



GERATOL NET

GERATOL - THE ACRONYM

"GREETINGS EXTRA RADIO AMATEURS TIRED OF OPERATING LATELY"

The group operating on the GERATOL NET is often mistaken to be a group of older hams. This is not the case. NET participants include hams of all ages, both OMs and YLs from all 50 states and the Canadian provinces.

NET PURPOSE - The purpose of the GERATOL NET is to assist properly licensed amateur radio operators to obtain the GERATOL NET 75 meter 2 letter Extra Class serialized W.A.S. award. The award is issued by the GERATOL NET for working and having confirmed all 50 states within the Extra Class segment (3.600-3.700 Mhz) of the American 75 meter phone band with 1x2, 2x1, and 2x2A calls, and 2x2 (AH6, KH6, NH6, WH6 in Hawaii and AL7, KL7, NL7, WL7 in Alaska) Extra Class format callsigns.

GERATOL CERTIFICATE - The GERATOL NET makes available the GERATOL NET certificate known as the Unbelievable Operating Achievement Award and another known as The Director's Award, which also offers an award within the award known as the GERATOL 500. In addition to these three awards, the NET offers a very extensive endorsement program that will keep an operator busy for a long time in attempting to complete them.

CANADIAN 2/80 AWARD - The Metro Amateur Radio Club makes available a Worked All Canadian Provinces serialized award. The award is for working two letter suffixes from all Canadian provinces. This award is no longer recognized on the GERATOL NET. It has been replaced with the Geratol net Worked Canada Award.

The GERATOL NET meets each evening at 0100Z (regardless of Standard or Daylight local time) from October 1 through April 30, and lasts indefinitely until all net business is completed. The net can last up to 5-6 hours, which gives you a large window to check-in to the NET. Operation generally begins with an eastern net control and proceeds west. Exceptions are when a contest is in progress, holidays, etc. Then, the net controls may opt to shut net operations down just for those occasions.

The GERATOL NET meets on 3.668 kHz + or -. However, contacts for the special W.A.S. award and GERATOL endorsements do not have to be made on the NET alone.....they can be made anywhere within the Extra Class American phone band (3.600-3.700 Mhz) any time of the day or year.

The trustee of any club station that is working on the basic WAS award on the Geratol net must have a Extra Class License.

NET OPERATING RULES

All net participants will observe the rules of the NET. Please observe the following rules:

- 1) Be COURTEOUS to all on the NET.
- 2) The NCS (Net Control Station) is not permitted to add stations to the bottom of a Work List. Please do not ask to be placed on the bottom of a list. The NCS may move a station already on a Work List to the bottom if he/she wants you to have another try at a contact, or if a station left the net and then later during the list, checked back in.
- 3) The NCS is in charge of the net. If he/she makes a ruling on any situation, please abide by that decision. We like to have Board members on frequency to take care of any complaints and/or potential problems. However, a Board member may not always be available. If you have a complaint, DO NOT discuss it on the NET with the NCS or any NET members. You may lodge a complaint, but you are required to put it in writing and file it officially with a Board member. If you get into an argument on the NET, you may be asked to leave the frequency by the NCS or a Board member. *Please remember that Amateur Radio is a HOBBY. Help make it enjoyable for all.*

NET OPERATION GUIDELINES

The GERATOL NET is a directed net. The GERATOL NET Board of Directors provide each Net Control Station with a set of GUIDELINES. The Board encourages each NCS to follow the GUIDELINES. However, NCSs are permitted to deviate from the GUIDELINES in order to “customize” their net in a way they feel comfortable with.

1) The NCS will take check-ins, and ask for the last 2 letters of your callsign, if you are wishing to check-in. Then, the NCS will ask each recognized station to give their callsign, name, state, and any appropriate numbers they may have. This is to give stations listening a chance to check this information and signal strength.

2) The NCS will then announce the taking of a Work List. The NCS will ask for the last 2-letters of your call (AW, 4J, HF, 9L, etc.), or how you wish to be identified on a Work List. Announce your ID *just once* when checking-in or trying to get on a Work List. Try to spread the calls out, and not bunch up. The NCS will acknowledge stations they have copied down on the Work List. If they do not acknowledge your ID, they will ask for who they missed, and you can try again and repeat your ID when directed to do so by the NCS. This process is usually repeated several times. When the Work List is complete, the NCS will then announce that it is so, and begin to go down the Work List. (NET member stations are encouraged to compile a list of their own AS stations check-in.)

