

NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 236 FEBRUARY 2018



KEY CLICKS

- **THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER WILL BE DELAYED.** Due to some personal travel plans, next month's issue of this newsletter will be delayed about a week and a half. Look for it around the 15th of March.
- **WI5H IS THE 2017 PARTICIPATION AWARD WINNER.** Four members, K1IEE, K3WWP, KJ4R, and WI5H, earned perfect scores for our Participation Award by participating in at least one sprint and one challenge each month (24 total). Two of these people were previous winners of the award and were not eligible for the prize. A coin flip was then used to determine the 2017 winner - WI5H. For Mike's prize he will receive a 1-year extension to his FISTS membership, donated by [North American FISTS](#).
- **14TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN THE WORKS.** The plans are already being made for our 14th anniversary celebration this October and you don't want to be left out! There will be a great prize drawing connected with our special sprint that month and, as in previous years, there is a throughout-the-year participation eligibility requirement for the top-tier of prizes. You can see those requirements, along with the kinds of prizes that we will be giving away by looking at last year's prize drawing page at http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_13th_anniv.html.
- **SPECIAL SURVEY QUESTION.** Each month Jerry, VE6CPP, posts an interesting survey question on our club website. This month the results of the survey will be used to help plan future NAQCC activities. So please go to http://www.naqcc.info/poll_new.html and give us your feedback.
- **CROSS-CHECKING PROCESS EXTENDING TO SPECIAL SPRINTS.** Starting with our QRPp sprint in June we are adding log cross-checking to all of our special sprints just the same as we have always done for our regular sprints. We believe that the cross-checking of logs is an important part of our sprints enabling us to be completely fair with all of our participants and enhancing the credibility and integrity of our program. Please take a look at the item from W2SH in the *Member Submissions* section of this newsletter to see his experience with our cross-checking system.

IN THIS ISSUE

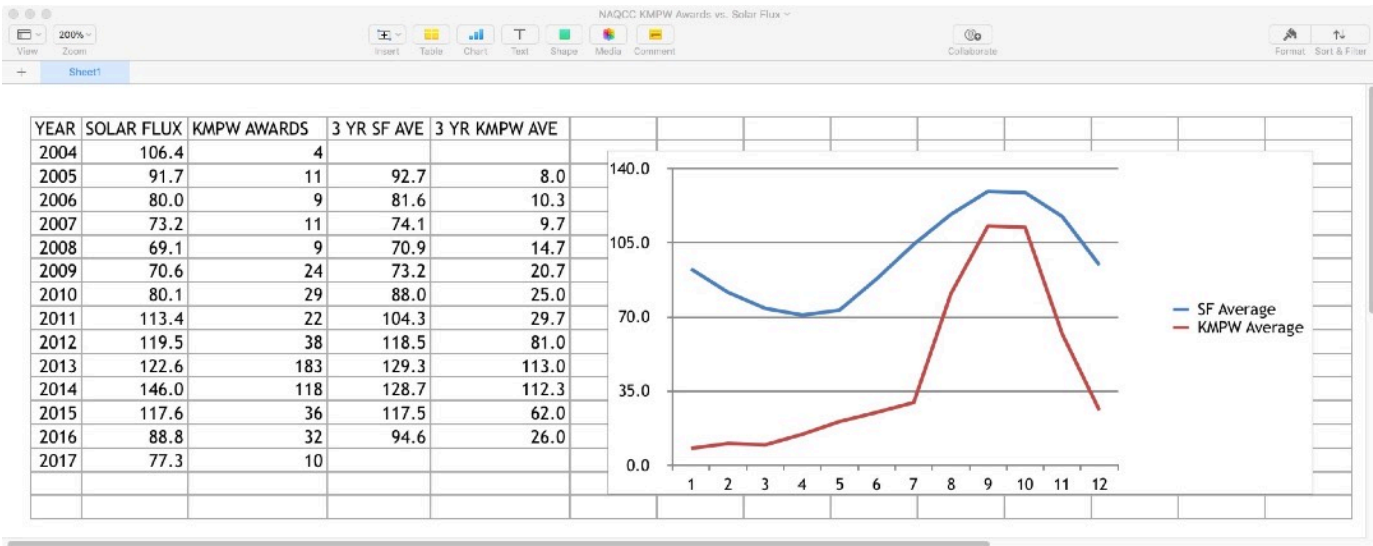
Key Clicks	1
Where Have All The Sunspots Gone?	3
Autologger After Report	4
Station Power from the Sun	5
Member Spotlight	6
Sprints	10
Challenges	14
Awards	16
CW Nets	17
Ham Quips	20
Chapter News	21
Member Submissions	38
About The NAQCC	43
Contacts	44

- **THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!** A big “THANK YOU” goes out to everyone who has made a recent donation to the NAQCC treasury. The NAQCC has no membership dues and we depend on your generous donations to cover our operating expenses. If others would like to help out with a donation there are two ways that you can do it. The first way is to use *PayPal* to electronically send your contribution to Club Vice President John, N8ZYA, using the email found on the last page of this newsletter. To avoid any additional fees please be sure to check the box that says “*I’m sending money to family or friends.*” Also please add a note indicating that this is a donation to the NAQCC and include your call sign. The second way to make a donation is to mail a check or money order made out to *The North American QRP CW Club* and send it to *John Smithson, 1529 Virginia St E, Charleston, WV 25311*. Assuming that we have your correct email address on file, your contribution will be acknowledged by email with a carbon copy sent to a second club officer as a “check and balance.”



WHERE HAVE ALL THE SUNSPOTS GONE? - BY PAUL, N8XMS

I know that I am dating myself by basing the title of this little article on an old Peter, Paul, and Mary song, but the tune has been running around in my head ever since I received an interesting email from statistics guru John, K3WWP. John compared what is often called the “smoothed average” (the average of the year before, the current year, and the year following) of the number of 1000 Miles Per Watt Awards that we have given out to the smoothed solar flux average. His results are shown below.



The text in my screen shot is a little bit fuzzy but the message given in the graph is perfectly “readable!” The blue curve shows the solar flux average over the past 12 years and the red curve shows the corresponding average for our KMPW awards. Do you think that there might be a “little bit” of a correlation?!?!

Of course this is not a surprise to anyone who has participated in our recent sprints where reported conditions from all over the country have been absolutely horrible. But I tend to be a “glass half full” kind of person and will remind all of us that even during these difficult times QRP/CW still works and NAQCC members are still making QSOs and having FUN!

With apologies to Judy Garland, another even older tune comes to mind:

*Somewhere over the rainbow way up high
 There's some flux that I heard of once in a lullaby.
 Somewhere over the rainbow skies are blue
 And the Q's that you dream of really do come true.*

Hang in there! It will get better!



AUTOLOGGER REPORT - BY PAUL, N8XMS

The maiden voyage for our new sprint Autologger webpage was a tremendous success! That's not to say that there weren't a few (very minor) "bumps in the road", but overall it did exactly what it was designed to do - improve the accuracy of submitted logs and make it easier to fix the common mistakes that so frequently sneak their way into our submissions. The improved accuracy then had a very direct impact on our cross-checking process which proceeded very smoothly, saving our processor a great deal of time and making a massive dose of Tylenol completely unnecessary.

