

HF Awards & Activities

Intro for new Hams & Technician Licensees



Tech Net #28 3/2/26

Jim Thomas AI5EG

somewhere near Harwood

You got your Technician license? Yea!

Welcome! & Welcome to CrossRoads Ham Radio Club

As a Tech you can:

- Operate all modes and bands 50Mhz (6M) and above.

- Operate 10M USB 28.3-28.5Mhz

The Tech bands are great fun, but other than 10M, don't have the distance "DX" reach like the HF bands.

But.... More fun awaits! Go for that General and Extra Class license.

There's a **lot** more to Ham Radio waiting for you on the HF bands

Join the fun with other ham operators in our club, around the country and around the world.

You got finally your general! (or extra)

WooHoo!!.....

Now what????

- Ready to shred the HF bands!
- As you improve your station for HF operations & develop your operating skills
- There is a whole new world of interesting HF communication possibility opened
- Meet hams from around the country and worldwide
- More than 10 HF Bands and their frequencies
- Popular Operating modes
 - Phone (**SSB, FM, AM**),
 - digital (**RTTY, PSK, FT8, JT65, etc.**) ,
 - CW (Morse code)

Basic HF station

Radio

HF Transceiver w/ mic (or key)
13.8V Power Supply(?)

Antenna

dipole, end fed, vertical, G5RV, stealth ...

Computer



QRZ.com

World's Largest Callsign Database and Lookup

Your callsign is already there. **Add your bio!!**

Free Online Logbook

QRZ Operating Awards (Free to Earn)

Swapmeet page – used ham gear

Info on Special Events

The screenshot shows the QRZ.com website. At the top left is the QRZ logo. To its right is a banner for 'The Northwest's Largest Ham Convention SEA'. Below the navigation bar, there are several sections: a sidebar with ads for ICOM IC-7300MK2, R&L Electronics, and LDG Electronics; a 'Featured Member' section for N9EHK showing a ham station; a 'Solar-Terrestrial Data' section with a table of HF conditions and a solar image; and a 'Guest Column' section titled 'Trials and Errors' by an amateur ham.

NEW ICOM IC-7300MK2

ALL OPEN BOX ITEMS 10% OFF! HAM RADIO OUTLET

R&L ELECTRONICS www.randl.com

LDG DESKTOP ELECTRONICS TUNERS AT-100ProII LDGElectronics.com

Featured Member

N9EHK

Solar-Terrestrial Data
Provided by N0NBH

Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Fair	Good
30n-20n	Good	Good
17n-15n	Fair	Fair
12n-10n	Poor	Poor

Geomag Field QUIET
Sig Noise Lvl S1-S2
MUF US Boulder NoRpt
Solar Flare Prb 20%

Trials AND ERRORS
GUEST COLUMN

Ham Life with an Amateur
Read our "No YouTube" Ham column!
New! Check out our guest author's story (Christian, G5DOC). His radio origins are

Awards & Activities

- A fun and popular activity is pursuing the many Awards & Certificates to “wallpaper” your shack and impress friends and family, be the envy of fellow hams.
- Some awards are fairly new on the ham scene i.e POTA
- Some awards have been around a long time – 1920’s



POTA est 2018 – popular activity

Parks on the Air –portable operation from parks and protected public lands in the US and around the world.

Activators go to the parks.

Join CRHRC POTA # 7, Saturday March 7 - Washington On The Brazos State Historic Site, come & join in the fun

Hunters (from anywhere) contact Activators to “hunt” them and earn credits.

Participate casually or chase goals.

Dozens of awards overall including:

Awards for Hunters:

Bronze 10 parks, Silver 25, Gold 50, Platinum 100
and more

<https://parksontheair.com/>

<https://pota.app/>

ARRL WAS: *Worked All States* est 1936

Confirmed two-way contacts* with at least one station in each of the 50 U.S. states.

Endorsements for getting all 50 on::

- phone
- digital/RTTY
- CW
- by band
- satellite
- 160M

*Direct simplex contacts
(no repeaters, or nodes)



America 250 WAS

2026 only!!

