



# TALES FROM THE SWAMP

May 2019

**Author: Frank KG4IGC**

Greetings fellow Swamp Foxes from the desk of your ever faithful President. April was indeed been a very slow month for contesting. There were a of course a few QSO parties of which I did not have much luck in other than the Florida QSO Party. There is no question about it; the FLQP was a weekend full of action thanks to the great job done by everyone involved especially the mobiles. QSO Parties are a lot of fun, and usually pretty easy to work. Last month was the exception due to not so great band conditions. So what does one do when the bands are not to your liking? Well, I for one have been catching up on some projects that I started God knows when. I have had my share of honey do projects over the past few years that got started and never finished, so last month I decided to catch up on a few of those well overdo requests from the XYL.

I refinished an antique mirror, finished some painting and trim-work in our kitchen, and started rewiring two brass lamps that got

shoved in the garage along with several other things that need “fixing”. Naturally, just when I started to enjoy said projects, we had a major plumbing problem that required me to dig up half of the back yard. Not fun at all which killed the idea of “catching up” with old projects. The lamps will get restored, but *not this week* as I found something fun to do.

One of my side hobbies has been learning how to restore antique radios, which is something that I usually do over the winter months. Don’t know why I reserve that time of year to do such projects, maybe it is the excitement of seeing those tubes glow and relishing the heat that they throw off.

Since I have not had too much luck contesting this month, I decided to take on something that I have never tried before. I decided to recap a Drake TR-4 and its power supply. After hearing a bad A/C hum the rig got shelved for about two years. Earlier this year, I decided to pull it out and have a look at the inside. Upon inspection, I saw that the rig had several old paper caps which badly needed replacing. The power supply also had bad electrolytics so that too needed to be recapped. Although this particular rig came to me in working condition, it had been neglected for a number of years without being turned on by its former owner.

Now mind you, I am not by any stretch of the imagination an electronics engineer. I hate to admit it but my knowledge about electronics theory is next to nothing. I guess you could say I know just enough to get myself in trouble. Because of my inexperience in this department, I have enlisted the help of a fellow ham, Steve W4IJ who has tons of experience with restoring tube transceivers. I told Steve that I wanted him to mentor me but to let me do the work.

To me, there is nothing more frustrating than sitting next to someone who is fixing something for you and all the while you learn nothing. Steve agreed, talked me through some things, and showed me some tools of the trade that he felt would help me with troubleshooting. He then left me with the task of ordering the capacitors and installing them.

There were a couple of ways that I could have done this job, one was buying a handful of electrolytic's and putting them under the chassis of the rig and the power supply. The other was buying a circuit board that would replace all of the chassis mounted components in the power supply. My personal preference when restoring radios is to keep it as original as possible so I decided to go with capacitor kit made especially for that particular rig and it's power supply from [Hayseed Hamfest](#). I had bought a recap kit from them before when I restored my Hammarlund HQ-120X and was quite pleased with not only the look of their product but the quality of their product.

Long story short, I spent a weekend installing the new caps and am quite pleased with my work. The next step will be to clean all the switches and then check all the tubes. After that I will bring Steve back into the picture when it comes time to fire up the variac. Maybe with some luck when I get this rig running properly, I can use it in one of the vintage rigs contests!



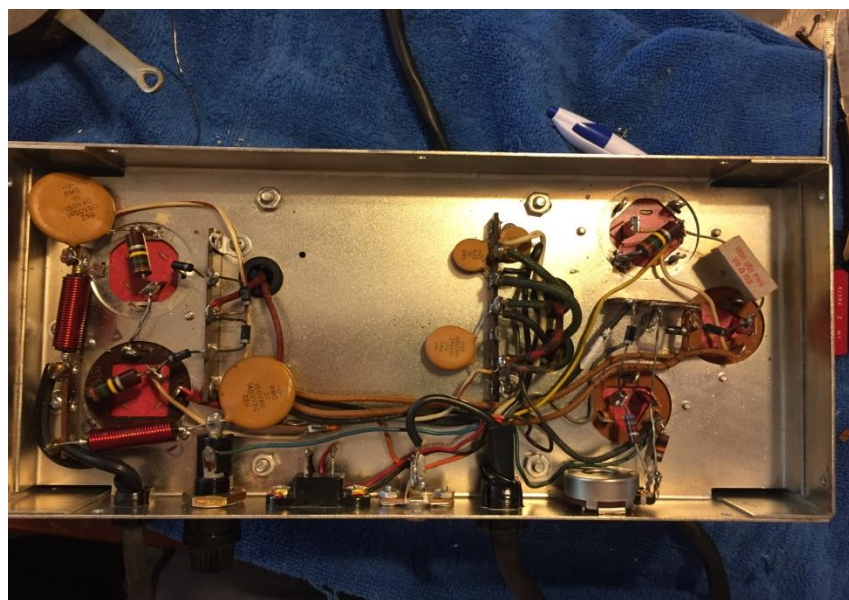
*Above are the old electrolytic capacitors from the Drake TR-4 and its accompanying power supply.*