For our January sprint 72% of the 105 submissions were completely error free. The remaining 30 logs had one or more mistakes in them that were automatically flagged by the Autologger. Sixteen of these logs were then fixed by the member with a single re-submission by following the error message given by the Autologger. Two or more retries were needed by the other 14 to get everything correct. But the point is that ultimately everyone was able to get a correctly formatted sprint log turned in for processing.

The kinds of errors caught by the Autologger range from fairly major issues like missing or incorrect log fields and incorrect point values for QSOs, down to "little" things like a typo in an email address or having non-ASCII characters in the antenna description. These are all things that can be easily corrected by the submitter but that would be a real pain-in-the-neck for our log processors to deal with.

Several members offered suggestions for improvements to the Autologger and we certainly appreciate all of the well thought out comments. You can expect to see some of your ideas included in future versions. One of the biggest issues for some people involved the length of log lines. Apparently some logging programs add a significant number of spaces between log fields and these spaces caused the pasted log lines to wrap to a second line in the Autologger window. (Technically speaking the Autologger only requires a single space between fields, and columns do not have to line-up.) The wrapped log lines do not actually cause any problems for Autologger processing but they do "look funny" to our human eyes and we are going to try to do something about that in the near future.

This new Autologger is a work in progress and is part of a much larger project involving our sprints, challenges, and member database structure, that is being headed up by Andy, N2CN. As time goes by you can expect to see additional changes, and new features will appear. You can read about some of the goals that we have for the project in the article that appeared in the [January newsletter](#). We appreciate your questions and comments and thank you in advance for your patience as these things are developed.



SUN POWER

BY BOB, K3CKO

Are you paying your local utility company for the privilege of operating your Ham Radio Station? What happens when the winter storm knocks out your power for hours? Does your 12 ampere hour gel cell for QRP go dead when you miles from the nearest utility? Why not plug into the sun?

I have a half acre plot located across the road down by the river. We do a lot of gardening and have a orchard on this lot. There is no AC power available so in 2003 I mounted a 15 watt Coleman Solar panel on the side of my tool shed and set up the charge controller to charge a Deep cycle Marine battery inside the shed. I then wired 12 volt lights in the shed and one over the outside door. I connected my Ten-Tec Omni D to the battery and run up a center fed 40 meter Zepp and had a fun evening. It worked so well I tried again the next evening. The small dome light from a camper and the 100 watt rig worked just fine for the four hours I could operate. The solar cell had it topped off and ready to go the next evening.

My Garden experiment worked so well that a few years later I mounted the Coleman panel on the roof of my ham shack and the battery under the operating bench. It still powers my modern Ten-Tec Eagle any time I have sunshine, even in winter. There are a few times when I have to switch onto the AC power supply.

Last year I started playing with QRP. I have built 3 QRP Kits now and have operated several times in the National Parks On The Air and other portable sites. For power I use two 12 Ampere hour gel cells one of which I keep connected to a 12 volt solar panel while I am operating with the other one. This works well as long as I don't try running contests.

To solve the contest problem I purchased a 20 watt polycarbonate solar Panel from my favorite Electronics warehouse (Amazon). I set up this panel with an Allpowers 2 amp charge controller and mounted it along with a Deep Cycle Marine Battery onto a two wheel dolly. I can pull this setup anywhere I want and set it to face the Sun path. The optimum is tilted 30 degrees up from the ground and facing South. Last Sunday I operated The Adventure Radio Society's 2017 Flight of the Bumblebees contest in my old garden shack down by the river.

Remember to service your batteries. Deep cycle Marine batteries need to have water added a couple times a year.

Bob K3CKO

Pictures of Bob's setups can be seen on the next page. - Editor



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.

TOM GLADIS, AB8RL, #8386



This year 2018, I will celebrate my 50th year in amateur radio. I was licensed in 1968 under the call sign WN3KQA at the age of 14. Originally from Aliquippa, PA, I passed the general license in 1969, becoming WA3KQA, a call I held for many years. Back then to upgrade, meant a trip into Pittsburgh to be tested by the FCC at the Federal Building. The FCC came to Pittsburgh every three months. Once you were told you passed, you had to wait for the new license to arrive in the mail. The wait period was usually between 6-8 weeks until the new ticket arrived.

My first station back in 1968 was Knight Kit T-60 transmitter, a Drake R-4A receiver and a 40-meter dipole antenna. The Drake receiver was top of the line at the time. My dad who also was a ham, WA3APD (sk 2010), won the Drake R-4A as first prize at the Warren Hamfest, Warren OH in 1967. As a novice, CW was the primary mode but 2-meter AM was allowed as well. The 2-meter station consisted of an Ameco TX-62 transmitter, the Drake R-4A with an Ameco 2-meter nuvistor converter to an 8-element beam on a tower up 40 feet. On 2-meters you would call CQ and tune the band for a response. Back then, activity was plentiful and it was fun to work openings into Canada, New York and Michigan.

Popular Electronics magazine always did a brief novice profile each month. A picture of my novice station and brief description appeared in the August 1969 magazine, page 104. It can still be found on-line today.

I was featured in a February 1970 QST article, titled "A Long-Delayed Echo AR" on page 30. I had been in QSO with WB6VKV on September 22, 1969. It was discovered our signals went out into outer

space and back. We could hear our transmission on our receiver come back many seconds after the end of the transmission. The echoes were studied in detail by O.G. Villard W6QYT of the Radio Science Laboratory at Stanford University. The time-delayed transmissions were like from the movie "Frequency" (but not nearly as long)!

My father and I had the fun of building Heathkit's in the 60's and 70's. Heathkit was about the only affordable equipment for most hams at the time. I can still remember the smell of solder as my father put together an HR-10 receiver. I couldn't wait for a radio to be completed to see if it would work. I still have an original SB-200 amplifier and a HW-2036 synthesized 2-meter transceiver that we built. Both still work to this day.

I am one of the original TEN-TEN NET members with #1401. My 10-10 certificate was issued 10-1-70. The certificate has the crossed American flag and California Republic flag on top of it. Very few of these certificates were issued before the flags were replaced with 10-10 International. I attended Penn State University from 1972-76. I was a member of the Penn State Amateur Radio club K3CR. The equipment at K3CR was a Collins S-line with an SB-220 amplifier. Virge Neilly was trustee for the organization at the time.

In 1985, I moved to Scott Depot, WV due to a job transfer. I worked for over 32 years for Airborne Express / DHL and still remain in transportation today.

On March 18, 2000, I upgraded from Advanced class to Extra class at the Charleston WV hamfest. My CW skills were very good and have continued to get better over the years. I successfully had to pass a 20 WPM CW test in order to earn the Extra license that year. A month later the 20 wpm Extra code element was reduced to 5 wpm. I earned the Extra license the old fashioned way. I decided at that time to upgrade my license to obtain a new call sign assigned to the 8th call district and was assigned AB8RL.

I became interested in QRP back in the 70's. I built a transmitter out of Popular Electronics using a 5673 single tube – crystal controlled. Output was about 5 watts and it worked! Making a contact with lower power was fun. The 40-meter band coil was wound on a plastic prescription bottle.

My most memorable Amateur contacts were with the International Space Station NA1SS.

