



Signals From The Point

Official Newsletter of the Caribbean Contesting Consortium
Editor: W0CG

Volume 19, Number 10

October 13, 2019



Attempted Break-in at Signal Point

It ended well, our security system performed perfectly, and they did not get in. At 12:57 PM on a bright sunny afternoon on Friday, September 20, some bad guys tried to break into the east door. They broke off the bottom padlock (Lock "C") and began trying to bend the door bars open from the bottom. At that moment, one of them reached in and slid the glass door partly open. 30 seconds later the extremely loud siren went off, they probably had heart attacks, and they went off in a very big hurry.

A Great Opportunity: WPX SSB March 2020

The QTH is wide open and available to the membership for WPX SSB. For the first time in years there is no large team planned for this contest, so this opens up the opportunity for a CCC member to do a single op or to plan a small (or large) team for a Multi-Single or Multi-2. Per the club convention, if even just one person on a contest team is a CCC member, then he can invite any number of non-members and still get the cheap club reimbursement amount.

Even better, KB7Q and Joyce will be on site to support you for WPX SSB, enabling you to put full focus on the contest operation. Any interest?

Financial Snapshot

As of September 30 the balance is at \$4210.49. Thanks Treasurer W8WTS for all of your work. The large cost of the materials to rebuild our RX system infrastructure are paid, as well as the cost of shipping all of that materiel and 1300 feet of Heliacx to the island. The balance remaining will be used to fund an as yet unscheduled NR0X tower trip to the island and in support of ongoing maintenance of PJ2T.

Our across the street neighbor Inge was home and heard the siren which timed out as programmed four minutes later. She phoned her husband, and he E-mailed me. I got online and checked the security system logs, and everything had worked perfectly. The log showed the alarm at 12:57. One minute later the security company tried unsuccessfully to reach me at both of my Curacao numbers. Two minutes after that they reached Zoom. Zoom made the bad assumption that it was probably the neighbors (who have keys) going into the house and forgetting to disarm the alarm. As a result, the armed guards were not dispatched to the house, but that made no difference because our bad guys would have been long gone and not identifiable anyway. Zoom put a new padlock on the door, reset the alarm, and all is well.



CCC Legacy Photos

Incredibly, at the very moment of our attempted break-in, there was about eight thousand dollars worth of SCUBA gear, laptops, smartphones, and tablet computers outside in plain view on our next door neighbor's porch. They had gone on a quick errand and left the place unlocked and unattended. This is not a good commentary about the IQs of our neighbors or of the thieves.

This incident confirms that we are doing things right. I intentionally have one open hasp and one protected hasp padlock on each door. Two protected hasp locks would be a bad idea because they can't be defeated, and so the crooks would immediately begin destroying our security bars. One unprotected hasp lock is a tempting soft target, and that worked exactly right in this case. We leave the sliders unlocked intentionally, so as to tempt them to open that door prematurely, thus triggering the alarm. That's exactly what happened. The telephone connection to the outside world is hardened so that the crooks can't cut it and disable the alarm notification, and we even have a dummy wire that looks like a phone line to give the thieves false security that they are safe once that has been cut.



Each month the club pays a monitoring fee of \$57 to Curacao Surveillance Services. This incident demonstrated what a good investment that is because their system performed flawlessly. CSS is the premier security company on the island with over 2400 clients, and is owned by our friend PJ2KC. Jean-Claude, PJ2BVU, is CSS's CTO.

The presence of lots of construction people at the hotel project hurts us, and since their arrival we are more vulnerable to break-ins. Previously, very few people on Curacao even knew that our little neighborhood existed.



Above: July 12, 2003, PJ2CFM and K9SG

VERONA member Castro Mercialina, PJ2CFM, being mentored in the IARU Radiosport Contest by our member Dr. Gary Stouder, K9SG, at Station 1. For several years we opened PJ2T up to all members who wanted to take a try at contesting. We put on a big picnic lunch on Saturday, and on some occasions had as many as 20 VERONA hams, wives, and kids on site.



