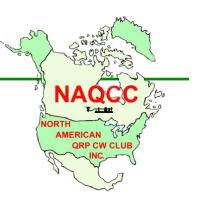
#### NORTH AMERICAN QRP CW CLUB

# NAQCC NEWS



Issue 302 • August 2023

# 

#### • IN THIS ISSUE

The Prez Sez... There's still time to sign up to be N3A and summer's a great time for portable ops; QSO Parties are back; A homebrew antenna mag mount; A Challenge that's sure to ring a bell; Morse motivation; Awards; Long Island Chapter activity, Sprint reports; Soapboxes; Member polls; Nets; and more.

#### Operate as N3A

Our 19th Anniversary celebration is a little more than two months away and we are doing much better than last year with 18 signups so far. It is a great way to work QRPx2 contacts and acquaint CW ops with our club. More details on page 3.

#### • WHO CREATED MORSE CODE?

This seems like a simple question, but while Samuel Morse created *a* code, it wasn't the one we know and love. For one thing, it was for words, not letters. Sam had a junior partner, Alfred Vail, who thought up dots and dashes representing letters and did letter frequency analysis.

An article in *The Smithsonian* tried to set the record straight a while back (*https://siarchives.si.edu/blog/forgotten-history-alfred-vail-and-samuel-morse*) but we're not sure it took. A July poll on mastodon.radio asked hams to assign credit once and for all. The winner? Al Gore.

#### • YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS REALLY NEEDED

Summer submission doldrums are upon us! 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

#### • 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* 

IN THIS ISSUE	
Key Clicks	1
Prez Sez	2
19 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	3
QSO Parties	4
Homebrew Mag-Mount	6
Letter Challenge	8
Morse Motivation	11
Polls	11
Awards	12
Sprints	13
Nets	16
Chapter Reports	18
Sponsors	22
About The NAQCC	23
Contacts	24

## THE PREZ SEZ...

Welcome to August, we hope that you have stayed cool and dry. Many have suffered flooding and severe storms, we keep them in our thoughts.

#### **NEED N3A OPs FOR OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY**

(forwarded email)

#### Attention NAQCC members:

Each year, we celebrate the anniversary of the NAQCC with our own special event during October. This year will be our 19th anniversary, which will run from October 8 (UTC) through October 14th. During that time, our Members will use a N3A call to make contacts (2xQRP or otherwise). For example, if you volunteer to put out the call from the 1 region, you will use N3A/1. No special skills are needed - if you are one of our members, you already have what it takes. I'd like to have all the US districts covered including AK and HI, but we go with who we get. It's a great way to rack up some QRP states and maybe some DX as propagation gets better. You can operate on any band at any time during the anniversary week, as long as you are using five watts or less. You can operate as often or as little as you like. We have a spotting page so that others can see when you plan to be on the air.

During the Sprint that week, we can only have one N3A call on the air per region and it is first come, first served for the Sprint operators. For more details see the August or July newsletter. If you want to sign up immediately, or if you have any questions, contact me at hamberger@ptd.net. (hamburger at ptd.net)

73/72 Rich KC3MIO #9942

#### SUMMERTIME

Get out and operate, this is a great time of year to find a comfortable spot and play radio. There are several events and contests that go on at this time of year like the NJ Skeeter Hunt August 27 from 1:00-5:00 EDT (1700-2100 UTC). FMI see: *www.qsl.net/w2lj* or just Google Skeeter Hunt 2023.

I have some walking issues and have been able to rig up my equipment and comfort items to enable me to easily operate from my vehicle or chair & table if other facilities are not available. POTA, SOTA, IOTA, BOTA and many other groups have contests, events and other incentives to tempt you. Take advantage of their organizations. Yesterday (FOBB) I used a 46" telescopic whip with a 22 turn coil on a homebrew mag mount and hit 8 States. All but 1 of my 10 QSOs were 2X QRP. Of course, signals were very good. I even managed to contact our own N3AQC in PA!

**The August Monthly Sprint** will be held on Aug. 9 UTC time 0030-0230. Note that this is Tuesday evening 8:30-10:30 EDT. Please take the time to log your scores and use the soapbox for your comments.

