



Shark's Teeth



Sporadic Ham Radio Club
 PO Box 591 - Getzville, NY 14068
www.k2fa.org news@k2fa.org

June, 2002

Ready For Field Day?

President's Letter

Dan Emblidge, W2HQ

Well June has arrived. Field Day is only days away. It appears that all essential antennas are in place and ready for radiating K2FA around the country. I have the feeling that we will be a force to be reckoned with this year in our 3D category. It's going to be a lot of fun trying to take it. So come on out and lend a hand. All are welcome.

The Guest Page is back up and running. Stop by and leave a note so we know you are out there. The hit counter continues to grow on the DXZONE page. We are also now listed as a Specialty club on the HAMGATE web page. There is now listed on our WEB page the time and frequency of our official Sporadic net. Monday nights at 10:00PM on 146.595. The first few Mondays have seen a good turn out by our officers. So stop by and say "Hi". All are welcome. As usual the web page is in a constant state of change. Still waiting for suggestions....

In this issue...

President's Letter	1
Field Day 2002	1
SHRC Roundtable Net	2
Armed Forces Day Anniversary	2
US Islands Award Program	2
Turd Island DX-Pedition	3
Kid's Day	3
IRC-Internet Relay Chat or a way to get that DX QSL card?	4
Cluster Rage	5
Editorial	5
Propagation Predictions	6
DX News	6
FCC, CORES, ULS, FRN, etc.	7
Contest Calendar	7
Hamword Puzzle	8

So far we have had quite the cool Spring. As Buffalo goes.. We jump from Winter to Summer. So hopefully Summer has made it's grand entrance and there is nothing left but warm dry weather for us. Hopefully with Field day comes a nice warm dry week-end for us. So what I am getting at is, I hope everyone has a great Summer. See ya'll around.

73 cul de W2HQ

Field Day 2002

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

Clear your calendars, lube and polish your paddles, clean the peanut crumbs out of your microphone's wind screen because Field Day

is right around the corner. This year we will be running 3D from 200 Campbell Blvd. Since we are a small club (and we enjoy having at least some level of comfort) we will be operating from my garage. I promise to have it reasonably cleaned out and sufficient tables, chairs and a coffee pot installed in time for the weekend.

Pete Vetter, KF2U has checked out several different logging programs and has selected the one that we will be using.

Stay tuned to the club net and web-site for more details.

SHRC Roundtable Net

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

On May 14, three members of SHRC participated in a roundtable discussion on 2 meter FM. This could be the spark needed to finally get a club net off the ground and on the air. I'll be looking for you every Monday evening at 10:00 p.m. 146.595 MHz FM.

Armed Forces Day Anniversary

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

I participated in this years Armed Forces Day Celebration. This is an annual event where amateurs test their abilities to contact US military stations operating cross-band on military frequencies. In the event of a widespread communications emergency, this type of operation may be required.

I received the RTTY message addressed to

amateurs from Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld. I was unable to get the message last year because I didn't know that it was sent at 75 baud versus the 45 baud generally used by amateurs. Here it is as received with errors and all:

THE FOLLOWING IU THVETARY OF
DEFENSE'S ARMED FORCES DAY MESSAGE
FOR AMATEUR RADIO AND MILITARY
AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM OPERATORS:

ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, AND
THEREAFTER, MANY IN THE AMATEUGPB AND
MILITARY AFFILIATE RADIO SYSTEM
COMMUNITIES VIDED NEEDED ASSISTANCE
AT THE TERRORIST ATTACK SITES. YOU
CARRIED ON A LONG TRADITION; FOR
YEARS, RADIO OPERATERS HAVE PROVIDED
THE MUVH APPRECIATED LINK TO HOME FOR
OUR DEPLOYED SERVICE MEM AND WOMEN.
YOUR SERVICE TO YOUR NATION AND TO
OTHERS IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.
THANK YOUUM

/S/ DONALD RUMSFELD
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Contacts with NAV-4 (Great Lakes Naval Training Center) and AAZ (Headquarters US Army Signal Corps) rounded out my participation in this years test. This is an important test and I urge everyone to participate next year.

