TALES FROM THE SWAMP

April 2024

Editor: Kevan Nason, N4XL

Thank you to our group leadership:

President – Ed, K3DNE
Vice President - Dave, WN4AFP
Treasurer – Scott, KG9V
Secretary – Kevan, N4XL

Web Master – Frank, KG4IGC
SFCG Webpage: swampfoxcontestgroup.com

Welcome N2ZZ

Please Welcome Jim N2ZZ to the Swamp Fox Contest Group!

I mentioned in a separate email that I ran into Tom WA2BCK at the hamfest in Raleigh yesterday. Tom introduced me to Jim N2ZZ, our ARRL Roanoke Section Director. Jim had some very nice things to say about SFCG and our role in the SC QSO Party! Tom had already spoken to Jim about SFCG membership and we received his application this morning.

Jim lives in Aiken. He was originally licensed in 1969 as a teenager and started out his amateur radio career as a CW National Traffic System operator. During that same time, he became an ARRL Official Bulletin Station, and sent out ARRL RTTY bulletins from his QTH in Liverpool, NY on days when W1AW was not scheduled to do so. Jim is a strong supporter of the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and currently is a member of Aiken County ARES and Communication Liaison Officer to Aiken County Emergency Management.

He operates SSB, RTTY, CW and has been very active on FT8 recently with over 13K QSO's logged via that mode (after attending a local club meeting FT8 presentation by our own WB5NHL). He has recently participated in the ARRL DX Contest and several QSO parties in the Roanoke Division. He considers himself more of a DXer than a contester (lets see if SFCG can affect that!) missing only P5 for Top of Honor Roll.

His current station complement centers around an ICOM IC-7850, IC-7610 a FLEX-6700 and an Alpha 87A amplifier, as well as an Elecraft K4D with a KPA-1500 amplifier. He operates VHF/UHF/1.2G all modes via an ICOM IC-9700. He has emergency 12V power, and an Icom IC-7000 and IC-7100 to keep him on the air during a power outage and ready for use in a Go Box. Home Antennas; HF: An open-wire fed G5RV antenna (closer to a ZEPP) tuned by a Palstar HF-AUTO, and an Innovantennas (Force 12) XR-5T beam up

about 60 feet. VHF: Cushcraft A50-5S 6 meter yagi, a horizontally polarized Cushcraft 2 meter 13B2 and for UHF a horizontally polarized M2 432-9WL.

Jim also has an interest in and collects vintage ham gear. Please check out his QRZ.com page for much more info and photos!

Jim: Welcome to the Swamp Fox Contest Group!

73

Ed K3DNE

Editor's Note: Dr. Jim is a very accomplished Ham and has done immense good for our community. As mentioned above, he is active in ARES and is the Communication Liaison Officer to Aiken County Emergency Management. Dr. Jim operates repeaters in the Aiken area. He uses both D-Star and DMR communications. You will not meet many Hams having the breadth of experience he brings to our group. Welcome, Dr. Jim.

Contest Tips:

- EI8IC has a great contesting website. Years ago I saved some information about contesting tips he had gathered from several online reflectors. Here are some highlights. Go to his web page for the complete listing. You will likely see more from those pages in future newsletters.
    - http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/contest/tips.php
    - Be mentally prepared to compete at whatever level you have chosen.
    - If you think your transmit signal is weak and find yourself in a lot of long, frustrating attempts at search and pounce contacts, notice whether you've got your receive preamp on and consider turning it off.
    - One thing that I do is hide the summary window during the contest. I do this because if I see that I have 395 q's on 15, I will stay on the band and try to make 400, even though I should be going back to 20 because 15 is dying now. Probably just kind of a personal thing. I do check after 24 hours to see how the country totals are and whether to look for more mults or q's. The last CQWW CW, I didn't have any idea what my score was close to, until with about 1/2 hour to go, at the bottom of the CT screen, it said something like, "Boy you must be on the east coast with 3M" or "Boy you are good-3 million".
    - If there is no reason why the other station won't come back to you, stop! Check your output power/swr first, then check to see if you are inadvertently operating split.
    - If your rate drops below a certain point (#Q's/hr will vary with the time of day, point in the sunspot cycle and the station itself), work 3 bands every hour - this does not include working occasional people on the second radio - it means going to that band and CQing or S&Ping.
    - While it may seem like a no-brainer on CW to S&P by dumping your call in once at a nice snappy 35 wpm, it's all wasted effort if the guy you're calling can't copy it. Also, many beginning ops aren't sure you're calling them unless they hear their call too. So

vary your speed and think carefully about when the type of operating at the other end might suggest that you use the other guy's call de your own. A smart contester varies his operating procedure according to the conditions of the moment. No, one size does not fit all!

- Situation: Big screaming pile-up to Africa/South American during CW contest. Tactic: Try slowly moving your VFO across the pile-up while sending your call. It is amazing how the frequency change will get the DX stations attention. Move slowly and not so much that you move out of his passband.
- At a rate of 60 Qs/hour, you would work 2,880 stations in a 48-hour contest.
- At 30/hour, you'd work 1,440 stations in a 48-hour contest.
- Even a rate of 15/hour (only one QSO every 4 minutes!), you'd still work 720 stations in 48 hours!
- Cherry pickers don't win. If you give up when the time between Qs stretches out to 4, 6, 10, or more minutes, you give up your competitiveness. A contesters mettle is measured in the dead of night when calling CQ endlessly on a seemingly dead band or when tuning 20m or 40m or any other band straining to pull that next new station out of the noise. (Hint: This is where 1 dB or less makes all the difference in the world.)

