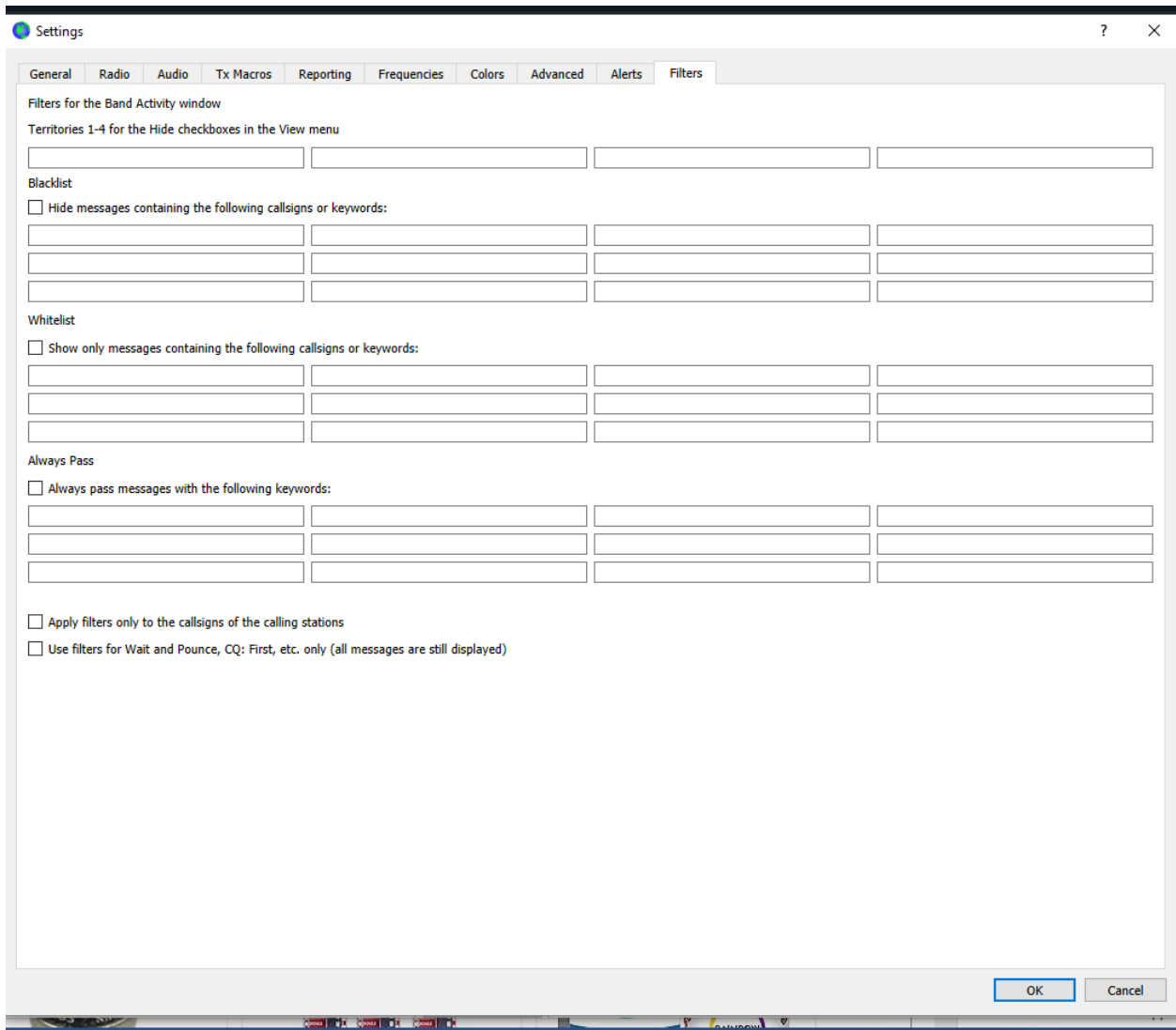


wsjt-x_improved for Digital Modes, Part 2

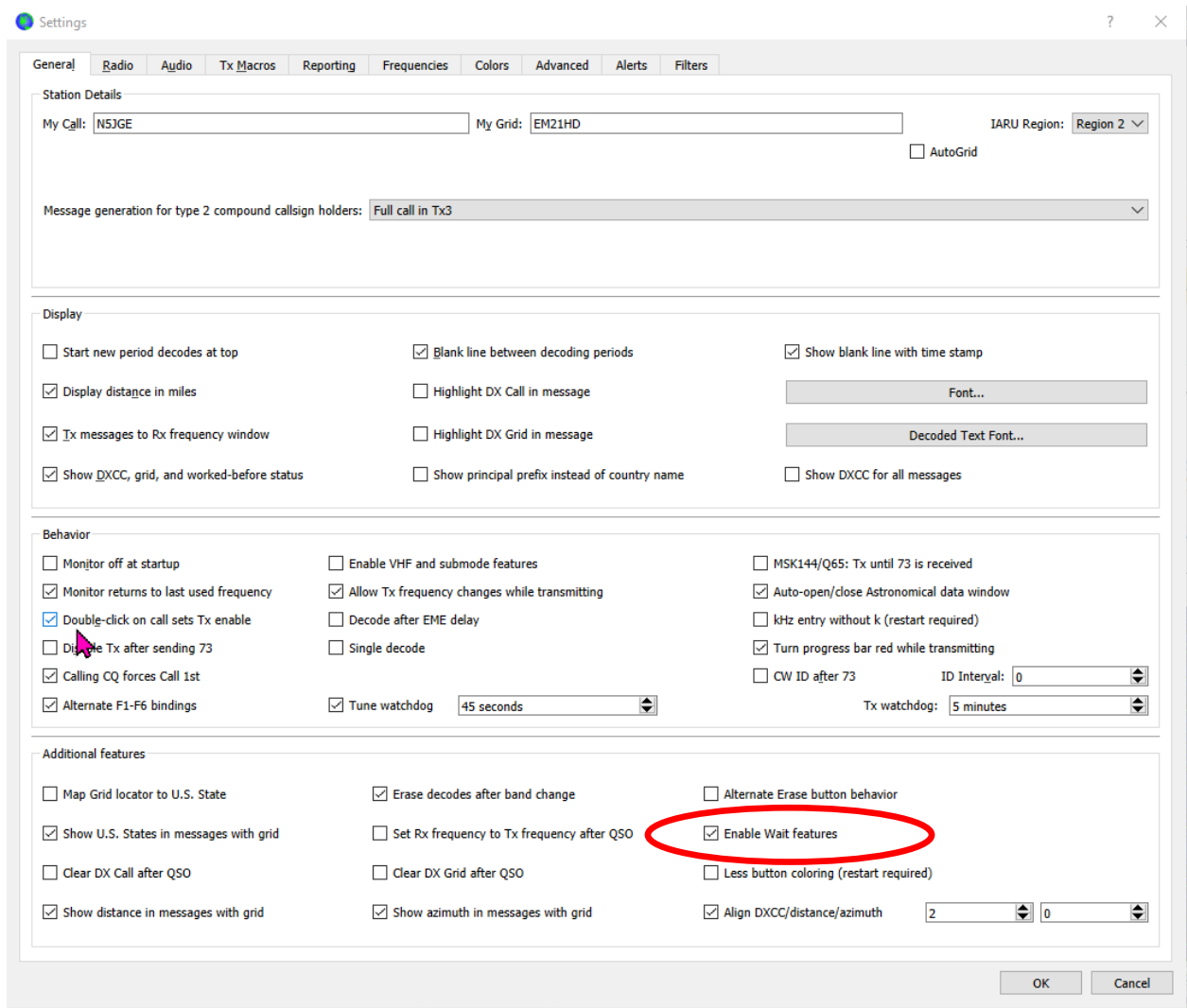
Jim Edmondson, N5JGE

Continuing from last month's article, I was discussing the filtering options in wsjt-x_improved. Below is a screenshot of the Filters tab from the Settings Menu. At the top you can enter the territories (USA, etc) to ignore. There are also "Blacklist" and "Whitelist" entry boxes for callsigns or keywords and "Always Pass" (keywords) entry boxes. One good use for Blacklist is to filter out callers sending "Test" if you are not in the contest.



wsjt-x_improved Filters (deep) Menu

Next is a screenshot of the General Settings Menu. A useful feature is “Enable Wait features”. This helps make contacts under difficult conditions both when you are calling or when stations are calling you. “Wait and Reply” will continue your QSO when a station that you have called answers you after working other stations. This is enabled by default for the callsign in the “DX Call” box. “Wait and Call” will call back to the station in the DX Call box (up to 3 times) whenever they re-appear on the band with a CQ, 73, or RRR message. This prevents you from continually calling them and causing unnecessary QRM.



wsjt-x_improved General Settings Menu

When Wait and Reply or Wait and Call are active, the “Enable Tx” button is highlighted in yellow. This is to warn you that the radio may begin transmitting without you initiating it. To disable any pending Wait features, just right click on the

DX Call button to clear the DX Call box. The Enable Tx and DX Call buttons will go back to white color.

Finally, the "Wait and Pounce" option is active when you select a category from the CQ dropdown box (CQ: Max Dist, CQ: Max dB, CQ: Min dB) and then Enable Tx button (which then turns orange). In next and subsequent receive cycles, wsjt-x_improved will reply to the CQ station which meets the CQ category that you selected. This feature can also transmit without you initiating it and can be cleared by right clicking on the DX Call button.