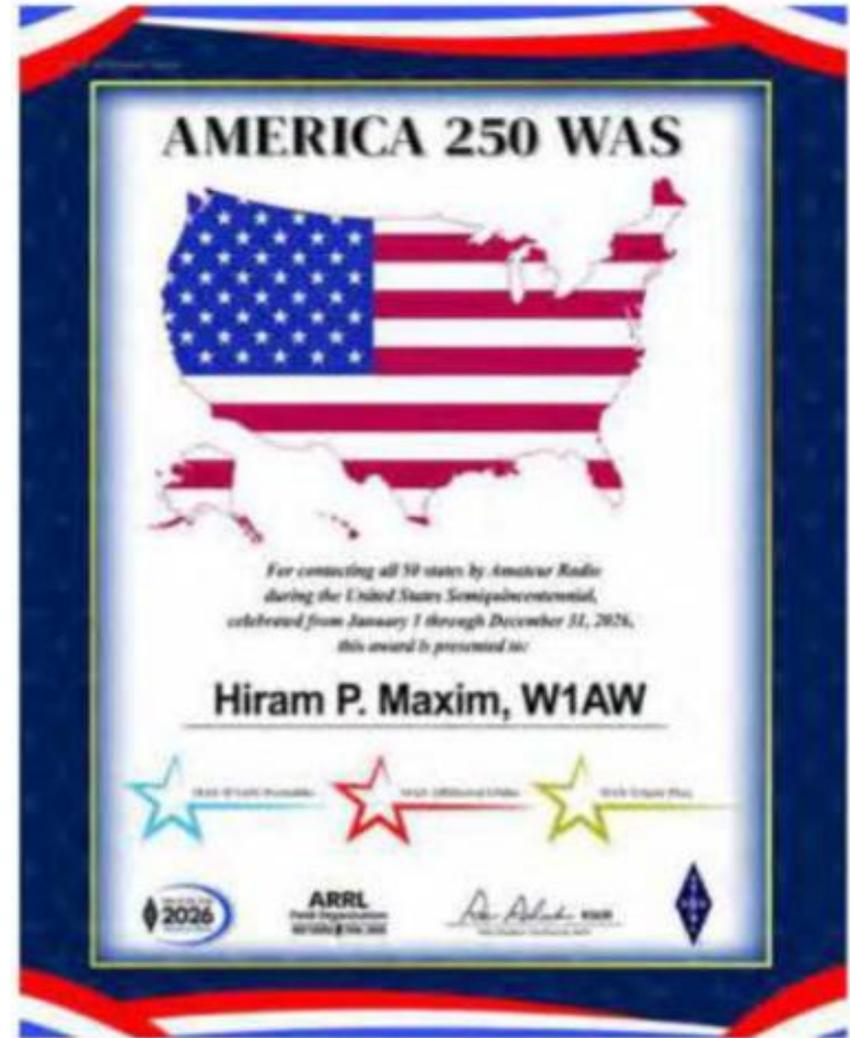
A Year-Long Worked-All-States Operating Event Celebrating the 250th Anniversary (Semiquincentennial) of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Endorsements:

- Contacting W1AW/Portable stations in all 50 States.
- Contacting ARRL Affiliated Club Call Signs in all 50 States.
- Contacting all 50 States on CW and Phone and Digital for a 'TRIPLE PLAY'.

<https://www.arrl.org/america250-was>

<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/America250/250page.pdf>



Earn the America250 WAS Award certificate in 2026.

QRZ.com: Operating Awards via QRZ Logbook.