K1AR Contest Tips

- 06- How's your Spanish? If you are like me, you know most of the numbers and can "fake" your callsign. With that knowledge, you can be amazingly effective at calling CQ with the beam South during slow hours and work an remarkable number of casual QSOs (and passable mults) to the South. Try it ... as of late, it's never been better!
- 07- Does the physical size of your QTH limit you from erecting 500+ foot beverages? I have discovered that there are times when existing antennas can enhance receiving quality on 80 and 160 Meters. For example, try using your 40 meter antenna on 80 or 160 as a receive array. If stations are loud enough, improved signal-to-noise ratios can more than compensate for reduced signal strength levels and heighten your ability to copy low-band signals - - without a beverage!
- 13- Do you recall the painful experience of having a beautiful QSO run disappear almost instantly? Many times it's nothing more than the band changing. However, it can be often the result of a QRM caused by a station you can't hear. An open frequency does not always mean it is QRM-free on the other end. Try asking the question: "How clear is my frequency on your side?"

From the Reflector:

- Tell us the story behind this Dave, WN4AFP -- My nickname many years ago was "Wheels"
- SFCG's NAQP SSB One Ping Only team finished 8th of 57 in the SSB Contest. Good job K3DNE, N4XL, KG4IGC, K4QQG and KZ3P!
- Herschel KQ4LQL (Maybe soon KA2G?) is a contesting enthusiast. He is looking to expand into RTTY contests. Several people chimed in with helpful advice about how to get started.
- Matt NU4E is used to contesting from the other side of the pond. As we all know, Matt doesn't need much help, but he asked the skulk for ideas on maximizing his score in the CQ WPX SSB contest. He did great. Raw scores show him second in the US in the Classic High Power overlay category and within log error checking distance of first. Don't know how many hours current first place op WS7X put in, but Matt managed a piddling 5,244,920 points in his 19 hours. Matt wrote, "Great weekend on and off the radio. I made a plan where I could've operated 24h as classic permits but I had headache on Saturday afternoon / evening and only operated very limited then and only 2-3h on Sunday morning before I had to leave." See? Even mutants have headaches.
- Dave NJ4F's quest for a vertical led him to consider ground radials after all. We haven't yet heard from him about his final decision.
- Frank KG4IGC posted an article on the SFCG Facebook page about setting transmit audio on the FTDX101D. It peaked my curiosity so I googled audio on that rig. Several internet posters mentioned the radio handles audio a bit differently than what we are used to. If you have one of those rigs it might be worth reading what others have to say rather than relying on how you think it should be adjusted. https://www.wirelessgirl.net/Projects/FTDX101D_AudioSetup.html?fbclid=IwAR1GFbrb_iMDu8HQ4X7FqdSkRotcdmlEDOnZMWHoQ5ESSGRS7vP0lQvVjDk_aem_ARX4F7rhfuWMiUhoRCeBzlRCgqF30D6H3vJdwP_FQIRxKg_Gmh51chHN0AYRsHC2X-0#summary
- Dave WN4AFP took top out of state place LP (of 79 entries) in the 2023 NYQP. Good job Dave.
- 6 meters has been hot. Several ops have enjoyed FT8 and CW contacts. SSB is proving a bit elusive.
- Brian N8WRL is selling his FTdx 5000MP and some accessories (maybe sold by the time this newsletter is put out). It is a good contest radio.
- Herschel KQ4LQL passed his Extra. Congratulations! Several ideas were floated about things to think about when choosing a vanity call.
- Not to be outdone, Advanced Licensee President Ed K3DNE finally got tired of losing Q's during for being out of band. Ed also upgraded to Extra. Great job getting off your duff, Ed!

- Conditions for the CQ WPX contest were phenomenal and the SFCG did very well. Good job people! Let's throw in a bit of humbleness… Ed K3DNE posted a link to the raw scores. The Multi-Op Two-Transmitter station P33W claimed 77,973,296 points. Wow! We've a couple-three more years of what promises to be great propagation. Be sure to work on your antennas now to take advantage of it.
- Herschel KQ4LQL is looking at improving his antennas. He started a discussion about turning what he calls his 80 meter dipole fed with ladder line into a G5RV.
- Suzanne N1SUZ had a great time in the WPX SSB contest and pulled in 498 Q's for 216,660 points. Sorry you missed your goal of 500 Suzanne, but still very respectable. Your idea of improving your 10 meter antenna is good. Hope you follow through on that.
- On April 1st, Dennis K2SX posted a link to a spring sale from KF7P Metalwerks. I'm sorry I missed it. The sale lasted 1 minute and wasn't advertised until after the event. Dang. I'll try next year. I really need that Battery powered ground rod.
- Herschel KQ4LQL is entering the world of High Power with his acquisition of an ALS-600. He is offering a boat anchor 1960's era SBE SB1-LA to someone who might want to restore it. If not, he's pulling the tubes and sending the thing to the local scrap metal collector.
- Ed K3DNE shared a link to some W1DED video's about contesting. I've so far listened to one while working. AA0Z talked about a possible change to future contesting that could entice younger hams (read less than 50 years old). Interesting thoughts.
- Dave WN4AFP found an ancient certificate from 1978 which showed he was awarded First Place, South Carolina in the ARRL Novice Roundup. Licensed, yes, but I doubt many of us have been contesting that long. Good job, Dave.
- George N4QI put his indoor attic antenna to good use in the 2024 British Columbia QSO Party. George posted his certificate for Top Score – SC Low Power. Great work, George!

