### NORTH AMERICAN QRP CW CLUB

# NAQCC NEWS

#### • IN THIS ISSUE

Regular and 160m Sprints this month; An early warning of a Letter Challenge; Poll results; Work all Canadian Provinces for the WAVE award; Award results; Chapters hunkered down in the cold for December; Nets were active; A new series of tips for QRP CW ops; and more!

#### • CW FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED

Our friends at the Long Island CW Club have developed a CW haptic assist device, also known as the "good vibrations box." CW audio is supplemented by vibration and flashing lights. See it in action at: https://longislandcwclub.org/cw-for-the-hearing-impaired/

#### • 160m Antenna Time

Getting a good 160m antenna up is often an exercise in creativity. Do you leave one in the air all year, just for the winter, or just for the January 160m Sprint? Send us a picture and tell us how you did it!

#### • THE MAILBAG IS EMPTY!

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

Issue 295 • JANUARY 2023

#### • UPDATE YOUR MEMBER INFO

Any time you change your QTH, email, or callsign, you can update your member info with a simple online form. First, check your information at *http://naqcc.info/memberlist.php* to make sure the rest of the fields are correct and then fill out the member update form here: *http://naqcc.info/member\_updates.html* 



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# NAQCC CHALLENGE BY GARY K1YAN #2365

# THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: PAVE PAWS RADAR SYSTEM

In the Cold War era the major powers were very concerned about preemptive nuclear missile strikes. The order of the day was to keep watch and be ready to respond. Radar systems were a key component of national security. The PAVE PAWS system ( Precision Acquisition Vehicle Entry Phased Array Warning System ) provided early detection capabilities.

It was developed by the Raytheon Company and used two of their AN/FPS-115 radar sets. The faces of the circular arrays are located on a building that is about 105 feet tall and resembles an oddly shaped pyramid with a flat top.

## **Two Stations**

There is an installation at Beal AFB in California and one at Otis AFB on Cape Cod in Massachussetts. They each have the ability to scan an arc of



about 240 degrees, so together, the two units are able to view a full circle. With a claimed range in excess of 3400 miles, activity in Europe can be monitored from the east

coast. The system operates in the 420 to 450 mHz range and the array has a gain of about 38 dB. As a secondary mission, PAVE PAWS monitors orbiting satellites for the USAF space track system. Computer systems control the arrays and analyze and verify the incoming data.



#### **ELECTRONICALLY STEERED**

Unlike scanning radar systems that direct their beam with a physically moving antenna, the PAVE PAWS beam steers electronically with a phased array of small transmitters. Changing the phase between transmitters, by varying the sequence in which they transmit, alters the way their signals combine and steers the transmitted beam.

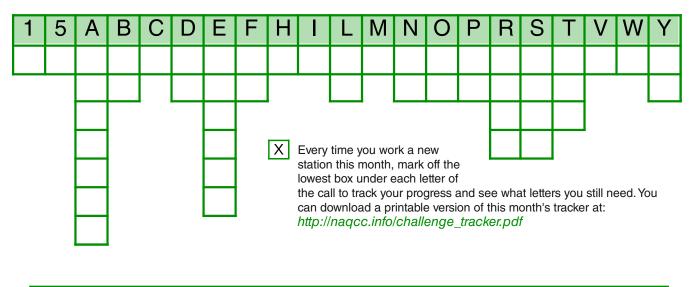
The system has over 5000 elements and a maximum power of about 600 kW. An average of about 216 kW is radiated into the search area. *Click here* to see a presentation on the PAVE PAWS system.