*A look under the hood of the rig, with the new capacitor canister installed.*



*This is the power supply with the new electrolytic's installed.*



*Underside of the power supply with the new caps installed.*

The point of this story is that mentors or as we in the ham community like to call them “Elmers” is a great resource. We as hams pride ourselves with our knowledge of such things as electronics and antenna building, plus the theory behind them. We also rival in our knowledge of CW, different modes of operation, and computers. One thing that this club has going for it is that not only are we testers, but we are a teaching club. Many of our members have a vast knowledge of subjects such as station set-up, antennas, software, and operating strategies.

We also have some members who are fairly new to contesting and don't get on the air much for whatever reason. I would like to point out that if you are having trouble understanding something related to software setup, antennas, strategies, or how to operate in a particular contest, we are here for you. If you need help with something, or just would like to get a better understanding of for example digital modes, just ask. There are plenty of our members who are more than willing to help you sort things out. Don't forget to check out our [resources page](#) on the club website for plenty of useful information as well.

Something that we talked about at the January meeting was taking on the Georgia Contest Group. Dave WN4AFP spent some time investigating what clubs was closest to being similar to us. This was not an easy task considering the sizes of our surrounding contest clubs not to mention their station setup and the dedication and experience of some of their top operators.

We were looking for such things as amount of active members, station set-ups and what contests that they usually compete in. After reviewing the membership rosters in NC, Tennessee, and Georgia, Dave determined that we were most compatible with the Georgia Contest Group. Now in saying that, they have more

members, several top notch operators, and a few super-stations with gigantic towers and beams (no problem, right?).

One thing that Dave noticed was that despite the large roster, when it came to the major contests sponsored by the ARRL and CQ Magazine they seemed to always have the same players participating every year. This alone puts us in a position to be on the same playing field as them. Sure, we don't have any super stations, but we do have an abundance of excellent operators. Personally, I think we can take them if we can get enough of our guys on the air during the bigger contests. We may be a very small club in the contesting community, but we have a lot of spunk and can produce some pretty decent numbers when we want to. So what say you Swamp Foxes? Do you think we can take John K4BAI and his group of merry men?

## **So when's the next big contest?**

Our digital guys are going to like this; the next big contest coming up this month is the [Volta WW RTTY Contest](#). It runs from 12:00 GMT Saturday May 11, 2019 until 12:00 GMT Sunday May 12, 2019. In the future this event will take place on the second full week-end in May. There is a usually a fair amount of activity each year in this contest which means plenty of Q's and BIC time. I am looking forward to this contest, and plan to put in as much airtime as possible. If you're new to RTTY, this would be a great time to get MMTTY set up with N1MM. I know that there a couple of club members that have expressed wanting to get set up for RTTY, so if you need some help, just let us know and we will get you up and running!

## **Brag List:**

**Bill N4IQ:** North American QSO Party RTTY SO July 2017 Top Score South Carolina 76,538 points

North American QSO Party CW SO January 2018 Top Score South Carolina 109,668 points

North American QSO Party CW SO August 2018 Top Score South Carolina 97,030 points

**Dave WN4AFP** 2018 New England QSO Party 8<sup>th</sup> Place USA, 1<sup>st</sup> Place South Carolina Certificate

2018 HF World Championship Score 43,092 SOLP CW 1<sup>st</sup> Place SC Section, 4<sup>th</sup> Place Roanoke Division

2018 Sweepstakes Score 45,140 SOLP 1<sup>st</sup> Place South Carolina

## **QSO Parties**

There are several upcoming QSO parties this month. If you have never worked one before, you should really give it a go. Most QSO parties only require signal report and state for out of state participants.

