

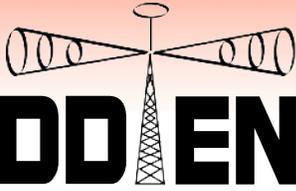
K7MPR.NET

March of 2017



News Letter

ODD ENNA CONTEST



M.A.R.C. is pleased to announce that we are holding a contest for our membership to show off your "Home-Brew" skills in the field of Antenna building. We are looking to have a bit of creative fun with this, so even 'tho Functionality counts for 60% of the final score, Originality, Durability, Ingenuity and Overall Appearance each category will count for 10% of the scoring too. Dig into your junk boxes as Slinkies, Bedsprings and Brake-drums are all possible starting places for your special inspiration! Time to let your INNER genius OUT, and show the Club what your best shot is.

Win Love, Respect and Wealth!

(Well... the Respect of your fellow Hams at least, we can only do so much here.)

I'll Drink To That!

Guglielmo Marconi, radio pioneer, inventor businessman and electrical engineer was the great-grandson of John Jameson, founder of Jameson Irish Whiskey. In the mid 1990's, a commemorative issue of Jameson Whiskey, named "Marconi" was bottled to honor the 100th Anniversary of his accomplishments.



The Editors' Voice

by Jamie West

Ladies and Gentlemen, start your soldering irons!

My introduction to electronics in general, and amateur radio specifically came courtesy of my local Heathkit dealer, and it has served me quite well over the years. I am scarcely alone in this, as many thousands of Hams spent their spare time carefully laying out the packets of parts, checking them against the schematics, and then proceeding step-by-step to assemble a working radio, VTVM, audio generator or some other piece of gear that not only was a functioning bit of equipment, but regarded with a special pride. Sadly, the days of Heath are long past us, as is Eico, Lafayette and a few others. However the very spirit and the character of amateur radio is based upon the curious experimenter tinkering up a better gadget to improve upon something, or in the case of the earliest "hams" to invent devices to do that which had never been done before. These days, the art and science of radio has progressed to the point that many bits of the technology are simply impossible for the home-based experimenter to replicate, or even to get a peek inside. Large Scale Integrated Circuits containing millions of transistors are sealed pieces that are impossible to decode for

(Continued on Page 3)

Tom Schiller, N6BT Speaks to Club

In an interesting and very informative talk, Tom Schiller, N6BT, Owner and Chief Engineer for Next Generation Antennas of Kingman, Az. spoke at length to the club this past Feb. 7th. about the various antennas he designs and manufactures.

Formerly of Force 12, a company that he also founded, Tom is a well respected author and authority on antenna design, theory and the practical aspects of building a variety of antenna designs. His book, "Array of Light", at nearly three hundred pages is not only an entertaining read, but a comprehensive and understandable explanation of theory, and the practical aspects of all things antenna.

Tom not only gave a detailed and informative talk on the antennas, but also he spoke at some length about the various expeditions that he has taken his equipment on, and the various challenges of operating in less than optimal conditions. Some of the talk was well over the heads of a number of the members in attendance, but impressive overall. We very much hope to see and hear more from Tom in the near future. By all means, take a look at his website at www.N6BT.com.

It's well worth your time.



TU7C Cote d'Ivoire

Members of F6KOP Club will be active from Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) 9 - 19 March 2017 as TU7C.

Team - F4AJQ, F1ULQ, F2DX, F4AZF, F4DLM, F4DSE, F5MFV, F5TVG, F5VHQ, ON4QX, ON8KW.

They will operate on 160 - 6m CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK.

QSL via F1ULQ, LOTW, OQRS ClubLog. Ads for direct QSL: Jean-Luc Missler, 7 Rue de la liberte, 57720 Obergailbach, France.

JD1BLY Chichi Jima Island Ogasawara Islands

J15RPT will be active again from Chichi Jima Island, (IOTA AS-031), Ogasawara Islands 7 - 10 March 2017 as JD1BLY.

He will be operate on 160 - 10 m CW, SSB, Digital modes.

QSL via home call.

Ads for direct QSL:

MAKOTO KOYANAGI, 37-1 S-507, Negishiasahidai, Naka-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa, 231-0854, Japan.

PZ5W Suriname

Matt, K0BBC will be active again from Suriname 27 - 30 January 2017 in as PZ5W. He will operate on HF Bands SSB, Digital modes.

QSL via N0AT, LOTW.

Ads for direct QSL:

RONALD A DOHMEN, N0AT, 125 MAGNOLIA LN, PLYMOUTH, MN 55441

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(Editors Voice continued from Page 1)

all but the largest manufacturers, but this does not mean that “home-brewing” is a totally dead art. Many of the advances in antennas, tuners and the like have come from the work of people that had “a better idea” and the time and talent to develop that idea into a working design. Even if you have little desire to be the inventor of the “Next Big Thing” in radio, it will pay off in practical ways if you can at least effect basic troubleshooting and repairs on your own equipment. It is essential that any amateur worth the name be able to properly assemble cables and the associated connectors, check continuity of connections, be able to read volts, amps and ohms at an absolute minimum. Far too many of today’s hams have let these skills erode to the point of nothingness, seemingly preferring to just be “appliance operators”, devoid of any vestige of real knowledge of how their own equipment operates, beneath that shiny front panel. There is really no feeling to compare with the satisfaction of doing your own repair and having everything spring to life again. When and if the much ballyhooed SHTF time ever comes, the ham that can get a message out using simple things will win the day, for certain. Digital, Packet & computer protocols are all fine things until the Web is down, the repeaters are no longer functioning, and the water is rising, then is when being able to get a pip-squeak message out QRP really counts. Be the hero that can do that!

THE RADIO MAN

BRIAN BOCKIUS / K7BOC

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(DXPeditions from Page 2)

FY/F6CKD French Guiana

FY/F6CKD. Gerard, F6CKD will be active from French Guiana until 28 March 2017 as FY/F6CKD.

He is working on HF Bands.

QSL via home call.

Ads for direct QSL:

G rard DELEPINE, 8 rue de DAX, 44800 SAINT-HERBLAIN, France.

A25UK Botswana

G0VJG with Team will be active from Botswana 25 April - 6 May 2017 as A25UK. They will operate on 160 - 10m CW, SSB, RTTY.

QSL via M0OXO, OQRS.

Ads for direct QSL:

Charles Wilmott, 60 Church Hill, Royston, Barnsley, South Yorkshire. S71 4NG, England.

V21ZG Antigua Island

V21ZG Antigua Island : DL7AFS and DJ7ZG will be active again from Antigua Island (IOTA NA-100) 28 February - 26 March 2017 as V21ZG.

They will operate on 80-6 m (including 60m Band) mainly SSB, RTTY, PSK, SSTV.

QSL via DL7AFS direct, ClubLog OQRS, LOTW.

Ads for direct QSL:

Baerbel Linge, Eichwaldstr. 86, 34123 Kassel, Germany.

FAST FACT

The fastest CW operator in the world for near 60 years was Theodore Roosevelt McElroy copying at an astounding 77 wpm at the 1939 world championship. He also had an award winning typing speed of 150 wpm.

Radio Waves

by Jamie West

