

NYS QSO CONTEST SEES STARS

STARS participated in the 2015 **NYS QSO** Contest on Saturday, October 17th, using the special station call sign, "W2E". Multiple stations were in operation for the 12 hour period, from 10 AM to 10 PM.

The 385 QSOs included 45 New York State counties, 43 states, 11 Canadian stations, and 6 "DX" stations. Those DX stations included YV6YV, Venezuela; EA4GBG, Spain; KG4WV, Guantanamo Bay (Cuba); DL1IAO, Germany; EI4HDB, Ireland; and C6AND, Bahamas.

Thanx to all those who came to the Nike Base Clubhouse Station for the event.

Those signing the attendance log included Scott Barto, KB2KOL; Paul Blachowski, WA2DII; John Czuba, W2IV; Tomm Dean, KA2NXY; Pat Groom, KC2VWG; Jon Hall, KC2QKB; Bob Koster, KA2WYE; John Leitten, KA2RFT; and Don Niles, K2PMC.

Point totals are still under review. Estimates range between 36,000 and 41,000 points.

State and county results are on page 3



WHAT ARE THEY LOOKING AT??



THE COMPUTER LOGGING SCREENS!

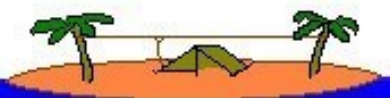
STARS ELECTIONS THIS MONTH

Candidates for the 2016 **STARS** offices are shown in the bottom left corner of page 2.

UP with antennas



by Don - K2PMC



Today you are going to put up your new antenna. You attach your balanced feed line to the wire, hang that wire between a couple of trees and you're good to go. The first thing you want to do is take those initial SWR readings I mentioned last month.

Sitting in front of you is your shiny new transceiver with a built-in autotuner. Let's see, autotuner + balanced feed line = Trouble free multiband operation. You begin to check out the various bands and you suddenly realize there is a band (or bands) that your autotuner says "High SWR!". (If not, go out and buy a lottery ticket, it's your lucky day!!) You ask yourself, "How can that be? I'm using a balanced feed line and that should work on all bands."

Well, a detailed answer to that question would require a lot of formulas and exhibits that would have you quickly looking at another *Telstar* article. However, I will attempt a simple explanation that should provide a good idea of what you've run into.

When you transmit, you are applying an RF signal on the line. On a scope it would look like a sine wave with its frequency dependent upon the transmitting frequency. This signal contains 2 components, namely current and voltage. And, these components are out of phase with each other. That is to say when the current is high, the voltage is low and vice versa. A current lobe exhibits low impedance whereas a voltage lobe exhibits a high impedance. This signal travels towards the antenna and some (or most) is reflected back towards your tuner. The wavelength is dependent upon the frequency. At 160 meters the wavelength is much longer than the 10 meter wavelength.

Ideally what you would want is to have a current lobe appear on your transmission line when it reaches your balun. In reality, what you get is a combination of voltage and current. This changes the impedance and now you know why you need a tuner. If you happen to have a voltage lobe at your balun, this is not good. And, when you plan on using the same antenna over a

broad range of frequencies, this can happen. Most autotuners give up when the SWR goes above 5:1 or so. Some are better than others, but most are not that good. The Elecraft product line is an exception. Their autotuners can usually handle at least a 10:1 SWR. An outboard tuner, especially one that uses a roller inductor, does a much better job.

It is possible to achieve a feed line length that will make your tuner happy on all bands above its fundamental frequency. How do you do that? Easy, you change the length of the feed line and check the SWR until you finally find a length that your tuner likes. Well, you certainly can't shorten the feed line but how long do I have to make it? A great question. And now I will show you how to figure that out.

