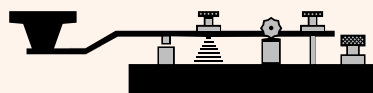


NAQCC NEWS



ISSUE 299 • MAY 2023



KEY CLICKS

• **IN THIS ISSUE**

The Prez Sez... we need your help; Remembering Steve WB4OMM; Busy month for QSO Parties; Final entry in Glenn N4MJ's helpful QRP Tips series; A mixed-up "who said it?" challenge; An easy way to reap the benefits of diversity reception, and transmit; Awards; Chapter activity, Sprint reports; Soapboxes; Member polls; Nets; and more.

• **STEVE SZABO, WB4OMM #5913, SK**

We're sad to say goodbye to our immediate past president who did so much for NAQCC. Gone far too soon. page 3

• **CHAPTERS HAVE BEEN BUSY**

A trip report from Long Island and two from Western Florida, plus a symposium in Maine. Lots of great pictures. page 23

• **DAILY WYOMING QRS NET IS BACK**

Steve KE7UUJ has brought back this net. Daily at 6:30 AM MDT which is 12:30 UTC, on 3565 kHz +/- . See page 20-21 for details.

• **FOUR DAYS IN MAY**

The Dayton Hamvention is upon us, and the very best part is the FDIM side event put on by QRPARCI. Some great presentations scheduled. Zoom sign-ups and the proceedings book are available if you can't make it to Ohio. <https://www.qrparci.org/fdim>

• **738 QRP CW QSOs SCORED IN A SINGLE WEEKEND!**

When Sean KK9U #10869 posted that score in the Missouri QSO Party, we had to ask how the heck he did it. page 8.

• **2022 PARTICIPATION AWARD WINNERS**

See page 13 for the winners in each region, including 5 perfect scores.

• **YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS NEEDED**

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your latest excursion, that thing you built, your favorite rig, or something funny. As long as it relates to QRP CW. Send it to Paul KD2MX: kd2mx@arrl.net

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THE PREZ SEZ...

As some of you continue to shovel snow, just look at the calendar, summer can't be too far away?

APRIL SPRINT RESULTS

Overall there were 139 participants up 14 (11%) from a year ago, with 102 logs submitted. Please post a log to help in the cross checking and proving the QSOs. 1,596 QSOs were made that included 37 states and 3 provinces. This number is an increase of 513 (67%) over last year, so propagation must be getting better!

Our next Sprint is: Thursday, May 18, 2023, 0030-0230 Z (Wednesday, 8:30-10:30pm EDT) see you there!

The Monthly Poll concerns upcoming FD-23, please take the time to participate in the Monthly Poll found on the home page of the website.

MAY MONTHLY CHALLENGE

My favorite quote from this month's challenge: "Sometimes they write what I say, not what I mean." Wow! Does that ring true for me or what?

Read over the other quotes from sports figures and take a shot at completing this month's effort. Getting involved with POTA/SOTA/QSO Parties and the like will greatly help you achieve good results.

Our thanks to **Gary, K1YAN** for creating the Monthly Challenge and to **Charlie, N1AOK** for checking and reporting the submissions monthly.

BOARD MEETING APRIL 29

The Board of Directors met via a ZOOM Meeting on April, 29 as required by our corporate documents. The BOD had dwindled to 6 of the 9 members we are allowed to have due to the March resignation of our Secretary, **Gary Lyons, AF7T** due to health issues. THANK YOU Gary for your service and we pray for your quick recovery.

Initially only 4 members were present just passing muster of 66% required making it a legal meeting. The first order of business was to accept **Jerry, K4KBL** back from retirement as director. Jerry had been dealing with a health issue and appears to have it under control. Jerry was a past treasurer and we will put him to back to work soon.

After the **Treasurer's Report by Dennis W4DWS**, showing a balance of \$774.88 with all bills paid we noted that we were \$226 short of the minimum amount for free checking resulting in a fee of \$10/month (\$120/yr), payment of which seems to be just a waste of funds. With the upcoming Anniversary Season prize expenses, website expenses and so on it's clear that we certainly could use some donations. If you have any cool ideas on other methods of raising operation expense funds we would love to hear from you.

No one stepped forward for the position of president or vice president which means that I retain the helm until elections in 2024. With unpredictable illnesses being the biggest reason for vacancies, it is imperative that we have a pool of willing servers in order to continue the club without excessive disruptions. There are

many places for you to contribute and for the most part not a lot of time is required. Less than 40 of us perform the necessary tasks to keep NAQCC active and up to date. With the many 1,000s of members we should not be wanting for volunteers. **Please contact me or any BOD member to get on a list to offer your assistance.**

May 29th is Memorial Day, do your part.

72/73!
John KK4ITX #7249
VP/NAQCC President



A little bit of QRP on a wire goes a long way!



STEVE SZABO, WB4OMM #5913, SK

After someone passes on, the importance of his being not only comes vividly to our attention but also leaves us with a void in our hearts and minds. Even during the short time after his stepping down from the helm of the NAQCC in January, the full weight of losing Steve's involvement in our organization was not realized because I could at least attempt to get answers to my many questions via email. I even convinced myself that he would get better and again take over our ship and left the door open.

I never met Steve in person but shared QSOs, phone calls, ZOOM meetings and countless emails over the past three years and like just about everyone else has said, he was in control of the situation at hand and hardly ever took "no" for an answer... worked at making things better for everyone.

To say that we will miss Steve is a great understatement. He wore many hats and was the driving force behind our acquisition of the 501 (c) (3) status we now enjoy as a non-profit corporation.

All my very best to Steve and his family.

John, KK4ITX
NAQCC #7249



NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE

BY DON VE3DQN #5846

NAQCC IS THE LIFE OF THE PARTIES

So far this year, NAQCC ops have submitted 367 of the 427 QRP entries, or 86% and 48 members have made 10,712 QSOs in the first 20 events. Great job!

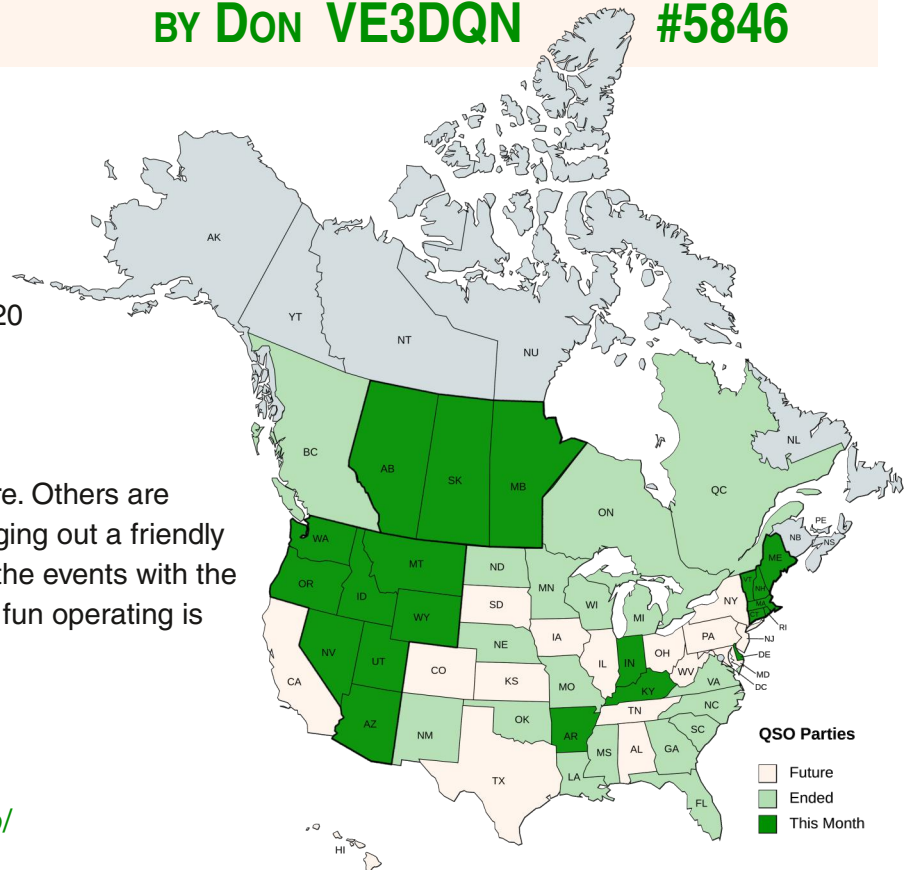
SET YOUR OWN GOAL

For some, it's beating last year's score. Others are intent on hitting Gold or Platinum, edging out a friendly rival, contesting practice, or working the events with the bare minimal equipment. Just having fun operating is also acceptable.