US Islands Award Program

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP



The United States Islands Awards Program, USI, covers saltwater and inland fresh water river or lake islands of the fifty (50) states of the United States. USI was formed to further enhance "island chasing" that has become so popular on the amateur radio bands. The USI goal is to promote a simple

but effective system of state-island collecting in a professional radio-manner and to operate totally on the "honor system". USI warmly welcomes all island enthusiasts to yet another facet of island collecting. USI is open to anyone (Ham or SWL) interested in state island collecting. Their web-site is <http://www.eng.mu.edu/~usi/> for more information.

One possibility that I have been kicking around is to participate in the 8th Annual W/VE Islands Contest 1500z July 20 to 2359z July 21, 2002. Our very own Squaw Island is identified but has not been activated. To activate an island requires making a minimum of 25 contacts with at least 2 countries other than the US. This seems like a low-maintenance way for us to go on a DX-Pedition. I'd love to hear from you if you are interested. We would probably set up at Broderick Park and try to operate the 20 and 40 meter bands.

Turd Island DX-Pedition

Pete Vetter, KF2U

Everyone has heard of the IOTA program (Islands on the Air). But a lesser known entity, the USI (United States Islands), also offers a similar award. In fact, they have their own contest. The 8th Annual W/VE Islands Contest will take place on the weekend of July 20th. It begins at 1500Z Saturday and ends at 2359Z Sunday. For details on the program or contest, visit USI at www.eng.mu.edu/~usi/.

So what's with the title, Turd Island? Well, the SHRC is tentatively planning to operate from USI # NY032 during the contest.

The actual island name is Squaw Island. It is located in the upper Niagara River, between Buffalo, NY and Ft. Erie, Ontario. The international border crossing, the Peace Bridge, is about a half mile away.

Although not very big geographically, it is mammoth in historical significance, with mentions of Red Coat landings and the UnderGround Railroad. Its' current importance to the City of Buffalo is undeniably large. You see, Squaw Island is the home of the Buffalo Municipal Sewage Treatment Facility. At the very least, we can promise an interesting QSL card for those who work us. Look for our spots on the DX Cluster during the contest.

Kid's Day

Pete Vetter, KF2U

On Saturday, June 15th, kids all across the USA will be talking via ham radio. It's the annual Kids Day, running from 1800Z to 2400Z. This is a great opportunity for the young ones among us to get a taste of what



Guest Op at N2AWT (KF2U)

ham radio is about.

The suggested exchange between the would-be hams is their name, age, location, and favorite color. This isn't a contest, so there are no points per QSO. The object is just for them to have fun.

Here at KF2U, I plan to have a fill-in-the-blanks log sheet ready. Also, a US map with push-pins to mark locations reached might be fun, as well as a bit of a disguised geography lesson.

After the event, visit www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kids-day-survey.html. If you complete the short survey and post a comment, you can download a printable certificate for the ham-to-be. Or send a 9 x 12 SASE to: Boring Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 1357, Boring, OR 97009.

IRC-Internet Relay Chat or a way to get that DX QSL card?

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

OK so you've finally cracked the pile-up and want a QSL card from that small Pacific Island to hang on your wall. The operator doesn't have a US manager and you have no faith that the NJDXA (operators of the second call area QSL bureau) will get you your card before the next millennium. What do you do?

This space for Rent.
 Contact
news@k2fa.org for rates and info.

One option is to go to the post office and purchase an "International Reply Coupon" or IRC for short. These currently cost \$1.75 and



Current IRC (2002)

are redeemable for postage in the DX operators country.

