Gary,

Not many contacts for my first John Rollins event (was me, just didn't have a lot of time to get on the air). I was on for the weekend, but didn't hear much activity on 40M. Still, I had fun working the Heathkit HW-16, crystal controlled!

73, Kasey KD2YMM

Hi, Gary,

I think this is the first time I've participated in the John Rollins event. Before now it's been held later in the season when I have less time to devote to radio. I started out with my homebrew Tritet (1934), a type 59 tube at 5W RF out, with a rock for 7120 KHz - the only one I had that put me in the recommended part of the band. At this point I was using my RAL (1936) RX. After a few CQs I was delighted to hear N2BE answering. We had a good QSO, 599 both ways. John was only running 100mW (or was that 100 MW? can't distinguish on CW!). After that I called CQ until "blue in the face" with no responses. I heard a few strong AWA stations at times maybe 5-7 KHz down frequency whom I answered, but they apparently didn't tune up to my frequency so they never heard me. At this point I gave up on being rockbound and reluctantly switched to a more modern station, my 1963 HT-44 and SX-117, and used it for the remainder of the event. 40M Saturday night was most productive, with quite a few stations heard and worked. My best DX was WB2AWQ in NV, whom I don't believe I've worked since he moved out west many years ago. Sunday morning I snagged a couple more on 40M, then when no more stations were heard there I moved to 20M, determined to make some QSOs up there. I scanned the band several times during the morning and early afternoon for participating stations, and put out many calls, with no success. The band was hopping with many strong signals, but nary an AWA call was heard. By around 3:30PM local (1930Z) I'd had enough, so shut down for the duration then. As much as I love radio, I can only stay at it for so long - "too much of a good thing," I suppose.

73, Larry/NE1S

Hi Gary,

I'm a first time entrant in AWA's John Rollins DX event, my log is attached. Equipment used was a Western Electric BC-459A Command Set 40m transmitter and a National HRO-5TA1 receiver, photo attached. The antenna used was a 40m dipole. I started late Saturday afternoon and worked five stations with the best DX being Ron, N4GJV, in North Carolina followed by Niel, W0VLZ, in Minnesota. This was a great opportunity to exercise the vintage gear.

73, Mark, VA7MM  British Columbia
Gary,

My log sheet for the 2024 John Rollins is attached. Also, a photo of my station. It's good to have another excuse to activate the old tube rigs. It's a bit lonely out west, but I did manage 6 AWA QSO's. Thanks for this event.

Toby Haynes VE7CNF

Gary,

On Wednesday and Thursday of the "Rollins", signals were mostly very weak on 80 meters but quite strong, out to at least 500 miles, throughout this period on 40 meters. A good example of this was Larry's, NE1S, 5 watt QRP signal copied here on the latter band as 40 dB over 59 ! Likewise, both Canadian SSB and digital signals were very strong on this band. Forty meters was, once again, very strong over the weekend. On Saturday night, around 10 PM EDST, I heard Dave, WB7WHG in OR, in QSO with Mark, VA7MM, on this band. Their signals were ranging from 56 to 58. A little later, I heard Ron, N4GJV in NC, working Toby, VETCNF; also with good signals. At around 7 AM EDST on Sunday, I heard Howie, WB2AWQ in NV, also on 40 meters with good signals. My efforts to work any of them with my QRPp 100 mw TX failed, however. I needed just one more "S-unit" of signal (HI). My best-DX for the event was with Niel, W0VLZ in MN, who gave me a 449 report; also on 40 meters. The "sweetest sounding" CW that I have heard in years came from Chuck's, W3FJJ, 1965 "S-Line" station. Some of the classics really got it right. Eighty meters proved to be a "bust" throughout this year's event. Only 2 of my 16 QSOs were on that band; the remaining 14 were on 40. Well, it was challenging and fun, as usual. I always enjoy this event and want to thank you for stepping up and doing a great job of managing it. My thanks also goes to the AWA for sponsoring it, and most definitely to those op’s who showed up to make it all happen.

73, John

Made two contacts Sunday AM on 40M, both using old gear, Gary W8PU OH (Drake TR-4) and NE1S Larry NH (did not get his type, but year was 63 for both).
Fun but needs more activity for an AWA event.

73, Howie WB2AWQ Reno NV