KJ5ADO



Brenda Jasper

119 E MEADOW LN
WEST COLUMBIA, TX 77486-3851
USA

Email: swimfin61@gmail.com

XML Subscriber Lookups: 14136

Label



Here's Brenda operating ARRL HQ
W1AW Maxim Memorial Station, Newington CT

Based on QSO confirmations in your QRZ
Logbook

Badges on your QRZ.com page

Certificates to wallpaper your shack also
available





Islands On The Air



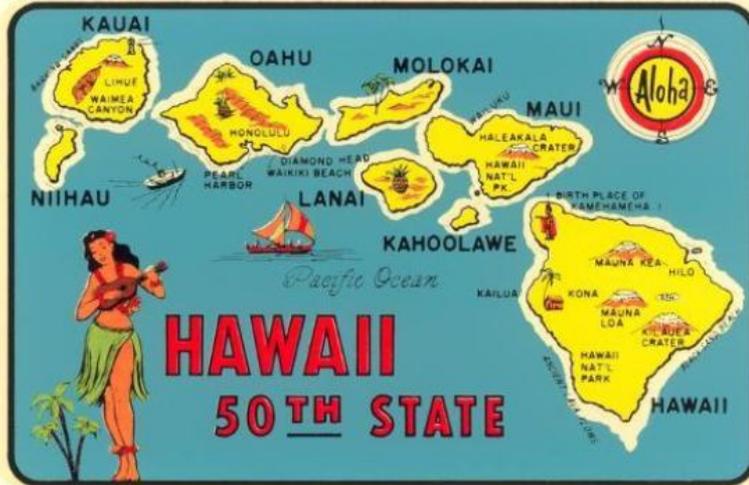
IOTA is an “on the air” portable/DX program focused on islands rather than parks.

There are about 1,200 numbered "IOTA groups“ worldwide

(e.g., NA-092 for Texas barrier islands like Padre Island or Galveston area)

Awards starting at 100 confirmed IOTA contacts and up

Many hams combine IOTA with vacations or DXpeditions to remote islands



Hawaii
OC-190

(not Hawaii)
Rockall Is.
EU-189



<https://www.iota-world.org/>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rockall>

Special Event Stations

- Special Event Stations: Temporary, unique callsigns often active for 24-72 hours to commemorate anniversaries, historic events issuing special QSL cards/Certificates

13 Colonies

Lewis & Clark trail

Scouts on the Air

International Lighthouse Lightship weekend

Museum Ships Weekend

Route 66 on the Air

Many others: US and Worldwide

The US Original 13 Colonies Amateur Radio Society Presents The 16th Annual:

13 Colonies Special Event = 2024

July 1st - 7th

Citizen Soldiers - State Militias - Minute Men



K2A*

NEW YORK



K2B*

VIRGINIA



K2C*

RHODE ISLAND



K2D*

CONNECTICUT



K2E*

DELAWARE



K2F*

MARYLAND



K2G*

GEORGIA



In Recognition For Participation In This 4th Of July Week 13 Colonies Special Event, This Certificate Is Awarded To Amateur Radio Station:

KU2US



GB13COL

WM3PEN



TM13COL



***K2H**



MASSACHUSETTS

***K2I**



NEW JERSEY

***K2J**



NORTH CAROLINA

***K2K**



NEW HAMPSHIRE

***K2L**



SOUTH CAROLINA

***K2M**



PENNSYLVANIA

CONTACTS

13

CLEAN SWEEP



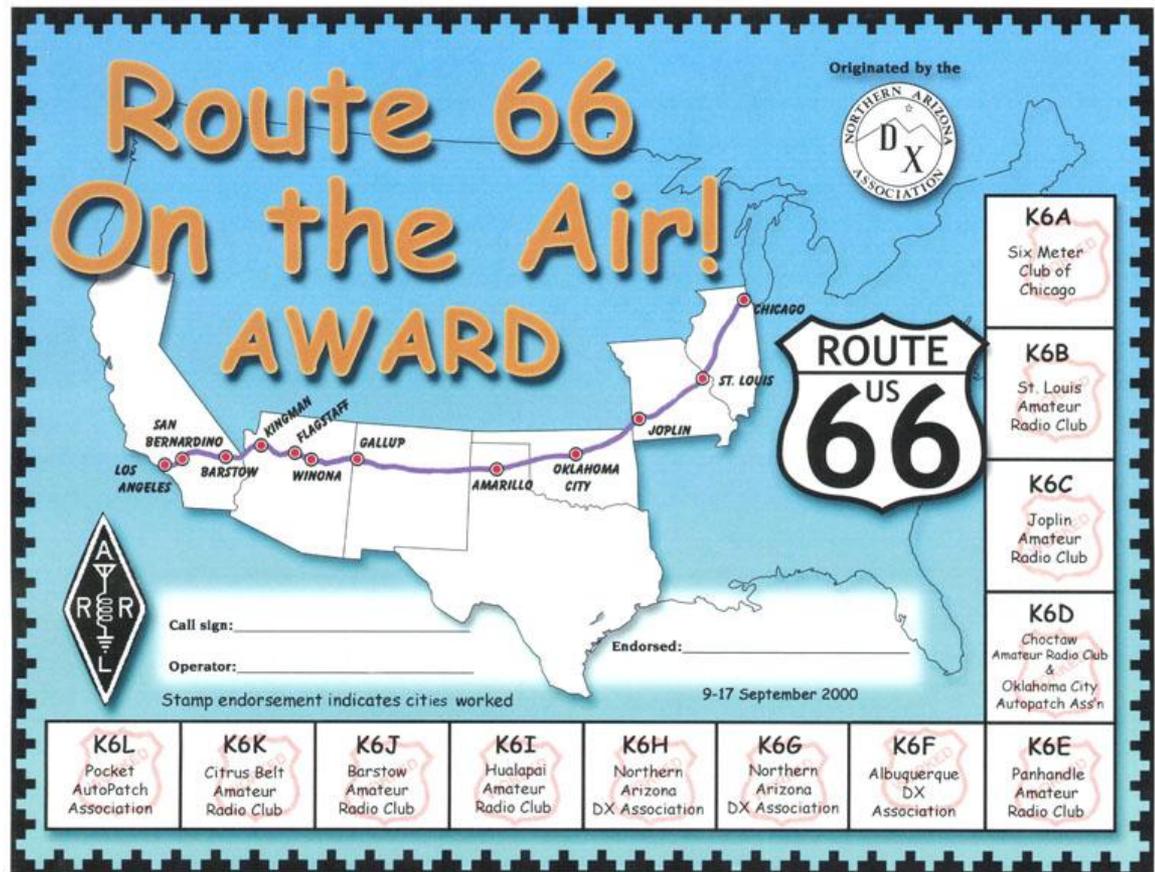
Route 66 on the air celebrates the historic U.S. Route 66

Special 1X1 callsigns: K6A - K6Y

In 2026: September 12–20, marking the 100th anniversary of Route 66's official designation in 1926. Check QRZ.com forums.

Award Certificate

Custom/collectable
QSL cards from
participating stations



Getting the award recognized

For most awards, contacts require QSO confirmation by the other station & must match your log

WAS, America 250 WAS, WAC, DXCC & WAZ: only accept LoTW (Logbook of The World) confirmation , or QSL card (checked)

QRZ.com Awards: both stations confirm on QRZ Logbook

Electronic station log for confirming contacts

N3FJP Logbook – will ‘one click’ upload directly to LoTW, QRZ Logbook, Clublog, eQSL

QRZ Logbook – will upload to LoTW, others by transferring ADIF files.
(LoTW – you can enter QSO details of contacts directly, but clumsy)