3) The NCS will ask stations on the Work List to make calls. Each station on the Work List will have 3 opportunities to successfully complete 2 contacts. The NCS will require that you and your called station acknowledge correctly, without the aid of a relay station, the callsigns, signal report, and appropriate numbers you are trying to exchange for the purpose of awards or endorsements. The NCS may provide an opportunity for you to check-in when a Work List is in progress, but those who do check-in at that time will not be added to the bottom of the list. This permits others already on the NET to make note that you have checked-in, and someone may wish to call you. The Board does encourage each NCS to place check-ins picked up during a Work List, at the top of the next list, so you will not have to wait an extremely long time to make a contact.

4) DOs:

- ** Listen and follow net progress.**
- ** Have your call list ready.**
- ** Please use standard phonetics.**
- ** Acknowledge callsign, report, and/or numbers of stations contacted.**
- ** Above all, pay attention.**

5) DON'Ts:

- ** Ask NCSs for callsigns, reports, or numbers of stations being contacted.**
- ** Ask for, or relay callsigns, reports, or numbers unless asked to do so by the NCS.**
- ** Ask to be placed at the bottom of a Work List.**
- ** Tune up on the net frequency when the net is in session.**
- ** Check-in when a Work List is in progress (unless the NCS asks for check-ins).**

REMEMBER: THE NCS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NET OPERATION. The NCS may at his/her discretion alter standard operating practice because of conditions or special considerations.

6) The GERATOL NET is a W.A.S. net.....not a DX net. DX stations may check-in and are welcome, but U.S. and Canadian operators cannot call DX stations unless the DX station's callsign has a GERATOL number issued to the call being used. Any contact with any DX stations must constitute the exchange of a GERATOL number, or the contact will not be valid. The only contact that requires exchange of Geratol numbers is with a DX station. You do not have to exchange numbers within any other station to constitute a valid contact.

THE GERATOL NET QSL BUREAU

The GERATOL NET also has its own QSL bureau. Use of the bureau is optional. The name and address of the bureau is noted, along with the Board of Directors later in this information packet. All net participants wishing to take advantage of this service can do so by sending Big John 2 or 3 Dollars and he will put in envelopes, labels, and postage. With the way postage is changing this is the very best way of using the bureau.

(A SPECIAL NOTE FROM "BIG JOHN"/W4WDH, YOUR QSL BUREAU MANAGER: The operation of the QSL Bureau is as follows:

The best way to use the Bureau is to send me \$2.00 and I will put 3 envelopes in the Bureau for you.

If you send me your cards for distribution, I will put them in the appropriate S.A.S.E.s. Depending on the card stock, I can put 7 to 10 cards for 1 unit of postage. PLEASE.....IF YOU SEND ME MORE THAN 8 OR 10 CARDS, PUT THEM IN ORDER. Thanks - John/W4WDH)

GERATOL QSL BUREAU
John Kirkman, W4WDH
5570 Hillview Dr. SW
Oxford, GA 30054

QSLing

If you do not choose to take advantage of the bureau, remember that it is the net policy, and more importantly a common courtesy, to send an S.A.S.E. when requesting cards from net participants. This is especially true when rare stations are asked to come on the NET.

When filling out your QSL cards, be accurate. The frequency must be specified to four digits (eg: 3.668 Mhz) so that there is proof positive that the contact was made in the Extra Class portion of the phone band. "80 meters" or "3.5" won't work!

The mode must be 2-way SSB, or 2XSSB. If you use "A3J" or other jargon, the Awards Manager will not accept it.

If you make a mistake, do not try to correct it by striking-out or overwriting. Tear the card up and do it over. Altered cards will not be accepted by the Awards Manager.

Remember.....a contact after 0000 UTC will be the next day's date.

