

WILD-CARD TEAMS

EUROPE1



LY3BA

Gediminas Lucinskas

Born : 1955 Address: Birzai, Lithuania

E-mail: ly3ba@takas.lt

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Started as a SWL in 1970, First CW QSO 1972.05.27 with UQ2GBW on 7 MHz from youth club station UK2PAV in Alytus. From autumn 1973 until 1982 very active from club station in Kaunas LY2ZO/LY7A (former UK2PAF/UK2PCR). Received my own call sign UP2BCR in 1975. Since 1982 after I've moved to Birzai for the permanent live active as SO in various Contest as LY3BA.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Algis Kregzde, LY2NK

Arvydas Macas, LY200

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

UF6A - CQ WW DX CW 1978 M/M - 4th place World
UP3BA/UF - CQ WW DX CW 1984 SB 40M - 3rd place World
RF3V - CQ WW DX CW 1985 M/M - 1st place World
UP3BA/UF - CQ WW DX CW 1986 SB 40M - 1st place World

RF3V - my favourite one - many HAM's from all over Lithuania took part in this event. We were working extremely well as a TEAM. We won World First Place Trophy and still waiting for it from Contest Committee..... just to make the Photo. Hi.

1986 UP3BA/UF - my least favourite. I was going for the new World record. Everything was going just fine until 20 min before the contest start AC power gone. With the great help of local people We put heavy spare cable some 500m down the hill and got 1 phase some 180 Volts instead of normal 220 Volts 3 phases. I started contest with some delay and very tired..... World record is gone...

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

TRX - designed by RA3AO (2.5 W) + modest home made automatic PA (60W).

ANTENNAS - 1 tower hosting 5 El Yagi mono banders for 20,15,10M; various wire antennas for low bands. My shack is in small garden house slightly away from the town. No QRM but very weak AC Power - often drops down to 160 Volts, because of very remote AC transformer - more than 2 km away. I wish I have

some kind of commercial rig (a la FT1000MP) one day in my shack.....

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I have been persuaded to send Wild card application by one of Lithuanian Team members Sam, LY4AA just few days before the dead line. I did it....

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I don't care about RTTY, SSTV, FSK etc. CW and SSB is quite enough for me.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contesting - that is the real live ! Lots of friends, lot of FUN.



LY2BM

Rimantas Baltusis

Born : 1957 Address: Vilnius, Lithuania

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed in 1977 as UP2BEX

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Elmers: Algis, LY2NK

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

UP2BM/UF - CQ WW DX CW 1984 SB 15M - 5th place World
RF3V - CQ WW DX CW 1985 M/M - 1st place World

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Station is located in a small village 100km from Vilnius. No any antennas at home in Vilnius.

RIG: FT1000MP, TS440SAT + Kenwood TL-922 PA.
PC 486DX 80 MHz + K1EA DVP Card + TR log.
ANTENNAS: KLM KT23XA @ 16m high - 1st tower
6 el. Yagi 10M @25 m , 6 el interlaced 15,20M @ 20m. - 2nd tower.

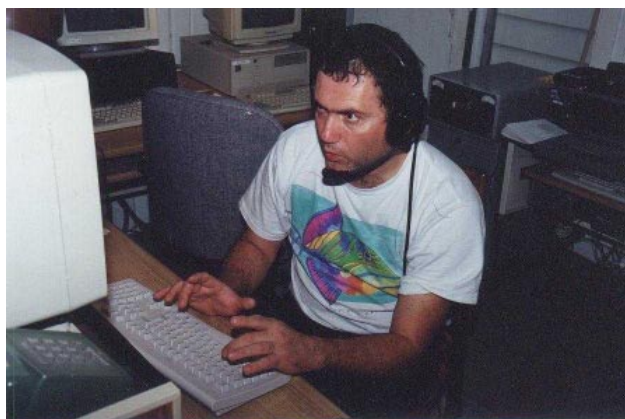
Delta for 40M, Dipole for 80M, Fed tower for 160M.

Plans : 3 towers, phased fixed antennas.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Been chosen as a team-mate by LY3BA.

EUROPE 2



UT4UZ

Yuri "Jerry" Onipko

Born : 1961

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ON, M8V 1A8, Canada

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

1974, got started as op.of UK4LAC club in Ulyanovsk, Russia.
First own call - UA4LAR (1977).

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

The club station was at my school.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

My first (and one of the favourite ones) was RJ6R in 1984, we were very high in the (Pamir) mountains, close to the border with Afghanistan. I also liked to be a part of 1992 4J1FS DXpeditions together with UA1 and OH guys. Least favourite - to Nepal (9N1UZ) in 1993 - lots of difficulties in obtaining licenses, dealing with 9N officials, extremely bad HF bands conditions...

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

No station now (just moved). Plans are to buy a house in Ontario, Canada and build a "serious" station ASAP.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was a part of WRTC-96.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

More and more computerized stuff are being involved. That's good we have now a real LOG checking in such contests like CQ WW, CQ WPX and WAE... Next step (in my opinion) should be to try to develop a tool which would help to decrease power or category cheating.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Sportsmanlike environment and opportunity to make new friends.



RW1AC

Vladimir Aksionov

Born: 1966 Address Saint -\etersburg, Russia

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I started in 1981 as an operator of City Young Technician's Club UK1ADK (UK1AFA) in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg). I got my own call in 1984 (UA1AKC, then RW1AC). Operator of RU1A (RZ1AWT) since 1990, also 4J1FS(92), W6H (96), OT6T(96),R1MVA(99).

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Of course, it's Boris, UA1AAF. He taught HAM Radio a lot of young guys in my native city. Also, it's Alex, RU1AA, chief operator of RU1A who gave me a new look to contesting.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I was a member of Malyj Vysotskyj DX-peditions two times: 4J1FS in 1992 and R1MVA in 1999. I enjoyed both of them. I really like to participate in DX-peditions and if I will have any opportunity I would go there again.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I do not have my own station at home. I devote all of my spare time to upgarding and maintaning our contest club's station - RU1A. Now we have beatiful site in country side so we have a lot of opportunities to experiment with different antennas and station setup over there. I spend most of my weekends there. The main strategy is that we building antennas designed by ourselves. My favourite one was building 3 el. full size rotary Yagi for 80 meters with boom leght of 30 mtrs. This project happened to be the most serious and difficult one to fulfill. Unfortunately this antenna had a short life due to our specific geographical location and weather conditions. Mechanical turned to be not strong enough. We have done 4 el array with 5 el beams an 10 meters on H frame. We have experecence on erecting full size one four L GP on 160 meters. The ground tuned out to be very bad and GP was not effective, as we expected..

This year we are planning to build 3 el full size beam 80 meters again and the stacked yagis for 15 meters in the form of letter "H" (4 by 4). Besides HF antennas we have 12 antennas for VHF that allow us to conduct EME QSOs.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was a part of WRTC-96 in San-Francisco. We represented Russia along with another operator of RU1A - RV1AW. It gave us a

new impulse to improving our contest skills. We were a part of OT6T@ON4UN crew (which included also my WRTC-2000 partner UT4UZ) who won Top EU in M/S category in CQ WW CW 1996.

Due to the invitation of Yuri, UT4UZ (whom I know for more than 10 years) I'll have a great opportunity to be a part of WRTC-2000. At the same time it looks a little bit unusual to me to compete against RV1AW, who is my friend and long time RU1A partner.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

In my opinion the amount of participants will be growing in the Contests where computerized judgement is being applied. Also it is important to improve the speed of contest judging. Imagine if you would be able to have your complete CQ WW CW score by the end of March! At the same time the amount of good Contest websites on Internet is also improving the interest in contesting. The role of small and medium contests is decreasing, partially because of slow judging and patience to cheaters. We have the situation when the number of participants in BIG Contests like WW, WPX or ARRL is growing and quite an opposite - in small contests.

