



DAØWCA - 01.05.2015

WCA DL-03956

Castle Trevesenhammer

WWFF DLFF-119

Naturepark Steinwald



01. of may, castle-day. Meanwhile the 14th time were the middle-german-castle day happened and the 4th time were COTA-team-germany invites to the german castle day, not a contest, just an activity day to bring a lot of castles on the bands and enjoy portable-activities. Last year we spent the castle-day in Naturepark Altmühltal however 2015 the weather-forecast was terrible so we decided to remain in the



Castle Trevesenhammer, in the 90ths built to a first class hotel and meanwhile empty

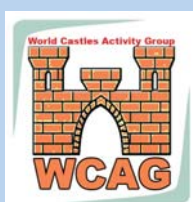
closer environment. For the first part we selected the castle of Trevesenhammer in Naturepark Steinwald. The hammercastle was the first time named around the end of the 13th century. The water-power of the river Fichtelnaab was used to drive the ironhammer. The building often changed the owner and had the best times in the early 17th century and the last time at the beginning 20th century. 1990 an investor bought the building invested a lot of money to integra-

te a first-class restaurant. However business was running less than ten years and the owner became arrested due to some not so legal business dealings. It´s again in private-ownership by someone else however currently not used for anything.

The night before the castle-day it was raining endless. In the morning of may 01 at first it stopped a bit, however during the whole morning rainfalls reappeared again and again and made the outside-work not so funny. We moved a bit at the end of the village were we found some protection under a few trees close to a bikeway. Naturepark Steinwald gets more and more complete infrastructure to explore the nature-area with bike and becomes more popular for mountain-biker and e-biker.

After finishing the setup we started with the first call at 0702 UTC, a bit later then expected. DL4MA answered our first cq-call. We had during the activity sometimes periods were we could defend the frequency for 10/15 minutes, however there was also the austrian activity-day and a lot of stations simple were covering you so heavy just a few 100 hz from the side that sooner or later you had to leave and search for another frequency. Also castle-activity was enourmous. Nearly 150 logs arrived in the first two weeks after the event, so that alone is a plus of 50 percent against 2014.

Finally giving up on 40 meters as the band was too crowded we moved on 20 meters filling the log there. Next attempt 30 minutes later again on 40 brought again few new stations in the log. Altogether activity was with a lot of band-changes between 20 and 40 and also a lot of changes into CW. That was not too comfortable in the car but







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*Preparing for dismantling during a little rain-break*

there it was much easier to get a good frequency. When on 40 meters tried also several times the frequencies under 7.100 to give also those a chance which licence doesn't allow to transmit above 7.1. Last band-change was again to 20 meters were several UA/UR/EA made it into the log. Last QSO was with UA-6GE on 40 meters CW. The total score was not overwhelming with 172 contacts, but under that conditions also not bad.

As midday 40meter is going down extreme we decided to make a short break at first at home.

Feet were iccold and our favour restaurant was closed that day.

So coffee at home brought us back into life with the hope for a bit more pleasant weather in the afternoon.

73, 44, 11 cu from the next one,

Manfred DF6EX

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<http://logsearch.cotagroup.org>

All reports from previous activities can be found

at: <http://www.qrz.com/db/da0cw>