There are a few that require serial numbers as well as your state so as always be sure to check the rules! QSO parties also have unique awards besides certificates and plaques which make it even more fun to play in. If you're curious about some of the past prizes, ask Dave WN4AFP about some of the prizes he has won! The New



England and 7<sup>th</sup> call area QSO Parties are two of my favorites, and I am really looking forward to participating in them this year. It is nothing short of a blast to chase mobiles around the state to collect new counties. (Also a favorite county hunters!) Come on out and join us in supporting these guys State QSO parties, you won't be disappointed!

**This month's state QSO parties include the following:**

[7th Call Area QSO Party](#) (1200Z May 4 to 1159Z May 5)

[Indiana QSO Party](#) (1500Z May 4 to 0300Z May 5)

[Delaware QSO Party](#) (1700Z May 4 to 2359Z May 5)

[The New England QSO Party](#) (1700Z May 4 to 2359Z May 5)

[Arkansas QSO Party](#) (1400Z, May 11 to 0200Z, May 12) *note: NO FT8 FOR THE ARKANSAS QSO PARTY* PSK31 or RTTY still ok for digital modes.

**Interested in working for the ARRL?** They are looking for a new Contest Program Manager. For information, [direct your browser here](#).

**Faster, More [Contest-Friendly FT4 Digital Protocol](#) to Debut in a Week 04/22/2019**

## **160 Meter Contest Contest Results**

[2018 ARRL 160-Meter Contest - Line Scores - DX](#)

[2018 ARRL 160 Meter Contest Preliminary Results](#)

## **From the Reflector:**

Frank KG4IGC informed the club that the results from the ARRL November Sweepstakes, Phone are in; [results can be found here](#).

Keven N4XL helped KG4IGC with setting up filters in VE7CC for more accurate spots.

Keven N4XL summarized lessons learned in the CQ WPX Contest, SSB. During the contest, he had some issues with the voice keyer working intermittently.

From Kevins post:

*Sources reviewed: K1TTT note in N1MM documentation, W4TV (microHAM rep) various places, various websites on Windows 10 audio problems -- gamers knew of some of this stuff...*

## **Big three (apparent) problems:**

1) Despite N1MM's config menu showing you have the proper audio Codecs selected, if you change any property of any codec you must go into N1MM and reselect the same codec that OS already selected to get N1MM to read the change. Shutting down N1MM or restarting Windows does not reset the data stored in N1MM.

2) Each codec and many of the audio stream "components" the .wav file travels through between your computer storage disk and the radio has its own individually configurable sample rate. i.e.: CD quality, DVD quality, etc. If they are not all the same it causes something(s) in the chain to stutter while it reconfigures the incoming stream to match what that part of the chain is supposed to be. That may or may not be a problem depending on your particular computer and software configuration. Apparently it is a problem with my setup.

3) There is no rhyme or reason to when the computer must be rebooted to accept a change you make to some programs parameters. Some accept changes on the fly. Others need you to restart the computer so the programs can read the new info. Shutting down and restarting is not always effective. Restarting is the recommended way to flush temporarily stored information. And to top it all off, sometimes changing several things at once to minimize the startups and shutdowns results in the problems not going away. It is recommended by some to change one thing. Restart. Change another thing. Restart... There are other things too, but hopefully those lessons will help my fellow Swamp Foxes.

Bill N4IQ informed the club of the new FT-4 mode made especially for contesting.

Ron N4VZ reported that he had to score by hand in the EU FT8 DX Contest and had about 50 busted reports

Kevan N4XL reported that he has reached his accuracy goal in the CQWW DX SSB Contest. He only had a 0.9% error rate for his 533 Q's. *Congratulations Kevan!*

Dave WN4AFP informed the club that the Florida QSO Party results have been posted. Results can be found [here](#).

Dave WN4AFP also reported that the NEQP results have been posted as well. Results can be found [here](#).