Since the leading testers have almost the same equipment and antennas, the big role will play ability to use completely the advantage of software, DX QTH and operator skills. Also WRTC is a great way to promote contesting worldwide. It pushes serious testers to be active every year in greater number of big contests to be selected for the WRTC.

It wouldn't be a bad idea in my opinion to organize ERTC (in Europe) once in 4 years between the WRTC.

I strongly believe that new technologies won't keel HAM Radio in general and contesting in particular, but will bring more freshness to them.

Other interests - EME and meteor scatters QSOs. I've been hooked up by it due to a great example of Alex, RU1AA who is one of the best in Russia on VHF now.

Also I am a LOG checker for Russian DX Contest, which is becoming more and more popular every year. We are using a software by UA1AAF which allows us not only create UBN files, but also calculate difference in times of QSOs and make some other useful things.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Well, it's difficult to answer this question... Probably there are many components - the spirit of competition, opportunity to show your skills to others, making new friends all over the world, ability to visit different countries and meet people with the same interests.

Unfortunately, my poor English doesn't permit me to communicate fully with all the gangs in HAM contesting, so it will probably push me to learn more to increase the language. :-)

EUROPE 3

9A3A / 5B4ADA

Ivo Pezer

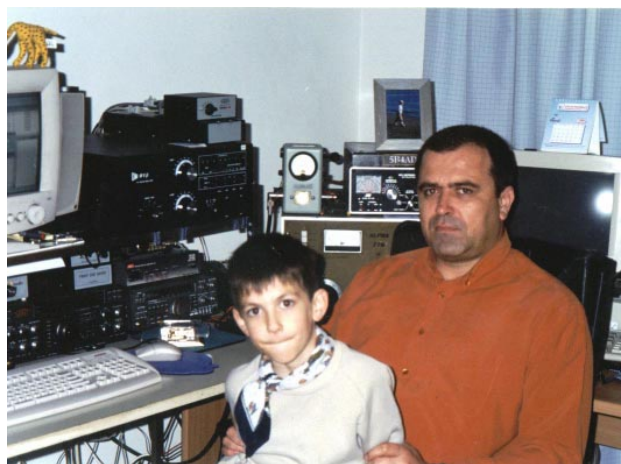
Born: 1960

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

FIRST 1973 - YU4ELS club stn, 1982 YU4VQT, 1986 YU400, 1991 5B4ADA, 1993 T93A, 1996 9A3A



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Listening W3WJD, W3AU, N2AA, W2PV, 9Y4AA etc...

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Job related dx-peditions from Cyprus (C4A) and Haiti (HH2AW/4V2A/HH2PK).

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

FT 990 X2, ALPHA 91, 77, SB220, FORCE 12 DUOBANDERS 240/420 and 415/410, wire antennas 80/160.

I am in the process of upgrading my station to fully automatic SO2R station. Hope to get it ready by the next season..

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

By contesting too much...

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

As long as records are falling, contesting is sound and fun.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Each contest is a the same story...on the first day I swear, but the second day I feel great... Still, each one is so unique.



9A2AJ

Tomislav Polak

Address: Lipik, Croatia

Equipment : TS 830s, FT 101ZD, TL 922, GP 160/80/40m wires

EUROPE 4



OE2VEL

Wolfgang "Wolf" Klier

Born : 1959 Address: Am Auwald 40, 5161

Elixhausen, AUSTRIA

E-mail: oe2vel@aon.at

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Soon I got hooked by DXing and just a few years later by contesting. As I always enjoyed the other end of the pile-up I operated quite a lot of stations and personally held the following call signs: A22EL, A35EL, C56T, CN/OE2VEL, CR9EL (Macao), EA7/OE2VEL, EA8/OE2VEL, F0ENG, LU/OE2VEL, OE2VEL/CT3, OE2VEL/HB0, OE2VEL/I4, OE2VEL/KH6, OE2VEL/KH8, OE2VEL/W6, OE2VEL/ZS3 (Namibia), OE2VEL/ZS6, OE2VEL/3D6, OE2VEL/5B4, OE3VEL, T2VEL, T30BF, ZK2EL, 5W1DD, 7P8VEL.

I am sure there are some more to come in the future. Guest operations or contest participations included: C21NI, CN8WW, CT3M, HS1BG, VS6CT, 4U6ITU, 4U1VIC etc. 1999 was the year, when I completed my "Operated All Continents" with a few hundred QSOs as LU/OE2VEL from the station of Arturo, LU6ETB. In the same year I received the last of the big 5 Band Awards, the 5B-WAS, which is the most difficult one from Europe.

Usually you hear me in any bigger contest as part of our local Multi/Single Crew OE2S, the contest call of the OE2-DX-Group.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Dieter, OE2DYL, introduced me into the world of DX-ing, when I still was a young boy. I got hooked very fast.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

See point 1. I had the luck to enjoy two long trips to the south Pacific back in 1981 (at that time, this was not so easy to travel), when we could give a lot of Europeans a new country. In 1999 I had the chance to participate in a unique event at CN8WW, the biggest and most professional contest DX-pedition I have seen so far.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

FT1000D plus KW-amplifier (including TVI, so only to crack pile-ups), DX70 as second rig, antennas include tribanders for 20-10 and 30-12m, on one tower, 40m Yagi came down last year and is now stored in the garage, wires (loops etc.) for 80m and 160m in a wood neighboring to my home. As I am living in a valley, we also got a higher "contest"-location, (home of OE2S) just 3 km from my home. We are currently rebuilding it and will try to upgrade it to a competitive M/S-site still this year.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was always interested in WRTCs, but could not arrange my travel plans according, so I was really happy to hear that WRTC-2000 will be in Europe, just 300 km from home. So I got "hooked" for this event.- and I put up my station only in 1997, so I could only collect eight scores out of the twenty... So I really appreciated the invitation of Wolf, OE2VEL, to be his team mate in Bled...

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

It is the competitive part of amateur radio and offers a great chance for DX-ing for those people, who do not have the time to sit on the radio several hours per day. Being competitive includes latest technology and know-how from antennas to computers.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

When starting with amateur radio back in 1975, world wide communications were still exceptional. Nowadays I am still fascinated to work TOODX on 80m with 599 both sides, still something exceptional. Personally I focus a lot on antenna work and enjoy also the (time-consuming) station build-up for the contests.



DL6RAI

Bernhard (Ben) Büttner

Born : 1963 Address: Schmidweg 17, D-85609

Dornach, Germany

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

QRV since 1980. Active from railway station radio club DL0BC during 1980-1984. First Contest: WAE DX Contest SSB 1980. First "DXpedition" as GU5EAH in 1981. Started as a DXer and got interested in contesting later. The following years saw many Multi-Multi activities from DF0BV, LX9BV, 4U1ITU, 4U1VIC, HB0/DL8OH, HB0CZS, LX8A, LX7A, DA0BV, DL0CS in the CQWWDX contests. In the 1990s DL5MAE and I used to go on VHF/HF holidays year after year and we visited some islands in the Mediterranean (SV9, IS0, 9H3, SV5, CT3) operating EME, meteor scatter and activating the HF bands. We managed to break the WPX-CW M/S world record as CQ3X in 1995. The late 1990s saw M/M activities from RH2E, RW2F, TK2C, TK1A, TK5NN and CN8WW last year.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I started out very much on my own, not knowing any ham in my area. I even produced my own CW training tapes - not knowing

where commercial ones were available. It took me three tries to finally get CW into my head and break the 6 wpm barrier.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

DF7RX, DL2NBU, DL4RDJ and I maintain a contest location out in the countryside from where we can operate the contests. It's a place which is several kilometers from any civilization and the noise level is extremely low. We can hear very well from this place and there are no restrictions on how high the towers can be. Currently we have three towers with a fourth one ready to go up this summer. We are using a KT34-XA and 402CD on one tower, a 4 el. 20-m-Yagi on the second and a 3 el Telrex beam on the third. The Telrex will be replaced by with a 5 el. 15-m Yagi and tower nr. 4 should then hold a 10 meter antenna. For 80 we are using a 20 m high vertical which can be tuned to 160 remotely. Also, we have experimented with an L antenna between tower 1 and 2 with good results. And yes, we have a lot of space for Beverage antennas and so we have an array of four two-wire Beverage antennas, each of them being 180-250 meters long. A special remote control box designed by DL2NBU allows using a Beverage every 45 degrees. At home I am limited to a low profile operation and I am only QRV on VHF and UHF (and Internet).