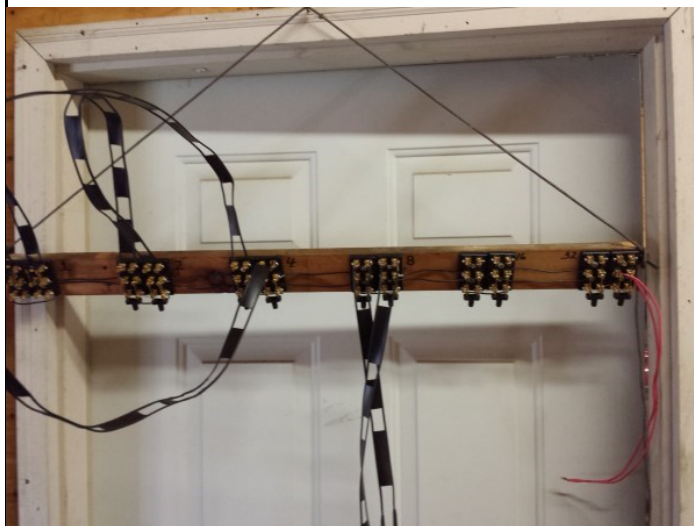


Figure 1

Figure 1 is a gadget that I ran across many years ago. I don't remember where I saw it, but I've used it whenever I had feed line SWR problems. I call it the Gizmo. The Gizmo is as simple as it gets, but it works like a charm. (Ask **Scott, KB2KOL**.)

There are 12 double pole double throw switches arranged in pairs. Attached to these switches are varying lengths of transmission line. From left to right,

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)



the line lengths are 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, and 32 feet. What this allows you to do is switch in as much as 63 feet of line in 1 foot increments. Attach your feed line on the left side. The 2 red wires on the right attach to your balun. When you find the right length, you add that amount to your feed line and you are good to go.

As a matter of fact, if you wanted to, you could actually use a balanced line system on multiple bands without a tuner. With a 1 to 1 balun and the Gizmo, you would be able to achieve a transmission line match without a tuner. The drawback to that, of course, is that changing bands would require flipping switches depending upon the band. A solution to that would be a system of DPDT relays controlled from the shack.

OK, I've said enough. See you next time!

73,

Don, K2PMC

(Editor's note: If you have questions or comments regarding anything from "Up with Antennas", feel free to email Don Niles at: k2pmc@arrl.net.)

TWINKLING STARS

We missed the mark last month. The intent of the "TWINKLING STARS" feature was to share the recollections of all the STARS members.

So, let's get it done right. Each month, the name of a Silent Key will be chosen and listed. We would like all members with memories of that Silent Key to send them to the Telstar editor. They will be included in a TWINKLING STARS column.

Also, the column will solicit information for a Silent Key for the next month's column.

If you have any recollections/photos of Silent Key:

Frank "The Barber" Modzelewski, WG2H

...send them to the *Telstar* Editor.

wb2elw@verizon.net

STARS 2015 GOALS

Upgrade WB2ELW website	●
Install an IRLP node	●
Implement UHF repeater	●
Install a satellite antenna	●
Complete N1MM linking	●
Rebuild antenna interface box	●
Offer several monthly programs	●
Conduct a "Homebrew Build Project"	●
Participate in Field Day	●
Participate in the NYS QSO Contest	●
Participate in additional contests	●
Conduct 1 major fundraiser	●
Participate in Hamburg's Burgerfest	●

NRA BIRTHDAY SPECIAL EVENT STATION

The Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) of Prescott, AZ, will operate a special event station November 17, 2015, from 1500Z to 2400Z in celebration of the NRA's 144th birthday. The special event station will operate from Gunsite Academy's 2,000-acre campus in Paulden, AZ, north of Prescott. The special event call sign will be K7NRA. Operations will be conducted on the following frequencies: 7.250, 14.040, 14.250 and 21.335 MHz.

All amateur stations, especially those operated by NRA members and Gunsite alumni, are urged to participate. A special certificate will be awarded to those stations making contact during the event. QSL with a 9 x 12 SASE to:

YARC
P.O. Box 1199
Prescott, AZ 86304

VETERANS DAY SPECIAL EVENT STATION

Legionnaires will honor their fellow veterans in a special on-the-air amateur radio tribute on Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2015.

Members of The American Legion Amateur Radio Club (TALARC) will operate on the short wave bands starting at 9:00 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. EST [1400 - 2130Z], using the FCC issued radio club call sign K9TAL. Those who contact the station are eligible to receive a commemorative certificate.

Ham radio operators wishing to contact Special Event Station K9TAL on Veterans Day should tune to 20 meters: 14.275 MHz (+/- 5 KHz) USB; or to 2 meters: K9DC 147.315 Repeater in Indianapolis; or **IRLP Node 9735**; or, to 146.46 MHz simplex in Central Indiana. Special Note: K9TAL will not operate via EchoLink during the Special Event.

