



Signals From The Point

Official Newsletter of the Caribbean Contesting Consortium
Editor: W0CG

Volume 22, Number 2

February 15, 2022

Flash: PJ2T Apparently Wins CQ 160 CW Multi-Op High Power, by Jeff Maass K8ND



The annual CQWW 160-Meter CW Contest at the end of January has been a tradition at the PJ2T station since 2005, and the 2022 version was the 15th operation with that callsign. Thirteen of those operations were multi-operator entries with Jim W8WTS and Jeff K8ND operating.

#1 World Multi-Op (W8WTS, K8ND): 2014, 2015, 2016 (New South America records: 2009, 2020)

#1 World Single Op Assisted (K8ND): 2012 (New South America record 2012)

#1 World Single Op (K8ND): 2013 (New South America record: 2013)

In addition, there have been three #2 World and four #3 World finishes in the Multi-Op category.

After missing the 2021 contest due to COVID concerns, we were ready to return to Curacao to compete in the 2022 contest. Jeff had been at the station since before Christmas. It was not certain that Jim would be able to travel, as his COVID test was delayed, and his required negative result did not arrive until minutes before he needed to depart his home for the airport in Cleveland! But he made it, and W8WTS, W0CG and Dorothy arrived at the station on schedule the Tuesday before the contest.



The Fred Cady Memorial K3 that probably won the world in Multi-Op

The usual pre-contest preparation includes setting up the DX Engineering 4-square receiving antenna in the 'flats' between Signal Point and the former hotel. Geoff and Jim laid out the four whip locations and center feedpoint with a tape measure and hand transit in the wabi, spread radial wires under each element, and installed the 1000 foot RG-6 feedline and power wire were run from the station to the 4-square.

We had noted that the 880-foot USA/JA Beverage installed on the 220-foot cliff behind the station was not working properly. Geoff mounted an expedition and climbed up the cliff to check it out. What he found was a surprise: the lightning strike that had been previously noted had VAPORIZED much of the copper wire of that Beverage, leaving a faint trail of powdered insulation along the path of the antenna! All that was left attached to the feedline was ~70 feet for wire! Geoff located replacement wire and restored the antenna.

You will recall that the new owners of the former Sunset Waters Beach Resort site, and so the new owners of the 'flats' bulldozed all the vegetation from the land in the time just pre-COVID. In doing that, they destroyed the old 880-foot US/JA Beverage receiving antenna that ran along the top of the cliff

above the water, which always worked very well. Two years ago Geoff and DL8OBQ dug out the broken end of that feedline, put on a new connector, and reburied the run. Connecting to that coax line, Jim and Geoff temporarily re-strung that Beverage for use during the contest, and connected it to the remaining feedline to the shack.

Inside the station, the traditional CW Skimmer system was installed, with three SDR-IQ receivers. Each of these was connected to a different receiving antenna and the CW Skimmer software to decode callsigns on the 160-meter band. These spots, along with spots from the PJ2A Skimmer Server and the PacketCLuster backbone, were processed through CC Cluster software to consolidate and send to the N1MM+ bandmap.



W8WTS' Dagwood burger to power him through the shifts the first night.

During the dark hours of the contest, we operated in 3-hour shifts. Conditions seemed reasonably good, and the receive antennas and K3 radio worked well. The report on 3830 gives some more detail of the contest period operation. You can read it here:

<https://www.3830scores.com/showrumor.php?arg=9daуз0sqyqgb>

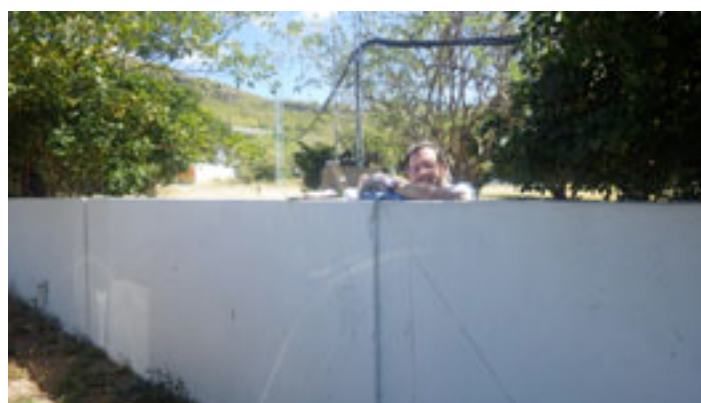
Based on the scores reported on the 3830 site, it appears that PJ2T has once again finished #1 World in the Multi-Op category, with a claimed score of 1,482,979 points from 1178 QSOs, 57 states/provinces, and 70 countries!



W8WTS' lunch Tuesday after the contest

A photo album from the 160 contest follows. –Ed.

President's Message, Jeff Maass, K8ND / PJ2ND



K8ND, contemplating 160 QRN

Now that we are in the middle of the contest season, things are starting to feel “normal” again. While COVID is not gone, the testing other travel restrictions are well understood and easily navigated, and so teams are appearing at Signal Point PJ2T again!

With PJ2T M/M teams scoring a #1 World finish in the CQWW SSB Contest in October, and an apparent #2 World finish in the CQWW CW Contest in November, we followed-up with an apparent #1 World finish in the CQWW 160 Meter CW Contest in January! As this is written, the PJ2T team for the ARRL CW Contest is preparing to travel to the island for that contest.

Good luck to all upcoming contest teams!

The annual meeting of the Caribbean Contesting Consortium has been held each year at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in association with the Dayton Hamvention. This year, Hamvention events will instead be held at the Hope Hotel adjacent to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and we expect to hold our annual meeting at that venue.

Now is a good time to suggest any topics that you would like to discuss at the annual meeting so that they can be included in the agenda. Please send these to me!

K8ND Travel Mis-Adventure, by K8ND

I started writing a detailed description of my difficulties in returning to Ohio following my 7 week stay (December 17 – February 2) at the Signal Point PJ2T station. I realized that my recital was excessive. So, here is a summary instead.

- American Airlines canceled original flight MIA to CMH as huge snowstorm moved across country.
- Two pre-departure COVID tests (one PCR, one antigen).
- Departed Curacao one day later than planned.
- Six cancelled flight reservations to Columbus Ohio.
- Stuck in Miami airport hotel for two nights (\$596).
- Five (5) solid hours on telephone hold with American Airlines to book a flight to Columbus.
- Laptop power supply and phone charger in checked luggage: bought replacements at airport (\$150).
- Luggage made it to Columbus a day before I did.
- Arrived in Columbus three days later than planned.
- Lyft driver put his car into the ditch next to my un-shoveled driveway. Tow truck: \$215.
- Found inside of house at ~38 deg F, as furnace had failed. (\$1360, so far).



☒

I should have stayed on Curacao!

Photos: CG, WTS, and DD Travel to Curacao: January 24/25

The travel bookings I set up in July, 2021 all worked. My daughter took me to the Cleveland airport at 3:45 AM, and I met W8WTS at the gate for our flight to Miami. We rendezvoused at Gate D9 in Miami with Dorothy who had flown in overnight from Spokane and Phoenix on a redeye, and arrived on Curacao early, January 25th.



Dorothy and W8WTS showing off their Curacao boarding passes, Gate D9, MIA, January 25, 2022.

Acclimatization: Minutes after landing in Curacao and being met by K8ND Dorothy had switched to island attire before even leaving the arrivals hall.



Dorothy had converted to island attire in baggage claim!



Soon after landing Geoff and W8WTS were checking out at Centrum Supermarket.

