

HE CAME BACK...

June 11, 2005 (0130Z): I told my wife, "Be right back. Just need to test the new bicycle mobile setup and maybe make a contact or two."

By 0320Z I'd pedaled several miles and made 13 contacts. The last 7 became a roundtable, stretching from Michigan to British Columbia. After 40 minutes I disbanded the group and headed home, hoping to head off a search party.

Soon I heard Fernando, XE2FL, calling me. After talking for several minutes we both heard Warren, ZL1AIX. He apologized for breaking in, but knowing I was close to home he wanted to tell me my 20 W bicycle mobile report was 5x3 in New Zealand! I slammed on the brakes and stopped to make sure the digital recorder, tucked under the helmet straps for logging, was still running. We were having a three-way chat between Colorado, Mexico and New Zealand. What a great hobby!

Jake Groenhof, NØLX, Golden, Colorado



ABRUPT END TO SECOND QSO

On September 11, 1954, my long awaited Novice license, WN1CFF, arrived. I was so excited I did not notice the building wind and rain. I fired up my receiver and homebrew, rockbound 6AG7/6L6 transmitter and had my first QSO. I then ate lunch, talking excitedly with Mom and Dad (then W1AMQ) about my first contact.

Then at 12:59, I called WN4GSL on 7180 kc. I tapped out a 3x3 as my crystal frequency was not the same as his. Frank in Norfolk, Virginia came right back to me. We talked for about 15 minutes when, quite suddenly, the power failed. The storm luckily did no damage or take down any trees in our North Chelmsford, Massachusetts neighborhood, but it blew down the end-fed Hertz antenna. Whenever I recall my start in ham radio, I always remember my *second* QSO, the one ended by mighty Hurricane Edna.

Fred Scholz, K6BXI, Fremont, California

WN1CFF 1

| DATE TIME | STATION CALLED | CALLED BY | HIS FREQ OR DIAL | HIS SIGNALS RPT | MY SIGNALS RPT | FREQ. IN KC. | EMIT. MODE | POWER WATT | TIME OF ENDING QSO | OTHER DATA |
|-------------|----------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------------|---|
| SEP 11 1954 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1122 | WN8RWV | X | | | | 7187 | A1 | 30 | | |
| 1129 | WN8RWV | S | 7189.589 | 459 | " | | | 1141 | Jerry | Toledo, Ohio |
| 21259 | WN4GR | X | 7182.599 | 599 | | 7180 | | | 1215 | Frank me-Hyattsville Norfolk, Va. SR EDNA |
| SEP 12 1954 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1025 | CQ | X | | | | 7190 | | | | Fun Return: 610 2824 |
| 31031 | W4CJT | X | 7190.589 | 589 | | 7180 | | | 1050 | Roland HIS first QSO Arlington, Va. |
| 41054 | WN3ZNE | X | 7178.599 | 599 | | 7180 | | | 1110 | George BR on his second QSO Dover, Delaware |
| 1116 | W1CFF | X | | | | 7187 | | | | |
| | | X | | | | 7189 | | | | |

THE WINNER!

On January 11, 1953, I was skiing on Hogback Mountain in Vermont. Hogback is not far from the Massachusetts-Vermont border. I took time out to try a 2 meter rig I had built with 955 acorn tubes, A and B batteries and a regenerative receiver.

A ham from Massachusetts answered my CQ. As there was a VHF contest on and I was the only Vermont station he had worked, he asked me to send a log to ARRL so he would get credit for the contact.

A few months later I received a certificate from the ARRL stating that I had won the VHF contest for the state of Vermont! The message on the certificate reads, "This station in view of this outstanding radio work..." for "making 1 contacts."

W. Ernest Bosselman, W1DO, North Falmouth, Massachusetts



GOOD MEMORY!

In 1946 when we were allowed to get back on the air after the war I was just out of Maritime Radio School and was assigned a ship in New York. I went to Harrison Radio and purchased parts to get a station on the air. By the time I got it all together we were in the Indian Ocean. I called CQ and Butch, operating KG6AAY, answered me. Later, in Calcutta, I passed a newsstand and the current issue of QST jumped out at me. Inside was a picture of the operators at KG6AAY, and Butch was in the picture! Butch was Major General Butch Griswold, KØDWC, commander of the US Air Force in the Pacific.

Thirty years later I was able to contact him. When I told him that he was my first-ever contact when I was in the Indian Ocean, his immediate response was that I had a 5 call then!

Archie Willis, W6LPJ, Sun Valley, California

UNORTHODOX

I was a teenaged ham in the mid '50s, and had already discovered the thrill of CW contesting, but had not yet built a rig that could do phone. I enjoyed "CD Parties," a domestic relatively short HF contest, but had to alternate bands with W1JYH less than a block away to avoid overloading each other's receivers. Roger did both the phone and CW CD Parties, while all I could do was listen to his booming phone signal racking up points.

To give Roger a contact, I once got the idea to couple my Heathkit grid dip meter to my antenna, and modulate it by shouting at the grid dipper coil. Roger copied my unorthodox narrow-band FM signal, and I had my first phone contest QSO!

*Jack Schuster, WIWEF
Glastonbury, Connecticut*

HE KNEW OMAHA WX

My most memorable contact was while I was in high school in Omaha. I called CQ on 15 meters SSB and had JY1, King Hussein, come back to me! We chatted for about 20 minutes. We made a sked and met again the next day also on 15 meters SSB, with our tiny high school radio club shack crammed full of school officials, media and others to witness it.

I remember him asking me about the weather. We had just returned to school after being out for three days due to a blizzard that he had read about in his newspaper. The observers were amazed that an Omaha high school student was talking to the King of Jordan and that it was so easy to hear him.

*Joe Eisenberg, KØNEB
Lincoln, Nebraska*

