

Spotlight – Carl Pockrus WE7OMG

Years ago I came into the possession of a Hallicrafters S-53A receiver. Using a long wire, I heard somebody in South Africa, and that started my interest in radio. I eventually got into the military at 17, in a communications MOS, and operated MARS stations. After my military discharge in 1976, I took a job down in Kwajalein, Marshall Islands, and started studying ham radio back then, but could never get past the (Morse) code. It was always in the back of my mind to get it done.



Fast-forward many years later, my son Nick became interested in getting his ham radio license, but never got around to it, so he left his license study book when he left on his mission. I picked up the book, learned that they had dropped the code requirement, and started studying again. At the same time I was taking a local CERT course, and from overhearing conversations, heard about Steve Whitehead's one-day course, so I signed up. I took the test right after the class, passed, and the rest is history.

Love the voice modes, love DX, but mostly love whatever's working at the moment. Almost have WAS (Worked All States), missing Nevada on 20 meters. I love ham radio...what can I say? After all, my last name means, "crazy Russian"

Among Carl's ham radio gear:

Yaesu FT dx 1200 HF transceiver

Yaesu FT-2900R VHF transceiver (home)

Yaesu FT-7900R VHF / UHF transceiver (truck)

"Pockrus" dual-band J-pole antenna

Arrow 6-meter half-wave vertical antenna

Buckmaster 6-meter to 80-meter OCF antenna

— 73, WE7OMG



Note from the editor: Carl has quite a list of accomplishments under his belt, only a few of which I'll list here. After years of diligent work, Carl has earned his DXCC. He serves as part of the rotation for Net Control of the weekly 76ers Net on Wednesday night, serves on the UVARC Board of Directors, has the station that racks up the lion's share of contact points at Field Day, and is the one and only maker of the "Pockrus" J-pole that has helped so many get their signals in the air.

73, and thanks for all you do, Carl!