As of October 2005, Eqs1's are acceptable on the Geratol net now; however, each Eqs1 must have the Authenticity Guaranteed seal either on the Eqs1 or below the Eqs1. The frequency To four (4) digits must be placed in the Comments field on the Eqs1 for the Eqs1 to be Considered a valid confirmation. You must print out your Eqs1s including the AE seal that you receive to send for the Basic award.

THE GERATOL NET SERIALIZED AWARD

To challenge your skills in obtaining the special serialized 75 meter 2 letter Extra Class W.A.S. award, only select callsign structures are allowed by the GERATOL NET. The QSL cards required for the GERATOL NET 2 letter W.A.S. award, must be from stations with the following callsign formats:

- a. 1x2 Extra Class - example: W2NL, K7VB, N5TR
- b. 2x1 Extra Class - example: AB5T, W03F, NV6A
- c. 2x2 Alpha Series Extra Class - example: AA4DX, AC7SY, AE1JW
- d. 2x2 KH6 & KL7 Extra Class - example: KH6AQ, KL7GN

All contacts must be made within the 75 meter Extra Class American sub-band, and each QSL card must indicate a 2-way SSB QSO. The frequency must be listed to 4 digits such as 3.668 kHz. The GERATOL NET will not accept "3.5" or "75 meters" on the QSL card, because that QSO could have been made outside the Extra Class sub-band.

When all 50 cards are in hand, send them along with a properly filled-out application to the NET Awards Manager. You will then be issued your Unbelievable Operating Achievement Award Certificate. The Serial Number on the 2 letter W.A.S. Award becomes your GERATOL NUMBER. If you want the Awards Manager to return your cards, be sure to enclose sufficient return postage for the cards, along with the Award fee.

GERATOL AWARD ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM

The GERATOL NET offers 38 interesting and challenging endorsement stickers to add to your Unbelievable Operating Achievement Award:

(CONTACTS FOR ENDORSEMENTS #1 THROUGH #10 MUST BE MADE ON OR AFTER 0000 UTC, 1 JANUARY 1976.)

ENDORSEMENT #1: 1x2 “K” PREFIX

Work all 50 states with 1x2 “K” prefix only, except for 2x2 KH6 and KL7.

ENDORSEMENT #2: 1x2 “N” PREFIX

Work the contiguous 48 states with 1x2 “N” prefix only.

ENDORSEMENT #3: 1x2 “W” PREFIX

Work the contiguous 48 states with “W” prefix only.

ENDORSEMENT #4: OPERATOR INITIAL CALLSIGN

Work all 50 states with callsigns containing the operator’s initials in the callsign suffix. Only 1x2, 2x2 “A”, KH6 and KL7 Extra Class format qualify.

The following rules apply:

- a. The first letter MUST be the first, second, or nickname initial.**
- b. The second letter MUST be the surname initial.**
- c. Include the operator names represented in the suffix opposite the callsign with the endorsement application.**

ENDORSEMENT #5: STATE ABBREVIATION

Work all 50 states with callsigns representing the state’s two letter postal abbreviation in the suffix. Contacts must be made with 1x2, 2x2 “A”, or KH6 and KL7 Extra Class formatted calls. A minimum of 30 contacts MUST be with stations in the state being represented (primary). The remaining 20 contacts may reside in a state different than the abbreviation indicates. The following rules apply:

- a. You must have all 50 state abbreviations.**
- b. All 50 states must be represented.**
- c. A maximum of 50 contacts may be used.**

ENDORSEMENT #6: DOUBLE LETTER SUFFIX

Work all double letter suffixes twice through the alphabet (2 x 26 = 52). Work only 1x2, 2x2 "A", KH6 and KL7 Extra Class formatted calls. The following rules apply:

- a. The required suffixes are two of each, "AA" through "ZZ".
- b. All 10 call districts and a minimum of 40 states must be represented.
- c. No more than three contacts in any one state.
- d. Send 2 lists when applying for this endorsement: One alphabetically by suffix, and one by state.
- e. Include callsign, state, and date worked for both lists.
- f. FIFTY-TWO contacts must be used for this endorsement.

ENDORSEMENT #7: 2x1 CALLSIGNS

Work all 50 states with 2x1 callsigns.

