

# 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.

## FRED ROSENBAUM, NF1U, #7982



I didn't have any interest in Amateur Radio until 1965. Prior to that I was taught the Morse Code as a US Navy Radioman. While stationed at the CINCLANTFLT HDQRS in Norfolk, VA, I visited the club station WA4ZUA and found they needed operators to work their daily welfare and recreation phone patch Net for afloat and foreign shore Naval Personal. Not being licensed, I took the General test at the FCC offices in Baltimore, MD and was awarded my General, WA1GYN.

After I left that command, my ham radio operating waned. I had no equipment but did manage to operate occasionally if the command I was on had a club station.

I finally bought and built my first radio, a Heathkit SB102, I believe in 1975 and worked mostly SSB, but kept my hand in CW. The Navy sent me to Cutler, Maine, the site of one of the world's most powerful transmitters, where on a few occasions I was able to key that beast with a straight key. We only did that when we lost our TTY keying stream and had to keep the transmitter active, basically sending V's de NAA but it sure felt powerful with a 1 MegaWatt straight key.

After Maine, I was sent to Keflavik, Iceland where I got involved in the Navy MARS program passing Health and Welfare traffic in the MARS network. No personnel radio transmitting was allowed by Military amateur radio operators.

After I was discharged (20yrs service), we relocated to Illinois where I got involved with the Wheaton

ARC working mostly 2- meters. I took and passed the Advanced and Extra class tests and was awarded the call AJ9W. We inherited and moved to my present home here in CT. I then petitioned the FCC for a 2X1 call and was awarded NF1U. I used to enjoy contesting and was a member of the Murphys' Marauders Contest Club and later the Yankee Clippers Contest Club(YCCC). I don't contest any longer. I now work QRP slow speed CW almost exclusively and participate in the SKCC and NAQCC sprints and challenges. I also still like to tinker with antennas and radio projects.

I currently own a Kenwood TS520S, TS930S and a TL922A Linear. My QRP radios are the Yaesu FT817 and Ten Tec Argonaut 509. I am thinking about a Elecraft K3S. I use and prefer straight keys and currently own a J36, a Navy Flameproof and a German Junkers. I also have a Les Logan SPEEDX 501 speed key and a Vibroplex Original Deluxe that I play with but I am not very proficient with them yet.

On the personal side, I am a 75-year-old widower and live with my dog. Me and a lady friend enjoy traveling. Our travels have taken us to Scandinavia, France, Italy, Germany and most recently Ireland, where I celebrated my St Patricks Day Birthday. They even had a parade for me!

