

Midcars Recognizes Veterans on Veterans Day 2009



Hams checking in to MidCars on November 11th heard a special call-up procedure being used throughout the day. Instead of the usual callup for mobile check-ins first, the Service Control Operators on the Veteran's Day edition of MidCars gave priority to all military Veterans who checked in. The SCOs and others made sure that Veterans were welcomed into the net with heartfelt thanks and appreciation for their years of service to our country. During the first 90 minutes from 8:30 until 10:00 EST, 89% or the 44 check-ins identified themselves as Veterans. A high rate of Veteran check-ins continued throughout the day. At least of 83 Military Veterans checked in during the MidCars Veterans Day nets.

Those listening on 7258 KHz got to know many of their fellow hams a little better that day. It was exciting to hear how many of our regular Midcars users made a career in the military serving 20 years and longer. One such person was Fred, W4FHC, the very first check in that morning. Just listen to Fred check into MidCars any day and you will quickly recognize his love for the Air Force. Fred served in the U.S. Air Force from 1966-1991. Blair, KJ4WJJ and Jim, NX4Q are also retired U.S. Air Force each having served over 20 years. Al, K4ACF was in the U.S. Marine Corps for over 20 years and saw action in Southeast Asia as did Jim, WB4SXR. Also checking in was Arnal, N8ACC who recently retired from the U.S. Navy after 29 years! Arnal has been working at the Pentagon for years and is now making a smooth transition into the civilian workforce. Jim, KF4ETX checked in from his mobile and added that he was also U. S. Navy Retired. Bob, W8LCZ was in the U.S. Navy for 4 years and then served an additional 22 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Some check-ins told us a little about their assignments while in the military. Long time MidCars member, Bill, WØFCE served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, Stuart, KG4LMW served in the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne, Al, KB8YED, was a medic in the U.S. Army. Bill, WAØAFD was in the U.S. Navy serving aboard the U.S.S. Hummel. Tim, N9UEB, also served in the U.S. Navy however he was in the Submarine Service assigned to the U.S.S. Trigger. We all know that Will, N9RGE is active not only on MidCars but also the "68 Group" and others. What you may not have known was that after Wil completed 4 years of service in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1955, he promptly joined the U.S. Air Force for another 27 years! Larry, WAØMJQ, one of our more senior members, checked in to say that he was U.S. Army Veteran having served from 1945-48. That's over 60 years ago! We even had a special events station from Stratford, CT check in. N1S, that's "November 1 Sikorsky", set up operations from inside a Sikorsky aircraft for the day. We were also pleased to have Bob, W9KTO check aboard as a Veteran who served in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Some of our own Service Control Operators also checked in during the call up for Veterans. These included Richard, KC9LIW – U.S. Navy; Jim, N9VO – U.S. Navy; Ed, WA8V – U.S. Army; Ray, AK8V – U.S. Navy; Gary, W9GAS – U.S. Navy, and Dan, WB8EEW, our Assistant Director was in Special Ops in the U.S. Air Force.

These are only a few of the notes from the 80+ veterans who checked into MidCars during our special Veterans Day edition of MidCars. If you checked in as a Veteran and your call does not appear on the list Veteran check-ins shown below please e-mail any additions or corrections to K8HLJ@ARRL.NET and we'll update our figures. From the great response from everyone, it is clear that this event was such a success that we'll do it again next year. Some of those who took part reported hearing a definite feeling of pride in the voices of every Veteran who checked in as well as a tone of respect for all veterans. On this past Veterans Day, we feel that MidCars did indeed support the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. "Thank you" again to all of our Veterans and active duty military for your service to your country. We're proud of you!

George Harizal, K8HLJ
Director, MidCars

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| <i>Callsign</i> | <i>Branch of Service</i> | <i>Callsign</i> | <i>Branch of Service</i> |
|------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| AA2XK | United States Army | N9RXM | United States Navy |
| AB8KO | United States Navy | N9UEB | United States Navy |
| AB8N | United States Army | N9VO | United States Navy |
| AG4EX | United States Air Force | N9YMA | United States Army |
| AK8V | United States Navy | ND8G | United States Army |
| K1LH | United States Army | NX4Q | United States Air Force |
| K2CDS | United States Navy | VE3IPJ | |
| K2SAU | United States Navy | W3BLD | United States Army |
| | | W4FHC | United States Air Force |
| K3TEL | | W4MBA | |
| K4ACF | United States Marine Corps | W5GGO | |
| K7AAB | United States Army | W8JRY | United States Army |
| K8BMN | United States Air Force | W8LCZ | United States Navy |
| K8MLM | United States Navy | | United States Air Force |
| K9DVA | United States Army | W9FAS | United States Navy |
| K9HM | United States Army | W9GAS | United States Navy |
| KA3EJJ | | W9GHO | United States Army |
| KB1KZL | United States Army | W9GQW | United States Air Force |
| KB2MOS | | W9KTO | Royal Canadian Air Force |
| KB3KGA | United States Army | W9LR | |
| KB8FMW | | W9MOE | United States Army |
| KB8YED | United States Army | W9REW | United States Navy |
| KB9TOM | United States Navy | WA8V | United States Army |
| KC8ZFL | United States Navy | WA9PIB | National Guard |
| KC9LDK | United States Navy | WA9QIB | United States Air Force |
| KC9LIW | United States Navy | WAØAFD | United States Navy |
| KC9NJI | United States Navy | WAØMJQ | United States Army |
| KC9PTD | United States Marine Corps | WB1CBI | |
| KCØVTT | United States Marine Corps | WB4RSX | |
| KDØARL | United States Air Force | WB4UDD | United States Army & United States Air Force |
| KDØDJZ | United States Army | | |
| KDØLL | United States Navy | WB8EEW | United States Air Force |
| KE4N | United States Army | WB8SUD | United States Army |
| KF4BWG | United States Navy | WB8VOF | United States Navy |
| KF4ETX | United States Navy | WB9BVB | United States Air Force |
| KG4LMW | United States Army | WB9DFK | |
| KI4YIB | United States Army | WBØQNG | |
| KJ4WJJ | United States Air Force | WØCYF | United States Army |
| N2ZTL | United States Air Force | WØEDS | |
| N4EGR | | WØFCE | United States Army |
| N8HLH | National Guard | WØPAL | United States Army |
| N8JPW | United States Coast Guard | WX4BB | United States Navy |
| N9ACC | United States Navy | | |
| N9EDT | United States Army | | |
| N9FDJ | United States Army | | |
| N9JQ | | | |
| N9RGE | United States Naval Reserves & United States Air Force | | |

If you checked in to Midcars on Veterans Day and your call or branch of service is not listed, please send Additions and Corrections to:

K8HLJ@ARRL.NET by 11/22/09