<https://www.n3fjp.com/>

<https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help/getting-started>

Resources

www.qrz.com

<https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help/getting-started>

<https://www.n3fjp.com/>

www.contestcalendar.com

<https://dxwatch.com>

<https://www.reversebeacon.net/main.php>

<http://k7ar.net/ft8web/>

www.425dxn.org

<https://easydxcc.arrl.org/>

https://dxcluster.ha8tk.com/V2/rbn_map/

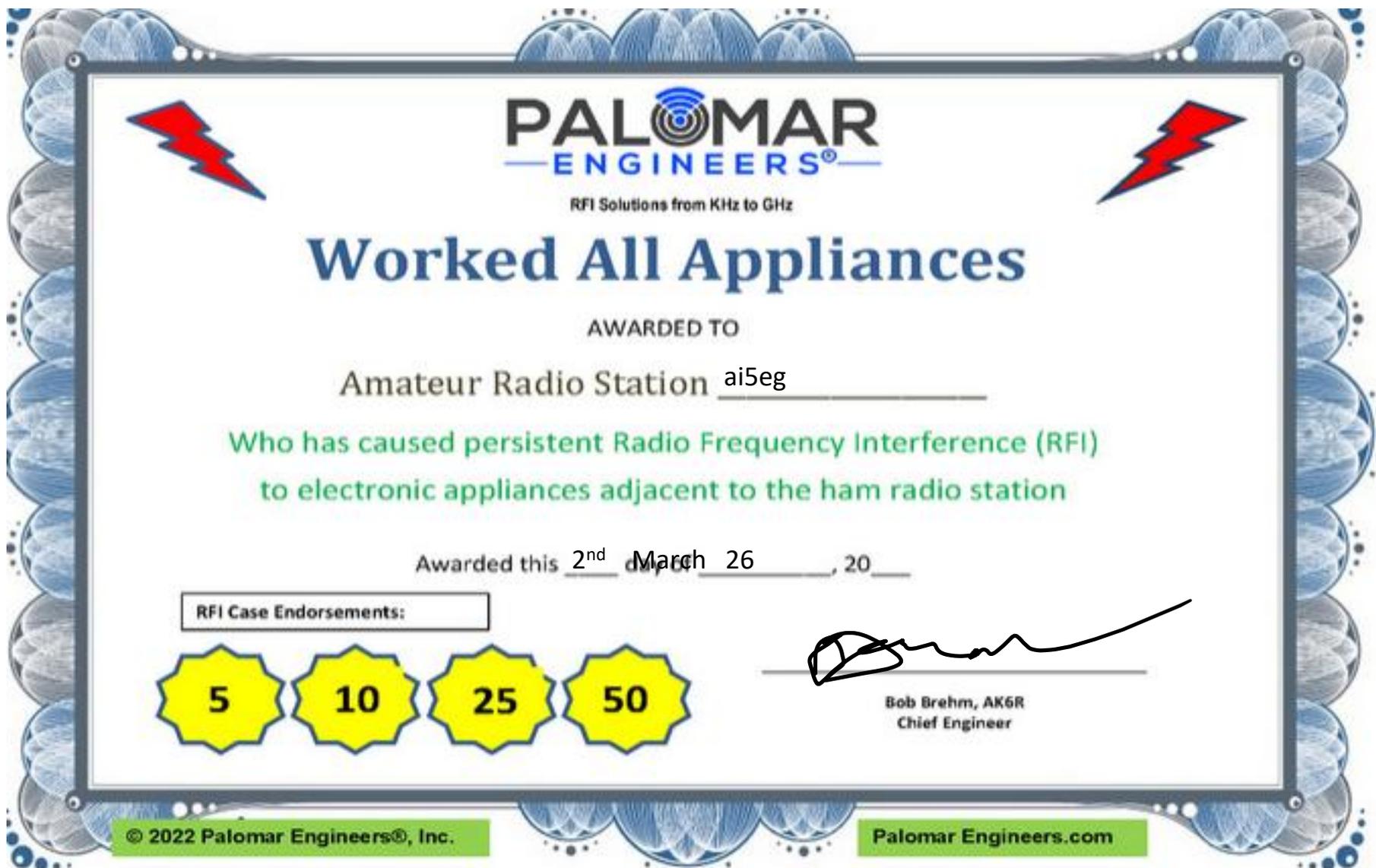
<http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/>

<https://www.dxmaps.com/spots/mapg.php?Lan=E>

<https://www.dxheat.com/>

https://www.w9dup.org/images/grid_square_map_1.png

WAA award



Questions?
Comments?