Above: VP5FXB crew, February, 1998.

In 1998 I organized a contest operation to Turks and Caicos to commemorate the famous DXer and contester Al Slater, G3FXB (SK). In the early 1960s Al's was the first ever DX QSL card that I received via direct mail in West Virginia. Years later I was privileged to meet him at Dayton. We obtained call sign VP5FXB for the contest. The photo shows the banner that Cindy's aunt made for the operation. Kneeling: Doug (K4LT) and Geoff (W0CG.) Standing: Keith (WA9S), Dan (K8RF), Steve (N8LGP), Noel (W9EFL, SK), Tom (W8TK), Jeff (KU8E), Goose (W8AV). This was the third CCC contest operation, and by them

we were getting very tired of setting up everything Field Day style and began talking of acquiring a permanent contesting location.

CQWW SSB: Weekend After Next

It's exciting when the bell goes off on CQWW SSB. This is our first chance to show that contest world that we're here again, in a big way, in a high-profile multi-multi operation. Lots and lots of work has gone on for months to get us to this point, but now it's all worth it as we dig into 48 hours of operation in the big one. We'll be introducing four first-time visitors to Signal Point in October, which makes this contest all the more exciting. Looking forward to putting lots of CCC members in the log.



Above: Station 2 will be ready and waiting for the kickoff of the new contest season.

Coral Cliff Neighborhood Security Gate

As I reported in an earlier newsletter The Coral Cliff Title Foundation, our HOA, has been planning for quite some time to install an access gate across the road at the northwest corner of our Signal Point backyard. That gate is now in place, but not quite fully in operation yet. Dirk van Daam, our across-the-street neighbor has done 99% of the work on this, obtaining the gate second hand in Holland, having it refurbished and then shipped to Curacao, and now in place.

Funding for the gate has come from contributions the Dutch Marines made to the neighborhood for their training exercises there, and from newly instituted annual HOA fees of NAfl 600. Amazingly, only a few of the owners in the neighborhood are willing to pay these fees, so we may have some neighborhood money challenges in the future. The gate is powered by AC routed underground and will feature live video surveillance and some kind of secure entry code or transmitter. I'll know more and will get you photos as soon as I get to Curacao in mid-October.

This gate will significantly improve security in our neighborhood.

Additional Donation to Youth DX Adventure

Many thanks to AI, W1FJ, for the surprise of his \$50 unsolicited donation to support the costs of the 2019 YDXA trip to Curacao.

Ocean Shipment Is on the Island

Our 2019 ocean shipment arrived on Curacao Wednesday, September 25. That initiated the inevitable series of E-mails and phone calls with one of the clerical ladies at Caribbean Cargo Services. This is by now a well-known bureaucratic ritual as the Curacao shipping company and government customs agency continue to find new ways to make the easy difficult. Each shipment seems worse. Prior to sending the freight I have to prepare a detailed box by box item list and an accompanying packet of invoices. Every single item in every box must be listed somewhere on an invoice. I hand-held the Curacao cargo lady on the phone yesterday, walked her through complex invoices from Mouser Electronics, and sent her additional documents. To my great surprise she cleared the shipment the following day, I paid the invoice amount of \$1557.91, and it awaits local delivery on October 18 when Uli and I will be there to receive it.

My son drove the shipment to Miami, leaving northeast Ohio on Sunday, September 15 and dropping it off at the freight-forwarder late on the afternoon of the 16th. Amazingly he had his two year old son with him. They both tolerate long distance driving well, and they were back home Wednesday after covering 2300 miles. With pre-approval from CCC's officers, the club covered Adam's driving expenses and also paid him a stipend of \$500. The total cost of doing this was comparable to the cost of LTL freight, and the shipment was very much more secure and more carefully handled.