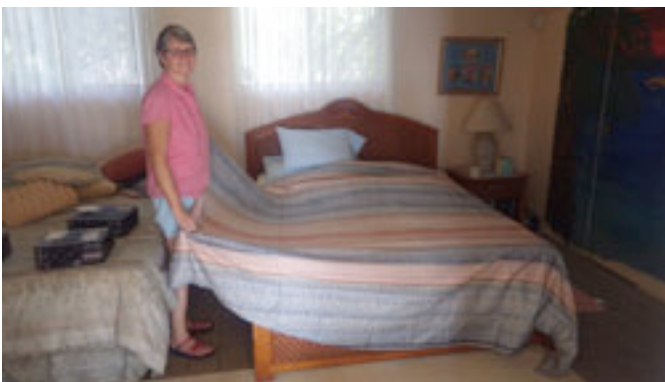
Just about 90 minutes later we were kicking back for snacks on the back patio.



K8ND, Dorothy, W8WTS

New Bedspreads

The bedspreads in the Signal Point East Bedroom were very attractive, but much too heavy and much too worn out. Dorothy spotted new ones online at Macy's and wasted no time installing them an hour after we arrived. These look good and are much lighter weight.



New bedspreads in the East Bedroom

RX Antennas for the 160 Meter Contest

For a couple of years I was afraid that we might never do this again. COVID, hotel construction, and busy

schedules had conspired against us, but this year Jim and Jeff and I got to once again enjoy the long-standing ritual of installing a 4 square receiving system in the flats for the weekend CQ 160 CW contest. Here's Jim setting up the center control box of that array.



W8WTS at the center of the DXE 4-square RX array, January 26, 2022.

This was much more complex this year because the bulldozers had scraped away our mounting posts and radial systems. Everything had to be done from scratch with the aid of a long measuring tape and Jim's handheld transit. We got it done, but Jim and I were pretty ragged after a long session in the heat.

Here (below) is one of the four whips installed on one of the five portable concrete bucket bases fabricated by W8WTS and K8ND in 2019.



One of four DXE RX antenna whips

This array requires installation of two 1000 foot runs to the field: one for DC power and RG-6 for the RF. Here's the jig in the yard (next page) at the WARC tower with the reel of DC wire fully deployed.



Spooling out 1000 feet of cable to the 4 square

Once you put the cable out on Wednesday, it has to come back in on Monday. Years ago W8WTS devised an ingenious system to use a drill motor and custom-machined reel brackets he manufactured to make this easy. The photo shows us rapidly bring 1000 feet of RG-6 out of the field and directly back onto the reel for storage.



W8WTS winding, W0CG serving as a shaft collar, and K8ND as traveling capstan as the cable winds in rapidly.

Below, cooking up our reward after a long hot day putting in the 4-square.



Chefs Dorothy and Jim

Front Gate Renovations

The front gate suffered a trauma in December when it came out of the overhead guide and fell on its face in the concrete and gravel. This thing weighs hundreds of pounds and came down with a huge crash. Our across the street neighbor Dirk was kind enough to lend his massive body strength to the task and stand this extremely heavy thing back up and onto the track. It's scratched up and some trim broke off. We've already repainted the entirety of the steel frame with epoxy, and will replace the trim as time permits. The old weather protection box also got smashed up a bit, and was already in poor condition, so it was time for a replacement.

I had the dimensions for the weather protection box available on the PJ2T web site, went to a Home Depot in Idaho, bought a piece of 2 x 4 treated $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood, cut it to size on the table saw in our condo garage, and stuck the pieces in my suitcase. We put it together with some stainless screws brought in from Idaho, and here's Dorothy putting on the finishing touches. After two coats of epoxy paint we put this in service, and it will protect the expensive gate motor and controller from the rain and intense sunlight for years to come.



The new gate motor protection box, home-made.



New box in place, sporting two coats of epoxy paint, with the retired rotted box at the right.

The stop bracket for the gate had fallen out of the concrete pillar in 2020. Although not critical to the operation of the gate, it was preferable to reinstall it. The gate got slightly warped in the crash, and thus the west end of the gate would not mate to the stop bracket down low, but at the top of the column it was a good match, thanks to a favorable warp, and I reinstalled that bracket using 5 inch concrete anchors I packed in from Idaho.



Front gate stop bracket, reinstalled on February 10 for hopefully many years of service.