LEADERBOARD

Complete results at http://naqcc.info/qso parties_scores.html

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Lee AA4GA, #5415	18	1,482	26,676	Platinum	147,318
Alan KR4AE, #5847	20	1,175	23,500	Gold	129,779
Ben AC2YD, #10378	17	879	14,943	Gold	82,523
Steve NI8W, #11335	19	647	12,293	Gold	67,888
Sean KK9U, #10869	13	880	11,440	Gold	63,177
Mike W7LG, #10391	17	468	7,956	Silver	43,937
Will NQ2W, #4839	15	482	7,230	Silver	39,928
Brent WT4U, #9019	17	361	6,137	Silver	33,892
Chris KU4A, #1960	18	332	5,976	Silver	33,002
Don VE3DQN, #5846	18	331	5,958	Silver	32,903
Kevin NN3E, #9851	16	346	5,536	Silver	30,573
Dick N9EEE, #11389	15	256	3,840	Bronze	21,206
Dave AB9BZ, #9309	16	240	3,840	Bronze	21,206
Rick KY0Q, #9647	11	273	3,003	Bronze	16,584
Bob N2EIM, #10373	11	220	2,420	Bronze	13,364
Ernie N2DGQ, #11090	9	184	1,656	Bronze	9,145
Robin NG8S, #3261	14	114	1,596	Bronze	8,814
Anthony K8ZT, #412	12	108	1,296	Bronze	7,157
Don KI4MZC, #10922	5	251	1,255	Bronze	6,931
Dan W9SAU, #10073	11	90	990	Bronze	5,467
Dave N3CKI, #8478	3	318	954	Bronze	5,268
Kevin KI4DEF, #247	11	62	682	Bronze	3,766



LOW-KEY CONTESTING PRACTICE

QSO Parties bridge the gap between our friendly sprints and “real” contesting. Speeds are generally lower and many of the in-state ops are more interested in filling the log for other goals or the joy of being the “DX” than racking up a high score.

GRAB THAT MULTIPLIER

Even if you can't spend much time on a given event, fire up the rig long enough to grab two quick QSOs to earn the multiplier.

UPCOMING EVENTS

State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
7th Call Area	May 6 1300Z to May 7 0700Z	RST 5-letter state/ County	RST ST	7025-7035 on 40m, else + 40 kHz	rules
Indiana	May 6 1500Z to May 7 0300Z	RST County	RST ST	1.805 MHz and 30 kHz up	rules
Delaware	May 6 1700Z to May 7 2359Z	RST County	RST ST	1825, 3550, 7050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050	rules
New England	May 6 2000Z to May 7 0500Z & May 7 1300Z to May 7 2400Z	RST County	RST ST	3540 7035 14040 21040 28040	rules
Canadian Prairies	May 13 1700Z to May 14 0300Z	RST County	RST ST	35 KHz up	rules
Arkansas	May 20 1400Z to May 21 0200Z	RST County	RST ST	1.830, 3.540, 7.040, 14.040, 21.040, 28.040	rules
Kentucky	Jun 3 1300Z to Jun 4 0100Z	RST County	RST ST	1.815, 3.540, 7.040, 14.040, 21.040, 28.040, 50.095 and 144.060	rules

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Work the QSO Parties. Rules differ slightly by state, so check those. Work at least two stations in each QSO Party.
- Post a summary of your results for each QSO Party to the appropriate page on <https://www.3830scores.com> The links to the submittal forms are on the left side of the page in yellow.
- Under “club” choose “other” and then type in NAQCC. If enough people do that we can get added to the pulldown menu. If you're already committed to another club, don't worry about it. It won't affect our friendly competition, but it's nice to get NAQCC some visibility.
- Some QSO Parties lump CW together with digital or other modes. If that happens, send a note to QSO Party Challenge Manager Don VE3DQN at don@hekman.net and

let him know that you worked strictly CW, or if mixed, how many of your contacts were CW.

- Check the NAQCC Newsletter each month to see how everyone is doing.

NOTES

- Individual QSO Parties will do their own official scoring based on uploaded Cabrillo logs. We're just looking at the summary you post to 3830scores.
- To participate, you must enter as a QRP station. You don't have to limit yourself to CW operation, but only those QSOs will count toward the NAQCC QSO Party Challenge.
- Questions? Read Don VE3DQN's [November 2021 article](#) or contact him don@hekman.net

QSO PARTY SOAPBOX SAMPLER

Chris KU4A #1960 - NAQCC has lots of operating events but this is easily my favorite by far.

Ben AC2YD #10378 - WOW!!! and congratulations to some big-number home-court GA QSO Party NAQCC participants: AA4GA with 646(!!!) Qs, KR4AE with 496(!), and KI4MZC with 223(!) (sorry about the dupe, Don, I had you in N1MM+ as KI4MQC for a moment, but still fun to exchange 72's!) ... it will be a big challenge to come anywhere remotely close to those numbers when the NJ QSO Party rolls around! ... last year I won first place QRP NJ with ""just"" 70. I expected to be in NC for Easter this weekend, but a bad weather forecast said ""stay home"" in NJ. Grateful to get on the air for the non-Easter part of the weekend. ""Made friends"" with mobile stations KU5B (10 of my 13 Qs in NMQP), AD4EB (19 Qs, hot mobile setup on qrz.com page!!) and N4N (16 Qs) in GA ... between long distance and pileups, these mobile stations get my vote for extra good ears! Thanks for the inspiration!

Don KI4MZC #10922 - KX3 to a dipole, 5W. Thanks for participating and tolerating my mistakes, especially initially with some recalcitrant keyboards. DX stations were great, and the QRP peeps (and you know who you are!) were awesome. I got WHIT (White county) on 4 bands, including probably every cw op in the county! 72/73 everybuddy! By the way, White County ops got 3 of the top 4 CW QRP scores, as the claims stand now (that's KR4AE, WC4X, and me). I'm sure you've heard of White County, Georgia, haven't you? As you may know, it is a hotbed of QRP CW-ers. I had a good time for the limited time I was available with family visiting, church, etc., on Easter weekend.

Don VE3DQN #5846 - I knew I'd have little operating time this weekend, and I got my two multipliers, so was satisfied. I really love the Pace feature that Brent WT4U devised for our score sheet. As you know, it projects your score at the end of the SQP Challenge season IF you continue at the same rate you're presently going. In my now 3rd season in the SQP Challenge I figured that I'd do well to aim for the 25,000 point--Platinum--level. After all, we're QRP and CW only for this Challenge. Well, some of you are absolutely blowing me away. Three of you are on pace for 100,000 points--Diamond--level. And a good half dozen more of you have a chance of reaching that level should you put in some big scores. Absolutely outstanding! Go for it!

