

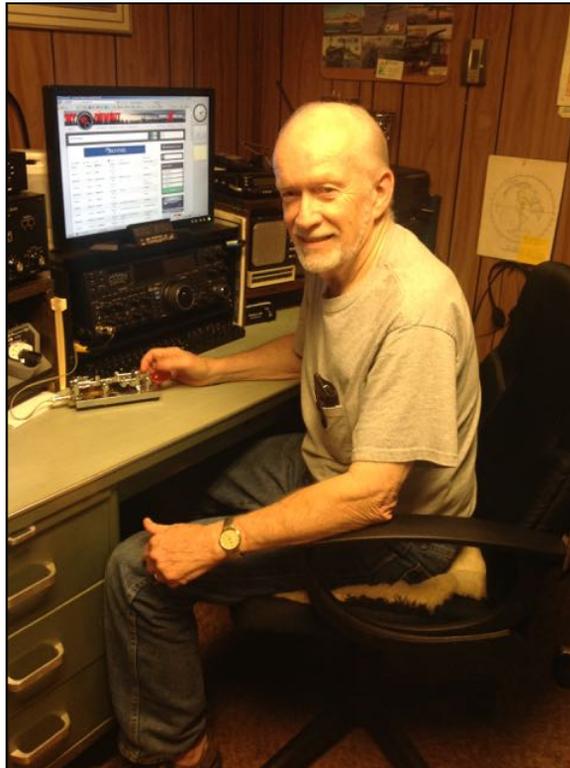
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



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.

FRANK McINNIS, K1IX, 7116



It's funny how a single event can set your life on a course that was unanticipated. My "event" began with a Christmas gift of an Arvin AC/DC portable radio of my own at about age ten. That started me on BCB logging. I soon after discovered nighttime DX propagation. It wasn't long before I wondered what was on the air waves beyond 1600 after the dial hit the stop. With no mentor around it took some time and a Lafayette Radio catalog to find it, "Short Wave Radio". After saving many months of paper route money I was able to walk into the local radio store and say "I want that one there, the S38D, with the big dial". Now I was off and running with a long wire up and the DX just started rolling in. My first big Ham radio catch was CX5AF, Montevideo, Uruguay, who I sent a SWL report to and received his QSL back. These guys had their own radio stations? This was just too cool, I had to get my own license.

A few years rolled by, but finally after mastering 5wpm, the novice ticket KN1IXX arrived and I was on the air with a HB transmitter and an SX99 receiver. Within a year I had moved up to Technician, then General, and CW was the name of the game. This whole adventure lead me after high school to a technical school education and a career as an Electronic Technician. During the ensuing years I had many periods of on air inactivity as life got hectic with family and job responsibilities, but I managed to keep in the game and not let my ticket lapse.

With the kids grown and more free time, I moved up to Extra in the early '80s and really upgraded the station with a tower and non-kit equipment. Heathkit and I had been on a first name basis. Now in retirement, everyday is involved in some sort of ham radio activity. I like to work all the modes but have recently found the NAQCC and really enjoy the sprints.

See you on the bands.