## **Contests:**

### **Florida QSO Party** April 27, 2019

WB4HRL SOAB (A) Mixed HP 24 CW Q's 32 Ph. Q's 3,120

NI7R SOABCW LP 47 CW Q's 6,204

WN4AFP SOAB Mixed LP 207 CW Q's 48 Ph. Q's 86,856

KG4IGC SOAB Mixed LP 126 CW Q's 14 Ph. Q's 31,388

### **CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900** April 24, 2019

N4IQ SOHP (SO2R) 86 q's 7,138

### **Michigan QSO Party** April 20, 2019

WB4HRL SOHP 1 CW Q 23 Ph. Q's 450

### **Ontario QSO Party** April 20, 2019

WB4HRL SOHP 1 CW Q 3 Ph. Q's 20

### **CQMM DX Contest** April 20, 2019

K7OM SOAB HP 137 Q's 27,538

### **NCCC RTTY Sprint** April 19, 2019

N4IQ SOLP (SO2R) 36 Q's 612

**CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900** April 17, 2019

WN4AFP SOLP 37 Q's 1,369

**CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300** April 17, 2019

N4IQ SOHP (SO2R) 99 Q's 9,405

WN4AFP SOLP 27 Q's 702

**OK/OM DX Contest** April 13, 2019

WB4HRL SOAB HP 4 Q's 104

**North Dakota QSO Party** April 13, 2019

WB4HRL Out of State HP 1 Ph. Q 1

**New Mexico QSO Party** April 13, 2019

WB4HRL SOHP 2 Ph. Q's 4

**Georgia QSO Party** April 13, 2019

KG4IGC SO CW LP 8 CW Q's 128

NI7R SO Mixed HP 25 CW 1 Ph. Q 1,020

WB4HRL SO Mixed HP 10 CW Q's 12 Ph. Q's

**EA RTTY Contest** April 6, 2019

K7OM SOHP 130 Q's 14,094

WB4HRL SOHP 27 Q's 899

**Mississippi QSO Party** April 6, 2019

WN4AFP SOLP 13 CW Q's 286

**CQ WPX Contest, SSB** March 30, 2019

WB4HRL SO (A) AB HP 323 Q's 168,057

WU0B SO(A)AB LP SO2R 415 Q's 252,252

WU0B SO(A)AB LP SO2R TB Wires 415 Q's 252,252

KG4IGC SO (A) AB LP 262 Q'S 143,472

KG4IGC SO (A) AB LP TB Wires 262 Q'S 143,472

WJ4X (N4XL) SO (A) AB LP SO2R 257 Q's 126,868

N4VZ SOAB HP 429 Q's 361,380

N4VZ SOAB HP TB Wires 429 Q's 361,380

KG6MC SOAB HP 314 Q's 189,588

K7OM SOAB HP 188 Q's 79,605

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**Club Aggregate Total: 1,321,222**

## Upcoming Contests:

**1 May to 15 May 2019**

### HF CONTESTS

[CWops Mini-CWT Test](#), May 1, 1300z to May 1, 1400z and, May 1, 1900z to May 1, 2000z and, May 2, 0300z to May 2, 0400z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; Member: Name + Member No., non-Member: Name + (state/province/country); Logs due: May 4.

[NRAU 10m Activity Contest](#), May 2, 1700z to May 2, 1800z (CW) and, May 2, 1800z to May 2, 1900z (SSB) and, May 2, 1900z to May 2, 2000z (FM) and, May 2, 2000z to May 2, 2100z (Dig); CW, SSB, FM, Digital; Bands: 10m Only; RS(T) + 6-character grid square; Logs due: May 16.

[SKCC Sprint Europe](#), May 2, 1900z to May 2, 2100z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6m; RST + (state/province/country) + Name + (SKCC No./power); Logs due: May 9.

[NCCC RTTY Sprint](#), May 3, 0145z to May 3, 0215z; RTTY; Bands: (see rules); Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: May 5.

[NCCC Sprint](#), May 3, 0230z to May 3, 0300z; CW; Bands: (see rules); Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: May 5.

[10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW](#), May 4, 0001z to May 5, 2359z; CW; Bands: 10m Only; 10-10 Member: Name + 10-10 number + (state/province/country), Non-Member: Name + 0 + (state/province/country); Logs due: May 13.

[ARI International DX Contest](#), May 4, 1200z to May 5, 1159z; Phone, CW, RTTY; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; I: RS(T) + 2-letter province, non-I: RS(T) + Serial No.; Logs due: May 10.

[7th Call Area QSO Party](#), May 4, 1300z to May 5, 0700z; CW, Phone, Digital (no FT8); Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; 7th Area: RS(T) + 5-letter state/county code, non-7th Area: RS(T) + (state/province/DX); Logs due: May 15.

[Indiana QSO Party](#), May 4, 1500z to May 5, 0300z; Phone, CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; IN: RS(T) + county, non-IN: W/VE: RS(T) + (state/province), DX: RS(T) + "DX"; Logs due: June 1.

[FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint](#), May 4, 1700z to May 4, 2100z; CW; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; FISTS: RST + (state/province/country) + first name + FISTS No., non-FISTS: RST + (state/province/country) + first name + power; Logs due: June 3.

