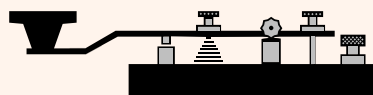


# NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 313 • JULY 2024



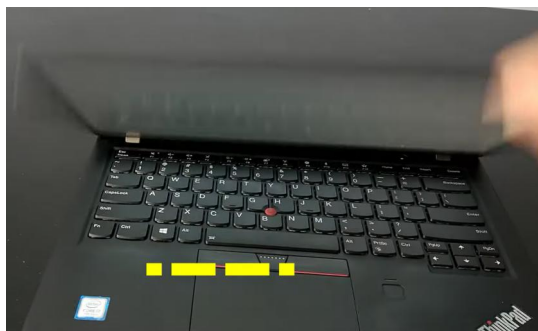
## KEY CLICKS

### • **IN THIS ISSUE**

The Prez Sez... Lots of activities, a balloon ban, and we're 2/3 of the way there; 20th Anniversary plans and ideas; One QSO Party; 10:1 SWR is no problem with OWL; The Bumblebees are back; Member Polls; An aerobic Letter Challenge; Awards and winners; A double helping of Sprints; Nets; Soapboxes; and more.

### • **STUPID MORSE CODE TRICKS: LAPTOP EDITION**

Don't have a key handy? You can send Morse by repeatedly slamming the lid of your laptop computer. "Open and Shut" is the name of this open source application and the Github readme file mentions "pilots, submariners, and amateur radio nerds." If you have an old laptop you hate, give it a try. <https://github.com/veggiedefender/open-and-shut> If you know of an even sillier way to send code, please let us know!



### • **HELP MAKE A NEWSLETTER**

Your monthly news is cobbled together using Scribus and various other open-source tools. If you know how to do any of that—or want to learn—I could sure use the help. [brentWT4U@naqcc.radio](mailto:brentWT4U@naqcc.radio)

### • **YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS NEEDED**

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@arrl.net](mailto: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 on-line 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](http://naqcc.info/member_updates.html)

### IN THIS ISSUE

Key Clicks	1
Prez Sez	2
20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	3
QSO Party Challenge	4
Open Wire Line	6
Return of the Bumblebees	8
Member Polls	9
Letter Challenge	10
Field Day Soapbox	13
Awards	14
Sprints	15
Nets	20
Chapters	22
Sponsors	24
Club Info	25
Contacts	26

# THE PREZ SEZ...

Summer smiles upon us and brings out the bees and mosquitoes and maybe a Cricket or two too?

In addition to our July Sprint (noted below) and the Monthly Challenge there is also the **Flight of the Bumble Bees** (FOBB) July 28 info here: Adventure Radio Society 2024 Flight of the Bumblebees, Sunday, July 28 (ars-qrp.com)

Check it out, it's fun. Our club call, N3AQC will be in use by K3WWP, John Shannon.

John will also use the call in the Annual Mosquito Hunt, August 18, check out their website here: <https://www.qsl.net/w2lj/>

## JULY MONTHLY SPRINT #237

Wed Jul 17 8:30-10:30P EDT  
which also is:

Thu Jul 18 0030-0230Z

### Sprint Frequencies

80m 3555 – 3565 kHz

(Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)

40m – 7030-7045 kHz

20m – 14059-14065 kHz

## JULY MONTHLY CHALLENGE

The Golden Knights Challenge has 87 characters this month, let's jump on it!

## NEW LAW IN FLORIDA 7/1/2024

You can now be punished if you are over 6 years old and release a balloon into the air on purpose unless you are a government agency. There weren't exceptions made for Amateur Radio or even STEM projects in schools?

## MONTHLY SWAP & SHOP

Michael Brown, WS9J, NAQCC #7510 manages the monthly S&S for us and sends out two emails per month, the first is looking for items that you

are wanting to sell or buy followed a few days later with the list and contact information. Again this month there will be an opportunity to purchase a 9:1 EFRW transformer with the proceeds to profit the NAQCC. Thanks Mike!!

## ANNIVERSARY PRIZE FUNDS REPORT

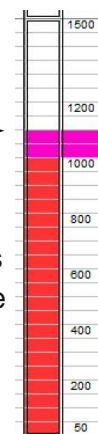
Things are looking some better and just need a little more help!!

As of 6/30 we have \$1,100 towards our prize goal for the 20th Anniversary Sprint in October. That's just over two thirds of the way toward the goal! The June response was helpful.

Donation amounts do not have to be large, \$5-10 or more would be great. Most folks with a checking account can have their bank send a check postage free, no cost to you or NAQCC.

6/30/2024

Also an option (not my favorite) is to send to me through my Paypal account (jleahy00@yahoo.com). If you choose this method PLEASE be sure that you indicate NAQCC and your membership number.



please mail your check payable to:  
North American QRP CW Club, Inc  
35 Heather Circle  
Cave Spring, GA 30124

Brent WT4U is ALWAYS looking for content for the monthly Newsletter, keep it QRP related, a few pics and comments, please help him out.

Until next time, enjoy your summer and keep a fire extinguisher handy for the BBQ.

72/73!