The following photos are from AMCAR-Lamprecht Freight in Miami. They meticulously log in each item and photograph everything that enters their warehouse. You can see our hard white case that contains the AL-1200 RF deck that I picked up at K2PLF on August 31. Below that is one of CCC's hard Cabbage Cases (thanks W8TK), containing the tube for the amp in an original Eimac factory box and many other items. In total the shipment was 906 pounds and about 2.5 cubic meters of equivalent volume. One of those many boxes

contains the very well-padded power transformer from the AL-1200.



Above: Our Cargo at AMCAR's Loading Dock

The photo below shows the three bundles of tubing, including a Force 12 tribander from AD8CW, an A3WS WARC yagi from VE3CX, and parts for Hy-Gain yagis from WI9WI.



Above: Antenna Parts at AMCAR

The total cost of moving all of this from Ohio to the house on the island was \$2734.91. This is a big number, but it seems minor in comparison to the cost of our huge Europe Tower project last year. The cost of shipping shows more clearly than anything how difficult it is to have and maintain a contest station on the DX side, and how much value is inherent in your CCC membership. Every large item at the station had to be freighted to the island at some time between 2000 and now. I don't anticipate a need to do a big ocean shipment again any time soon.

Youth DX Adventure Returns in 2020

The YDXA group asked if we could support them again because the originally planned Saba host had a serious traffic accident and had to bow out. You saw the flurry of E-mails in late September about that, and the overwhelming sentiment within CCC was that this is a highly worthy program that we should support. In

the course of those E-mails, our member Uli (DL8OBQ) said that he would be happy to go again in 2020 to take care of the youth group.

Jim Storms, AB8YK, one of the co-founders of YDXA, chimed in during these E-mail exchanges that they would be able to assist with the direct expenses of using PJ2T. That help is most welcome, because I do not want to have to go to our membership a second year in a row asking for donations to help cover the costs of the youth trip. It's without doubt a worthy cause, but we simply don't have the money.

Last year K8ND helped the group very significantly by setting up the stations prior to their arrival. DL8OBQ and our former member N4RV provided the on-site hosting, and we hope that Jack will be able to do that again this coming summer. More about the youth trip will follow as the planning develops.

Rental House Payments Are Made

As you know, we have been renting the "Moran Pool House" from Osvaldo Moran several times a year for many years. He tells me that we are his best client not only in frequency of rentals but in the degree of care we show in using his property. This house adds to the pleasure of everyone's trip experience, particularly for the gals.



Securing the house for our contest dates requires long lead times. I reserved the house almost a year in advance for both 2019 CQWW weekends and both 2020 ARRL weekends. Some weeks after making those reservations I sent him the 50% deposits. Yesterday, I made the final payments due for the Worldwide contests this fall and for ARRL CW in February. At any point in time I have about seven grand out to Osvaldo for these contest weekends. We have toyed with collecting pre-deposits from team members, but I've discovered that is more trouble than it is worth because of the extra accounting work and

the complications caused when people cancel their trips or when team members join at the last minute.

Ham Operator Spotted on Beach



Above: A ham from another station, searching for food on Porto Marie Beach, February 11, 2009.

Curacao’s Bureaucratic Mania: Good for a Laugh

Curacao life is never simple. All legal residents of the country are listed on the “Curacao Civil Registry.” Anyone listed there is required to have a valid “sedula” government identification card, and these are renewable every five years. My card expires October 17.



One would think that renewal is a simple matter of going to a government office with the proper papers. But nothing in Curacao is that rational. This will be my third renewal. The first renewal required three trips to the government building in Otrabanda before I found the office open and accepting clients. (They close whenever they feel like it, and closed is closed, you have wasted your trip.) On my third attempt they were open, I was given a line number tag, and sat for over three hours waiting. Luckily I had taken a book.

The second time they had decided to try to control the wait times by giving appointments. To get an appointment you had to send an E-mail, wait weeks for a reply, and they would give you a date to show up to

get a renewal appointment. Yes, you had to make an appointment for the appointment.