[Delaware QSO Party](#), May 4, 1700z to May 5, 2359z; CW, Phone, Digital/RTTY; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF; DE: RS(T) + County, non-DE: RS(T) + (state/province/"DX"); Logs due: June 4.

[New England QSO Party](#), May 4, 2000z to May 5, 0500z and, May 5, 1300z to May 6, 0000z; Phone, CW/Digital; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT: RS(T) + county + state, non-NE: RS(T) + (state/province/"DX"); Logs due: June 4.

[MIE 33 Contest](#), May 4, 2300z to May 5, 0300z; CW, Phone; Bands: All, except WARC; Mie: RS(T) + age + "ME", non-Mie JA: RS(T) + age + "MEJ", non-Mie non-JA: RS(T) + age; Logs due: May 31.

[ARS Spartan Sprint](#), May 7, 0100z to May 7, 0300z; CW; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; RST + (state/province/country) + Power; Logs due: May 9.

[Phone Fray](#), May 8, 0230z to May 8, 0300z; SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15m; NA: Name + (state/province/country), non-NA: Name; Logs due: May 10.

[CWops Mini-CWT Test](#), May 8, 1300z to May 8, 1400z and, May 8, 1900z to May 8, 2000z and, May 9, 0300z to May 9, 0400z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; Member: Name + Member No., non-Member: Name + (state/province/country); Logs due: May 11.

[NCCC RTTY Sprint](#), May 10, 0145z to May 10, 0215z; RTTY; Bands: (see rules); Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: May 12.

[NCCC Sprint](#), May 10, 0230z to May 10, 0300z; CW; Bands: (see rules); Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: May 12.



[VOLTA WW RTTY Contest](#), May 11, 1200z to May 12, 1200z; RTTY; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; RST + QSO No. + CQ Zone; Logs due: May 31.

[SKCC Weekend Sprintathon](#), May 11, 1200z to May 13, 0000z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6m; RST + (state/province/country) + Name + (SKCC No./"NONE"); Logs due: May 19.

[CQ-M International DX Contest](#), May 11, 1200z to May 12, 1159z; CW, SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; RS(T) + Serial No.; Logs due: June 11.

[Arkansas QSO Party](#), May 11, 1400z to May 12, 0200z; CW, Phone, Digital; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 2m; AR: RS(T) + County, non-AR: RS(T) + (state/province/"DX"); Logs due: May 25.

[FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint](#), May 11, 1700z to May 11, 2100z; CW; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; FISTS: RST + (state/province/country) + first name + FISTS No., non-FISTS: RST + (state/province/country) + first name + power; Logs due: June 10.

[WAB 7 MHz Phone/CW](#), May 12, 1000z to May 12, 1400z; CW, SSB; Bands: 40m Only; British Isles: RS + serial no. + WAB square, Other: RS + serial no. + country; Logs due: June 2.

[4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint](#), May 13, 0000z to May 13, 0200z; CW, SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; Member: RS(T) + (State/Province/Country) + Member No., Non-member: RS(T) + (State/Province/Country) + Power; Logs due: May 15.

[RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB](#), May 13, 1900z to May 13, 2030z; SSB; Bands: 80m Only; RS + Serial No.; Logs due: May 14.

[Phone Fray](#), May 15, 0230z to May 15, 0300z; SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15m; NA: Name + (state/province/country), non-NA: Name; Logs due: May 17.

[CWops Mini-CWT Test](#), May 15, 1300z to May 15, 1400z and, May 15, 1900z to May 15, 2000z and, May 16, 0300z to May 16, 0400z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; Member: Name + Member No., non-Member: Name + (state/province/country); Logs due: May 18.

## VHF+ CONTESTS

[Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest](#), May 4, 0000z to May 5, 1600z; CW, SSB, FM; Bands: 6, 2m; RS(T) + 6-character grid square; Logs due: May 10.

[SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Contest and Club Challenge](#), May 4, 0600 (local) to May 5, 2359 (local); Any; Bands: 2.3 GHz and up; 6-character Maidenhead locator; Logs due: June 4.

[Microwave Spring Sprint](#), May 4, 0800 (local) to May 4, 1400 (local); not specified; Bands: All above 902 MHz; 6-character grid square; Logs due: May 18.

[50 MHz Spring Sprint](#), May 11, 2300z to May 12, 0300z; not specified; Bands: 6m Only; 4-character grid square; Logs due: May 25.

