2025 AWA AM QSO Party Soap Box Comments

N2BE: It was my pleasure to once again participate in another AWA AM QSO Party. This event always seems to produce interesting propagation along with even more interesting conversation. I chose to operate 20, 40, and 10 meters this year.

Twenty meters was very busy during this event, but sadly, not with AM signals. One could hardly find an open spot to call "CQ" in. On top of that, I was struggling with horrific AC powerline noise. I was very glad to QSO with you, Ron; amidst all the bedlam. Outside of that, 20 meters was a disappointment for me.

Forty meters proved to be much better. There wasn't much QRM late on Saturday night (local time), and very little powerline noise. I enjoyed several QSO's and was about ready to "hit the hay" when I heard you and Rick, VE6CQ, chatting. I was tired but very happy to join the both of you for a very pleasant QSO with good signals all around, despite the distances. After that, I did finally get to bed with a smile on my face.

On Sunday at noon (local time), I was on 10 meters listening to Alda, IW5EKR/m, calling "CQ" from Italy. I gave him a call. I nearly fell off my chair when he came right back to me. Let's see: he's in his car in Italy; I'm in NJ running 8 watts to a dipole at 20 feet; and we are enjoying a nice AM QSO. It doesn't get much better that that (HI). Actually, the only thing better would have been to QSO some of the Far-West AWA contest "regulars" that seemed to be conspicuously missing.

Thanks Ron, for managing and participating in another fine AWA AM QSO Party. I really enjoyed it. I hope other ops who also participated enjoyed it as well. I wish to also extend my appreciation to the AWA for their continued sponsorship of this important event. Management, sponsorship, and participation are the keys to the success of any event. I hope to see you all again next year.

W2NTN: First time I've been on AM in years. It was very enjoyable, and I met a bunch of nice folks. Thanks for doing this.

KC7WXD: This was my first AM QSO Party, though I've participated in other AWA events before. For this contest, I built a homebrew 6AN6/6BQ6 AM modulator to drive my Heathkit AT-1 transmitter – I love having an excuse to build new equipment! As A primary CW operator, this was my first real experience with AM mode. I was pleasantly surprised by the excellent signal reports I received from stations in Oregon, Nevada, and California. I'm definitely looking

forward to the next event and hope to encourage more west coast operators to get on the air with AM!

I've attached a picture of my setup for the event. Side note – I could hear you well last night on 40M. Tried to work you, but alas my 15W was not quite enough haha.

KJ4CYV: (EDIT – KJ4CYV did not send in a log sheet, but did send me this email, so I thought I would add it to the soap box comments.) - Looked you up on QRZ.com – enjoyed the AM contact at 14.330 at 8:15 est! I think you were having a hard time hearing me, so this email. I heard your station loud and clear! Almost as well as a local commercial radio station. Your audio was also very rich and clear which I thought was unusual – because of AM, maybe? First time I ever used AM! My radio is a Yaesu FT-891 at 90 watts. The antenna is a 10-80 meter endfed only 8 feet off the ground (NVIS) – thus my "portable" setup as I am visiting family. Your dipole was working great.

KM1R: Thank you for the 40 meter AM QSO. Sorry it was a rough copy, was only running about 25-30 watts from my old DX40/VF-1 that was sitting on a shelf. Luckily it didn't blow up!

Been very active since 1958 almost all of it on 160 cw. Once in a while a little DX trip on HF bands or AM on 160-80. Almost done finishing my RCA BTA 1-R-1.

Working you on 40 AM was probably the most exciting QSO in years.

The DX-40 is my first "store bought" rig. The VFO sometimes stays on frequency.

Again thanks for a great if not short QSO. Hope to work you again with a bit more power.