This third time, they cut out one step and you’re asked to send them an E-mail to request an appointment. I did that six weeks ago and it was never answered. Finally after several attempts I managed to get them on the phone and was given an appointment for November 4, a surprising short time away. It took almost 15 minutes on the phone for them to verify that I was validly on the civil registry, as if it were the first time they had ever booked a sedula renewal appointment. But to add to the fun, they announced on their web site (in Dutch) that they no longer accept cash (15 guilders) in payment for the card renewal. We are instructed to make an advance electronic payment to the Curacao Civil Registry and then bring that proof of payment to the appointment. I printed that electronic transaction – now it will be interesting to see if this proof is accepted. Nothing will surprise me.

On all my renewals, once I got through the gauntlet and to the service window, the renewal has been quick, logical, and courteously handled. It’s getting to that service window that’s the killer. We’ll see what happens this time.

I love Curacao and it feels more like home than home, but nothing is easy. K8ND is also a legal resident of Curacao, and he has plenty of his own bureaucratic horror stories, particularly about establishing a bank account on the island.

Next adventure: trying to get automatic deduction of utility bills working again. I had that working well for 16 years until the recent system “upgrades.” Now I will have to fight that battle with Aqualectra and UTS (phone and Internet) all over from scratch.

Rental Car Payment Made

On October 3 I made full payment of \$4480.34 to Jan Thiel Car Rental. This will take care of our Kia Soul from mid-October to early April. Each contest team helps support this car as do other visitors, including SM4KYN, so over the next six months I will gradually recover a significant proportion of that car expense. We are getting a very favorable rate for this long term rental, which is even slightly lower than our similar rental last year. As much as I would love to once again lease a pickup truck, the costs are completely unacceptable since Dirk Kik shut down his leasing business three years ago.

PJ2T's QSL Printer at the Spokane Hamfest

This is Fab, VE7FBN, owner of QSL Concept, Vancouver, B.C. He has printed both of our recent PJ2T cards, the normal one and the foldout card for the Half Century commemoration in 2017. I was happily surprised to see him at the Spokane Hamfest on September 28. His work has been superb, and I look forward to working with him in the future. One could not ask for a more professional experience in card layout and printing.



Above: PJ2T QSL printer VE7FCN (Fab) with me at the Spokane Hamfest, September 28.

K8PGJ Serving the Scout Community

Below in italics is material from the event flyer for Pete's service to scouting next weekend. This looks like a super event, and I sure wish I had come across an opportunity like this when I was getting started. The weekend after this event Pete will be pounding out CQWW SSB QSOs from PJ2T.

*Jamboree On The Air
Saturday, October 19, 2019*



When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But did you know that each year more than a million Scouts and Guides from around the world get together over the airwaves via Amateur Radio during Jamboree On The Air?

Jamboree On The Air, or JOTA, is an annual Scouting and Amateur Radio event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and Scout organizations around the world, including the Boy Scouts of America. Thousands of amateur radio stations around the world participate. If the conditions are right, it is common for over a hundred Scouting countries to talk to each other during the weekend!

Fifty years ago, Scouts gathered around tube operated radios and many used Morse Code to talk to their friends. Today, Morse Code is still in use but voice and digital (computer to computer by radio) modes are common as well. Hams even have their own satellites and bounce signals off the moon!



Learn how amateur radio is critical to our homeland security efforts and experience the thrill of long distance radio communication without wires! Talk with other Scouts over Amateur Radio Station K8S. Earn partial credit towards the Radio merit badge and see how easy it is to get your FCC Amateur Radio license!

*WHEN: Friday, October 18
3:00pm to 6:30pm
Saturday, October 19
9:00am to 4:00pm*

*WHERE: Troy Fire #2 (5600
Livernois Rd, Troy, MI 48098)*

*WHO: Any ScoutsBSA, Cub Scout or Girl Scout,
former Scouts, Scouters, and the General Public*

WHAT: Learn about the fascinating hobby of amateur radio. Talk to other Scouts around the nation. Stay as long as you like. Get a small certificate for participating. No charge to attend! (Patches can be purchased through the Scout Shop.)