John KK4ITX #7249

NAQCC President

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



# 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

BY RICH KC3MIO #

## COMING IN OCTOBER: THE 20TH NAQCC ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Starting at 0000 UTC, October 5, we will celebrate the NAQCC's 20th Anniversary. During the weeklong event, our members will put our Club's special N3A call, with a designator for each region. For example, my call would be N3A/3. The monthly sprint will be held from 0030-0230 UTC on Wednesday, October 9th. Only one N3A call is allowed to operate from each region during the sprint, to avoid identical calls at the same time and on the same band. After the anniversary is over on 0000 UTC, October 12th, N3A operators will submit logs of their contacts which will be compiled, and a report produced. Complete instructions and open registration for N3A operators will be provided next month.

## WHAT NEW THINGS CAN WE DO DURING THE ANNIVERSARY?

What is the purpose of our anniversary celebration? I think there are two main goals:

1. Get our members on the air to make as many QRP contacts as possible, and
2. Spread the word about our Club

This will be my fourth year running the anniversary, and one fact has stood out: our operators seem to get a small yield for their efforts. The QSOs per hour have been slightly more than three, which is not many for the time spent pounding away. I am not sure how we can increase that ratio, but there may be ways to make ourselves more productive.

Second, we want to spread the word about our Club, to draw in more QRP operators and maybe

encourage other ops to dial the power down and try QRP. I see the success of the Straight Key CW Club (SKCC) as a potential model for our anniversary. The SKCC has a full month of operations when their members put out K3Y calls. Of course, they have more members than we do, but more importantly, are not trying to work with QRP power. I am a (not particularly active) member of the SKCC, and I have contacted many K3Y ops with five watts or less.

## I AM ASKING OUR MEMBERS TO SUGGEST NEW THINGS WE CAN DO. I HAVE A FEW IDEAS:

- Make the anniversary a full month and schedule more events, such as a weekly sprint, sprints during the day, or targeting bands above 20 meters to maximize opportunities and make it more fun for our West Coast members.
- Highlight certain frequencies at specified times for those wishing to make QRP contacts.
- Start new contests – most states worked, most states at one watt or less, most DX etc.
- Piggyback on Parks on the Air and Summits on the Air, where you are spotted in real time

These are just my quick thoughts to get the ball rolling. We will not implement any changes to the anniversary without a consensus among the principals, so the default rules will be the same as the prior year's event.

I want to hear from you. Contact me at [hamberger@ptd.net](mailto:hamberger@ptd.net)

73/72 Rich



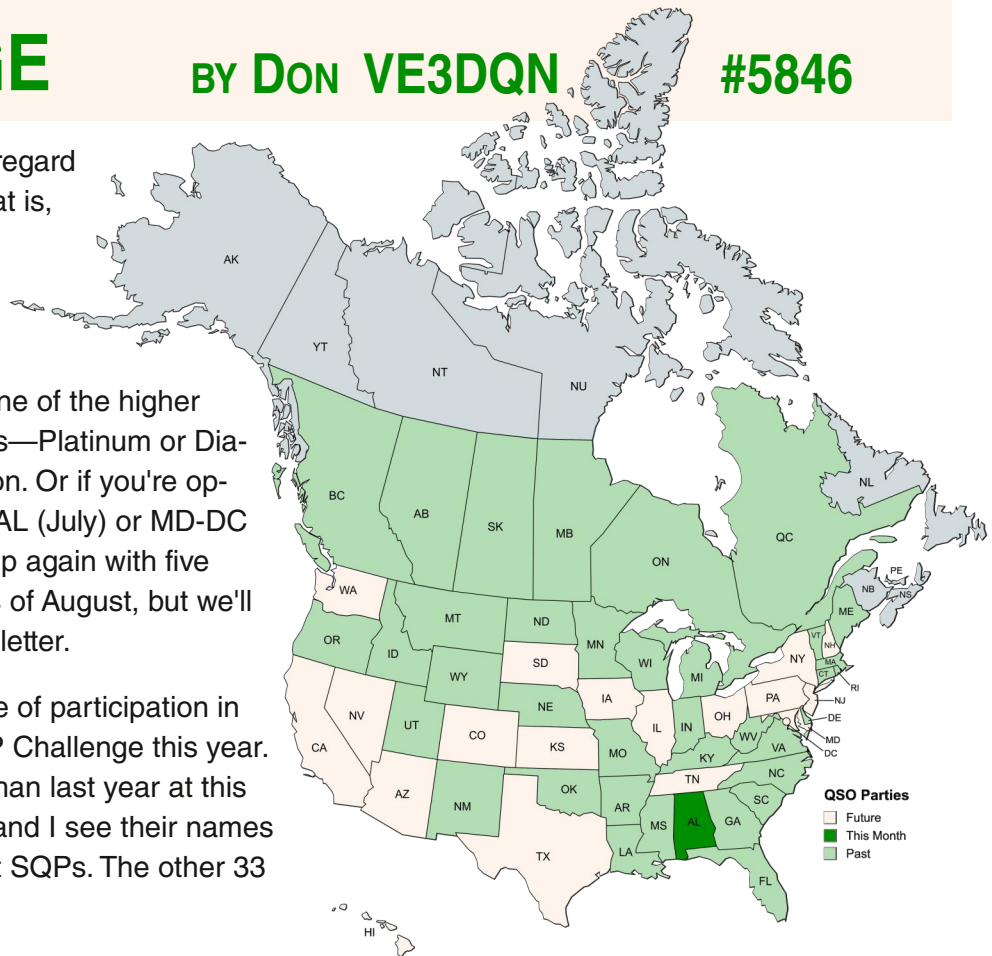
# NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE

BY DON VE3DQN

#5846

Summertime is slow time with regard to State QSO Party activity. That is, unless you're keen to make sure of gaining at the multiplier (2 QSOs) in each of the three summertime SQPs. Or if you're chasing QSO points to reach one of the higher coveted SQP Challenge awards—Platinum or Diamond—by the end of the season. Or if you're operating in-state for WV (June), AL (July) or MD-DC (mid-August). Yes, things pick up again with five SQPs in the last two weekends of August, but we'll talk about that in the next newsletter.

If you're curious, here's a profile of participation in the NAQCC version of the SQP Challenge this year. 53 participants so far, 1 more than last year at this point. About 20 are "regulars," and I see their names and callsigns pop up after most SQPs. The other 33



## LEADERBOARD

See the full list at

[http://naqcc.info/qsoparties\\_scores.html](http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_scores.html)

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Will NQ2W #4839	28	959	26,852	Platinum	75,658
Chris KU4A #1960	27	904	24,408	Gold	68,772
Steve NI8W #11335	28	762	21,336	Gold	60,116
Mike W7LG #10391	25	613	15,325	Gold	43,180
Ron VE3SIF #10033	21	626	13,146	Gold	37,040
Brent WT4U #9019	27	373	10,071	Gold	28,376
Rick KY0Q #9647	21	471	9,891	Silver	27,869
Kevin NN3E #9851	23	337	7,751	Silver	21,839
Bob N2EIM #10373	20	376	7,520	Silver	21,188
Anthony K8ZT #412	21	292	6,132	Silver	17,278
Kevin KE3V #855	22	273	6,006	Silver	16,923
Marty N9SE #7425	14	414	5,796	Silver	16,331
Don VE3DQN #5846	22	263	5,786	Silver	16,303
Ernie N2DGQ #11090	15	323	4,845	Bronze	13,651
Dave AC7FF #7618	18	258	4,644	Bronze	13,085
Jeff N0MII #7878	12	315	3,780	Bronze	10,651
Ray WB0SMZ #3889	21	163	3,423	Bronze	9,645
Stan K3PW #9637	25	124	3,100	Bronze	8,735
Chris WB9G #6311	12	172	2,064	Bronze	5,816

are occasional participants. Maybe they've operated in their own state/province's party and once or twice in another. Two (Will NQ2W and Steve NI8W) have a perfect record of capturing the multiplier in all 28 SQPs so far this year. Two others (Chris KU4A and Brent WT4U) are close behind with 27. Will NQ2W has already achieved the Platinum award, and I think is gunning for the Diamond.

Regardless, all participants are welcome. We call this "casual contesting" or "friendly little competition." If you haven't tried it yet, I invite you to dip your toes in the water. The next SQP is the Alabama Party, July 27 1500Z to July 28 0300Z. Check out the details on <http://naqcc.info/qsoparties.html>

Upcoming QSO Parties					
State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
Alabama	Jul 27 1500Z to Jul 28 0300Z	RST County	RST ST	45 up	<a href="#">rules</a>

### WEST VIRGINIA QSO PARTY SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**Chris KU4A #1960** Got lucky and got the minimum two QSOs about five minutes apart in the first hour. Found one more Q later for good measure. My FD operation is 1B-battery from Shelby County KY, 100% QRP CW. The forecast heat may curtail my operation just a bit this year.

**Steve NI8W #11335** I was hoping to work WV on 20m to complete my Worked All States 20m CW (and all QRP), but it didn't happen. I could just barely hear a few but couldn't copy. So I made all of my 8 contacts (1 more than last year) on 40m and 80m. Maybe next year!

**Will NQ2W #4839** WVQP - Got on early to try and get the multiplier. That took a few minutes because there wasn't anyone on that I could hear. After that, I checked back in throughout the QP to try and get a few more QSOs. Ended up with 12 QSOs working everyone that I could hear except for a few stations on 20m. Not a lot of activity heard from my station.

I'll probably do some FD operating from my home station...CW...QRP. Nothing serious...maybe go battery using my K1. Too much going on around the homestead for a serious effort....

**Barry K6RM #11022** Well, I was pretty disappointed with making only 10 QSOs but then when I looked at other scores on 3830 I realized that even the "big guns" only managed to work 15 or so CW stations in this event. I run my K3 at 5.0 watts into a fan dipole that is about 25 ft up in my attic. Still I got answers on the first call mostly.

**Brent WT4U #9019** Not one to rack up points on. The three stations I worked were the only ones I heard.

See the full soapbox at [http://naqcc.info/qsoparties\\_soapbox.html](http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_soapbox.html)



# SWR 10:1 — No Problem!

BY JERRY KI4IO #6438

## OPEN WIRE LINE (OWL)

It's hard to wrap ones head around OWL. It's probably easier to simply contrast it with coax cable. Coax needs to be terminated in a load equal to it's characteristic impedance. Taking our traditional 1/2-wave dipole as example, the feed impedance is somewhat dependent on height, but is roughly between 50 and 70 ohms, making it a good match for a coax cable with a characteristic impedance of 50 ohms. Using 100' of RG-213 on 14 MHz as an example, the matched (1:1 SWR) cable loss is .741dB—not worth worrying about!