I also installed an on/off switch for the gate on its concrete pedestal. This will enable us to power down the front gate when nobody is at the station, yet leave the 220 volt drop to the new neighborhood gate energized at all times. Signal Point will be reimbursed by the HOA for supplying power to the big neighborhood gate.

Finally, on good advice from W8WTS, I lubricated the toothed rail and drive gear with lithium grease, and the front gate is now running quietly and smoothly. Also, we discovered that one of the opener controls that had been destined for the trash actually worked perfectly, so the front gate system is in good shape after all this careful maintenance.

More Repairs to Ridge US/JA Beverage

You'll remember that a lightning event in September literally exploded the feedpoint box and common mode choke on the Ridge US/JA Beverage. I had enough parts on hand to replace all of this, happily getting that antenna back in service prior to CQWW SSB, and we won that contest in the M/M category.

Last week, W8WTS commented how unfavorably that antenna sounded compared to the weekend ocean Beverage that we had temporarily deployed for the CQ 160 CW contest. He said that loud signals on the lower antenna were only about S3 on the Ridge. That immediately said "broken wire" to me, so the next day I loaded up the kit and went climbing.



Geoff, ready to climb the Ridge with a backpack of tools, 600 feet of wire around the neck, and brush choppers.

Sure enough, the Beverage wire had been broken by a fallen tree only 70 feet from the start. I put in a patch (below) and continued.



The first of many splices (blue splice in green antenna) in the US/JA Ridge Beverage, January, 2022.

To my surprise, I found three more breaks in the wire as I worked through the thick brush toward the termination, patiently soldering in patches. At about the 400 foot point I noted that the first layer of clear insulation on the wire was falling off, and it got worse as I progressed. Going further, the wire began to look black with lots of breaks in the insulation, and finally reached a point where the insulation had clearly boiled with the heat of a lightning strike.

CQ 160 CW Contest Photo Album



Fried #14 solid from the Beverage from near the point of the lightning strike

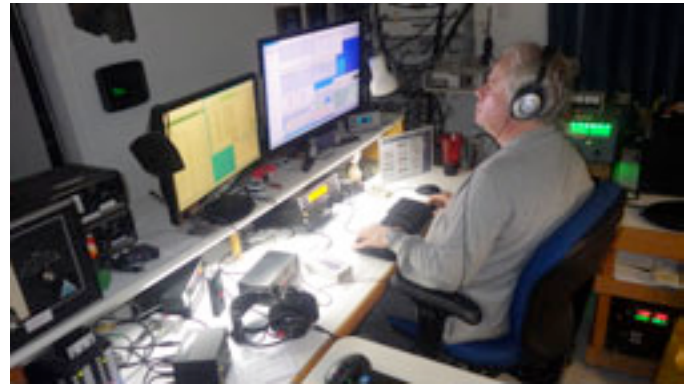
At about the 600 foot point in this 880 foot long antenna the wire stopped and simply disappeared. From there on I could see occasional flakes of green insulation on the ground, dropped in a straight line from the antenna like snowflakes, but NO WIRE. The lightning had completely vaporized the copper! It was late in the day, so I went back down, discouraged.

Jeff and Jim ran Night 1 of the 160 contest using the temporary US/JA Beverage, and the next afternoon I went back up armed with more supplies and tools. I connected new #14 copper to the point where the antenna had disappeared and worked my way toward the termination end. After installing about 120 feet of new blue insulated wire, I found the ragged end of the original antenna wire tangled in the top of a tree. I sorted out the tangle, connected that wire to the blue patch piece, and followed it to the 880 foot point, where the old resistor and crow's foot ground were still intact. Problem solved.



Original termination ground and resistor system at the 880 foot point still in good condition.

It is clear from all of this that the lightning hit at about the 660 foot point, vaporized 120 feet of wire, fried another 100 feet, and exploded the feedpoint transformer and choke. All is repaired now after two days of very hot work in long pants and a long sleeved shirt.