Spots – Worth Using?

By Kevan Nason N4XL

There was yet another thread on the CQ-Contest reflector about the unreliability of using spots because so many spotted call signs are wrong. Appropriately, the thread was titled "Do not rely on spots for copying callsigns". Interesting to me was why it was started. John, KK9A/P40A wrote he received an email from the 2024 WPX committee asking him to submit his 2024 P40A WPX SSB log so they could use it for log checking. John was not active as P40A during that contest. It turned out P43A was incorrectly spotted as P40A. John surmises so many people incorrectly logged P43A using the busted spot (without first verifying the call) that the WPX folk wanted his P40A log to verify the logs of everyone. Oops.

Charlie KG2V posted the question below. I thought I would my reply with the SFCG membership. The post I referenced from Pete N4ZR and another by John K3TN is included afterwards. Keep in mind as a major developer of the RBN system Pete's words about how skimmers bust spotted calls carry quite a bit of authority.

> Tue Apr 9 08:16:48 EDT 2024
> I've been following the thread, and I'm wondering - has anyone gamed out the "points gained by going faster because of relying on spots/rbn" vs "Cost of busts"
>
> Is it possible that by going faster, you are getting more points than the busts cost?
>
> Just an interesting idea
>
> 73 de KG2V
>
> ---
>
> Fri Apr 12 04:47:13 EDT 2024
> KG2V wrote: has anyone gamed out the "points gained by going faster because of relying on spots/rbn" vs "Cost of busts" Is it possible that by going faster, you are getting more points than the busts cost?
>
> Not only "possible", but getting more points is undoubtedly the case for those contesting competitively or we wouldn't use spots. Busts from bad spots are definitely an annoyance, but not a big issue for operators who have trained themselves to verify the call before logging. 'Point, Click, Work, Log' is another way of saying "I'm in the contest to have fun by working stations quickly. I don't really care if I fill my log with errors."
>
> Think about pre-RBN contesting. If an operator wasn't sure they had the correct call when someone answered their CQ, or when they tuned on a station while S&P, some would take extra care to verify the call before logging it and some wouldn't. Those that didn't had higher claimed scores, but higher error rates resulted in lower actual scores. Good contest ops trying to win became adept at handling questionable calls. I see the same thing happening now with spots. As Pete N4ZR mentioned in his post, once he recognized spots could be bad he learned to scan the list of adjacent calls. For repetitive bad spots he blacklists them. (I'm sure he recognizes he may block a legitimate call while blacklisting, but blocking someone reduces his chances of penalties). And of course, Pete is in a position to influence how the RBN system handles busted spots so he has worked to improve things from the RBN input side of things.

The point is… Operator skill determines how a particular individual handles a bad call – er, I mean a bad spot. The results of gaming it out would be mildly interesting, but of minimal value since many don't really care if their spots are busted. Even people who handle bad spots well handle them differently because of station problems, being tired, if they had a spat with the kids/XYL, etcetera. I've found it best to do what contesters have done for decades. Treat every contact as a new contact and verify the call. Treat the station found by clicking on a spot as an unknown. That click did nothing more than bring you to an unknown station just as if you'd tuned onto them by turning your VFO. As the string subject says… don't trust spotted call signs. Assume the spotted call is wrong and verify it before logging.

Kevan N4XL

Tue Apr 9 06:40:15 EDT 202
Skimmers do bust spots, but the spot quality filters on AR clusters have gone a long way to cleaning them up - good writeup on now to use them in the N1MM documentation - The Telnet Window – N1MM Logger Plus

Last year in NAQP CW and SSB, many of us used "Fred" as our name to honor SK K3ZO. This year in NAQP I got several "Thanks, Fred - QRZ?" which cost those history file users a Q and maybe the rare MD mult...

Spots, prefills, history files, etc are like AI - they still need human review!

73 John K3TN

Tue Apr 9 11:50:15 EDT 2024

I don't think it's "either/or". My contest operating these days is 100% CW, all assisted (99 percent RBN) and almost all S&P - but I'm acutely aware of the risk of bad spots. On CW, these days, bad RBN spots tend to be callsigns either truncated or run together with non-call fragments - like T's added on the end of callsigns from "TEST". I blacklist those busted calls when I see them. Most often they tend to be obvious because someone else spots the real call at about the same time. And believe it or not, I listen hard to make sure that the callsign I hear is in fact the one going into my log.

