it will survive. When that ceases then we will be in trouble.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

If you have to ask, then you will never understand!

**N6AA**

Richard Norton

Born: 1941

Address: 21290 West Hillside Drive, Topanga, CA
90290 USA

E-mail: n6aa@cqww.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

1955 Lynbrook, NY K2PHF, W6DGH

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Have operated from 35 zones in CQWW DX Contests. Was active from 9Y4VT in 70's and 80's.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

TS-820, AL-80, Triband beam, 2-L 40, wires.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Have been involved with log checking in the previous 2 WRTC events.

**S50R**

Leo N. Xhoko

Born: 1950

Address: Ljubljana, Slovenia

E-mail: xhokol@rtvslo.si

WEB: <http://lea.hamradio.si/~s50r/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Ham from 1965, started as YU3TXT, later YU3SO and at last S51SO. Now S50R and S5C. During this years many times in top list of biggest contest also winner of some of them (ARRL, WW, WAE...)Have some dxpeditons experience YU3SO/4U1, 4N2KP, J68RR, ... I was also a referee in wrtc 1996 in San Francisco where got the us licence KB0YAB. Member of S50E and S59APR.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Thanks to W9LDX-Phil who borrowed me KWM2-A in 60's, so I was one of the first YU on SSB!

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

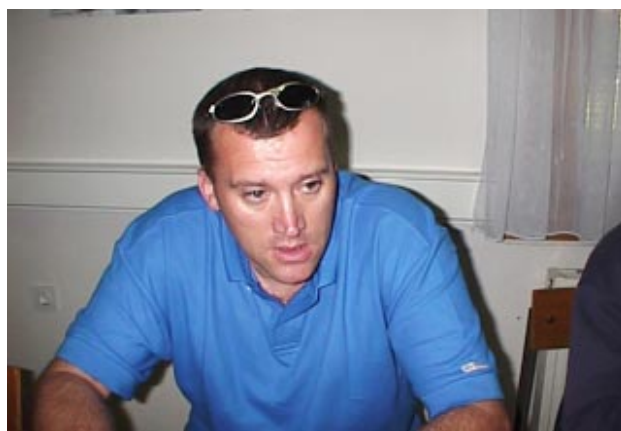
The favourite was on St.Lucia-West Indies as J6DX . Some plans are for VP5 and VK9 ...

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Member of Comitee WRTC 2000 and a judge.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

FT-990, Dentron 2500, 3el 3band Beam

**S53R**

Robert Kasca

Born : 1962

E-mail: s53r@hotmail.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed in 1975. Cals held/operated under until today: YU3EYZ, YU3TYT, YU3PR, YU3PR/EA9, 4X/YU3PR, 5B4/YU3PR, 4U/YU3PR (Golan-YK), YK1AN, 4U/YU3PR (Iraq - YI), 5B4ADR, SU1ER, 4X/S59PR, 4X/S53R, HC1OT, 4M2BYT, W6Q, WH6CDG, TK/S53R, E4/S53R, S5Z.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

No.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I'm very much afraid of the attitude some of the guys are taking these days. Contesting in the past few years became a dead end street, because of breaking records efforts - by all means. I shall put all efforts in making contesting fair and honest. Those not obeying the rules shall be exposed and excluded from the coming events. It's very frustrating doing something by the book and being beaten by somebody just not giving a about rules. Playing on honesty, obviously does not work - we have to think hard on a system which will block cheaters. They are not the best for sure, they need a "shrink"

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Wild pile-ups from rare entities and working that rare one on 160.

UA2FZ

Igor Avdeev

Born: 1961

Address: Kaliningrad, Russia

E-mail ua2fz@gazinter.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got a bug of ham radio in the end of 1980. Then I was studied at Skhalin Island (UA0F) at Marine College. Serge UA0FAY was a teacher of the Morse code and chief of UK0FAD. Serge was a professional radio operator and his skill of transmitting

manually on the bug key was tremendous. Serge also often operated in contest then and felt in love with contesting since then. After in 1981 I returned to my home to Kaliningrad UA2 and continue my education in local marine college. We had a club station in the college then UK2FAH. I was a chief operator there. I got my first license in 1982 - UA2FFD. In 1984 I was upgraded to first category and got short call UA2FZ. I had a modest station at my home - receiver Volna (loaned me by UA2FEX) and home made transmitter (by UA2FEM now RA2FA). In 1982 a couple of boys gathered together in local club station (UK2FAA now RK2FWA). That was a start of UK2FAA growing again. Nick UA2FJ, Victor UA2FM, Dima RA2FA, Harry UA2FX, Vlad UA2FF, Andy UA2FB and me activated club station for the contests. In 1988 due the high QRN/QRM level in the town we moved to country side and built a new station specially and primary for the contests. Last year we celebrated 10 years anniversary of the first contest from new site. By the way that first contest was Goodwill Contest 1989, I believe you remember Seattle - first WRTC! We were UZ2FWA Multi single and won this contest. Now this station is RK2FWA/RW2F and quite familiar to many contester. We have six towers with monoband stacked antennas for high bands, full size 3 el yagi for 40m and verticals for 80 & 160 m, also 8 + 4 phased Beverages for low bands. Since 1997 we operating mostly in M/M class.

In 1998 we (UA2FB, UA2FF and UA2FZ) organized a small DX pedition to Cyprus for CQ WW 160 M CW and SSB Contests. We put C42A call on the air and it was successful operation. We

won both CW and SSB in multi/single entry. Year later in 1999 we went to Tunisian 3V8BB station for CQWW 160 SSB event. New World record was set then for SSB Multi/single as well as 1st Place World. I have now at my home XP507 beam (40-10m), wires for 160 & 80m antennas. TS-950SDX and Alpha 91b sit at my shack. Unfortunately I can't use the Alpha 91b due possible TVI so I'm not very active from the home. May be sometime I could find some good place in countryside to build a station for contest.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Harry RA3AUU who is member of Russian team gave to Tine S50A my name (as far as I know). After that Tine send me an invitation...

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I like contesting - this is my passion, I like the spirit around it, I like the preparation for it - all the thrill and excitement in three minutes before the start of the contest. I like to see my friends working hardly in the pile up, or moving the mult from band to band... Last year we involved a dozen + of UA2 for the EU HF Contest. What was the show of UA2 then, Hi! UA2 even entered in top 5 box in national competition...

Referees, appointed to monitor contest activities at particular locations are:



9A2AA

Tomislav Dugeč

Born: 1942

Address: Split, Croatia

E-mail: 9a2aa@callsign.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was first licensed in 1959 and operated from YU2BHI club station in Dubrovnik and later YU2AKL after moving to Split. I held the following callsigns: : YU2NEG, YT2NEG, YU2DX, YZ2DX, 4N2DX, YU9DX, 4O2WCY, 6U1DX, YU2AA and YU90AA.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

I did 6 month introductory hamradio class in Dubrovnik in 1957 followed by another 6 month training before qualifying for a club op. license. I got personal callsign YU2NEG in 1960.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I didn't go to the Dxpeditons for a contests but I worked from over 10 Adriatic islands, 6U1DX from Sudan on job assignment, 9N1MM from Nepal with climbers and BY1PK from China with official hamradio delegation.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I currently use TS-930S and SB-220, KT34XA, dipoles for 80/40/30 and GP for 12m band.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was invited as a WRTC judge which makes me very proud.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I have been operating contests for the last 40 years but not for a score!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contests are a good opportunity for showing knowledge and technical preparedness. There is always some novelty (new DXCC, prefix, IOTA)



Apr.87) * DJ6QT/CT3 (69/70/71/73/74/75/82) * DJ6QT/EA6 (Nov.99) * DJ6QT/GU (Sep.92) * DJ6QT/LX (65/66/70) * SV8/DJ6QT (May.98) * DJ6QT/TG (Oct.88) * DJ6QT/WZ7 (Jul.90) * EA8GK (12.Nov.71) * EA8ID (11./12.Nov.78) * GU3HFN (Sep.92) * HB0XSV (Feb.71) * HK0HEU (Oct./Nov.93) * K6H (Jul.96 - WRTC) * LX3QT (62/63/64) * ON4UN (27./28.Oct.90) * ON8CT (Jun.69) * S79WS (Oct./Nov.87) * S92LB (only 23./29.Oct.89) * T77C (only 22./24.Sep.89) * TQ6JD (Sep.90) * TY9ABC (Nov.70) * TY0ABD (Nov.70/71/72 - Mar.85) * TZ2AB (Nov.70) * TZ2AC (Nov.71/72) * W7NG/WG (Jul.90 - WRTC) * XT2AB (Nov.70) * XT2AC (Nov.70/71- Oct./Nov.72) * ZB2IN (Nov.86) * ZD3N/ ZD3P (Nov.70)

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

When I was a boy-scout I got interest in amateur-radio. In the 50's I found out my local-radio club. Most of the club-members where DXer - so I got the interest in DXing and also for contesting. After I got my license, 10 days later I participated in my first contest. I call myself a contester first and than a DXer.

Young people in my area are always welcome to use my station in these days for contesting. Just a few weeks ago a 14 year old boy (DL1FEL) did operate a contest from my QTH under his call (M/S) where he made most of the work. (3500 QSOs)

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I never can answer that question - sometimes plans realise in a very short time!

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

A couple of radios. My favourite one is a FT-1000MP and a IC-765. Spare-radios are IC-751A, IC-735, IC-726. Linears Command 2500, TL 922, a modified Dentron MLA 2500, a homebrew linear. A few computers older models 286, 386, 486 and a P150. On a 20m high crankup-tower a 4el - 5band Quad on a 30ft boom (20/17/15/12/10) on a 40m high crankup-tower a 2el - 5band Quad (spider) (40/30/20/15/10) and a self-designed 80m beam in that construction.

Different sloopers for 40 & 80 - inverted Vee on a 25m high pole for 160m and a 160m L with elevated ground (the vertical-section of that antenna is 32m).

6 beverage-antennas (160 to 240m each)

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Competitor WRTC 1990 and 1996. Any questions?



DJ6QT

Walter Skudlarek

Born: 1939

Address: 63697 Hirzenhain - Germany

E-mail: kroell.msfanclub@t-online.de

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed in 1960. The following calls where held over the years, a few where guest-operations mainly for contests:

3B8RS (Nov./Dec.79 - Oct./Nov.80) * 3B9RS (Nov.79) * 3V8AS (only Oct./Nov.83) * 4U1ITU (8/12.Nov.85 - 22/26.Sep.94) * 4X0A (Sep.93) * 5V8WS (Nov.71- Nov.72 - Mar.85) * 6Y5X (Nov./Dec.94) * 8Q7BP/ 8Q7CC (Nov./Dec.81) * 9L1SL (Oct./Nov.91) * BY1PK (only 20 Jan 99) * C5AAN / C5ABH (Mar.79) * CT3M (only Sep.91) * D44BC (24.Oct - 10.Nov.84) * D68WS (Feb./Mar.86) * DJ6QT/3A (Mar.88) * DJ6QT/4X (Sep.93) * DJ6QT/4X25 (Jun.73) * DJ6QT/5T5 (Nov.71) * DJ6QT/5U7 (Nov.71) * DJ6QT/6Y5 (Nov.94) * DJ6QT/9L (Mar./

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Its not answering your question but for me - contesting is the only way to check in comparison your station in total with others in your area or in your country / continent / world.

Than you find out where you have to invest for better results. Also a its good indicator for the operator himself, he can see how good he still is and if he can compare with the others.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

In a contest it's a easy way getting new countries, band-points, zones etc.



VK2IA (DL1VJ)

Bernd Länger

Born: 1962

Address: 23 Mirrabooka Street, Bilgola NSW 2107, Australia

E-mail : vk2ia@netspace.net.au

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got first licensed in 1978 as DL1VJ. Been into CW and DX from the very beginning, contesting followed a bit later. In 1997, I moved to Sydney, Australia, where I am licensed as VK2IA (other VK calls: VK6VJ, VK8VJ, VK9AA).

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

DK7VE, Norbert (amateur radio) DL8CM, Harry (contesting - CQWW)

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Yes, the first one was to Luxemburg in 1995 followed by 5T, TA, LX again, JY and FR. The best one probably was the first "serious" effort as 5T5XX in 1986 visiting Lothar, 5T5SL (sk). I'm thinking about setting up a station on Lord Howe Island (VK9AA). This will require quite a bit of work and efforts as

(ham radio) infrastructure there is pretty scarce. The first activity is planned for CQWW CW this year at a very basic level.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Currently, I operate from our club station, VK2MB (Manly-Warringah Radio Society): TH6DXX and wires, mostly 100 watts due to QRM to the Bush Fire Brigade and Coastal Radio Monitoring Service nextdoor. Bands are pretty noisy at this place... The only way to do serious contesting is to "go bush" since council regulations regarding towers/erials are quite restrictive here in Australian cities.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

After having participated in WRTC 1996, I knew that there was no way to obtain sufficient points to get considered this time again as a competitor due to lack of activity. I'm very glad now that I have the chance to come to Slovenia as a referee!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

QSO and - to a lesser extent - multiplier focus will shift geographically as more people will travel and ham populations in some countries are increasing at tremendous rates (I'm anxiously waiting for my first run of BYs over several hours...)

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Working pile-ups, chasing multipliers, meeting friends...