### Words

- PAVE PAWS RADAR SYSTEM
- RAYTHEON AN FPS 115
- PHASED ARRAY

- ELECTRONICALLY STEERED BEAM
- BEAL AFB
- OTIS AFB

## CHALLENGE TRACKER:



Entering the Challenges earns you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual aniversary 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 elligible 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's February Guinness Widget Challenge is good for your head. http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202302.html

# LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the Ponzi scheme letter challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at *http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202212.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+	KU4A N1JI K9OSC KD0V KA5PVB N4OW KB1M WY3H WY7N AC2C VE3HUR DK1VD KI4IO N1LU KD2MX NN0SS ND9M KI8I NN9K AA4NN KQ1P
50+	VE3FUJ WI5H NF1U WA2FBN AK3X W3IQ KJ4R VE3DQN G3JFS AH6AX N9SE WB4OMM
75+	PA0XAW PA9CW
100+	K1IEE
125+	K1YAN
150+	W2JEK K3WWP N8XMS

### CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**KN4OK -** This was my first monthly challenge and I had a blast. For this month I was using my LNR Mountain Topper MTR4B. It worked fantastic! The two antennas were my yagi and OCF dipole. Can't wait for the next month Challenge. Dave

**W1BLU -** POTA activations at QRP 5W helped a lot this month. But with over 100 POTA QSOs, I only could use two 'O's! Unbelievable. I really had to do some additional hunting, (which added to the fun). Oh those 'O's! hihi Great job on the challenges. I really enjoy them. 73

**ON7DQ -** Again a lot of fun finding all the stations I needed. The last 'N' was found by working SOTA activator HB9BIN, tnx Juerg!

**N8XMS** - What a perfect challenge topic with the news this month about the FTX crypto scandal! Gary K1YAN must have some really good insider Wallstreet connections to know it was coming a year ahead of time! ;-)



# TIPS FOR IMPROVING QRP OPERATION

## AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT MAKES **QRP** OPS SUCCESSFUL

Becoming a successful QRP enthusiast requires knowledge, timing, patience, and practice.

Once these are acknowledged, a QRP operator can implement a plan to improve his/her success.

- Know where to look for contacts bands, frequencies, times
- Understand the other operator's mode of operation

   simplex or split
- Understand your equipment and how to make it function as needed – especially the VFO, RIT/XIT, AGC and R.F. gain
- Understand the basics of decibel loss in the feedline
- Understand the gain, or lack thereof, of an antenna

## TIP 1 – KNOW WHERE TO LOOK ON THE BANDS FOR **QRP** ACTIVITY

Like other modes in the amateur radio world, QRP has, by gentleman's agreement, small sections of each band. These small segments are commonly known as 'watering holes.' Watering holes for the QRP CW fans are 3.564, 7032, 7.120, 14.060–14.065, 18.093, 21.060–21.063, 28.060 MHz.

While not inclusive, these frequencies are where to find some QRP CW activity. Some operators post QRP activity on DX clusters. There is a dedicated QRP "spotting" web site: QRPSpots.com. QRP operators can 'SPOT' their own information or check for activity of other QRP stations.

## BY GLENN N4MJ #6587

I was first licensed in April 1961 as WN4BBO and soon upgraded to Conditional WA4BBO. Earned my Extra in 1970. I've held a couple of 7 calls, a 9 call, a German, and South Korean calls/licenses.

Served 20 years with the U.S. Air Force as a Navigational Aids technician and co-wrote the maintenance manual for the Air Force Communications Command.

I also hold the FCC General Radiotelephone License, formerly Radiotelephone First Class License, an Associate degree in Radio Communication Technology, a Bachelor's degree in Psychology/Business and took Advanced studies in management.

My primary interest in amateur radio is QRP CW activities – NAQCC #6587, 4 States QRP Group #2031, QRP Fox Hunter, FP 3813. Hold 5-Band DXCC CW, SSB, Mixed. ARRL DX Honor Roll. Hosted FD for longer than I can recall. I am President Emeritus of the Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club; 30 years as club president.

Retired from the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company as an Instrument Laboratory Technician. 5



# **NAQCC SPRINTS**

## **JANUARY SPRINTS**

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Thursday, Jan 20, 2023 0130-0330Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, January 19th in North America. Complete information at *http://nagcc.info/sprint/sprint202301.html*.