73, Pete N4ZR

Observations by the Editor:

- From the RSGBTechnical reflector:

  Paul Evans EI6LC Apr 7 #73775
  Just a note to anybody with a fibreglass (sic. glass fibre) collinear type antenna. UV really eats through the rather thin top resin layer on these. In FL the average life of a Shakespeare marine antenna [VERY expensive] is as low as 4 years. Touching the antenna will leave you with plenty of glass 'splinters' and I've seen the whole tube falling apart. The best preventative measure is to paint the surface with good old white emulsion paint (like on ceilings). Best done with a smallish brush and after maybe a year of exposure so that it ''keys' to the slightly roughened surface as it degrades. It has no effect on matching but will prolong the lifetime of the outer cover. Same goes for Hexbeam or Quad spreaders.....
  73, Paul.

- Remote operating has taken off the last few years. Some CW operators want to hear a sidetone when operating. That is difficult to do when the transmitter is in Maine, and you are in South Carolina. One possible solution comes from the CWOPS reflector:

  #63857
  Is anyone using Winkeyer Remote to allow use of paddles at the remote location, e.g., a hotel room while travelling?

  I'm considering trying this out but I know the delay makes some sort of local sidetone necessary and am wondering how that works. I don't want to use the Winkeyer buzzer as I usually operate while Stacie is asleep. Is there a method of providing local sidetone via the headphones? Alternatively, can the buzzer volume be adjusted?

  Anything else I should consider?

  73 de Chuck, WS1L

  #63861
  I modified my client side Winkeyer for this exact purpose. I added a 5VDC relay to switch between remote audio and internal sidetone using the WinKeyer's built-in PTT to trigger the relay. Works like a champ. If anyone wants to see how it was done, I produced a PDF with instructions and pictures.

  --
  73, Bob Patten, N4BP Plantation, FL

- It can sometimes be complicated to set up MMTTY. Although written specifically for the FT-991, perhaps there is some helpful information for other radios too. [How to] Configuring your FT-991/A for Native (FSK) RTTY mode. https://github.com/rfrht/FT-991A/wiki/Configuring-FT-991A-for-native-FSK-RTTY-mode
- I read yesterday about a ham having an issue with his IC7300 and asked a reflector for help. There wasn't any output power on FT8 when using WSJTX. Matt NU4E helped do some troubleshooting. Problem resolved. Turned out to be the master volume control in Windows was set to zero. Another case of Windows being the problem rather than our radio or ham software. I must have said it in one fashion or another here in these newsletters a dozen times. If a problem crops up that could even remotely involve the way Windows handles audio, then the Windows sound settings are the first thing I check before looking at my ham stuff. Good job, Matt.
- Doug WA1TUT responded to a question on the Amateur-repairs reflector about a Plate transformer rewinding service. Doug wrote:

  > In the recent past and maybe now, MFJ/Ameritron division had their amplifier plate transformers available as replacement parts for reasonable prices.
  >
  > That includes transformers for an 4-811A amp up to 1500 watt 8877 amps.
  > One of those transformers could be adapted to almost any amp.
  >
  > 73,
  > Doug/WA1TUT

N1MM+ Tips:

NOTE: Unless otherwise specified references to problems people are having, solutions, and tips come from the N1MMLoggerPlus Group.io reflector. A search there for items described should turn up the original posts and replies.

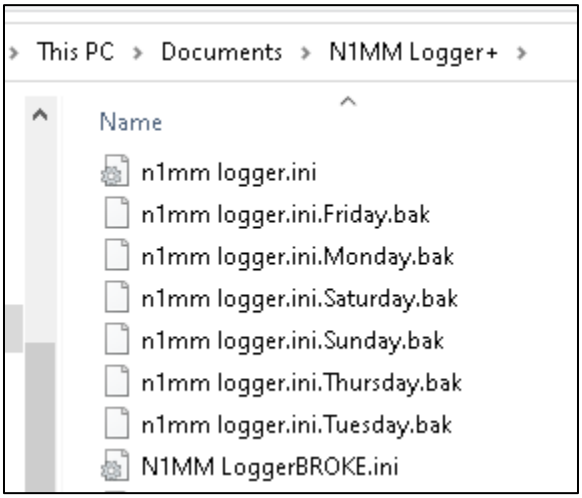
- N1MM is a great program, but like virtually every complex thing it is subject to visits from Mr. Murphy. We've covered it in past newsletters, but Ron WV4P gave a great summary of a feature the programmers built in that sometimes easily solves many issues that crop up. N1MM settings are stored in an .ini file, which is backed up every time you start N1MM. So if you make a change and things stop working you can rename the previously saved files from a time the program that was working and use it. That has saved me much aggravation over the years.

  Apr 7 #84454

  Bud,

  N1MM Makes a Backup of the .ini file every day. The .ini file is what stores all of your user settings, window positions and lots of other cool stuff.

  In the /Documents/ N1MM directory you will find these files.



  The Friday, Monday etc are Backups... the top one n1mm logger.ini is the current file it is using, the one at the bottom that says Broke is for illustration purposes.

  Close the N1MM Program

  Right click on n1mm logger.ini Change the name to n1mmloggerBroke.ini.