Alan KR4AE #5847 - The Ga. QSO Party was a lot of fun and it gives us a taste of being a rare dx station calling cq! It always has lot's of participation ,but it seemed to be down this year because of it's conflict with Easter. I thought it was down considerably on Sunday which is certainly understandable! I had 375 contacts on Saturday but had to really fight to end up where I did on Sunday along with doing other things.

Ben AC2YD #10378 - I nominate KR4AE for a special award for making 2 QSOs with North Dakota! I did not hear a single one, and 3830scores reports a total of about 45 CW Qs in logs, which means maybe a little more than half of that happened ... so KR4AE netted almost 10% of all the CW Qs in the entire NDQP!!

Many more soapbox reports at http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_soapbox.html



TIPS FOR IMPROVING QRP OPERATION

BY GLENN N4MJ #6587

TIP 5 – ANTENNA GAIN OR NOT

QRP operators need an efficient station for success. Antenna efficiency can make or break an operation. Dipoles and verticals are claimed to have unity gain, or a gain of 1. If at all possible use an antenna with some gain. Directivity also helps.

Here's a theoretical example of why. Feeding 5 watts into a transmission line with an assumed loss of 3 db (recall 3 db represents half power loss/gain) means only 2.5 watts feeding into the antenna. An antenna with a unity gain will radiate whatever power it sees at the input. Antenna efficiency is critical for low power operation.

Continuing with the theoretical example – an antenna with a gain of 3 db would effectively double the power received at the antenna input.

Directional antennas with gain have additional desired properties known as front-to-back and side rejection or attenuation.

These properties can make a world of difference for successful QRP operators. Another theoretical example – 3 watts into an antenna with 6 db forward gain effectively radiates 12 watts in one direction. This type antenna also helps with side and rear attenuation of signals.

The same antenna properties for transmitting also work for receiving. Forward gain and directivity can make weak signals much more readable than an antenna with just unity gain. The side and back rejection will reduce QRM, allowing you to hear the desired signal in better fashion.

The other normal known factors such as antenna height and feeding method should be considered in any QRP, and QRO, operation.

TIPS SUMMARY

Knowledge of where to look, timing and patience, short transmission lines, improved operating skills, and equipment knowledge are all important in creating an efficient and successful station/operation.

It may take some time to put these tips in-place but once implemented you will experience some gratifying rewards.



YURT-PORTABLE QSO PARTY FUN

BY SEAN KK9U #10869

We asked Sean how the heck he logged 738 QRP CW contacts in a single QSO Party. Here's what he told us.

I wish I could put up that kind of score for every QSO party! I live on the Illinois side of St Louis and am a member of the St. Louis QRP Society so I participate in a few of the Missouri events. I just started learning CW in 2021 so I participated in the QSO party that year and scored a whopping 34 QSOs. I couldn't participate last year because I was deployed to Saudi Arabia with the Air Force.

ON THE LINE

This year I wanted to go big so I started scouting spots early. I knew I wanted it to be in a POTA/WWFF area because they usually have nice cabins for rent and it's helpful to be spotted there. I also wanted to find a county that hadn't been activated the year before. I found a few like that but the Lake of the Ozarks State Park just happened to be split between two counties, and



looking closely, one of the yurts they offer just happened to fall smack dab on the county line.

THE SUPER CALLSIGN

Missouri encourages 1x1 calls by giving out special certificates for anyone who can spell out Missouri or Show Me. Previous years had issues with getting enough 1x1 stations so I didn't feel bad registering for W00 despite my rookie contesting skills.

SINGLE OPERATOR, TWO RADIOS

I'm not an experienced tester but I wanted to try SO2R to see if I could. My main radio was an Elecraft KX2 that stayed most of its time on 20M connected to a Buddy Stick Pro. The other radio was an Icom IC-705 connected to the AH-705 tuner connected to a doublet of about 180' with 20-30' of 450 ohm feed so it was very low and

way too flat to be considered an inverted V. I used N1MM for logging with a Winkeyer connected to both radios and a N0SA TP-A paddle for fills. Larry is a local ham and his keys are top notch!

YURT, WIND, & FIRE

We rolled in Friday afternoon expecting some major storms but ended up with just a lot of wind. The wind made setting up challenging but I never lost an antenna over the weekend. Sleeping in the Yurt with the high winds was an experience though. It was on the side of a hill which wasn't optimal for the antennas but really cut down on the wind. Still it sounded like sleeping in a tornado the whole time. The wind also broke a power line on Friday night which caused a brush fire in the camp. We thought that was a good sign to go get dinner in town while the fire department and parks services put it out.

MISSOURI QSO PARTY

Operating was very straightforward. Ran on 20m with the KX-2 which generated a decent rate early on. When that started slowing I began hunting on the 705 while continuing to call CQ on 20m. For anyone who might be apprehensive about trying out SO2R I highly recommend giving it a go in something low pressure like a State QSO party.



The setup in N1MM is easy but I'd recommend practicing beforehand. I did not take my own advice so it took me a couple of contacts to get the hang of it. The second radio really helped add Missouri multipliers.

MOQP is a two-day event that ends at 1500 local time on Sunday and our reservation ended at 1100. My amazing wife started packing up and getting us ready to go as I tried to knock out the last few contacts. I had a ton of dupes on the second day, but I figured that was probably because POTA/WWFF contacts were looking for a second contact on the second day. No problem in N1MM as it tells you it's a dupe and logs it but doesn't

count it for score. At 1100 one of the rangers came by to politely remind us that checkout was at 1100. Alison stalled them while I made a few more contacts to get over the 100k points threshold.

After that we threw everything in the car and boogied home because I had to be on a flight to California Monday morning at 0700. I've already activated one park out in CA and plan on setting up somewhere near the historic KPH building at Point Reyes national seashore on Friday.

NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: SPORTS QUOTES

Sports interviews ... they generate some of the most quotable quotes out there. Sometimes you just have to wonder if you heard it right. Here is a small collection for your reading pleasure. There

is also a list of the names of those who said them. Can you match them up? The answers are at the bottom of this page.

"I was such a dangerous hitter I even got intentional walks in batting practice."

"I want to rush for 1,000 or 1,500 yards. Whichever comes first."

"I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father."

"They say that nobody is perfect. Then they tell you practice makes perfect. I wish they'd make up their minds."

"I went through baseball as a player to be named later."

"He's a guy who gets up at six o'clock in the morning regardless of what time it is."

"It took me 17 years to get 3,000 hits in baseball. I did it in one afternoon on the golf course."

"I've never lost a game. I just ran out of time."

"Sometimes they write what I say, not what I mean."

"I feel like I'm the best, but you're not going to get me to say that."

"You can observe a lot by just watching."

Hank Aaron

Yogi Berra

Wilt Chamberlain

Lou Duva

Joe Garagiola

Pedro Guerrero

Michael Jordan

Greg Norman

Jerry Rice

George Rogers

Casey Stengle

I was such a dangerous - MLB Casey Stengle; I want to rush - NFL George Rogers; I owe a lot to my parents - PGA Greg gets up - Boxing trainer Lou Duva; It took me 17 years to get - MLB Hank Aaron; I've never lost a game - NBA Michael Jordan; Norman; They say that nobody is perfect - NBA Wilt Chamberlain; I went through baseball - MLB Joe Garagiola; He's a guy who Sometimes they write - MLB Pedro Guerrero; I feel like I'm the best - MLB Jerry Rice; You can observe a lot - MLB Yogi Berra


WORDS

- CASEY STENGLE
- GEORGE ROGERS
- LOU DUVA
- WILT CHAMBERLAIN
- JERRY RICE
- YOGI BERRA
- HANK AARON
- MICHAEL JORDAN

CHALLENGE TRACKER:

A	B	C	D	E	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	R	S	T	U	V	W	Y	

X Every time you work a new station this month, mark off the lowest box under each letter of the call to track your progress and see what letters you still need. You can download a printable version of this month's tracker at: http://naqcc.info/challenge_tracker.pdf

 Entering the Challenges earns you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual anniversary drawings.

SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

The easiest way is to use the great tool hosted by Robby WB5RVZ. Create an account, choose this month's challenge, and paste in all the eligible calls you worked. It will apply the letters, tell you what you're missing, and fill out the email for you. <http://naqcc.wb5rvz.org>

If you want to do it by hand, or got some but not all of the words and want to pick up a participation point, send an email to

Subject: (your call) NAQCC (month year) Challenge

Body: your call:
 word1 - call1 call2 call3
 word2 - call1 call2 call3

RULES:

Just make ALL the words from calls of stations you work subject to the General Challenge Rules. (Any spaces in the phrases should be ignored. For example the challenge phrase "INVERTED V ANTENNA" should be treated as if it is the single word "INVERTEDVANTENNA.")

Each letter in a callsign you work during the month can be used twice to complete the challenge words. Complete rules, information, and a helpful tutorial on how to organize your work for an alphabet challenge along with detailed general rules and submission instructions can be found at http://naqcc.info/challenges_rules.html

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

Next month is doubly challenging with the June Medicines from Venom Challenge and the return of the Field Day Challenge. <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202306.html>

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the MASK Facility letter challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202304.html> and final results will be posted on that page shortly after the 10th of the month.

CHALLENGE HONOR ROLL

We honor the following members for their outstanding participation over the years in our monthly challenges. Exact counts can be seen at http://naqcc.info/challenges_schedule.html.

Number of Challenges	Members
25+	N4OW KB1M AC2C KU4A DK1VD N1JI K9OSC KA5PVB KD0V WY3H KC5F WT4U WY7N K18I VE3HUR W2ITT AB9BZ K14IO NN9K ND9M N1LU KD2MX
50+	WA2FBN W3IQ VE3FUJ AK3X KJ4R NF1U VE3DQN AH6AX WB4OMM G3JFS N9SE
75+	PA9CW PA0XAW WI5H
100+	K1IEE
125+	K1YAN
150+	W2JEK N8XMS K3WWP

CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

K3ES - This was my first challenge. 3 POTA activations helped to finish almost all of the phrases. Had to track down a 6-call QSO to get the last character. Great fun!

KC5F - Out of the country for two weeks with no reciprocal licensing available, so I got a late start. Much more relaxed that way, with mostly POTA plus a few random CQ answers.

PA9CW - All QSO's made from three Flora and Fauna parks in The Netherlands. 73 - 44

ON7DQ - I had some trouble finding the last letters I needed (2xR,2xS, 1xV and 3xY), but working YU75SRV and SV1DAY ... literally saved my DAY (pun intended). Great fun as always

N8XMS - I had some nice DX in the mix. These challenges are always a lot of fun and I look forward to them every month. A big THANK YOU to everyone involved with planning and supporting them.



NAQCC AWARDS

You may already be a winner! NAQCC has an extensive list of awards. Check your log to see if you're close, or just need to submit. Complete details can be found at <http://naqcc.info/awards.html>.

FEATURED AWARD:

2X QRP

I have often thought that a great deal of the credit for a successful QRP QSO should go to the operator on the receiving end of those radiated QRP watts, and our 2X QRP Award gives you the chance to see what you can do on that end of the QSO. To earn this award you not only need to transmit at QRP power levels, but the person on the other end must be doing so as well. Any kind of QSOs are allowed for this award, including contest QSOs, so our NAQCC

sprints can be a fertile place to earn your points. QSO points vary based on whether or not the other person is DX and whether or not they are an NAQCC member. Certificates are issued at several different point levels and numerous endorsements for things like single band, home-brew gear, or straight key use are also available. Complete details for the 2X QRP Award can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_2xqrp.html.

2022 PARTICIPATION AWARD WINNERS:

W1 Walt KB1M #8058 36 pts

W2 Ken WA2FBN #3054 30pts

W3 Kevin NN3E #9851 36 pts
Peter AK3X #4825 36pts
 (previous winner)

W4 Ed KJ4R #8048 36pts

W5 Steve KC5F #10148 30pts

W6 Larry AH6AX #7313 11pts

W7 Danny KF7Z #6300 9pts

W8 John N8RVE #7526 16pts

W9 Dave AB9BZ #9309 36pts

W0 Mike AD0YM #9247 16pts

VE Don VE3DQN #5846 34pts

DX Fred DK1VD #9926 32pts



Awards earn you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual anniversary drawings.



EASY AND INEXPENSIVE DIVERSITY RECEPTION / TRANSMISSION

BY GLENN N4MJ #6587

This article addresses low band HF signals and wire antennas. There is neither math nor theory.

QRPer's need all the signal they can receive and send, every microvolt and milliwatt counts.

Receiver sensitivity for a given band/frequency is considered a fixed value. Signals above the sensitivity level and the noise floor may be heard. A well designed front-end of a modern receiver will have a sensitivity of around .2 microvolts. Some prefer it expressed in dbm; for .2 microvolts the dbm is -121 dBm. See, no math, just important values to retain for the future.

The question becomes, how can we exploit propagation?

Input to the receiver is the key to reception. Remember that saying, "the antenna is everything"? It is so true.

Most of us use one antenna for our QRP operations therefore we are limited to the radiation pattern of that antenna and propagation. We know major lobes of dipoles are 90 degrees to the axis of the antenna. To keep this simple, antenna patterns per se will not be discussed, only the result of using multiple antennas.

TWO FACTORS

If we know a radio signal's direction from our QTH we can take advantage of: 1. Dipole characteristic lobes, and 2. propagation.

Dipole lobes are a given (constant). Propagation is an ever-changing phenomenon. Knowing these two things leads us to a way to improve our reception and transmissions.

Diversity reception is nothing new to OTs. It is used because it can be extremely effective.

THE EASY WAY

A way to take advantage of diversity reception is to use two opposing dipoles. Opposing means they are physically 90 degrees displaced. For example, one running North/South, the other East/West. That is easy enough but there are a couple of considerations: actual directions from your station and feed and switching.

The direction chosen may be limited by the space allotted for antenna construction, a variable that cannot be accounted for in this article.





Ameritron switch box/control for the dipoles

RESULTS

I've been using this arrangement for about a year. Being able to switch between antennas has yielded much success, whether QRP or QRO. I am always amazed by the difference in signal levels with this simple arrangement. I usually see one or two S-unit difference when switching between antennas.

The SWR is low enough that a tuner is not necessary. I have used this system many times on 20, 15, 12, and 10 meters when the yagi is turned in the wrong direction for the station I am wanting to contact.

Simple, easy to install, inexpensive, and beneficial to both receive and transmit. Give it a try!

FEEDING TWO ANTENNAS

Feeding the antennas is easy. They may be fed with individual coaxes or with a single coax. With individual coax the switching arrangement would be inside the shack, perhaps a manually operated switch. Using a single coax will require a remote switching arrangement. Simple enough but a bit more expensive than separate coaxes and an inside manual switch.

Either way the station reaps the benefits of "diversity reception."

From experience, my two dipoles, cut for the CW portion of 40 meters, are NE/SW and NW/SE. I have one coax feedline that runs approximately 200 feet to the remote switch. From the switch, separate feedlines run another 100 feet to each antenna; those numbers are approximate. The control for the remote switch is in the shack. If you're wondering why the remote switch isn't nearer the antenna feed points, it is because there are other antenna fed from the switch box.