EA1AK

Nacho Gonzalez

Born: 1965

Address: P.O.Box 327, 11480 Jerez de la Frontera, Spain

E-mail: ea1ak@bigfoot.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My first callsign was EC1AOW, novice licence, in 1981, then EA1CIM, and finally EA1AK. I have operated several years from the Canary Islands as EA1AK / EA8, and now from Andalusia as EA1AK/7.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

When i was holding my novice licence, EC1AOW, I met Arturo, EA1PJ, who changed my vision of the radio. My first interest in

radio was just rag-chewing, but Arturo oriented me towards contesting.

Now I am the Contest Editor of CQ Radio Amateur, Spanish version of CQ USA Magazine.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I usually operate contests as part of a Multi. I have operated , among others, from: Canary Islands: EA1AK/EA8, EA4KR/EA8, EA8ZS, ED8OR, EA8BR, EA8URL. Ceuta: EA9EA, EA9EO, EA9EU, ED9EA, EA1AK/EA9. WRTC 96: W6U

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I have moved recently to this new home in South of Spain. At the moment I only have my old TS-930S and a vertical. My plans are installing a Crank Up Tower @ 24 meters and a C4XL type or similar.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was part of Team Spain 1 at WRTC 96. I was planning to be a visitor at WRTC 2000, but received an invitation to get more involved as a referee, and I am very happy for that.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Every year competition is harder. Technology is very much involved too. Records fall every year with scores that seem impossible. To win a contest now requires much more organization, dedication, time, effort and money that some years ago. But is FUN.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

The competition itself. To hear the old friends/rivals every year. The comradery that we live among the operators in our Club at EA9EA. The excitement of winning (and loosing) HI HI.



HA0DU

Istvan (Steve) Bogyo

Born: 1956

Address: P.O. Box 16. Debrecen, 4003 Hungary

E-mail : bogyo@ph.debrecen.hu

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Started amateur radio in 1970 at club station HA0KDA. After passing my exam, my first QSO was ZD8RR, second was 7P8AB, both on 21 CW - no wonder I got bitten by the DX bug. Licensed as HA0DU in May 1974. First ever HA to make it to DXCC Honor Roll. Still leading the domestic DXCC Honor Roll, although there are some "newcomers". Expeditions : TA5KA, YM5KA, ZA1QA, ZAORS

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Elmer was HA0DI - now HA7VK (YB0AVK, XU7VK, YI9VK, etc.). Learned a lot on the air.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Favourites: YM5KA - World #1 in CQWPXCW TA5KA -was World Record, still an Asia record in CQWWCW M-S (HC8N bet us in '95) ZAORS - first ever M-M from ZA

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

FT-1000MP Homemade linear TH7DX @ 33 meters A3WS @ 36 meters 18 m vertical for 30/40/80 9 Beverages (176 m each) covering the World

Need to re-build 160 m TX antenna, plan to erect two more towers, and put up 80 m Yagi, 30 m Yagi

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Was the only EU in Top Ten of WRTC-90. Took part in WRTC-96 with HA0MM as K6E (don't ask our result ...) OF COURSE I wanted to be part of WRTC-2000, the biggest event in ham history

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Too much cheating - M-S log sent as SO, M-M log (rubber timing, etc.) log sent as M-S, excessive power, etc. Big contest stations make it hard to find a running freq, but make it easier to work a lot of multipliers. But those who cheat, cheat themselves! I think WRTC is the place to show who you are! Computerized checking of logs should be further developed to screen cheaters.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Won CQWWPX and CQWWDX in M-S. Wanted to win CQWWDX SO - never had a chance for a good QTH. Now I want to win in M-M with a good team.



I4UFH

Fabio Schettino

Born : 1960

Address: Bologna, Italy

E-mail: i4ufh@aev.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Held I4UFH call in 1979, at 19 years old, in the middle of 21° cycle, with a vertical all band and Drake R4C T4XC line, started the HamRadio adventure in the DXCC world, and after one year into the Contest thrill.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

No.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I was active from IG9 Lampedusa in 1995/1996/1999 with great results, 1995 2nd World SO 20m, 1996 1st World SO 80m, 1999 2nd World (claimed) M/M. Activity also from 3V8BB IARU99 1st World SOAB Phone.Plans and IG9 CQWW 2000.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

In the last 13 years I was involved in the setup of IR4T Contest Station. The station is on a top of a water tower 200 feet above ground level, with a limited space for antennas and shack. The antennas are a 5 el yagi long boom, nearly in the space at 200 feet, 3 el delta loop on 20m, 4 el delta loop on 15m, 2 el delta loop on 40m on the same boom with separate feed line, 80m are covered with a simple N/W S/E full size dipole at 150 feet, and top band is mastered with a two element directional wire yagi USA / UA. at 170 feet. A Open Sleeve antenna 15/20m has been added in the last month for mult's chasing and M/2 ARRL enter. Equipments are Icom IC 781 / 761 with 5 PC networked, PCL, DVP Card, and CT as main Contest Program.

Plans : Future plans are to reduce interference between the station, increase the skill and capabilities of the IR4T members mainly be present in every major Contest.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

WRTC is the best adventure in a Contester life, you must be there, everyone that love speak about contest found the real world, you can finally can had a "eyeball" meeting with you competitors, and understand that everyone love this part of our hobby and live it as a part of his life..... I was involved in WRTC1996 as Competitor teamed with I2VXJ, in California, afterwhile my Contest activity was target to be present in any way in WRTC2000 fortunatly I am here to speak about me as Judge of the event.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting world is one of the most exciting part of the HamRadio world, surely the increasing easy ways to communicate such Internet and cellular phones, has reduced the number of HamRadio, and the tecnicla part such Contest has suffered,it's very difficult to found a "good guy" that understand the world, the tecniques and want to win in the spirit of Sportsmanship. Thr future of Contesting is almost in the tecnologia, new Radio, new automatic system at least new tools that allow the operator to freeup his mind and spend his energy in the S&P or pile-up activity.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

HamRadio fashion it's the capability of share around the world your hobby, the friendship that you can found in an Ham also the first time you meet him, and the thing that teach every day that you live it. Contest it's the another face, the competition is the adrenaline that the contest warm up few minutes before the start, the work in a group, that allow to exchange experience, the sadsatisfaction to see that everything it' s going in the right way, the head to head with your nearest competitors...

**HELLO,
WRTC 2002
IN FINLAND!**

IV3TAN

Alberto ANNESI

Born : 1968

Address: VIA DONATELLO n° 5 - TRIESTE - ITALY

E-mail: iv3tan@tin.it

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Date of license 1987. In the first years of my activity I was a very very active dxer. I worked all dxcc country (I need p5 and a51), I worked the 5 band waz and over 170 country on the top band.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

In 1990 I knew one of the most famous contester in europe: I3MAU. He helped me in the exciting contest world and I started my contesting adventure like one of the operator of I3MAU multi-multi contest station. In the same time I knew many other contesters like I4UFH, I3EVK ecc.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

My first "contest-pedition" was in ginevra like 4U1ITU in 1992 in IARU contest in the multi single category with IK2NCJ. In 1994 I organized my first trip in IG9 land during CQWW SSB and finished 2nd world on 80 meters single op. Single band category.

In 1995 I won the first world place in CQWW SSB like IG9T on 80 meters s.o.s.b. and I established a new all time score record. I returned again in Lampedusa island on 1996 during the CQWW SSB and I partecipated on 160 meters single op. Single band like IG9/IV3TAN. I finished first in the world and I made a new all time score record. In 1997 like IZ9Z multi/single from Lampedusa is. We reached the second world place in WPX SSB and in 1998 CQWW SSB like IG9T s.o. s.b. 40 meters I won the first place world. The last visit in Aafrican italy, Lampedusa island was last year that I partecipated in the IG9A multi multi station during the CQWW SSB. My favorite contest is : CQWW, ARRL and WPX. I have many contest-pedition ideas for the next futures but....I would like to artecipate in CQWW SSB like s.o. all band from...A top secret place hi!!!

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I tested many radios during the contest and now I use the beautiful icom ic 781. I have many antennas:

10 meters: 5 over 5 el. Yagi @ 20/12.5 mt. and a 4 el quad @ 27 mt.

15 meters: 5 over 5 el. Yagi @ 30/15 mt. and a 4 el quad @ 27 mt.

20 meters: 5 el. long boom yagi @ 40 mt.
5 el. Yagi @ 22 mt.
4 el. Quad @ 27 mt.

40 meters: 2 el. Quad @ 27 mt.

80 meters: 2 el yagi @ 37 mt.

160 meters:n° 4 half wave slooping dipole and beverages.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I think that the WRTC is the best radiomateur competition and a great and friendly party.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Unfortunately there aren't many young amateur radio operators and there aren't any "new" contester. I'm not sure what will happen in CQWW 2050...

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I love the competition and I like to test new equipment and compare different antennas.



JE1JKL/9M6NA

Saty Nakamura

Born: 1958

Address: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

E-mail: je1jkl@ja2.so-net.ne.jp

WEB: <http://www01.u-page.so-net.ne.jp/ja2/je1jkl/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was first licensed as JE1JKL in November 1971. My first contest was 1972 All Asian contest CW. Beside JE1JKL, I currently hold the licenses of NH6J(since 1981), 9M6NA(since 1989), 9M2NK(since 1997). I used to hold the licenses of 5Z4CS(1981-1983), KC6CS(Palau, 1987-1988) and 5W1EZ(1984).

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

Nobody special to mention.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I have a contest shack in Labuan Island, East Malaysia, where I activate 9M6NA for contests.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

At 9M6NA, I have IC-775DSP + IC-PW1 as my main rig and IC-736 as my second rig. The antennas there are Creative Design 318C tri-bander, Creative Design AFA40 40m 2element Beam, 80m Inverted L and 160m Inverted L all mounted on a 17meter-high tower. I am planning to upgrade the 80m antenna to full size vertical and put up a Cushcraft R8 for multi-spotting purpose.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I have participated in the previous 2 WRTC events as a competitor, and I feel it is time for me to take the role of referee this time.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting never dies.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Challenging to a new record, whatever it is.

K1KI

Tom Frenaye

Born: 1950

Address: West Suffield, CT 06093, USA

E-mail: k1ki@arrl.net



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed in 1964 at age 13. Previous calls: WN6KIL, WB6KIL, KC4AAC, J87DX, TF/K1KI, P44A, ZF2KI, FS/K1KI. Have operated multi-op at W6ANN/W6BA N2AA/K2GL PJ7A PJ4B. One of the original founders of the California QSO Party Member, Yankee Clipper Contest Club

Manager of ARRL Contest Department 1977-81. Since WRTC-96 have run 15 multiops (for 160.4 million points) at home QTH.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

Junior high school science teacher helped to get me started. Contesting path was via traffic handling, then state QSO parties, then multi-op.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Favorite was P44A (Bonaire). TS830/TL922 HyGain 18AVT vertical and 160m dipole @3m, 2nd in the world single op.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Four towers, 14 HF beams (3 more to install), FT1000mp/Alpha86, TS850/Alpha77 Future plans for more station automation.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Was a competitor in WRTC-96 with K3UA and we finished 7th overall.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Station automation!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Working DX, odd propagation.

K1VR

Fredric J. Hopengarten

Born: 1945

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E-mail: hopengarten@post.harvard.edu



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was first licensed in 1956 as WN1NJL, at age 10. I became WINJL the next year. Except for four years as a college student in Maine, and a lot of travelling, I have always lived in the metropolitan Boston area.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

No one in my family was, or is, a radio ham. I had to learn a lot of things by myself, and make a lot of friends. That's the most interesting part of amateur radio — your friends.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

One of my more interesting times was operating as 9K2DR in the ARRL DX Phone Contest. But for some reason, my favorite contest is still the ARRL DX CW, especially the multi-single category.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

K1VR Equipment Description, as of October 1999:
Station #1: IC-765 (modified by K3LR), Heath SB-614 monitorscope, AL-1200, Drake WH-7, two footswitches on wedge footrest (for single op-multi transmitter use), ICE 419 switchable bandpass filters for 160-10, antennas and band pass filters automatically switched by Top Ten Devices switch which gets frequency information from the IC-765 using a K1CC interface, CW Sendin' Machine, Bencher paddle with Kansas City four button add-on, for phone — a DVP.

Station #2: IC-765, Heath HO-10 monitorscope, Henry 2K (2 x 3-400)(modified to include 160 by KC1Q), SB-220 (switch to either amp), Drake WH-4, individual ICE bandpass filters for 160-10, antennas and band pass filters switched by Top Ten Devices switch.

Computers: 486DX-75 clone (VGA) with DVP,
486SX-33 clone (EGA) with DVK

Wyse dumb terminal — wired in parallel to computers and set to 43 line mode to permit a maximum "picture" of the contest.
CT: Version 9.45; TNC: PK-88 (networked by CT)

Antennas:

160 FVR Spitfire, four directions, based on gamma rod and omega matched 100' tower, 68 radials
80 Two element W1CF/W1FC phased vertical array (.750" hardline stub), 40 radials each; dipole at average height of 65' favoring N-S.