  Right click on (2 or 3 days back) one of the weekdays.ini and delete the .DAYOFWEEK.bak so it is n1mm logger.ini

Close all of that, Open N1MM and it should be restored to normal and what you expect. IF for some reason it's not, go back another day or 2 on the backups. and repeat the process.

Hopefully this helps,

Ron, WV4P

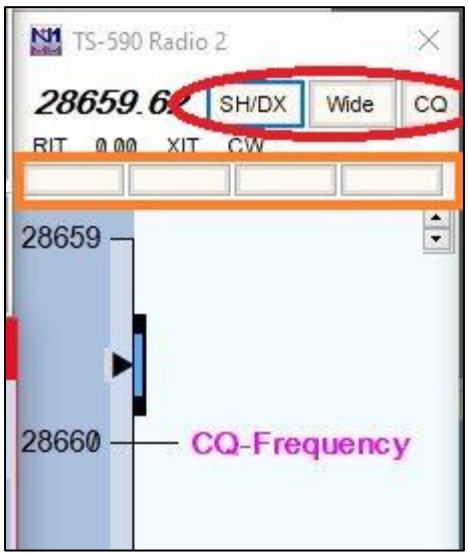
- Enter Sends Message (ESM) is a bit confusing to use at first, but is well worth the time to learn. It greatly improves efficiency and reduces fatigue whether you Run or do S&P. It is an almost invaluable tool for SO2R. However, it did cause issues for some when switching modes. Recent updates to N1MM have made ESM operation mode aware.
- N1MM's Programmable Band Map Window Control Buttons

Good station ergonomics includes making controls you use frequently easy to access. I have my TS590's right next to the keyboard and mouse, the paddles and SO2R box at hand, and the antenna switches and rotor right above them to allow ease of use. They are all within easy eye and head movement of the computer screens which minimizes the muscle strain that inevitably comes with a 30+ hour contest effort.

But there are still a couple issues with my arrangement. One is the TS590 pushbuttons are often dual purpose. Different things happen depending on how long you push them. When in a hurry trying to copy a station through the QRM/QRN I sometimes mess up that timing and select the wrong function. For example, I have put the attenuator on instead of selecting the receive antenna because those two share the same button on the TS590. It's a pain when the weak station goes completely away while you are frantically cycling the receive antenna direction looking for him until you realize you screwed up and attenuated him out. Lost a few q's because of that.

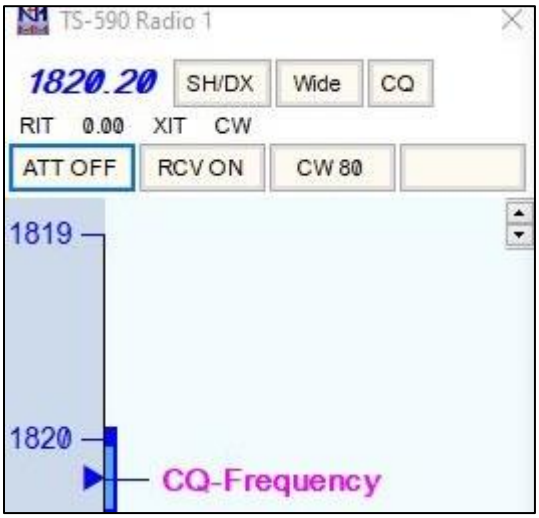
Another problem is occasionally what I want to do cannot be done with the press of a single button. To access it I need to push or turn two or three buttons and knobs. Some of you have your rigs fairly far from your keyboards and one member of our group uses an extension to reach the VFO knob so I'm sure some of you, like me, have an occasional issue or two adjusting your rig controls during a contest. It would be nice if things could be easier. N1MM has a way to help us out.

At the top of the band map window are three fixed use (red circle) and four user programmable buttons (orange square). The SH/DX button downloads spots from a cluster if connected. The “Wide” button switches your rig between wide and narrow filters. Filter width is remembered separately for each of the CW, SSB, and Digital modes. The “CQ” button requires a bit of explanation. If you tune the VFO off your CQ frequency, as is shown in the image, when you click on the CQ button the rig will return to the CQ frequency you last used on that band. Pushing it a second time returns you to that last used S&P frequency. And the “SH/DX” button downloads a bunch of spots from whatever spotting cluster you are connected to.



Let’s talk more about those orange highlighted programmable buttons. Most rigs allow computer control and have a PC command set of codes that tell the rig what to do. Things like change VFO’s, turn the attenuator on or off, what mode to use, go to split operation, etc. You can tell these programmable buttons to perform virtually every command found in your rigs command set.

It is possible to change the command sent to the radio when the fixed use button for the Wide and Narrow filter selection is clicked to any radio command. When I first started playing with these, I had filled up the four programmable buttons and once set the filter button to turn the attenuator on and off. But I could not change the text description of the button. That confused me during a contest, so it did not take long to return the filter button to normal and reassign the programmable buttons to include the attenuator function.

