
O'Missile

Official Newsletter of the
OM International Sideband Society

The OM International Sideband Society, Inc.
Internet Home Page: <http://www.omiss.net>

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Greetings OMISS, I would like to welcome all of the new members of OMISS and also take a little time to explain how the society functions. OMISS is governed by a board of directors consisting of 6 elected and 2 appointed officers. The term of office is for two years and elections are held every even numbered year. The eight members of the board normally conduct on-air business meetings once a month where such matters as net procedures, awards etc. are discussed and voted on. Minutes of the meetings are put out on the OMISS reflector and are also available to any member upon request.

In addition to the board, there are also a number of non-voting officers such as the QSL and awards manager, all band coordinator, and a few others. There are also many who volunteer their time as net controls and relays.

In order for us to best serve, we need to hear from you, so please do not hesitate to send in your suggestions to any member of the board for consideration at our next meeting.

Please remember, we are all volunteers and as such, a little patience and flexibility can go a long way!

I look forward to hearing you all on the air.

73,Darin

2005-2006 EXECUTIVE BOARD, AND APPOINTMENTS

PRESIDENT

Darin Hinman, WA2QOM, 3013
wa2qom@hotmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

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Harlen, KA9GLX, 4223

Pete, AC7DW, 4120

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BAND COORDINATORS

10M – KK6AW, Kelsey, 3830

15M – N7FUD, Ron, 1914

17M – OPEN

20M – K1FUB, Bill, 4637

40M – N8FV, JIM, 5195

80M – AJIM, JAY, 4715

160M – W9QX, David, 4376

BOARD ACTIONS

At the December board meeting, the board approved moving the 40 meter net frequency down to 7.185. The new band plan took effect at 12:01 AM EST on 15 December 2006. The first net met on 16 December, 2006 at 0100 UTC. 7263.5 continues as an alternate.

At the February meeting the board decided to put the opportunity of "up for grabs" on a trail basis. Be aware you may go "up for grabs" on OMISS nets until the board makes a final decision on this subject.

Check-ins using AIM may only be made if they are 'heard' on the air by net control or a relay. Check-outs can be by AIM, RF or simply not at all at the discretion of the net control.

The board reviewed how to handle AK and HI stations when they check in to the nets. The conclusion was to treat them as any other state. All stations needing a 49th or 50th state should let the NC know at the beginning of the net. Late check-ins should announce their needs upon check-in. In general, no special 'lists' are to be taken for any purpose other than 49th or 50th state and last calls. However, at the discretion of net control he can call for stations needing AK or HI for 49th or 50th state.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurers report for February, 2007

Opening balance Feb 1	\$5291.53
+31 new members	217.00
+5 roster printings	30.00
+ donation	12.00
+ awards/endorsements deposit	242.00
Total	\$5792.53
Expense	
Awards/awards plaques, certificates	250.00
Supplies, ink cartridges, env, Postage	232.38
Total money in bank	5226.14
Transfer to petty cash	17.75
QSL buro petty cash	9.80
Total OMISS money	\$5253.69

DAN, KC0FRL, 4039
ROXIE, SWL 7
QSL BUREAU

For those of you who didn't know, Roxie was in a terrible accident years ago. In October she had total knee replacement. Her ankle had been fused years ago due to the accident and was causing major problems. On February 28 her left foot was amputated about 8" below the knee and she came through the surgery fine!!

She is now home and is doing real well for what she has been through. She will get the cast and dressing off Thursday afternoon. It will be about three weeks before she gets her temporary prostheses. When she is fitted with the prosthesis, she will be able to walk without pain but it will be a while before she is able to go down stairs to help with the Buro. Dan and Roxie both are thankful for all of the thoughts and prayers while she was in the Hospital. She has a long road to full recovery, but her mental attitude is real good and she is one determined lady!

And Roxie, OMISS will keep remembering you!!