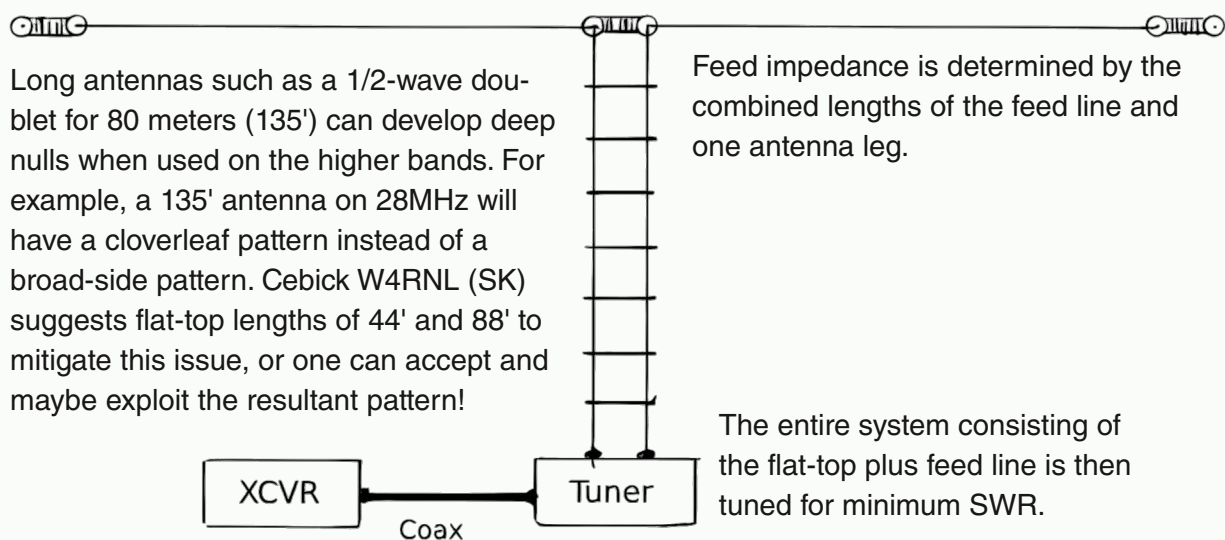
What happens when we try to use that 14 MHz dipole on 28MHz? The SWR would be very high—let's call it 15:1. The additional losses due to that high SWR are 3.55dB making a total feed-line loss of 4.62dB. So your transmitter may put out 100 Watts, but with those losses, only 34 Watts makes it to the antenna. Yikes! In reality a modern transmitter would likely shut down.

## OWL TO THE RESCUE

First, ditch that coax and replace it with open wire feed-line. Yeah, you can buy some commercial "window line" but the best feed-line is the stuff you can build yourself:

### RESONANCE IS NOT REQUIRED!

Flat-top length should be at least 1/2 wave long at the lowest frequency, but lengths as short as 1/4 wave can be used with reduced efficiency.



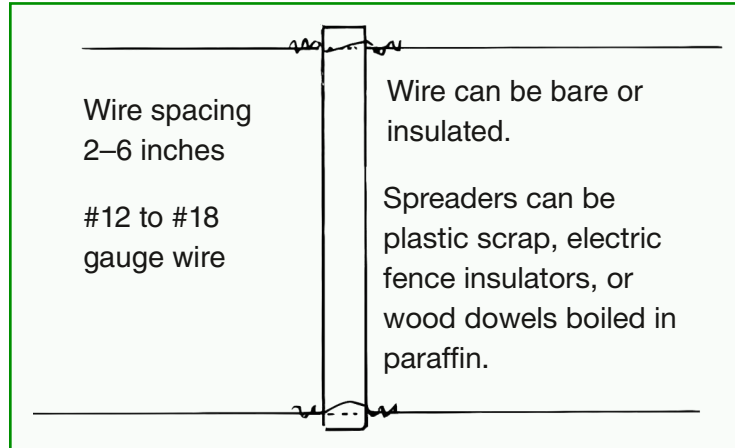
Typically a balanced tuner is required, but an unbalanced tuner can be used in conjunction with a balun.

### OPEN WIRE LINE CONSTRUCTION

The Internet is full of ways to construct open-wire feed line. For invisible or gossamer antennas, much smaller wire can be used.

Wire can be affixed to spacers by scraps of small diameter wire. Wire can be held in notches or in holes drilled in the spacers.

The purpose of the spacers is to hold the two wires apart at a fixed distance, even in windy conditions, so a spacer every 2–3 feet is OK.



### A FEW OTHER ITEMS

1. Pay attention to antenna coupler balance! *See: <https://www.qsl.net/vk5br/ZMatch/Zbalance.htm>*  
Poor coupler balance can cause feed-line radiation and local noise pick-up.
2. I know they're popular but off-center fed antennas are inherently unbalanced and require various band-aids (chokes) to mitigate their ills. This is not to say they can't work.
3. My coupler is a reversible L-network, unbalanced, floating from ground and feeding a 1:1 choke installed on the TX side of the coupler. I load a 40 meter flat-top on all bands 80 – 10 with a perfect match to the transmitter, As always, YMMV!