For more information, contact:
Pete Gladysz - K8PGJ 248-941-8553
pgladysz@aol.com
Visit <http://scouting.org/jota>

Member Spotlight

There's no member spotlight this month because three shy CCCers turned me down. Who will volunteer for the November newsletter?

Remote PJ2T Operation Will Resume Soon

As soon as CQWW is over and the team has departed I will do all possible to make the remote station available on or about October 24. From that point it will be continuously on the air until CQWW CW in late November, then again for much of the time between late November and early April except for contest weeks now and then. As you know, KB7Q and K8ND have won several contests operating PJ2T from the States. This is a fabulous capability, and it's a big benefit of CCC membership.

There are many ways to implement remote operation on your end, but the most straightforward is to use a K3 or K3/0 and an interface box from www.remoterig.com. My approach from Idaho, which is even simpler, is to use a software rendering of a radio (TRX-Manager) with the remote rig interface box. Our member KB7Q got us all started on remoting, and he has written a superb startup guide (link below) to get you going. I followed his excellent instructions and was able to start remoting easily.

http://www.pj2t.org/ccc/RemoteOperation/PJ2T_Remote_Operation_180704a.pdf

On the Curacao end, Station 4 is dedicated to remote operation in non-contest times, and K8ND's on-loan KPA500 amplifier is easy to control from the States and gives your remote operation real punch. Give it a try!

PJ2T Antenna Stories: 10 Meters US/JA

If you select "10 Meter System" at your station you then have the choice of five antennas for 10. If, as in

the photo below, you push the "US/JA" button, you are now using a 5 over 5 stacked array pointed at the States and, by default, at Japan.



This array consists of two Cush-Craft stock five element yagis, the XM-10G. I donated the first of these for our PJ2C WW SSB operation in 1999, and after that contest we left it in commercial storage on the island. KU8E helped us find a source for a second new one in 2000, and I shipped it to the island in an unopened factory box, trusting to luck. Our luck held, and it assembled easily, with zero missing parts.

The XM-10G is a short boom antenna with dual driven elements for wider bandwidth. Knowing the propagation conditions from Curacao we saw no need for a long boom antenna with super high forward gain, and in fact preferred the smaller yagi because of its wider horizontal aperture. Also, it is small enough that one person working alone can comfortably get it up and down.

Now to create a stack. The modeling suggested heights of about 65 and 30 feet as optimum. But because of the strange geometry of the terrain in the foreground of this stack, with the 36 foot cliff and ocean water below, we chose a more practical design approach. One sunny day years ago WB9Z and I set up the HTs for easy communication, and I went up the tower with a rope. For hours I moved both antennas to a variety of different heights, progressively converging on a solution in the fashion of adjusting "Tune" and "Load" on an amplifier. Jerry monitored multiple 10 meter beacons from the US as well as casual stations, and it was clear that the heights of these two beams were critical. We finally settled on heights of 55 ft and 32 ft, and the performance has been excellent since. The beams are fed with a carefully cut length of RG-11 as a transformer. Performance of this stack is superb when arrival angles are above about 20 degrees. Have fun!

Improvements to PJ2T Low Band Reception in 2019

Gary Hembree, N7IR, Station Equipment Lead

In this year of few sun spots and low solar flux our contesting efforts will necessarily emphasize the low bands: 160, 80 and 40 meters. To help accomplish this goal a number of improvements to the station layout and configuration have been planned and are being implemented. We have also been presented with a new challenge to the location of our low band receiving antennas with demolition on adjacent land owned by the new owners of Sunset Waters Resort, where our NA/JA beverage and DXE receive 4-square were located previously. All of the infrastructure for those antennas has been destroyed.