## **160 METER SPRINT**

Our bonus Sprint is on Thursday, Jan 26, 2022 0130-0330Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, January 27th in North America. Complete information at: *http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202301\_160.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*.

## **DECEMBER SPRINT RESULTS:**

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at *http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202212.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: N0ET, KD8RGJ, & VE6VIC

December Sprint					
	<b>Current Month</b>	<b>Previous Month</b>	All-Time Record	Record Date	
Logs	93	70	217	4/17	
Participants	128	97	269	2/13	
Total QSOs	701	774	3154	4/17	
Hour 1 QSOs	429	506	1704	4/17	
Hour 2 QSOs	272	268	1450	4/17	
20m QSOs	11	0	1232	8/13	
40m QSOs	338	505	2203	4/17	
80m QSOs	352	269	1417	2/13	
Avg QSOs/Station	7.5	11.1	19.3	9/11	

SWA	SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd	
W1	K1MZM	AC1KV	N1BRI	
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	KN2G	
W3	KD3CA	KC3MIO	K3JZD	
W4	KC5F	K4JPN	W4NLT	
W5	KF9LI	N5GW	KG5HCF	
W6	WU6P	K6GPB	-	
W7	KI7LW WV7W (TIE)	-	KJ7KDB	
W8	W8GG	NF8M	KD8RGJ	
W9	WB9HFK	K9NUD	N8HWV	
wo	NOET	N8LA	NORZ AA5LH (TIE)	
Canada	VE3IIM	VA3KRJ	VA3NU	
DX	-	-	-	

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KB1M	KC1DVT	W1ZU
W2	K2OID	N2ESE	WA2FBN
W3	KM3D	AC5XK	KC3RN
W4	K4KBL	N4SD	N4MJ
W5	N5MHI	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	WB8ENE
W9	AB9BZ	-	-
wo	WB0ISG W1TM N0QBX (TIE)	-	-
Canada	VE6VIC	VE3DQN	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

	SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd	
W1	WB1GYZ	-	-	
W2	-	-	-	
W3	NN3E K3WWP (TIE)	-	-	
W4	KJ4R	KW4WA	W4LSV	
W5	-	-	-	
W6	-	-	-	
W7	N7QR	-	-	
W8	-	-	-	
W9	K9DRP	-	-	
W0	KD0V	-	-	
Canada	VE3HUR	-	-	
DX	-	-	-	

GAIN CATEGORY				
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd	
SK	NQ2W	WB4OMM	-	
BUG	-	-	-	
K/K	-	-	-	

FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE				
Кеу Туре	1st	2nd	3rd	
SK	NOET	KD8RGJ	-	
BUG	-	-	-	
к/к	VE6VIC	-	-	
PRIZE DRAWING WINNER				
KD9EBS				

7

## 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+	KJ4R KF7WNS AA0W NN0SS N7QR KC7DM KB0ETU K2YGM AA7CU VE3GNU WD4OHD K4KBL N8QY WY3H K6CSL W5UAA AB8FJ NN9K WK6L KC2EGL K2HT KE9DR K1IX K4ORD K5GQ AA5LH N8HWV N1JI W4HH KB4QQJ KC3RN VE3HUR KB9ILT WA2NYY KC2MJT
75+	N8LA KQ1P K4NVJ KD3CA K9EYT WB4OMM K9OSC VE3FUJ WD0K N8BB KB1M N2CN WA1GWH VE3DQN WA2FBN WB9HFK K6MGO NF5U NQ2W WB1GYZ WI5H N8APO
100+	K4KRW K1IEE W4DUK AK3X AA9L N5GW KD2MX NO2D NA4O KN1H WB8ENE KA9FQG N4MJ
125+	K2CWM K4JPN KD0V N2ESE KE5YUM N4FI WX4RM WA8SAN WG8Y N0TA
150+	W9CC K4BAI N8XMS NF8M K3RLL KU4A
175+	W2JEK W2SH W8GG
200+	K3WWP KA2KGP

## SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**WB4OMM -** Still have no low band antenna and 20M went fast! Best wishes to all for a safe and happy holiday, will try to make the mW Sprint next week. 72/73! Steve

**KC2MJT** - Thunderstorms finally cleared out so set up on the back deck and enjoyed some rare warm wx and up and down band cndx. Tried working K9NUD on 80m but he couldn't pull me out - 80 with my random wire was a long shot

**VE3DQN -** This was the most difficult time I've ever had to make a Sprint QSO. Noise level on both bands was terrific. Thanks to Rich KC3MIO I wasn't stumped. Then before heading to bed I snagged Harry KM3D; band cndx sounded better.

**K9DRP -** Jumped into the Sprint after the foxhunt and tried to work some stations on 40 with no luck. Going to 80 I found several signals despite all the snap, crackle and pop. Worked several stations with my cootie before switching to the bug. For me it's easier to make out calls at the faster rate amid the QRN. Hope to have better conditions for the MW Sprint. 72, Don

**K2OID** - Very interesting night... Terrible conditions on 40. On the other hand, worked DK1VD (best QRP DX for me EVER!) and W7DLZ (not in contest but had a nice long chat). Had my lowest sprint score ever but the most fun. TNX especially to Fred, DK2VD for his good ears and especially for his patience.

**KE5YUM -** Very rough conditions all around but I managed one contact. Thanks President Steve. All the best. Terry FT 817D @ 5 watts.



# DECEMBER QRPP SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at *https://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202212mw.html* 

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	K1MZM	K1IX	K1YAN
W2	KA2KGP	W2JEK	-
W3	KC3MIO	K3JZD	АКЗХ
W4	WG8Y	KC5F	K4JPN
W5	N5GW	KE5YUM	-
W6	WU6P	K6GPB	-
W7	KN1H	K7TRT N7KM (TIE)	-
W8	NF8M	-	-
W9	WB9HFK	K9NUD	К9КНЈ
W0	NOTA	N8LA	NNOSS
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

GAIN CATEGORY				
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd	
SK	-	-	-	
BUG	-	-	-	
K/K	NQ2W	-	-	

## **QRP**P STATS:

Logs submitted: 67

**Total participants: 93** 

Total QSOs: 448

States + Provinces : 34 + ON

	SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd	
W1	WB1GYZ	-	-	
W2	-	-	-	
W3	-	-	-	
W4	K3RLL	-	-	
W5	-	-	-	
W6	-	-	-	
W7	N0DA	N7QR	-	
W8	K8NGW	N8XMS	-	
W9	-	-	-	
W0	KD0V	-	-	
Canada	VE3IDS	-	-	
DX	-	-	-	

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY				
Division	1st	1st 2nd		
W1	KB1M	-	-	
W2	WA1GWH	-	-	
W3	AC5XK	KM3D	KQ3Z	
W4	WB4IT	K4KBL	N4SD	
W5	WI5H	-	-	
W6	KD0FNR	-	-	
W7	-	-	-	
W8	W8GG	WI8J	-	
W9	AB9BZ N8HWV (TIE)	-	-	
WO	-	-	-	
Canada	-	-	-	
DX	-	-	-	

#### MW SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**KM3D** - Did better w/5 watts last week mostly 80m - lots of QRN there tonight. Got 5 Q's on 40 in this one with one watt using a Xeigo X108G. Hope to be running homebrew in the next MW Sprint. Many thanks for the contacts! 72 de Harry

**K9NUD -** I know of at least two that I could not pull from the noise. Sorry OM! KX3 @ 1W and a Cootie

**K4KBL -** Think I will try and see how many states I can work with 1 watt, maybe 1 watt 2 way !! nice to work my friend W8GG and KB1M... Gregg on 2 bands ! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all...