#### DONATIONS

Thank you for mailing your check to:

North American QRP CW Club, Inc 35 Heather Circle Cave Spring, GA 30124

We are getting close to meeting our Anniversary goals.

#### **CW ASSISTANCE**

Perhaps you are just learning or returning to CW and you have questions on operations or you just need a practice buddy.

Check out the *CW Assistance* link on our website and you will soon be on your way to refreshing and improving your CW skills. Until next time,



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



## **19TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

#### **19TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Plans are underway for the week of October 8-14th when volunteers will be operating with our N3A call. We would like to get operators in all 10 call districts and KH6 and KL7. Right now, we have 18 ops signed up, representing districts 1-6 and 8-9. We also designate special ops who can put out the call during October's regular sprint, which is Wednesday October 11th , 0030-0230 UTC. We will take all comers for the anniversary but only one op can work from each district during the sprint. First come, first served!

Unlike the sprint, your operating schedule is totally flexible which means you can be on the air at any time during the week. Except during the sprint, all bands are in play including the WARC bands (30, 17 and 12 meters) and hunters can see who is on the air by checking out the database on our website, which lists spots and schedules for our N3A ops. It doesn't matter if you are an old hand or new to QRP CW. You don't need to send or receive at high speed; the exchanges are very simple. With improving propagation, you never know how far you will go with five watts (or less).

#### A FEW IMPORTANT POINTS:

- There is no capacity limit to the number of ops outside of the sprint, so if you think you might operate, let me know. Each year there are a few ops who sign up, but are unable to operate, but that is not a problem.
- Additional information will be provided about operating and logging well before the anniversary, so stay tuned.
- Combining the anniversary with Parks on the Air, Summits on the Air, etc. is allowed and encouraged.
- The anniversary is a great time to experiment with QRPp (one watt or less).
- Although the basic exchange is simple, there is no time limit and rag chewing is up to you.

#### SIGN UP NOW

If you would like to participate, please contact Rich KC3MIO, hamberger@ptd.net If you have any questions, email me; if you would like we could talk on the phone, too.



#5846

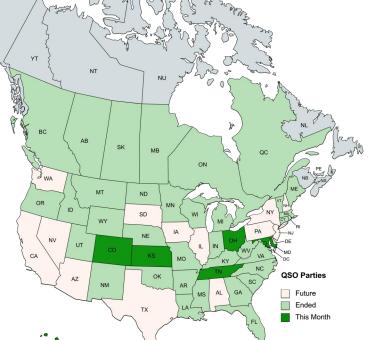
## NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE BY DON VE3DQN

The two-month summer break in the SQP Challenge is almost over. There are 19 SQPs left in the season, and, if we count the month from one NAQCC Newsletter to the next, there are 6 in August, 6 in September, and 7 in October. Four of these—KS, TX, CA, and NY figure somewhere in the top ten according to the 2022 Challenge report (page 4 in *https:// stateqsoparty.com/wp-content/uploads/ 2023/01/2022CHALLENGEFINALRESULTS. pdf*) But keep in mind that for any SQP where you operate "in state" also provides opportunity to rack up the points.

### LEADERBOARD

Compete results at *http://naqcc.info/ qsoparties\_scores.html* 

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Lee AA4GA, #5415	26	1,608	41,808	Platinum	117,798
Alan KR4AE, #5847	28	1,487	41,636	Platinum	117,314
Ben AC2YD, #10378	24	1,047	25,128	Platinum	70,801
Steve NI8W, #11335	27	786	21,222	Gold	59,795
Chris KU4A, #1960	25	612	15,300	Gold	43,109
Mike W7LG, #10391	24	553	13,272	Gold	37,395
Sean KK9U, #10869	13	880	11,440	Gold	32,233
Don VE3DQN, #5846	25	420	10,500	Gold	29,585
Kevin NN3E, #9851	22	464	10,208	Gold	28,762
Brent WT4U, #9019	24	423	10,152	Gold	28,604
Will NQ2W, #4839	16	507	8,112	Silver	22,856
Dave AB9BZ, #9309	23	282	6,486	Silver	18,275
Dick N9EEE, #11389	22	287	6,314	Silver	17,790
Rick KY0Q, #9647	16	349	5,584	Silver	15,733
Ernie N2DGQ, #11090	15	255	3,825	Bronze	10,777
Bob N2EIM, #10373	13	238	3,094	Bronze	8,718
Anthony K8ZT, #412	17	161	2,737	Bronze	7,712
Dave N3CKI, #8478	6	424	2,544	Bronze	7,168
Don KI4MZC, #10922	7	255	1,785	Bronze	5,029
Robin NG8S, #3261	14	114	1,596	Bronze	4,497
Dan W9SAU, #10073	12	95	1,140	Bronze	3,212
Kevin KI4DEF, #247	14	74	1,036	Bronze	2,919
Brock W6GMT, #2390	5	101	505	Bronze	1,423



