



THE FIRST CLASS CW OPERATORS' CLUB

NEWS SHEET 771



Editor V31JP <http://www.g4foc.org/> January 2014

"A man should keep his friendship in constant repair" - Samuel Johnson

3525, 5373, 7025, 10120, 14025, 18080, 21025, 24905, 28025, 50095 kHz

JANUARY ACTIVITY DAYS	BAND OF THE MONTH	JANUARY 2014 CALENDAR
15 January Wed Mechanical Key Event 19 January Sun Activity Day	<h1>80</h1>	G4FOC - G3ZRJ 23 January Thu Committee Meeting 25 January Sat Windle deadline W4PM 26 January Sun News Sheet deadline V31JP

CONGRATULATIONS

FROM YOUR EDITOR - V31JP

These members celebrate 40+ years unbroken FOC membership this month:

Yrs	Call	Nr	Joined
59	G3JJZ	449	1955
55	G3JUL	623	1959
49	GM3POI (G3POI)	831	1965
49	VK2AYD (G3HLW)	832	1965
48	CT3AS (DJ8FW)	855	1966
42	F3AT	1144	1972
42	DJ5ZN	1145	1972
42	N3RD	1149	1972
42	W3LPL	1150	1972
41	GM3WUX	1189	1973

We hope your New Year started off nicely. I had some Straight Key Night QSOs as well as chased the ARRL's W1AW/4 and worked Howie, N4AF in NC. Then, my second W1ØØAW QSO was with Dave, K1ZZ. The ARRL Centennial has a year long QSO Party and a special WAS award. As I am a past section manager, I am worth 100 points in the QSO party. A great start for 2014. I am hopeful to get the quad up soon and make for some spare time to get on the air more. January brings me to be active with my bugs for another club, so it will be a month of mostly mechanical key days for me this month. The discussion about RBN, clusters and skimmers use during the Marathon came up again, but just before this next Marathon. If it was really important, I would think it would have been brought up and discussed much earlier in the year. Two hints in there. You should be getting your new FOC Callbook soon. Make it your FOC Bible with information in there about the who, what and where's of the club, not just a club member's directory. Also, the web version will be updated continuously. 161, Joe. v31jp1957@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION by N4TY

Members please observe the sponsoring procedure, as posted <http://www.g4foc.org/> under "About FOC > FAQs", and the sponsorship list below is explained in "Members-Only > Nominations List". Send nominations to Tyler n4ty@me.com

NOMINATION LIST by N4TY

- 6 **G3LDI** (Roger): by G3PDH, G4RCG, W8PBO, G3XTT, G3RXP.
- 6* **OE5MSM** (Mike): by DK2GZ, GØVQW, DK8IT, MØCVR, F5NZY, ZL2IFB, SV1AOW, W1EBM, IK6BAK, W2VT, N2UU.
- 5* **W9YXX** (Robert): by LZ2RS, W9VNE, GU4CHY, DL3AZ, JA1NUT.
- 5 **VK6DXI** (Mirek): by VK6VZ, N5AW, VK6LW, 4X4DK.
- 5 **VK6GX** (Phil): by VK6VZ, EI5DS, G3XNG, GØJWB, G4VHH.
- 5* **WB6BEE** (Donald): by N6TT, AC2K, K6ZB, JA1NUT, MØCVR, N5CW, N3WT.
- 4* **MJØASP** (Mathieu): by G3SWH, GU4CHY, MUØFAL, N5KD, PA7RA, VE1DX.
- 4 **K1SM** (William): by K1AJ, GU4CHY.
- 4 **N1KW** (Robert): by LZ2RS.
- 3 **K2TQC** (Bill): by K2NV, WB2YQH.
- 3* **K5KV** (Benny): by K5AY, N5CW, N6TT, HA7AP, G4VHH, G5LP.
- 3* **DK7LX** (Georg): by K5XK, DL1VDL, LA5HE, G3SWH, K4BAI, ZL2IFB, EI5DS, AA3B.
- 3 **AC6KD** (Pete): by ZL2IFB.
- 2 **EW8O** (Mike): by W1EBM.
- 2 **GØNXA** (Giles): by N2KW, G3ZRJ.
- 1 **NA6M** (Mark): by K6ZB.

The Objection(s) to G3SJJ were upheld by Committee at the December meeting, and his nomination has been removed.