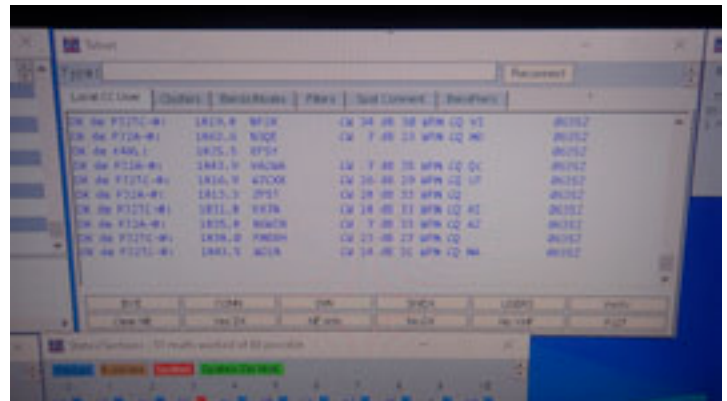


W8WTS at 2:54 AM (local) on Night 1 of CQ 1160 CW

We used the Commander HF-2500 in the 160 contest, and it had no trouble with full output, even in a part of the band with unfavorable SWR.



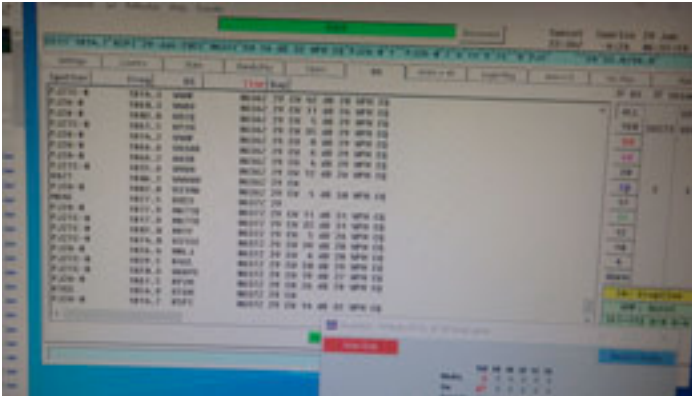
Full power? No problem with the HF-2500 amp.



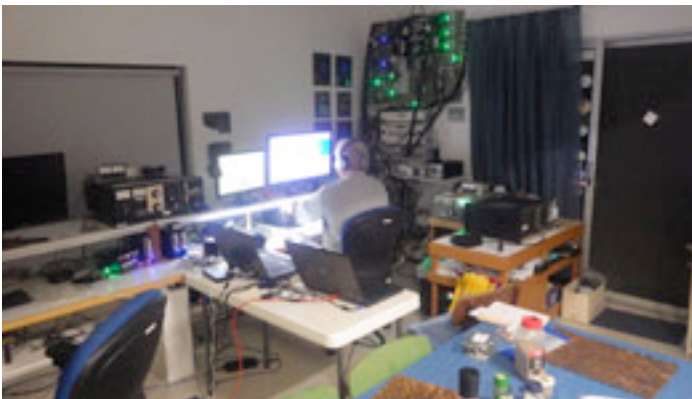
Skimmers doing their jobs.



The elaborate WTS/ND SDRx3 system.



Nothing that shows up on 160 gets missed by Jeff and Jim.



W8WTS looking lonesome among all the gear in the contest wee hours Saturday as K8ND takes his sleep shift

K8ND's 100,000 PJ2T QSOs

(January 19 E-mail from Jeff follows.)

A while ago, I realized that my QSO totals from Curacao using my two callsigns were approaching a milestone since I started traveling to Curacao in 2002.

This morning, a QSO with F6JON on 20m CW was the 100,000th QSO with PJ2ND & PJ2/K8ND in 39 trips to the island and in remote operation in the past few years!

This doesn't include any of the thousands of QSOs I've made using the PJ2T and PJ2HQ callsigns in contests, single-op or as a part of multi-op teams over the years.

So, on to the next 100,000 QSOs!