CQ USA Counties award – est early 60's

“A marathon, not a sprint”

2way contacts* with a specified number of US counties.

Basic Award: 500 & large certificate

Endorsements (seals/stickers):

1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500 3,000

Special plaque for all 3,077

Endorsements for single bands & modes

State QSO parties and portable operators are a great way to collect contacts with counties.

*Direct HF/VHF/UHF simplex contacts (no repeaters, or nodes)

Self certify your contacts when you apply.

<https://countyhunter.com/cq.htm>

<http://www.countyhunterweb.org/>



SOTA – Summits on the Air (SOTA) – est 2002



International Award Program

Activators and Chasers like POTA but involves hiking or climbing to with portable operation from elevated locations.

Higher the summit gives higher point values

Certificates and Trophies:

Activators: Mountain Goat,

Hunters: Shack Sloth

In Texas, approximately 550 qualifying summits, mostly in West Texas – higher point values

Closest to Houston are in Hill Country west of San Antonio – low point value

<https://www.sota.org.uk/>

www.sotamaps.org

www.sotawatch.sota.org.uk

Lewis & Clark Trail Special Event

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This Certificate Proclaims
Name, Call Sign
 As a **TRAIL COMPANION**
 Having Made Radio Contact with ## States Along
THE 2025 LEWIS & CLARK TRAIL ON THE AIR





Meriwether
Lewis



William
Clark

Peace Medal Bonus Stations



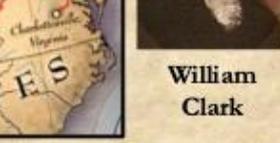
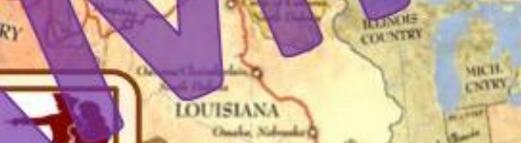
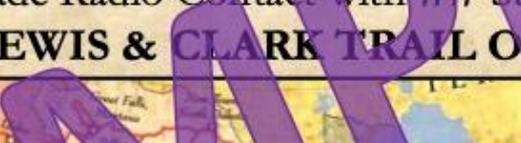
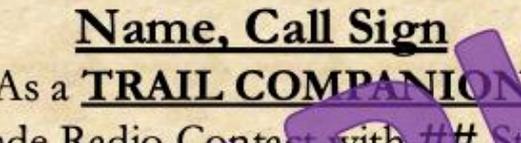
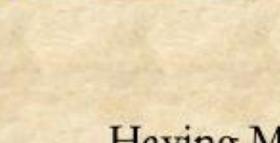
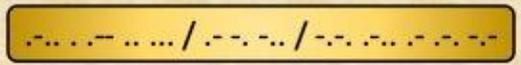
W0L
K7C