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

DK3GI picked me as his partner.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I see declining interest and there are very few youngsters. This is not just contesting, its amateur radio in general. We must go and encourage young hams who show just a little bit of interest in this rather archaic activity of ours. Otherwise amateur radio is going to die sooner or later.

This is the most important thing for us to do and the only way to do this is to share our knowledge, invite them, promote them and do everything to make them full-blood hams, not just a one year show.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Multi-Multi operations, the comradeship and friendship, mastering difficult situations and sticking together in good and bad times.

EUROPE 5

DL6FBL

Bernd Och - "Ben"

Born : 1967 Address: Christian-Wirth-Str. 18,
D-36043 Fulda, Germany

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First license in 1981 (DH2FAW) at the age of 14 (you had to be 14 to get a license in Germany those days). First CW contest two days after I had the license in my hands. Becoming members of HSC (High Speed Club) and VHSC (Very...) within two years. Not active from 1990-1997 for job reasons. Built up a station of my own in the backyard of my company's building in 1997 and had some nice scores from Germany. Started the CN8WW thing in 1998, I was the team leader of the world record setting CN8WW Multi/Multi activities in CQ Worldwide 1999

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I got into amateur radio because of DJ5ET (my father) and DL1ZBN (my mother). At the age of 12, I broke my right arm and had to stay at home for some time, then I found that room with all the



radios etc... Next comes DF9ZP, who let me operate his super station after 1984, and when I was living in Frankfurt as a student. I am still very thankful for his support and friendship.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Of course the CN8WW activities. The local Moroccan radio amateurs are very nice and supported these activities as well as the A.R.R.A.M. (Association Royale des Radio Amateurs du Maroc) and their officials. The Bavarian Contest Club plans to go to Morocco again for the CQ WW 2000 Multi/Multi. Let's see, what we can do with an improved setup.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

All my radios, amplifiers and switch boxes are still in Morocco, so I really don't have a station ready-to-use here in Germany. There are just two towers with two 3-el Quads (10/15/20m), one 2-el Quad for 40m, a vertical for 80m and an inverted vee for 160m. There are some damages on the 40m-Quad, but I hope to have them repaired till summer. As last year, when I was in Morocco, I would someone let guest operate my station. In 1999 CW there was DL2HBX using my club call DA0FF, reaching #1 high-claimed score Single OP/Low Power Europe...

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I had followed the excitement of the 1996 WRTC and had really made plans to come to Slovenia - at least as a visitor. I had first tried to qualify myself through the selection process for the wild card teams, but the results counted from 1995 till 1998 - and I put up my station only in 1997, so I could only collect eight scores out of the twenty... So I really appreciated the invitation of Wolf, OE2VEL, to be his team mate in Bled...

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Being a good contester does not only mean to be a super fast SSB operator or key the code at 60 wpm, but also to be an innovative station designer and good technician. Like in computer business you do a lot of system integrating with existing components nowadays (filters, switch boxes, automatic antenna selectors, now-faces, control units). Especially with changing or semi-permanent locations on contest expeditions you have to select the right components and make them work together - this is even more challenging than sitting in the chair for another 48 hours...

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

It is no longer the possibility of worldwide communications - every kid can use a cellular phone to talk to a friend in Australia. In the era of computer and video games everyone can set high-scores and records. But that's just playing with a machine. Our game is more personal. You still communicate with humans. And besides all the "59 14"s you have the chance to make friends worldwide - and you have the chance to meet these friends personally later on - like here in Bled. And that's exciting.



DL1MFL

Markus Staude

Born : 1972 Address: Bergmannstr. 52, D-80339

Muenchen, Germany

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I got my license in 1989 in the age of 17, calls were DG6MFV, DH1MBG as the license-class improved.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

The first contact with ham radio was in school in the age of abt 14. Our teacher Heijo, DJ1OJ, brought me the "infection" with the ham-radio-virus.

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

Up to now, I could participate in the 1999 activity in Morocco (CN8WW).

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Unfortunately, I don't have a station at home. Mostly, I operate from our clubstation DK0EE or from DF3CB's station.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I followed the last WRTC in California and found it a good idea. As a great honor, DL6FBL selected me as the teammate of his wildcard-team.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

There are at least two ways to see contesting: Some people have fun on the radio, collect countries and contacts, some people have fun on the radio and compete as sportsmen in a "worldleague". There is room for everybody.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Improving the score each year as propagation permits...

USA 1

KQ2M

Robert Shohet

Born : 1961

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USA

E-mail : kq2m@mags.net



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Got Novice license WN2SJG on 8/13/73 Long Island, NY. Upgraded to General (WB2SJG) March 1975, Advanced (1977?) (WB2SJG) and Extra (KQ2M) July 15, 1981.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Elmer with licensing Byron, W2NOL who gave me my Novice test and Al Tamuk who ran the electric shop in Junior high school and John Pomfret (W2AAF) who ran the electric shop in High School (K2TKE).

FAVORITE Dxpeditons:

I have operated as P40V (1988 CQWWCW & 1988 CQWWSSB), HD5X (1987 CQWWCW), VP2V/KQ2M (1986 CQWWSSB), VP2VDX (1985 CQWWSSB), WS4E/C6A (1989 ARRLSSB), V29M (1990 10 Meter test), V26M (1998 10 Meter test), and was the first to put P4 on the air as a new country Jan 5 1986 - Jan 15 1986 as P4/KQ2M.

I enjoyed the P40V 1988 CQWWSSB operation the most but enjoyed the camaraderie of many other operations as well. Although I have been invited to operate at lots of places for contests and dxpeditons, I have no plans to go anywhere since I have a wonderful 10 month old daughter Melissa who I love spending time with.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Current station (VERY different and MUCH IMPROVED from last year which was ALMOST ALL LOW, NO-ROTATABLE WIRES!)

FT1000MP and Titan (two stations)

10 5/5/5 Hygain 105CA's @ 22/45/70/100' Fixed NE (Europe) with top rotatable

15 5/5/5 Hygain 155CA's @ 30/60/90/109' Fixed NE with top rotatable

20 4L 20-4CD @ 40' (Fixed NE) and 130' rotatable

40 2L 40-2CD @ 120' Fixed NE, Wire 4 Square KQ2M Design, 3L Wire Beam @ 50' Fixed NE

80 Inv. L 4 Square KQ2M Design

160 Phased Inv. L's KQ2M Design

3 Beverages 260' each, NE, S and West

Future plans include another 20-4CD at 80', a 40-2CD at 60' and side mounting several of the 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters so that they rotate independently. Replacing the RG213 with hardline and upgrading the station technology from "manual" band switching to electronic switching.

Also, adding hardline coax stubs to reduce intra-station interference, and redoing the beverages. I need to rebuild the shack and recable everything so I have an ENORMOUS amount of work and improvements to make!

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I wanted to go to WRTC-2000 since it was located in S5 (I have never been to S5 or to Europe) to see my friends from all over the world who I have not seen in many years. I applied as a wildcard on the basis of contest scores that I made predominantly from my station with Wire antennas and was pleased to be chosen as the first wildcard!

