

Amateur Radio Operational Awards

I. ARRL Awards

- First Contact Award
 - Commemorates a ham's first QSO
- Worked All Continents (WAC) Award
 - administered by IARU
 - confirms 6 continents (excludes Antarctica)
- Worked All States (WAS) Award
 - Triple Play Award
 - 50 states confirmed on voice, CW, and digital modes
 - District of Columbia counts for MD
 - must use Logbook of the World (LOTW)
 - may use all amateur bands except 60M
 - 5 Band WAS (5BWAS)
- DX Century Club (DXCC) Award
 - 5 Band DXCC (5BDXCC)
 - Honor Roll
 - confirmed total within 10 of all current entities
 - DXCC Challenge Award
 - confirmed at least 1000 entities on any HF/6M bands
 - Desoto Cup
 - presented to DXCC Challenge leader each year
- VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC) Award
 - 50 MHz and above
 - contacts with Maidenhead 2° x 1° grids
 - for 6M, 2M, and satellite - 100 credits required
- Fred Fish (W5FF) Memorial Award (FFMA)
 - named after Fred Fish W5FF (SK)
 - confirms all 488 grids in contiguous 48 states on 6M

II. CQ Awards

- DX Awards
 - CQ DX Award
 - three categories - SSB, CW, RTTY
 - similar to DXCC with different endorsements
 - recognizes Kosovo as entity
 - CQ DX Field Award
 - four categories - Mixed, CW, SSB, Digital
 - confirms 50 or more 20° x 10° grid fields ie. EM

- there are 324 possible grid fields worldwide
 - CQ iDX Award
 - utilizes Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) linking systems
 - IRLP, Echolink, WIRES, etc.
 - confirm at least 25 countries - QSL, eQSL, email
 - CQ DX Marathon
 - more contest than operational award
 - object is to work as many DX entities and CQ zones in a year
 - Worked All Zones (WAZ) Award
 - confirm contact with 40 CQ zones
 - 5BWAZ - very challenging - 200 total zones
 - WPX Prefix Award
 - four categories - Mixed, CW, SSB, Digital
 - confirm 400 prefixes for Mixed, 300 for other categories
 - lots of endorsements
 - 600 prefixes for Honor Roll
 - WPX Award of Excellence
 - USA County Award (USA-CA)
 - seven different classes with increments of 500 counties
 - 3077 total USA counties
- III. International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Awards
- ITU Region 1 Award - administered by RSGB
 - ITU Region 2 Award - administered by Radio Club Venezolano (RCV)
 - ITU Region 3 Award - - administered by New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters (NZART)
- IV. Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) Awards
- Islands on the Air (IOTA) Awards
 - hugely popular award worldwide
 - 18 separate awards
 - basic award - 100 islands/groups
 - 7 continental and 3 regional awards
 - Commonwealth Century Club (CCC) Award
 - based on the 54 nation members of the former British Commonwealth
 - basic award - 100 call areas
 - Worked ITU Zones (W ITU Z) Award
 - basic award - confirming 70 of 75 total ITU zones
 - Supreme award for all 75 ITU zones
 - 5 band award available
- V. Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Awards
- Canadaward
 - confirm all Canadian Provinces/Territories

- a single band award
- can have separate band and mode awards
- 13 QSL's required for each band/mode award

VI. Amateur Radio Light House Society (ARLHS) Awards

- Worked All States (WAS-LH)
 - there are 33 states with lighthouses
 - basic award for 11 states with endorsements of 11
- Worked All Continents (WAC-LH)
 - 6 continents as per IARU criteria
- Worked All Call Areas (WACA-LH)
 - 10 USA call areas
- DX Award (DX-LH)
 - basic award - 25 countries endorsed by 25

VII. Resources

- ARRL - www.arrl.org/awards
- CQ - www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_awards
- RSGB - www.rsgb.org
- RAC - www.rac.ca
- ARLHS - <http://arlhs.com/awards/awardprog-intro.html>
- www.dxawards.com
- www.countyhunter.com
- RSGB IOTA - <http://www.rsgbiota.org/>
- Islands on the Air Program - <http://www.logiciel.co.uk/iota/iota.html>
- Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) awards - <http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/services/awards/>
- 10-10 International - www.10-10.org/awards
- AMSAT awards - <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/awards/>

County Hunters Aid Tornado Victims, plus IARU Awards

April and May 2011 saw a series of deadly tornadoes strike the central and southeastern United States. A force 3 storm (winds of from 150 to 165 mph) struck well-known county hunter Hollis Thigpen, KC3X, of Snow Hill, North Carolina on Saturday, April 16th. The storm completely destroyed his home, a second structure, his tower and antenna, plus several vehicles. Hollis and his wife Sandy, W4SMT, were in the house when the tornado struck, but survived uninjured.