I was introduced to NAQCC through John N8ZYA, Vice-President of NAQCC who would always set up a table at the Charleston WV hamfest. In addition to John, WV8DH was another active NAQCC member who got my interest in NAQCC. I was impressed with the NAQCC website and its primary interest to foster Amateur radio via CW and low power. In addition, how do you beat free?

I try to participate in monthly sprints whenever I can. When I do, I admit that I pound hard for two solid hours with no breaks. I try to make as many contacts as I can. I've been fortunate to place #1 several times in the 8th district hand key category. During NAQCC Sprints, I only use a hand key. My hand key is still my original Speed-x key I used as a novice starting in 1968. That key has been used for 50 years.

My only QRP radio is a Youkits HB1B which I find to be a quality 4-band transceiver that works very well. I bought it at Dayton several years ago. I am impressed with the excellent receiver and an internal battery that has excellent life before needing charging.

My primary station today is an Elecraft K3S with the matching KPA500 amplifier. The K3S is a super radio for pulling out weak signals. It has outstanding filtering. On most Sprints, I use the K3S backed down to 5 watts. The excellent receiver is needed for weak signal QRP work.

Once in a while I will fire up a vintage Drake TR4CWRT transceiver. It is amazing the quality SSB and CW reception the old Drake radios had in comparison to today's modern solid state radios. I can A/B switch the old with new and receive some of the weakest DX signals on both.

Two items in recent years have further sparked by interest in ham radio. The first is an effective logging program which I found using Logger32. The second was putting up effective antennas that work. A few years ago, with the assistance of local hams W8TN and K8RRT, a DX Engineering 40/30 vertical was installed above ground with two above-ground radials each for 40 and 30 meters. The antenna has out preformed anything I ever used. I have worked the rarest of DX on 40 and 30 meters.

The future of Amateur Radio QRP operations is bright. More radios are available than ever before with more coming out every day. QRP radios may just be the hottest amateur radio item in the hobby today.

In addition to being a member of the NAQCC and ARRL, I am the Treasurer of West Virginia Amateur Radio and also a member of the West Virginia DX Association.

I hope to work many NAQCC members in the future months ahead.



NAQCC SPRINTS

CURRENT MONTH'S SPRINT: Our sprint this month will be on Feb 14, 0130-0330 UTC. That's the evening of the 13th here in North America. Complete information about the sprint can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201802.html>.

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.

LAST MONTH'S SPRINT RESULTS: We had two sprints in January to enjoy. First up, on the 18th was our regular monthly sprint. Although the poor conditions that have plagued us for the past several months continued, we did manage to have just over 100 log submissions. This was also the first sprint that used our new Autologger page which turned out to be very successful. You can read more about that elsewhere in this newsletter. On the 24th we had our annual 160-meter sprint where 42 participants submitted reports. Complete sprint results, including some great soapbox comments, can be seen at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201801.html> and http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201801_160.html and high scores can be seen in the tables on the next two pages pages.

We would especially like to welcome our first-time sprint loggers and hope that they will return to participate often: AA6OC K8KUF KQ4MM VE9VIC W4LAS

CONTINUING SPRINT UPDATES: Our new Autologger page and cross-checking process went very well and we thank all of you for your efforts at getting those perfectly formatted logs submitted. We will continue to tweak the system and add new features to it and right now we want to announce that **starting with our QRPp sprint in June we will include log cross-checking for all of our special sprints** in addition to what we are already doing for our regular sprints.

PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY: Remember that participating in a combination of sprints and challenges will make you eligible for the top-tier prizes in our anniversary drawing in October. Eligibility details can be seen on the page for last year's drawing at http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_13th_anniv.html.

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KN1H		
W2	W2SH	W2JEK	
W3	KD3CA	AC2C	
W4	K4JPN	W4OEP	WD4OHD
W5	N5GW		
W6	A16SL		
W7	KC7DM		
W8	AB8RL	WV8DH	
W9	WB9HFK	KD9VT	
W0	AA0W	N8LA	
VE	VE3DQN		
DX			

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	K1IX		
W2			
W3	K3WWP		
W4	KJ4R		
W5	W5ODS		
W6			
W7	N7QR		
W8	W8AIM		
W9			
W0	KD0V		
VE			
DX			

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	N2CN	N1JI	
W2	K2YGM		
W3	W3PNM		
W4	KB9ILT	KI4WFJ	N4MJ
W5	W5WIL		
W6			
W7	N7YY		
W8	W8RTJ		
W9	K9JWI		
W0	NO2D		
VE	VE7YU		
DX			

GAIN CATEGORY			
KEY==>	SK	BUG	K/K
			NN9K

FIRST TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE			
KEY==>	SK	BUG	K/K
	KQ4MM		W4LAS
PRIZE DRAWING WINNER			
KC1DVT			

160-M SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	WB1GYZ		
W2	W2SH		
W3	AH6AX		
W4	WG8Y		
W5	N5GW		
W6			
W7	KC7DM		
W8	K8ZAA		
W9	KD9VT	WB9HFK	
W0	N0AR		
VE	VE3FUJ		
DX			

160-M SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1			
W2			
W3	K3WWP		
W4	W4EDN		
W5	NF5U		
W6			
W7			
W8			
W9			
W0			
VE			
DX			

160-M SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	K1WHS		
W2	WA1GWH		
W3			
W4	KB9ILT		
W5	W5WIL		
W6			
W7			
W8			
W9	K9FO		
W0			
VE			
DX			

160-M GAIN CATEGORY			
KEY==>	SK	BUG	K/K

160-M PRIZE DRAWING WINNER
K3WWP

	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	105	99	217	4/17
Participants	135	136	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1058	817	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	633	514	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	425	303	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	0	42	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	110	517	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	948	258	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	10.1	8.3	19.3	9/11

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+	NU7T(SK) NA4O N8BB AA9L WD0K K6MGO KB8FE KQ1P KA9FQG NQ2W WY3H AA7CU N8QY K9OSC KB0ETU K6CSL K9EYT N5GW AK3X K2YGM KC2EGL VE5BCS(SK) N8LA KN1H K4ORD KF7WNS
75+	K1IEE K4NVJ N4FI KD0V WA2JSG KB3AAG(SK) W4DUK WB8ENE VE3FUJ KE5YUM K4KRW N2ESE WX4RM NO2D WA8SAN N0TA WG8Y
100+	WB8LZG N8XMS K4BAI KU4A KD2MX NF8M K4JPN K3RLL
125+	W2JEK W9CC W2SH
150+	KA2KGP K3WWP



NAQCC CHALLENGES

CURRENT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: Our February challenge is an alphabet challenge with words that are all related to the history of rotary encryption machines. Many of you are probably like me and are very interested in this subject. (I actually use to include a unit on cryptography in some of the math classes that I taught.) You can find the complete list of words and some very interesting information about this subject at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201801.html>.

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: Our challenge in March will focus on the 30-meter band with a special miles/watt challenge variation for that specific band. Details can be found at <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201803.html>.

Complete information about our challenges including a helpful tutorial on how to organize your work for an alphabet challenge can be found at <http://naqcc.info/challenges.html>. Detailed general rules for our challenges can be found at http://naqcc.info/challenges_rules.html.