Two dipoles. The top one is at 50 feet and the lower one is at approximately 40 feet.

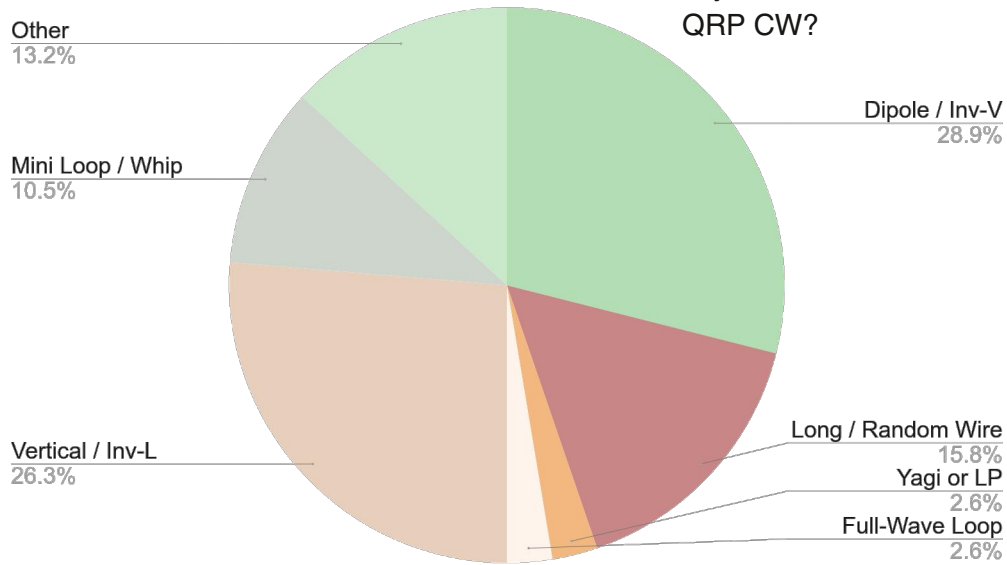
MEMBER POLL

MAY POLL

Are you planning a QRP CW Outing for Field Day in June?
 Let us know at http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html

APRIL POLL

What is your main antenna used for QRP CW?



HAM QUIPS "Key To The City"

Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, #2062, has been a QRP/CW operator for a long time. He is also a very accomplished ham radio cartoonist and his work has appeared previously in the K9YA Telegraph newsletter. His book "HI HI - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons" is available at www.lulu.com.



I'd Like To Present You With This "Key" To The City

NAQCC SPRINTS

MAY SPRINT

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Thursday, May 18th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, April 17th in North America.

Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202305.html>.

RULES

Complete sprint rules and instructions on how to submit your log can be found at http://naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html. On that page you will also find information about the different computer loggers that are supported for our sprints. The membership data files for those supported loggers can be downloaded at <http://naqcc.info/contests.html>. **Please be sure to always get the latest membership data for your logger about a day before the Sprint.** A complete schedule for our upcoming sprints can be found at http://naqcc.info/sprint_sked.html.

APRIL SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202304.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

We would especially like to welcome our first-time regular sprint loggers and hope that they will return to participate often: WA3RSR, W0MFQ, N2TNN, N2DGQ, KK9U, & N0MZJ

April Sprint				
	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	102	110	217	4/17
Participants	139	151	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1596	1717	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	852	962	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	744	755	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	355	218	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	1101	1309	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	140	190	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	15.6	15.6	19.3	9/11

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	AC1KV	K1MZM	KN1H
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	KN2G
W3	K3JZD	KC3MIO	WA3RSR
W4	KC5F	WG8Y	N3CKI
W5	KA6J	KG5OWB	KE9DR
W6	K6GPB	-	-
W7	AE7CG	KJ7KDB	-
W8	NF8M	W8GG	-
W9	WB9HFK	N8HWV	K9QEW
W0	N0TA	N8LA	W0JMW
Canada	VE3SIF	VA3KRJ	VE2KZW
DX	-	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	WB1GYZ	-	-
W2	N2DGQ	-	-
W3	NN3E	K3WWP	-
W4	K3RLL	-	-
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	K8NGW	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	KD0V	-	-
Canada	VE3HUR	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA KEYSER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1ZU	K1IX	KB1M
W2	K2OID	WA1GWH	WA2FBN
W3	KC3RN	K2PMD	KQ3Z
W4	K4BAI	K4KBL	N4MJ
W5	-	-	-
W6	KD0FNR	-	-
W7	KF7Z	KI7LW	N7QR
W8	WI8J	NG8S	WA8SAN
W9	KK9U	AB9BZ	-
W0	N0MII	KC2MJT	N0MZJ
Canada	VE3GNU	VE6VIC	-
DX	-	-	-

GAIN CATEGORY

KEY	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	NQ2W	-	-
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	VE3DQN	W7XT	-

FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE

Key Type	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	WA3RSR	W0MFQ	N2TNN
BUG	N2DGQ	-	-
K/K	KK9U	N0MZJ	-

SPRINT HONOR ROLL

We honor the following members for their outstanding participation over the years in our regular sprints. Exact counts can be seen at http://naqcc.info/sprint_dates.html.

Number of Sprints	Members
50+	NN0SS KJ4R N7QR KF7WNS KC7DM VE3GNU KB0ETU WD4OHD K4KBL K2YGM AA7CU N8QY WY3H K1IX K6CSL W5UAA KE9DR AB8FJ NN9K AA5LH WK6L KC2EGL K2HT N8HWV KC2MJT K4ORD K5GQ W4HH N1JI KC3RN VE3HUR KB4QQJ KB9ILT WA2NYY KD9EBS
75+	KQ1P KD3CA K9EYT K4NVJ KB1M WB4OMM VE3FUJ K9OSC WD0K N8BB WA1GWH VE3DQN WB9HFK N2CN WA2FBN NQ2W WB1GYZ K6MGO NF5U WI5H N8APO AA0W
100+	KL7IEE W4DUK AK3X N5GW AA9L NA4O KN1H NO2D KD2MX KA9FQG WB8ENE N4MJ N8LA
125+	K4JPN KD0V N2ESE KE5YUM WX4RM N4FI WA8SAN WG8Y N0TA K4KRW
150+	K4BAI NF8M K3RLL W9CC N8XMS KU4A K2CWM
175+	W2JEK W2SH W8GG
200+	K3WWP KA2KGP

SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

W0MFQ - This was my first sprint and only my second contest of any kind. Great fun and plan to do more.

WA2FBN - Fun sprint. Used my MTR 3B (1 digit LED display) into my 40m EFHW at 4w. 72 Ken

KN2G - Just built my new 4 band fan dipole inverted vee. Got 160 and 80 tuned but still had 5:1 swr on 40 and 20. The KX2 tuned that fine and the contacts still came in! Special thanks to N8LA for multiple repeats. It was a fun and satisfying evening.

KB1M - Long day and so short sprint for me. Reverse Beacon seemed to hear my 900 mW very well. Many thanks for the Q's, Walt

W2JEK - Got on late. Found 40M busy and finished on 80M. Had a good time. Rig Kenwood TS570D at 5W with SPEEDX straight key. 72/73 DON

WD4OHD - What a great night for a Sprint! Excellent propagation and low noise on 40m from start to finish. Good signals on 20m for the first half and 80m beginning to open up by the end. First time in a long while I've made QSOs on all three bands. Also glad to work MT and WY via QRP, probably for the first time. A couple of two-banders as well. Thanks to all participants tonight.

N0MII - Fun evening - sorry for all the 8s I sent with an extra dit (!).