Jerry Wolczanski KI4IO  
Warrenton, VA

For 100ft flat-top fed with 40ft of OWL		
Band	SWR at line input	Total feedline losses in dB
3.5	7:1	0.77
7	9:1	0.154
10	9:1	0.259
14	5:9	0.221
18	6:1	0.249
21	9:1	0.424
25	4:1	0.212
28	5:1	0.276

These numbers are from "Open Wire Feed Line—a Second Look" by Paul Danzer N1II – April 2004 QST

### CALCULATING CHARACTERISTIC IMPEDANCE

$$Z_0 = 276 \log \frac{2S}{d}$$

$Z_0$  - characteristic impedance

S - conductor spacing (center-to-center)

d = conductor diameter (same units)



# RETURN OF THE BUMBLEBEES

BY JODY K3JZD #7936

It took a while for the new ARS volunteers to get things for this event sorted out and get an email address ready. We hope our fellow QRPers can support and participate in this long-time annual QRP event.

## ADVENTURE RADIO SOCIETY FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLEBEES

Sunday, July 28, 2024  
1700 to 2100 UTC

The Adventure Radio Society Flight of the Bumblebees is a QRP CW event held annually on the last Sunday of July.

It is open to all radio amateurs.

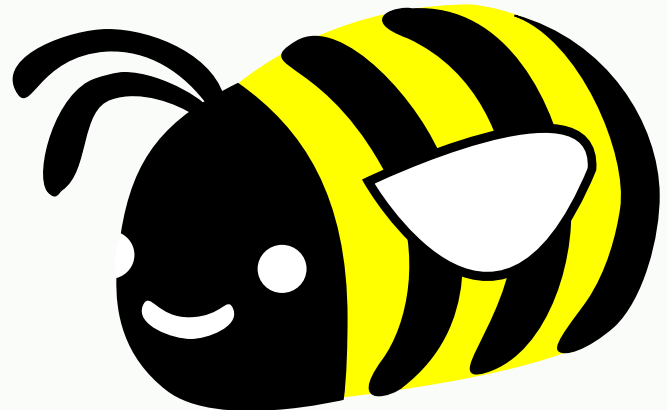
## CONTEST PERIOD BY TIMEZONE (LOCAL TIMES)

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. – Eastern  
12 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Central  
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Mountain  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Pacific  
7 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Hawaii

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A 2024 FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLEBEES (FOBB) NUMBER

If you plan to operate the 2024 FOBB portable – in other words, operate from a field location, then you're invited to request a Bumblebee Number. (Home stations do not need a number)

- **Bumblebee numbers do not carry over from year to year.**



- Each Year, participants must request a new Bumblebee Number to use for that year
- Bumblebee Numbers will be sequentially assigned.
- There will not be any ability to request any specific number(s).
- It is very easy to do. Simply send an email to [fobb-number@ars-qrp.com](mailto:fobb-number@ars-qrp.com)
- Include your name, callsign, and description of your intended field location
- Your Bumblebee Number will appear at <https://tinyurl.com/ytbbcdf8> within 2-4 days (quicker on July 25-27th)
- Requests will be accepted up to 2359 UTC on July 27, 2024

In case you are not seeing your Bumblebee Number within 2-4 days, you may contact Phil - K4PQC at [phil.specht@gmail.com](mailto:phil.specht@gmail.com)

Rules, exchanges, submitting logs, etc. info is available at [ars-qrp.com](http://ars-qrp.com)





