

## Classic Exchange Newsletter Winter 2023

CQ CX de K3MSB.....

Not much to say for this edition of the CX Newsletter.

I had medical issues the first quarter of the year and also COVID, so I didn't do much radio work and missed the Winter 2023 CX.

Since I was out of action for a while the Fall 2022 CX Newsletter was obviously not completed on time, but it will be on the CX Web site by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023!

Reading through the soapbox comments I was glad to see some 10M activity! During the last sunspot maximum I fondly remember making quite a few 10M and 15M contacts in long ago CX events!

Looking back to the Fall 2002 CX, I worked the following stations on 10M AM: John K6AM, Greg KG5RJ/5, Mo W5KD (SK), and Rocco N6KN.

Hopefully Old Sol will continue to pump out sunspots for the Fall 2023 CX – those date are on the web site. Perhaps some bonus points for 10M and 15M contacts?

73 Mark K3MSB  
CX Newsletter Editor

**The Sweet Chirp Awards!**



Congratulations!

VE7CNF BC-458A & DX-40

WB2AWQ/7 BC-458A

W8KGI Heathkit Apache

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### CW Only Scores

#### 4 Or More Pairs

| CALL   | NAME  | SCORE   |
|--------|-------|---------|
| JA3KNB | KAZU  | 463,950 |
| N6KN   | ROCCO | 395,434 |
| K2RP   | RON   | 176,244 |
| W7KGI  | JIM   | 132,187 |
| WB2AWQ | HOWIE | 72,716  |

#### 3 Or Fewer Pairs

| CALL   | NAME   | SCORE  |
|--------|--------|--------|
| JO2TAP | TOMO   | 17,960 |
| VE7CNF | TOBY   | 13,662 |
| K4JYS  | BILL   | 9,936  |
| K4BSK  | EARL   | 6,424  |
| KG5IEE | RANDAL | 6,400  |
| VA7MM  | MARK   | 4,020  |
| K3MD   | JOHN   | 4,956  |
| KW0J   | GARY   | 4,418  |
| VE7BGP | GERRY  | 2,720  |
| W6MZ   | PAUL   | 1,044  |
| N2DA   | CRAIG  | 424    |
| WA2CHV | JACK   | 50     |

### Phone Only Scores

#### 4 Or More Pairs

| CALL   | NAME | SCORE   |
|--------|------|---------|
| JA3KNB | KAZU | 527,874 |
| K2RP   | RON  | 66,349  |

#### 3 Or Fewer Pairs

| CALL   | NAME  | SCORE  |
|--------|-------|--------|
| JO2TAP | TOMO  | 22,504 |
| VE7CNF | TOBY  | 3,630  |
| VA7MM  | MARK  | 1,232  |
| N6KN   | ROCCO | 804    |

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### Mixed (Phone + CW) Scores

#### 4 Or More Pairs

| CALL   | NAME  | CW SCORE | PHONE SCORE | TOTAL   |
|--------|-------|----------|-------------|---------|
| JA3KNB | KAZU  | 463,950  | 527,874     | 991,824 |
| N6KN   | ROCCO | 395,434  |             | 395,434 |
| K2RP   | RON   | 176,244  | 66,349      | 242,593 |
| W7KGI  | JIM   | 132,187  |             | 132,187 |
| WB2AWQ | HOWIE | 72,716   |             | 72,716  |

#### 3 Or Fewer Pairs

| CALL   | NAME   | CW SCORE | PHONE SCORE | TOTAL  |
|--------|--------|----------|-------------|--------|
| JO2TAP | TOMO   | 17,960   | 22,504      | 40,464 |
| VE7CNF | TOBY   | 13,662   | 3,630       | 17,292 |
| K4JYS  | BILL   | 9,936    |             | 9,936  |
| K4BSK  | EARL   | 6,424    |             | 6,424  |
| KG5IEE | RANDAL | 6,400    |             | 6,400  |
| VA7MM  | MARK   | 4,020    | 1,232       | 5,252  |
| K3MD   | JOHN   | 4,956    |             | 4,956  |
| KW0J   | GARY   | 4,418    |             | 4,418  |
| VE7BGP | GERRY  | 2,720    |             | 2,720  |
| W6MZ   | PAUL   | 1,044    |             | 1,044  |
| N6KN   | ROCCO  |          | 804         | 804    |
| N2DA   | CRAIG  | 424      |             | 424    |
| WA2CHV | JACK   | 50       |             | 50     |

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N2DA – Craig  
Forest VA.