After working K9TAL, send a 9X12 inch self-addressed stamped envelope to The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, 700 N. Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

73
Marty Justis, W9WMJ
President
The American Legion Amateur Radio Club

FOOTBALL POOL FILLING

The football pool fundraiser is filling fast. If you have not yet submitted your material, please send to:

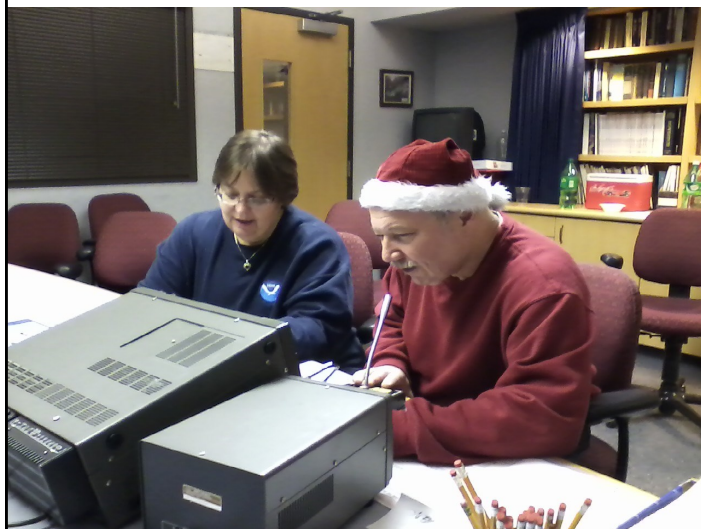
k2pmc@arrl.net

SKYWARN HONORED

On Saturday, December 5th, the National Weather Service will observe SKYWARN Recognition Day. SKYWARN operators visit selected NWS offices and contact other radio operators across the world.

For more information, use the following link:

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/hamradio/>



JUDY LEVAN, N2TEZ and BOB KOSTER, KA2WYE at NWS, 2014



NWS SKYWARN TRAINING

Upcoming training is listed in the table below. For more information, and to register for a training session, use this link:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/buf/skywarnt.htm>

DATE	LOCATION	ADDRESS	SPONSOR	CONTACT
Monday Nov 23, 2015 7 PM	WCA Hospital	207 Foote Ave, Jamestown, NY 14701	Chautauqua County Amateur FM Association	John Crossley – crossleyej@gmail.com

55th Annual Winter Hamfest

The Areas Longest Running Winter Hamfest



New Larger Location

More Parking & More Elbow Room



Fully Handicap Accessable

Cambria Volunteer Fire Company,
 4631 Cambria Wilson Rd, (Route 425) Lockport
 3/4 mile South of Ridge Rd. (Route 104)
 5 mile North of Saunder Settlement Rd. (Route 31)
 or You can Get On & follow Route 425 (North)
 from the I-290 (Youngmann) or Route 62 (Niagara Falls Blvd)

January 23rd - 2016

General Admission: \$ 6.00 (open at 8 AM)

So Come Join Us for a Great, Saturday
 Event 8am- Noon
 To Break the Winter Duldrams!

Grab those Needed Parts.
 Look for a Great Deal,
 or Just Meet with Other Hams.


BaoFeng GT-3 Mark II
 Dual-Band Hand Held

as Hourly Door Prize
 9am ~ 10am ~ 11am ~ Noon

See Our Website for more info
www.lockportara.us

Rw AntennaStore


AREA LICENSE EXAMS

11/04/2015 [Springville](#) 
 Sponsor: PROS and Cattaraugus County ARET
 Location: Bertrand Chaffee Hospital Board Room
 222-East Main Street
 Time: 7:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed) (FREE!)