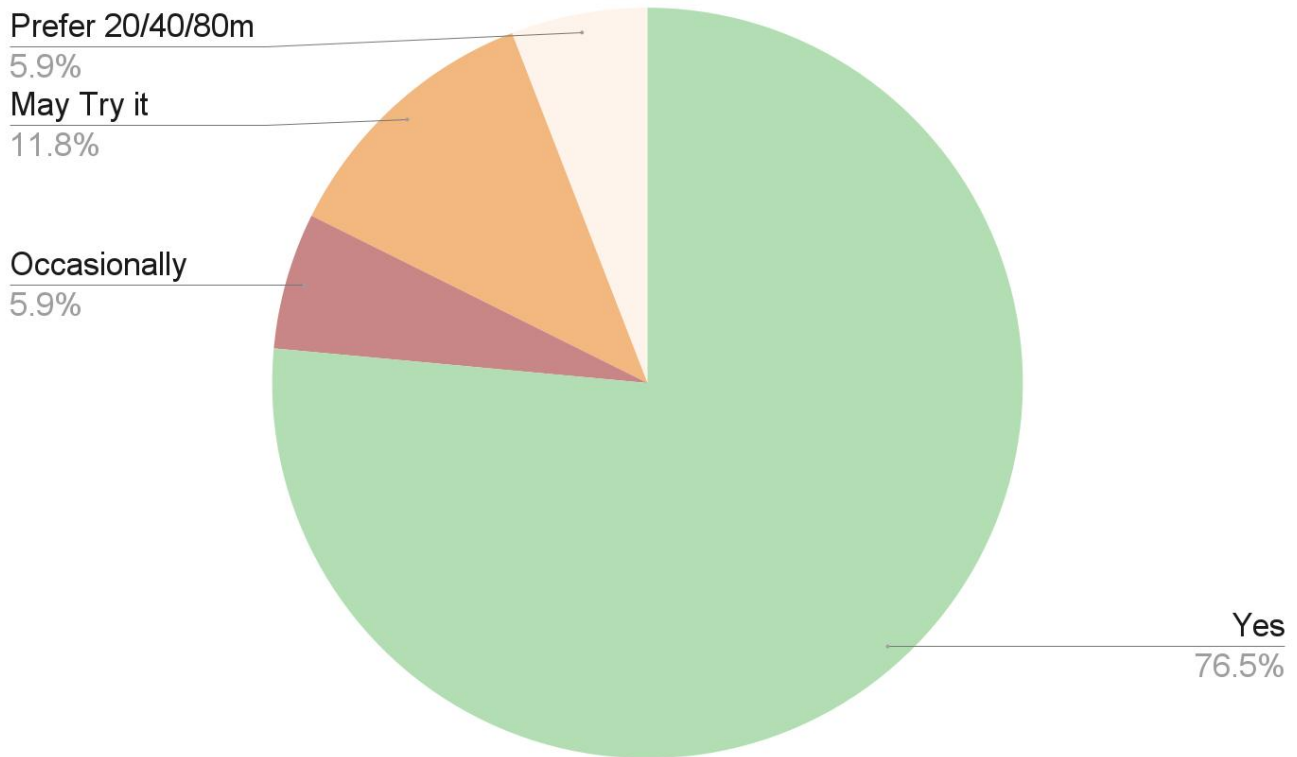
# MEMBER POLLS

## JULY POLL

Did you participate in Field Day 2024 QRP CW?  
Let us know at [http://naqcc.info/poll\\_new.html](http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html)

## JUNE POLL RESULTS

With the Solar Activities starting to get exciting, are you going to spend more time on 10, 12, & 15 meters?  
[http://www.naqcc.info/main\\_past\\_polls.html](http://www.naqcc.info/main_past_polls.html)



### POLL SOAPBOX

**John KK4ITX** - Over the last few months 20m would be tough while 17m/15m & 12m would be really good for me.



# NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

## THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: GOLDEN KNIGHTS

When you go to an air show to see a precision military team demonstrate their skills you are probably thinking of a formation of jets and some high speed aerobatic maneuvers. How about a propeller driven C-31A instead? A workhorse cargo and troop carrier ... how exciting can that be? Well if you add the US Army Golden Knights sky diving demonstration team to the mix things get interesting very quickly. You will get your aerobatic maneuvers but they are performed by a group of skydivers. Precision formation jumps are their trademark and they deliver in fine style.

In 1959 the Strategic Army Command Parachute Team ( STRAC ) was formed to compete in the new sport of skydiving. Two years later it became the United States Army Parachute Team and acquired the nickname of the Golden

Knights ... golden for the gold medals they had won and how, as knights, they were conquering the skies. The team has performed in all 50



states and 48 countries. In their travels, they have accumulated almost 4000 medals and have broken 348 world records.

Approximately 95 men and women comprise the unit. There is a competition team, a demonstration team, a tandem team who jump cradling an individual who is not a skilled jumper, an aviation team who maintain and pilot the aircraft and a headquarters team who handle the logistics necessary to allow the team to function. The demonstration teams performs at more than 100 events a year. If one of these performances is in your area don't miss it.




**WORDS**

- US ARMY GOLDEN KNIGHTS
- C31A TROOPSHIP
- DEMONSTRATION TEAM
- COMPETITION TEAM
- PRECISION FORMATION JUMPS

**CHALLENGE TRACKER**

1	3	A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	Y

Every time you work a new station 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](http://naqcc.info/challenge_tracker.pdf)

 Entering the Challenges earns you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual anniversary 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 eligible 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 [charlie.wilber@gmail.com](mailto:charlie.wilber@gmail.com)

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](http://naqcc.info/challenges_rules.html)

## NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

Things are looking up for next month's Mt. Washington Observatory Challenge!

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202408.html>

## LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the Controlled Demolition letter challenge and ARRL Field Day challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at

<http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202406.html> and

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202406fd.html>.

Final results will be posted on those pages 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](http://naqcc.info/challenges_schedule.html).

Number of Challenges	Members
25+	AC2C KC5F WT4U KU4A W2ITT NN9K N1JI K9OSC KA5PVB KD0V N2EIM AB9BZ NN3E KI4IO W1BLU WY3H ND9M WY7N KI8I VE3HUR W4LSV AD0YM ON7DQ N9WVM N0IPA N1LU W4KAC KD2MX K4KBL
50+	KJ4R VE3FUJ NF1U KB1M N4OW WB4OMM N9SE DK1VD G3JFS
75+	PA9CW W3IQ WA2FBN PA0XAW WI5H AK3X AH6AX VE3DQN
100+	K1IEE
125+	
150+	W2JEK K3WWP K1YAN
175+	N8XMS

### LETTER CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**N4OW:** Tough Band conditions made this challenge most interesting . High letter counts were another factor :) Fun and frustrating!

**K3ES:** Another great Letter Challenge! POTA was not as productive this month, so I finished the challenge with some great QRP DX contacts.