Fortunately none of our low band transmitting antennas have been affected by the construction project and all of them may be used for receiving if necessary. The NA/JA 80 meter wire beam can be used very effectively if interference from the 160 transmitting antenna can be eliminated. In fact, interference from adjacent band energy is the limiting factor in most of our receive antenna utilization on the low bands. In the past we have used the spare W3NQN transmitting band pass filters on 80 and 40 meters to accomplish this goal on those bands. However, a better RX filter was designed by W3NQN, which maximized attenuation of adjacent band energy https://kitsandparts.com/W3NQN_July_Aug_1999_Q_EX.pdf. I have designed a PC board to build a W3NQN receiving band pass filter for each band into a small utility box that will be attached to the receiving antenna inputs of our low band K3 transceivers. This will entail building two sets of filters for 160, 80 and 40 meters. Each low band radio has a RX ANT input to the main receiver and an AUX RF input to the second receiver. Both receivers can then be used in diversity mode to either split reception direction, polarization or pattern. This mode of operation is especially effective when “letter mining” through fading or atmospheric noise.

Figures 1 and 2 show the bottom and top of the W3NQN RX BPF circuit board. Incredibly, these boards cost about \$1.50 each in quantity 10, including shipping, when ordered from Shenzhen, China. By using 1% tolerance SMD NPO capacitors little tuning will be required to achieve the designed frequency response of the four resonator network. One board was designed to be used for all bands by laying out pad locations that would accommodate all variations in capacitor size and inductor lead placement. The circuit

board with the 160 meter toroidal inductors mounted on it in its utility box is shown in Figure 3.

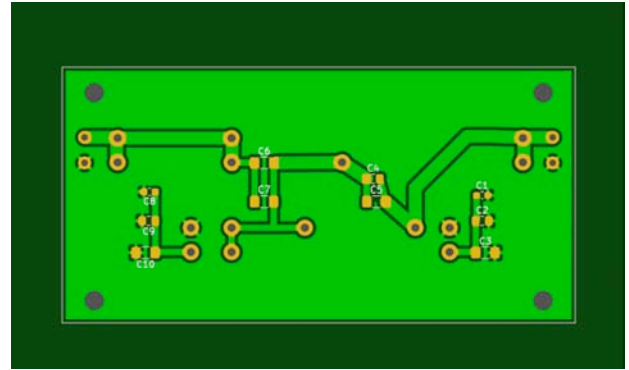


Figure 1: Bottom view W3NQN RX BPF board.

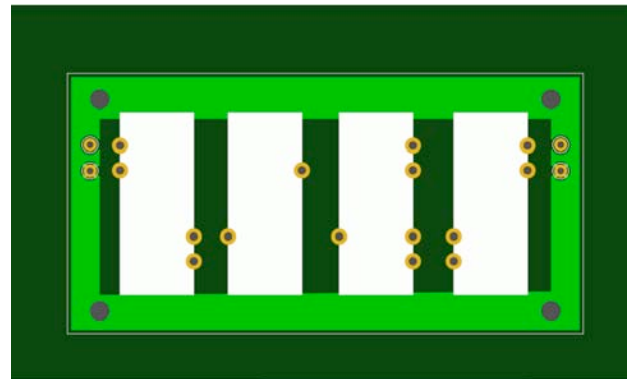


Figure 2: Top view W3NQN RX BPF board



Figure 3: 160 meter W3NQN receive band pass filter board in its utility box.

Direct pickup of strong out of band signals is caused by the European beverage crossing under the 80 meter ridge dipole and the 40 meter beam being in the near field of all of the yard 160 and 80 meter transmit antennas and vice versa. This interference will be effectively filtered out by our new receive band-pass filters. A second, less obvious, source of interstation interference is transmit signal ingress into the receive antenna system through the receive antenna feed lines. The shield on these feed lines acts a beverage on the ground and picks up the transmitted signals from all of the adjacent antennas. The induced currents then