40 Two element Cushcraft 40-2CD Yagi on TIC RingRotor (.750" hardline stub); four element W1CF/W1FC phased vertical array (.750" hardline stub), 40 radials each
20/15/10 TH6DXX @ 97'(T2X), TH6DXX @ 61' (swinging gate side mount, HAM IV), TH7DXX @ 31' (fixed on EU), stacked with WX0B (DuneStar) box.
20/15/10 TH7DXX @ 36' (separate tower and Ham IV)
Beverages: Six directions from three wires (single wires fed at both ends and switched): E-W: 385'; N-S: 210'; NNE-SSW 410'

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Years ago, YU1AO came to visit me. Later S56A came to visit me. In 1999, S57NW, S55OO and S53ZO came to visit. At Friedrichshafen in 1999, everyone encouraged me to come. How could I not come?



K6NA

Glenn R. Rattmann

Born: 1945

Address: 14250 Calle De Vista; Valley Center, CA
USA 92082

E-mail: k6na@contesting.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

In 1960, my brother and I received our Novice licenses in the state of Wisconsin. I was 14 years old. My first call was KN9ZMS and I really loved CW; first a straight key, then a bug and eventually a keyer. I became K9ZMS upon upgrading, and was active from my small station through high school and university years. In 1968 I moved to California and became W6MAR in 1970. In the San Diego area I began building a competitive station and was very active in all contests. I received the call K6NA in late 1976 and have lived at my present location since 1979.



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My Elmer was Bill, W0OWY who moved into our small town and started a radio club, promoting it among the youngsters, especially. Bill was responsible for creating at least 75 new hams in just a few short years there. Although not a contester himself, Bill knew that good operators would be hams for life. So he created a competition within the club our first year. The idea was simple—just make as many contacts as possible in as many states as possible, during a three-month period ending with the club Christmas party. Remember, these were Novices with 75 Watts and crystal-controlled rigs. So, contests were it for me from the very beginning!

As a young guy, I had the good fortune to meet W9SZR (now K3ZO) and K9ELT (now N6ZZ). They were active from the University station, W9YT, and I tried to learn their techniques as I joined the club. Who knew that they both would be recognized eventually as two of the best operators in the world? Equally important was learning more of the technical side of things from Jud, K9LBQ. Moving to California, I met Dick, W6DGH (now N6AA), another super operator who taught me a great deal and stoked the competitive fires.

In later years I encouraged many new hams in the San Diego area to be active on HF, particularly CW. For example, Paul, WN6K, is a very active low-power contester who received a little boost from me along the way.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I've operated under the following calls: KH6RS, VP5GR, XE2EIF, XE2MX, XE2SI, FO0RS, KP6AL, KP6BD, CN8CX, HC5M, SU2MT, TI1C, EA9AM, 9Y4H, and ZD8A. The Kingman Reef DXpedition was exciting because it was such a rare country in 1977, but it was not a contest trip. My first contest trip outside the USA brought me to KH6RS (K1GQ, host) for 1972 CQ WW CW where I achieved second world-high, all-band. I managed the same result from CN8CX (1982) and HC5M (1988), so naturally these operations from three different continents were very memorable trips for me. Operations from EA9AM, SU2MT, and ZD8A were "most exotic" locations and unusual opportunities as well. There should be future trips to both 9Y4 and ZD8.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I'm presently using old, modified TS-940S transceivers with Alpha 78 and Alpha 89 amplifiers in a two-radio environment. I have automated antenna switching and filtering driven by the radio bandswitches. Of course there is computer-logging now, but no packet radio; it simply does not interest me for contests.

Outside, there are three towers. Two of them are 44m high, and one is 13m high. There is a single 10m yagi on the small tower. On the bigger towers there are independently rotatable and switchable stacks for 15m and 20m; another 15m stack fixed; and a full size home-built, three element yagi for 40m. That antenna has been up since 1984 with virtually no problems. The station was built with the low-frequency bands in mind, so there are fixed, switchable wire arrays for 80m and 160m. Except for the two KLM 20m antennas, the beams are largely homemade and most of the rotators are built from prop pitch motors. I hope to upgrade the radios, perhaps this year, but any other antenna plans are mostly "on hold" due to my travel schedule.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Ongoing activity with the CQ WW Committee (since 1973), and my previous experience with judging at the 1990 and 1996 WRTC events, apparently made me a likely candidate for the 2000 event. So I was honored to be invited by the Slovenian committee as a Referee this year.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

The most obvious trends seem to be in the areas of hardware- and



software-automation, in both operating and subsequent log checking and scoring. These will continue to advance. What I would really like to see are some truly break-through developments in receiver technology because the operator still has to find people to work on crowded bands! I do enjoy many of the automation features now available, but if it goes too far I will be spending more time with my old British sportscars. The automated technology is nifty but we should not let it overwhelm the human element in our stations. Certainly, we should not implement any automatic decoding, copying, or decision-making regarding either CW or SSB signals in contests, even if it might be possible in the near future. Such a development would quickly make pointless the contest between "operators".

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Besides the excitement of the preparation and actual operation, the great beauty of radio contesting as a sport is the ability to chat on the air and compare notes with our competitors and peers, outside the contests themselves. As radio contesters we have a unique opportunity to meet and get to know people from all walks of life, both at home and abroad. This makes life very sweet, indeed. It's no secret that non-ham citizens are now discovering similar opportunities for instant communications (via the internet), but radio hams have had this privilege, through wireless, for nearly one hundred years!

K7LXC

Steve Morris

Born: 1945

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E-mail: k7lxc@aol.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed in 1960 as KN7LXC. Other calls 5W1DA, ZF2LM, VK2DXC.



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

No.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I, with K7SS, was the Co-Chairman of the original WRTC held in Seattle in 1990 and was a referee at WRTC 1996 in San Francisco. There are many wonderful stories about our initial WRTC and I'll be happy to share them.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I love the camaraderie with other testers who are a competitive, intelligent and interesting group of people.



NOAX

Ward Silver

Born: 1955

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E-mail: hwardsil@wolfenet.com

WEB: <http://www.wwdx.org/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got my license in 1972 as WN0GQP. I have no idea how I became a CW operator with that call - it sounds like a man falling down stairs. I became NOAX in 1975 with a lucky pick from the FCC. I operated W0EEE at the University of Missouri at Rolla

for years, learning much about contesting and antennas. Our club members used to joke that our degrees are really BSEEE's considering how much time we spent there. I moved to Washington state in 1983, but kept the NOAX call.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

In high-school, WB0DYV, now KJ7PC, taught me the code at his house every Thursday. Bill also got me started on nets and helped a great deal. My buddies WA0WBJ, WB0DYU, and WB0FOI were also great friends. We operated SS and ARRL DX from WA0WBJ's before I was even licensed. There was no question that I would be a tester.

When I entered college and started operating contests from W0EEE, several of the upperclassmen really helped me out - WB9FSL, WA0RAD, WA0ACF, and WB9FSL (now N1EUZ) were great friends. I really appreciate their help. We had a lot of fun. I am trying to pass on my enthusiasm for ham radio to young operators where I live and have given many exams to local youngsters, including my sons Lowell KD7DQO and Webster KD7FYX. Our Field Day is full of youngsters running around and having a great time! I would also be remiss if I did not thank K7SS for mentoring me and keeping me in the hunt to get better every time out. All the members of the WWDXC has been great friends, too.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I have operated a couple of times from KH6 at the great station of Ron Pitts, AH6M. Both times have resulted in records, due in great part to the QTH and Ron's hard work. The big signals from WR6R come from that QTH. My first "expedition" was as K7SS/PTI - the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. I have never heard pileups like that before or after. I would like to operate from the Caribbean and go on a real DXpedition or two. The IOTA expedition to W7W last year for the IOTA contest was a real kick, too.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I am a QRP and low-power tester with no amp in the shack. I use an FT-990 and an IC-735 with TR software. I get a lot of mileage out of using two-radios. Low-power makes the two-radio setup much easier. The antenna farm is modest. I have a 2-element 5-band quad at 17m on one tower. On a second tower a 40-2CD at 15m, a C-3 at 17m, and a pair of 80-meter half-slopers running east and west. My 160m antenna is an inverted-L with four elevated radials.

I will probably not upgrade this setup much. I am more interested in guest operating and travelling now.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was an organizing member of the original 1990 committee in charge of stations and equipment. I have been on the WRTC Steering Committee since then and played a very small part in the 1996 event. I applied as a competitor for the WRTC-2000 and am happy to contribute as a judge. I hope to attend the 2004 event wherever it may be - maybe next time as a competitor!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I think that very soon there will be an exciting hybridization of the Internet and HF ("Stone Wave") contesting. I cannot say what form it will take, but it has the potential to transform contesting from a solitary activity that we do by ourselves. Contesting is an amazing activity with challenges that are tremendously interesting, if only we could describe them better to the public. Contest software and real-time networking are making operation easier and more powerful every year.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I'm an active tester and DXer - I love the challenge of propagation and low-power. There's nothing like hearing your 5-watt signal go all the way around the earth on the grey line! There is

also no other hobby on earth where you can literally hear the world turning. Ham radio has opened many doors for me and given me tremendous gifts over the years. I hope I can repay even a tiny fraction of those gifts!



K9JF

Jim Fenstermaker

Born: 1945

Address: Vancouver, WA, USA

E-mail: jfenster@pacifier.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I received my first license in 1959 as KN9TZH. My first contest was in 1960 for the Novice Round-up. I received my general class license in 1960. I begin DXing and received my DXCC in 1962. In 1970, I moved to Germany with the US Army. I received the callsign DL5JF. In 1970 I participated in the CQWW SSB contest and was #1 in Germany. A young German ham neighbor came by my QTH and was fascinated by contesting. He spend many hours



just watching me operate and learning how to contest. That person is Roland Mensch, DK3GI. In 1971 I moved to Bremerhaven, Germany. I met another American ham there (DA1BR) and we operated the ARRL DX Contest in 1972 as a Multi-Single entry. We finished #3 in the world. DA1BR is now K1ZM. In 1978 I received the call K9JF. In 1983, my family and I moved to Vancouver, WA. I built a pretty good contest station and have won many times from the Seventh District. Over the years, I have operated in Multi/Single and Multi/Multi operations from W9LT, W9DUB, N9MM, W9ZRX, KN7N, NK7U, and W7RM.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

The two elmers that come to mind are K9ECE and W9LT. Both of these fellows helped me hone my DXing and Contesting skills.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I operated a few years ago during CQWWSSB from VP2V/K7AR. This was my only contesting DXpedition.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Current Stations Include:

#1 FT-1000MP + Ameritron Amp for 160 and Henry 3K for 80. Antennas include a shunt-fed tower for

160 and a 4-Square for 80

#2 TS-830S and Henry 3K. Use this on 80

3# TS-850SAT + Henry 2K Classic Antennas include: 2 el Yagi on 40 meters @

33m high

5 el Yagi on 20 meters @ 30m high

5 el Yagi on 15 meters @ 20m high

6 el Yagi on 10 meters @ 17m high

3 el yagi on 12/17 meters @ 20m high

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Became involved in WRTC-2000 after sending my letter of interest to S50A.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I contest because it is fun and I get excited about seeing how my station and the operator competes with others.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

The main thing that gets me excited is working old and new friends and occasionally meeting them in person. The personal contact is the most exciting and invigorating aspect of ham radio.



KT3Y

Philip C. Allardice

Born : 1957

Address: Manassas, VA, USA

E-mail: kt3y@aol.com

In 1970, I received my license as WB4SGV. In 1972, Vic Clark W4KFC, a true cw contesting legend, introduced me to PVRC. I soon met many top contesters.

I operated from home and at some M/M stations including W3AU, W4BVV, N2AA and the original W3LPL QTH. In the mid-70s, I contacted Lew Gordon K4VX who graciously let me operate his station. He taught me a lot about contesting. I will always remember Lew and Terry NS0Z for the hospitality. Some high scores included: 1975 CW WW DX #6 USA, 1976/77/78 ARRL SS CW division leader

In 1979, I visited Grenada with some college friends. Shortly after arrival I received the J3ABN call. It was my first experience with an all wire station (80-10M inverted vees up 12 meters). Score: #3 World ARRL CW DX Test. Due to a coup, during which I continued to operate, return flight availability forced us to leave the country seven hours before the end.

In 1979, I also had the pleasure to operate 15M at PJ2CC with Tine, S50A in the 1979 CW WW DX test.

In the 80s, I also operated at PJ9B a few times. The highlight was working 40M CW with K3EST in the CW WW DX. We set a new record score on 40M which lasted over ten years.

From 1981-83 I lived in Oman using the call A4XJO. Competitive scores included 1982 CW WW DX SSB #2 Asia, 1982 #1 Asia #6 world CW WW DX CW, 1982 CW WPX #1 Asia, #3 world. The antennas consisted of a KT34XA at 11.5 meters and inverted vees on 80 and 40 at 12 meters.

In 1985, Frank W3LPL allowed me to use his station during the CW WPX tests. I placed #1 CW WPX SOAB USA in 1986/87/88/89 and #2 in 1985 and #3 in 1990.

In 1991, I started experimenting with wire antennas using trees as supports. Since then I have spent considerable time using antenna modeling programs and a bow and arrow.

The present antennas include:

160M top loaded vertical (26 meters) with 80 full size radials

80M W8JK to Europe at 23 meters, NW/SE, dipole at 25 meters.