NAQCC NETS

We have a number of nets (QRS = slow speed, QRQ = higher speed) designed to help people build up their CW operating skills. Complete information about these nets can be found at http://naqcc.info/cw_nets.html. Questions should be directed to Net Manager Mark, W8EWH.

NAQCC Net Schedule

Net	Local Time	UTC	Freq +/-	Primary NCS
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7pm CDT	Tuesday 0000 Z	7066 kHz Summer 3566 kHz Winter	Allen KA5TJS (TX)
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 CDT	Tuesday 0030 Z	7031 kHz	Bob W0CC (KS)
Pacific Northwest 80m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 7 PM PDT	Friday 0200 Z	3556.5 kHz	Stewart KE7LKW (WA)
Wyoming Daily QRS 80 Meter Net (WY80)	Daily 6:30 AM MDT	Daily 1230 Z	3565 kHz	Steve KE7UUJ (WY)

Note: On the rare occasions that there is a conflict between one of our scheduled nets and one of our regular sprints, the sprint will take precedence.

NET CONTROL STATION REPORTS

NAQCC PACIFIC NORTHWEST QRS 80 METER NET (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 7 PM PDT, which is Friday 0200 UTC on 3556.5 kHz +/-
Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

Apr 07 – QNI (6) KE7LKW/p NCS, WB7WHG, KI7SJE, AD7BP, N0DA, K7JUV

Apr 14 – QNI (4) KE7LKW NCS, WB7WHG, WS4SPB, K7JUV

Apr 21 – QNI (6) KE7LKW NCS, KI7SJE, WB7WHG, KC7CW, WB4SPB, K7JUV

Apr 28 – QNI (4) NCS WB7WHG, KE7LKW/P, WB4SPB, KI7SJE

NAQCC WYOMING DAILY QRS 80 METER NET (WY80)

Daily at 6:30 AM MDT which is 12:30 UTC, on 3565 kHz +/-

Main NCS - Steve KE7UUJ (Wyoming)

(Listing of stations checking in during the week. # after call = number of check-ins that week.)

Week of Apr 03 – No Net

Week of Apr 10 – NCS KE7UUJ (4), WB7S (4), WC7S (2)

Week of Apr 16 – NCS KE7UUJ (6), WB7S (4), WC7S (2), N5LYJ (1)

Week of Apr 23 – NCS KE7UUJ (3), WB7S (1)

NAQCC EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0000 UTC,

on 7066 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)

Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

Apr 04 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Good conditions still on 80 meters so far. Both stations worried about WX and tornados in AR. 599/589 respectively. Andy YGA still caching up for 2-week trip up north to finish his base. Terry YUM finally got all the flowers planted in the yard.

Apr 11 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Conditions not to good last night but short skip. Solar activity, I think. AR stations were 589/579 but QRM was up. There was another station that tried at the end but just could not pull out the call with the noise here. Sorry about that. A message from Allen N4NN said he tried but just too weak in GA.

Apr 18 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Conditions to AR on 80 meters were pretty good with signals 599/579 and QRN/QSB. Getting noisier at the sun stays up longer and with DST. Outstanding spring weather and stuff blooming everywhere. Went to 40 meters about 00:25 and made a call and got Allen N4NN 589. He could not copy on 80 meters and had high noise in GA. Noise much lower on 40 than 80. Happens every year and will look at moving the first call to 40 soon.

Apr 25 – No Net

We had a major solar flare, and the conditions were very poor. I canceled the net for Monday night. Hoping for better solar conditions next week.

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0030 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/-
Main NCS - Bob W0CC (Kansas) — Assisted by Dave AB9BZ

Apr 03 – QNI (1) W0CC

Everyone must have been watching the NCAA Men's Basketball Championship Game! The bands were quiet. After the NET, I was able to easily work W1AW/5, just to be sure that the radio was still working!

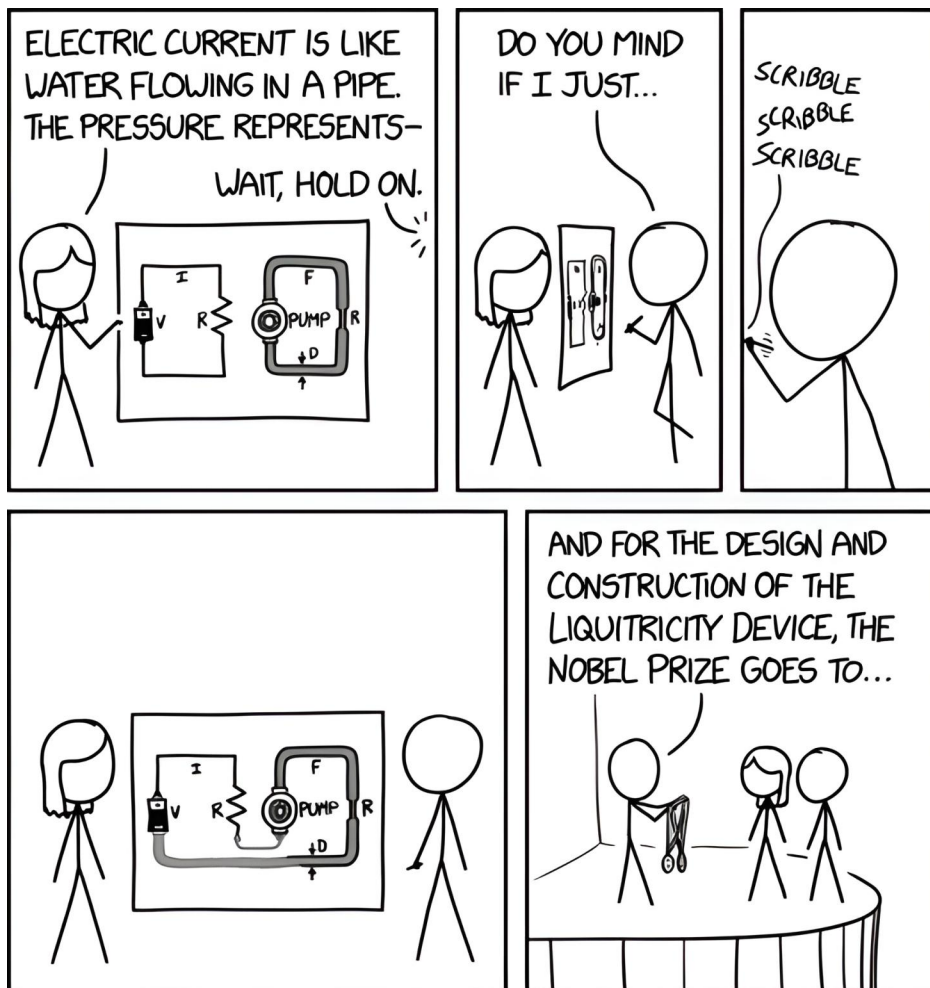
Apr 10 – QNI (3) W0CC, KI4MZC, WB9HFK

The band was quiet and with QSB. Both Donny (GA) and Mark (IL) did a great job picking out my 5 watts from all the signal fading!

Apr 17 – QNI (2) W0CC, KI4MZC

Conditions were NOT ideal. Donald did a GREAT JOB picking out my 5-watt signal with the QRM, QRN, and QSB!

Apr 24 – No Net



NAQCC CHAPTERS

The North American QRP CW Club currently has seven local chapters - Western Pennsylvania, West Florida, Illowa, Downeast Maine, Long Island, Florida, and Green Swamp WCF—but we would be more than happy to expand on that list. Chapters are more or less independent local gatherings organized by NAQCC members in a geographical area and subject to a list of guidelines from the NAQCC. They provide opportunities to have fun and to promote our parallel passions of QRP and CW. If you are interested in forming a local chapter please contact club president John KK4ITX.