If it weren't for a scam, most people



Older IRC (4-95)

wouldn't know an IRC if it hit them in the head. Ponzi schemes are a type of illegal pyramid scheme named for Charles Ponzi, who duped thousands of New England residents into investing in a postage stamp speculation scheme back in the 1920s. Ponzi thought he could take advantage of

differences between U.S. and foreign currencies used to buy and sell international reply coupons. Ponzi told investors that he could provide a 40% return in just 90 days compared with 5% for bank savings accounts. Ponzi was deluged with funds from investors, taking in \$1 million during one three-hour period—and this was 1921! Though a few early investors were paid off to make the scheme look legitimate, an investigation found that Ponzi had only purchased about \$30 worth of the international reply coupons.

Cluster Rage

Pete Vetter, KF2U

DX Cluster or Cluster \$#&*

A growing trend of rude behavior is infiltrating the ham boards. Is it the cloak of anonymity or the sheer distance between snipers that gives people the nerve to insult at will? I'm sure that if most of these confrontations were face to face, the language and tone would be more civil.

I clipped some selected postings off of the OH2AQ cluster. These were all from a 4 hour period:

is that on4aef mentally ill?..... WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THE DOLLARS AND IRCS THAT N2AU COLLECTED IN LAST 5 YEARS..... ONLY MY MESSAGE THERAPIST KNOWS FOR SURE!..... WISH MY MOTHER HAD CHILDREN THAT LIVED!!.....TO THE RETARD USING MY CALL; UR THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO IS BRAIN-DEAD..... LETS ALL QSY TO THE LESBIAN 50 CHAT ROOM AND HARASS THE LESBIAN

WENCH'S.. LOTSA FUN AND THEY HATE IT..... CLEARED ROOM IN NEW PERSONAL RECORD TIME 10 MIN.. NO MORE LESBIANS 50= CHAT ROOM!!..... ANY CHALLENGERS WANNA TRY TO BEST THAT..???..... UU2JQ Stop you blabla and your bad comment gigolo operator..... k8cpa- CB general with a very big mouth and no proficiency.....

The ARRL site ran a survey on December 7, 2001. The object of the pole was to rate operator courtesy on the HF bands. The vote count went as follows:

Exceptional-above and beyond the call-	14.9%
Good-polite and conscientious-	26.8%
Average-some good, some bad-	46.8%
Poor-no consideration of others-	8.5%
Nasty-possibly alcohol related-	2.9%

The pole garnered 2112 total votes. The numbers tend to say that we, as a hobby, are generally decent. But, as in any group of people, there will be some bad eggs. The anonymity issue was discussed in great length in a recent thread on QRZ.com. The only question I have is, "Why can't we all just get along?"

Editorial

I'd like to take this opportunity to point out that this marks the 12th edition of our newsletter. I hope everyone has enjoyed them! I'd also like to thank everyone for contributing articles and pictures.

Don't forget to plan on attending Field Day. We always have fun!

Propagation Predictions

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

We are now coming into summer propagation conditions. Sporadic E events on 10, 6 and 2 meters should be occurring. This might soon be the only way to make non-local contacts on 10 meters. I've added a link to the propagation web-page tied to the DX Robot. This will display when Aurora or Sporadic E contacts are being made. Surf over and check it out.



There have been several solar events the past few weeks that have caused the lower HF bands to disappear. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that we don't have a CME on Field Day weekend! I'll have some domestic propagation charts on the web-site covering FD.

DX News

From NJDXA website

HB0, LIECHTENSTEIN.

Saturday June 1 through June 12
Klaus, DL7NS, will be active as HB0/DL7NS from June 1-12th from Triesenberg. Activity will be on the WARC bands CW with 100 watts + GP. QSL via DL7NS; OK via Bureau or direct.

SPECIAL EVENT REMINDER.