I'll take a bit of time reassessing my goals for the season. My primary goal is still to reach the Platinum certificate level, but I'll have to pay close attention to my total Qs and my multipliers. Gaining the multiplier in some SQPs is going to be a stretch, and frankly, for me quite unlikely for HI, NV, and SD. And I might also sneak in a goal this year of scoring a bit higher than Brent WT4U, my co-conspirator in the NAQCCs version of the SQP Challenge. [Since historians and editors have the last word, we'll see if these final sentences make the cut :-) ]

Whatever you do in the SQP Challenge, have fun and get on the air.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
Maryland/DC	Aug 12 1400Z to Aug 13 0400Z	E, F, G, or H & County	"E" ST	3.557, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045 50.095, 144.095	rules
Hawaii	Aug 26 0400Z to Aug 28 0359Z	RST County	RST ST	1815 or 30-40 kHz up	rules
Kansas	Aug 26 1400Z to Aug 27 0200Z & Aug 27 1400Z to Aug 27 2000Z	RST County	RST ST	40kHz up	rules
Ohio	Aug 26 1600Z to Aug 27 0400Z	RST County	RST ST	1.815 & 45 kHz up	rules
Colorado	Sep 2 1300Z to Sep 3 0400Z	Name County	Name ST	1.850, 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050	rules
Tennessee	Sep 3 1800Z to Sep 4 0300Z	RST County	RST ST	1815, 3540, 7040, 14040, 21040, 28040	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 at: don@hekman.net



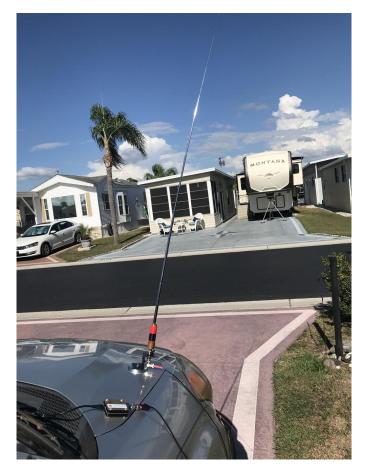
## HOMEBREW MAG-MOUNT FOR PORTABLE OPS

## **ВҮ ЈОНИ КК4ІТХ #7249**

Earlier in the Spring, I went up to Brooksville, FL with Ron (N9EE) and his QRP group on a NAQCC Chapter outing that they were having at a park. I wanted to test an antenna that I had read about and built my version of it mounting it on a \$4 camera Flea Market tripod. The antenna is only a 1/8 wave at 20m and works close to the ground. It worked quite well with WSPR @ 200mW yielding over 385 hits in about 2 hrs.

It worked so well that I thought that I might be able to use it in Maine at the beach and while I could use the tripod, I thought that perhaps a mag mount would be more compact easier to use in the crowded parking lots that I usually work from. So, I needed a magnet, bracket and some time.





#### PARTS LIST

- Harbor Freight 3" magnet with the hook ground off
- 1-1/2 x 1/16 Alum Angle (my stock) (2) pcs cut 2-1/2" long
- 1/4-20 x 1/2" bolt, washer and nut
- Female/Female BNC (My stock)
- RT angle BNC Male/Female
- (2) sets 6-32/1/2 screws, nuts
- 8-32 x 3/4 screw, nut and wing nut for counterpoise, if needed.