produce a voltage at each end of the feed line, which is fed back into the RX antenna feed point and the station ground system respectively. Fortunately K9YC has just published an article in the March/April 2019 National Contest Journal on the design of effective receive antenna feed line chokes for the low bands. These chokes are constructed from 100 Ohm parallel transmission line stripped from CAT6 cable wound onto 75 and 43 mix ferrite toroidal cores. I have built two types of these choke assemblies in outdoor duplex utility boxes with water-tight cable reliefs. The 50 Ohm assembly includes 2:1 transformers to improve the match and lower loss across the choke. The 75 Ohm assemblies attach directly to the RG-6 feed line so that DC voltages can be passed for antennas such as the DXE RX 4-square. Each type is shown in the following Figures 4 and 5. The 50 Ohm assemblies will be used on the European beverage: one at the feed point and the other outside the station antenna bulk head. The 75 Ohm chokes will be used at each end of the feed lines to the new NA/JA beverage and the DXE RX 4-square.

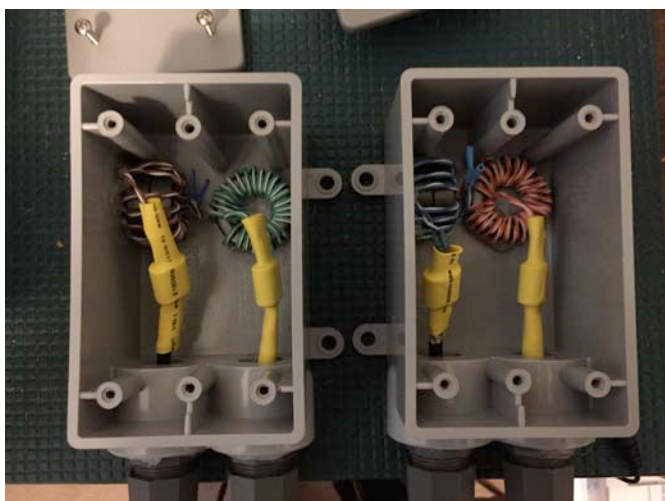


Figure 4: 50 ohm feed line chokes



Figure 5: 75 ohm feed line chokes

Each of these chokes uses two toroidal assemblies to cover 160 through 40 meters. The choke wound on two 75A-type cores uses 19 turns while the choke wound on the single 43-mix core uses 27 turns. The total measured common-mode choking impedances are 14.7 kOhms at 160 meters, 14.9 kOhms at 80 meters and 21.1 kOhms at 40 meters. Figure 6 shows the loss of the 50 Ohm choke is less than a dB from 1.5 to 3.5 MHz (vertical scale is 0.25 dB/division with 0 dB at center and horizontal scale is 200 kHz/division). Figure 7 compares the SWR curves for the two types of chokes from below 160 meters to above 30 meters. The additional miss-match loss imposed by the 75 Ohm choke will be completely insignificant compared to the improvement in signal to noise ratio that the elimination of out of band signals from the feed line will produce. All of these chokes will be available at the station for deployment before the CQ WW Phone contest.



Figure 6: Transmission loss of 50 ohm fed line choke

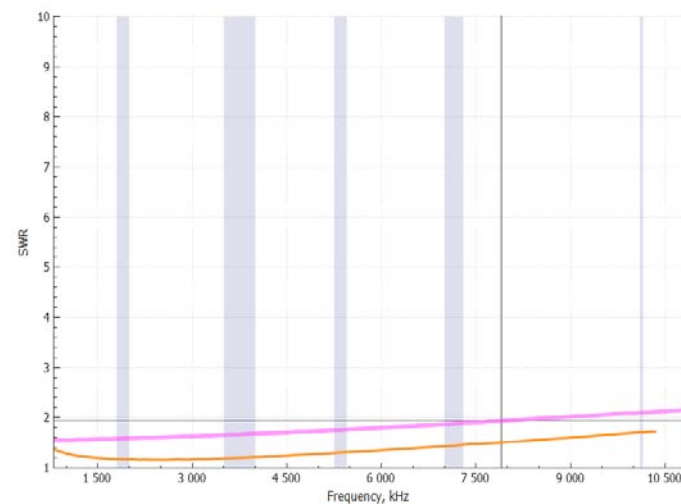


Figure 7: SWR of 50 ohm (orange) and 75 ohm (violet) RX feed line chokes

The final piece of the receive antenna improvement project is rebuilding of its switching system. The

coaxial cables that connect the two K9AY RAS-8x2 switches and the receivers and antennas are of poor quality with substandard connectors. These have caused intermittent connections during contests and must all be replaced.