73, Jeff K8ND / PJ2ND

Upcoming Events

ARRL DX CW: Our team consists of W9NJY, W9VA, N7IR, NF9V, N0VD, W1MD and W0CG. That left two beds available. I recruited very aggressively and am more or less dumbfounded that we could not build a full team for this one. The team arrives on the island on the date of this newsletter. You're missing out on a delightful week by the pool in summer weather.



Some of the pre-buy for the ARRL CW team

ARRL DX SSB: For the third year in a row we will welcome a team led by long time CCC member Dan Gravereaux, N1ZZ, founder of West Mountain Radio and inventor of the RigBlaster. These guys are affiliated with the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society, Melbourne, Florida. The team is: Chuck, AD4ES, Don, AF4Z, Dan, N1ZZ, Walter, K5LD (CCC), Vince K4JC (CCC), Greg, N4EN, Steve AK4R, K8PGJ (CCC), and W0CG (CCC). These guys won the M/M first place plaque the past two years. Can they do it again?

This contest is still open to anyone else interested. There is one open bed.

CQ WPX SSB: The operator list for this contest is presently W4ATL, K4WK, AE4CW, WT4BT, WA4ZXV, K4UEE, and K4NHW. Bob (K4UEE) is still recruiting, and this contest is absolutely open to all CCC members who may want to fly south in late March. We have the Moran pool house reserved and Dorothy will still be on site in late March.

Fibre Is Coming to the QTH

Hard to believe, but in a few months we will be getting fibre direct to the QTH. (I like the British spelling better.) Wood utility poles have been installed throughout the neighborhood of 14 houses, and the overhead cable is being installed literally as I type this on February 10 (photo).



Contractors installing fibre optics lines in our Coral Cliff neighborhood, February 10, 2022.



Cable literally at PJ2T's front gate February 10.

There's no definite timetable for this installation, but I hope I am here when it happens because the new modem will need to be configured to handle our remote interface and the cameras. The higher speeds will definitely be welcomed. Meanwhile, the guys installing the utility poles have only drilled through the water line twice. Typical Curacao.

Hell Day for Signal Point Kitchen Appliances

Sweet Dorothy set about making me a pan of brownies on February 11 only to discover that the oven would not work. Soon after that we discovered that the air circulation vanes in the shack air conditioner would not "swing," and this is very important to getting good distribution of the cool air throughout the room.

I immediately contacted our air conditioning genius, and he responded within two minutes, telling me that parts are totally unavailable, and that the tiny AC drive

motors for the vanes are nearly impossible to find. I checked online and confirmed this for myself. After some urging from me, John did agree to come by and take a look. He came the next day (!) and we quickly discovered that a mouse had eaten through all five of the wires to that drive motor. After about 20 minutes of surgery the vanes were working, and we put a shield around that wire bundle to deter Mickey in the future. This was a very fortunate and cheap outcome! We can still contest in cool comfort.



Jack Biscayne patching together the mouse-destroyed wiring to the swing motor, February 12.

As for the oven, I managed to get the igniter out of this 21 year old range after some cut fingers and body contortions inside the heat box, found an exact replacement on Amazon (~\$83), and had it shipped to N1ZZ to bring down on March 1.



This will be an easy and cheap do-it-yourself fix, and all ended well because Dorothy figured out how to do great brownies in the microwave oven.

The next day I found an exact replacement motor for the air conditioner (\$8), and ordered two of them to Idaho for bench stock.

Signal Point Irrigation Problem Fixed

For about three years we have had an irrigation line running across the back sidewalk, protected by some 2x6s and concrete blocks. This was a temporary fix for a tubing run under the sidewalk that had somehow become totally blocked. It worked, but sure looked ugly.

On the morning of the 11th Dorothy headed for the grocery store with our next door neighbor, and I got the tools and dug in, determined to solve this problem. It took all day. The photo shows a 25 foot long trench I had to dig to find the buried line and trace it looking for a blockage. The line paralleled the badly deteriorated green plastic landscape border and was underneath a layer of decorative rock, a layer of tough rubber geotextile, and five inches of compacted earth. One had to be very careful not to damage the buried line.