Also, from the "Additional Settings" of the General Settings (screenshot above), you can choose to have the azimuth and distance displayed in the message window for each station received that transmitted a grid square. For US and Canadian stations, you can choose to have the grid square translated to the US state or Canadian province and to display the state on the message line.

In the Radio settings menu, you can choose to have wsjt-x_improved display the power and output and SWR provided your radio supports this feature. In addition, wsjt-x_improved will prevent you radio from transmitting if the SWR exceeds 2.5:1.

Below the DX Call box is an "Ignore" button. This will add the call in the DX Call box to the Ignore list. Ignoring those calls is toggled on and off in the Filters list on the Main Menu Bar. The Ignore list can be cleared from the File list of the Main Menu Bar.

In the Save list of the Main Menu Bar is a toggle for "Diagnostic Mode". This creates additional log files to help troubleshoot program or rig control problems. The files can be sent to the wsjt-x_improved development team for assistance. The mode is described in the screenshot below.

Some additional features are listed below:

- Slightly better (more sensitive) decoders
- Progress bar turns red when x\transmitting (green when receiving)
- Additional "Behavior" settings erase band activity on band change
- Sort soundcards alphabetically on Audio Settings tab
- On the Frequencies Settings tab can set preferred frequencies, used when band button is pressed
- Band hopping

I'll leave to those interested in wsjt-x_improved to those and the many other features of this interesting software development.