May 31, 2025 -

Sponsored by the Clark County Amateur Radio Club – W7A1A – Vancouver, WA

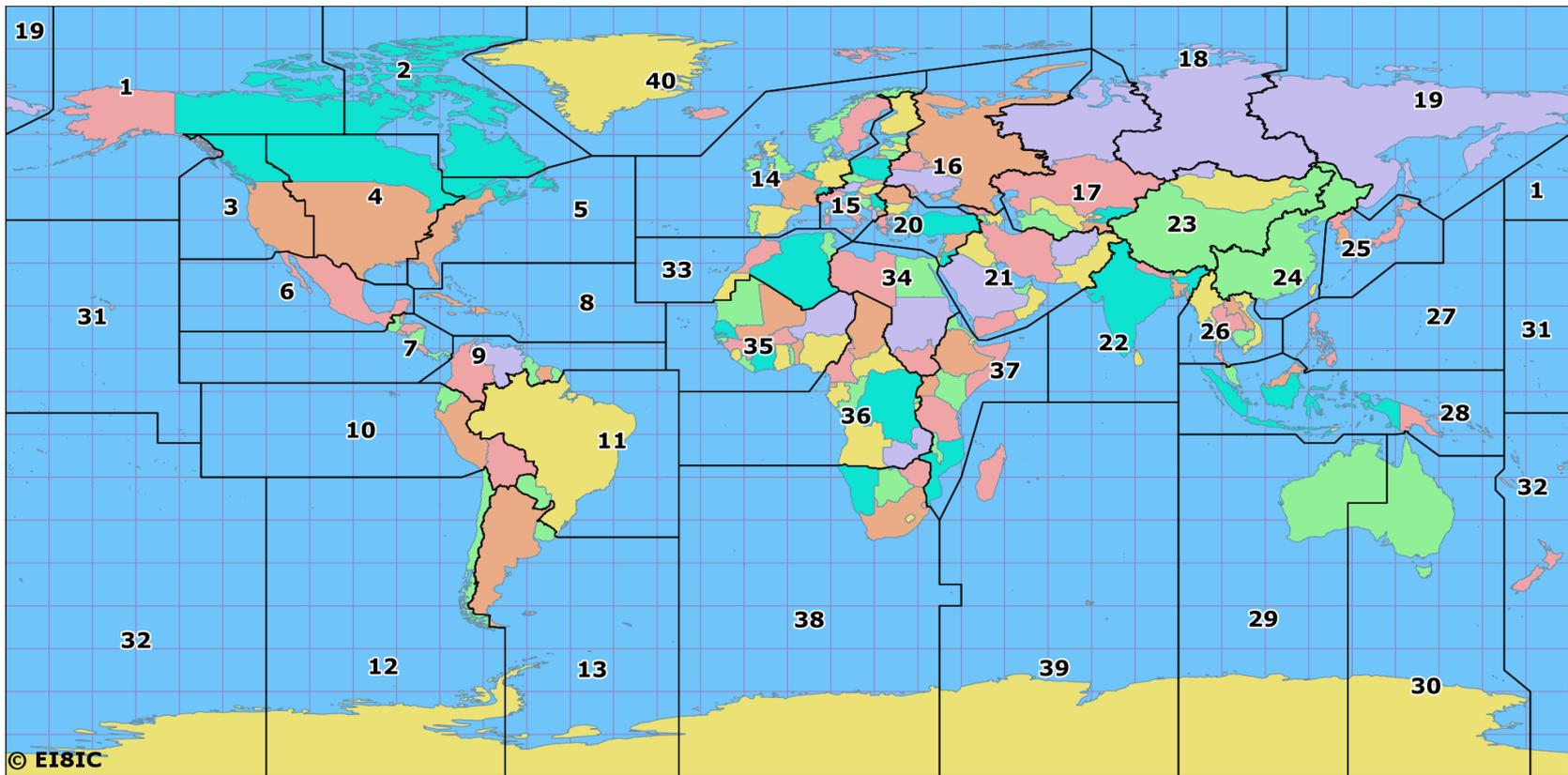
- June 15, 2025



CQ Worked All Zones (WAZ) award – est 1934

Confirmed contacts with at least one station in each of the 40 CQ defined geographic zones.

Endorsements for bands and modes



<https://n4baa.com/cqwaz.html>

Traditional – Worldwide Awards

WAC – Worked All Continents – est 1926

Confirmed 2-way contacts with all 6 continents

North America, South America, Oceania, Asia, Europe and Africa



DX Century Club (DXCC)

est 1926

- “Amateur Radio's most prestigious and popular operating achievement”
 - Awarded for *confirmed* QSOs with 100 different “countries”.
 - Awards by band, mode, mixed
 - Endorsement stickers for 150, 200, 250, 275, 300, 305, 310, ...
- Five Band DXCC Plaque
 - 100 *confirmed* QSOs on each of 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m
 - Endorsement stickers for other bands
- DXCC Honor Roll
 - 331 *confirmed* of the 340 total entities
- *Rick WB8FVB at 311 now?*

