# KM4GC Ham Radio Activities During 2022

Doug McNulty 17 November 2022

# Activities

### Set up and operated digital modes FT8 and JS8Call

- Thanks to Kirk for his help in getting me started
- Discovered it is not only lots of fun but addictive
- Find I am constantly looking up DX call signs I have never head of before
- Learning some world geography too
- Participated in several Aerospace Amateur Club HF Nets
  - Demonstrated reliable Coast-to-Coast communications using digital modes such as JS8Call for potential use to exchange data for emergency comms
  - Conducted SSB contacts but were subject to propagation conditions
  - WE NEED MORE CLUB MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE!!!!!! Most of the time it has only been Kirk and I
    - Having a greater number of participants would facilitate the possible use of message relaying and connection diversity between Aerospace locations for different propagations conditions
  - Also conducted HF Nets using portable station at several different East Coast locations (New England and Southern Georgia areas)

## Activities

- Developed Briefing on Ham Station Grounding and Bonding
  - Presented to Loudoun Amateur Radio Group (local club here in Virginia)
  - Can present to Aerospace Ham Club if there is interest

### • Set Up and Operated Portable Ham Station

- Plan to use as an "activator" for Parks on the Air (POTA)
- Works very well Eastern Europe, US, South America so far
- Can present to Aerospace Ham Club if there is interest
- Visited the Second Marconi CW Station at Chatham, MA (on Cape Code) – The origin of RCA – very interesting museum!

# Activities

- Working on developing CW (morse code) Skills
  - Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) is a fantastic group!!!
  - They conduct several different types of events that cater to beginner CW operators throughout the year:
    - Slow Speed Saunters, Straight Key Month (conducted during January and have a cool QSL card each year), and more
  - They promote the use of manually operated CW keyers (back to the basics of the origin of radio communications)
  - They have several "tag-up" frequencies to enable finding club members
  - <u>SKCC Straight Key Century Club (skccgroup.com)</u>
- Visited ARRL Headquarters and Operated as W1AW
  - Lifetime goal since working on my first ham radio license in high school
  - The station is fantastic and they give a tour
  - You can operate as W1AW my wife (N4TOJ) and I did both SSB and I did FT8 digital

#### **Portable Station when 120v Power and WiFi is Available**



#### Portable Antenna with Tripod Stand and Carry Case





#### **Interesting QSL Cards - Front**



#### **Interesting QSL Cards - Back**

The Straight Key Century Club was founded by Tom Peterson (KC9ECl) on January 2nd, 2006. Tom began signing up members; Melinda Alsobrook (KI4CIA) launched the information campaign; Gordon Benjamin (N6WK) secured the domain name and website. Now, on its 16th Amiversary & Annual Straight Key Month event, the membership roster stands at 25,339. SKCC continues to inspire CW operators worldwide. It remains dedicated to its founders' goals: preserving the skills and traditions of hand-keyed Morse Code and Radio Telegraphy. For more information please visit our website at www.skcgroup.com

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SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   OSL: KM4GC MODE: CW 2-WAY   Station Date UTC Band BST Operator   Station Date UTC Band BST Operator   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   Station Date UTC Band BST Operator   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   Station Date UTC Band BST Operator   SKCC SKM 2022 - 16th Anniv.   SKMC SW 2022 - 16th Anniv.   SKCC SKM 2	SKCC K3Y 2020 - 14th Anniv. GL: <u>KM4GC</u> MODE: <u>CW 2-WAY</u> <u>Station Date UTC</u> Band 851 Operator K3Y/0 1/17 2237 30m 539 W0VTT MN K3Y/1 1/31 2225 40m 339 K1EDG ME K3Y/3 1/17 1305 80m 449 WAOCTE DE K3Y/4 1/18 2014 20m 579 WM4Q TN K3Y/5 1/12 2031 20m 579 KN4Q TN K3Y/6 1/18 2240 20m 549 K6ELQ CA K3Y/6 1/18 2240 20m 549 K6ELQ CA K3Y/8 1/25 0006 80m 559 W8H0G 0H K3Y/9 1/18 1600 30m 599 NV9J WI
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#### My Other Station this Summer (got to operate as W1AW)