40M 3L yagi (13 m boom) up 22 m, E/W dipole at 21 M, NW/SE 80 m dipole up 25 M

20M: 7L yagi to EU (15 m boom) at 24 M, 6 el Yagi to NW (14 m boom) at 21 meters, stacked dipoles E/W, N/S at 24 meters

15M: 5L yagi at 25 meters to Europe, 6L NW at 21 meters, 3 Lazy H's for NE/SW, E/W, NW/SE

10M: 6L Yagi (8 m boom) to Europe at 15 meters, also use 15M lazy H's on 10m.

3 two wire beverages ranging from 95 to 135 meters in length.

While the wire antenna are all fixed, I have the advantage of instant direction switch switching.

Competitive scores include a few two ARRL CW SS division leader scores, 1993 CW WW DX test #1 USA 20M band, 1993 CW WPX #1 USA 20 M band, and top ten scores in the CQ WW, ARRL CW DX, WPX CW and IARU

The latest high claimed scores are 1999 #1 USA CW WW DX 40M band, #1 USA CW WPX 20M band.

The many friends I have made and, often compete with, are the main reasons I have kept up enthusiasm for contesting. I would like especially to thank Bob Cox, K3EST, who is always an inspiration and great competitor.

I had a great time at WRTC 96 as a referee. I also would like to thank Tine S50A and the whole WRTC team for their hard work and dedication in hosting WRTC 2000.



DJ2YA

Uli Weiss

Born: 1938 Address: Am Birkenstrauch 15, D-57334 Bad Laasphe, Germany

E-mail: dj2ya@t-online.de

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Began playing with crystal detectors at the age of ten... first application for amateur licence in 1953, but rejected because of age (minimum was 18 in DL in those days)... very intensive "SWLing" using home brew one-stage "eco-solos", especially on 80m CW... Oct 1955 received call sign DJ2YA, youngest licensed ham in DL (exceptionally at 17)... Nov 1955 first WWDX 80m Single Band, 2nd DL first Contest Award.. many to follow... contesting and multi-band Dxing in both fone and CW first choice... 1965 chairman of DARC's WAEDC-Committee for about 10 years.. founding member of RRDXA... 1972 Europe high trophy in WWDX fone... late 1970s RTTY-contesting with world high scores... mid 1980s 5-band DXCC, 5-band WAZ, No.1 Honor Roll DXCC (mixed and fone)... since 1985 reviving the RRDXA (together with DJ6QT).. regular participation in WWDX to help winning the non-American Club Trophy for RRDXA more than 10 times... since 1990 field-day style contest qth amassing almost 50 M points in WWDX in SO-Assisted until 1999... 1996 member of team RRDXA (together with DJ6QT) WRTC96 in San Francisco.

FAVORITE Dxpditions:

1969 and 1970 GC5AOM WAEDC 2nd EU-high CW.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

IC765 + 2 home brew linears (2x3-500Z and 1x 3-1000Z) with solid 1 kW out home brew 2-el. cubical quads for 20, 15 and 10m at about 16m, HF2 + Inverted Vees for 40,80 and 160m 3 Beverages about 170m long.

CT v.9.23 + cluster link KAM + PC-frequency control.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

As a veteran of WRTC96, there has never been any doubt to take part in the WRTC2000 as a competitor, referee or visitor.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

For me contesting has not lost any attraction in the course of my 45 years of contesting experience... I think that computer-aided checking has been the most important progress as cheating has always been one of the most serious problems... (as chairman of the WAEDC I had to disqualify several contesters of world fame in the 1970s!!!)... cheating is no longer possible by creative logging, but from my experience as a regular participant in the assisted category I know that quite a number of top scorers in the single op category cheat by using cluster support... for this reason theDARC has (rightly!!!) decided that a distinction shouldn't be

made between single operator and assisted... in German HF contests competitors can make use of any technical amateur radio support that is available to ALL competitors... a great number of German contesters are annoyed that this fact has been used to discredit the WAEDC and exclude it from the qualifying contests for

WRTC2000... perhaps we can discuss this issue in Bled for WRTC qualification in the future...

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contesting stations working pile-up without giving their call signs at least once every minute (I'd recommend to make identifying obligatory after each contact - as quite a number of top-contesters do already)... deliberate interference on DX-stations is as bad as policemenmanship.



N2AA

Eugene Walsh

Address: 677 Wood Avenue Edison, NJ 08820,
USA

USA E-mail: ewalsh@mcimail.com

CALLS K2KUR 1955-1976
N2AA 1976-PRESENT
5A1TW 1961-1965
DJ0NO 1965
EI2VIY 1975

HAM RADIO

Playing with my father's multi-band broadcast radio in 1952, I discovered a "Hidden transmitter" hunt of a local club because the "FOX" was hidden about 100 meters from my house. This caused the meeting of local hams and introduction. First licensed 1954 KN2KUR

BRIEF CONTESTING HISTORY

FIRST CONTEST 1956 ARRL
FIRST LOG SENT 1957 CQWW CW
FIRST LOG CHECKING 1965 WAE
5A1TW SOAB WORLD CQWW PH and CW 1963; SOSB
CQWW 7MHzCW 1964
QRV Every CQWW CONTEST since 1961 except 1965CW
(TRAVELLING)
CQWW COMMITTEE since 1969/70

First Contester ever met - George W2VJN 1956. Listened to him DXing for months before visiting him. Became inspired!

Began multi/multi at K2GL in 1966 CQWW PHONE 1999 PJ4B CW was my 54th CQWW CONTEST Multi/multi participation.

Trips for multi/multi to KP2A '87CW and '88PH - and PJ1B '88CW, PJ4B 99CW were the only contest DXpeditions ever for me, since 5A1TW and DJ0NO were my home calls at the time I was there.

Trends in Contesting: Lack of young contesters. Without young people the sport will not grow. Exception: teen aged fellow in W6 seems world class op. Packet spotting: Bad trend promotes poor operating skill. Analysis of packet logs shows large amount of errors; people not listening to confirm calls.

Increase in skill needed to produce good results, ie. need to listen with 2 rcvrs so no time is wasted: Great trend showing that larger percentage of active ops are really, really trying to beat each other.

CURRENT STATION is very small. FT1000MP with 4el 20M yagi@28M, 3 el 10M @6M and some low wires. Contest operating is from N2RM on 20 Meters in Multi/multi

I get excited at EVERYTHING! Cannot pass up any contest. Especially early morning openings.



N2GA

George Tranos

Born: 1957

Address: P.O. Box 296, Bellport, NY 11713, USA

E-mail : n2ga@aol.com

WEB: <http://members.aol.com/n2ga>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I took my first Novice test on Long Island, New York in November 1990 and obtained the callsign KB2LXK. In 1991, I changed my call to N2LSK, and in 1996, finally to N2GA. I also currently am trustee of LIMARC Club callsign WV2LI. I also hold or have held the following calls: VP5/N2GA, VP5GA, J6/N2GA, J68GA, J3/N2GA.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My first elmer was Van Field W2OQI who taught me morse code. My contesting elmers were Frank Fallon N2FF and Mel Granick KS2G.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I have been on Contest Dxpeditons to the Turks & Caicos Islands (July 1998, May 1999, May 2000) and operated as VP5/N2GA and VP5GA. It is a very beautiful place with great swimming and snorkeling and very quiet, secluded beaches, not to mention a great contest location! I have also been to St. Lucia J6 and was part of the big J6DX multi-multi effort in the 1998 CQ WW CW Contest. This was fun as it was the largest group of people

(17) in one contest that I have ever been involved with! The most interesting aspect of this was meeting the entire group - none of which I knew before going! I have remained in touch and become friends with quite a few of them. The logistics of this operation were awesome and Scott N9AG and Frank W8OK did a great job organizing it! I have also been part of the YCCC group at J3A in Grenada for the 1999 CQ WW SSB Contest. I plan on going back to Grenada in October 2000 for the next CQ WW SSB.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I have a Force 12 C3S triband beam on a 41 foot tower, a rotatable dipole for 40 meters, a Gap Challenger Vertical which I use mostly for 75/80 meters and a quarter wave sloper for 40/80/160. Since I live on a small piece of land, I have no plans for additional antennas. My main transceiver is a Yaesu FT1000 and I have an Alpha 91B amplifier which I used infrequently.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

In November of 1998, I met Leo S50R in St. Lucia. He was part of the J6DX team there and we stayed at the same villa with two other hams. He and I shared the 40 meter CW station in the contest. He mentioned WRTC to me then and suggest I apply to become a referee.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I think contesting is at the forefront of amateur radio and that it attracts the best of the best. Contesters are constantly pushing the envelope, both in operating skill and equipment. I see contesting continuing to grow as we head further into the twenty first century. The excitement and demands of it encourage participation.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Where else could you meet so many nice people who share your passion without leaving your home? Contesters are part of large community which I am proud to be a part of. Ham radio itself is useful for day-to-day communication and for emergencies. It's fun but at the same time it is serious business and can be a life-saver. What other hobbies can say that?



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My contesting Elmer was Fritz Hauff, W3NZ, who introduced me to contesting and the Frankford Radio Club in 1964. Fritz also introduced me to another local contesteer, Sig N3RS (then W3WJD). I have been contesting with Sig in various multi-operator efforts for more than 30 years!

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

In 1978, I went with the Frankford Radio Club on it's very first club Contest DXpedition to HK0COP on San Andres Island for CQ CW.

In 1980, I went to Curacao with the PVRC for CQ SSB using the callsign PJ2CC from the famous Coral Cliff Hotel.

In 1981, I was the USA winner of the Bermuda (VP9) Contest. In October of that year, we travelled to VP9 as the guests of the Department of Tourism, and met Allan, VP9AD. Allan invited us to stay for the CQ SSB contest, and that became the first in a long run of VP9AD DXpeditions for CQ SSB contests. The last contest activity from VP9AD was by me in the 1996 CQ 160M CW contest.

In 1988, I went to Bonaire and PJ1B for the record setting CQ CW contest. (Record stood for 11 years, until recently broken by CN8WW).

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Currently using an FT-1000MP and Alpha 87A amplifier, with Top Ten Devices automatic antenna selection. Antennas are monobanders for 40 through 10 meters on a 120 foot tower. Wires are planned for 80 and 160.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

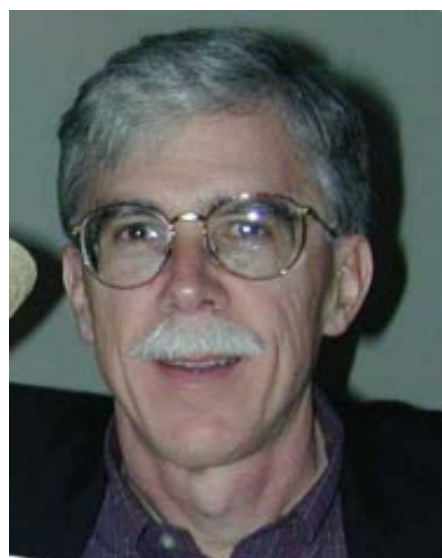
Awareness of WRTC-2000 is high in the contesting community here in the states. Our club, the Frankford Radio Club, is sending a team, and several of our members are on other club's teams. When Mario, S56A, asked if I would be interested in being a judge, my response was an immediate, "Absolutely!"

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

The obvious trend in the US is the "graying of the contest community." We need to find a way to attract young people to contesting, away from the instant gratification of the Internet. Having said that, participation in contests seems to keep growing, and with it the fun!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I enjoy the technological improvements with the new radios and accessories. We need to have something new and exciting to keep the interest level up. As always, the camaraderie of multi-op contesting is what I enjoy the most.



N3RD
Dave Hawes
Born: 1949

Address: Philadelphia, PA, USA

E-mail: n3rd@ix.netcom.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was licensed in 1963 as KN3YUA (Novice) and upgraded to General Class in 1964, receiving callsign K3YUA, which was held until 1976.



N5KO

Trey Garlough

Born: 1963

Address: 7375 Oak Ridge Road Aptos, California
95003, USA

E-mail: trey@kkn.net

WEB: <http://www.kkn.net/~trey>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed as WN4KKN in 1974 in Alabama, USA. N5KO since 1996.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

My parents WA4GCS and WA4HOM were active DXers in the 1960's, and their activity inspired my first interest in amateur radio. I received most of my elmering from a local DXer W8FAW/4 (now N4KG) who lived in the same town.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I am regularly active from the Galapagos Islands, where I hold the callsign HC8N.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Wire antennas, 100 watts.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

K3NA invited me to join the PVRC team!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I participated in WRTC-1996 as a "wild-card" competitor and had a great experience. When the enthusiastic S5-boys announced their intentions to host WRTC-2000, I knew right away it would be a special event I would not want to miss!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I am still captivated by the "magic of wireless" — the sense of wonder I feel about ham radio is just as strong now as when I was ten years old.

N6KT

Rich Smith

Born: 1955

Address: 2991 E. Joaquin Place, Fresno, CA 93726,
USA

E-mail: n6kt@ix.netcom.com

First licensed in 1971 as WN6MQS, then WA6MQS, then N6KT in 1978. Getting started in Contesting-too many Elmers to list-all from the NCCC which I joined in 1976.

Have travelled to quite a few places for contests, but the two most successful locations were to PJ2FR in Curacao in the 1980's and to HC8 in the 1990's. The trips to Curacao included maybe 8 operations over the years 1983 to 1988 including some world high scores and world records. Was the first to make over 8000 Q's in a contest

when I made just over 9200 Q's in the 1988 ARRL DX contest from PJ2FR. This was certainly a highlight!