NEW MEMBERS by N4TY

K3TF (2030) Tom Freeman, 2505 Buggywhip Circle, Norristown, PA 19403 USA. Phone: +1 610 631 1375 Email: K3TF@arrl.net
W2MV (2031) Alan Burg, 7 Forkland Lane, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522 USA. Phone: +1 914 693 2564 Email: aburg1106@gmail.com
WØJX (2032) Dennis Sokol, 22 Old State Rd, Milan, OH 44846-9602 USA. Phone: +1 419 499 1333 Email: w0jx@yahoo.com

INVITATIONS SENT IN JANUARY

The below nominee(s) will be invited to membership this month:

HA9RT (Jozsef): by VE3NE, N9RD, DK2GZ, N4AF, K9WA, SM6CPY, VE3DZ, AA3B, VE1DX, GØJWB.
PA4N (Frank): by LZ1AF, IKØIXI, GØJWB, K4BAI, SM6CNN, N2UU.
WØVX (David): by K5NA, W9KNI, K6XG, F5VHY, N5CW, MDØCCE.
AC4CA (John): by K4LTA, N3BB, N5AW, K4BAI, GU4CHY, SM5COP, G4VHH.

AMENDMENTS by N4TY

GW3NJW (930): Silent key.

W1UU (806): New email: w1uu.peter@gmail.com

K6KII (1888): New address: Cliff Moore, 802 Napa Valley Dr, Fort Collins, CO 80525. Phone: +1 970 286 4250

G3PJT (1778): New email: bob@g3pjt.com

G3OLB (1816): New email: tomg3olb@gmail.com

G3LPN (1479): Silent key.

OQ3R (1493): New email: mdancila@gmail.com

W4QM (808): Resigned.

MØDXR (1932): New address: 28 Albert Gardens, Church Langley, Harlow, Essex CM17 9QF.

GØIVZ (1666): Move to Associate.

FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMITTEE by G3SXW

Committee welcomed two members Andy G3AB and Fred G4BWP at its meeting on 19th December. Many important matters filled the next hour or so during a Skype conference-call which worked very well.

Membership Secretary, Tyler N4TY, reported exactly 500 full members plus 20 Associates. The Objection to G3SJJ's membership was again, as last year, upheld on the basis of many strong submissions which expressed a range of serious grounds. It was also agreed that in future Objections will be investigated and adjudicated immediately upon receipt, instead of waiting until the end of the 6-month Nomination period.

Subscription renewals continue with a big majority completed on the www.g4foc.org web-site. This really helps to cut the cost of volunteer time.

The Annual Dinner will again be held at Milton Keynes, on 8th November 2014, with the Bletchley Park tour and an afternoon programme of presentations at the hotel.

With the enormous efforts, for which the Club is very grateful, of G3LHJ, N4TY, S57WJ and WB2YQH all materials are ready ahead of schedule for mailing to members: the 2014 Call-Book, FOCUS (for those who chose to continue to receive it in printed form), a 2014 Calendar created by Gabor S57WJ and Marathon tick-sheets.

The new Call-Book contains updated information about all aspects of the Club. Members are encouraged to keep it handy and use it as the first port of call for any information, not just as a membership directory. The same is said of our g4foc.org web-site. In particular, and again thanks to N4TY, we now have a more complete set of guide-lines about Sponsoring. Please read this as it reflects the FOC culture! Hopefully, future Nominations will avoid Objections, each one of which is deemed potentially damaging to the Club.

A number of issues were covered under Any Other Business, including arrangements for the drawing for the final 75th Anniversary MagPad (for only those who were unable to attend any of the Club's 2013 Dinners); Windle Trophy plaques; CW Academy; dates and frequencies of the FT5ZM DXpedition conflicting with our Marathon.

The next meeting will be on 23rd January.

The FOC 2014 Marathon by F5VHY

When: 2100z Friday 31 January to 2100z Sunday 2 February

The rules are unchanged and the entry cover sheet, which contains the detail, is available in the Members Section of the FOC Website. Full rules are included in the information section of the Callbook. Tick sheets will form part of the January 2014 mailing and these will also be available on the website. If you are planning on using a different callsign from normal – either from home or from a different location, please send details to me as soon as possible, so that the call can be included on the tick sheets.

I will be adjudicating again and logs must be received by 3 March 2014. Paper logs can be posted to my home address. E-mail logs must be sent to focmarathon@gmail.com. This mailing address has changed a number of times in recent years so please make sure that your mailer does not pick up any old address from your address book! Logs received at this address will be acknowledged. If you don't receive an acknowledgement, assume that it hasn't been received!