Figure 8 illustrates the new switching scheme, which will allow diversity receive capability for stations 1 and 2 with a choice of second receiver antennas. Figure 9 shows the cables that were built to accomplish this rewiring. New 20 dB attenuators with BNC connectors in die-cast aluminum cases and some “Magic T” signal splitters are also being built to replace old components or add new capabilities.

Additional receive antenna combinations are also possible. For example, the two unused Flag antenna inputs shown in Figure 8 could be used with double-half delta loop (DHDL) antennas to cover Oceania and Africa-South American on a temporary basis. This will depend on an evaluation of the ECP-1 boxes for interference potential and availability of real estate for antenna deployment. DHDLs offer better directivity than other ground independent antennas, flags or pennants, and are smaller than beverages on the ground (BOG). Additional splitters and Daiwa switches could be inserted into the outputs of the DHDL antennas that would allow them to be used for diversity reception with the beverage antennas. Feed point transformers and termination resistors will be built into weather-proof enclosures to allow construction of these antennas from material on hand at the station.

My plan is to rebuild the wiring of the receive antenna switching system before the CQ WW CQ contest this year and install all of the components for diversity reception. The contest will provide a trial by fire for the new system. Since I will be the 160 meter team captain and main operator I will be the fireman. Hopefully the 80 meter team will also benefit from the diversity receive capabilities.

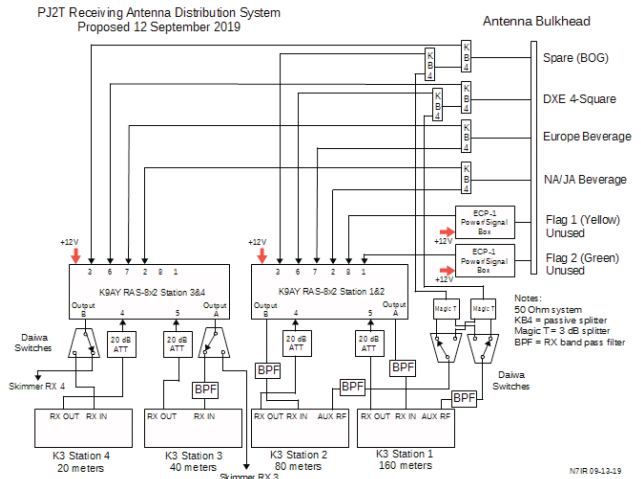


Figure 8: Schematic of proposed receiving antenna distribution system



Figure 9: Cables to rewire receive antenna switching system.

President’s Message, from N5OT

As I slide into autumn here in Oklahoma, the leaves, and the temperature, are falling. It won't be long before I have to get bundled up to go outdoors. And with that, of course, comes dreams of wearing shorts in a tropical place.

It's habit forming, this radio DXpedition stuff. I say,

“Bring it on!” and I'm looking forward to my trip to Signal Point in November. It will be just about time for a break from the Arctic Blast.

This year will be the 20th year for our station. How appropriate that we're coming into 2020! The contest calendar is loaded with more focused large group operations in the major contests than ever, and we're looking forward to a record season, even under current solar conditions, such as they are.

There are a few places left – empty chairs that need you in them! So if you haven't made your plans yet for the coming contest season, check in with our web site and see if you can't find one that looks like a perfect fit!

Looking forward to seeing you there,

73 – Mark N5OT
President Caribbean Contesting Consortium