Sunday June 2 through June 30
Look for U.K. operators to use the prefixes 2Q, GQ and MQ in celebration of Her Majesty the Queen's Golden Jubilee. This The special prefixes may be used from 0000z, June 1st until 2400z on June 30th. This may cause some confusion because the country locator is dropped. For example, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU and GW all become GQ, as well as M, MD, MI, MJ, MM, MU and MW all become MQ. Listen carefully to the

operators. Also, Don, G3XTT, would like to remind everyone that the GB50 special event station to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II will be active daily between 0700-2200z now through June 9th. Activity will be on CW, SSB, PSK31 and RTTY QSL Route: Owen Cross, G4DFI, (bureau, or direct to: 28 Garden Avenue, Bexleyheath, Kent DA7 4LF, England). Special Awards are available. Check the following Web pages for more details: GB500: <http://www.gb50.com> or RSGB: <http://www.rsgb.org> Golden Jubilee: <http://www.goldenjubilee.gov.uk> Visitor Information for Windsor Castle: <http://www.royal.gov.uk/output/page576.asp>

9H, MALTA.

Monday June 3 through June 22
Dieter, DL9GDB, will again be on the air as 9H3UT from June 3-22nd. Activity will be on CW from Comino Island. Please QSL to DL9GDB via Bureau or direct

BQ9P, Pratas Island

Tuesday June 4 through June 12
The Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League (CTARL) announces its 7th DXpedition to Pratas Island. The call issued will be BQ9P. Operation will commence on or about 0900 UTC on June 4, 2002 and will end at approximately 2300 UTC on June 12, 2002.

FR5, Tromelin Island

Wednesday June 5 through July 5
Jacques, FR5ZU will be once more on Tromelin Island for his job, from June 5th to July 5th 2002. He will be on the air out of his working time on all HF bands SSB and RTTY, as FR5ZU/T.

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA.

Wednesday June 5 through June 7
Peter, G4MJS, was currently active from the Hillview Gardens Resort station 9M6AAC/9M6A in Sabah, East Malaysia. Look for activity again by 9M6AAC, June 5-7th, with emphasis on the WARC bands and 50mhz.

OJ, MARKET REEF

Thursday June 6 through June 10
Look for OJ0VR (CW/50MHz) and OJ0U (SSB) to be active from Market Reef (IOTA EU-053) between June 6-10th. Activity will be on 80-6 meters.

OJØ, MARKET REEF.

Friday June 7 through July 11
 Look for Seppo, OH1VR, to be active as OJ0VR from June 7-11th and July 8-11th. Activity will be on 160-6m CW/SSB. He will use a A4S and a 5 element on 6m. QSL via OH1 VR CBA.

ZONE 2.

Friday June 7 through June 11, 2004
 Nenad, VE3EXY, reports that he just received confirmation that he can operate from CQ ZONE 2. He will be active for 4 days (and 5 nights) from Friday evening, June 7th, to Tuesday morning, June 11th around the ANARTS/Jubilee RTTY/CW weekend.

JD1, OGASAWARA.

Saturday June 8 through June 10
 Six JA operators will be active on all bands (includes six meters) and all modes from Ogasawara (AS-031) on June 8-10th. QSL via home callsigns.

OJØ, MARKET REEF.

Thursday June 13 through June 16
 The group of SM5AJV, SM0GNS, SM5HJZ and SMØPL will be active from Market Reef (EU-053) from June 13-16th.

KHØ, MARIANA ISLANDS.

Friday June 14 through June 17
 Hiroyasu/JA4RED and Yasuo/JH4RLY will be active from Saipan as KHØ/JH4RLY and KHØ/JA4RED for four days between June 14-17th. Activity will be above 40 meters on SSTV, PSK31, and RTTY.

CY9, ST. PAUL ISLAND.

Saturday June 29 through July 8
 Operators Duane/WV2B, William/VE1AAO, James/VE9DH, Ed/WØSD, Arliss/W7XU, Holly/NØJM and Edith/WØOE are expected to be on the air from here late June 29th through July 8th. All QSLs via W7XU.