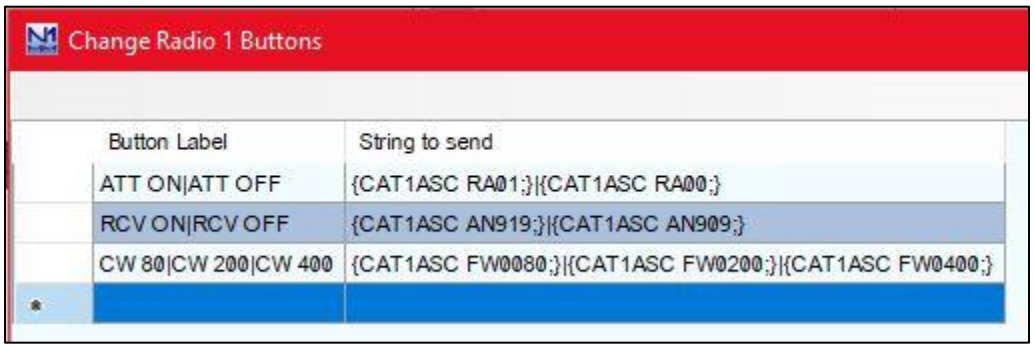


I have so far programmed three of the four user programmable buttons. The first switches the attenuator in/out. The second switches the K9AY low band receive antenna in/out. That antenna is a directional, but broad patterned, four-way loop. The controller is not set up to switch directions from the computer so I still have to reach over and change directions, but I have found that I often have low band propagation in DX contests to a specific region (i.e.: EU or SA) and am often able to set the direction and only infrequently change it.

I learned to appreciate the versatility of my previous rigs which had three CW filters. The TS590 has several more than three band widths available but is only able to select between two using the filter wide/narrow button. You can change the bandwidth of either of those two choices to any of the fourteen different available CW bandwidths (from 50 to 2500 Hz), but you still only have two available by pushing the “Wide/Narrow” filter button. Additionally, there is no visual numerical indication on the rig or in N1MM that tells me

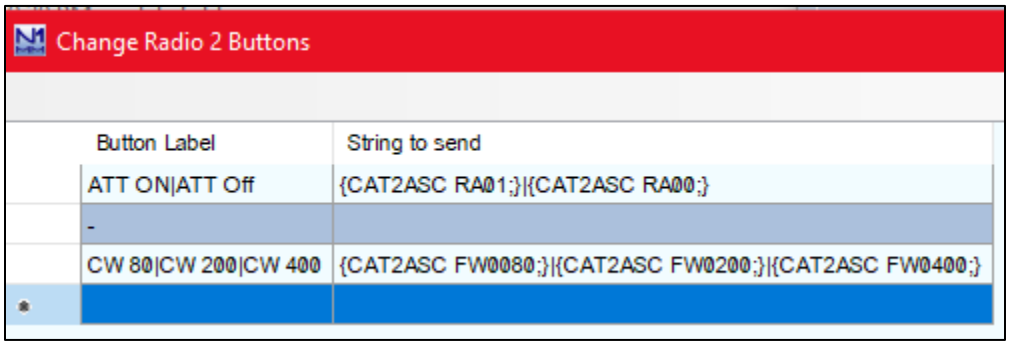
what the bandwidth currently selected is. I recently set up the third user programmable button to allow cycling between filter bandwidths of 80, 200 and 400 Hz. By clicking on the “CW 80” button it changes to “CW 250” and then “CW 400”. At one point I had programmed the last two programmable buttons to set the SSB High and Low cut frequencies independently from the chosen wide and narrow settings. That gave me great flexibility to quickly stop adjacent QRM without having to turn a radio knob. I later elected to drop that SSB flexibility for the more used CW options. I instead set my two SSB filters up to filter QRM that was either above or below me. I set one up for a 300-1600 bandwidth and the other for a 500-2200. That covers most of my needs and is still manually adjustable on the rig by pushing the IF filter button or using the Wide/Nar N1MM button if I need to tailor things for particularly rough interference.

You can find details of how to program the buttons in the Bandmap Window section of the N1MM+ manual. Here is the code structure I used for my TS590’s. Your codes will likely be different unless you have a 590 too. And of course, should you want to program different functions for your 590 you will need the codes for them instead of the codes shown here. PC codes for my rig were available online.


Change Radio 1 Buttons

Button Label	String to send
ATT ON|ATT OFF	{CAT1ASC RA01;}|{CAT1ASC RA00;}
RCV ON|RCV OFF	{CAT1ASC AN919;}|{CAT1ASC AN909;}
CW 80|CW 200|CW 400	{CAT1ASC FW0080;}|{CAT1ASC FW0200;}|{CAT1ASC FW0400;}

If you use SO2R, or maybe SO2V, configuration note the title of this window is “Change Radio 1 Buttons”. Buttons are independently configurable for each radio, and perhaps VFO, that you use in your station. You will have to do your own research to determine if this will work with two VFO operation. Below are my second radio programmable button codes. Note the {CAT2…} format verses the {CAT1…} format used for radio 1. I do not have a radio 2 button programmed for the RCV antenna because I do not have a receive antenna connected to the second radio. I kept the button order for radio 2 the same as radio 1 despite no RCV antenna because standardization helps me make fewer mistakes after 30+ hours of contesting. I look the same place in either Band Map window for the button to do the same thing regardless of if I am trying to control radio 1 or radio 2.