ENDORSEMENT #8: WAS SQUARED

Work all 50 states with stations holding the GERATOL serialized 2-letter W.A.S. award. This number is commonly referred to as the "GERATOL NUMBER". You are required to hold a GERATOL number before you begin working for this endorsement.

The following rules apply:

- a. Exchange your callsign, GERATOL number, signal report, name, and state.
- b. All GERATOL number holders, no matter what callsign format they possess, are eligible to exchange numbers.
- c. If you obtained your GERATOL number under a different callsign, please provide the old callsign when applying for this endorsement.
- d. Include GERATOL numbers and callsign (both new and old if applicable) with your application for this endorsement.

ENDORSEMENT #9: 2x1 CALLS ALPHABETICAL

Work all single letter suffixes twice through the alphabet (2 x 26 = 52). The following rules apply:

- a. 2x1 calls only with suffixes "A" through "Z", work two of each.
- b. All 50 states must be represented, plus two extra.
- c. Send two alphabetized lists: 1 by suffix and 1 by state.
- d. Include callsign, state, and date worked on each list.
- e. FIFTY-TWO contacts are required for this endorsement.

ENDORSEMENT #10: 1x3 CALL SIGN

Work all 50 states with 1x3 callsigns. You may use 2x3 callsigns with KH6 and KL7 prefixes. Please include clarifying notes, such as operator upgrade to Extra Class.

ENDORSEMENT #11: 2x1 "A" PREFIX

Work all 50 states with callsigns containing the letter "A" as the first prefix letter of a 2x1 type call. ALL contacts must be after 0000 UTC on 1 January 1980.

ENDORSEMENT #12: 2x1 "K" PREFIX

Work all 50 states with callsigns containing the letter "K" as the first prefix letter of a 2x1 type call. ALL contacts must be after 0000 UTC on 1 January 1981.

ENDORSEMENT #13: YL

Work an Extra Class licensed YL in all 50 states with any callsign format. ALL contacts must be after 0500 UTC on 13 February 1990.

ENDORSEMENT #14: 2x1 "N" PREFIX

Work all 50 states with callsigns containing the letter "N" as the first prefix letter of a 2x1 type call. ALL contacts must be after 0000 UTC on 1 January 1986.

(ENDORSEMENTS #15 THROUGH #25 AND THE DIRECTOR'S AWARD WERE INSTALLED EFFECTIVE 0500 UTC ON 13 FEBRUARY 1990. REQUESTS FOR ENDORSEMENT STICKERS FOR CONTACTS MADE PRIOR TO THIS DATE WILL NOT BE HONORED.)

ENDORSEMENT #15: 2x1 "W" PREFIX

Work all 50 states with callsigns containing the letter "W" as the first prefix letter of a 2x1 type call.

ENDORSEMENT #16: DOUBLE LETTER PREFIX

Work the contiguous 48 states with double letter prefix callsign 2x1 and 2x2 "A" Extra Class format. (ex: AA4HF, NN8P)

ENDORSEMENT #17: 2x3 CALL SIGN

Work all 50 states with 2x3 format callsigns. Operators may want to include date of upgrade to Extra Class.

ENDORSEMENT #18: STATE CAPITALS

Work an Extra Class format callsign in each of the 50 state capitals. (ex: 1x2, 2x1, 2x2 "A")

ENDORSEMENT #19: QCWA NUMBER

Work all 50 states, collect, and exchange QCWA numbers. A QCWA number is not required to work for this endorsement. All callsign formats qualify.

(QCWA stands for the Quarter Century Wireless Association. One can become a member of the QCWA if you have been licensed 25 years or more. Your membership number is your QCWA number. For information, contact the QCWA on the internet, or obtain the mailing address from the classified section of QST.)

ENDORSEMENT #20: 1x2 SQUARED

Work all 50 states with stations that have a 1x2 callsign and a GERATOL number.

The following rules apply:

- a. Both operators must have GERATOL numbers.**
- b. You can use 2x2 Extra Class calls (if necessary) for HI and AK.**

ENDORSEMENT #21: 2x1 SQUARED

Work all 50 states with stations that have a 2x1 callsign and a GERATOL number. Both operators must have GERATOL numbers.