It was great to be able to choose a great operator and good friend, Dan, W7WA as my teammate who I operated with in Aruba twice (P40V) and came to visit in Gig Harbor, WA for Swweepstakes Phone.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting is just as popular as ever and becoming even more so! A quick look at the skyrocketing qso totals confirms this over the past ten years! More stations are getting on with better antennas and better radios and making more qso's on more bands with more people. This is a wonderful trend!

CW contesting is still very popular although it seems to be more popular with the European, Asian and Brazilian hams. US hams seem to prefer SSB (unfortunately) but CW activity is still ok. Although computers, the internet and other hobbies have caused some "new blood" to not become involved with amateur radio, the fact that thousands of people become new hams each year despite all the other non-amateur modes of communication leads me to believe that our hobby is alive and well and growing and has a great future ahead.

The unpredictability, challenge and "magic" of bouncing signals off the ionosphere to work people all over the world will never be diminished and I am thrilled and amazed by it almost as much as I was 25 years ago!

I hope to be contesting in the year 2040 and believe that there will still be enough interest to do so.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Multi operations are the BEST! as the camaraderie and social aspects of planning, working, building and operating together are unmatched. Nothing can take place of the friendships that I have formed with hams all over the world as I have enjoyed meeting them, operating with them and building stations with them (including mine!) and learning about them, their families and their cultures. This is the most enjoyable part of all and when you add the operating also you have something truly unbeatable!

Someday I hope to introduce my very beautiful and very curious daughter Melissa (10 months old) to amateur radio and to contesting. The thought that I might be able to share with her, a wonderful hobby that has meant so much to my life, is very exciting to me!

W7WA

Dan Handa

Address: near Tacoma, Washington, USA

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SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was licensed in March 1970 as WN7OBL at age 14. In November 1970 I operated my first contest, Sweepstakes CW making about 100 contacts with 90 watts and crystal control. Since 1977 I have held my current callsign.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My father (KE7GL) encouraged me to become a ham and we attended a Novice license class together. During my early contest years I was lucky to be associated with and influenced by many



well known constesters from the Western Washington DX Club including W7RM, K7SS, K7QQ, W7XR, K7RI, and others.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Without question my favorite expedition was the 1988 P40V dxpedition which set a world record in CQ WW SSB. It was organized by AI6V and was first class in all respects! I am currently planning to go to Baja California (XE2) in January 2001 for the CQ160WW. This will be a multi-single operation with N7NC and K7CW.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Primary equipment consists of Kenwood TS850, Alpha 86, C31xr at 35 meters, 2 el 40 yagi at 37 meters, 75 meter 4 square, 160 inverted vee.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I am participating at WRTC due to the kindness of KQ2M. Thanks Bob. I am honored to be a participant with many of the best operators from around the world.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Growing participation in the larger contests especially from Europe is resulting in higher scores. Contest operating skill is increasing and technology is providing better station equipment and antennas. I am pleased to see that CW is as popular as ever in ham radio. These are all positive trends which I hope will continue.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

DX is why I became interested in ham radio. DX is also why I continue to be involved with ham radio. Working DX includes propagation, antennas, radios, CW, SSB, contests, rag chewing, ham friends. In these many ways ham radio continues to fascinate me.

USA 2

K4BAI / 8P9HT

John Laney

Born: 1942

Address: Columbus, Georgia, USA E-mail
k4bai@worldnet.att.net

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed at age 12 as KN4BAI, 1954. Upgraded to K4BAI in 1955 and held same call since that year. Other calls held: TG0AA (Nov. 67), HL9KQ (68-69), K4BAI/PJ2, K4BAI/HH2, J79AA, 8P9HT since 1987. Also used AD4BAI in 1976 and K96BAI in 1996.



HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

W4VX (still living at about 96) and W4WXW (SK). Never knew a contester until I started contesting myself (1955), so it was sort of like on-the-job training for me. I helped a little bit in encouraging contesting by W6OAT (then K4BVD), W4OUN (then K4EJI) and K4QPL.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

I have enjoyed all my contest expeditions to Guatemala, Curacao, Bahamas, Haiti, Barbados and Dominica. I also operated contests from Korea while stationed there in the Army. I loved every trip and every QSO. The most frustrating trip was to J77J for a M/M operation in CQWWCW 1994 when we were without electrical power for 13 1/2 of the 48 hours. While the commercial power was off, we could operate only one rig at 50 watts off a battery.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Current station: FT1000MP, AL811H, TH6DXX and wire antennas. IC736 for six meter with 4 element quad. At 8P9HT/8P9Z: TS850S, AL811H, 5 el 10 M, TH6, TH7, dipole, sloper, inverted vees, R5.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was the SEDXC team captain for the WRTC in San Francisco in 1996 with W4AN as a partner and we were fortunate to come in second. Bill was unable to come to Slovenia this year. I submitted a wildcard application for North America and was selected probably primarily because of my scores from Barbados as 8P9Z in CQWWCW each year.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Contesting is one of the big things that is keeping ham radio and c.w. activity alive. Without it, a lot of hams would lose interest in keeping up their stations. There seems to be a significant decline in on-the-air activity such as ragchewing and DXing outside of contests. People seem to rely on their packet clusters to tell them who is on the air and on what frequency and how to make a QSO. Contesting will always require more than a packet cluster as a shortcut to QSOs. There continue to be very good new young contest operators coming along, but they need our patience to encourage them to keep at the competitive aspect of our hobby when there are so many other things they can be doing inside and outside of ham radio. Excellence at anything, particularly ham radio contesting, should be its own reward. The better log checking for contests has already encouraged us to be more careful in operating and recording our QSOs. The result should be better operators, more accurate contacts and logging, and recognition of excellence where it really exists.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contesting of almost any kind. C.W. DXing and making QSOs under marginal conditions.

Calls used for contests: K4BAI, KN4BAI, AD4BAI, K96BAI, TG0AA, HL9KQ, HL9US, PJ0CW, PJ0FC, PJ9JT, W4GIW/VP7,

PJ9GIW, PJ2CC, P41E, HH2VP, 4V2C, 8P9HT, 8P9Z, J77J, K3KG, N4RJ, W4AN, K4AAA, NQ4I, K4VHC, N4PN, W8JI, W4KXV, W4CVY, K4KS, W4WY, W4UCJ, W4KLN, W4NGS, KN4A. Enthusiastically contesting since January 1955 single op, multi-single, and multi-multi.

QSL Manager for: 8P9HR, 8P9HT, 8P9Z, S92ST, EL2T, 5L2T, SV0BK, SW0BK, and all of my own contest operations. Also a lot of other older or less often used calls.

Member of: FOC (1121), FISTS (2158), HSC (1671), ARRL (CLM), QCWA (LM), OOTC, 10-X (45,891), SMIRK (6081), QRPARCI (1208), Radio Society of Barbados, South East Contest Club, Southeastern DX Club, DXCC-HR (former top—now need P5, BS7H, and 4W), Ga. State Net. One of prime promoters of annual Georgia QSO Party (July 22-23, 2000). Hold CQWW CW North American single-operator record as 8P9Z (1998). Claim CQWW CW Multi-Single North American record with K1TO and N4TO as 8P9Z (1999).

Have wife and two grown children. Father, age 86, is K4VGI. Educated as a lawyer. Worked as a civil trial lawyer for about 20 years. Now work as judge of United States Bankruptcy Court since 1986.

Practicing Christian and deacon and Sunday School teacher in Presbyertian Church.