#### TESTING

I assembled all of the parts, covered those that I didn't want painted with masking tape and made it a pretty black and tried out the new setup. After just 2 cycles of WSPR (10 minutes) I had 46 spots reporting me with the furthest 2344 miles (VE6JY).

Obviously, this is really a compromise antenna but when you find yourself in tight spaces or want a light load to carry up a summit you can deploy this guy and use your height or beach to make up for the shorter antenna.

After the WSPR test I put it to work on the Adventure Radio Society's annual Flight of the Bumblebees CW event with great results.

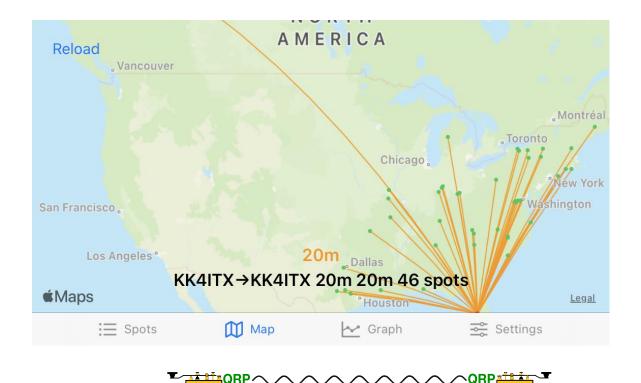
72, John KK4ITX #7249





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## NAQCC CHALLENGE BY GARY K1YAN #2365

### THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: BIG BEN

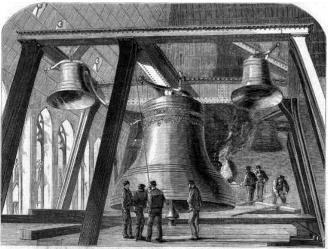
If you are touring London, your "to see list" will most likely have Big Ben near the top. It is located in the Elizabeth Tower of the Palace of Westminster. Construction of the clock was completed in 1859.

Big Ben, however, is the nickname of the Great Bell of the famous clock and not the clock itself. At 13.5 long tons, it is the biggest of the five tower bells and chimes on the hour. It was delivered to the tower on a wagon drawn by 16 horses and raised to its position in the 315 foot tower by hand, a 34 hour process.

The sound of the bell is world famous. It does not have the round, ringing tone of a normal bell because of a slot at its bottom that was cut at the location of a crack. The clock is hand wound three times a week in an hour and a half process.







THE GREAT BELL AND THE GUARTER BELLS IN THEIR PLACES IN THE CLOCK TOWER, WESTMINSTER.



#### **WORDS**

- **ELIZABETH TOWER**
- THE GREAT BELL
- **CHIME THE HOUR**
- HAND WOUND

#### **CHALLENGE TRACKER:**

#### Ρ 3 В G Η Μ Ν R S А С D Ε F Ο U W Every time you work a new station X 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 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 "IN-VERTED 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://nagcc.info/challenges\_rules.html

- **OPAL GLASS DIAL**
- **13 FT PENDULUM**
- **PENNY COIN WEIGHT**

## NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

Straighten up and fly right in next month's Squawk Code Challenge. *http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202308.html* 

## LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the Cereal Mascots letter challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at *http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202307.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 DK1VD KU4A N1JI K9OSC KA5PVB KD0V KC5F WT4U WY3H W2ITT AB9BZ NN9K WY7N KI4IO KI8I VE3HUR ND9M N1LU KD2MX NN3E
50+	WA2FBN W3IQ AK3X VE3FUJ KJ4R VE3DQN AH6AX NF1U WB4OMM G3JFS N9SE
75+	PA9CW PA0XAW WI5H
100+	K1IEE
125+	K1YAN
150+	N8XMS W2JEK K3WWP

#### CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**W1BLU -** With the daily storms and the solar conditions, I had to put in more time on the hunt this month. It was fun though. Thanks 72, Blue

**PA9CW -** Nice challenge this month. I was out on a couple of Belgium Flora and Fauna parks. Working with KX3 and 5 W into 2 x 27 meter dipole.

K4TNE - This is my first time participating. It was a lot of fun! Thanks, Jeff

W1TM - Hunting the 13 colonies helped get letters.