Also, see [SKCC Sprint Europe](#), [SKCC Weekend Sprintathon](#), [Arkansas QSO Party](#), above.

## SFOTA

The last of the SFOTA awards has found their way to the winners of each category. A big congratulation goes out to Ted K7OM who won 1<sup>st</sup> Place plaque for the Most Improved category. His total Q's went from 5,728 Q's in 2017 to 8,195 Q's in 2019! Talk about butt in chair time!

Ted also was awarded certificates for the following: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the RTTY Category, 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the most overall total QSO's for the year, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Digital category, & 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the Most Contests Worked category (43 total).



*KG4IGC presenting K7OM with the Most improved category plaque*



*It was a challenge holding all those certificates!*

We would also like to congratulate Dave NJ4F who won the 3<sup>RD</sup> Place certificate in the RTTY category. Both of these members were unaware that they had won, so I arranged a lunch date with the two of them and their lovely wives so that I could present them with their awards.



Time to start working on getting those SFOTA numbers up! Everyone has a great opportunity to win a category, but **you can't win if you don't play** 😊 Lets get those rigs on the air and have some fun while supporting your club!

## Current Leaderboard

### 2019 OVERALL STANDINGS

	CALL	Contests	CW QSO'S	SSB QSO'S	DIGITAL QSO'S	RTTY QSO'S	TOTAL QSO'S
1)	N4IQ	24	2008	444	25	2152	4629
2)	WN4AFP	46	1471	808	0	290	2569
3)	K7OM	15	907	543	0	1083	2533
4)	KG4IGC	12	265	1025	0	1089	2379
5)	KS4YX	8	280	49	38	1086	1453
6)	NI7R	7	1048	15	0	332	1395
7)	N4VZ	7	0	612	321	271	1204
8)	KG6MC	9	755	393	0	54	1202
9)	WB4HRL	19	36	1056	0	27	1119
10)	WU0B	8	0	761	0	42	803
11)	NJ4F	6	310	54	0	115	479
12)	W1TEF	4	332	79	0	0	411
13)	K4KWB	1	0	125	0	0	125
14)	NE4EA	3	0	43	2	74	119
15)	AJ4UQ	3	1	0	0	100	101
16)	KD4CB	3	9	35	0	0	44

### 2019 INDIVIDUAL MODE STANDINGS

CALL	CW QSO'S	CALL	SSB QSO'S	CALL	DIGITAL QSO'S	CALL	RTTY QSO'S
N4IQ	2008	WB4HRL	1056	N4VZ	321	N4IQ	2152
WN4AFP	1471	KG4IGC	1025	KS4YX	38	KG4IGC	1089
NI7R	1048	WN4AFP	808	N4IQ	25	KS4YX	1086
K7OM	907	WU0B	761	NE4EA	2	K7OM	1083
KG6MC	755	N4VZ	612			NI7R	332
W1TEF	332	K7OM	543			WN4AFP	290
NJ4F	310	N4IQ	444			N4VZ	271
KS4YX	280	KG6MC	393			NJ4F	115
KG4IGC	265	K4KWB	125			AJ4UQ	100
WB4HRL	36	W1TEF	79			NE4EA	74
KD4CB	9	NJ4F	54			KG6MC	54
AJ4UQ	1	KS4YX	49			WU0B	42
		NE4EA	43			WB4HRL	27
		KD4CB	35				
		NI7R	15				

## Tamitha Skov's Space WX :

[Space Weather News | Lyrid Meteors Come, Bright Region Leaves](#)  
[04.18.2019](#)

## *A bit of humor about soldering coax*

(I think we all can relate to this...)

**Murphy's Law #73:** You will complete a perfect solder joint on a PL-259 before noticing you forgot to place the ring on the cable.

**Murphy's Law #73a:** If you remembered the ring, you will find it was installed backwards.

**Murphy's Law #73b:** when reinstalling the connector with the ring correctly installed, all solder joints will be cold.....except those that form a direct short.

*\*\*Credit: Bill Browns post on the Amateur (Ham) Radio Group on Facebook*

**Fun fact:** Guglielmo Marconi's birthday was April 25<sup>th</sup> 1874.

### **Newsletter Contributions:**

*If you would like to submit an article, contesting news, or perhaps a write up on any projects you are working on that you would like to share with the club please send them to [kg4igc@att.net](mailto:kg4igc@att.net).*



*Finis*

*SFCG Newsletter May 2019*