Craig writes:

*I made 4 CX CW QSOs last week in the Classic Exchange.  
Here's a photo of my station (Note: T-60 and BC348Q in are my Novice Rigs).*



*Equipment used: HW-100 built in 1970.  
Multiband Dipole in my attic, up 30 feet.*

*I built the HW-100 in 1970 while in high school. It was my first General Class rig and I used it exclusively up until 2013.*

*I enjoyed the CX QSOs. My first one was with my friend Randal, KG5IEE in TX.*

73,  
Craig N2DA

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### WB2AWQ/7 – Howie Reno NV.

Howie writes:

*This CX started out for me on 20 meters at the beginning, the first time in a while. 40 Had been too long to the west, and no propagation to the east because of sunrise (for about 10 minutes, then N6KN was booming in). The starting QSO was with Randal KG5IEE, who was running a fairly rare Kenwood TS-511, I believe their first hybrid transceiver. Nice to hear such a beast. I had started out on 40 with Rocco using what was my Dad's Gonset G76, because I had been using it in the Novice Rig Roundup. A neat rig, but kinda broad-banded for CW.*



*My Dad's Gonset G76 CW/AM transceiver. The only medium power high level plate modulated HF tube transceiver. Pretty broad on CW though.*

*Back to 20 meters with the Yaesu FT-101EE, a delightful hybrid radio. I qualified several rigs on 20, including my World War 2 GO-9 and my original Novice receiver, a BC348Q that Dad bought while I was in diapers. Now the 348 isn't exactly great on 20, but I did manage to qualify it. There were several transceivers I also used on 20.*

*I did go on 15 meters, which was nicely open at the time, called CQ CX a bunch, but got no takers, even though RBN showed I was getting out nicely. Back to 20, and 40, which were the workhorse bands for me. 80 meters produced only one QSO, with AD6W who was using Drake twins. I didn't get on 80 until late in the game on Tuesday.*

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*One highlight for me was a BC-458A to BC-458A QSO with Toby VE7CNF. Matching chirps.....who could ask for more!*

*I didn't get to qualify my Drake twins, or National NC-125, SX-62A, or my ATA Command transmitter (they're NOT "ARC-5s", but Command sets. There is NO ARC-5! There **IS** an AN/ARC-5 though, part of the Command sets.)*

*Chirp awards: No doubt about it, Toby VE7CNF has a lock on that. Between his DX-40 with its highly distinctive chirp, and his BC-458A with a chirp like the one I have, he's got it in the bag. Jim W8KGI ran a close second though with his Heathkit Apache transmitter.*

*A big shout out to: Lew W6PHZ, Joe W6UDO, John N6HCN, Rob K1DFT, James W0JAZ, Gary KW0J, Phil WA6SEU, Don K6PBQ, Zach KJ7WBM, Tom KB9ENS, and Larry AD6W, the first time (I believe) that I've worked you in the Classic Exchange. Don't know if all these guys were in CX, but they came up to "our" territory!*

*Not being much of a phone operator, plus we were visiting our son up in "snow-free" Lake Tahoe (NOT!), I didn't get on for that part of CX.*



*My W4AWS HB 1932 Jim Lamb receiver (L) and HB 807s transmitter with #42 oscillator.*



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*The 1947 Millen 90800 transmitter. 6L6 osc, 807 amp.*



*The Howard 435A receiver. Pretty lousy receiver but it's my namesake...*

73, Howie WB2AWQ



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### K3MD – John Winfield PA.