TOPS OPS

Members receiving the monthly top op award:

Sept	KE0J, 4067
Oct	KD7THB, 4605
Nov	none
Dec	AA4FH, 5436
Jan	WA7HYD, 5144
Feb	CU2JT, 5259

Every member of OMISS is eligible and encouraged to vote for the individual you believe was the best all around operator during the month. Members may vote by voice during any net, via email or U.S. Mail to any officer, director, ban net coordinator, net controller, or the awards chairman. All votes must be cast by the last day of the month

Net Controllers:

4th Qtr AA4FH, 5436

Voting for the Net Controller of the Quarter will be voted on by the V.I.P.'s of OMISS and all Net Controls who have served the entire three month period. Voting is done through the all band coordinator, but votes may be cast on the air, by e-mail, U.S. mail or using the on-line ballot available at www.omiss.net

OMISSEs LOSE EARL, KH6IDU, 2653

Earl says, "I've been 'hamming' for 37 years and must say I've enjoyed meeting a lot of real top notch folks, especially on OMISS. It is the best on the air. For sometime I've been checking in only for anybody who needed Hawaii. I never really cared much about awards, but have worked just about everybody I would need. I'm sure a lot of OMISS members have my card in their WAS file. For a long, long time, I was the only Hawaii check in even though there were earlier Hawaii members.

Recently we had a strong wind storm and my dipole with its rotor came crashing down on my roof. Got it all down on the ground and decided it was a good time to quit. I just no longer had the interest nor the energy to start all over again. Good luck, good health and aloha!"

Your editor's first contact with Earl occurred on May 5, 1993 on 40 meters. It was a 33 and 55 contact and we introduced ourselves and had a short chat. Since then I've worked him on at least 3 bands and have appreciated his efforts to help many of us to get our WAS.

I know I speak for all OMISS members when I say THANK YOU for all your time and effort. You will be missed on the air but will forever be in our memory.

God Bless and aloha!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Bob, N4JTE, 1440, for being elected 2006 OM of the year!

BOB, WA7HYD, 5144

Thanks to all OMISS members involved in my nomination and action by the BoD to receive the Joe Fish Meritorious Service Award.

We as OMISS members strive to complete the requiremehjts for the various awards that OMISS offers for making two-way radio contact with

other amateur radio operators on our assigned nets and times. Collecting the 'paper' for these awards and their endorsements represents to the OMISS member the culmination of that effort. To receive a peer initiated award, such as the Joe Fish Meritorious Service Award, means more to me than all of the awards I had to 'work' for.

My special thanks go out to all of the award holders who responded to my many, many e-mails of inquiry, supplying the data that allowed a speedy return to the normal processing of awards applications.

HENRI, N5KA, 4488

OMISS members, I would like to share, for free, details of why the low bands have been great for me this cycle.

I have been having a lot of success on 40m thru 160m lately since I can now hear them - in which case I can work them. I have a simple long wire - near the ground - for receiving ONLY, and transmit on various antennas depending on the band. The heart of the system is a simple relay driven RX/TX automatic antenna switching box that anyone can throw together for a few bucks. It was the best ham radio investment I ever made - and it took over 50 years of "hamming" to realize I needed it.

My first system was a small aluminum box containing 1 relay and 3 so239 connectors, then it grew as I saw it's usefulness. My system has now grown to where I rotary switch select any one of 6 transmit antennas, and can, if I desire, use another rotary switch to select any one of the six, or the special listening antenna, for receiving. I hardly ever listen AND transmit on the same antenna. Normally I can find an antenna that is quieter, or better, for RX purposes, than the actual transmitting antenna for that band.

I am willing to help any OMISS member, for free, who wants to try something similar to what I did, or to simply talk more about the subject. Please email me direct at n5ka@juno.com if you want to start a dialogue on this subject.

NEW AWARDS

The following new awards were approved in September, 2006 by the Board.

OMISS EXTRA AWARD

Contact 26 amateur extra class license holders per band (i.e. 26 on 10 meters, 26 on 17 meters, 26 on 15 meters, etc) on OMISS nets (156 different calls) so the last letter of the call will be A-Z using exclusive extra call 1x2, 2x2 (AA-AL. (See Note) Log extracts including date worked, frequency, call, OMISS # to be submitted with application. Each band listed on separate listing.

All contacts must be on OMISS Nets and OMISS Frequencies

1. Non member contacts count for this award.
2. No station may be worked on more than one band.
3. Only contacts after 15 September 2006 count for this award.
4. QSLs not required.

QRP and mobile endorsements available.

Note: Since Extra Class Licenses that are 2x1 (i.e. KE0J) are used in the Alphabet Soup Award, they will not be eligible for this award.

SCRABBLE AWARD

The scrabble award is earned by accumulating 500 points for contacts with call signs that spell out words having three or more letters. This award may be earned for contacts on bands for which OMISS operates a net. Only one word allowed per call sign per band is allowed. Letters may be in any order (i.e. WA7NVT could be used for any of these words – WANT, ANT, TAN, VAT, etc, but only one word per band). Numbers 1, 5, and 0 could substitute for letters I, S, and O (WAITER could be used as WAITER but would only count for the maximum of 5 points). Contact must be made on OMISS nets. Non member contacts count for this award. QSL cards NOT required.