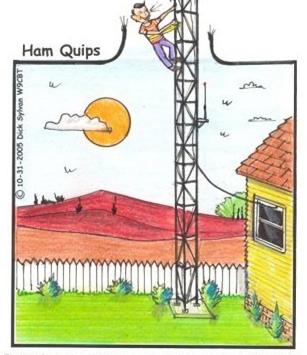
**KC5F** - So different from last week, but conditions seemed worse, too. None on 20m, 40% on 40m and 60% on 80m, even with the static crashes. Thanks to all - fun, as always!

**KN1H -** Operating portable from McDowell Mountain Regional Park near Scottsdale, AZ. Put up an inverted V doublet on a 28' MFJ telescoping mast with the ends pretty much touching the ground. Tuned well on 20 and 40 but didn't find anyone to work on 20. Used the KX-2 and KY-605U straight key. Had a great time working both new and old friends at 900mw. 73, 72, John

**K3JZD -** Always enjoy the milliwatt sprints - who needs 5 watts anyway? QRN was low here tonight, which was good because most signals were pretty weak. 20m wasn't around at all. 40m seemed to dry up quickly. 80m hung in there to the end. KX3 running 900 milliwatts to wire antennas. Merry Christmas to all. 73, Jody

#### 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.

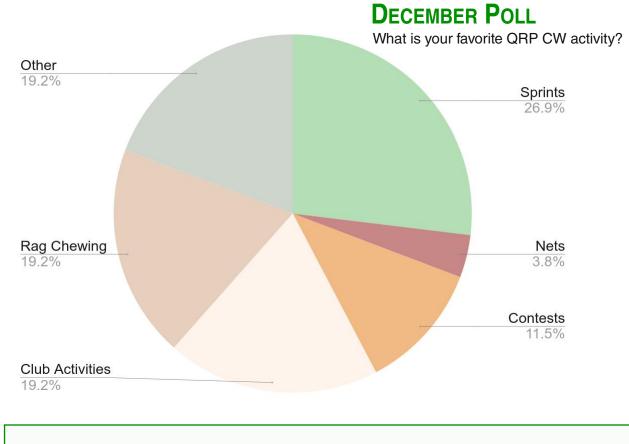


"I Wish Dick Would Learn How To Draw Within The Cartoon Frame Because I'm Afraid To Climb Up This High Up On The Tower."

# MEMBER POLL

## **JANUARY POLL**

Changing your activities in the new year? Let us know at *http://nagcc.info/poll\_new.html* 



## POLL SOAPBOX

Tonnie PA9CW - I enjoy activating SOTA or Flora and Fauna parks.

Bobby KM4JEG - Hunting POTA/SOTA

Steve KC5F - POTA Activations! I usually run 20w, but do some at 5w.

William KR8L - My favorite QRP CW activity is portable and pedestrian mobile operating.

**John KK4ITX** - I enjoy getting outdoors whether it be to the beach, park or hilltop and making contacts.

Ron KF4GNV - Just completed my first monthly challenge and absolutely had a blast.



# **NAQCC** Awards

## **FEATURED AWARDS:**

## WAVE

This award is one suggested by Gary K1YAN. All questions about it go to him at gxtxmx@verizon.net

It's just the classic WAS type award but focused on working the Canadian Provinces with QRP/ CW.

#### Time Frame For Qualifying QSO's:

March 1, 2011 0000Z through the present

## **RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS**

### 100 MPW

#### BASIC AWARD PREMISE:

Work All VE Provinces within the time frame using QRP, CW, and simple wire antennas.

Categories:

A - 8 Canadian Provinces

B - 8 Canadian Provinces 2X QRP *http://www.naqcc.info/awards\_participation.html*.