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGE: The deadline for submitting entries for the January "What Day Is It" challenge is still a few days away but you can go to <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201801.html> to see what has been posted so far, and the final results will also be posted there shortly after the 10th of the month.

PARTICIPATION ELIGIBILITY: Remember that participating in a combination of sprints and challenges will make you eligible for the top-tier prizes in our anniversary drawing in October. Eligibility details can be seen on the page for last year's drawing at http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_13th_anniv.html.

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://www.naqcc.info/challenges_schedule.html.

NUMBER OF CHALLENGES	MEMBERS
25+	NF1U WI5H KU4A K9OSC KD0V PA0XAW WY3H N1JI VE3HUR N9SE N1LU KD2MX WA2FBN
50+	VE3FUJ NU7T(SK)
75+	K1YAN K1IEE
100+	W2JEK N8XMS
125+	
150+	K3WWP



NAQCC AWARDS

We have an extensive list of awards that you can earn. Complete details can be found at <http://naqcc.info/awards.html>.

FEATURED AWARD: SUFFIX WORDS AWARD

This month we would like to talk about an award that many of you probably already qualify for - the Suffix Words Award. The idea of this award is simple, just use QRP and CW (duh) to work stations with call signs that spell out words with the letters that are after the number (the suffix). For example K9**IT**, KB5**FOG**, or W1**MOO**. (All of the letters in the suffix must be used - W5ISX would not give the word "IS.") To remove any debate about whether or not something is a real word we use the official list of 2 and 3 letter words from the National Scrabble Association. Collecting 50 such call signs will earn you a certificate. You can find the complete details about this award, along with the list of accepted words, at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_words.html.

RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS:

2017 Participation Award

W1	K1IEE	36	01/16/18
W2	W2JEK	34	01/16/18
W3	K3WWP	36	01/16/18
W4	KJ4R	36	01/16/18
W5	WI5H	36	01/16/18
W6	K6MGO	8	01/16/18
W7	KF7WNS	16	01/16/18
W8	N8XMS	34	01/16/18
W9	N9SE	34	01/16/18
W0	K9OSC	15	01/16/18
VE	VE3DQN	19	01/16/18
DX	PA0XAW	17	01/16/18

There was a 4-way tie for maximum participation points - K1IEE, K3WWP, KJ4R, and WI5H. K1IEE and K3WWP are previous winners and were not eligible for the FISTS membership prize. A random drawing selected WI5H as the 2017 Participation Award winner.

Friendship Club - 800 pt endorsement

0018 - W4DUK 356 01/18/18

1000 MPW Award

0535 DF1DV RN9T 1,356 01/16/18 1/4 Wave GP

30-30 Award

0041 - G3JFS Jan 2018 01/29/18 all DX Contacts

DXCC Award - Band endorsement

0001 - K3WWP 01/31/18 40m



NAQCC QRS/QRQ 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 Wayne, NQ0RP.

NAQCC NET SCHEDULE

Net	Local Time	UTC	Freq +/-	Primary NCS
FarnsWord 40 m QRQ Round Table Net (FRN)	Sunday 4:00 PM PT	Monday 0000 Z	7056 KHz	Rick, N6IET (in CA)
FarnsWord 80 m QRQ Round Table Net (FRN)	Sunday 7:30 PM PT	Monday 0330 Z	3556 KHz	Rick, N6IET (in CA)
FarnsWord 60 m QRQ Net (53N)	Sun & Thurs 5:00 PM PT	Mon & Fri 0100 Z	5348 KHz (Ch 2)	JB, NR5NN (in CA)
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7 PM CT	Tuesday 0100 Z	3565 KHz	Allen, KA5TJS (in TX)
Midwest Net QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 PM CT	Tuesday 0130 Z	7061 KHz	Bob, W0CC (in KS)
Rocky Mtn Regional/Continental 20/40 QRS Nets (RMRc)	Tues & Thurs 4:00/4:30 PM MT	Tues & Thurs 2300/2330 Z	14060/7062.5 KHz	Dale, WC7S (in WY)
West Virginia QRS Net (WVN)	Wednesday 9 PM ET	Thursday 0200 Z	3556 KHz	John, N8ZYA (in WV)
Pacific Northwest 80 m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 5 PM PT	Friday 0100 Z	3556.5 KHz	Stewart, KE7LKW (in WA)

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.

I should like to acknowledge Bob Tenny's (W0CC) continued efforts to keep on 40m albeit with limited success. Since he took over the band has been nothing but uncooperative. Bob, Very many thanks for your continued effort, it is really very much appreciated. - Wayne, NQ0RP

NET CONTROL STATION REPORTS

NAQCC FarnsWord 40 and 80 Meter QRQ Round Table Nets (FRN)

Sunday evenings 4:00 PM PT, which is Monday 0000 UTC on 7056 kHz +/-

Sunday evenings 7:30 PM PT, which is Monday 0330 UTC on 3556 kHz +/-

Main NCS - Rick N6IET (California); Backup NCS - JB NR5NN (California)

FRN/40m on 7056 kHz at 4PM PST Sunday (0000 UTC Monday)

Jan 07/08 - QNI (9) N6IET, N7HRK/m, N2FQ, K6JJR, KE6EE, KW6G, W7SAG, K6JJR, K6GVG

Jan 14/15 - QNI (6) N6IET, K6JJR, N6HRK/m, W7SAG/p K6GVG/m, KW6G

Jan 21/22 - QNI (9) N6IET, N7HRK/m, N6KIX, KW6G, AI6SL, K6GVG, W7SAG, WI6O, NR5NN

Jan 28/29 - QNI (6) N6IET, W7SAG/p, NR5NN/m, KW6G, K6GVG, N7HRK/m

FRN/80m on 7056 kHz at 7:30PM PST Sunday (0330 UTC Monday)
 Jan 07/08 - QNI (6) N6IET, KW6G, K6GVG, KE6EE, NR5NN, WB6AAJ
 Jan 14/15 - QNI (7) N6IET, KE6EE, NR5NN, N6ZI, KW6G, AI6SL, K6GVG
 Jan 21/22 - QNI (5) N6IET, KE5EE, KW6G, K6GVG, K7KY
 Jan 28/29 - QNI (7) N6IET, AI6U, AI6SL, W7SAG, KW6G, KE6EE, K6GVG

72/73/77,
 Rick N6IET

=====

NAQCC FarnsWord 53 QRQ Net (53N)

5332 kHz (Ch 1) Sunday 5:00 PM PST, which is Monday 0100 UTC
 NCS(s) - JB NR5NN (CA); Rick N6IET (CA); John W7SAG (WA);

53N/60m on 5348 kHz at 5PM PST Sunday (0100 UTC Monday)
 Jan 14/15 - QNI (10) NR5NN, N6KIX, N6IET, AI6SL, K6JJR, K6GVG, KE6EE, N6ZI, AI6XN, WB6PGJ
 Jan 21/22 - QNI (5) NR5NN, N6IET, W7SAG/p, K6GVG, AI6SL
 Jan 28/29 - QNI (8) NR5NN, N6IET, K6GVG, AI6SL, W7SAG/p N6ZI, KE6EE, K6JJR

72/73/77,
 Rick N6IET

=====

NAQCC East Texas QRS Net (ETN)

Monday evenings 7:00 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC, on 3561 kHz +/-
 Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

1/23/17 QNI(2) NCS KA5TJS N5DRG
 Well Danny was trying out a new 80 meter antenna and QRP. He started out 599 but the QSB got us. The antenna seems to work great when the band is there. He was using his FT-817 at 5 watts and I was at 5 watts with the IC7410. He gave me a 599 at the start as well.