Then beginning 1990, I began travelling to Galapagos Is. operating as HC8A. This was a very successful situation and operations included many world high scores and world records. I made 10,470 Q's in the 1993 ARRL DX contest (yes, a highlight!!!) and held all three SO/AB phone world records (ARRL, WPX, and CQWW) from 1993 through 1998 from there.

Station at home is a 40 foot tower with a TA-33 and wires for 40 and 80. I never compete from my home but I get on and give out some contacts in contests and try to keep my interest going until my next big effort.

I'm looking forward to being a Referee in the WRTC 2000 as I was in 1996. It surely will be one of the best experiences of my contesting career! been important in all parts of my life.



N2NC

John Golomb

Born: 1966

Address: Howell, NJ, USA

E-mail: n2nc@cqww.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed in 1980. Previous calls were: KA2INC, KC2FV, KZ2S, V26SJG, PJ4/N2NC

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My contest elmers were K1RX and W1GD.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Only 2 expeditions:

V26B - ARRL DX CW 1998 PJ4B - CQWW CW 1999



CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I have small station from home, just FT1000MP + PA (1500W) and 40m dipole. I do most of my "serious" operating from N2RM Multi-Multi.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I competed in WRTC-96 with N2NT, so attending WRTC 2000 was an easy decision.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Well, one obvious trend is the fact that scores keep going up. This may be because of improved hardware around the world.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Best contest thrill was working 40M WAZ from N2RM in CQWW CW (approx 1996?).

**N7BG**

Tony Rogozinski

Born: 1942

Address: Glendale, Arizona, USA

E-mail: trogo@telegraphy.com

WEB: <http://www.telegraphy.com>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed in 1957 as KN5LMJ in New Mexico. Have also been K4KES, WA6BOU, W6JPC, W7HZF in the USA. Other calls held F7BK, VP5AR, VQ9AR, TY5AR, 9G5AR, 5V7BG, CN2BG and a number of others.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My father was an SWL and got me interested in shortwave radio. He encouraged me to get my ham license. Tom W5RNG (sk) was a local DX'er and DXCC Honor Roll member who assisted me initially.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

Have been on many contest and other expeditions including OH0, PJ4B, TI1C, 5V7A, 9G5AA, TY5A, 4U0ITU, ZC4Z, TU5A, CN5N, YB0ARA, KP2N, KP2A, C56W, etc. Favorite trip was to Indonesia not so much for the ham radio but for all the new places I visited. For ham radio the favorite trip would be the KP2A contest operations. Least favorite - none - they were all fun! Planning to operate from VU2WAP in CQWW CW this year.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I have two towers up at the moment - one of 31 meters with a 4 element KLM 40 meter beam and a 204BA on the top. The other

tower is about 23 meters and has a KLM LP at the top which works marginally well. Had planned to put up another tower of 30 meters and to increase the height of the tallest tower to 40 meters and install many new antennas but am looking at alternate plans. I have a home in Florida and would like to buy a ham radio site in that area to be computer controlled from Arizona or wherever I happen to be. East Coast propagation is hard to beat! I am currently looking at a 9 acre site with no tower restrictions. Equipment is 3 Kenwood TS930's, Yaesu FT1000D, Kenwood TS850S, 3 Alpha 76 amps.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

As a contester I felt that it would be a wonderful experience to participate somehow in this event - every serious contester in the world should try to be there.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting will probably not change drastically for awhile but technological change will inevitably have a significant effect not to mention the aging of the amateur radio population in general with fewer new contesters entering the "game" than are leaving. I think that in 10 years we will see a much different situation - how I'm not sure.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

My competitive spirit has always driven me to try to excel in anything that I had an interest including radio contesting and DX'ing. The technical aspects of ham radio are not of much interest to me although I worked for a number of years in the electronics field and hold a 2nd Class Radiotelephone license. Chasing DX is no longer the thrill it once was - it's simply too easy to work anything that's on the air therefore the majority of my operating (and that's not much at the moment) is spent in contests. I also like the logistics of planning for a contest particularly if it involves travel to some distant QTH. I am an avid collector of telegraphy keys and memorabilia. My collection currently consists of over 1,200 different keys with a specialty in "bugs" of which I have over 600! The oldest piece I have is a "relay" from 1847 and I have several "one of a kind" keys.

**OH0XX**

Olli Rissanen

Born: 1945

Address: Santa Paula, Caracas, Venezuela

E-mail: oh0xx@truevision.net

1. What is the story of how you became a ham? Who got you interested?

It was 1961 when my best friend Enppu (later OH2BBF/OH2BF) proposed me to build a crystal receiver together and for our surprise we could listen local BC station and we were right away sold. So we started immediately to practice CW and read books

about radio technology. And then Markku, OH2BZ moved to town to become our classmate.

My mother became really worried of the fact that I seemed to be more interested in radio components than girls – I was sixteen...

2. How did you become interested in contesting?

I just participated in the Scandinavian Activity Contest in 1962 and found it to be a lot of fun. And suddenly there was a team planning something big, Martti, OH2BH, Anssi, OH2QV, Leif, OH2SB, Olavi, OH2BBR, Kari, OH2BC etc later to be known as OH-DX Ring, OH2AM – the great years of 1967 and 1968.

3. What is it about DX contests that is challenging?

DX contest is really a test of a variety of your skills, it is a multidiscipline exercise. DX contests need a lot planning, preparation, concentration, a lot of simultaneous processing capacity from your brains, perseverance and fighting spirit.

4. What was your first station and your favorite mode.

My first station was a Finnish made receiver called RP-65 and a home-brew transmitter and a zepp antenna at my grandpa's summer cottage. Favorite mode was and still is CW.

5. You have operated from many places throughout the world. Which was the most challenging?

1986 I made my first trip to French Guyana, thanks to Mario, FY5YE. I still consider that a real adventure with all the ingredients of tropical environment: the heat, snakes, spiders and scorpions. But anyway it was an extraordinary trip and one of the best experiences. On the DX expedition side both P5/OH2AM in 1995 (OH2BH, OH2BC and OH0XX) and BS7H 1995 will remain in the log as THE GREAT experiences.

6. What sort of station do you have at home now?

I just moved from Buenos Aires (LU/OH0XX) to Caracas (YV5/OH0XX) and my local station is still on the drawing board. In Buenos Aires I had a FT1000MP with ALPHA 86 amplifier. The antenna system was a Force 12 C-3 and dipoles for 40 and 80.

I participated CQ WPX CW 99 at Venezuela DX Club contest station in Camatagua, YV4A. The station is designed and managed by Reinaldo YV5AMH.

7. Olli, you have an OH0 call-sign. Did you live in Aland? What are those like?

I acquired my OH0XX call-sign in 1982 when we (OH2BAZ, OH2BH and I) rented a summer cottage for ham operations in Korso Brando. But unlike many other mainland OH0's I have my ancestors coming from Aland archipelago, my greatgrandfather married a lady called Maria Jansson of Lemland Aland in 1865. The house where Maria used to live is still there. Aland is an archipelago of more than 10.000 islands and it is a real beauty.

8. How do you prepare yourself for a major contest?

In the 1980's I used to prepare myself well and in a very detailed manner for each of the contests, in the 90's I have just arrived and participated – it shows in the results – but it is due to the fact that the professional side took over and the hobby unfortunately has remained as a hobby, but "I SHALL RETURN".

9. Do you eat any special foods for the contest?

I used to go light and vegetarian to feel light and energetic and that is what I plan to do in the future, too.

10. Where is the most interesting place you have operated from?

As I already mentioned, French Guyana, FY, remains on the top of the list because it was so exotic and exciting at that time. And please read the text on the back of my FY5YE card for ARRL 1988 contest – it will tell you why.

11. You have spent a lot of time in South America. CP is a lot higher in altitude than say, LU. Do you notice any propagation differences due to the higher altitude?

LU is a very special place in regards to 10 and 15 but I was very surprised of the 40 meter performance, which was much better than expected. On the other hand CP is a totally different world propagation is more difficult from the contesting point of you and the openings are shorter in 10 and 15 compared to LU. CP, LU and YV are all very different challenges.

12. Olli you spend a lot of time in Venezuela, are you building a station there?

I moved to Venezuela permanently in March this year, I was invited to be the Executive President of Corporacion Digitel, a new telecom operator in Venezuela, first deploying basic telephony in rural areas and later this year mobile telephone services using GSM900 technology in the central region of the country. I am planning to rent and loan tower space of our company's infrastructure for contesting purposes. At home I will just have a moderate station due to restrictions of residential area. I already have participated and plan to do so in the future in the activities of the Venezuela DX Club contest team operations in Camatagua, YV4A & 4M4X.

13. How many hams are on the air in YV? What is the national organization called? Does it have a national convention? Are there amateur radio publications in YV country? If so what are they?

There are about 50'000 hams in Venezuela. The national organization is called Radio Club Venezolano. As far as I know there is no formal national convention but there are a lot of unofficial gatherings. There are no amateur radio publications in YV.

14. In 1996, you were at the WRTC. You became involved. How did that happen and what impression did WRTC leave on you?

In 1996 I decided to visit WRTC just as a tourist. Two hours before the contest start I was invited to be a representative of Argentina because their rep had got seriously ill. Not too much time for preparation and strategy planning but I enjoyed every minute of it and would like to be in the next one maybe representing YV... WRTC is a great event in many respects and I hope that it will be there in the years to come.

15. What advice would you give to amateurs who would like to get started in contesting?

Just do it! There are lot of opportunities, first listen to get the feeling and then just join the crowd and you will find the fun. And for the next one define your goals and start preparing the improvements needed in different areas.



SM3CER
Jan-Eric Rehn
Born: 1942

Address: Lisataet 18, SE-863 32 SUNDSBRUK,
Sweden

E-mail: sm3cer@contesting.com
WEB: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got my licence 1960 as SM3CER. Have also been SM0CER (1967-1976).

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

My Elmer was SM3BHT. I have not had any Elmers for contesting - I'm "self-educated". I have been Elmer for a couple of hams and I have been Traffic Manager in our local club for several years, so I am involved with all new hams our club are "producing".

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I'm sorry to say I have not been on any contest expedition - yet... However, I have been involved in many Multi operations from different club stations all around Sweden.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Rig: Kenwood TS-950SDX and ETO Alpha 89. I have two towers, one 18 m and one 24 m. 18 m tower: Mosley MP-33, 3 el/3 band yagi and a 15 el yagi for 2 m. 24 m tower: KLM KT-34XA, Cushcraft 40-2CD and Cuchcraft A3WS/A103 (WARC-bands) Dipoles for 40 and 80 m. No antenna on 160. Cushcraft R7.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was part of the Swedish team in SF at WRTC-96 with the call K6U. We had a real good time and my teammate SM3DMP and I decided to go to Slovenia one way or the other - competing or not.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I hope we will have a world wide standard for logs one day and that we can let the computers do all the log checking. I also think that Internet will be more and more involved - not during the contest I hope - but before and after.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

In contesting - to see where your own limits are in all aspects. In ham radio in general - too meet people and make friends from all around the world.



OK2RZ

Jiri Kral

Born: 1946

Address: Krameriova 5178, OSTRAVA – Trebovice
722 00, Czech Republic

E-mail: ok2rz@contesting.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

1953 - (age 7)

I have learnt CW at 15 WPM from my dad - Olda - OK2OQ

1960 - (age 14)

Started serious DXing with Christmas gift from my dad - army

surplus comm. RX - and first license for SWL = OK2-15037, first SWL national contests

1961 - (age 15) – First QSO on the air from Radioclub OK2KVI. First international contest WAEDC (67 QSOs on 80 and 20m)

1962 - 1965 – DXCC 250+ confirmed by QSLs for my SWL call. Number of contests, operating with less than 50 W and wire antennas from OK2KGD and OK2KOS

1965 - 1967 – While in army at OK3KAS first serious high power contesting with 300 W and long+high wires, single quad loop and verticals

May 1st of 1967 - (age 21) – Back home with the very first (and last) radio licence for OK2RZ. Within 4 months upgraded to Extra class.

1968 – Very first home brew CW-SSB transceiver which I used for next 27 years

1969 –First rotary 2el C.Quad

1970 - 1972 – 3 years in row 1st place in the national OK - HF championship

1972 – First TOP TEN in big contest (WAEDC). After that I decided to start the own big battle for GRAND SLAM = WORLD TOP TEN ALL BAND Single Op score

in all 4 different real contest : CQWW CW, CQWW SSB, CQWPX CW and CQWPX SSB. After 8 years I have got it from my city lot with no more than

500 W and HB9CV-beams for 10 and 15m and 6 or 7 el LOG-YAGI for 20m and vertical or Inverted V for LF :

1975 - CQWW SSB - number 9 in World (not too bad for me with W3LPL as number 10)

1979 - CQWW CW - number 4 in World, EU-trophy, ALL TIME EU-record (not too bad for me with K1AR as number 5)

1980 - CQWPX SSB - number 9 in World (not too bad for K1AR as number 8)

1980 - CQWPX CW - number 2 in World and EU-trophy (not too bad for me with Terry, N6CW at KP2A as number 1 (btw, Terry, did you really have to go there ?)

In the mean time (1977) with my friends at OK2KOS as OK5CRC we have got Word TOP SIX in CQWW CW - M/S and World TOP TEN in CQWPX CW - M/S.

