
Re: 100th anniversary

Fra Eric Hansen <e.w.hansen@icloud.com>

Dato ti. 06.05.2025 18:28

Til <harald@bjarkhaug.com> <harald@bjarkhaug.com>

Kopi Kjell Martinsen <la3qs@online.no>; la6toa@hotmail.com <la6toa@hotmail.com>

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Greetings, once more, Harald,

I hope you are well.

Last week I went back once more into the library archives. I did not miraculously discover any logs going back to 1925, but I did find some materials showing that people were aware that the QSO occurred. I am attaching them to this email.

The PDF contains, first of all, a newspaper article about Robert Weinig, class of 1925. He came to Dartmouth in 1922 and participated in two major developments: (1) the building of a large antenna system that remained in service until 1973, and (2) an upgrade, with the assistance of the Bell Telephone Laboratories, from spark to a vacuum tube transmitter. Quoting the article, the new setup "allowed them during 1923 and 1924 to make contact with Norway, England, Mexico, New Zealand, and the MacMillan Expedition heading for the North Pole." I am quite certain that this is the same contact with Norway, though Mr Weinig may have missed out by graduating before it took place.

The news article with Weinig's story is followed by a memoir written by Sturges D (Dick) Dorrance Jr, class of 1936, who again notes the historic QSO with Norway at the bottom of page A3 / top of page A4. Both Weinig and Dorrance remained active hams into the 1970s.

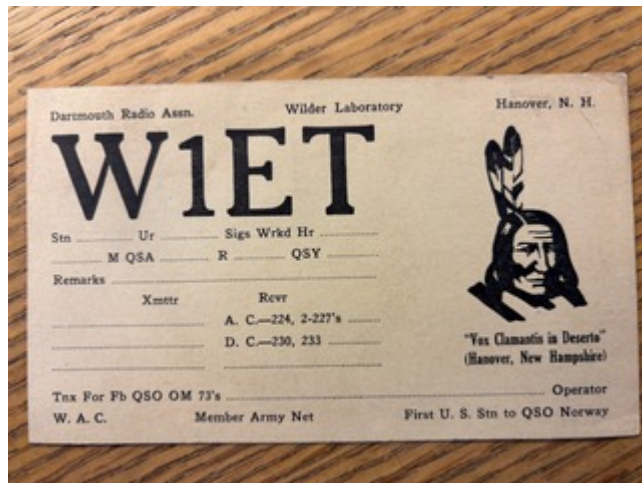
A third item which I discovered in the archive is a blank QSL card, date unknown, which notes, at the bottom, "First U. S. Stn to QSO Norway". The Native American mascot was discontinued in the 1970s, but the Biblical quote "Vox Clamantis in Deserto" (A voice calls out in the wilderness) is still the college motto.

The trail goes cold at this point, but I hope you find these items interesting. Are you still thinking about having a joint special event station later this year? We should at least schedule a centennial QSO!

All the best,
Eric

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30.4 MB



On Dec 6, 2023, at 16:55, Eric Hansen <e.w.hansen@icloud.com> wrote:

Hello again, Harald,

Today I was at the library and went through the club archive. Thanks to the good organization of the person who packed the box, I quickly found the QSL from LA1A, and the library staff assisted me with making photographs, which I attach to this email. Unfortunately, the archived logbooks begin with 1935, so I don't have our logbook entry for the QSO. There are some other interesting items from that period of time, like other DX QSLs, and an inventory of the station equipment. There are also photos, but I didn't look to see if any are dated from 1925.

If you have a scan of the QSL we sent to you, I would be grateful to receive it.

I look forward to talking with you again as your plans develop.

All the best,
Eric Hansen

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<IMG_3400.jpeg>

On Jul 24, 2023, at 9:00 AM, Eric Hansen <e.w.hansen@icloud.com> wrote:

Hello, Harald,

A few years ago I went through the archives of the Dartmouth Amateur Radio Association (callsign W1ET), which are stored in the college library's rare books collection (!). I am aware of the first contact with Norway, and I think I saw your QSL card in the archive. Your note reminds me to go back to the library and look again at the archive to see what else I can find. It would be great fun to have a centennial QSO in 2025! Let's stay in touch.

73,

Eric Hansen, KB1VUN (club trustee for W1ET)

On Jul 23, 2023, at 12:47 PM, <harald@bjarkhaug.com> <harald@bjarkhaug.com> wrote:

Hi Eric,

My name is Harald with the signature LA9JFA and I represent the LA6M Midt-Tromsgruppen of NRRL - a radio group in Northern Norway. In November 1925, the

first contact between Norway and America was made by LA1A Johannes Diesen from our area, and his notes state the following:

On the morning of November 25 (1925) I heard one American UI YB shout CQ on the 40-meter.

The American transmitter was DARTH-MOUTH COLLEGE, Hanover," New Hampshire, midway between Montreal and Boston, longitude 72 deg. 17 min. west - latitude 43 deg. 42 min. north.

The QSL card I later received read:

"First QSO Arctic (it's you)".

We have an old copy of the QSL card from LA1A sent to the Norwegian Communications Authority (NKOM) on 25 November 1925 (enclosed).

We are starting planning to celebrate the 100th anniversary of this event already now.

If your group has logs that can confirm this QSO, we would be grateful for feedback.

Also if we can agree a schedule with you for a given period in November 2025

We will apply to the Norwegian Communications Authority (NKOM) for a suitable signature to use for the occasion.

Me and LA3QS Kjell are in charge for this project for the group LA6M, and you may contact either one of us.

Looking forward and excited for your reply and whether there are logs.

<image001.gif>

73 de LA9JFA Harald

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<LA1A-QSL.JPG>