**N8XMS** - It took me more callsigns than usual (31) to complete this challenge, and oddly enough my last letter was an "I". Where are all those powerful Italian stations when you need them?!

W2ITT - Close one this month, finished with 1:45 to go!



## MORSE CODE ISN'T AS HARD AS YOU MIGHT THINK BY PAUL V

BY PAUL WORW #2500

While reviewing the Morse Code elements and comparing them to learning a foreign language I noticed that:

- You don't have to learn the spelling of words, just memorize a few abbreviations and Q signals.
- There will be no sentence diagramming or dangling participles.
- Learning declensions, grammatical inflections or tenses are not needed.

- No pronunciation or umlauts need to be learned.
- And no Morse code tests will be given!

All in all, I subjectively calculate that learning Morse code is 75% easier than learning a new language.

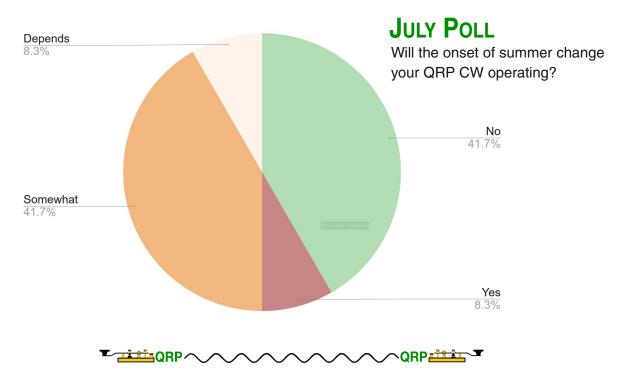
You can do this!

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# MEMBER POLLS

### **AUGUST POLL**

What bands do you operate QRP CW on? Let us know at *http://naqcc.info/poll\_new.html* Comments are open.



## **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*.

## AUGUST FEATURED AWARD:

It's just the classic DXCC award with some modifications for QRP/CW.

Contact as many countries as possible within the time frame using QRP, CW, and simple wire antennas.

- A 100 countries. B - 100 countries 2X QRP C - 25, 50, 75, 100 countries QRPp
- D Mobile 100 countries

Antenna:

A,B,C, D - Simple Wire Antennas by NAQCC standards

Ham you work:

Power: A,C, D - Any B - QRP

Antenna: A,B,C, D - Any

#### QSOs:

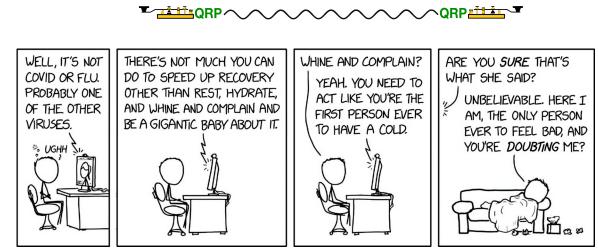
Rag chew or contest QSOs are both acceptable.

#### Equipment:

You: Power: A,B, D - QRP C - QRPp

Complete details on this award can be found at *http://www.naqcc.info/awards\_dxccwa.html*.

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



xkcd.com

# **NAQCC SPRINTS**

### **AUGUST SPRINT**

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Wednesday, August 9th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Tuesday, August 8th in North America. Complete information at *http://nagcc.info/sprint/sprint202308.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*.

### JULY SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at *http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202307.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: W4QDV, K3GG, & VA3WGX

July Sprint					
	Current Month	<b>Previous Month</b>	All-Time Record	Record Date	
Logs	79	89	217	4/17	
Participants	107	125	269	2/13	
Total QSOs	1,055	1,276	3,154	4/17	
Hour 1 QSOs	666	761	1,704	4/17	
Hour 2 QSOs	389	515	1,450	4/17	
20m QSOs	266	361	1,232	8/13	
40m QSOs	767	872	2,203	4/17	
80m QSOs	22	43	1,417	2/13	
Avg QSOs/Station	13.4	14.3	19.3	9/11	