K6LL

David O. Hachadorian

Born : 1943

Address: 2750 W. 22nd. Street Yuma,
AZ 85364

USA

E-mail : K6LL@juno.com

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

My father was a radio operator in WWII, and taught me the code, using a flashlight, when I was age 6. When I went to high school in 1958, I joined the radio club and got my novice call KN1JYN, located in the state of Rhode Island. I moved to the Los Angeles area in 1973, and got the K6LL callsign there. I moved to Yuma, Arizona with a job transfer in 1977, and retired there in 1993.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

W1GFH (now W1HI), in our high school radio club, was a good cw operator, and motivated me to get my license and upgrade. K1LPL (now W3LPL) was in my radio club at the University of Rhode Island, and was my primary local competitor in those days. We operated a lot together, mobile in the state qso Parties, and in Sweepstakes.

I have tried to get a lot of people interested in contesting, by inviting local hams to multiop, but my only successful convert is W7WW, a local ham who is also on this Slovenia trip.

FAVORITE Dxpeditiions:

My only expeditions have been to Mexico, which is only a few miles from my house. These expeditions were for CQWW CW and ARRL CW, and were very enjoyable multi-single and multi-two operations with some members of the Southern California Contest Club. Licensing in Mexico has become quite difficult, and no future trips are planned.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I am on a small city lot, about 30m x 40m. I have one 16m tower, with a KLM Tribander, a Cushcraft two element 40, and a sloper for 80/160. There is another small 13m tower attached to the house with a small Cushcraft tribander on it. I use two radios, both Kenwood TS-850, with old Heath SB-220 amplifiers. There is an old DOS computer dedicated to the contest station. I have no immediate plans to upgrade.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

My partner (N2IC) and I won the bronze medal in San Francisco in 1996, and I would like to improve that position this time!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

There should be a big upsurge in phone contesting in the USA, with all of the new HF hams. CW is a dying art in this country though. I am sure glad there are a lot of good CW operators in Europe!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Building the station, and keeping it working. My best reward is beating stations that have bigger antennas and amplifiers than mine.

USA 3



K1AR

John H. Dorr

Address: Windham, NH, USA

E-mail : K1AR@aol.com

K1DG

Doug Grant

Born : 1954

Address: Windham, NH, USA

E-mail : k1dg@ix.netcom.com

doug.grant@analog.com



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licensed in 1967 as WN1ICD. Other calls held: WA1JYY, WB1AIL, FG0CJJ, FG0WW, 7J0AAA, W6I (WRTC-96), and numerous reciprocals.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I got started as an SWL when I was 11. Learned CW from the retired Navy radio operator next door. Saw my first contest operation at a local radio club, where K1HHN (now W9HG) was running. I was hooked from that time. I joined the Murphy's Marauders contest club when I was in high school, and met guys like K1RX who taught me a lot.

FAVORITE Dxpeditiions:

Favorite: Probably HI8XWP in 1979, with K1AR. We broke the CQWW SSB M/S world record from a "2-point" country, and had wonderful hospitality from our hosts HI8XDF and HI8XDJ. Close second favorite: all the rest, including PJ4B, VP2E, M8M, FG0MM, KP2A, 6D2X, PJ7A, 4U1ITU.

Least favorite: PJ9W, when the power went off for several hours at the beginning of the contest.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Radios: 2 x IC781; 2 x Alpha 76A.

Antennas:

Tower 1: 33 meters high, with 2 el 40, 4/4 20.

Tower 2: 30 meters high, with 4/4 15, 4/4/4/4 10.

4-sqaure for 80, Inv L for 160.

Need better antennas/QTH for 20M, 80M.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Applied for Wild-card spot; was selected by K1AR as partner when he won a wild-card spot. have operated in both previous WRTCs.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Hardware is getting bigger and better. Scores are getting higher and higher. People are learning that accuracy counts, since log-checking has gotten better.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

I think it's great to be able to turn on a radio and talk to someone on the other side of the world who is doing the same thing. Contesting is a way of showing that you have built a good station, and know how to use it.

ASIA 1



RZ9UA

Mike Klovov

Born : 1955

E-mail : rz9ua@nvkz.kuzbass.ru

Got the first license in 1971 – UA9LAS

Then had UA0JDI, RZ0AA and finally RZ9UA

Was one of the active operators at UK9LAA and UK0AMM club stations

Expeditions for contesting: VP2E, P3A, RU0B

The current station: FT1000MP, PA 200 RUSSIAN WATTS, 6 el monobanders 10/15/20, 3 el monobander for 40, and inv Vees for 80&160

Was one of the competitors at WRTC96 in SF and now WRTC 2000.



UA3DPX

Andy Melanyin

Address: 141400 Khimki-7

ASIA 2

5B4WN

Marios Nicolaou

Born : 1973

Address: Nicosia, Cyprus

E-mail : 5b4wn@qsl.net

WEB : <http://www.qsl.net/5b4wn/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I firstly got licensed (call:5B4WN) in 1988 (aged 14) in Cyprus. Since then I have been active with the following callsigns: P33ES, P35S, C40R, H23W, H27W, C4W, P30WN, 5B5E, 5B30ES, C49C, G0WWW, GU0WWW, GW0WWW, M6A, M7A, GX0WPX.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I was introduced into Ham Radio at my local high school, 5B4ES (The English School Nicosia) which at one time was the most active station in Cyprus. I owe it all to 5B4SE (Marios), who taught me the theory and later to 5B4FN (Loris) who taught me the code. My first contest was the 1988 CQ WPX SSB contest in which I took part as 5B4NC (with 5B4XF and others). I still remember the JA pile-ups on 10m. For SSB contesting, my elmers were 5B4LP (Andreas) (team-mate) and 5B4MF (Spyros) whereas my CW "hero" was Ivo 5B4ADA/9A3A who has always provided me with tips and honest competition.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Being born on a semi-DX place (like 5B4) you do not have to go on expeditions for contesting! You are always on an expedition. However, since 1993, I moved to the UK for university studies and now work there so I guess going back home for CQ WW and occasionally WPX is considered as a Contest expedition. My strangest expedition was the 1999 CQ WPX CW expedition to the isle of Sark (a tiny island off Guernsey with a population of 200 people) hosted by GU2FRO. I was only active on 80m and only made 720 QSOs but it was great experience/fun. There was certainly NO electrical noise on the islands (no cars (=tractors) allowed to run after 20:00)

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

I currently have a very modest station. My main rig is an FT1000MP (just upgraded from a TS830S), an alpha 78, a KT34XA and a 2 element delta loop on 40m (I use wires for 80m). I have several plans for upgrade but I guess the next thing will be the addition of a 40m beam....

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was greatly inspired by Ivo, 5B4ADA, who had attended the WRTC1996 event and keeps telling me about it! I believe this is the greatest festival for contesting. You get to meet the best of the best in contesting (both competitors and judges).

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Although ham radio is losing out to the internet and computers I am under the impression that the current contest activity is still the same (or increasing). Perhaps, the number of people that give you 003 during CQ WW has decreased. I wonder what will happen once this cycle hits low numbers..... Cyprus still keeps producing young contesters!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Nothing gives me a better buzz than a 200+ hour on SSB or CW. The whole strategy game of moving multipliers from band to band and the constant challenge of finding ways of improving your station, aerials etc is most exciting. However, I find it most frustrating and disheartening when you find out that people disobey the rules in an attempt to win. I am still a strong believer of the Olympic idea: "not the winning, but the taking part matters most".



5B4LP

Andreas Mavrides

Born : 1968

Address: 8 Salamis Avenue, Nicosia 1045, Cyprus

E-mail : apmav@rtc.com.cy

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licenced in 1982 at the age of 14, when I received my current call 5B4LP. I have used several special calls during major contests. Some of the calls used include: C44LP, H24LP, P33LP and P3P. The latter is my permanent contest call. From 1989 - 1993 I lived in UK during my studies and I was using my UK call, G0MOE

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I started contesting by accident. I remember it was All Asian SSB in 1983. I remember I had to give 59 15. There were no contesters in Cyprus at the time, so most of the information came from reading CQ and 73 magazines. I will never forget reading an interview with K1OX in 73 magazine and at the time I thought that this would be fun, have to build a contest station like that one day....All of the equipment I had I bought from my pocket money so station was very modest at the time: A SWAN 700CX transceiver and dipoles. I will never forget the day I made my 2 element monobander for 20 and put it on my mast. I even managed to work KH6 with it..