Computer generated logs must be submitted in one of the following formats: Marabella, Cabrillo or W5ZRLog. Please make sure you have the latest version of Marabella. This can be downloaded via the Members' website or direct from:

<http://marabella.g3wgv.com>. This includes a help file containing full information on its use.

SD, Paul EI5DI's contest logger, is free and unrestricted for the Marathon and QSO Parties. Download from: www.ei5di.com, which includes an up-to-date members file. Names and numbers are pre-filled on a callsign match, or type a number to see the name and callsign.

Help files for most logging programs are available on the FOC Website.

Con Din by DK7VW

The ConDin will be held in St. Wendel (Saarland state, Germany) over the Whitsun weekend, 6th to 8th June 2014. We will start with a get together on Friday evening in a St. Wendel restaurant offering regional dishes. On Saturday we invite you to a trip to Voelkingen (near Saarbruecken) to visit the World Cultural Heritage Voelkingen Ironworks. The dinner will take place in Angel's Hotel Luise – a superior hotel in the city centre of St. Wendel with an excellent cuisine. There will be a booking arrangement for special room rates in this hotel. The ConDin weekend will come to its end on Sunday morning with brunch at Joe's DK7VW home – hopefully in the sunny garden.

Detailed information on the 2014 ConDin will be published in the spring issue of FOCUS. If you are interested in the ConDin program send an email to joe@dk7vw.de or make a phone call to Joe (+49 6851 808121, if necessary leave a message). Please keep me informed! If you plan to come I would like to know so as to plan things properly. I am looking forward to meeting you in St. Wendel.

MEMBERS' NEWS by V31JP

- **1A0KM** will be activated from SMOM January 2-7. Joining IKØFVC will be 17 operators including our **S53R**. QSL via IKØFTA and LoTW. <http://www.1a0km.org> (Thanks, OPDXB)
- **5X1XA** - If you missed Alan, **G3XAO**, as 5X1XA from the capital city of Kampala, he is expected to return again and be active between 25th February and 16th March. Activity will be CW only. He will also be in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (8th-9th March). QSL 5X1XA via G3SWH.
- **Australis** - A group of six operators from the UK will operate from the island of Raivavae in the Australs (IOTA OC-114) from 20th March until 1st April, all bands CW, SSB and RTTY. The operators are Don **G3BJ**, Chris G3SVL, Nigel **G3TXF**, David G3WGN, Don **G3XTT**, Hilary G4JKS and Justin **G4TSH**. They plan to run up to three stations, each consisting of a K3 plus amplifier. Antennas will consist of various vertical systems on the beach. The team will upload logs to Club Log and, bandwidth permitting; will also be uploading to LoTW as the expedition progresses. QSLs will be handled by G3TXF and requests can be made directly or via the Club Log OQRS facility. After the DXpedition most members of the team will be attending the International DX Convention at Visalia. A website will be launched with further details once the callsign and other details are confirmed.
- **BW/DJ3KR** - Juergen was QRV from Taiwan 11-26 November 2013 as BW/DJ3KR, only CW and 1500 QSOs (all bands 3.5 - 28 MHz). It could have been more, but I had to be busy with teaching most of the time. Over more than 15 years now, my Taiwan callsign prefix changed a few times from BV3, BX3, BW3 to BW, but operation was always from the campus of the National Central University in Chung-Li, a little south of Taipei. I again enjoyed contacts with quite a few FOC members.
- **DL5YL** - Tina will be active with the call DLØYLD (yl-clubcall of Berlin) from 27.12.2013 to 15.01.2014.
- **F3AT** – Ivan reported on 3 December that his tower is repaired and he can use his beam on 3 bands, but needs a balun for the WARC bands.
- **G2HKU** Ted has submitted his Windle Score for 2013 at 126 QSO with club members including a number of duplicates. He would like to remind members that he really does have three letters after G2 and is becoming a rarity and that some operators query his call sign! He is fairing well seeing his XYL Stella every couple of weeks and he remains active on the bands setting a good example to us all. He recently put his IC703 on the bands for the GQRP Winter Sports Activity period. He and Colin G3VTT are hoping to take a trip out to Sheerness early in January. (Thanks, G3VTT)
- **G3LHJ/2** - Sylvia has had to undergo a series of operations and procedures to repair one of her hips. Sylvia had a new hip ball joint fitted but unfortunately had a fall and not only damaged the joint but also fractured her hip. Sylvia is in Torbay Hospital recovering from a second operation to repair the damage. It is likely that Sylvia will have to be in a wheelchair for some weeks following discharge from the hospital. Thoughts are with Sylvia and Derrick. (Thanks, G3ZRJ)
- **G3LPN** - It is my sad duty to inform you that Philip Hunt, G3LPN (Foc 1479) passed away peacefully this morning, in hospital, following a short illness. Funeral information to follow when received. Phil was my best friend and he will be sadly missed. Rest in peace old friend. (Thanks, GØJWB)
- **G3P** – In the 10 metre contest, G3P was G3WPH, Mike. He was CW only, using an FTdx3000 loaned him to try out, loaned by G3XTT, Don, to use against his usual FT-2000, an Acom 1000 amp and a vertical.
- **G3RXP** - You may have noticed that Dave was using the special contest call G4X during CQWW, however Ofcom had duplicated the call and it was in use by GM4X. Fortunately the two calls are not exactly the same, so both logs have been accepted. Dave's new Special Contest Call is **G5U** and he used it for a couple of hours in the 10m CW test. The moral of the story is, don't answer the telephone during a contest.
- **G3TXF** - Nigel headed back to the Caribbean for some fun and sun. As to the fun he was QRV as PJ7/G3TXF from Sint Maarten from December 4-11. Listen for him on CW only, mostly on the 79-WARC bands. QSL via G3TXF via OQRS and LoTW. Logs will also be uploaded to Club Log. His Webpage is at <http://www.g3txf.com/dxtrip/PJ7-Dec-13/PJ7.html>
- **GM3POI** - Clive was QRV in the ARRL 10m test using his other callsign, GM3X, single mode CW.
- **GM3WUX** – Terry hasn't quite gone through everything yet, but he just put the tower up to 50 FT, wound the amp up to full legal and gave the CQ WW over 32 hours. 3488 entries in the log, claimed score just over 2,600,000 points. This is the best he has ever done. Conditions were good so I suppose everyone else will have done at least comparably well. That's my Single Op, All Band, Non-Assisted, High Power contribution to this excellent event.