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY					
Division	1st	2nd	3rd		
W1	AC1KV	K1MZM	K1YAN		
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	KN2G		
W3	K3JZD	KC3MIO	KW2A		
W4	KC5F	KG4IKQ	W4NLT		
W5	N5GW	-	-		
W6	-	-	-		
W7	K9PM	-	-		
W8	W8GG	AB9BZ	-		
W9	K9NUD	WB9HFK	K9QEW		
W0	N8LA	KD0DK	AA5LH		
Canada	VA3KRJ	VE3IIM	VE2KZW		
DX	-	-	-		

SWA K	SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY					
Division	1st	2nd	3rd			
W1	KB1M	WY7N	N2CN			
W2	K2OID	WA1GWH	N2ESE			
W3	K3ES	WA3FIR	-			
W4	K4BAI	N4MJ	K4KBL			
W5	-	-	-			
W6	-	-	-			
W7	KE7CR	-	-			
W8	WI8J	WB8ENE	WA8SAN			
W9	KI4MZC/9	-	-			
W0	KC2MJT					
Canada	VE3DQN	VE6VIC	-			
DX	DK1VD	-	-			

	SWA BUG CATEGORY					
Division	1st	2nd	3rd			
W1	-	-	-			
W2	-	-	-			
W3	NN3E	K3RLL	K3WWP			
W4	KJ4R	-	-			
W5	-	-	-			
W6	-	-	-			
W7	-	-	-			
W8	-	-	-			
W9	-	-	-			
WO	KD0V	-	-			
Canada	VE3IDS	VE3HUR	-			
DX	-	-	-			

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

FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE				
Кеу Туре	1st	2nd	3rd	
SK	K9PM	-	-	
BUG				
к/к	KB4VU KI4MZC/9	-	KE7CR	

## **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+	N7QR KF7WNS KC7DM K4KBL VE3GNU WD4OHD KB0ETU K2YGM AA7CU K1IX AA5LH N8QY WY3H K6CSL W5UAA KE9DR AB8FJ NN9K N8HWV KC2MJT WK6L KC2EGL K2HT VE3HUR K4ORD K5GQ N1JI W4HH KC3RN KD0DK KD9EBS KB4QQJ KB9ILT WA2NYY K3JZD VA3NU AB9BZ
75+	KD3CA K9EYT KQ1P K4NVJ KB1M WA1GWH VE3DQN WB4OMM WB9HFK VE3FUJ K9OSC N2CN WD0K N8BB WA2FBN WB1GYZ NQ2W K6MGO NF5U WI5H AA0W KJ4R N8APO NN0SS
100+	KL7IEE AK3X W4DUK N5GW NA4O KN1H AA9L NO2D KA9FQG KD2MX WB8ENE N4MJ N8LA
125+	KD0V N2ESE KE5YUM WX4RM WA8SAN WG8Y N4FI N0TA K4KRW
150+	K3RLL K4BAI NF8M W9CC N8XMS K2CWM KU4A K4JPN
175+	W2SH W8GG
200+	K3WWP KA2KGP W2JEK

#### SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**K3RLL -** Interesting propagation this evening. Lots of action on 20m but N5GW (with strongest signal on the band) was the only station that didn't fade away. RBN spots from Europe were good however! Gave up and went down to 40m where I felt fortunate to work the 4 stations I could hear. K3JZD had biggest signal of the night. 72, ... Don

**AB9BZ** - Operated my TruSdx from the hotel parking lot in Dayton OH. Thanks for the sprint. 72 Dave

**K4KBL -** Overall poor conditions here in GA for first hour of operation. Stated on 20 with only 2 contacts then to 40 with ground wave for many contacts. Static crashes ran me away after first hour. Few signals heard as well. August will be a better month !!

**KW2A** - Always great fun. Thanks to everyone who did numerous repeats so I could hear you over the thunderstorm noise. Ran the whole Sprint with an FT-817 on rechargeable NiMH AA batteries. Surprised they held up for 2 hours of calling CQ.

**K9QEW -** Started on 20m but soon QSY to 40m. Good activity but some QRN/QSB. Managed to make one QSO using my HB rockbound FUNMITTER! (W2SH) 72/73s & STAY TUNED Daryl

**K9NUD -** I was excited about tonight's sprint because of my new antenna, which performed great. Sadly, we had nearby storms, so the QRN was pretty rough. Sorry to those I could not pull out of the crashes! KX3 @ 5W to an 80M EFHW up 40'



# 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 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

Jul 03 - QNI (1) W0CC

Working from a farm in central Kansas. QSN S-9. Waiting for next week.