Change Radio 2 Buttons

Button Label	String to send
ATT ON|ATT Off	{CAT2ASC RA01;}|{CAT2ASC RA00;}
-	
CW 80|CW 200|CW 400	{CAT2ASC FW0080;}|{CAT2ASC FW0200;}|{CAT2ASC FW0400;}

Upcoming Contests:

See the WA7BNM webpages https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

SFOTA Current Leaderboard:

Apr-15-2024

Current Leaderboard

2024 OVERALL STANDINGS

	CALL	Contests	CW QSO'S	SSB QSO'S	DIGITAL QSO'S	RTTY QSO'S	TOTAL QSO'S
1)	N4IQ	31	3733	2095	0	3290	9118
2)	WB4HRL	98	5492	893	8	1350	7743
3)	WN4AFP	47	4067	2205	0	0	6272
4)	K2SX	19	6186	0	0	0	6186
5)	KE4EA	76	4500	354	8	3	4865
6)	K3DNE	17	1042	3356	101	0	4499
7)	N4XL	5	3438	976	0	0	4414
8)	KZ3P	32	632	2449	0	1014	4095
9)	NU4E	4	1600	2151	44	0	3795
10)	K4QQG	21	0	3086	3	516	3605
11)	KG4IGC	7	304	782	0	1563	2649
12)	AA5JF	7	1745	806	14	0	2565
13)	K4FT	29	1915	158	0	0	2073
14)	KY4ID	13	1185	62	0	377	1624
15)	NI7R	3	1220	88	0	0	1308
16)	N4QI	24	817	267	0	222	1306
17)	N1UZ	7	290	0	0	987	1277
18)	N1SUZ	16	0	1274	0	0	1274
19)	AA4SD	10	1269	0	0	0	1269
20)	KQ4LQL	12	0	1259	0	0	1259
21)	K7OM	8	155	0	0	899	1054
22)	KD4S	18	602	64	5	296	967
23)	WA4LDU	11	147	359	163	183	852
24)	KS4YX	5	176	0	13	565	754
25)	N4VZ	9	0	433	9	255	697
26)	W1RPG	6	0	596	0	0	596
27)	WB5NHL	9	0	194	0	102	296
28)	N2OG	5	124	122	0	0	246
29)	N4VGE	1	0	167	0	0	167

2024 INDIVIDUAL MODE STANDINGS

CALL	CW QSO'S
K2SX	6186
WB4HRL	5492
KE4EA	4500
WN4AFP	4067
N4IQ	3733
N4XL	3438
K4FT	1915
AA5JF	1745
NU4E	1600
AA4SD	1269
NI7R	1220
KY4ID	1185
K3DNE	1042
N4QI	817
KZ3P	632
KD4S	602
KG4IGC	304
N1UZ	290
KS4YX	176
K7OM	155
WA4LDU	147
N2OG	124

CALL	SSB QSO'S
K3DNE	3356
K4QQG	3086
KZ3P	2449
WN4AFP	2205
NU4E	2151
N4IQ	2095
N1SUZ	1274
KQ4LQL	1259
N4XL	976
WB4HRL	893
AA5JF	806
KG4IGC	782
W1RPG	596
N4VZ	433
WA4LDU	359
KE4EA	354
N4QI	267
WB5NHL	194
N4VGE	167
K4FT	158
N2OG	122
NI7R	88
KD4S	64
KY4ID	62

CALL	DIGITAL QSO'S
WA4LDU	163
K3DNE	101
NU4E	44
AA5JF	14
KS4YX	13
N4VZ	9
KE4EA	8
WB4HRL	8
KD4S	5
K4QQG	3

CALL	RTTY QSO'S
N4IQ	3290
KG4IGC	1563
WB4HRL	1350
KZ3P	1014
N1UZ	987
K7OM	899
KS4YX	565
K4QQG	516
KY4ID	377
KD4S	296
N4VZ	255
N4QI	222
WA4LDU	183
WB5NHL	102
KE4EA	3

3830 Activity:

We haven't said in a couple years, but we decided to not post the regular weekly events like CWT's to minimize space.

Contest	Call	Class	Power	Score
144SprngSprnt				
04/04/24	WA4LDU	Single Op	LP	130
BARTG				
03/17/24	N4IQ	SOAB	HP	424,800
03/18/24	KG4IGC	SOAB	LP	349,320
03/18/24	NN4SS	SOAB	HP	75,816
03/19/24	K7OM	SOAB	HP	55,370
03/18/24	WB4HRL	SOAB	HP	40,500
03/17/24	N1UZ	SOAB	LP	8,800
EA RTTY				
04/07/24	KG4IGC	SOAB	LP	16,758
04/08/24	K7OM	SOAB	HP	4,389
GaQP				
04/15/24	WN4AFP	Single OpMixed	LP	8,845
04/15/24	KD4S	Single OpMixed	HP	4,255
04/15/24	KQ4LQL	Single OpSSB	HP	3,234
04/15/24	N4QI	Single OpMixed	LP	578
04/15/24	N1SUZ	Single OpSSB	LP	352
IdQP				
03/25/24	KQ4LQL	SOABSSB	LP	120
IG-RY RTTY				
04/14/24	N4IQ	Single Op	HP	33,748
04/15/24	K7OM	Single Op	HP	3,828
04/14/24	N4QI	Single Op	LP	208
LaQP				
04/07/24	WN4AFP	Fixed Mixed Wires	LP	1,164
04/07/24	KD4S	Fixed Mixed Wires	HP	210
04/07/24	WB4HRL	Fixed Mixed TB-Wires	HP	208
04/07/24	N1SUZ	Fixed SSB	LP	144
04/09/24	KE4EA	Fixed Mixed TB-Wires	LP	108