ENDORSEMENT #22: 5/50

Work all 50 states five times over with 1x2, 2x1, and 2x2 "A" Extra Class formatted callsigns. The following rules apply:

- a. This endorsement requires 250 contacts, five in each state.**
- b. Repeat contacts are not valid, unless the station worked was portable or mobile in a different state.**

ENDORSEMENT #23: CENTURY DX

Work all 50 states, utilizing Extra Class call formats 1x2, 2x1, 2x2 "A" where the suffix of the U.S. callsign represents the prefix of a DX country. The following rules apply:

- a. Each of the calls used must have the PREFIX of a DX country represented in the suffix.
- b. On 2x1 calls, use the letter or the district number and the letter of the suffix.
- c. Some countries have more than 1 prefix. You can only use a country once. Example: Italy uses four prefixes. If you use "I", that's it.
- d. Some prefixes are not usable. For example: 3D2, T2, and V6.
- e. Use either current ARRL DXCC list, or the list from a 1990 or later call book.
- f. Send a copy of whichever you use with your application for the endorsement. Also, once you use one of the lists, stick with it. Do not change.
- g. Examples: WM7G-Use "G" for England, WC5T-Use "5T" for Mauritania, AA5CO-Use "CO" for Cuba, K1BY-Use "BY" for China, etc.

ENDORSEMENT #24: 2x2 "K" PREFIX

Work all 50 states with 2x2 "K" prefix callsigns.

ENDORSEMENT #25: W.A.S. MOBILE

Work the contiguous 48 states with a station that is mobile in each state. Use any callsign format.

(NOTE: ENDORSEMENTS #26 AND #27 WERE INSTALLED EFFECTIVE 1 OCTOBER 1992 AT 0000 UTC.)

ENDORSEMENT #26: CANADIAN OPERATOR INITIAL

Work all CANADIAN provinces with a station that has an operator initial callsign. Same rules apply as for Endorsement #4. All provinces are required: VE1-Nova Scotia, VE2-Quebec, VE3-Ontario, VE4-Manitoba, VE5-Saskatchewan, VE6-Alberta, VE7-British Columbia, VE8-Northwest Territories, VE9-New Brunswick, VO1-Newfoundland, VO2-Labrador, VY1-Yukon, VY2-Prince Edward Island.

ENDORSEMENT #27: RK ENDORSEMENT

Work each of the U.S. call districts with callsigns with "A" through "Z" following the call district number. The following rules apply:

- a. All 50 states must be represented.
- b. This endorsement requires once through the alphabet in all 10 U.S. call districts, or 260 contacts.

(NOTE: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ENDORSEMENTS #28, #29, & #30 IS 0200 UTC 1 OCTOBER 1992.)

ENDORSEMENT #28: 2x2 "A"

Work all 50 states with Extra Class 2x2 formatted callsign (ex: AG4RM, AA5BT, AC7DX). Submit to Endorsement Manager in standard format call, name, state, and date.

ENDORSEMENT #29: WPX (WORKED PREFIXES)

Work 500 prefixes, using standard NET procedure. ALL 50 STATES MUST BE REPRESENTED. The following rules apply:

a. For this endorsement, the letter and numeral combination which form the first part of the call will be considered the prefix, i.e. W1, K1, N2, WA3, KD7, KH6, KL7, WO8, etc.

b. If contact is with a portable or mobile station operating from another call area, disregard the portable or mobile designator.

c. Only U.S. and Canadian call signs may be used except for "d" and "e" as follows.

d. A GERATOL number holder operating from another country and using that country's designator will be valid.

e. A GERATOL number holder who has been issued another country's call sign and has earned a GERATOL number with that callsign will apply, i.e. W1XX/VP9.

f. In "e" above, W1XX/VP9 shall count as VP9 and formatted on application as VP9/W1XX.

g. If a number is not present in the portable designator, a zero will be assigned, i.e., W1XX/HK would be HKØ and formatted on your application as HKØ/W1XX.

ENDORSEMENT #30: RK SQUARED

Same requirements as Endorsement #27, except you need to exchange a GERATOL number with each contact.

(NOTE: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ENDORSEMENTS #31, #32, #33, #34, AND #35 IS 0100 UTC 23 FEBRUARY 2001.)