1987 - I started to build my first contest QTH just outside OSTRAVA at the watering station. After 2 years of hard work they bring back big HV power line transformer 20m apart from my contest cottage....

1990 - I started endless contest , my own business

1995 - in September the HAM Heaven Radio Ranch was discovered on lonely flat hilltop and after 2 moths (hard battle but no guns) the last soldier left. 12 acres of radio land was activated again by OK2RZ with administrative help of Olda - OK2ER .

OK2FD

Karel Karmasin

Born: 1948

Address: Gen.Svobody 636, 674 01 Trebic

E-mail: ok2fd@contesting.com

WEB : [http:// www.qsl.net/ok2fd](http://www.qsl.net/ok2fd)

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed as a novice OL6ACY in 1965, regular license since 1966 as OK2BLG, changed to OK2FD in 1981. From the very first moment interested for contests, tried to participate in any contest, tried to do the best in any of them.



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

No one.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Not yet. Maybe later this autumn, please be patient.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

One tower contest station - 4 el quad 10/15/20 plus 40 el 2 el. Cushcraft and 3 slopers fo 80 m plus a dipole for 160 m on one 20 m high tower, freestanding. Rig IC756 and old SB220 amplifier putting 800 watts out.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Was a OK team member at WRTC90, judge at WRTC96, is necessary to say more?

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Much more differents now in equipment and locations too. By me I would like to change the old power categories and also add a special CONTEST EXPEDITION category. New power categories should be separated instead of power by some kind of ratio power/antenna gain -say 3 to 5 categories - 100 ERP, 300 ERP, 1000 ERP, 3000 ERP and 5000 ERP and higher,

What I really hate is a new trend to use more antennas and amplifiers in the same time -for one signal. Is there any other competition, when a man is using double engine in a car or anything similar? No....

Really hate this heading to be a nr.1 by any means....., I hear often: "How I can compete, when many stations in EU (or anywhere else) are using high power, more amplifiers, more antennas - and if not more operators....., I will go the same way". Please, we should try to learn ourselves and then the rest....

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Exotics, some special feeling to make friends all over the world and of course competing with someone else.



ON4UN

John Devoldere

Born: 21 May 1941

Address: Poelstraat 215, B9820 Merelbeke, Belgium

E-mail: john.devoldere@pandora.be

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

John Devoldere, ON4UN, will certainly need no introduction to those who are active on the low bands or in contesting, where his station is often activated using the callsign OTxT. John holds an engineering degree in electronics, and took early retirement in 1996 after a 30 year career with a major telecommunications company, where he held various management functions. John has been a ham for nearly 40 years. He also holds an Extra Class license in the USA (AA4OI). ON4UN is also actively involved in radio amateur society matters, and presently serves as president of the UBA, the Belgian IARU amateur radio society.

Aside from being active on the DX scene on the low (as well as other) bands, John and his station are very active in international DX-contesting. John feels that contests are the place where you can really find out how good the station (antenna) really is. John is holder of a range of prestigious contest awards and plaques, including a whole range of "winner" plaques for CQ 160-meter DX (CW) contests, ARRL DX (80-meter) contests and various other CQ WW (Phone and CW) contests. John's station is operated as club station during international contests, and dozens of guest operators from all over the world have operated from his station during these contests. In 1997 John was elected member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. John is, before all a very keen CW and contest operator.

On 160 meters John has worked over 285 countries and has the highest country score outside the USA.. John also holds the prestigious (full 40 zones) 160 m WAZ (all time #3), as well as WAS, which is certainly not easy from Europe. A important little detail is that John worked WAZ and WAS on 160 in just 1 year.



On 80 meters, John has over 345 confirmed countries (all time) and is heading the all-time DXCC listing world-wide. He also holds the single-band 80-meter DXCC award #1.

These outstanding results are certainly not the result of pure luck. They are brought about by a professional approach, which John is sharing with the readers of this new book. Being retired now, John had the possibility to spend over 1,000 hours over a 1 year period re-writing the Low-Band DX-ing book, now also widely known as the Low Band Bible, which is now at its third edition.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My elmer: my uncle, ON4GV. My contest station is open for visiting hams, young contesters etc.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

No.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Competitive single op, two transmitters, or (small) multi single station. Two FT1000MP's, Alpha 2000A and home made amp. Monoband yagis on 10-40, 4-square on 80, 1/4 wave vert on 160, KT34XA multiplier antenna for 10-20, 4 square for 40, dipole for 80 and 12 Beverages (open every 30 degrees) for receiving on the low bands.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was a competitor 4 years ago. Now I am delighted to be a referee.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting is like car racing: technological and operational improvements are keywords. I hope the "cheating" will go away. One solution: abolish the multitude of categories. It is my firm belief that 70 % of the non-assisted contesters are using DX-clusters. This should and could be avoided by allowing all kind of operational tools to everyone

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contesting: testing ground for antennas, stations and operating skills. Amateur radio: international goodwill, human contacts, meet the world.



PY5EG

Atilano de Oms

Born : 1942

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CURITIBA-PR, CEP
80001-970, BRASIL

E-mail: py5eg@inepar.com.br

WEB: <http://www.inepar.com.br/araucaria>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My license may 1960. I got my call PY5EG. This call had been used by my father Manuel de Oms who died in 1958. My mother is PY5EM, and still active. I used several special calls during contests. ZW5B, ZV5A, ZZ5EG, ZY5EG, ZX0F, PY0EG. Contest Hall of Fame 15# First in South America.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

My father and my mother.



FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Trindade Island as PY0EG twice 1978 and 1986, Fernando de Noronha many times as ZX0F.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

My QTH is on the country side and I have a contest station there. Normally we operate from there with the call sign ZW5B 10 towers from 20 to 10 meters stacked systems and also a 4 x 5 elements on a H frame for 10 meters. 4 elements full size 40 meters and 4 elem. KLM for 80 meters. Beverages and antennas for multiplier station. Moon bounce parabolic 5 meters diameter. Satellite system KLM. Yaesu gear and ACOM + Alpha linears.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Since the very first one representing Brazil, and the others two as referee.



WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contest for me is the perfume of ham radio. I will be contesting till God permits me. The friend relationship during a multi multi effort.



UA9MA

Vladimir "Willy" Umanets

Born: 1954

Address: Krupskoj 19/3-20 Omsk 644123 Russia

E-mail: ua9ma@echo.ru

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My first callsign was UA9MAF in 1972, I been member of Railway Academy Clubstation UK9MBA (1972-1977)

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My Elmers is UA9MS formly big contestman, champion USSR.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

Last 3 years I am one of the P3A M/M and M/S teams in CQ WW and CQ WPX contest.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

My current station is : IC-775DSP, home made PA abt 2.5 kw PEP, KT-34XA abt 40 mtrs up, dipols ,delta loops for low bands (top of the appartmen house), Pentium II 400 mhz. I have a plan to put up Force 12 Yagi for 40 and 80 mtrs.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I dream about WRTC 2000 last few years, I think that biggest event in ham radio life, also very good opportunity to meet best contestmans around the world.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

No idea.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I can't explaine exactly, but ham radio and contesting one of the biggest path of my life.

**RU1AA**

Alex Ivliev

Born: 1944

Address: S. Petersburg, Russia

E-mail ru1aa@spb.org.ru

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got my license 1957 : SWL UA1766, operator of club station UA1KAN.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

My ticher was UA1DG . My next callsign was UA1ALZ, last callsign RU1AA. I started working in contests in 1958.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I worked many expeditons for contests, my favorite expedition was 4J1FS .

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I am chief operator of club station RZ1AWT (RU1A in contests) ex UA1KBW, UK1AAA, UX1A, RZ1A.

We have contest position, located 150 km from S.Petersburg .

Our equipment: 5 FT1000MP, ICOM, s, home brew transceivers, PA's on all bands, ant's : GP 160; GP, IL 80, 4 el 40, 7el and 5 el 20, 5/5 el 15, 4x5 el 10.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was referee on WRTC 1996.

**S50K**

Marko Munih

Born: 1962

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E-mail: marko@robo.fe.uni-lj.si

WEB: <http://robo.fe.uni-lj.si/~marko>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

- License for operation in club (class C), Ljubljana 1978
- Personal licence (class B), Idrija 1980, call YU3TXA
- Personal license (class A), Cerklje 1984, call YU3RO
- 1988 – 1992 used the call 4N3EK, at that time belonging to my wife
- Ljubljana 1992, S57EK
- Ljubljana 1994, S50K

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

My first ham activity goes back to the secondary school. Born and lived until then in Idrija, mercury mine town, I stayed during the school week in Secondary school home in Ljubljana. There was a club YU3DCK, with vintage TS510 and only 80 m dipole antenna hanging from the top of a 25-story skyscraper.

My grandfather supported at the end of 3rd year partially the purchase of my first radio, at that time modern FT101ZD. During the vacation time, I rather quickly managed to earn for payback, however my loaner dismissed the debt. This was enough for buying homemade amplifier with Phillips QB05/1750 in it, which made my neighbours rather unhappy. Sunspot number has been in 1981 pushed high, which combined with good delta-loop antenna made my logs overfilled with JA stations.





At that point I quickly realised that Idrija valley location is not too great propagation skip. It was a logical move more toward the top of the hill, and one day we stopped with my father at the hilltop farm, where they (Electro Power Company) recently made renovation of the power supply lines. Justin Strel opened hands accepted my suggestion to give a ham radio try from there. Members of Strel family recently build extension to the house and I got allocated one of the older rooms. Farm owner donated one of his tall pine trees, my father welded metal tubing for rotor and antenna fixation, Electro Power Company contributed strong copper wire for guys. Extensive work has been made on grounding system for the house and "tower", and other lightning protection was installed.

Several things happened afterwards: I served army for one year after the end of secondary school, and in the meantime Justin passed away, his daughter got married and inherited the old house. I got kindly allocated a small garret room in a new house. Chinless Justin's son Slavko took over the economy with great success.

Since then, everything goes moderately steadily up. Many winds and ice storms tried to change the face of that place. New children were born, the farm expanded, more and larger farm machines were installed, higher towers and good ham gear are installed as well. My nonham friends helped me to weld so far ice unbreakable tower and helped to install small second tower. The protective grounding system was renovated and made even more extensive. RF telephone was used for years, with underground cable installed at the moment. A branch was made on HV power line and power transformer was installed locally nearby the house. Local people with their powerful tractors take very good care for road all around the clock even during the hardest winter conditions. These are the bright points, accompanied also with the problems, however we do our best to make the problems smaller. 1056 m ASL, hilltop exposed location require things to be done well, but the sun shines most of the time, making people smiling.

Special thanks goes to whole family Strel for hospitality and kind-

ness, to my family and my parents, and then also to long list of others.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

No major expeditions to be worth mentioning in past and no plans for the next year. My real-life activity simply does not allow me that.

Contests: regularly, both ARRL, both WPX, both WW. In last time also ARRL10, few times in past WW160, EUDX, IARU, EUHFC and few VHF contests. I am usually single operator, single band, crossing in past all bands, but mostly, 15 m, 20 m and in last season 10 m. Favourite contest operations (from S5) are too numerous to be mentioned individually. Least considered band so far was 40 m. Due to contest oriented activity, I also do not operate WARC bands and I do not use packet radio.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

For the reader might be first interesting the terrain profile of S50K location. Initial altitude of 1056 m at the top of the hill ridge, then slopes relatively moderately Northwest across smaller hills toward Idrija river valley to approx. 250 m ASL and then at 45 km distance climbs again to 2400 m with Kanin mountain region. Terrain shape in Northeast direction is much worse inside first Fresnel zone, however first higher mountains are on the Slovenian-Austrian border, approx. 40 km away. I hope that the signal gets some additive propagation scattering from all those edgy peaks.

As a guest at the hilltop farm, I cannot install all antennas I would like to have at once. Current antenna set-up is mounted on 35 m and 10 m high towers. Small tower hosts two element three band (20/15/10) quad antennae, best suited for Northeast middle distance propagation skip and optimal for static noise rainy situations. Nearby metal roof of the house hides the antenna from the south and discharges rain noise. 35 m tower was made taller two years back and currently hosts:

7 MHz rotary dipole at 34 m,

KT34XA tribander at 30 m,

7 element yagi for 28 MHz at 10 m,

upper guys are used as a 3.7 MHz inverted V antenna

Current radio is Icom IC775DSP, amplifier is Harris RF110A.

Check <http://robo.fe.uni-lj.si/~marko> for updates.



HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

As a Slovenian active ham.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Forecasting the future is ungrateful. Digital optical fibre era is already here, with networks, computers, laundry machine IP numbers, digital wireless communications, digital TV and audio. Hams we are not taking very good lead in these areas or at least not so good as our pioneers had in analogue era in the beginning of cen-

ture. Builders were in past with their radios at technology edge, but we can not still claim the same. The contesting and most of ham-air activities today rely basically on the same analogue vintage techniques, which in forthcoming generations will probably decline as CW decline today. Communications today appear to be global and progressively fibre oriented. From that perspective, in next twenty or thirty year future, I am afraid that contesting will have similar role as archery, or fencing sports today. This move is not expected to be a step event, since some interest in short wave frequency and above will still remain in some segments of our society.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

For me, contesting is a combination of skill to build a station and to operate it. Therefore, it demonstrates technical competence, personal expeditiousness, capacity to adopt to new situations (propagation) in combination with selected or given environment conditions. Less you buy, more you build it yourself, stronger holds everything said. Every new sun cycle brings new technical layer and associated challenges.