- **GW3NJW** – It is my sad duty to report the passing on 21st November of my dear friend Clive GW3NJW, who I first met in Cardiff High School in 1952 when we were in the same form. We obtained our licences together and operated very many Field Days together from 1960 to 1995. This stretched from Cardiff RSGB Group GW5BI and GW4FW in 1960, GW3XEJ Cardiff Radio Contest Club from 1966, through GW5ZL Swansea Group, Red Dragon GW8GT, and Contest Cambria GW7X. Clive fought very bravely against a serious illness for several years. The funeral was held at Thornhill Crematorium in Cardiff on December 11th. The service was attended by seven South Wales amateurs and many relatives. Amateurs attending were all friends of Clive, GW3NWS, GW3LEW, G(W)3OAY, GW3RIH, GW3SQX, GW4BLE, GW4JBQ, and GW5NF. RIP Clive you were a great friend and a great operator. (Thanks, G3OAY)

- **IKØIXI** - Dec. 1, 2013, Fabio took part in the **Salvatore "Sal" Marino - IKØATK's 100th** birthday celebration. Born in 1913 near Naples, Salvatore started his military career in the Regio Esercito (Italian Kingdom Army) in 1933. He was a young artillery sergeant in 1937 when he was involved in Ethiopian colonial war. When in Gondar, he became radio telegrapher and was sent on the shores of Lake Tana as operator of the anti-aircraft network. The net operated in CW only, with few Watts and wire antennas. Thanks to this simple radio circuit, Sal and the other operators were able to save many lives during RAF attacks. In Nov. 1941 he was captured by English troops after the famous Siege of Gondar and spent more than 5 year in the Zonderwater (South Africa) POW camp. During his long prison stay in the camp, Sal studied English and after the armistice of September 8, 1943 Sal joined the part of Italy that fought on the side of the Allies. He came back home in late 1946, after almost 10 years passed in Africa. He retired in 1969 from Italian Army after a long career as CW operator and instructor. Still today at 100 years, Sal is an avid CW operator, INORC Honour Member, HSC and VHSC. You may find him on 7025 every day. He likes to use PC, Internet and other modern stuffs. Take a look to QRZ.com. Happy Birthday Salvatore! <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjZ3NoRONag> http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15X_72kkjT4