In short order, members of Hollis's local radio club, the Brightleaf Amateur Radio Club, and many county hunters started to collect donations to help Hollis cover the many items lost in the tornado that regular insurance does not cover. The effort was coordinated by Bill Pedersen, KM1C, and Dave Langley, W4YDY. At the time this column was written (in late May 2011), the amount collected was estimated to be in excess of \$6000. This includes at least three individual contributions of \$500.

KC3X earned USA-CA #538 in 1987, and earned the subsequent 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Time Around awards offered by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC).

The heart-warming generosity of the County Hunter fraternity was displayed for one of its own in a terrible natural disaster. This shows how just one group, among many, of ham radio operators can come together and help those in need.

IARU Awards

Begun in Paris, France, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has been the watchdog and "spokesman" for the world amateur radio community since 1925. The IARU Constitution, last amended in 1989, organizes the Union into three Regional Organizations that correspond with the three radio regions of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The IARU represents the political and administrative side of the hobby, and is not really well known by many amateurs, who are more interested in operating than in legalities. One of the tools used by the IARU to publicize its background role was the creation of awards which require contacting specified numbers of its member countries, sort of like a DXCC for each region. Note that in the list of countries shown for each of the three awards, some countries within the region are not active members of the IARU, and consequently are not valid for the award.

Region I Award—Administered by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). Contact the required number of stations in countries whose national societies are members of the Region I

*12 Wells Woods Rd., Columbia, CT 06237
e-mail: <k1bv@cq-amateur-radio.com>

USA-CA Honor Roll

500

VE3EK	3540
K8DV	3541
ON4RO	3542

The total number of counties for credit for the United States of America Counties Award is 3077. The basic award fee for subscribers is \$6.00. For nonsubscribers it is \$12.00. To qualify for the special subscriber rate, please send a recent CQ mailing label with your application. Initial application may be submitted in the USA-CA Record Book, which may be obtained from CQ Magazine, 25 Newbridge Road, Hicksville, NY 11801 USA for \$2.50, or by a PC-printed computer listing which is in alphabetical order by state and county within the state. To be eligible for the USA-CA Award, applicants must comply with the rules of the program as set forth in the revised USA-CA Rules and Program dated June 1, 2000. A complete copy of the rules may be obtained by sending an SASE to Ted Melinosky, K1BV, 12 Wells Woods Road, Columbia, CT 06237 USA. DX stations must include extra postage for airmail reply.

Division of the IARU. This award may be endorsed for a single mode or band including 2 or 6 meters, and for contacts made by satellite. The three classes are:

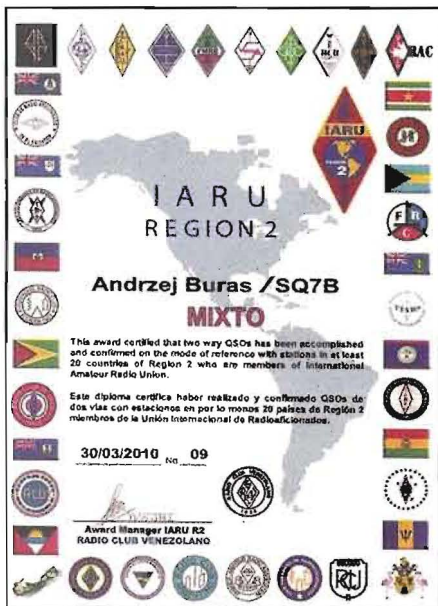
- Class 1—All member countries on the current list
- Class 2—60 member countries
- Class 3—40 member countries.

A special version of the award is available, in the same three classes, for confirmed contacts on the 28-MHz band since July 1, 1983.