1/30/17 QNI(4) NCS KA5TJS N5DRG KE5YGA KE5YUM
 Ruff one tonight. Danny and Andy checked in 599 and Terry was just above the noise. After the QSO with Danny I called Andy and did not hear him but Danny relayed and when he came back he was down in the noise. I got no response from Terry. The band is changing just as we call the net this time of year. I will be glade when we can go back to 40 meters when it shortens up this spring!

Allen KA5TJS

=====

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS Net (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC, on 7061 kHz +/-
 Main NCS - Bob Tenny W0CC (Kansas)

2018/01/01 QNI (1) W0CC
 Happy New Year! Not much activity at this end of the band. Several DX stations at the low end.

2018/01/08 QNI (1) W0CC
 Heard a couple of stations close to the MWN frequency of 7.061 in QSOs with other stations; but, none "migrated" to the MWN frequency. Tried to call several stations without success. The bands will be better next week!

2018/01/15 QNI (1) W0CC
 There may have been one faint station in the background noise; however, I was not able to pick it out. The band conditions have not been ideal; but, I was able to contact my 3rd station using less than 1 watt per 1000 miles. Anxious for next week!

2018/01/22 QNI (1) W0CC
 The bands were so bad that I could not hear a local CW net even on ground waves or W1AW on 7.0475. Looking for better bands next week!

2018/01/29 QNI (1) W0CC
 For the first 15 minutes the QSN was S-8, then it settled down. Did not hear any reply to CQ; however, here were quite a few DX stations that were weak but readable lower down in the band. Over the past weekend, was successful

in working several French stations in their REF contest using only 5 watts and a long wire in the attic. I am sure that thought will turn to radio after the Super Bowl next Sunday.

73,
Bob

NAQCC Rocky Mountain Regional/Continental QRS Nets (RMRc)

Tuesday/Thursday at 4:00 PM MST, which is Tuesday/Thursday 2300 UTC, on 14060 kHz
Tuesday/Thursday at 4:30 PM MST, which is Tuesday/Thursday 2330 UTC, on 7062.5 kHz.
Main NCS - Dale WC7S (Wyoming)

No Report

NAQCC West Virginia QRS NET (WVN)

Wednesday evenings 9:00 EST, which is Thursday 0200 UTC on 7117 kHz.
Main NCS - John N8ZYA (West Virginia)

No Report

NAQCC Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 7:00 PM PST, which is Friday 0300 UTC on 3574 kHz.
Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

2018/01/05 QNI (5) KE7LKW NCS, KG7JEB, K7JUV, AD7BP, WB4SPB.
2018/01/12 QNI (6) KE7LKW NCS, KG7JEB, N7TES, K7JUV, WB4SPB, AD7BP.
2018/01/19 QNI (5) KE7LKW NCS, W7RX, WB4SPB, AD7BP, K7JUV.
2018/01/26 QNI (5) KE7LKW NCS, W7RX, WB4SPB, AD7BP, KD7HXN.



HAM QUIPS



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.

Ham Fables

BY DICK SYLVAN W9CBT



UH-OH BOYS--THE WOLF'S HERE AGAIN AND HE SAYS HE WILL HUFF & PUFF & BLOW OUR ANTENNA DOWN IF WE DON'T CLEAR UP HIS TVI PROBLEMS IMMEDIATELY!



NAQCC CHAPTER NEWS

The North American QRP CW Club currently has seven local chapters - Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, West Florida, Central Texas, Illowa, Delmarva, and Florida - 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 Paul, N8XMS.

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 Vice President John, N8ZYA, 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 or N8XMS 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 Paul, N8XMS, to schedule the use of N3AQC.

Chapter Reports Begin On The Next Page

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Central Texas Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Danny, N5DRG.

The chapter is located in the Austin, TX area and maintains a website at <http://www.naqcc-centraltexas.net/index.html>.

Greetings!

Just a few note on what some of our fellow chapter members have been up to since our last posting.

We have been working on QRP rigs or trying to work the bands under this minimal sun spot cycle.

The weekend of January 27th Joe K5BRY set out to work the Winter Field Day, but the RF deities were not in alignment with Joes efforts , but Joe said he still have fun with the try. Kind of like Fishing!

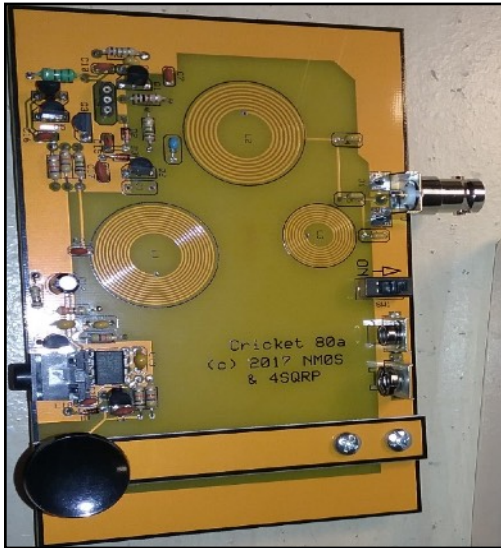


K5BRY's W.F.D. setup included the Mountain Topper QRP Radio, and Elecraft T-1 Tuner, Palm Paddle, 9 V battery, with a Goal Zero Solar panel (Not Shown) to top off the batteries. Antenna was a Buddie Pole.

Danny, N5DRG has been busy with the assembly of the Four State QRP Groups Cricket 80-A radio.

Danny had old parts on hand to put the cricket into an enclosure and add a 4 position rotary switch to be able to change crystals to be able to work some of the more common QRP frequencies in the 80 meter band.