S51F

Franci Gričar

Born: 1957

Address: Ljubljana, Slovenia

E-mail: franci.gricar@mnz.si

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I passed hamradio exam in college in 1972 in YU3DMU radioclub, after 1975 I was active as YT3TNA, YU3FA after 1986, S51FA after 1992 and finally S51F since 1997.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I started in radioclub as all YU, after the school I was sporadically active with modest setup, mainly old TS-500 and dipol. I begun contesting in 1990 under Vito, S56M influence.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

My only Dxpediton was to Albania, ZA together with S57AW in CQ WW 1999.

I operated several in m/s teams with S55T, S56M and S50G.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I occasionally chase DX from home with IC-781 and TH3. I plan

big m/s location for the best achievements in the larger WW contests with S50Q, S56M and S57AW.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I couldn't avoid taking part in WRTC organisation as a member of SCC Executive committee.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I'd like to see the reduction of the number of contest categories as the majority of the competitors use similar, comparable technology. I think that the creation of new classes does not improve the quality of competition. SO, MS and MM should be enough.

I have an interesting idea of »worldwide cup« - series of WW competitions during the year (say 6 contests) with additive scores like in skiing or Formula I racing. Contest organizers should provide final results faster. It should be easy with Internet.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Each contest is very interesting for me as the comparison with the other competitors in tactics, perservance etc. I always try to improve my score from the previous years under the similar conditions. I also enjoy building new station accessories and use of various PC options.



S53EO

Miloš Oblak

Address:

Obala 97,
6320 Portorož,
Slovenija



S53Z

Žarko Cink

Born: 1947

Address: Koper, Slovenia

E-mail: rd@mehano.si



S5500

Goran Andrič

Born: 1975

Address: Mestni trg 7, 1230 Domžale, SI

E-mail: s5500@lea.hamradio.si

WEB: <http://lea.hamradio.si/~s5500>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My callsign since 1994 has been **S5500** when I passed 1st class. Previously, I held **S57MYC** and I have been an amateur since 1992. In this time I tried various sub-hobbies from ARDF, antenna and other construction, data communications, operating and contesting on HF, VHF & higher via EME, MS, FAI, E's...

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My friends at S53CAB/S50C...

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I had also a chance to operate on other contest locations like S55T, S59DBC/S53M, S50D, S50L, S50A, 9A1A, K1VR, S51TA and one of my greatest operations were at KP4XS (now WP3X club station) in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I have only an IC735 and some low cost antennas at home because I am mainly operating from our contest club station S50C.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Running pile-up on VHF! Everyone could do that on HF...

S57AD

Mirko Šibilja

Born: 1949

Address: Cesta izgnancev 10, Brestanica,

Brestanica, SI-8280, Slovenia

E-mail: s57ad@s55tcp.ampr.org

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licenced in 1966, YU3TCA since 1968, changed to YU3IW in 1982, S57AD since 1993.



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Soon after I passed my first ham exam, Pol, YU3BU (now S57U) asked me if I am able to copy weak signals at higher speed levels, i.e. 20 WPM. "Let try!", I answered, so Pol invited me to help him in one of incoming contests. I learned lot of him, and I got some suggestions from Tine, YU3EY (now S50A) and Frane, YU3BC (S59AA), but, since I hadn't my own equipment yet, and since local club station was QRT for some years, I begun with contesting more seriously somewhere in 1973 or 1974, trying to improve antenna systems, etc. In 1975 I moved to Belgrade and was member of YUIEXY contest club until 1991, when returned to Slovenia.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

None, except 9A/S55A IOTA expedition to Krk Island in 1999.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Currently, I haven't any station, but I'm preparing to build some antennas at weekend house. The house where I'm living is located in deep valley, quite unsuitable for any serious contesting.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Well, last five or six years, I'm very interested in contest adjudication, writing my own softwares, etc, so guys at SCC kindly proposed me to be a "judge".

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Computer technology made great impact in both logging and adjudication. However, computers are just machines and can't replace operating skills...

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

In contesting, possibilities to improve technical, operating and personal skills. In ham radio, camaraderie, possibility to communicate with people around the world...

S57AL

Ivo Jereb

Born: 1969

Address: Radomlje, Slovenia

E-mail: ivo.jereb@siol.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I received my first ham license in radioclub Radomlje, YU3DRW in 1983.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

It all begun in 1982 when my friends from radioclub Radomlje were preparing for ARDF. I was curious about their »guns« (ARDF RX) and headphones. They were very busy and told me only to check in the club rooms on Saturday. My first ARDF Elmer was



Roman, S52NJ. After 3 years I won silver medal at World Championships in Satajevo. Contest guru was Vito, S56M and he led me to the following HF competitions: JA Int, All Asian, ARRL DX, WPX and CQ WW. This included building many antennas and other mechanical structures. Our 1985 dreams are bringing fruits these days as we were short on money then. We always made it in Top 10 scores.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Not yet!

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

My station is in Radomlje vilage at 333 m asl with 35 m high single tower. It had mainly 40 m antennas 2L quad, 3L Delta loop, 3L Yagi in the last 5 years of my activity. I am currently busy with building a house but the antennas will come – you will hear me! I use IC-735 and homebrew QRO of 1.500 W output legal power.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I applied for WRTC-96 in SF as a competitor but I ended up as a judge. So I wanted to be judge again at WRTC-2000.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I hope in the increased contest activity with a tougher challenges

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

My greatest joy is to come on the frequency with a struggle for a rare multiplier, send my callsign once, get report and continue searching.

S57AW

Robert Bajuk

Born: 1971

Address: Tovarniška 57, Radomlje 1235, Slovenia

E-mail: s57aw@bit.si

WEB: <http://www.qsl.net/s57aw/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was introduced to ham radio at the age of 15 as a pupil in Ljubljana. During the long, boring afternoons in the dormitory, I



noticed a strange antenna (it was 2el triband quad). I was curious and one evening visited radio club room in the dormitory where I discovered the charm of radio and decided to learn more about it. I attended organized instruction's classes, CW was not a big problem and I soon got novice license permitting operation on certain HF bands from club station YU3DMU and also VHF privileges. HF was more interesting and within a year I passed for a general HF license and got my first YT3VV callsign. I spent many nights on club's barefoot IC-745 with homemade wire antennas. Nobody showed me how to operate contests but I spent weekends at home without my own radio. After finishing the school, I was not very active making only 300 QSO in years 1988-1992 but I kept my love for the hobby.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I got S57AW since 1992, the year after Slovenian independence. My old friend Vito, S56M dragged me into CQ WW SSB in 1993. He was already experienced contester and a good teacher! We put together a lot of different antennas since and competed single or multiop in many major contests. I also learned a lot from old-timers like Tine, S50A, Mario, S56A etc. Top scores were achieved fast beginning with 80m EU record in WPX SSB with 2L homemade quad. I also took part in several M/S efforts from S50G, S50Q, S55T. Most of S5 contesters are members of Slovenia Contest



Club with S50A presiding. Lot has changed in my 14 years of hamradio but I am eternally grateful to my XYL Suzanne for a deep understanding and support.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I was not a member of any of the rare DX-peditions. During WRTC-96I operated IARU contest as a guest of Duane, W6REC. We made a good score together with Drago, S50Q. I went to Albania in 1999 with S51F visiting our friend there ZA/S51PF for CQ WW SSB and CW. We used WRTC tribander and Windom and some wires and made a lot of QSO. Pile-ups were huge and overall experience was interesting in entirely different country and strange people. I am thinking where to go next...

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I like team work in a good M/S crew. We build new location with friends S50Q, S51F and S56M. Plans are sky-high and I hope you will hear strong S50Q in many contests. Monoband antennas should be finished this year...

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Member of WRTC 2000 Committee and a judge.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Hams know how interesting our hobby is although it takes a lot of time and sacrifice. Young hams are not easy to attract and that worries me. With omnipresent Internet, mobile phones and other digital communications, hamradio is not that attractive to the young. We evidence daily debates about the meaning of hamradio in 3rd millenium, need to learn Morse code, harmful radiation etc. We should emphasize quality work with the young with a proper approach which would trigger interest for our hobby. While we read about the decrease of number of hams, there is increase in the number of contest QSO with a lot of new callsigns. I think that the fear of decline is superfluous as hamradio is a love for technique and camaraderie, sport which will not disappear soon. Let me state interesting saying of S56M: *"Man made rockets and went to the Moon, but the athletics and 100m sprint is still the queen of sports, so we will continue fight on "stone waves" (popular abbreviation for short waves in S5) for a long time"*.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Hamradio brings me a lot of pleasure, relaxation, and opportunity for a nice camaraderie, meeting people and technique. I enjoy making various antenna drawings and testing computers but I don't like tower climbing, HI !



S57U

Polde Kobal
Born: 1948

Address: Seliškarjeva 26, 1290 Grosuplje, Slovenia

E-mail: s57u@comware.si

First licensed in 1963 as YU3CDE.

Other calls : 1966 – 92 YU3BU

1992 – 1994 S57BU

1994- S57U

An active contester since 1963, mostly CW and RTTY.

S57U station description :

RIG: TS-850SAT, SB-220-but never used since 1994,HI!

ANTENNAS :

TH6DXX at 15meters, trap dipole on 160-40meters

Weekend location is in preparation with tribander at 12 meters and some wires.



S59L

Leon Šporčič

Born: 1951

E-mail: s59l@bit.si

I am 49 years old. I started with ham radio at Radioclub Triglav S53APR (YU3APR) in 1966 when I got my first license as SWL YU3RS-755. Shortly afterwards I earned my first callsign YU3TUP. I soon began to study for my extra class license and eventually changed the callsign to YU3DX.

I am a member of Slovenia Contest Club since its foundation in 1992.

After the independence of Slovenia, we changed prefix and my new call was S59DX which I later shortened to S59L. My call is also S5X for WRTC-2000 promotion and I am QSL manager for all these special single letter callsigns.

My dream was to have my own location outside of Ljubljana before retirement. I did make it with the help from my wife and I am pleased for her understanding of ham radio. We built a house in a village 30 km away called Podulaka at 628 m asl. At this moment I have only one tower which is 28 m high (95 feet) with beams and monobanders and wire antennas for lower bands. I am using KENWOOD TS 870S and ALPHA 76 QRO.

I was interested in contesting from the beginning of my ham radio but didn't have much time because of study, building my home and so on. I was active all those years as a club member by organizing various activities regarding ham radio.

First WRTC in Seattle was a very interesting idea to me so I decided with my friends in Slovenia Contest Club that we will try to go to San Francisco in 1996. We made it and I was there as a referee.



SM3DMP

Thomas A. Rylander

Born: 1952

Address: Berg 1980, SE-870 52, NYLAND,
SWEDEN

E-mail: sulky@swipnet.se

WEB: www.stallberg.se/sm3dmp.htm

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Got started as BC-listener early 1968. Discovered hamradio in 1969. Got my novice license on the 1:st of april 1971 (no joke!) Upgraded to class 1 summer 1972. Held a dutch license for a couple of years as PA9AZC.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

Andy, SM3BBL (SK) was my elmer. He really gave me a push in the right direction.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I have gone on many IOTA expeditions, but so far no expedition for the purpose of contesting.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I use Kenwood all the way. TS-950SD and a pair of TL-922 amps. Monoband yagis is my absolute preference. I have pland for two new towers this coming fall.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I participated as a competitor in WRTC -96 and really liked the concept.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I am worried! Bad behavior is spreading!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

In contesting: The contest itself! I am a competitive person!
In ham radio: Chasing DX

T97M

Edin Gadzo

Born: 1963

Address: Put Spasa 3, Hrasnica BA-71212, Bosnia
and Herzegovina

E-mail: t97m@yahoo.com

WEB: <http://www.qsl.net/t97m>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got my first license on 08 Apr 1978 but got my first personal call YU4AX in 1985. YU4AX was active until 1993 when Bosnia and Herzegovina got separate prefix block from ITU and since I am licensed as T97M.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

At my begin I was mostly active from the Club where I worked my first QSO's and where I tried contesting for the first time. I did not have anybody particular to be my Elmer but I had chance to see famous contesters like Ivo 5B4ADA, Tom 9A2AJ, Hrane YT1AD, Rasa YU1RL in action.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

My first contest expedition was in 1997 when I worked CQ WW CW from the QTH well known Middle East operator Abdullah 9K2GS. I entered Single Operator 20m Category and finished at 5th place in the world with new Asian record. Next contest expedition was to the Cyprus in 1998.

With help of Ivo 5B4ADA who arranged details with local operators I was operating CQ WPX CW from the QTH of Paris 5B4XF. I won Single Operator Low Power Category and got plaque for the Best Contest Expedition.

For the last two CQ WW CW Contests I was member of A61AJ Multi-Multi team. We placed 5th in 1998 and expecting to be 4th in 1999. Both times we broke Asian record which is now at 42 million level.

I do not know my plans for the future but hope you will have an chance to work me from some interesting location.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

My shack at home is consisted of : TS-690SAT, Home made PA 1KW, 40m loop antenna, 30m inverted vee, 20m 4el. monoband YAGI, 17m vertical, 12m dipole, 10m 5el YAGI. Computer used for logging and RTTY is P166MMX and RTTY modem is SCS PTC-I.