Nr	Call	Stn worked	MPW	Award Date	Notes
0607	VE3CBK	VK2GR	1,987	12/09/22	20m Inv V @20'
30-30					
Nr	Call	Month		Date	
0065	- PA9CW	Aug 2022		12/21/22	all DX Contacts
0066	- PA9CW	Sep 2022		12/21/22	all DX Contacts
0067	- PA9CW	Oct 2022		12/21/22	
0068	- PA9CW	Nov 2022		12/21/22	all DX Contacts
0069	- PA9CW	Dec 2022		12/21/22	all DX Contacts
Magn	num (3 mon	ths)			
0018	- PA9CW	Aug, Sep, Oct	2022	12/21/22	



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



# 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 CST	Tuesday 0100 Z	7066 kHz Summer 3566 kHz Winter	Allen KA5TJS (TX)		
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 CST	Tuesday 0130 Z	7031 kHz	Bob W0CC (KS)		
Pacific Northwest 80m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 5 PM PST	Friday 0100 Z	3556.5 kHz	Stewart KE7LKW (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.

# **NET CONTROL STATION REPORTS**

### NAQCC Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 5:00 PM PST, which is Friday 0100 UTC on 3556.5 kHz +/-Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

- Dec 02 QNI (7) NCS KE7LKW, KC7CW, WB7WHG, AD7BP, WB4SPB, K7JUV, KI7SJE
- Dec 09 QNI (5) NCS WB4SPB, KI7SJE, KJ7KDB, KE7LKW, AD7BP
- Dec 16 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, KI7SJE, WB7WHG, AD7BP, KC7CW, WB4SPB
- Dec 23 QNI (9) KE7LKW NCS, NB6M, WC7CW, WB4SPB, N7TB, WB7WHG, KJ7KDB, N0DA, AD7BP
- Dec 30 QNI (7) KE7LKW NCS, WC7CW, WB4SPB, WB7WHG, N0DA, AD7BP, K7JUV

### NAQCC EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CST, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC, on 7066 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter) Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

- Dec 06 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA Signals were good here on 80 meters tonight. Both stations 599 and no QRM. Rag chewed about weather and lots of leaves to clean up.
- Dec 13 QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, N4NN, N5MHI Conditions were pretty good tonight with signals 599/579/589 respectively. The QRN was pretty rough, and Allen in GA was down at the noise floor. Good to hear Jon from Austin again. He had a good signal using long wire antenna.
- Dec 20 QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN, W1TM Conditions were pretty rough tonight. Storms here and to the East. QRN pretty bad. Signals were S7 or better but so was the noise! Welcome to Tim in Wichita KS. He was ruff copy but got the important stuff.
- Dec 27 QNI (5) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, KE5YUM, N4NN, N5MHI Even though QRZ forecasted Poor conditions for tonight signals were good with fast QSB. All talked about the cold and hoping for warmer weather soon.

### NAQCC MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

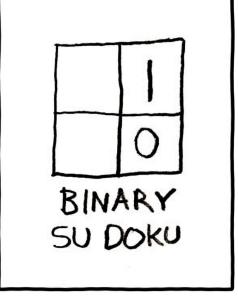
Monday evenings 7:30 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0130 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/-Main NCS - Bob W0CC (Kansas) — Assisted by Dave AB9BZ

Dec 05 - No Net

Dec 12 - No Net

Dec 19 - No Net

Dec 26 - No Net



xkcd.com



# **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 Steve WB4OMM.

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 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 Please contact call sign trustee, Club VP John KK4ITX, to schedule the use of N3AQC.

# 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/*.

No December report from NAQCC-WFL. With Christmas, Thanksgiving and the weather turning south we decided not to do an event. We are looking at January, might have to do from our vehicles, but do want to try something.

# NAQCC WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

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

New organizers needed

# 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.

# 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 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.

# 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



# **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 contester 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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NOTE: These email address are not automatic links. They are given here in graphic form to avoid harvesting by spambots.

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:

Club President Steve Szabo, WB4OMM 536 Central Park Blvd Port Orange, FL 32127 USA