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

1989 CQ WW SSB - GW8GT MS

1990 CQ WW SSB - GU6UW MS - My best experience. Will never forget the rates running stateside on 10

1999 CQ WW SSB - P3A MS

Many other MS contest from 5B4 using different calls. My plan is to build a MM station very soon, I have the land now, so plans are made to start building the station.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

FT-1000MP, FT-847, Dentron MLA-2500B, KT34XA, 40-2CD, HF2V, 80m sloper, 3band vertical.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

Ivo (9A3A/5B4ADA) showed me all the pictures from WRTC96 and thought it would be fun to meet all those contesters that I have met on the air during the past 16 years of my contesting activity.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Seems to me that many superstations are taking part in contests now. A stack was very rare 10 years ago but now you need one in order to be competitive. I guess we have to keep up with it, but of course operator ability is still a major factor for good scores.

NORTH AMERICA

VE3BMV (K3BU)

Yuri Blanarovich

Born : 1942

Address: Box 282, Pine Brook, NJ 07058, USA

E-mail : k3bu@aol.com WEB : <http://members.aol.com/k3bu/>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First operator's certificate obtained in August 1958, operated OK3KGH, OK3KAH, OK3KAG (Master of Sport), in 1965 got my own call OK3BU. Got involved in contesting right from the beginning. The best training was to listen on 3 tube radio with



outboard oscillator as a BFO and no selectivity. During 1968 Dubcek's Spring and after Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia I was fortunate to escape imprisonment and was sent to IBM France for 6 month on IBM 360 Customer Engineering training (FOSY). Then emigrated to Canada in 1969, got VE3BMV call and job with IBM as Test Engineer and later as Robotics Engineer. Organized and operated CJ3DCB (WPX MM) and VE3IBM (FD) as well as second expedition to St. Paul Island XJ3ZZ/1. Most recent expeditions to Nova Scotia as VE3BMV/1, VX3BMV/1, VE1BY, VA1A, VC1A for low band contests from VE1ZZ QTH and 80m operations from Aruba as P40A.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My great and patient teacher was OK3LW and OK3AS who partnered in contesting.

OK3CIR was great contest partner at OK3KAG. F9ZI in Paris helped with visas and accommodation in Paris and avoiding secret service agent who wanted to take me back. VE3EVZ and VE3BLK helped me to get established in Toronto. Last but not least my XYL Sonya, who puts up with all the contest QRM. Contesting and sports have helped me to build desire to win, to succeed in sports and professional life.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

The only expedition for contest was to Aruba, to explore the possibilities and propagation from down south. Traditionally I always operated my own station from home QTH (VE3BMV), but I am considering to operate from some of the geographically advantageous locations in effort to get some world records back. Not sure yet, but might go on few expeditions or concentrate on building new station in US.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

After 10 year absence from ham radio, I am getting back and evaluating "new" technology, radios, computers, gadgets and trying to assemble the competitive setup. Looking for location on the ocean beach, might end up using trailer for portable setup from the super QTH, or find cheap land to install permanent contest station. Equipment I use is modified commercial rigs, home brewed amplifiers and antennas. I enjoy monoband operation in the contests and aiming at having setup with two radios for simultaneous operation on the same band. The highlight of my contesting career was having stacked (VE3BMV) Razor Beams on Big Bertha, outhearing W2PV and beating World Records from Canada.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I wanted to represent Canada, but was ignored by RAC officials. Thanks to my results in the past few years I was happy to be selected for the NA Wild Card team. My first time to participate in WRTC and I am looking forward to competition and meeting many old friends and competitors.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Major problem with most popular contests (WW and WPX) I see

in the archaic scoring system giving huge advantage for stations on other continents. One is forced to go to north of Africa and South America with 30 to 60% point advantage to make it to top scores. With Tesla Cup we are hoping to provide fresh and more just environment for world wide competition without huge biases. We hope that this contest will become popular and become true World Championship.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

The only thing that gets me excited in ham radio now is contesting. Each contest is a new competition, with big variable - propagation. You got to be there just in case it happens and you might break the record. I have lost interest in DXing and other areas of ham radio (been there, done it), but contesting still holds my interest and I look forward to challenges and competition. I love single band contesting, it gives me chance to work the band, time to sleep and there are more records to be beaten. Also with limited resources, one has better chance to succeed into top listings.



VE3KZ

Robert (Bob) Nash

Born : 1937

Address: Milton, Ontario, Canada

E-mail : ve3kz@rac.ca

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I was first licensed in 1953 in North-Western Ontario about 1000 km from my present QTH. My first call was VE3BHS which I held until 1969 when I acquired my present call. Besides the special prefix calls like 3C3BHS, CY3KZ, CG3KZ, etc. I was active as VE3NNN with my son VE3MFT, at the Humber College Club station as VE3HUM, and as VP2KBZ.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

I was an avid SWL and made contact with locals like Bert VE3ANP(SK) and Bill VE3ARN, who is the father of Jim, VE7ZO. They were both DXers and were very helpful but I had to find out about contests pretty much on my own after getting on the air.

FAVORITE Dxpedititions:

I have been at VE3EJ for a couple of operations lately. My operation of 52,000 contacts from VP2KBZ in 1983/84 encompassed a number of contests where I placed in the World top few with 5300 QSO's (after 400 dupes!) in the CQWW Phone and 4300 QSO's in the CQWW CW. I worked with Yuri, VE3BMV in two major events, setting the World Record WPX SSB MM record from my station in 1977 using the call CJ3DCB, and going to St. Paul Island in 1976 to operate XJ3ZZ/1.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

At this time, and for some 25 years, I have used three towers with various antennas on 4 hectares on top of a 280m escarpment facing east across lake Ontario, absolutely incredible into Africa and almost as good into Europe. The old-timer antennas are a 35 year old Telrex 5-el 15m yagi at 22m, and a much reconstructed 30 year old TH-6, now mostly devoid of traps and used on 10 and 20 at 30m high. Recently a 5-el 10 and 4-el 20 have been erected on the third 16m tower. A great deal of my effort lately has been on VHF, gradually building a capability for VHF/UHF contesting, with little antennas nested with the big ones. On 40, 80 and 160 dipoles are used in conjunction with two beverage antennas pointing to Europe and Asia. A 40m vertical is also on line. The equipment consists of a TS-950SDX, an AL-1200 and an IC-706MKIIG. There will be little change in the major equipment blocks now that I am retired but the antenna system will continue to evolve!

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I had a real ball working 245 stations in WRTC1996 and have been following the progress of WRTC2000. I had not been seriously considering becoming a competitor in S5. I had been relatively inactive during the time when the wild-card choices were made, becoming much more active in the last two years. When Yuri, VE3BMV asked about possible choices for a team partner, I threw my name into the hat!

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

I have recently become the Contest editor of "The Canadian Amateur" and am having a lot of fun writing about the trends in contesting, particularly RTTY, VHF/UHF and QRP contest operation. I believe there is a wide scope of opportunities for drawing younger hams into contesting. I have named my column "The Sports Page". That is how I treat radio contesting, a contrast to the common North American view. There is room for both the "Invisible-wire apartment QRPer" and the "OH2BH Formula 1" type of contest activity.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

It's the propagation! I monitor 6m SSB/CW and 10m now and will be down on 80 and 160 when the spots drop. There isn't really any band that is not filled with surprises and contesting "tests" the propagation better than any other activity.