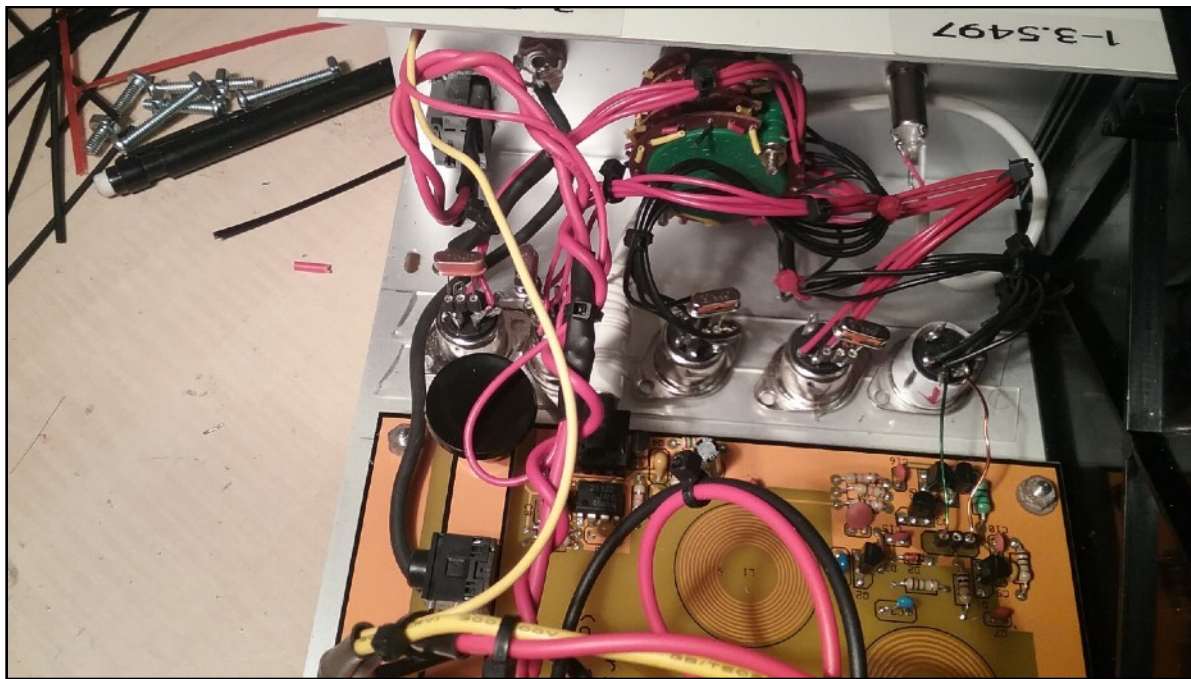
Danny did some bench tests and the Cricket was producing 800mW at the bench, and right at 600mW at the tower 150 feet way. Agrees with the dB loss for that amount on run for MR 400,



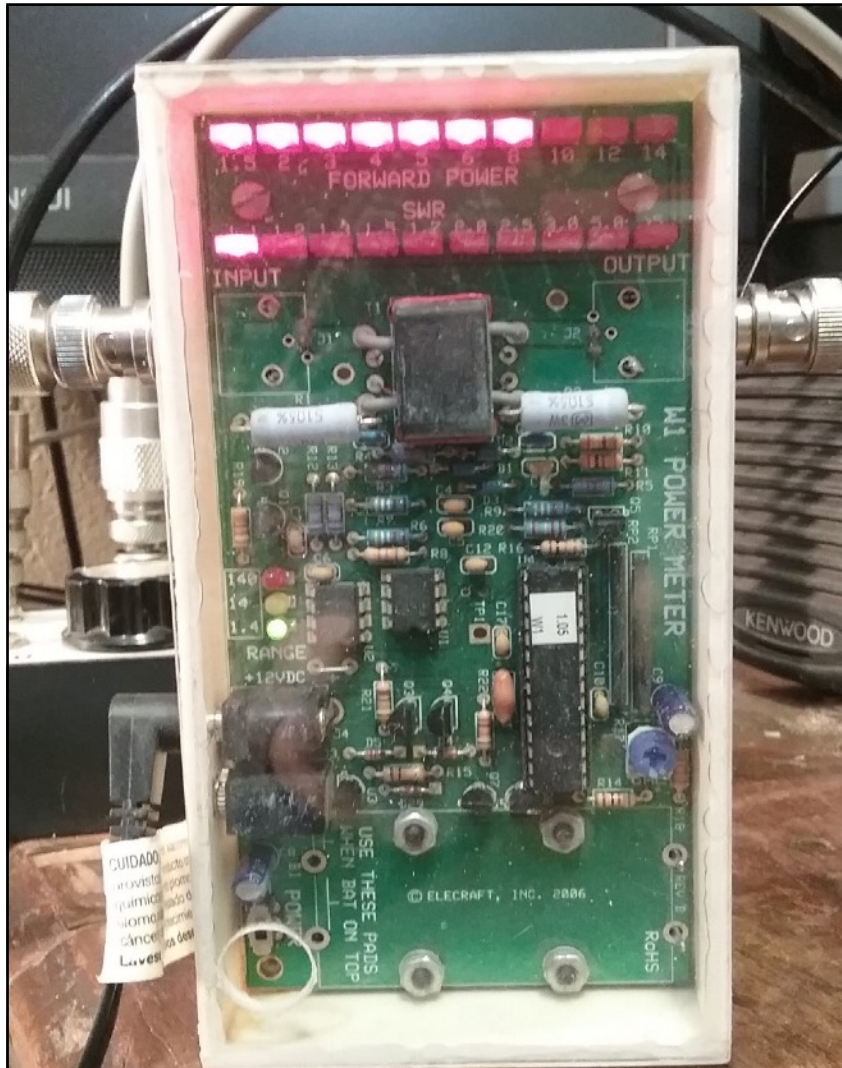
Cricket 80-A



Cricket 80-A showing Buck Converter, and wiring layout



Location of Rotary Switch and added Crystals



Elecraft W1 Wattmeter showing 800mW at the bench on a Bird Model 8080 Dry Dummy Load



Cricket 80-A Ready for the Field

Larry, WB5BEK has been working on a fellow Hams Elecraft K1 that the receiver was not working properly, and he had been too busy to try and work on this rig and asked if Larry could look into it.

After a bit of troubleshooting the receiver, which was the only portion of the kit that had been assembled, concluded that one of the NE602 double-balanced mixers was faulty, probably damaged from a static discharge event. Replaced it and got the receiver working properly.

Finished assembling the transmitter portion of the rig, but no output power. Troubleshooting this problem indicates a faulty PA transistor, and a replacement part to be delivered shortly. If this proves to be the problem, the remainder of transmitter testing and alignment should be easy to complete. Hopefully, we'll have another of our group able to run QRP again with a first rate rig.

No photos of the repair available.

This mostly sums up the goings on within our Chapter since our last Outing or posting to the newsletter

As always,

***Keep Calm
&
QRP On***

THE CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER OF THE NAQCC

DELMARVA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Delmarva Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Bill, N3IOD.

The chapter is located in the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia area.

No report available.

DOWNEAST MAINE CHAPTER

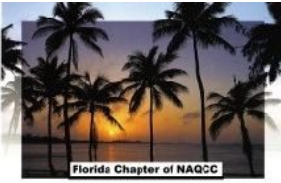


Items in this section are from the Downeast Maine Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Jeff, KA1DBE.

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

No report available.

NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Steve, WB4OMM.

The Florida Chapter website is <http://wb40mm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter>.

NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS: January 2018

THE favorite location of all Our Rotations!!



On Friday, January 26, 2018 the Florida Chapter of NAQCC returned to a local park favorite for our monthly adventure. We held our latest "Operation in the Park" at Hontoon Island State Park in DeLand, Florida. This island, located in the St. Johns River in Volusia County, welcomes visitors to enjoy nature and history in quiet solitude. The island is accessible only by private boat or park ferry. Evidence of Native American habitation over thousands of years can be witnessed as visitors hike through the park. There is an impressive visitor center to learn more about the many inhabitants and uses of Hontoon Island over the years. Boating, canoeing, and fishing are popular activities and canoe rentals are available. Picnic areas include tables, grills, and a playground. Overnight boat slip rentals are also available. The park's ferry operates daily from 8:00 a.m. to one hour before sunset. Located six miles west of DeLand off State Road 44, it's quiet (usually), serene, and not heavily populated. A great ham radio location! The Ferry is operated by a volunteer – Bob W6RWC! (in photo).