If your chapter is planning a portable operation activity and would like to have it promoted on the club email list or in the newsletter, send an email with the subject “NAQCC Portable Operation” and with the exact wording of the announcement to Steve, at the email address listed on the last page about a week before the operation. Please be sure to include the UTC time for the event and not just the local time.

A report about your chapter activity should appear here. Please send them to KD2MX at the email addresses listed on the last page.

NAQCC chapters located in the United States are welcome to use the NAQCC Club call, N3AQC for their special operations. Please contact call sign trustee Please contact call sign trustee, Club President John KK4ITX, to schedule the use of N3AQC.

NAQCC LONG ISLAND CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Long Island Chapter unless otherwise credited.

Questions and comments should go to Howard, WB2UZE.

APRIL REPORT

We had a good day April 14, 2023 with beautiful 80F degree weather. Our outing started out at the Embassy Diner near Bethpage State Park POTA K2014.

Here is a nice photo of Rich K2UPS, Peter AA2VG, Drew N2AKJ, Ed N2GSL, Ken WB2KWC, Owen KC2VXW, Alan NY2G and Howard WB2UZE enjoying good food and conversation.



We set up six stations, all well spread out:

Rob W2ITT: KX2 5W and a linked dipole. Rob worked east of the Mississippi and Germany

John W2XS: KX2 5W with an Inverted-Vee using twin lead feed. John worked up and down the east coast

Owen KD2VXW: QCX Mini on 20m with QRP Guys EFHW. Owen made a number of contacts in USA and then we hooked up the club HB-1B with 5W and worked a couple of stations in Europe

Ed N2GSL: SW-3B 5W and EFHW. The SW-3B is only \$188 and it has a tuneable encoder, is very cute and works great.

Rich K2UPS: KX3 5W with Vertical jackite pole. We worked many stations in Europe and USA, the furthest being Slovenia

Peter AA2VJ: Set up a KD1JV 3-band transceiver that he built at 5W into a Buddipole and worked many USA stations

We contacted a number of LICW members and gave out some POTA contacts too. It was a bit difficult to spot ourselves and coordinate the efforts of six stations spread apart, so some LICW members were not able to find us, but we did the best possible and had a lot of fun. Now that the weather is warm, we will do these outings more frequently



N2GSL



AA2VG & WB2KWC



K2UPS



Buddipole antenna



W2XV Inverted Vee



Rob W2ITT



W2XS, NY2G,
KC2PSA, N2AKJ

NAQCC WEST FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the West Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Ron, N9EE.

The chapter's web site is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/967110089994401/>.

EAGLE POINT PARK

New Port Richey, Florida April 22, 2023

We arrived at the park around 8:30AM and set up.

Attending:

- Ron, N9EE rig: IC705, T1 tuner and 20m End Fed Wire
- Tim, WD8MVU, rig: LAB599/TX500 new Russian made QRP rig with Buddi-Stick-Pro vertical
- Don, KA2KDP
- Frank, KK4YDF

Had some visitors, one who was Ham back in the 70s and another studying. He was on GMRS and wanted something more.

Tim, WD8MVU with the Lab599/TX500, very nice rig, made in Russia, very well built, lots of good features, cost over \$1000. Lots on the display, but very small text. Made 2 CW QSOs and one SSB to LA, CA ham, all on 20m with a Buddi Stick-Pro vertical with coil with taps for setting the band. It has screw together sections with top 5 ft whip. Had very good SWR across the 20m band

LOG:

Ron, N9EE IC705, 20m End Fed Wire at 20ft/6ft.

TIME	CALL	RST	FREQ	COMMENT
1024	WB9HFK	569/559	14.0593	Mark, IL/HOME
1040	AB9CA	569/559	14.062	Dave, IN/Home
1045	W5CVK	599/599	14.054	Tom, TX SKCC
1104	WD8RIF	529/559	14.061	Eric OH/F
1134	VE1FK	599/599	21.037	YOTA
1140	WB3GCK	529/559	18.081	POTA
1227	K7HZ	529/549	18.077	Jim, OR 300W
1239	K7GUD	429/419	18.0933	SOTA
1242	W4NA	589/329	18.081	Wate, WVa
1246	WB0RLJ	449/549	18.083	
1249	K1PUG	599/569	18.077	Hank, CT, TS130 100W



1257 NK8O 579/559 18.074 Chas, MO PARK 1768
 1310 WB0RLJ 449/439 18.083

TIM, WD8MVU, LAB599/TX500, Buddi-Stick-Pro vertical

TIME	CALL	RST	FREQ	COMMENT
1334	KM1CC		21.040	
1344	W6AFA	5BY6	21.285	Mode phone USB in LA, CA
1359	W1WCE/imo	579/559	21.054	Cape Cod Marine Radio Stn
1422	km1cc		21.040	
1422	K5PRK/50	579/559		

The Buddi-Stick-Pro was working, showed good SWR across the band, at 21.05 1:1 and at 21.285 1.3:1.



ERNE WAVER YOUTH PARK

19473 Youth Drive. Brooksville, FL

April 29, 2023

Arrived at the park at 8:15AM,

Attending:

Ron, N9EE with IC705, T1 tuner and 20m End Fed Wire at 20/6ft.

Rich, KI2X with IC7400 and homebrew vertical

LOG:

Ron, N9EE IC705, 20m End Fed Wire at 20ft/6ft.



TIME	CALL	RST	FREQ	COMMENT
0922	KB3RCO	539/439	14.061	PA
0926	KW4FM	569/?	14.061	
1025	K2LT	439/449	14.058	POTA, NY
1030	WI5D	569/559	18.088	POTA, MO
1058	KB8IE	549/559	14.061	
1101	W9AV	569/579	14.061	WI
1104	WA4RCW	569/339	14.061	TN
1106	N2IGW	569/559	14.061	NY
1107	K9IS	569/559	14.061	WI
1121	N5JST	539/559	14.061	OK
1124	WA1SKQ	559/429	14.061	RI
1128	N0HR	549/539	14.060	IA
1137	KT7RL	579/599	14.045	POTA

Was very nice day in Florida, temps in lower 80s, sunny.



NAQCC DOWNEAST MAINE CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Downeast Maine Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Jeff, KA1DBE.

The chapter is located in the Hancock and Washington counties area of Maine.

On the 22nd of April, The Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association hosted a Ham Radio Symposium. The symposium and its format are the brainchild of Phil, N1EP #8954.

I first learned about Phil's symposium when I was still living in Virginia Beach, VA. After moving back to Maine, I was happy to take part in it. This was my 2nd and I believe that it was the 4th event.



John, KQ1P (#3113) gave a presentation on QRP operations.



Phil N1EP #8954

John is no stranger to QRP. He has accomplished many things and the one that really stands out to me is completing DXCC with 1 watt or less.



During John's presentation, he introduces the room to his "Antenna Bucket."



This bucket holds his grab and go antennas and launcher. After showing us his first rendition of his launch system, his wife's old nylon and beans, he showed us the "MK II" version which is a larger rope version. The interesting takeaway that I had was John's use of electric fence rope for his end-fed and dipole antennas. The rope has enough aluminum interwoven into it that if the line parts, or if the radiator is too short, you can tie it back together or tie a longer piece on and it will couple with the original element. What a time saver out in the field!

John also brought his portable set up which is a mix of homebrew and commercial gear.

The older classic boxes in the photo belong to yours truly. John's whole set-up would have probably fit in one of them HIHI!

The event was well attended by hams in and out of the area. They had a lot of questions for John after his presentation. The enthusiasm was high in the room so I hope that he planted a few QRP seeds among them.



