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What's New: bhi Launches New Website, SOTAbeams Dust Caps, *CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code*, AOR AR-DV1 Digital Voice Scanner, ICOM 50th Anniversary Special Transceiver, Upgraded ICOM ID-51A Handheld, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Apr, pp. 30, 32, 50, 62

What's New: BridgeCom Bolsters Handheld Offerings, N4KC Publishes Two New Ham Radio Books, Fairview Microwave Debuts Family of RF & Microwave Power Amplifiers, New Book: Ham Radio Go Bag, FMRE Partners with RFinder, Pasternak Expands Offering of General Purpose VNA Calibration Kits, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Sep, pp. 54, 58, 80, 86

What's New: BridgeCom Systems 1.25-Meter Repeater, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Aug, pp. 53

What's New: DX Engineering Now Carries Full Yaesu Line, Feldman (KD2IWM), CQ 2015, Dec, p.68

What's New: N3FJP Amateur Contact Log 5.0, ICOM IC-2730 Dual-Band Mobile, New Versions of All N3FJP Contesting Software, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Jan/Feb, pp. 14, 74, 96

What's New: N3FJP CW Teacher and School Club Roundup Log, SOTAbeams Phonepole, Fairview Microwave Low-PIM products, SOTAbeams BOXA line, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Mar, pp. 18, 51, 56, 62

What's New: N3FJP Software Updates, Alpha S9 Antenna Line, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Jul, pp. 35, 93

What's New: Pasternak 75-Ohm Test Cables; DX Engineering Now Manufacturing Skyhawk, Skylark and Butternut Antennas; N3FJP Logging Programs for WAE, All-Asian DX and Oceania DX Contests, plus state QSO Parties; Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, May, pp. 55, 66, 74

What's New: Wouxun KG-UV9D Handheld; ICOM IC-7300 transceiver, Feldman (KD2IWM) CQ 2015, Nov, pp. 60, 108

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Oops...

We made an error in presenting the formula for resistance in parallel in October's "Learning Curve." The correct formula is:

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{R1} + \frac{1}{R2}}$$

A simpler expression for just two resistors in parallel is:

$$\frac{R1 \times R2}{R1 + R2}$$

Looking Ahead in CQ

Here are some of the articles we're working on for upcoming issues of CQ:

- A World War II Spy Radio You Can Build
- An Introduction to Microcontrollers - Part 4
- The DXCC "Odd Couple"

Upcoming Special Issues:

February: QRP

June: Take it to the Field

October: Emergency Communications



'Twas the Night Before Christmas on 20 Meters

BY DON CHRISTENSEN, W8WOJ

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the shack,
 the signals had echoes, the aurora was back.
 I was twiddling the knobs and tuning around,
 looking for rare DX, but none could be found.
 When all of a sudden, a pileup so thick
 caused me to question, "Could that be St. Nick?"
 Well, I shifted the bandwidth and varied IF,
 then I switched in the filters but it made little diff.
 "Why can't I hear him?" I asked in a fit,
 and I smiled when I discovered he was operating split.
 He was working by districts; what a furious clip;
 Santa was operating contest-style just before his big trip.
 I fired up the linear 'cause I wanted a shot,
 it would take maximum power; everything I've got.
 The two hard-working triodes, they twinkled so bright,
 as I got ready to call that jolly old sprite.
 Just as the little green "ready" light was starting to glow,
 St. Nick was saying, "8th district stations, get set to go."
 I stepped on the foot switch and yelled into the mic,
 then BANG! What happened? Who turned out the light?
 After finding the flashlight, I located the breaker;
 it's a wonder in the darkness I didn't meet my maker.
 By the time I got the rig back on frequency,
 Santa announced that he was ready to go QRT.
 But I broke, said "QRZed, will you take one more eight?"
 feeling certain that I simply was much, much, too late.
 But much to my surprise, old St. Nick came right back,
 "WOJ," he was saying, "make it quick, I must pack."
 "I must leave on my trip. It's a long one, you know."
 and I could tell by the flutter the band was starting to go.
 Just as the propagation was beginning to flee,
 Santa said, "MERRY CHRISTMAS to all and a big
 SEVEN THREE!"

(This poem originally appeared in the December 1990, issue of WorldRadio and is republished by permission of the author.)