

Bill Koch, W2RMA, Bio

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Bill was first licensed in 1962 as WN2DWS. His Dad, Art, W2RMA, was very influential in his life, and he followed his Dad's footsteps to Iowa State University earning a BSEE in 1972. Along the way, he upgraded his license and has held the calls WA5LBQ (OK), WB2DWS (NY), WA0TGV(IA), WD9BFI(IN), and when living abroad, WA5LBQ /I0, G5DUA, and EI2VPI. After his Dad passed, he opted to keep his Dad's call alive. He's a Lifetime ARRL member and has published in QST.

Early in his career, he worked as an AM/FM/TV transmitter engineer before moving into manufacturing engineering, and then to the pharmaceutical industry. While in Europe, he operated HF largely back to the US. He wanted to operate 2M EME as WA5LBQ/T7A, but another international move happened. He subsequently became VP & CFO of a worldwide middle market consulting company and retired in 2014.

Bill's interest has always been building his equipment, including a phasing SSB receiver and transmitter, high power VHF, and associated antennas. He recalls his first QSO on 40M with a 6V6 transmitter and regen receiver, both homebrew. Talks at Dayton several years ago by K8ZR (WA8RJF) and K15WL got Bill interested in 10GHz and WA3TTS elmered him onto the band. He is now concluding work for rigs providing 10 band capabilities.

As best he knows, he's the only ham in EN90 with 7+ band V/U/SHF capability. Given his poor microwave location and the paucity of EN90 microwave hams, he roves either north to Lake Erie or to the mid-Atlantic area for contests but stays within EN90 for sprints.

'Beam west young (and old) hams, beam west'!

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