ENDORSEMENT #31: QRP

Work all 50 states with stations that are running 10 watts or less. Any callsign format is allowed.

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

ENDORSEMENT #32: QRPX2

Work all 50 states while running 10 watts or less with stations that are also running 10 watts or less. Any callsign format is allowed.

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

ENDORSEMENT #33: WHILE MOBILE

Work the contiguous 48 states while you are mobile. Any callsign format is allowed.

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

b. Equipment must be mobile-type equipment mounted on a vehicle capable of being operated while the vehicle is in motion. This does not mean that operation must be made while the vehicle is in motion--but, it is meant to prevent mobile stations from using fixed station antennas.

ENDORSEMENT #34: 2x2 "A" SQUARED

Work all 50 states with stations that have an Alpha-type 2x2 callsign (eg: AD3CA, AA1FR, etc.) and a GERATOL number. Both stations involved in the contact must have a GERATOL number.

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

ENDORSEMENT #35: WHILE QRP

Work all 50 states while running 10 watts or less. Any callsign format is allowed.

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

(NOTE: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ENDORSEMENT #36 IS 0301 UTC 28 FEBRUARY 2007.)

ENDORSEMENT #36: DIRECTOR WAS

Work all 50 states with stations that have a Director number. Any callsign format is allowed. Everyone is eligible to work for Endorsement #36

a. All contacts must be made in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band using two way SSB.

(NOTE: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ENDORSEMENT #37 IS 0301 UTC 24 FEBRUARY 2009.)

Endorsement #37: TRIFECTA WAS

Work all 50 states with stations that have a Director number, a Geratol number, and a QCWA number. You can not duplicate a callsign in any one state. In any one state you have to work different callsigns for each number. You can use the same callsign in different states (i.e. mobiles). You must have a Geratol number to work this endorsement. All callsign formats are eligible. A total of 150 contacts for this endorsement. All contacts must be after 0301z on 24 February 2009.

For entry into Win-EQF or Log-EQF, you have to put a marker in the INFO field of the log for each different number, to use the Director number, you insert E37D, to use a Geratol number, you insert E37G, or to use a QCWA number, you insert E37Q. You must enter the number that you want to use in that contact log entry.

You enter the numbers as normal, B#nnnn or BNnnnn or Q#nnnnn or QNnnnnn in the INFO field or the Geratol number in the FORMAT field as normal.

(NOTE: EFFECTIVE DATE FOR ENDORSEMENT #38 IS 0301 UTC 24 FEBRUARY 2012.)

ENDORSEMENT #38: CANADIAN PROVINCIAL CAPITOLS

Work a station in each of the ten Canadian Provincial capitols. Contacts must be made in the US Extra Class 75 meter phone band. Mode must be two way SSB. Any callsign format.

DIRECTOR'S AWARD: EXCHANGE GERATOL NUMBERS IN MULTIPLES OF 100

Exchange GERATOL numbers with 100 stations and in multiples of 100. The following rules apply:

- a. Any callsign format applies - U.S. or Canadian.
- b. A GERATOL number is required before working for this award.
- c. Stations are required to submit a complete list of all contacts for each multiple award.
- d. Each list will be required to show the multiple applied for, the callsign, the GERATOL numbers in ascending order, the contact date.
- e. First 100 contacts gets a very nice certificate. For 200, 300, and 400 gets a gold endorsement seal, and 500 gets the Net 500 certificate.
- f. Contacts with 1000 geratol numbers earns a Presidents 1000 certificate
- g. Contacts with 1500 geratol numbers earns a Hall of Fame 1500 certificate
- h. Contacts with 2000 geratol numbers earns a Grand Masters 2000 certificate

**WORKED CANADA AWARD: WORK THE 10 CANADIAN PROVINCES
AND 1 TERRITORY**

Work all ten Canadian Provinces and one of the three Canadian Territories. Any callsign format is permitted. QSL cards must be exchanged for this award. A special serialized certificate will be awarded upon completion.