**VE3DQN:** A very strange thing happened to me in this month's Challenge. Operating occasionally it took me until the 19th of the month to get all the letter, except the "U's." Not a single one! Then this morning (the 20th) I turned on my radio and heard NU1U. Wow, two U's in one shot! A good omen. An hour later I got my final U's. All's well that ends well.

**N8XMS:** For the 2nd month in a row I have been stymied by not finding enough U's! Looking ahead to July, there are only a couple of those nasty letters so maybe I'll have a chance!



**FIELD DAY CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER**

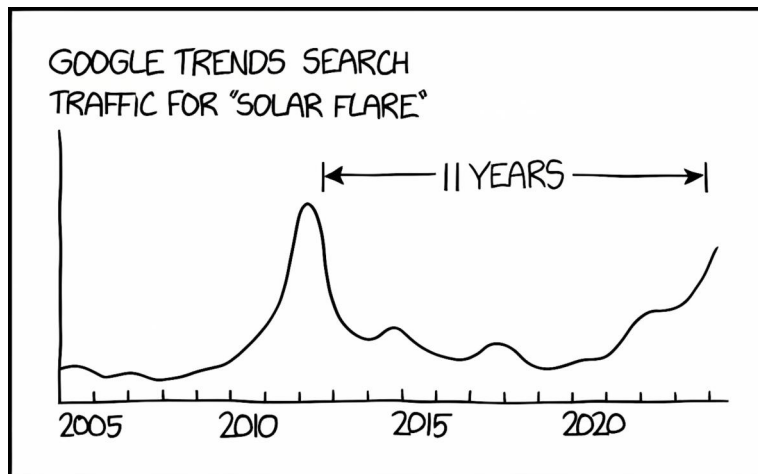
**AB9BZ:** I made contact with 47 ARRL Sections during this year's field day while running QRP CW. DX included both France and Russia. 73 Dave

**VE2KZW:** I have done Field Day and Winter Field Day using CW with our radio club call sign VE2CRO but this year, I operated under my own call sign, in CW with the Ultra Porta Paddle from AME and my KX2 at 5 watts to my Buddipole set as a flat top dipole and to an end-fed random wire. The biggest challenge was to make sense of the machine gun speed of participants; I ended up doing mostly S&P, to make sure I would get their class and section properly. I did one contact on 80m, 32 on 40m, 11 on 20m and 12 on 15m, for a total of 56 contacts. Noisy at times but manageable. The equipment was a pleasure to use and I will certainly repeat the experience. 72, Robert.

**WT4U:** Got my new high-band QMX working (after replacing the ADC chip) and had some good success operating 1E Saturday night on 15 and 20m. Some more Sunday morning, then about the time I realized the 30-section goal for the NAQCC FD Challenge was in reach, everyone went home and the bands died. Switched rigs to get 40m and worked #30, SC, by CQing near where I heard him work someone I already had. Done with 15 min to spare before guests arrived. Whew!

**KU4A:** Portable operation class 1B battery Chris KU4A NAQCC #1960

**WD9EGW:** I'd not planned to get on the air for Field Day until I saw the NAQCC challenge. I figured I could at least work 10 sections, so I set my MC750 vertical on the back deck and put the KX2 on the kitchen table. Lots of activity and some great sounding CW. I had a great time and look forward to next time. 72, Chuck



xkcd.com

I LIKE THAT GOOGLE HAS EXISTED ALMOST LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO OBSERVE THE SOLAR CYCLE USING GOOGLE TRENDS.

# 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>.

## FEATURED AWARDS:

### 1000 MILES PER WATT AWARD

Make a QSO using 5 watts or less power and a simple wire antenna in which distance(miles) / power(watts) is greater than 1000.

To show the super-efficiency of CW, this award is issued to anyone who demonstrates that efficiency by making a QSO using QRP or QRPp and a simple wire antenna per NAQCC standards where the distance between stations divided by power in watts is greater than 1000. You can find a distance calculator here.

### KMPW 100 AWARD

Make 100 QSOs in which distance(miles) / power(watts) is 1000 or greater.

It is fairly easy to get a 1000 MPW award with the modern equipment in use nowadays. Russ N9IV wants to make it a bit harder and he suggested this award. It involves making not 1, but 100 KMPW QSO's. Even that is not all that hard in reality as I found out when I (K3WWP)

checked my log to see roughly how many such QSO's I had here. I used a great circle map centered on Kittanning, PA and added up all my QSO's from countries that were entirely 5,000 miles or more from my QTH. I didn't count QSO's from countries that were partly inside the 5,000 mile distance nor those countries within 5,000 miles that I worked with less than 5 watts. Going by that premise I have 395 such QSO's, 169 of which are verified by regular QSL card. I mention the verified total because Russ believes all the QSO's should be verified. We address that in the rules below. When you work on your totals, you can find links to distance calculators here.

NOTE: The mileage figures listed in the QRZ.com database are NOT accurate. For example, in checking my Japanese QSO's, all come up to the same exact distance there despite being in many different cities.

Complete details on this award can be found at [http://www.naqcc.info/awards\\_wpxswa.html](http://www.naqcc.info/awards_wpxswa.html).

