



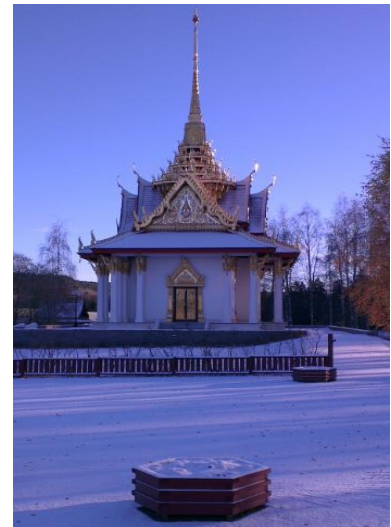
SI9AM oktober 2012

October 24 untill october 31

Since 2008 we rent every year the amateur radio station SI9AM in the month of October during the CQWW SSB contest. This time we were with three, Jef, DD2CW, Dirk, ONL741 and myself, ON6UQ. Dirk is an aspiring operator and well settled at this event. Jef is a top SSB man but good in CW aswell. I prefare CW myself.

The room was like it was the years before but this time there was a small hob, on a little tabel, so we could baking an eg are something....we thought. Because the restaurant is closed after september and we need to stay alive, so this was a welkomming object. But eventually it was an induction hob and the pots were unusable for this kind if hob....we still alive. But in the end, it was a wonderful initiative after all.

Everything was ready after we turned on the main switch. Even the shack was confortable warm despite the cold outside. It was -8°C and snow was falling down, beautiful view.



We started with the WARC bands and we had the privilage to test the new installed Spiderbeam.

De antenne was 100% matched and works fantastic. 10Mhz was open and states site and Japan were worked. The next day it was really winter, 20 cm snow and ice and very cold



weather. The Spiderbeam is a wire beam and was totally filled with ice and snow and looks like totaly destroyed. Eventually the antenna was still perfectly resonant.He works perfect on whole WARC bands.

The 2 element for 40m was on top of the tower and was good for many DX. The 6 element 3 band yagi had a problem with SWR and not usable. After all, the antenne was ok, but there was a bad connection in the feed line. The problem was fixed befor the contest.



We had the program N1MM started with the assumption that we so also could use the function keys. However the voice keying was not working and also no functionkeys for CW. Our own fould, the MicroKeyer was configured for an other contest program. So we made our kontakts with our pure voice. Result was 2800 Qso's in contest an 1656 Qso's befor and after contest. It was fun in the shack of SI9AM, but less cozy outside.



When you eat you should also do the dishes. And we ate a lot. Eight breads and lots of cheese and sausage, simple and good. Really adventurous. Only one of the pots worked on that hob, but for baking an egg, cooking spaghetti and warm up potato puree or soup.

You will also see the contrast between inside and outside. Inside was the average 26°C and outside -5 to -9°C. We had a great time in Sweden, in the shack of SI9AM.

We left the station on 30 October in the afternoon because of the weather. We still have to run almost 600 km to the airport in Stockholm and departure was 6h30 in the morning, and we had no winter tires on the car. We arrived a few hours too soon, but save. Nevertheless, we will be back next year.



Rent this station, we can recommend you. You have everything a radio operator can desire and it is not expensive.

Dirk, Jef and Marcel.