The blocked line was somewhere along this 25 foot hand-dug ditch.

By opening the tubing at various points where there were buried junctions (photo below) and probing with a long piece of solid #10 copper wire, I finally found the problem, a two foot long tight bundle of tiny root filaments that had somehow gotten in and blocked the tubing very solidly. See the photo, next column.



One of several buried junctions opened while searching for the blockage.



The two foot long root bundle that I pulled out of a 3/4 inch plugged irrigation line.

After putting everything back together and testing I installed a new 25 foot long by 20 cm high green border strip, stabilized that border with a heaping wheelbarrow of compacted dirt, and restored and repaired the geotextile and red landscaping rock. Everything looks much better, works perfectly, and I sweated off almost three pounds per our bathroom scale. Living in the tropics is a great blessing, but doing so either requires lots of paid assistance or very good handyman skills and work ethic.

W0CG Ohio Station: Major Surgery

As you know I'm beginning to resurrect the Ohio W0CG QTH after 13+ years of total neglect. My son and his family have moved out so the house is mine again, and Dorothy and I started major renovations last August. In January I had two weeks there and continued the process. The weather outside was like Antarctica, so I was forced inside to work on the station.

The photo (next page) shows me removing 30+ years of accumulated infrastructure on January 16. This was psychologically hard. In the early 90s I designed and built a pretty sophisticated SO2R setup at a time when this was a new idea, and off the shelf equipment was not available. It was my baby, so this was hard to

acknowledge that that era is gone, and that I needed to remove the old stuff. There was a tangled rat's nest of cables, as you see, but after two days of patient work I got it all out.



At W0CG (Ohio) removing SO2R cabling installed in the 1990s, January 16, 2022.

After a couple more days of work I had a WinKeyer installed and working, a new PC and monitor in service, and had interfaced my FT-1000 to the PC. This was a thrill, and one CQ on 15 meters with my 5 over 5 over 5 netted an instant flurry of European callers. I'll keep improving this place as time goes by, and it's exciting to be on the air from Ohio again from the home I designed and built 37 years ago.

PJ2T Ad Hoc Visitors



Amy and Ralph Waszak with Dorothy

Ralph and Amy were renting the big blue house atop the hill for a week, Googled PJ2T (seeing "PJ2T on the front driveway entry), and were stunned to see my Kent State E-mail address. Ralph is a real estate attorney in Akron, and Amy is with State Farm. Upon hearing that, I dropped Ray Fallen's name (ND8L), and Amy came out of her seat. She has known and worked with Ray forever. Sometimes the seven degrees of separation are reduced to one.



A photo for CCC member ND8L: Amy Waszak at Station 4, pretending to be a ham operator.

In a further connection, Ralph explained that one of his family members is KF3Q, so we got Conrad on the phone and set up a sked.



Ralph and Amy departing, heading back to the cold country the next day.

Another surprise visitor was PF5X. Enno showed up unexpectedly in the backyard on Monday (photo).



Enno Korma, PF5X.

Enno retired last October as Manager of Quality Control for a very, very high tech chip fab in Holland, and dazzled us with stories of what's going on in that nanoworld. He's an active CW contester and we

encouraged him to make a return visit for a CW contest.

Yet another visitor to the station last week was Mike Rioux, WIUSN, below.



Mike Rioux, WIUSN

Mike showed up in the neighborhood in early February, renting the huge Galo house atop the hill behind Signal Point. He followed Ralph and Amy into that house for the subsequent week. I saw his antennas out on the pool deck and went knocking on his door. Obviously, he is retired Navy, and we had much to talk about from our respective 30+ year military careers. The photo shows him happily running QSOs at Station 2, a much better experience than with his low power and wire antennas out of his suitcase. He returned a couple of days later for more 15 meters.

The Attack of the Heavy Equipment, Chapter 2

Believe it or not, construction work for the new hotel has actually begun. They will be doing the infrastructure first, including a new and relocated road, moving power poles, and enhancing electrical, water, and septic capabilities.

