



Week 4 - Session 7

CW Academy

- Go over h/w and on air activities
- On The Air:
 - CQ WPX RTTY
 - 599 + Serial Number
 - Everybody works everybody
 - Contestcalendar.com
 - Contest sponsor usually has website also, e.g. cqwpxrty.com
- More Rag chewing



RTTY Contesting

- Many CW contesters also enjoy RTTY contesting
 - Fast paced, rates can approach those of CW
 - Most modern rigs have soundcard built-in so easily plug-and-pray
 - Bandwidth efficiency is not as efficient as CW but higher than voice
 - Ops tend to naturally spread out so its not the QRM-fest typical of FTx contests
- Good place to experiment with SO2R/SO2V and/or Sprinits
 - Decoding is off-loaded to your computer so you can concentrate on juggling two radios
- **Do NOT use cut numbers**
 - All symbols are 5-bits
 - Cap. letters, digits, punctuation and control characters are obtained by switching between two tables with 32-symbols each
 - It actually takes longer to send 5NN than 599
- **Send <CR> and spaces before and after your messages** to help separate from noise/garbage
- See rttycontesting.com for more info



Rag Chew QSOs

- There's no precise definition for a "rag chew" QSO but they generally begin with "the big three"
 - Signal Report (RST)
 - Location (QTH)
 - Name (OP)

Typical 3x3 CQ

CQ CQ CQ DE AA2IL AA2IL AA2IL K

AA2IL DE KB1FGC KB1FGC KN

Send his call so he knows you want a contact AND your call 2 or 3 times

**KB1FGC DE AA2IL = GE OM ES TNX FER CALL = UR 57N 57N IN RAMONA, CA
RAMONA, CA, ABT 30 MILES NE OF SAN DIEGO = NAME HR IS JOE JOE = HOW
CPY? <AR> KB1FGC DE AA2IL <KN>**

**AA2IL DE KB1FGC RR FB JOE TNX FER RPRT, SOLID COPY = UR RST 55N
55N = OP RICH RICH ES QTH PROSPECT, CT PROSPECT, CT = SO HW? BK**



Rag Chew QSOs (cont.)

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- If we both choose to continue the conversation, there are a lot of things to talk about:
 - Rig, antennas, radio adventures/exploits, ...
 - Weather, your city, ...
 - Age, work, family ...

KB1FGC DE AA2IL = RR SOLID AGN = RIG HR IS A YAESU FTDX300 ABT 100W TO A MOXON BEAM UP 30 FT = WX HR TODAY SUNNY AND HOT, TEMP NR 100 DEG F = SO BTU RICH <KN>

R FB JOE DIDNT MISS A DIT = UR RIG AND ANT DOING NICE JOB HR IN CT = RIG HR IS KNWD TS2000 WID AMP RUNNING 500W TO A DIPOLE UP 45 FT = WX HR IS COOL AND RAIN, TEMP IN LOW 50S = FALL IS HR IN THE GREAT NE = BTU JOE KN

VY GUD RICH = I GREW UP IN UPSTATE NY AND MISS THIS TIME OF YR = WENT TO THE BEACH WID MY XYL YESTERDAY TO REMIND US WHY WE LIVE HR HI HI = I RETIRED LAST YR AFTER 35 YRS AS AN ELEC ENGR = NW I HV LOTS OF TIME TO PLAY RADIO = WHAT DO YOU DO FOR WRK RICH? <KN>

AA2IL DE KB1FGC R SOLID AGN JOE = MY FAMILY RUNS AN ANTIQUE TRUCK MUSEUM AND I USED TO DRIVE BIG RIGS = BEEN A HAM FER 25 YRS, I ENJOY CW RAG CHEWING AND CHASING DX. I ALSO LIKE TO REPAIR VINTAGE RIGS AND IM WORKING ON A SATELLITE SETUP

...



Rag Chew QSOs (cont.)

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- ... and so on and so on
- Be sure to identify every 10-minutes
- Keep subject matter friendly and upbeat and non-controversial
 - Avoid subjects like religion, politics, etc.
 - CW is not Social Media (or 80m Phone!)
- Keep exchanges relatively short – don't dominate the conversation



Rag Chew Drill

- For practice tonight, operate as if you've met the other op before::

CQ CQ CQ AK4R AK4R K

AK4R DE KF0PQR KF0PQR KN

KF0PQR DE AK4R = GE JEFF ES GUD TO CU AGN = UR 57N 57N IN TN = HOW? BK

RR HI STEVE, GUD TO HEAR U ALSO = UR 5NN IN FT COLLINS, FB SIG = RIG HR IS ICOM 7300 100W TO A VERTICAL ON MY TRUCK = WX HR IS COLD AND SNOW, TEMP IN LOW 30S = BTU STEVE KN

VY GUD JEFF SOLID CPY = RIG HR IS FT991 100 W TO A DIPOLE AT 40 FT = WX TODAY WAS SUNNY AND WARM, SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER BK

RR FB STEVE = YOUR FT991 DOING A GREAT JOB = IT WAS GUD CHATTING WITH YOU AGN, I NEED TO QRT NW = HPE CU SOON 73 73 <SK> AK4R DE KF0PQR K

OK JEFF WILL LOOK FOR U AGN 73 <SK> KF0PQR DE AK4R EE

EE