SOUTH AMERICA



PP5JR

Sergio Lima De Almeida

Born: 1963

Address: Av Rubens de Arruda Ramos 1416/501
Florianopolis SC Brazil 88015-700

E-mail : pp5jr@unetsul.com.br



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

I initiated my activities in 1979, with my first license. At the time mine call was PP5WOS. After some years I moved for PP5ABW, and two years later for PP5JR. Always I operated of my city in the island of Santa Catarina, initially with a small station in my beach house, later I was increasing the number of antennas and towers. I started in contests in 1984, by my friend Oms PY5EG. Since 1996 I have a second station, located next my city, in a mountain called Boa Vista. And in 1997, invited by Oms, we started the Santa Catarina section of the Araucaria Dx Group, with other friends, like PP5UA, PP5WG and others.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

My father, PP5ATO, were my great stimulator in the beginning. It mainly helped me to show that the hamradio was a good and pure hobby, and with it, a can make truth friends. Another great stimulator, and today my particular friend, was PY5EG, that showed the beauty of the competitions, as well as he teached me how to operate and how to became a serious conteste!

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

No, never.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

In our days I have 2 stations, one of them in my beach house, and the other one in the mountain.

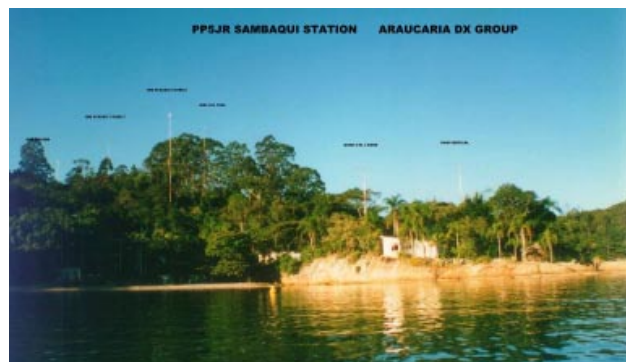
In the beach of Sambaqui in Santa Catarina Is, I have:

160m vertical, 80m rotatable dipole 33 meters high. And inveted V 25 meters high Vertical. 40m 4 element Klm 30 meters high. 10-15-20m 4 ele quad 21 meters high.

In the BOA VISTA Station:

10 meters: 2 systems:

- 1) 7 over 7 yagis—stack high at 16 meter level lower at 8 meter level
- 2) H frame with four 5 element yagis, each one on each corner, rotatable.



15 meters:

6 over 6 yagis — stack high at 28 meter level, lower at 14 meter level

20 meter:

5 over 5 yagis—— stack high at 30 meter level, lower at 15 meter level

40 meter: 2 systems:

- 1) 4 ele KLM Yagi at 31 meter
- 2) 2 wire yagis 9 element each one, with vertical polarization, the top at 45 meter level, one to Europe one to Usa.

80 meters: 2 systems:

- 1) 4 sloopers, phased.
- 2) 2 wire 3 el yagis, at the same catenary of the 40meters, at 48 meters level, one to Europe, one to USA.

160meters:

Double bazzoka at 48 meters level, and for reception 2 phased bavareges to USA, and 2 to Europe.

My future plans is to put a four ele yagi for 80 meters, and probably try I stack system to 40 meters in the one of the 3 48 meters towers that we have in Boa Vista.

We need to improve our multiplier station, using probably stack tri-banders.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

My friend Oms PY5EG, and our coordenator of Araucaria Dx Group, invited me to participated.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

The possibility that every time i can break my personal records, it is, me againts me every time. You can became a world champion from your house. This is wonderful!!!

PY2NY

Vitor Luis Aidar dos Santos

Born : 1966

E-mail py2ny@geocities.com

WEB: <http://www.geocities.com/py2ny>

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

First licenced at 1981, like PY2NYS, with 15. Living in Sorocaba, Sao Paulo State, with my parents. At 1990 pass to PY2NY, still living in Sorocaba. Moved to Campinas, at same State, in 1993, due to my job. Was living in an apartment for 4 years, with antenna restrictions, working contests from parents' Home, between



1991 and 1995. Decreasing activity until 1997, when moved to Jaboticabal, same State. Used some special calls in the past like PW2A, PW2N, ZY2NY. I'm Local League Director, and maintaining local repeater, gateway, and teaching CW in VHF. Also pushing rest of people here into the international contests, and getting help like club with TuPY Dx Group, founded in 1991 with PY2APQ and PT2AW.

HAM AND CONTEST ELMERS :

Special to me:

my uncle PY2SIZ, David Aidar, that gave me part of the money to buy my first radio in 1981. My parents, that gave me all possible support to the hobby. My wife Ana, PU2VYT, for your patience with my contest off-home time. PY2EYE, Nilson, that help me with some steps into Amateur Radio, and people like PP5WG, PP5JR, PY4HH, that show me something about international contests from 1982 until now...

People that I can consider supported from me:

PY2YU, great and young tester. Many novices in HF bands here in Jaboticabal - PY2ELG, PY2ECP, PU2NYV, PY2TVQ, PU2STK, PY2DVD, and others...

And everybody that are still listening our CW transmissions at VHF, and are interested to grow up into Amateur Radio possibilities...

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

No...

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Now: hope to have this set right for July:

Station number one: FT-1000MP - Alpha 91 B (when running High Power Category) - KT-34-XA @22m (10-15-20m 6el yagi) - 40-2CD @25m (40m 2el yagi) - G1000SDX rotator - Top Ten Decoder

Station Number Two - Kenwood TS-850S - R7 all band vertical - Shunt-fed tower 160m - Inverted Vee 80m

All stations in a shack, still studying about band pass filters to avoid interaction between stations...

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I'm sure that I'm not the right person, because my CW isn't good. Anyway, I like contests very much, and maybe because Sergio PP5JR took a look into our operation at ZX5J 1998 Multi-Single WPX CW (we were third in world with practically two operators). Sergio was calling PP5BRV, very nice CW operator, but Rod cant go. This is the cause !!

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

The possibility to spend adrenaline, like in physical competitions !! Pass our limits, and break our personal records, year after year. Ham radio is the best hobby for everyone...

AFRICA



ZS6EZ

Chris R. Burger

Born : 1964

Address: Pretoria, South Africa

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WEB : www.qsl.net/zs6ez

SHORT HAM HISTORY:

Licensed 1980 as ZS6BCR. Changed call in 1992 to ZS6EZ.

FAVORITE Dxpeditions:

Dxpeditions in Eighties and early Nineties to 3DA0/ZS6BCR, 3DA6Z, A25/ZS6BCR, A25/ZS6BCR, V51Z, ZS0Z, ZS3Z, ZS6BCR/A22, ZS9Z, ZS9Z/ZS1. Operator at 4U1ITU, 7P8EN and IH9P and has been active from 9V, BV, G, I, W1, W7. Also licensed as N3EZ.

Favourite contest is CQWW CW, followed by CQWW/DJ RTTY, CQWW Phone and CQ 160 CW. Least favourite is IARU HF Championship; it's at a very bad time of year for us.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Three towers:

160: Sloper, top @ 35 m

80: 2 el @ 36 m

40: 3 el @ 36 m, 2 el @ 22 m

20: 4 el (15 m boom) @ 18 m

15: 4 el (11 m boom) @ 22 m

10: 4 el (8 m boom) @ 26 m

6: 5 el @ 19 m

Other: C3 (10 - 20 & WARC) @ 17 m, vertical for 30

Plans: 3 phased verticals for 160, 20 beam @ 42 m, 2 stack on 15, 3 stack on 10, 2 m EME station

HOW DID YOU BECOME INVOLVED IN WRTC 2000 ?