John writes:

*CW only this time around.*

*Repaired my 40M QRP rig and changed the final to a 6L6. I built a homebrew VFO amp so this could be used with the N3ZI VFO. I repaired the TR-3 I purchased for \$80... this required 2 weeks... it had about 20 things wrong with it. I could not use my KWM-2A as it locks up on CW.*



*L to R, top to bottom: 6MJ6 homebrew, Heathkit MT-1, HB 6L6, HM-102, HB VFO amp, ARC-5 VFO, HG-10B, N3ZI VFO, Drake 2-C*

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*DX-60, HT-37*



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*Advanced design regen rx, KWM-2A, ARC-5 40, ARC-5 80, TR-3, AM-2, TS-520SE*

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*TR-3*

*I have been participating in the CX since 1979.*

*Thanks for organizing the CX!!!!.. I am no good at casual SSB operation at all, so I skip the SSB portion.*

73 John K3MD

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VA7MM – Mark  
Coquitlam, BC .

Mark writes:

*Thank you for organizing another CX event. This winter's event was an opportunity to test a new addition to the station. Last year I adopted an unwanted & malfunctioning Yaesu FT-101ZD from an estate. The rig had major issues but after systematic troubleshooting it is back in service. This 44 year old hybrid with vacuum tube driver and finals is a low multiplier contender but the successful restoration was motivation for entry into the Winter CX. Contacts were made on SSB, AM and CW (with a Heathkit HD-1410 electronic keyer of the same vintage).*



*Also included in my entry are a few CW contacts with my usual Heathkit DX-60B transmitter and Drake R4 receiver combination.*

*Antennas here are dipoles suspended 100' above the ground between Douglas fir trees.*



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**VE7CNF– Toby  
Burnaby, BC .**

Toby writes:

*This year my transmitters were a BC-458-A for 40m CW, a DX-40 for CW and AM, and an FT-101B for SSB. In late January I started getting the HQ-129-X and SX-71 receivers operational with many new caps, resistors, and a tune-up. The DX-40 got a new mode switch, AC and HV relays, and a solid state rectifier. I bread-boarded a power supply for the BC-458A with regulated 280V for the screens and a lower 200V oscillator supply for less drift.*

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*The SX-71 was quite sensitive but needed frequent tuning on 20-10m to keep CW signals in the passband. One mica capacitor failed in the HQ-129-X during the CW event, quickly repaired before the second day. The rigs were otherwise reliable.*

*Code keys were a 1952 Blue Racer and a Swedish straight key. The mic was a D-104 Silver Eagle. My antenna was a wire inverted L, 50ft high with a 70 ft sloping top load, with an AH-4 automatic tuner at the base.*

*It was good to run into the western regulars on the air: Howie WB2AWQ, Rocco N6KN, Mark W7ESN, and Jim W8KGI who give me points with their multi-rig combos. Steve VE7SL who has provided much of my equipment. Local stations Mark VA7MM and Gerry VE7BGP are good for easy points. My chirping command set QSOs with WB7WHG Dave's BC-459 and WB2AWQ Howie's BC-458-A must have sounded like World War 2. My best DX was Bill K4IBZ in FL on 10m CW, with both of us operating DX-40's. Most memorable was my SSB QSO with 90-year-old Doc W7DE, who called me on SSB just after he heard my DX-40 on 40M AM. It reminded him of his own earlier days with that rig. Evoking nostalgia is what it's all about.*

73

Toby VE7CNF



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**W8KGI– Jim**  
**Sandia Park, NM.**

Jim writes:

*I operated the CW event in several spurts with a total of about 3 and a half hours on Sunday and an additional 2 hours on Tuesday. In all that time, I worked only seven other regular CXers, W7FOX, N5GW, KW0I, and NY0Q on 40, KB1CL on 80, and WB2AWQ and W7ESN on 20. Because I qualified 15 transmitters and 14 receivers, I made plenty of QSOs. but I can't really say that there was a lot of CX activity this time. I hope this is not a sign that interest in the CX is waning.*