We were blindsided in June 2019 when a dozer arrived out of the blue and attacked the ground immediately west of Signal Point. They ripped out radials, our buried Beverage feedline, ravaged the Beverage that had been there for 17 years, and generally raped the land. It was a mess, and a huge discourtesy that the hotel owners had not let us know that this was coming.

In the intervening 2.5 years the vegetation came back strongly, but on February 9 the wheel loader in the photo below showed up.



Pre-clearing land for construction, February 9, 2022

This time it was a MUCH BETTER experience. We knew ahead of time that they were coming, and I had befriended the equipment operator, Esse, several days before, taking him supplies of cold Cokes as he worked his way toward our neighborhood. When he got to the lot by the house I showed him where the coax was buried and explained about not digging out radials, and he was very friendly and cooperative. My broken high school Spanish seemed to get through. He let me guide him with hand signals so that the coax was untouched, and allowed us to keep a border strip of vegetation between the Signal Point Ocean Pavilion and the line of site from the road. It is very unlikely that they will build any structure close to the QTH any time soon, but they cleared the land so that it would look better to investors.

The arrival of the hotel is not a welcome development, but it will indeed provide some excellent amenities for visitors to PJ2T.

Curacao COVID Travel Requirements as of Mid-February

See <https://gobiernu.cw/corona-travel-to-curacao/> .

In response to Omicron, Curacao slightly ramped up the entry requirement in late December, now requesting a PCR test no more than 48 hours before flying to the island. (In December they were accepting rapid antigen tests.) All the rest is unchanged. On your third day on Curacao it's still necessary to get a rapid antigen test. These are very quick and the charge is only \$20. Results are provided normally within 20 minutes via E-mail. Travelers who can prove they are vaccinated do not need this third day test, but they do NOT accept U.S. vaccination cards because they are too easy to spoof.

Since the peak on 12 January the Curacao daily case count has plummeted from about 1100 to 44 on February 13, it and continues to fall.

Update: Vaccinated CCCers

We keep adding to this list as I hear from you.

W0CG (including booster) and Dorothy (including booster), N1ZZ, K8IV, K9DR, K8ND (including booster), N7IR (including booster), VA7AM and Gill, WI9WI and KA9DOC, W9NJY (including booster), N7WA, N2BA and N2GSG, VE3CX, SM4KYN and Ingela, K4JC, W8WTS, K0MD, W8PT, W9VA (boosted), N7NR, KB7Q and Joyce, K8PGJ, ND8L, NF9V, NA2U+Liz, KY7M (including booster), N5OT and family.

Drop me an E-mail if you'd like me to add you to this list.

Geoff's Steal of a Deal

Here's what I got myself for Christmas – a mint condition fully functional TS-520S for a hundred bucks. Even better, the former Idaho SCM, Ed Stuckey, brought it to our condo!



Santa brought a TS-520S for Christmas

Rotor Shipout



Geoff shipping out a bad Taittwister to Alabama; Coeur d Alene, Idaho, January 6, 2022.

Anonymous Donation

In mid-December we received a huge unsolicited donation from a donor who asked not to be named. The

amount was ~\$2100, offered to the club to help cover the enormous income shortfalls we have experienced because of the pandemic. His hope is that normal on-site activity will resume soon, and that the dollars from those on-site contest operations will help get the club back into a more survivable financial position. THANKS to Mr. Anonymous, this was a huge thrill and a big, big help.

W8WTS' End of January Treasury Report

The present balance in the Station Support fund is \$4108.00.

Laundry Room Cleanup and Re-Hab

We started out to clean up some messes in the laundry room and ended up spending all of February 13 on that messy room. Here 's Dorothy putting a coat of paint on one of the shelves.



Paint for a laundry room shelf

At one point we had everything out of that room, including tons of mouse droppings, and tossed out obsolete stuff.



February 13 purge of the laundry room

While we were hot and dirty on the 13th we attacked the black mildew on the sidewalk with bleach, brooms, and elbow grease. Photo next page.

