

Tales from the Swamp

January 2016

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Swamp Fox
Contest Group



WW4SF

Gil KS4YX and Steve W4SLT participated in the NPOTA on 1 Jan, remarked about the pileups. They were on the Appalachian Trail.

Dave WN45AFP calling for mobile ops for the SCQP.

Kevan N4XL apparently tore a ligament in his shoulder, thought he had broken the shoulder at first. Glad it wasn't that bad, and he should be mostly healed up by the time this newsletter goes out.

From Dave WN4AFP:

What do you call an amateur radio operator who no longer has cancer? A cured ham

What do call an amateur who broke the law? A canned ham.

10 Jan - Ariel NY4G sadly announced his intention to resign from the club, citing cutting back on amateur radio activities. He will be missed, as he was a definite asset to us.,

Gil KS4YX and Steve W4SLT worked the NPOTA (National Parks On The Air) from The Appalachian Trail on Sunday Jan 3.

Tom W4DAX provided information on the HL Hunley special event station operating during the SC QSO Party. They will provide an award if you contact counties where the first letter of the county name spell "HUNLEY".

Dave WN4AFP provided a link to a video presentation of the SCQP:

<http://scqso.com/scqp-video/> .

And of course most of us were chasing Palmyra and S Sandwich, as we will be doing to S Georgia in February.

Frank KG4IGC and his XYL KG4NKG took a trip to Mississippi to visit friends

(he has friends there?). Anyway, along the way he decided to activate Vicksburg Military National Park as part of the NPOTA program. He alleges to a pileup and created 146 Q's in an hour and half, having to quit because of rain.

The following were voted on at the Jan 31 meeting:

1. One official meeting a year, last Sunday in Jan
2. Implementation of dues, \$10/year. Due in Jan, by Mar 1.

We acquired 2 new members at the meeting also. Loyd W4LVH, of Mt. Pleasant, and Marc N4UFP. Both are seasoned contesters. Marc is the ARRL SC Section Manager. We are privileged to have both in the club. They have been invited to join the Yahoo group. Welcome, guys !!

Dave NJ4F is getting one of the antenna (tennis ball) launcher kits from Dr Fred. It will be available to all members.

A Contesting Primer class is being organized, shooting for a March/April date. Don't want to wait too long to make it happen. We may be looking for a more appropriate place in the Columbia area other than the restaurant, so if anyone has any ideas/suggestions, please hollar. More on Yahoo as it develops.

Kevan N4XL referenced a survey by NY4I that showed the percentage of use of contest logging programs. N1MM+ had over 50% of usage. The others were each 10% or less.

<https://github.com/n4af/TR4W/wiki/CQ-Worldwide-Contest-Program-Statistics>

Discussions:

Dave NJ4F was wondering why Ted K7OM whups him all the time. Same radio, similar amplifiers, Dave had beams, Ted used wires, Dave had a better chair, Dave used Winkey, Ted didn't, etc... It was suggested that Ted must be running. Dave contemplated putting Ted on the Rack, stretch him, and give him some sodium pentothal until he confessed, but Ted convinced him he wasn't running (*out of sheer terror?*), so he abandoned the idea. After all the dust settled, it was presumed that Ted was simply better than Dave. Probably had more consistent BIC time also.

Frank KG4IGC started a discussion about erecting loop antennas, specifically a Delta Loop. Kevan N4XL talked about a 272" loop once. Bill N4IQ talked about his different loops: orientation, feed, etc...

Gil KS4YX started a discussion about a website, DXHeat. Has a lot of stats on spotting. Dave NJ4F remarked about initiating spots and being spotted, when he has always only been S&P, and has never sent a spot. These occurred over a span of 10 years or more. A number of reasons were submitted to explain, including typos, busted calls, and other reasons.

Dave NJ4F remarked about different programs giving different azimuth bearings for K5P. Seems he wasted the first 4 days with the antenna pointed in the wrong direction. Thanks to Ted who got him straightened out.

Robert AJ5E is looking for a newer rig. He asked for input regarding a Yaesu 450-D and the ICOM IC-7200. Despite Dave NJ4F's unbiased steer toward the 7200, it seems the Yaesu guys are pulling ahead. Beware negative input about an ICOM from a Kenwood user.