Most of us arrived between 9:00 -9:30 am (EST local). We quickly set up the equipment in the "reasonable" conditions - it was 64 degrees on arrival with no wind (later, we had a pretty stiff breeze coming off the lake, making it a bit chilly). By 9:45 am we had 5 stations on the air! (WB4OMM,

K3RLL, KG4LAL, W4DBL and AA4W). As expected, the signals were not so good, propagation still poor. But the weather was much better than the originally schedule date a week before – it was a miserable 41 degrees last week! As you can see, it was still a bit “chilly” from the wind this trip!

This trip we had a total of 9 members/operators in our group to include: Steve WB4OMM #5913; Nikki KM4SBQ #8749; Don K3RLL 1905; Wally KG4LAL #6278; John KD4JS #8019; John W2IV; Doug W4DBL; and Rick AA4W #1628. Bob W2EJG was also present and operating. Thanks to John KD4JS for taking most of the pics again!



Steve WB4OMM #5913

Elecraft KX-3, Ham-Key paddle, 5W to a Buddipole Antenna at the water's edge. Bob W2EJG ran the rig and worked 1 member in 1 state on 40M - WA8SAN Mike #792 in OH; non-members AF4YF in VA; and K3Y/2 in NY.

The WB4OMM Station – Nikki KM4SBQ, Steve WB4OMM and Bob W2EJG.



Setting up the Buddipole for the WB4OMM Station.

Takes about 15 minutes to get it 18 feet off the ground.

Nikki always helps!

The Buddipole works great! Also helps to “direct” the signal – it’s configured as a dipole, so it can rotate.

Wally KG4LAL #6278

His station – Yaesu FT-817 to am off-center fed wire. Some weak signals heard, but no Qs. No contacts on 80 meters ssb & cw, or 40

SSB. Nice day, nice group, and a lot of fun.

**Doug W4DBL**

Brought a “plethora” of equipment and “pieces parts” – he is experimenting to get organized and figure out what to bring in the future! Yaesu FT- 817 to a vertical mounted on the BBQ Grille (actually, a “firebox”).





Don K3RLL #1905

Don brought his KX-3 with a 31-foot vertical at the water's edge. He killed it! Worked EVERYBODY! (well, at least he got the "Worked All Texas or New Hampshire Award" for today!! Hi hi hi!!!)
 WI5H Mike #7128 TX;
 NF5U Jerry #0142 TX;
 KB1M Walt #8058 NH;
 KC5NX Jay #6808 TX;
 AC1Z Bob #7364 NH; and
 WI5H/QRP Mike #7128 TX

31' Jackite, stabilized and secured by KD4JS.



**View from Flight Deck of K3RLL, right into the 20 MPH wind off the cold water!
 Brrrr!**



Rick AA4W #1628

Rick used his Elecraft K-1 to a 31-foot vertical antenna - with a BIG counterpoise!

No members, but he made QSOs with 4 folks -
 W4ATL 40M in GA
 K4UYY 40M in AL
 AA3I 30M in PA
 K3Y/8 30M in OH



Here's more "Rogue's Gallery" Photos from this trip!

Don K3RLL.....must be looking for sunspots.....or maybe that bird that flew over and left him a "message"!





From L-R

Don K3RLL, John W2IV, Rick AA4W, and Wally KG4LAL

Watchin' Rick "Pack up" and flee!

(to lunch that is!)

**Wally KG4LAL
And Bob W2EJG**

**"Yes, that's
Steve's
Thermos. And it
has hot coffee in
it.**

**Sure, Help
yourself!"**

**"But how fast
can you run?"**





The Best Part of the Day.....Lunch and Yakkin'!

Many thanks to those who listened for us and helped make this another successful NAQCC-FL event!

NEXT MONTH'S SCHEDULED EVENT:

**Friday, February 16th, 2018 starting at 9:30 AM EST
Gemini Springs Park (37 Dirksen Drive, DeBary, FL 32720)**

Park webpage with directions: [DIRECTIONS TO PARK AND INFO](#)

WHO: "The Usual Suspects" – Art WB4MNK, Steve WB4OMM, Rick AA4W, Don K3RLL, Wally KG4LAL, Bob W2EJG, John KM4JTE, John KD4JS, Phil NW4X, Nikki KM4SBQ, John W2IV, Doug W4DBL (and whoever else can make it).

Visit our Web Page:

<http://wb4omm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter/>

Look for our announcement!

72/73 to all – Steve WB4OMM, #5913 - NAQCCFL@yahoo.com

NAQCC ILLOWA CHAPTER



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

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/>.

The January meeting of the Illowa group was cancelled due to an ice storm.

Our next meeting will take place at **7:00pm CT** on **Thursday, February 8th** at the Bettendorf Village Inn.

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 at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/967110089994401/>.

No report available.

NAQCC WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the West Virginia Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to John, N8ZYA.

The chapter's web site is at <http://n8zyaradioblog.blogspot.com/>.

No report available.

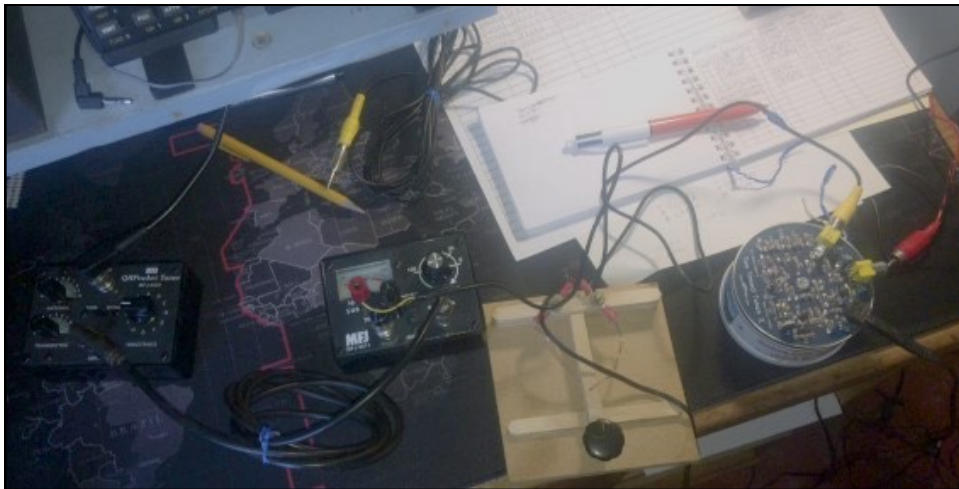
NAQCC WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Western Pennsylvania Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to John, K3WWP.

January 2018 got off to a slow start for the WPA Chapter. Of course it's really too cold and snowy to go anywhere and do anything unless you are talking about our Florida Chapters. A good month to stay home and do nothing or maybe stay home and plan our chapter events for when the weather does turn decent again, hopefully by the end of February or the beginning of March. Of course there are years like 1960 when March turned out colder than either January or February. Hopefully that won't be the case this year.

With that in mind, Mike KC2EGL and I got together on January 15 and hatched out a 2018 schedule of chapter activities. We also finally got a chance to get some semblance of order to our Tuna Tin kits we built a couple years ago. We hooked up my rig through a MFJ SWR/Power meter and a MFJ Antenna coupler to my attic random wire antenna. We connected my 7Ah gel cell for power and my popsicle stick straight key. We used my KX3 for a receiver. Here's a not so good picture of the setup. It was a Rube Goldberg setup for sure, but it did work.