I was a competitor at WRTC '96, and worked hard to be selected. My new station was started from scratch in 1996, so it needed hard work to produce contest results worthy of selection.

WHERE DO YOU SEE CONTESTING HEADED IN GENERAL?

Along with the rest of amateur radio, contesting suffers from competition by more accessible technology pastimes. The Internet is probably the biggest single threat. However, contesting is benefiting greatly from the availability of open fora to discuss new ideas.

There are now at least two world-class magazines devoted to contesting, plus of course a number of Internet avenues to exchange ideas.

WHAT REALLY GETS YOU EXCITED ABOUT CONTESTING AND HAM RADIO?

Contesting is the competitive endeavour that requires the greatest spectrum of abilities. You need language, technical, computer, diplomatic and strategic skills; physical endurance; the ability to finance a station or world travel. You need to understand propagation and the world population's sleep patterns. I find the broad spectrum challenge to be the greatest attraction of contesting, and I believe that we can market this aspect more actively.



ZS4TX

Bernie van der Walt

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Bernie van der Walt ZS4TX holds an M Tech in electrical engineering and is a Director of an RF Communications company specialising in mobile radio and GSM RF installations.

Bernie prefers CW and can be found mostly on the low bands hunting new countries. He has also been heard handing out the Zone 38 and ZS4 mult in several contests over the last 17 years.

He undertook several DXpeditions to Lesotho as 7P8EN as well as a few with his WRTC2000 team leader ZS6EZ operating from A2, V5 and ZS0Z, Penguin Island.

Bernie has earned 5BDXCC, 5BWAS, 5BWAZ, 160DXCC, 160WAS and is the first African to have completed 160WAZ.

Attending WRTC2000 is an honour and he looks forward in assisting Chris to rub shoulders with the best contesters in the world.

OCEANIA

VK4EMM

John Loftus

Born : 1949

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4502, AUSTRALIA

E-mail : John_Loftus@vettweb.net.au

WEB : <http://www.uq.net.au/radiosport/>



SHORT HAM HISTORY:

John takes an active interest many aspects of Amateur Radio. Current activities include contesting, electronic equipment design, construction, and the promotion of amateur radio in his capacity as Director of the Wireless Institute of Australia. His career spans telecommunications research, business planning, marketing management, university lecturing, and currently the teaching of business management and marketing. Along with these activities, John and his wife Elizabeth have raised six children.

On the 1st of May 1967, at 18 years of age, John was issued with the unrestricted callsign VK3QK. In October 1988, his employment moved from the State of Victoria to Queensland and his callsign changed to VK4EMM.

John views the Radio Team Championship as a unique opportunity to meet and compete with other radio contesters in an environment that encourages the highest standards of operating performance and the ability to exploit the best available technology.

John describes radio contesting as a fascinating sport that blends the elements of operating skills with the incentive for continuous improvement in communication technologies. As with many other sports like motor racing or yacht racing, the highest levels of performance derive from the best technology in the hands of the best crew or team of operators. Personal satisfaction is always generated by improvements in each element of the sport.

CURRENT STATION AND POSSIBLE FUTURE PLANS:

Since 1994, John has developed a modest contest station comprising:

two radio transceivers;

several fixed wire antennas for the low bands;

three rotary beams for the high bands;

an antenna switching matrix providing two radios with access to all antennas – under computer control;

two sets of switched band pass filters - under computer control;

audio and CW keying switching systems for smooth two radio operation – under computer control; and

two networked laptop computers running the CT contest logging software developed by Ken (K1EA).

The fully automated two radio switching control system will not be taken to WRTC2000 because this level of automation falls outside the rules that have been set for the contest in Bled.

Details of the switched filter units were recently published in the National Contest Journal for January-February 2000.

The largest antenna on John's contest sight is a 40m fixed wire six-

element array beaming to North America. This array has a beamwidth of 45 degrees at the 3dB points and excels at pulling QRP signals through the noise and QRM on the 40m band. The array is 18m above ground and 400m above sea level, with good views in all directions.

Also on 40m, both the short and long paths to Europe are served by two sets of three element loops. The high bands are served by three home made rotary beams:

a mono-band 20m 3 element yagi at 15m high;

a dual-band 15m 3 element yagi and 10m 4 element yagi at 10m high; and

a tri-band 20m 3 element yagi, 15m 4 element yagi, and 7 element 10m yagi at 15m high.

AUSTRALIAN CONTESTING OUTLOOK

Whilst the growth and future of contesting is encouraging in Europe, North America, and Asia, the outlook is not so good in Australia.

There are several reasons for this situation. From a total population of 19 million people, the Australian amateur radio population is about 16,000 and falling at about 1.5 percent per year. Approximately 25 percent of this population support the Wireless Institute of Australia. Interest in contesting is limited to about 40 operators throughout the Australian continent. A significant reason for the low levels of participation is the fact that Australia falls outside the main great circle beam paths between Europe, North America, and Japan.

In the major world contests, Australian operators often find themselves looking at the side or back of beams in the major population centres. This problem increases with short band openings and long distances to the major population centres.

The rules of many contests, such as the CQ WPX contest, provide very little incentive for anyone to turn their beam towards Australia.

The growing proliferation of prefixes means that virtually every second QSO in a pile-up will be a new multiplier. The prefix proliferation trend gives rise to an urgent need for contest scoring systems that reward contact with small South Pacific population centres.

In any world-wide contest, operators who do take the trouble to turn their beam towards the South Pacific deserve to be strongly rewarded when they strike the jackpot with a handful of rare Oceania DX stations.

John's two favourite contests are the Commonwealth Contest and the VK / ZL / Oceania DX Contest.

These contests require far more than the ability to run pile-ups. Skills with search and pounce operation, and the ability to move stations from band to band are essential for a good result in both of these contests. The VK / ZL / Oceania DX contest is the only event on the calendar where all beams point to the South Pacific. Worldwide participation in this contest provides Australian contesters with an opportunity to experience the thrill of a good pile-up.



VK4XY

George Down

Born : 1935

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HAM HISTORY

First obtained a limited licence in 1960. This is a "no morse" licence and transmission is limited to 50Mhz and above. Callsign VK4ZGD. Qualified for CW at 14 wpm in 1962 and was issued with an unrestricted licence and callsign VK4XY. The XY was selected because my mentor (VK4VX) said not to have any letters in my call that had a dot at the beginning or the end. Established a home station on the new mode called SSB. Also spent many evenings working to Europe on 15m CW. Participated in field days, club activities, portable and mobile operation on HF and VHF. Was a team member of the DXpedition to Willis Island in July 1971. Was also a member of the first DXpedition to Mellish Reef in July 1972. The pile-up here lasted the full ten days and was an experience never to be forgotten. This led to some contest operation at a rather relaxed pace. Scored first place a few times in some of the local and VK/ZL contests.

Then John VK4EMM came along and introduced me to top level contesting. This resulted in scoring first VK on 10m in the CQ WW SSB 98 contest. Also current 10m record holder for Oceania in the CQ WW CW 98 contest.

CURRENT SITUATION

Retired, after 42 years in the communication Industry, to a hill top location in the rural area north of Brisbane. Antennas are Tri-band yagi, individual dipoles for 160, 80 and 40m, two half wave vertical for 2m and a coaxial colinear for UHF. Station equipment is Yaesu FT 101E, FL2100Z linea, Kenwood TS430S, Icom IC22S, Philips 828 and Ranger U4740 transceivers and a laptop computer. Ancillary equipment and power supplies are home brew. Next step is to install a computer controlled rig.

ASSOCIATIONS

Past councillor of the Wireless Institute of Australia, member of the amateur advisory committee for the Department of Communications Australia, President Brisbane DX Club, Awards Manager for the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society VK/ZL Chapter.

**REGARDS
FROM SLOVENIA**