Submit a list of countries in prefix order, callsign, and all QSO details, including band, mode, etc. A special application form is available via e-mail or SASE from the HF Awards Manager listed below. Please note that a certified list signed by the applicant and his/her national society awards manager confirming QSL cards are held must be submitted for all Class 1 applications. For Class 2 and Class 3 awards, General Certification Rules apply; General Certification by two radio amateurs or local club officials stating the QSLs have been examined is satisfactory proof. Please note e-QSLs are not



The IARU Region I Award is administered by the Radio Society of Great Britain.



The Radio Club Venezolano sponsors the IARU Region II Award.

acceptable as proof of a QSO. Cost of this award is US\$6, 6 Euros, or £3 UKP.

RSGB HF Awards Manager: John Dunnington, G3LZQ, Box-36, Gilberdyke, East Yorkshire, HU15 2WX England. Internet: <<http://www.rsgb.org/spectrumforum/hf/hfawards/iarureg1.php>>.

Countries of IARU Region I: 3A, 3B, 3C, 3DA, 3V, 4L, 4O, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 7P, 7X, 9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9Q, A2, A4, A6, A7, A9, C3, C5, C9, CN, CT/CU/CT3, DL, EA, EI, EK, EL, ER, ES, ET, EU, EY, EZ, F/TK, G/GI/GJ/GM/GU/GW, HA, HB0, HB9, I/IS0, J2, JT, JY, LA, LX, LY, LZ, OD, OE, OH/OH0/OJ0, OK, OM, ON, OY, OZ, PA, R, S5, SM, SP, SU, SV, T7, T9, TA, TF, TJ, TN, TR, TU, TZ, UN, UR, V5, XT, YI, YK, YL, YO, YU, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB2, ZS.

Region II Award—Administered by Radio Club Venezolano (RCV). The IARU Region II sponsors and the Radio Club of Venezuela administers this award for contacting at least 20 countries or entities of the 44 which comprise IARU Region II. Contacts on or after April 16, 1964. The official application form IARU Region II provides must be used; located on the internet site <<http://www.iaru-r2.org>>.

The application must be sent together with a certification from an IARU Member Society authorized person (i.e., an official DXCC or WAC card checker, your country's award manager, etc.) that your cards have been checked. If this is not possible, it will be mandatory to provide a photocopy of both sides of the

QSLs valid for the award. Electronic verifications are not accepted.

The Region II countries are: Anguilla, Antigua, Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Montserrat, Netherland Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States (including Alaska), Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The award may be endorsed for all Mixed, Phone, CW, Digimodes, or Satellite. Contacts may be made on the amateur bands 160 through 6 meters, endorsable for any single band or mixed bands. All contacts must have been made from the same country and must be two-way QSOs. No use of cross-mode operation, except for satellite.

Up to a four-month delay may be expected to receive the award. Send the application, cards, or copies and fee of \$US10 or 10 current IRCs. Mail application to: Radio Club Venezolano, Award Manager IARU-R2, PO Box 20285 Caracas 1020-A, Venezuela. E-mail: <awardmanager@iaru-r2.org>; internet: <<http://www.iaru-r2.org>>.

Region III—Administered by the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters (NZART). Contact stations in member countries after April 5, 1982. The basic award requires seven Region III areas; Silver endorsement 15 areas; Gold endorsement 20 areas.

Eligible countries list: Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei, China (PRC),



The Region III Award is sponsored by the New Zealand Amateur Radio Transmitters group.

Chinese Taipei (Formosa), Fiji, French Polynesia (FO8 only), Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Pitcairn Islands (VR6), Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Vietnam. (One contact per country allowed.) Plus one or more country credits from U.S. territories in the Pacific: Guam, Northern Marianas, American Samoa, Wake Island, Baker Howland Group, as represented by the ARRL; or one from Chagos Archipelago (VQ9), represented by RSGB. Current total of available "countries" is 31.

Apply to: NZART Awards Manager, PO Box 1733, Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch 8140, New Zealand. Internet: <<http://www.nzart.org.nz/assets/awards/iaru-region-iii-log.pdf>>.

We're always on the hunt for new awards to feature in these pages. I invite your e-mails to the address shown on the first page of this column.

73, Ted, K1BV

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