- a. All contacts must be made after 1 February 2000.
 - b. All contacts must be in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band.
 - c. All contacts must be made by two way SSB.
- (COST OF AWARDS AND ENDORSEMENTS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE)

THE BOARD AWARD: COLLECT 150 DIRECTOR'S AWARD SERIAL NUMBERS

Collect 150 serial numbers from members that hold the Director's Award and in multiples of 50. Each additional 50 serial numbers gets an endorsement seal.

- a. All contacts must be made on or after 1 October 2002.
 - b. All contacts must be in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band.
 - c. All contacts must be made by two way SSB.
- (COST OF AWARDS AND ENDORSEMENTS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE)

THE GOLD BOARD AWARD: COLLECT 350 DIRECTOR'S AWARD SERIAL NUMBERS

Collect 350 serial numbers from members that hold the Director's Award.

- a. All contacts must be made on or after 1 October 2002.
 - b. All contacts must be in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band.
 - c. All contacts must be made by two way SSB.
- (COST OF AWARDS AND ENDORSEMENTS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE)

THE PLATINUM BOARD AWARD: COLLECT 500 DIRECTOR'S AWARD SERIAL NUMBERS

Collect 500 serial numbers from members that hold the Director's Award.

- a. All contacts must be made on or after 1 October 2002.
 - b. All contacts must be in the Extra Class phone sub-band of the American 75 meter band.
 - c. All contacts must be made by two way SSB.
- (COST OF AWARDS AND ENDORSEMENTS APPEAR ON LAST PAGE)

GERATOL NET GENERAL INFORMATION

The GERATOL NET endorsement program operates on the honor system, so QSL cards are NOT necessary, except for the Basic Award, and special awards as announced. Double and triple-check your accuracy to be absolutely sure that all stations worked qualify. Be liberal with notes....this will help the Endorsement Manager understand what transpired.

Submit your requests for endorsements and awards to the proper Manager listed on the last pages of this information packet. Include the following:

- a. Your name and callsign.
- b. Your GERATOL number if you have one, and the date of issue.
- c. Lists of the stations worked including date, time (in UTC) of each QSO, and of course, the endorsement numbers being applied for.
- d. Please note that some endorsements and awards require lists to be in a particular form. Please use the form indicated above, or contact the Endorsement Manager for instructions.
- e. If you desire confirmation of receipt, include a self-addressed-stamped post card. It would be a good idea to make copies of your records in case something gets lost.
- f. A email address and/or telephone number.

Contacts made for a particular endorsement can be used for other endorsements when the callsign format qualifies. For example, AA6A may be used for endorsements 7, 9, 11, 13, 16, 18, 22, 25, and others if the operator has a GERATOL number. Contacts can be made anywhere in the Extra Class segment of the American 75 meter phone band, 3.600 - 3.700 Mhz, but do not necessarily have to be made during NET sessions only.

A FEW POINTERS

Be aware that you CAN begin to collect callsigns for those endorsements that do not require a GERATOL number at any time.

The only requirement for QSL cards is for the GERATOL NET 2-Letter "WAS" Award, and other special awards that either appear in this information packet, or those announced on the NET. If you are not going to use the GERATOL NET QSL Bureau, PLEASE send S.A.S.E.s to the stations you are needing a cards from.

If you are the station whose card is needed by someone working on their "WAS", please respond promptly!

There are a lot of people that put in a great deal of time and effort to make this net enjoyable for you. A little extra effort on your part to insure that you have submitted information properly, will help them a GREAT deal.

GERATOL NET HISTORY

"The FCC is going to open up the 75 meter Extra Class sub-band to Advanced Class operators!!!" That was the topic of conversation between John/WØNL and Hank/K2DS on the evening of 28 September 1971. The lack of activity by U.S. Extra Class operators in the exclusive 3800-3825 kHz Extra Class sub-band was the problem. John and Hank decided that working all the 50 states within that sub-band only, would provide the needed incentive to increase the activity, and the GERATOL NET was born.

Harry/W3ZM and others developed guidelines, adding sport to the already difficult feat. One idea was to restrict contacts toward a "WAS", to a 2-letter suffix callsign format. U.S., Canadian, and Caribbean operators who were authorized those frequencies were welcomed to join the group. The word spread quickly and the growing fraternal group could always be found somewhere within the Extra Class 75 meter sub-band.