Contest	Call	Class	Power	Score
04/07/24	K4QQG	Fixed SSB TB-Wires	HP	84
04/07/24	KZ3P	Fixed Mixed	HP	60
04/09/24	K4FT	Fixed CW/Dig Wires	LP	8
MoQP				
04/07/24	WN4AFP	SO Fixed	LP	18,244
04/07/24	KZ3P	SO Fixed	HP	3,948
04/07/24	KD4S	SO Fixed	HP	3,652
04/07/24	WB4HRL	SO Fixed	HP	1,675
04/11/24	KE4EA	SO Fixed	LP	720
04/07/24	WA4LDU	SO Fixed	LP	548
04/07/24	K4QQG	SO Fixed	HP	432
04/07/24	N1SUZ	SO Fixed	LP	432
04/08/24	KQ4LQL	SO Fixed	LP	176
04/09/24	K4FT	SO Fixed	LP	72
04/08/24	N4QI	SO Fixed	LP	50
04/07/24	K3DNE	SO Fixed	HP	30
MSQP				
04/07/24	WN4AFP	Single Op	LP	494
04/07/24	WB4HRL	Single Op	HP	198
04/07/24	KZ3P	Single Op	HP	192
04/07/24	KD4S	Single Op	HP	180
04/07/24	N1SUZ	Single Op	LP	143
04/07/24	K4QQG	Single Op	HP	80
04/09/24	K4FT	Single Op	LP	32
04/11/24	KE4EA	Single Op	LP	12
04/08/24	N4QI	Single Op	LP	8
NA Sprint SSB March				
03/24/24	K3DNE	Single Op	HP	12,036
03/24/24	N4IQ	Single Op	HP	11,928
03/24/24	W4GE	Single Op	HP	9,776
03/24/24	WN4AFP	Single Op	LP	6,302
03/25/24	KZ3P	Single Op	HP	6,106
NDQP				
04/14/24	WN4AFP	Fixed	LP	21
04/15/24	KD4S	Fixed	HP	8
04/14/24	N4QI	Fixed	LP	6

Contest	Call	Class	Power	Score
04/15/24	N1SUZ	Out of State	LP	6
04/14/24	KQ4LQL	Fixed	HP	1
NMQP				
04/14/24	WN4AFP	Single Op	LP	2,760
04/14/24	KQ4LQL	Single Op	HP	216
04/14/24	N1SUZ	Single Op	HP	187
04/14/24	KD4S	Single Op	HP	12
OkQP				
03/25/24	KQ4LQL	SOABSSB	LP	874
SEQP				
04/09/24	N1SUZ	Single Op	LP	13,468
04/10/24	WA4LDU	Single Op	LP	6,069
SP DX				
04/08/24	N4QI	SOABMixed	LP	192
04/07/24	N1SUZ	SOABSSB	LP	126
04/07/24	KZ3P	SOABSSB	HP	90
04/07/24	K4QQG	SOABSSB	HP	60
VaQP				
03/18/24	KQ4LQL	SOAB/PhFixed	LP	18,509
03/18/24	WN4AFP	SOAB/MixedFixed	LP	10,856
03/18/24	WB4HRL	SOAB/MixedFixed	HP	8,840
03/18/24	N1SUZ	SOAB/PhFixed	LP	7,260
03/18/24	K4FT	SOAB/CWFixed	LP	6,630
03/18/24	KZ3P	SOAB/MixedFixed	HP	5,240
03/18/24	K4QQG	SOAB/PhFixed	HP	4,186
03/18/24	KE4EA	SOAB/MixedFixed	LP	2,556
03/17/24	N4QI	SOAB/MixedFixed	LP	1,350
03/18/24	N4XL	SOAB/MixedFixed	LP	703
03/18/24	K3DNE	SOAB/PhFixed	HP	180
03/17/24	KJ4WKD	SOAB/PhFixed	LP	25
WiQP				
03/25/24	KQ4LQL	Rookie SO	LP	1,025

Contest	Call	Class	Power	Score
WPX SSB				
04/01/24	NU4E	SOAB Classic	HP	5,253,200
04/01/24	N4IQ	SOAB TB-Wires	HP	1,176,134
04/01/24	KZ3P	SOAB TB-Wires	HP	827,388
04/01/24	N1SUZ	SOAB Unassisted	LP	216,660
03/31/24	WW4SF(@KG4IGC)	SOAB	LP	181,750
04/01/24	WB4HRL	SOAB TB-Wires	HP	36,630
03/31/24	N4XL	SOAB	LP	27,600
04/04/24	AA4VT	SOAB	HP	18,720
03/31/24	KQ4LQL	SOSB40 Rookie	LP	4,140
04/01/24	KB4FHA	SOAB	HP	3,318
04/13/24	KZ3P	Single Op	LP	195

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73 es QRT de N4XL