

## The 2011 Bruce Kelley 1929 QSO Party

The Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO Party is a yearly AWA sponsored event where participants build their own transmitters using the designs, techniques, and tubes that were available in 1929 and earlier, and then put those classic transmitters on the air and try to contact as many other 1929 stations as possible. Since they use early designs, it is a cancatny of whooping, chirping, buzzing, clicking, drifting, swishing, swaying, warbling, and other interesting signals. This is what ham radio sounded like in 1929. The 1929 QSO Party was started and championed for many years by Bruce Kelly W2ICE, an AWA founder. Prior to Bruce's passing, he asked his close friend John Rollins W1FPZ to keep the 29 QSO Party going. John Rollins managed the QSO party for many years and renamed it the Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO Party in honor of Bruce. Several years back John Rollins asked me to manage the 29 QSO Party for him and Bruce. Bruce Kelly and John Rollins are now Silent Keys but I know both John and Bruce will be with us in spirit.

**Objective:** Contact as many 1929 stations as possible. Contact exchange consists of RST, Name, QTH (State such as ME or MN or NY), last two digits of the year of the transmitters design or publication (such as 29 or 27 or 23), type of transmitter (such as TNT or TGTP or MOPA or COLPITTS), and power input (such as 6W or 9W).

**Rules:** Transmitters must be 1929 or earlier types of self oscillators such as the Hartley, TNT, PP tuned grid tuned plate, MOPA, Colpitts, etc. No crystal oscillators. Tubes must have been available during or before 1929. Individual stations can be worked only once on 80 meters and once on 40 meters over the course of two weekends. If you are contacted by a modern station who is seeking information about the QSO Party, that contact may be counted. For those occasional modern contacts, use the word MOD for his transmitter. You can use any vintage or modern receiver that you wish.

**Input Power:** Transmitters are limited to a power INPUT of 10 watts or less. However, to help make East-West contacts, power may be increased to 20 watts INPUT between the hours of 0500Z (12 Midnight EST) and 1300Z (8 AM EST). Note this is INPUT power. Power input is calculated by multiplying PA plate voltage x total PA plate current. Example: my plate voltage is 300 volts dc, and my plate current is 30 ma, so my total input power is  $300 \times 0.030 = 9$  watts input.

**Frequencies:** NOTE THE NEW 40M FREQUENCY. The QSO Party operates in both the 80 meter and 40 meter cw bands. The QSO Party typically operates between 3550 to 3580 Kcs and 7105 to 7115 Kcs, plus or minus depending on QRM. Note that the 40 meter frequency has moved up into the old Novice band to avoid the digital modes, contesters, cw nets, and high power cw.

**Logs:** Either electronically email your 1929 log to Scott at [wa9wfa@comcast.net](mailto:wa9wfa@comcast.net) or mail via post office to: Scott Freeberg WA9WFA, 327 Wildwood Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55110. Logs *must* be in the 1929 QSO Party log format otherwise it will be difficult to score you. An official 1929 log sheet will be available for download from the AWA website. Please do not email logs to any other email address except the one above. Last year some people emailed logs to my work account, to my family email account, to a secondary BA list account, besides my wa9wfa email.

**Scoring:** Scoring is simple. Add up the number of 1929 QSO's on 40 meters and 80 meters. Example: if you make 15 QSO's on 80 meters, and 10 QSO's on 40 meters, your final score is 25. All submitted logs will be scored and the results published in the AWA Journal. Please submit logs by January 15, 2012.

Good luck to all participants and please send me a photo of your 1929 station. Thanks. 73, Scott WA9WFA