

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Each month one of our members is randomly selected and asked to share their ham radio biography with all of us. Questions or comments should go to Paul, KD2MX.

DISCLAIMER: Any views expressed in this section are those of the submitting member and may or may not be those of the NAQCC or its officers.



SERGEY KRAVCHENKO, KD9EBS, #8177

I am not used to writing about myself at all but here goes.

Radio and electronics have been always my passion. At the age of 12, I built my first crystal radio, then it was a TRF radio, next a regenerative, and later a super heterodyne radio. I liked to listen to the SW broadcasts, especially "Voice of America" and "Radio Europe". I tried to get my license, or at minimum SWL call sign, but did not have enough patience to get through the bureaucratic Soviet system in the Radio Inspection of Ukraine. (USSR at that time).

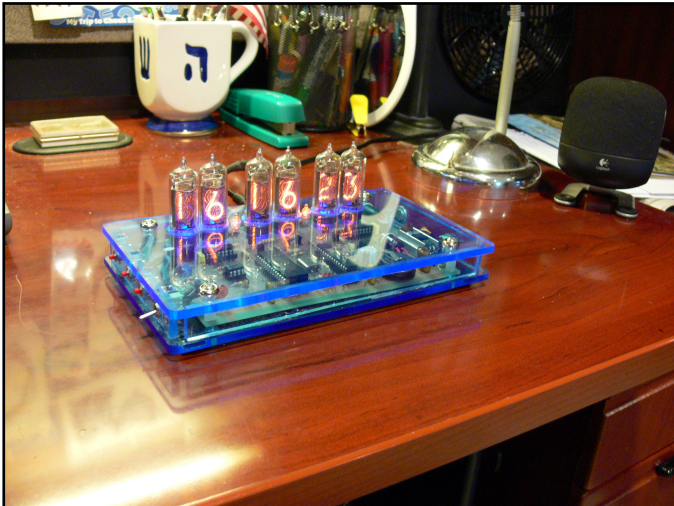
In 1992 my family and I moved to the U.S. Not until 2015, did I have the time and motivation to get my amateur radio license. This was all thanks to my coworker, who saw on my desk my homemade nixie clock, and inspired me to start work on getting my ham radio ticket.

I passed my "Technician" in June of 2015, the "General" in 2016, and finally "Amateur Extra" in 2017.

In 2015 I became a member of the "North Shore Radio Club", one of the largest radio clubs in Chicago land. In one of the club meetings, I listened to Warren (KC9IL) who prepared an amazing presentation about QRP radios. Since that night I've been hooked. In the beginning of 2016, I joined NAQCC and proudly own my NAQCC number 8177.

When asked about my favorite activities within our wonderful hobby, I would list here NETs, rag chewing,

chasing DX, and for sure the homebrewing. That part is my favorite. I've included a couple of pictures from my projects: My nixie clock and my super-regenerative AM Radio. I am currently trying to build a "Paraset" clone. It's a QRP vacuum tube transceiver, used by the resistance fighters in Europe during WWII (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraset>).



My favorite NAQCC activities are the NAQCC QRP and QRPp sprints. I use the QRP "Youkits" HB-1B 5 Watt and Alinco DX-SR8, reduced power to 1 watt, when working QRPp. And my favorite key is my trusty J-38.

I also enjoy reading books, playing chess, and fishing. I have been married for 31 years to my lovely wife Irina. We have two children. No grandchildren yet, I guess we are still young for that :-)

In conclusion I would like to thank our NAQCC club board of directors and all our club members for the great pleasure to be part of this organization. Thank you and 72! / 73!