- **J34G - G3PJT**, Bob will once again be active as J34G from Grenada (NA-024, WLOTA 0718) between the 3rd - 10th March. Activity will probably be holiday style using a K2 w/100 watts and vertical antennas. He plans to also be in the RSGB's Commonwealth Contest (8th - 9th March). Look for him outside of the contest, especially on 80 and 30 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

- **K6KII** - Cliff and Janice were in the process of relocating to Fort Collins, CO, and were delayed due to an unfortunate accident (hitting a bull elk crossing Interstate 25 in New Mexico) which totaled their vehicle; but they are both OK.

- **MØDXR** - Mark has settled in at Church Langley, Harlow, Essex. Do you have room for the rhombic now, Mark?

- **N4AF** – Howie will be activating W1AW/4 for NC in the ARRL Centennial in the first week of January. <http://n4af.net>

- **VK6VZ** – Steve has been off the air for the last six months, rebuilding his antennas. He built a 40m mini Moxon 2-element beam, but getting it right has been driving him mad. He finally has it just about sorted.

- **VQ9JC** - The license for Jim has been renewed. Renewal encountered "an administrative hiccup," a change of official in charge, keeping him off the air for a month as the official checked into how ham license approvals are done. Once the answer came, approval was quick. Jim has been visiting the Chagos for 15 years. He is now operating "field day style" from a covered picnic table at a park which has AC available and "dozens of gecko lizards chasing the bugs." He is 30 feet from "the wall of the jungle" and is trying to "thread a 135-foot OCF dipole through all the trees so that he can leave the antenna up with multi-band capability." It can't be visible as 150-pound-test fishing line used to hold it up and the copper wire are both precious commodities there. The OCF dipole does not work on 15, 30 or 60 even with a matchbox, so separate dipoles for 15 and 30 will be put up and, maybe, for 60. The 80M OCF is going to be a big enough project, and will just be 25 feet high. Jim will have dipoles on the ship, where he will sign /MM. His rig is an FT-857D, 100 watts. He hopes to get the VQ94JC callsign for later in the year.

- **W1AW/2** – The first of two weeks for New York, 22nd-28th January, **K2QMF** 23 Jan 2100Z – 0100Z 25th, **N2KW** and **K2UV** 26 Jan 0700Z- 2200Z (separate times, each). Stop by and give them a shout. Also, W1AW/2 will make an appearance in the CQ 160 meter contest, from 0700-0800z on January 26, with **N2KW** operating.

- **WRTC2014** - Dave Sumner, **K1ZZ**, will be Chief Judge for WRTC2014 as well as the following judges from the FOC. G3SXW, Roger; G4BUO, Dave; K4BAI, John; K6NA, Glenn; KC7V, Mike; N3RD, David; N5AW, Marvin; S53R, Robert; VK2IA, Bernd; and VK4EMM, John.

- **WiFi routers into the 2.4 GHz ham band** – **AI2Q**, Alex, inspired by articles in recent issues of RadCom and QST, converted home wireless network WiFi routers into the 2.4 GHz ham band. The Cisco Linksys routers, now "flashed" with Amateur Radio code and using his callsign, are on the air on the 13-cm band as digital Broadband Hamnet rigs (also known as High Speed Multimedia Network- Mesh). HSMM-Mesh is a dynamic computer network that automatically recognizes stations as they appear in the mesh, and lets participating nodes automatically route computer traffic. If any member would like to receive his "*Old Buzzard's Guide to Getting Started With HSMM-Mesh*," please drop him an email and he will forward the Word file. If you're on the air with high-speed mesh, he'd like to communicate with you on CW, by email, or landline. (Ed. Note: This is neat!)

W5FOC Weekend, Santa Fe, NM April 3-6 2014 – John K1JD and Fred KT5X

See December, 2013 News Sheet Contact K1JD: Johnk1jd@comcast.net or KT5X: just.one.hill@gmail.com

Please note, John, K1JD's email address is (.net), not (.com) as was previously printed.

THE 2014 WINDLE AWARD by W4PM

Scores to W4PM only. An asterisk against the call indicates the score has been updated this month. The scores are the total points / total number of different members worked. 2014 Windle score reporting will begin with the February News Sheet based on e-mails received reporting 2014 scores through January 25th. Puck, hmmjr@comcast.net