Tom W4DAX won't make the meeting because he will be on a cruise. Again. Which is more important, Tom ?? Ham radio or meeting strange women on a boat ??

Awards & Certificates Received:

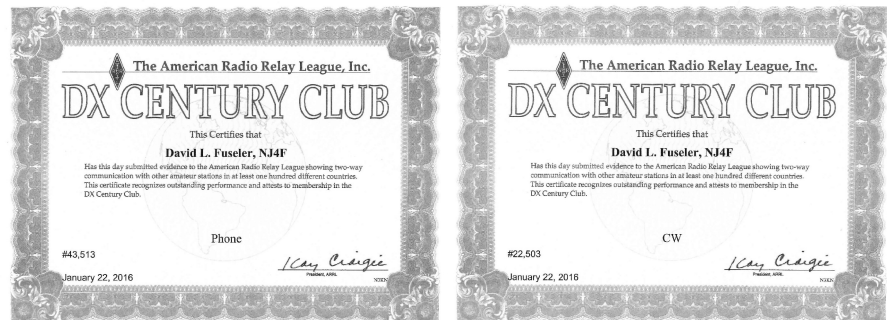
Mark KM4RK received a certificate for the 10M contest, 1st place, SOLP, Unlimited, Phone only, Low Power, SC Section



Dave NJ4F has qualified for his 5BWAS certificate.



Dave NJ4F also received his DXCC-CW and DXCC-Phone.



Dave WN4AFP received two certificates. One was for 1st Place, SC in the 2015 Louisiana QSO Party. The other was for 3rd Place Not in LA/Mixed LP, same contest.

Contests: (Number Q's - score)

Jan 3 **ARRL RTTY Round Up**

N4CO	300 - 23,100	16 hrs	S&P only
AJ4UQ	100 - 4,300		
NJ4F	422 - 35,026	15 hrs	S&P only
N4IQ	893 - 78,584	21.5 hrs	
KG4IGC	335 - 26,465	14:41 hrs	(was in doghouse part of the time)
K7OM	482 - 35,186	13:45 hrs	S&P (so he says)
KM4RK	64 - 2,240		15M only

204,901 aggregate score NOT BAD !

Jan 6 **CWT ops Mini-CWT**

WN4AFP	25 - 625	1300 hrs
WN4AFP	27 - 675	1900 hrs

Jan 9 **NAQP CW**

team "Swamp Foxes"

NJ4F	234 - 23,634	S&P only
K7OM	242 - 27,346	S&P only
KG4IGC	151 - 11,023	
AJ4UQ	15 - 135	

Each on other teams:

N4XL	256 - 25,856
WN4AFP	306 - 23,562

Jan 13 **CWT ops Mini-CWT**

WN4AFP	35 - 1,190
W4IX	91 - 6,552

Jan 9 **NAQP SSB**

W4IX	793 - 137,982
WN4AFP	150 - 8,850
K4DLE	120 - 7,680

Jan 20 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 1300z**

WN4AFP	12 - 144
W4IX	86 - 6,192
W1TEF	29 - 841

Jan 13 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 1900z**

WN4AFP	16 - 256
W4IX	99 - 8,019

Jan 21 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 0300**
WN4AFP 28 - 784

Jan 23 **Montana QSO Party**
WN4AFP 5 - 60

Jan 23 **BARTG RTTY Sprint**
NJ4F 163 - 24,124 (notice this is one more than K7OM)
K7OM 162 - 23,976 (notice this is one less than NJ4F)

Jan 27 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 1300**
WN4AFP 49 - 2,254

Jan 27 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 1900**
WN4AFP 30 - 870
W4IX 79 - 5,372

Jan 28 **CWT ops Mini-CWT 0300**
WN4AFP 28 - 784
W4IX 70 - 3,990

Jan 30 **CQ 160M CW**
NJ4F 311 - 43,326 S&P only
K7OM 304 - 49,727 S&P only
W4IX 820 - 187,005

Jan 30 **ARRL VHF**
KK4MA 15 - 180