The ARRL communications department was asked to assist with the development of the unique serialized 2-letter "WAS", in addition to the ARRL family of worked-all-states awards. Rules for obtaining the serialized "WAS" were published on page 88 of the February 1972 issue of QST.

During the fall of 1972, the FCC did allow Advanced Class operators to expand into the 3800-3825 kHz sub-band. However.....the FCC's band usage review had shown a LARGE increase in Extra Class operator usage within that sub-band. Consequently, the FCC rewarded Extra Class operators with a NEW exclusive 3775-3800 kHz sub-band.

On November 22, 1972 at 0000 UTC, the group moved in the newly acquired frequencies and were met with opposition from northern neighbors who had enjoyed exclusive use of that sub-band. On November 1, 1972 the Metro Amateur Radio Club of Toronto established their 2/80 award. With both U.S. and Canadian amateurs working toward a common interest, a warm friendship evolved from these two across-the-border award programs.

At about this same time, some unnamed wise-acre suggested that since most of those working toward the 2-letter "WAS" were (at that time) senior citizens, the sobriquet of GERITOL NET might be appropriate. That name has followed this group to this day. The spelling of "GERITOL" was changed to reflect the acronym "GERATOL", standing for Greetings Extra Radio Amateurs Tired of Operating Lately.

It is noteworthy that John/WØNL achieved the special 2-letter "WAS" with Number 1 serial number. After Tony/KL7AF received number 391, the group had at least one operator with a GERATOL number in each of the 50 states. From the DX station standpoint, Bob/ZL2BT received number 140 and a total of 36 Canadian amateurs received the coveted ARRL 2-letter Award.

During the winter season of 1977-1978, Vern/WØVV #190, developed and furnished the separate "Unbelievable Operating Achievement Award for the NET. John/N4BA #41, Leo/WØGX #184, Lloyd/W7RO #181, and Harold/K5BG #174 devised provocative endorsements to the basic award. On March 10, 1978, the GERATOL NET was formally opened. During the winter season of 1978, Jack/W1OA #239 suggested, and it was adopted, that no QSL cards be required for the GERATOL endorsements.

John, Leo, and Lloyd, operating as Net Control Stations, along with Harold as the Awards Manager, devoted considerable time building the NET over the years.

Since the migration to the new 3750-3775 kHz Extra Class sub-band on September 1, 1984, the NET enjoys a more tranquil environment away from the DX window. Cooperation with our Canadian neighbors has helped us to share the new frequencies without conflict, and we continue to have a friendly relationship.

From those early days to today, the GERATOL NET has grown with each passing season into a group of courteous, friendly, and intellectual individuals who enjoy the challenge of working toward all the goals that the NET offers. Refinements are constantly being made to make our operations more efficient and enjoyable. Don/N2NBC #777 and Jim/KT5F #586, handcrafted a new full-color UNBELIEVABLE OPERATING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD and endorsement stickers, that are a proud addition to any wallpaper collection.

On December 15, 2006 at 0501 UTC, the Extra class band on 75 meters by FCC rule changed to 3.600 to 3.700 Mhz. At this date we moved the net to 3.668 Mhz. We move the net plus or minus depending on band conditions and or interference.

The only requirement for membership in the NET is your interest. No membership forms are required and no dues are levied. The NET future lies in your cooperation and participation.

WELCOME TO THE NET AND ENJOY!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 73 and 88

GERATOL NET BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012-2013

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CANADA INFORMATION OFFICER

None at this time

Jess/AI9L issues the GERATOL Basic Award, DIRECTORS Award, BOARD Award, WORKED CANADA Award, the Geratol number Awards, and the Endorsement stickers.

Cost:	GERATOL Certificate	\$10.00	GERATOL NET 500	\$10.00
	DIRECTORS Award	\$10.00	GERATOL1000	\$10.00
	The BOARD Award	\$5.00	GERATOL 1500	\$10.00
	Gold BOARD Award	\$5.00	GERATOL 2000	\$10.00
	Platinum BOARD Award	\$5.00	WORKED CANADA Award	\$5.00
	Endorsements	\$1.00 w/SASE		