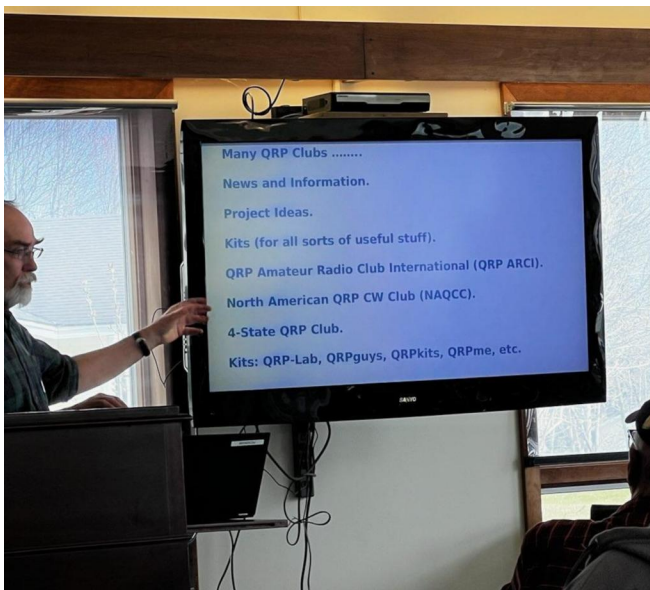
In case you were wondering, my presentation was on Satellite Communications.



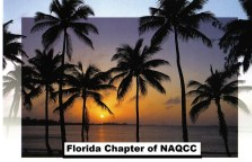
I was not very QRP that day but maybe next time I will demonstrate working linear birds with a couple of FT-817s!

73/72

Jeff, KA1DBE #1570



NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Nikki, KM4SBQ.

The Florida Chapter website is <http://wb4omm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter>.

NAQCC ILLOWA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Illowa Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Tim, N9BIL.

The Illowa Chapter operates in the "Quad Cities" area of Davenport, IA / Moline, IL.

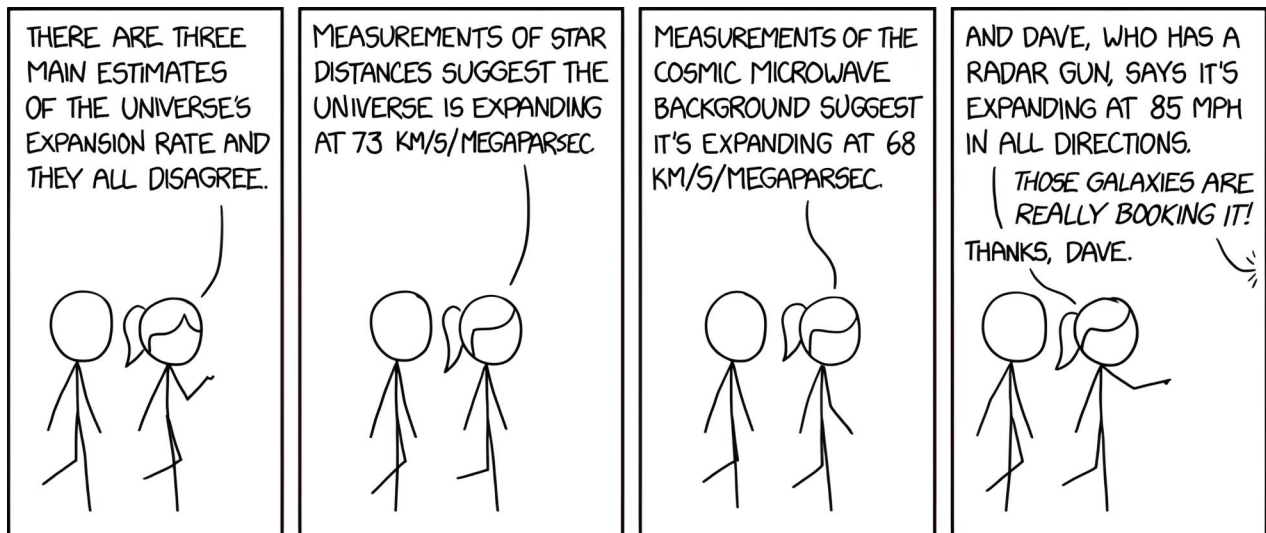
The Illowa Chapter website is at <https://sites.google.com/site/naqccillowa2/>.

NAQCC GREEN SWAMP WCF



Items in this section are from the Green Swamp WCF Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Gary N3OS.

The chapter's website is <https://www.zaarc.org>.



NAQCC PRIZE SPONSORS



Fun and affordable kits from Pacific Antenna






Tracer Injector Tenna Dipper II

Micro Attenuator Mini SWR Indicator

See our selection of quality kits starting at \$5
www.qrpkits.com



NAQCC CLUB INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Amateur radio has something for everyone. For a growing number of folks, the challenge of "doing the most with the least" makes QRP (and QRPp) CW operating the greatest thrill available in amateur radio. The North American QRP CW Club Inc. exists to promote and pursue designing, information sharing, building, and operation of low power, Morse Code enabled Amateur Radio (FCC Part 97) equipment with simple wire antennas for both emergency and personal communications purposes, an exciting facet of the hobby.

The NAQCC provides numerous opportunities for hams to operate in QRP/CW activities. For contest types we have a popular monthly 2-hour sprint that runs at relatively low CW speeds and at a fairly relaxed pace to increase code skills and experiment with different antennas. Three special sprints also take place during the year for 160-meter and QRPp (less than 1W of power) operators. For a month-long activity we offer our members a Monthly Challenge that can be anything from forming a list of words from the calls of stations worked, to making a prescribed number of contacts using home-brew gear. There is also an extensive awards program to recognize the significant QRP/CW accomplishments of our members.

We also serve as a resource for people who are just getting started in QRP and/or CW, sharing information on low power Morse operations. Our slow-speed CW nets are a great place for beginners to practice Morse code under real on-air conditions. Beginners will also find a wealth of helpful information on these web pages and we are more than willing to answer any questions about QRP, CW, and simple wire antennas that you might have. An extensive monthly newsletter is filled with useful projects and news from fellow QRPers.

A number of local NAQCC Chapters offer opportunities to get together for in person socializing and QRP/CW activities. Portable operations are especially popular with the local chapters.

Whether you are a veteran ham radio operator who is looking for a new challenge in the hobby, or a beginner who is intrigued by the possibilities of QRP/CW communication, we cordially invite you to join us. Membership is free and the benefits and fun are significant.

REPRINT POLICY

Unless otherwise stated in the article, local clubs and other ham radio organizations are free to reprint featured articles from this newsletter, provided appropriate credit is given to the North American QRP CW Club and the author of the article. If at all possible a link to the club website at <http://www.naqcc.info/> should be included.

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The North American QRP CW Club Inc., is organized exclusively for scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code to advance, promote, and pursue designing, information sharing, building, and operation of low power, Morse Code enabled Amateur Radio (FCC Part 97) equipment with simple wire antennas for both emergency and personal communications purposes. No dues or membership fees - open to any licensed radio amateur or shortwave listener (SWL) worldwide with interest in CW/QRP operation. Encouraging the use of CW and helping all hams increase CW speed and proficiency is a top club priority. Club activities are dedicated to QRP/QRPp operation, using CW and emphasize using simple wire antennas.

The North American QRP CW Club was founded in 2004 by WY3H and K3WWP and now has over 9500 members world wide. Membership is free and anyone interested in CW/QRP operating is welcome. Complete information about the NAQCC, including a membership application, activities schedule, and useful resources, can be found on our website at <http://www.naqcc.info>.

Inquires can be sent to:

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