We didn't make any contacts, but the tone sounded good as we monitored it on the KX3 (sans antenna). We put out between 1 and 2 watts and got a 1:1 match to my wire. When we next get together on Presidents Day, we'll get Mike's unit checked out, and also check out both of our Tuna Tin Transceivers as well. Then we'll make a more permanent setup that we can take to the field later in the year. Actually they are the Lil' Squall rigs from QRPme just to be accurate.

Mike and I again got together for our regular fourth Wednesday evening visit. We did a little more clean up work on the rigs and unsuccessfully tried to work some DX. Just so you won't think anything is wrong, yes we had our usual pizza.

Back now to our 2018 chapter schedule. We've come up with the following virtually certain activities. Also we'll fill in here and there with other things as well which will need to be planned at or near the last minute such as parkpeditions, subpeditions and the like.

February 25, 2018 - South Hills Hamfest -

March ??, 2018 - Requin subpedition -

June 2, 2018 - Butler Hamfest -

June 3, 2018 - USS Requin Museum Ships on the Air

June 23/24, 2018 - Field Day -

July 7, 2018 - Oil Creek and Titusville Railroad -

July 29, 2018 (tentative) - FOBB -

August 19, 2018 (tentative) - Skeeter Hunt -

August 26, 2018 - Skyview -

September 9, 2018 (tentative) - Unionville hamfest -

Oct 8, 2018 (tentative) - N3A Parkpedition -

Nov 4, 2018 (tentative) - Washington, PA hamfest -

Nov 21, 2018 - Requin subpedition -

December 16, 2018 - Visit to the Trolley Museum in Washington, PA -

TBD - Sky viewing session with Mike's scope at Kittanning Community Park -

Tentative means we'll be doing the event, but the organizer hadn't announced a definite date as of the time Mike and I got together.

Of course all our chapter members are invited to attend any or all events. The more the merrier as goes the saying.

One new thing this year, actually two in a way is the Museum Ships on the Air on June 3. Art from the sub is interested in getting more CW activity from the Requin in the event this year and asked Mike and me if we'd be interested in helping out. We'll find out more about that from Art when we see him in March sometime. The Butler Hamfest is that same weekend, but both events are two day affairs this year, so being committed to both, we've decided to do the hamfest on Saturday and the Requin on Sunday.



MEMBER SUBMISSIONS



This section is a forum for you to tell other members what you've been up to on the ham bands or to submit a short article dealing with some aspects of CW and QRP operation or equipment. Just about anything that would be of interest to our members would be welcomed. Send your items to our News Editor 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.

From Charles, W2SH, #0056 —

This is part of an email that was sent to Andy, N2CN. It does a good job at explaining why we have a cross-checking system for our sprints. - Editor

I've only just now gone back to view the results for this sprint. The real reason for this message to share with you my joy over, "We are cross-checking the logs and will update here before the end of week of January 22-26."

John, K3WWP, recently said that as of year-end 2017 he would cease doing the cross-checking of the sprint logs that are submitted for the regular monthly sprints (but not each year's milliWatt and 160m logs). John's words caused me a real sense of loss. His skillful cross-checking set NAQCC contesting head and shoulders above other ham radio contests. It greatly helped me improve my operating. I really hated to see it disappear.

I greatly valued John's oversight. There were more than a few times when what I and the other guy had or had not submitted didn't jibe. More often than not, I'd review my notes and see that QSB had wiped out the expected "QSL" and so I'd let stand John's decision to disallow that QSO. Other cases were such that I would politely query the other party explaining as fully as I could my side of the story. If the reply came back that the busted QSO was my fault, I'd then tell John to let his deletion stand. If however the other guy admitted having failed to report our QSO, I'd send John a copy of that reply and he'd restore the QSO to both logs.

And so Andy a big bravo to all who are involved with this happy continuation of an established tradition.

Thanks es 72,

Charles, W2SH

From Walt, KC1DVT, #8182 —

Walt won the random drawing that was held for the participants in our January sprint and chose a poker chip finger rest made from African Padouc wood by Gregg, WB8LZG, for his prize. He sent this in after receiving his prize. - Editor

Thanks for the slick Padouc chip for my key.

Walt
KC1DVT



From Mike, WI5H, #7128 —

Mike was our 2017 Participation Award winner and went this in after learning of his award. - Editor

Thanks for the award. I made an effort to participate in at least one Sprint every month and to participate in each challenge. I also try to work each one of the club "parkpedition" type outings if I can be available (and hear them). It is better if someone is out there listening when ops go to the trouble to put portable stations on the air. I hope I can keep that pace this year, but we will see.

72,

Mike WI5H
NAQCC 7128

From John, K3WWP, #0002 —

Although I did miss doing the sprint cross-checking in a way, I think that was outweighed by the time gained for other things that resulted from my final retirement after December 31, 2017.

I refer you to my web site diary at http://k3wwp.com/home_ss_diary.html for more info about the following topics.

Conditions were poor here for both January sprints. The challenge went smoothly.

Both my regular and DX streaks continued throughout another full month. One more month and the DX streak will reach the full five year mark.

There were a couple rough days for the DX streak and one interesting QSO with ZF1DM near the end of the month.

The 2018 ARRL Grid Square event has really gotten my interest to the point where I'm now going through all my almost 90,000 QSOs to see just how many GS I have worked. Of course only the ones worked this year count for the event.

A couple of good visits from Mike KC2EGL. Some described in the WPA Chapter News above. More in the diary.

I'm running a series of working DX tips in the diary.

On the last day of the month it dawned on me I never applied for my 40M endorsement to the NAQCC DXCC award, so I did so and John already emailed the certificate.

If you do visit the diary, drop me an email or sign my guestbook. Thanks.



NAQCC CLUB INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

From NAQCC President Paul Huff, N8XMS

Amateur radio has something for everyone. SSB, FM, AM, the digital modes, and QRO power levels all have their place in this great hobby and we certainly recognize the importance of these modes as well as the enjoyment that they give to many. But for a growing number of hams the challenge of *“doing the most with the least”* makes QRP (and QRPp) CW operating the greatest thrill available in amateur radio, and the North American QRP CW Club exists to promote this exciting facet of the hobby. As part of our focus we also encourage, but do not limit operators to, the use of simple wire antennas.

The NAQCC provides numerous opportunities for hams to enjoy QRP/CW operating. For contest types we have a popular monthly 2-hour sprint that runs at relatively low CW speeds and at a fairly relaxed pace. Three special sprints also take place during the year for 160-meter and QRPp 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. 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 our club website and we are more than willing to try to answer any questions about QRP and CW 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.

The North American QRP CW Club was founded in 2004 by WY3H and K3WWP and now has over 9000 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 also be sent to

Club President Paul Huff, N8XMS
9928 Eckles
Livonia, MI 48150
USA



Additional contact information can be found on the next page.

NAQCC CONTACTS		
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NAQCC Vice President West Virginia Chapter	John - N8ZYA	jspiker58@gmail.com
Delmarva Chapter	Bill - N3IOD	william.hammond@mchsi.com
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