11/07/2015 [North Tonawanda](#)
 Sponsor: ARA of the Tonawandas
 Location: North Tonawanda Fire Headquarters
 495 Zimmerman Street - Training Rm
 Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)


11/07/2015 [Jamestown](#)
 Sponsor: CARSC
 Location: Prendergast Library
 509 Cherry Street 2nd fl conf rm
 Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/10/2015 [Niagara Falls](#)
 Sponsor: Niagara Radio Club, Inc.
 Location: Venture Forthe, Inc.
 3900 Packard Road
 Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/11/2015 [Canandaigua](#) 
 Sponsor: SQUAW Island ARC
 Location: Ontario Co. Safety Training Facility
 2914 County Route 48
 Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/14/2015 [Wellsboro PA](#)
 Sponsor: Tioga County ARC
 Location: Senior Citizens Center
 Queen Street
 Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/17/2015 [Meadville PA](#)
 Sponsor: Crawford ARS
 Location: St Brigid Church Social Hall
 383 Arch Street
 Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins)

11/21/2015 [Hamburg](#) 
 Sponsor: **STARS**
 Location: Hamburg Youth Center
 200 Prospect Avenue
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/21/2015 [Erie PA](#)
 Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association
 Location: Greene Twnshp Mun Bldg Rm 114
 9333 Tate Road
 (use district justice entrance)
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

11/24/2015 [Lancaster](#)
 Sponsor: Lancaster ARC
 Location: Lancaster ARC- Club House Building
 525 Pavement Road
 Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

(control-click on City for more info)

 - Free; no charge for examination

TESTING NEEDS

- Legal photo ID (a driver's license is excellent!)
- Current license and/or CSCE documents, if any, and a non-returnable photocopy of each
- Federal Registration Number (FRN); if none, then Social Security Number (SSN)
- \$15 in cash, check or money order
- Two #2 pencils with erasers, and a pen
- Calculators are permitted as long as any programming has been cleared.

[\(more info\)](#)

CONTEST CALENDAR



Start and Finish	Contest Title	Sponsor's Website
Weds 0230Z - 0300Z	Phone Fray	www.perluma.com/Phone Fray Contest Rules.pdf
Weds 1300Z - See web	CWOps Weekly Mini-CWT Tests	www.cwops.org/cwt.html
Fridays 0200Z - 0329Z	QRP Fox Hunt	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm
Fridays, 0145Z - 0215Z	NS Weekly RTTY Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Fridays, 0230Z - 0300Z	NS Weekly Sprint	www.ncccsprint.com
Nov 1, 0900Z - Nov 1, 1700Z	High Speed Club CW Contest	www.highspeedclub.org
Nov 3, 0100Z - Nov 3, 0300Z	ARS Spartan Sprint	www.arsqrp.blogspot.com
Nov 4, 2000Z - Nov 4, 2100Z	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Nov 5, 1800Z - Nov 5, 2200Z	NRAU 10 Meter Activity Contest	www.nrau.net/activity-contests
Nov 7, 0600Z - Nov 7, 1800Z	IPARC Contest, CW	www.iparc.de
Nov 7, 1200Z - Nov 8, 2359Z	SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	www.skccgroup.com
Nov 7, 1200Z - Nov 8, 1200Z	Ukrainian DX Contest	http://urdx.org/rules.php?english
Nov 7, 2100Z - Nov 9, 0300Z	ARRL Sweepstakes, CW	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
Nov 7, 2100Z - Nov 9, 0300Z	NA Collegiate ARC Championship, CW	www.collegiatechampionship.org
Nov 8, 0600Z - Nov 8, 1800Z	IPARC Contest, SSB	www.iparc.de
Nov 8, 0800Z - Nov 8, 1200Z	EANET Sprint	http://fediea.org/news/?news=20151108
Nov 8, 1100Z - Nov 8, 1700Z	DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest	www.darc.de/referate/ukw-funksport
Nov 11, 2000Z - Nov 11, 2100Z	RSGB 80 Meter Club Sprint, SSB	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
Nov 14, 0000Z - Nov 15, 2359Z	WAE DX Contest, RTTY	www.darc.de/referate/dx/contest
Nov 14, 0001Z - Nov 15, 2359Z	10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	www.ten-ten.org
Nov 14, 0700Z - Nov 15, 1300Z	JIDX Phone Contest	www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html
Nov 14, 1200Z - Nov 15, 1200Z	OK/OM DX Contest, CW	http://okomdx.crk.cz/index.php?page=english
Nov 14, 1400Z - Nov 15, 0200Z	Kentucky QSO Party	www.wkdx.com/mainsite
Nov 14, 1900Z - Nov 16, 0500Z	CQ-WE Contest	http://cqwe.cboh.org/rules.html
Nov 15, 1300Z - Nov 15, 1700Z	Homebrew/Oldtime Eqmmt Party	www.qrpcc.de/contestrules/hotr.html
Nov 16, 0200Z - Nov 16, 0400Z	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	http://fpgrp.org/pigrun
Nov 19, 0130Z - Nov 19, 0330Z	NAQCC CW Sprint	http://naqcc.info/sprint201511.html
Nov 20, 1600Z - Nov 20, 2200Z	YO International PSK31 Contest	www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2014EN.htm
Nov 21, 1000Z - Nov 22, 1000Z	SARL Field Day Contest	http://www.sarl.org.za/
Nov 21, 1200Z - Nov 22, 1200Z	LZ DX Contest	http://lzdx.bfra.org/rulesen.html
Nov 21, 1600Z - Nov 22, 0700Z	All Austrian 160 Meter Contest	www.oevsv.at/
Nov 21, 1700Z - Nov 21, 1859Z	Feld Hell Sprint	http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub
Nov 21, 2100Z - Nov 23, 0300Z	ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB	www.arrl.org/sweepstakes
Nov 21, 2100Z - Nov 22, 0100Z	RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
Nov 21, 2100Z - Nov 23, 0300Z	NA Collegiate ARC Championship, SSB	www.collegiatechampionship.org
Nov 25, 0000Z - Nov 25, 0200Z	SKCC Sprint	www.skccgroup.com
Nov 25, 2000Z - Nov 25, 2100Z	UKEICC 80 Meter Contest	www.ukeicc.com
Nov 26, 2000Z - Nov 26, 2100Z	RSGB 80 Meter Club Sprint, CW	www.rsgbcc.org/hf
Nov 28, 0000Z - Nov 29, 2359Z	ARRL EME Contest	www.arrl.org/eme-contest
Nov 28, 0000Z - Nov 29, 2359Z	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	www.cqww.com/rules.htm