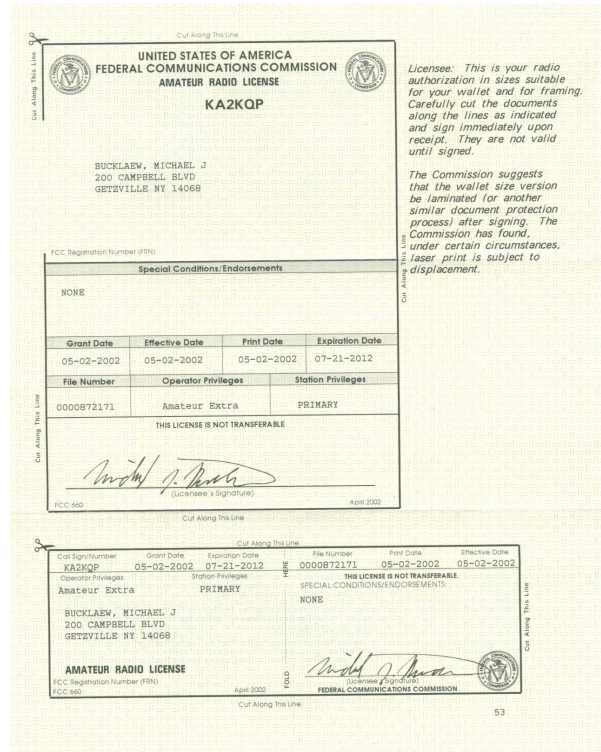
FCC, CORES, ULS, FRN, etc.

Mike Bucklaew, KA2KQP

It was one of those things that only happens every ten years or so. Blizzard? No.

Flood? No. Having to renew my ham license? Yes!

It was with a great deal of trepidation that I navigated to the FCC's ULS or Universal



Good For Another Decade!

Licensing System web-site. I had heard terrible stories of normally sane people losing all their faculties when forced to use this system. Applying for the K2FA vanity callsign had been a complete pain in the keyer! My renewal however was generally painless and only took a couple of minutes. If we could only get them to feed the paper in straight...

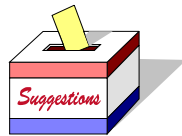
Contest Calendar

QRP TAC Sprint Jun 1
 ANARTS W W RTTY Contest Jun 8 - 9

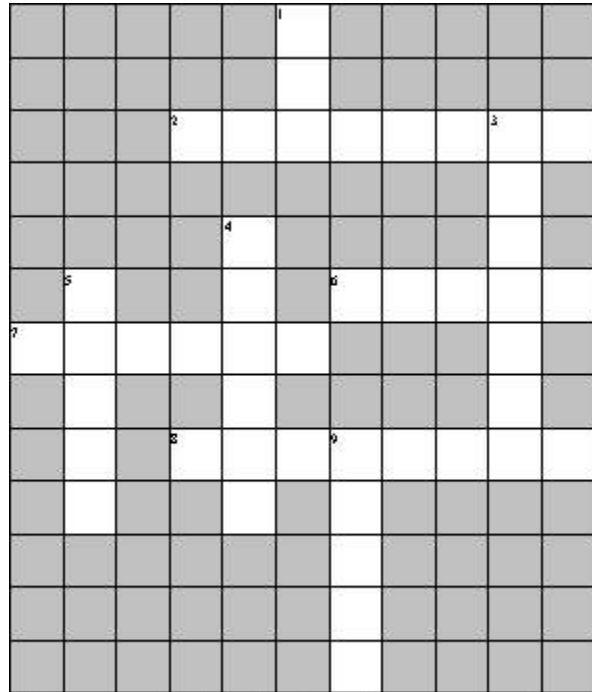
RSGB Jubilee Contest	Jun 8 - 9
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	Jun 8 -10
All Asian DX Contest, CW	Jun 15 -16
SMIRK Contest	Jun 15 -16
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	Jun 22 -23
ARRL Field Day	Jun 22 -23

News, Pics, Articles or Suggestions?

Send them to:
news@k2fa.org



Hamword Puzzle



Created with EclipseCrossword —

Across

- 2. **Underground...**
- 6. **Part of Kid's Day exchange**
- 7. **SHRC Net**
- 8. **Secretary of Defense**

Down

- 1. **Island Chasing**
- 3. **Why some hams may be so nasty**
- 4. **Crumbs in the microphone**
- 5. **IRC scam artist**
- 9. **Indian Island**