I have very limited space and it is very hard to have any bigger antenna system. That is the main reason why 40m 2el. YAGI and 15m 4el. YAGI are still in storage room.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I have first heard about WRTC in 1990 and I found it very good idea. After WRTC 1996 I had chance to speak with one of the competitors, Ivo 5B4ADA, and imagine how it would be nice to participate in such event. Since contest activity from T9 was not so big to have a team at WRTC-2000 I submitted my Wild Card application. My scores were not good enough to be a competitor but I honored that WRTC-2000 Organizational Committee chosen me to be one of the referees.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I enjoy contest for many years and that always will be my favourite side of our hobby. I hope to have enough space for my antennas and enough time for contesting in the future. In the mean time see you in the big contests such CQ WW and CQ WPX from hope or some DX location.

UX1UA

Sergei Litvinov

Born: 1945

Address: Kiev, Ukraine

E-mail: ux1ua@qsl.net

WEB: <http://www.qsl.net/ux1ua>



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First own call:

RB5IPB - 1972, Makeevka / Donetsk region, Ukraine (VHF/novice)

UB5ICS - 1973, Makeevka / Donetsk region, Ukraine (HF/3 class)
 1975 (2 class)
 1981 (1 class)

RB5IA - 1984, Donetsk

UX1UA - 1995, Kiev

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

That was in 1959 at school radiostation RB5KIX - 38-40 Mhz operation only. Local QSO's, not contesting, lot of designing of simple radios. Later we had had a new call UB5KVG on 28-30 Mhz. Contesting I've got from the air.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

The favorite trip was to California and I have participated in CQ WPX PHONE '91 Contest - as a member by chance of team WZ6Z along with N6RO, WZ6Z, K3EST, W6RGG, N6KT, W6OAT, K6TMB, WA6VEF/VA7RR, VE7NKL, WX0B, N6EK, WY8T.

I visited 20 countries more including PY, CT, 4U1ITU, A6 ...

I'm going to be presented in contests from abroad, from some islands.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

My station includes: FT-1000MP, TS-930SAT, ALPHA 87A, ZZ-1002 (1K Amp), PK-900 some MFJ, Bencher, Heil accessories. Antennas are FB-DX460 / 3 ele-3 bander + 1 ele rotary dipole for 3 WARC, Inverted V's, Dipole. SW: WriteLog, RTTY by WF1B, WJ2O Master Log, WinPix Pro ...

We plan to built new antennas, but we have to get new contest location before.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I couldn't visit WRTC'90,'96 and have decided not waste this chance.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

A contest changes itself for last decades. But the thrill by participation still persist and doesn't becomes less! More participants, more dxpeditions dedicated to the contests are presented evry year. Speedy tempos, new smart methods of operating (by computer) raise the interest to contesting.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I don't know what. But during 40 years the same filling exist... Something should be. And that's the thrill. And the challenge as well.



VE7AHA / VA7CW

Andy Ponzini

Born: 1944

Address: Delta, British Columbia, Canada

E-mail: aponzini@telus.net

First licensed as WV2AYM in 1958 in New York and then WA2AYM. Moved to Canada in 1971 and issued VE7AHA in 1975. Received VA7CW in 1999.

I was introduced to amateur radio by K2EHI in 1957 and he helped me get a novice license. DXing and contesting activities started quickly with K1IFJ, W1TYQ, K1IJG, K0DQI and others of the late 50's and early 60's era.

My favorite radio activities have always been CW, working a new one on CW and CW rate.



W0UN

John Brosnahan

Born: 1945

Address: La Salle, CO USA

E-mail: w0un@info2000.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I received my first license in 1959 at age 14. My call sign was K0UTX until 1976 and I operated from Missouri until I was 20 years old and then moved to Colorado, where I currently reside. My first contest was a multi-single entry in ARRL Sweepstakes in 1959 as a Novice. It started a chain of events that has been very gratifying—many friendships as well as many good technical experiences.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Probably my most influential "elmer" was Lee Bergren, W0AIW/ W0AR. He helped me by showing me about DX and got me my first job in electronics when I graduated from high school.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I have gone a number of expeditions but mostly for DXing rather



than contesting. Two favorite contesting trips come to mind. The Kansas City DX Club expedition to VP1A in 1980 and my two recent trips to A61AJ. The most recent A61AJ trip was for the CQ WPX phone contest this spring and combined the contest with my honeymoon. It was a very special trip—

combining a multi-multi contest with a very exotic honeymoon.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I currently specialize in single-band contesting with W0UA as operator. We make a good team by combining his operating skills with my engineering skills. The station is located on 60 hectares of farm land in rural Colorado. Antennas vary from season to season depending on the sunspot cycle. The main array is now a 4-stack of TH7s at 13/26/39/52 meters. Plus additional antennas for multiplier hunting.

Future plans include setting up a new station in south Texas on a 50 hectares of land that is perfect for a DX and contest station.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I was a judge at the 1996 WRTC in San Francisco and eagerly anticipated the WRTC-2000 in Slovenia as a way to see Slovenia and to renew many good friendships made in San Francisco.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I hope that young hams will see contesting as a fun way of learning many skills—operating, radio, and computer, as well as life skills such as hard work, integrity, and honor.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I enjoy the challenge of the pursuit of technical excellence required to build a competitive station. The engineering skills developed during the course of building my station have contributed to my professional career.

W1FJ

Al Rousseau

Born: 1940

Address: 180 Den Quarry Rd, Lynn, MA 01904
USA

E-mail: w1fj@juno.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed in 1956 as WN1FJJ, upgraded to W1FJJ, in the 70s I got W1FJ. Also was JA6YAO/W1FJJ in 71 made over 700 qsos in ARRL CW test with that long call. Also was J38AC in 1997.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS:

No elmers got into contesting on my own.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Have been to PJ2 3 times, HH2VP, J39A twice enjoyed them all.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Home station is simple on a small city lot 23m tower with TH5 on top a cush craft WARC dipole 3m above it a 40m loaded dipole at 20m fixed an inv L for 1.8 a dipole for 3.5 and an HF2v for 3.5&7. Rigs are FT1000MP, OMNI6, Alpha 89 and LK500. For the past 4 years I have been helping WIKM rebuild his station, from there I am loud

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I have always wanted to attend, but never had the time. My life has changed lately and I am making the time. It will get to meet guys I have worked for so many years. Was in BLED on business several years ago and always had a desire to come back. Great people, great wine, beautiful scenery, what more can you want. Volunteered to be a judge because it is time to start giving things back to our wonderful hobby.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Although the number of hams is going down activity seems to be up. We need to get more young people into the contest community.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I love the challenge and the comraderie. Nothing better than a fast run on CW at 40 wpm. Love meeting the guy on the other end in person.



W6OAT

Charles »Rusty« K. Epps

Born: 1943

Address: Redwood City, California, USA

E-mail: w6oat@compuserve.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed in 1958 as KN4BVD in Columbus, Georgia USA. Upgraded license class and became K4BVD in 1959. I moved to the San Francisco area and became W6OAT about 1972.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

John Laney, K4BAI.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

PJ0FC, 4M4AGP, KV4HW, P41E, P49V, YK0A, P40V, XE1MS/2.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Yaesu FT-1000D and Alpha 86. Force 12 antennas.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

Became involved because of prior WRTCs. I helped write the rules for and was Chief Judge of WRTC-90; was on the Organizing Committee and was Publicity Chairman for WRTC-96.

W6UM

Charles E Weir Jr,
3210 Biddle Ranch Rd
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 USA



YL2KL

Girts Budis

Born: 1957

Address: Kr.Barona 7-1, Ainazi LV-4035, Latvia

E-mail: yl2kl@apollo.lv

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licence in 1975.

Calls: UK2GJL, UK2GJB, UQ2GKL, UQ0A, YL2KL, YL8M, YL4U, YL0A, AH3C (WRTC-96), H22A (IARU 97), H20A (IARU 98, 99, WPX CW 98), P38M (WW CW 98)

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

ICOM-775DSP & ICOM-756 + ACOM 2000A linear

160 m: 1/4 vertical with 60 radials & Inv.V

80 m: single quad & Inv.V

40 m: 4 el @ 40 m & Mosley 96 Pro @ 30 m

20 m: 6 el @ 40 m & Mosley 96 Pro @ 30 m

15 m: 5 el @ 25 m & Mosley 96 Pro @ 30 m

10 m: 6 el @ 25 m & Mosley 96 Pro @ 30 m



YT6A (5B4AGD)

Ranko Boca

Born: 1960

Address: Nikole Ljubibrati}a 78 - Herceg Novi -
Montenegro - YU

E-mail: yt6a@cg.yu

WEB: http://www.ham.sky-sat.com



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My first license was YU6ZAX in 1981. Ever since my first YU local competition, I try to promote serious contesting in the ignorant YU6 area. YZ6G, academic radio club in our capitol Podgorica was active in 1982 with some good scores.

YT6AA from Molunat peninsula was active 1986-89 with some other mountain peaks.

During 1995-97 local pause I worked ARRL DX and CQ WW contests from V2 and FM5.

I also established SKY Contest club with 4O6A and 5B4AGD locations.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

1995-97 V26AS, FM5DN, TO5A 1999-2000 - 5B4AGD, P3A 5B4AGD is under construction for a serious SOAB and M/S competition. CQ WW SSB this year is planed with international team of ON4UN, S56A, YU1AO, YT6T, YT6A, WX0B with a goal of new M/S record.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

4O6A site at 600 m ASL is under construction at Lustica peninsula within Boka Kotorska bay. It should be top-notch EU MM location.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

WRTC has become a very exiting event for me as it probably is for any contester.

I hope Slovenians would be the best organizers so far and I plan full contribution.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Future contest activity has definitely become the race of top technology, carefully selected locations and intensive technical preparedness. It seems to me that the quality of operator has lost the top importance. What is needed for a win? Technology progress enables much quicker log processing. We may see on-line log acquisitions in our lifetime. This would cancel many of today irregularities.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Technical preparation for a contest and continues station improvement makes a fantastic challenge for the next event apart from the immediate competition.



YT6T

Djurica Maletin

Born: 1961

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Montenegro - YU

E-mail: proplus@eunet.yu

WEB: <http://www.ham.sky-sat.com>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My first license was YU1ORS in 1979 followed by YU7ORS, YU7DR and YT6T now.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

YU7PC.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I am a member of 4O6A team in all important contests. I was HU1A SO/21 SSB 99 #1 WW and FM5CD SO 21/CW 98 #1 WW in ARRL DX.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I am currently involved in a serious 4O6A and 5B4AGD stations build-up for the future multiop. contesting.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

I'd prefer to be the competitor but I am honoured by being selected as a judge.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

We need more money!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Everything !

YT3T

Vladan Kecman

Born: 1959

Address: 85347 Igalo, CG, Yugoslavia

E-mail: kk@cg.yu

WEB: <http://www.ham.sky-sat.com>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Entered Radioclub YU1AAO in November 1972, at the age of 13. Caught in teens - caught for lifetime. First licensed in 1978 while studying electronics in Sarajevo - YU4VPA. Back to Serbia licensed YU1PKC, and YU1AO since 1985. Also N2KAB since 1989.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Introduced to a local club by Bole, ex YU1MSB. I am his bestman

now, but he is living in Toronto Canada, so that I can not blame him but on occasions. The elmer was Rod YZ1AA, ex YU1FD. A CW man, ESVHSC, FOC, etc... Later, I was visiting the biggest contest stations in YU - YU1BCD, YU1EXY, YU4EXA, YT3A, and was principal operator in some of them, and guest operator in the others. That was enough influence to remain contest minded.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

Visiting K2TR during CQWW SSB 1995. There I learned why K1EA made so many options in CT. Having more than 600 YCCC stations contributing to local cluster, I had a fun pressing all the required key combinations to get new mpl, run across Band Map, chat with KC1XX in the background... the situations never enjoyed before.

The least favorite was setting up a station for 5B4AGD in October 1999. Hard work for 11 days, with very short breaks. The story is published in NCJ Apr2000, 5B4AGD and me.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Just upgraded to an old Icom IC740 w InRad filters, and MLA2500. C31XR triband yagi is in project, for a classical DX chasing setup at the coast of Montenegro. Searching for Kytoon dealer, so that balloon supported wire can be lifted over salt.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000?

My dreams regularly come true when I almost lose the interest. For some reason, Dear God is presenting the situations which I was longing to enter years ago. So, I was cool about WRTC-2000, and the committee accepted me as a judge. Nice chance to meet all those big guns in person. And being judge sounds better than being a team participant.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

It is undoubtedly heading towards an era where rich guys will set new standards in required equipment and required techniques. The most recent examples are EA8BH operated by N5TJ, and CN8WW, IG9A... For the sake of bigger scores, and new records.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Is there anything to be excited about? A CW contester may say: Look, I am sitting 48 hours with my radio and exchanging some weird tones with my correspondents, in a contest that has no practical, no intellectual, no commercial, no educational, no communicational, no humanitarian values. Am I just wasting my time? A SSBer may reply: Not only that, but you are wasting enormous resources of human energy and funds, to build a large station that will occupy a lot of land, just to make you believe that this time your score will have improved numbers, and that you will finally exchange robotic contents with those weak Japanese. Sounds like a pretty virtual life to me. A mania that requires therapy. But still, these guys are sometimes very nice company!