(control +click to activate a link)

For more information on contests: <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>



SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

Full information at: <http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

09/01 - 11/30	W9IMH	100th Anniversary of the Founding of the Indiana Masonic Home	
10/30 - 11/1	N4A	Stuart Air Show	
10/31 - 11/1	W0JH	Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald (Split Rock Lighthouse)	
11/01	W8BAP	EXTRA Hour Special Event Station 4th Annual	
11/07	W5CCW	Camp Van Dorn World War II Museum 10th Anniversary	
11/07 - 11/15	KC8AAV	Millfield Ohio Mine Disaster 85th Anniversary Remembrance	
11/07	W2PE	Radio Association of WNY Honors Veterans Day	
11/07	W4Y	Stone Mountain Hamfest Youth Lounge	
11/7 - 11/8	NB9QV	USS Cobia WWII Submarine Commemorating the 52 Subs/Crews Lost in WWII	
11/7 - 11/8	K8V	Veterans Day	
11/10 - 11/23	W8F	40th Anniversary Sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald	
11/11	K9TAL	The American Legion takes to the airwaves with a salute to veterans	
11/11	W5KID	Veterans Day Special Event	
11/11	W4NPT	Veterans Day Special Event	
11/14	WE7GV	Celebrating 100 Years of QST Magazine	
11/14 - 11/15	K2JJI	Elizabeth Cady Stanton - 200th Birthday Event	
11/14	K0NXA	NARCFest 2015	
11/14	K5EOK	Oklahoma State Hood Special Event	
11/14	NI6IW	Veterans Day and USMC Birthday Special Event	
11/15 - 11/16	N8G	Genesis of Ann Arbor 40th Anniversary	
11/17	K7NRA	NRA's 144th Birthday Party	
11/20 - 11/25	KC9HYY/WSL3	HMHS Britannic	
11/21 - 11/22	W6OI	W6OI and VE9TEN and DL0X Special Event	
11/21 - 11/22	W6SFM	W6SFM Bug Roundup Event	

USEFUL INTERNET LINKS

(control + click to use link)

ARRL MAIN SITE:	http://www.arrl.org/home
ARRL ATLANTIC DIV.:	http://www.atldiv.org
CONTESTS:	http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php
HAMFESTS:	http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar
STARS REFLECTOR:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/STARS-WB2ELW/
STARS WEBSITE:	http://www.wb2elw.net
TELSTAR EDITOR:	wb2elw@verizon.net