Each 3 letter word = 1 point
Each 4 letter word = 3 points
Each 5 letter word (or more) = 5 points

Endorsements given at each additional 500 points

Contacts must be made after September 15, 2006.

STEVE, WA2TAK

I have developed a new kind of dipole antenna. It is named TAK-tenna ... derived from my call sign - WA2TAK. It has received Patent Pending.

More importantly, it is recently tested, proven and Endorsed by Collins Radio Association.

I am making it myself and they are available for purchase. Price is only \$48 FOB, my QTH, New Jersey.

It is the result of my long career experience in High-Tech Manufacturing & Engineering Research & Development... (I was with NASA for several years and also co-developed the specialty wire used to make the extremely demanding motor for hard disk drives sold by Seagate Technology, IBM, Maxtor and others...)

This antenna design is unique for several reasons:

1. it is small & compact - it has a boom of only 30 inches...with 1/4 wavelength spiral end elements having a 30 inch diameter;
2. it is fed directly with 50 ohm coax;
3. it needs NO lossy impedance matching components anywhere in the system;
4. it has a wide bandwidth providing low SWR across the entire operating band without need for retuning;
5. it weighs 5 pounds and has sturdy construction;
6. it is most suitable for portable operation, stealth, back-up antenna and rotates.

It provides FB reports across the US when I use it on my OMISS net sessions on 40 and 20. Just this weekend, I worked loads of DX stations during the contest on 20.

It is presently being 'featured' on www.smeter.net Ham web site:
<http://www.smeter.net/wa2tak/antennas.php>

Also, some info under my call sign on QRZ.com

BOB, WA7HYD, 5144

“ . . . what you've come across is the OMISS net, we're a WAS, list type, awards net . . .”, how many times have you heard that statement?

For the non-internet members especially, here is a progress report on the 2007 1st quarter rebuild of the OMISS Awards Program.

The available data from 2004, 2005 and 2006

was combined into new spreadsheets, and many e-mails were sent out seeking missing information to fill gaps in the database. Finally after several months the freeze on accepting award applications was lifted in early February. "The backlog of awards has been cleared and things are now flowing smoothly," reported OMISS Awards Manager, Dick, KA0AK.

On the average, you should see your award turnaround back into your mailbox in 6-8 days depending upon where Sunday and holidays fall within that timeframe. Awards received are processed the day they are received and mailed out the following day.

Dick e-mails the days award activity to me and I upload the additions to the OMISS Award Recipient Pages usually during the 40m net check in time slot. This has worked out to be a very fluid system and no bumps or grinds have been encountered.

Remember, when you file for an award, it is now required that you complete an Awards Application Form and send it along with the supporting paperwork. There is important information on the application that accompanies through the process saving a considerable amount of time. If the application is missing from the envelope, the paperwork will be returned with a blank application form. Those members without internet access are encouraged to get together with a family member (children and grandchildren are a great resource) or even the local library's public terminals will do. Check <http://www.omiss.net> and click on the AWARDS button. If you see an award that you have with missing data, please e-mail that information to Bob, wa7hyd@verizon.net or snail mail it to me at 9301 61st Dr NE, Marysville, WA 98270-2871, and it will be entered on the appropriate awards web page.

I encourage all OMISS members to check the awards pages and pass along any information you might have to fill in those missing tidbits of our database. This will be an ongoing project as long and blanks exist.

There are some new awards listed on the web site, and I'm sure there will be more coming. Band conditions will be slowly, very slowly, improving, so start working on a new award program now.

JUST A REMINDER

All OMISS nets operate on UTC time and net times do not change with daylight saving time.

160 meters, 1.880, Fri & Sat 0400 (Closes 3/10/07)

75 meters 3.940.5, 0200 daily

75 meters 3.940.5, 0500 Fri & Sat

40 meters, 7.263.5, 0100 daily

40 meters late net, 7.263.5 0300 Fri & Sat

20 meters, 14.29, 1830 Mon through Sat

17 meters, 18.165, 1900 Sat and Sun

15 Meters, 21.360, 1700 Sat & Sun, and Holiday Mondays.

10 Meters, 28.665, 1800 Sat and Sun