Jul 10 - QNI (1) W0CC

QSN S9+ Only station that I could hear was W1AW. QRZ reported "Poor" 40 Meter band conditions. It will be better next week!

- Jul 17 QNI (2) W0CC, WB6HF Mark did a Great Job of pulling out my 5 watt signal from the QRM and QRN!
- Jul 24 QNI (1) W0CC

All of a sudden, there was intense static on the 40/20/17 and, to a lesser extent, 80 Meter bands. Despite my best efforts, it was difficult to filter it out. Hopefully, it is not the radio going out!

Jul 31 – QNI (2) W0CC, KI4MZC

Don did a GREAT job picking out the signal among the QRM and QRN!

#### 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)

- Jul 07 QNI (7) NCS WB7WHG, KE7LKW, WB4SPB, N7TB, N0DA, KI7SJE, KB7DYP
- Jul 14 QNI (7) NCS WB4SPB, NB6M, N1OIE, KE7LKW, N0DA, W7ANM, K7JUV
- Jul 21 QNI (8) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, W7RPK, KI7SJE, WB7WHG, K7JUV/p, W7ANM, KB7DYP
- Jul 28 QNI (8) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, W7RPK, WB7WHG, K7JUV, W7ANM, KB7DYP, AD7BP

#### MAY 29 – NO NET 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.)

No Nets this month.

#### 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)

Jul 4 – No Net

No net tonight. Weather and travel from 3 members. Also, local storms here but we got no rain, just thunder!

Jul 11 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Conditions were pretty good tonight on 40 meters. YGA and NN were 589. YUM had SWR problems and did not make a comment. Thought it might be moisture on the antenna. At the end with NN a digital station fired up right on our frequency. Don't guess the FCC is ever going to do anything about these QRM generators!

- Jul 18 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA QRN was a little high tonight. YGA was 579 and good copy with QRN he said. YUM was down and said his SWR was high tonight for some reason. He was 539 but peaked 579 at the end. Solar absorption is really high right now so lucky we made it!
- Jul 25 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, N4NN, KE5YGA Real good propagation tonight, YGA was 599 and NN was 579. Little QSB on GA signal. Terry YUM still having problems with his antenna. Will be fixing it this week we hope..



## **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.

#### JUNE BELMONT PARK OUTING

We had a beautiful day for an outing with 80F temps and low humidity. As usual, some of us started out having lunch together at a new venue, the Terrace Diner, and we then head over to the park on full stomachs. Belmont Park is a very convenient and comfortable location with plenty of benches underneath a canopy of trees.



#### WE SET UP 5 STATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

Bob W2OSR: FT450D with a China Super antenna for 40-10m. It's a coil loaded antenna with counterpoises and Bob got out to the Carolinas

Rob W2ITT: KX2 with 5W to a Sotabeam link dipole and he got as far as AZ

John W2XS: KX2 5W to an Elecraft AX1 Whip antenna which is compact and sits on the table but it got out all over the east coast

Mike N2PPI: Brought his Gobox with and FT891 into a jackite pole vertical with a tire mount. Mike got as far as Russia and made over 60 QSOs with Drew N2AKJ and Ken WB2KWC assistance.

Ed N2GSL: Set up a brand new FT891D with 10w to an EFHW that he got up high in the trees and around 5pm worked 8 stations in Europe which was a lot of fun. The other ops assisting were Rich K2UPS, Howard WB2UZE and Ron KC2PSA

We had a good turnout and in attendance was also: Walt W2TE, Tom KA2D and Kevin KC2KC



W2OSR



W2OSR Antenna

N2GSL EFHW balun





N2PPI & Antenna



N2AKJ, K2UPS, W2OSR, & WB2KWC



W2IIT



KC2PSA, N2GSL



KA2D, W2XS

## 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/*.

## 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 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 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.

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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 John Leahy KK4ITX 3513 Aquamarine Way Zephyrhills, FL 33540 USA NORTH AMERICAN QRP CW CLUB