## RECENT AWARDS

### 1000 Mile per Watt

Nr	Call	Stn worked	MPW	Award Date	Notes & Antenna
0660	KN5EE	JA3YBK	1,328	06/20/24	133' sloper/lazy-1
0659	KW6SEA	WA6MM	1,841	06/20/24	dipole @35'



# NAQCC SPRINTS

## JULY SPRINT

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Thursday July 18th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, July 17th in North America. Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202407.html>.

## RULES

Complete sprint rules and instructions on how to submit your log can be found at [http://naqcc.info/sprint\\_rules.html](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](http://naqcc.info/sprint_sked.html).

## JUNE REGULAR SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202406.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

June Sprint				
	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	75	67	217	4/17
Participants	120	104	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1,077	712	3,154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	591	452	1,704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	486	260	1,450	4/17
20m QSOs	190	188	1,232	8/13
40m QSOs	818	522	2,203	4/17
80m QSOs	69	2	1,417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	14.4	10.6	19.3	9/11

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1TER	KB1M	-
W2	N2ESE	WA1GWH	WA2FBN
W3	KC3RN	KM3D	WA3FIR
W4	K4BAI	K4KRW	AF4PX
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	KF7Z	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	AB8SV
W9	K9EYT	AB9BZ WD9EGW (TIE)	-
W0	N0MII	KC2MJT	-
Canada	KQ1P/VE9	-	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	WB1GYZ	-	-
W2	-	-	-
W3	NN3E	-	-
W4	KJ4R	K7EK	K3RLL
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	N7QR	-	-
W8	K8NGW	-	-
W9	K9DRP	-	-
W0	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1TER	KB1M	-
W2	N2ESE	WA1GWH	WA2FBN
W3	KC3RN	KM3D	WA3FIR
W4	K4BAI	K4KRW	AF4PX
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	KF7Z	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	AB8SV
W9	K9EYT	AB9BZ WD9EGW (TIE)	-
W0	N0MII	KC2MJT	-
Canada	KQ1P/VE9	-	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

GAIN CATEGORY			
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	NQ2W	-	-
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	KC2EGL	-	-

●-●● ● ●●-● - - - - ●●●- ● ●-●

●●● ●-●● ●- -●-● ● - -●●- -

- ●●●● ● ●●-● ●● -● ●- ●-●●

●●-● ●-● - - - - -● - ●● ● ●-●



## JUNE MW SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <https://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202406mw.html>

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KN1H	WB1GYZ	KK4ITX
W2	KA2KGP	KN2G	W2SH
W3	K3JZD	-	-
W4	KC5F	WG8Y	KA8VZB
W5	N5GW	-	-
W6	K6GPB	-	-
W7	KC7DM	N7KM KL7IEE (TIE)	-
W8	-	-	-
W9	WB9HFK	K9NUD	K9QEW
W0	N8LA	NN0SS	AA0W
Canada	VA3NU	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	-	-	-
W2	-	-	-
W3	KC3MIO	-	-
W4	K7EK	KJ4R	K3RLL
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	N7QR	-	-
W8	-	-	-
W9	K9DRP	-	-
W0	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

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

SWA KEYSER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KB1M	-	-
W2	WA1GWH	WA2FBN	-
W3	KM3D	KQ3Z	KA3D
W4	K1SN	N4MJ	-
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	W18J	K8NGW	W8GG
W9	N9EEE	AB9BZ	-
W0	-	-	-
Canada	VE3SIF	-	-
DX	-	-	-

### QRPP STATS:

**Logs submitted:** 45  
**Total participants:** 69  
**Total QSOs:** 344  
**States/Provinces:** 31 + ON

## 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](http://naqcc.info/sprint_dates.html).

Number of Sprints	Members
50+	KC7DM KF7WNS WD4OHD K1IX VE3GNU KB0ETU K2YGM AA7CU AA5LH KC2MJT N8HWV VE3HUR K3JZD WT4U N8QY WY3H W4HH KC3RN KC2EGL KD9EBS K6CSL W5UAA KE9DR AB8FJ NN9K KD0DK AB9BZ K8NGW K9QEW WK6L K2HT K4ORD K5GQ N1JI W4NLT WA2NYY KA8VZB WI8J KB4QQJ KB9ILT VA3NU KN2G NN3E AA2VG N9SE KA8HDE KC5F
75+	WA1GWH WB9HFK VE3DQN WB1GYZ WA2FBN K4NVJ NQ2W WB4OMM N2CN VE3FUJ K9OSC WD0K N8BB AA0W NN0SS KJ4R N7QR K4KBL K6MGO NF5U WI5H N8APO
100+	KL7IEE KN1H NA4O W4DUK KA9FQG N4MJ NO2D AA9L N8LA WB8ENE KD2MX KD3CA KB1M KQ1P K9EYT
125+	WG8Y N0TA N4FI K4KRW AK3X N5GW
150+	K4BAI W9CC N8XMS K4JPN KD0V N2ESE KE5YUM K2CWM WX4RM KU4A WA8SAN
175+	K3RLL NF8M
200+	KA2KGP K3WWP W2SH W2JEK W8GG

### REGULAR SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**KW4NJA** - My very first NAQCC Sprint. Only had about 30 minutes to operate, but it was lots of fun!!! The ole straight key needs to come out more, I do know that!

**NQ2W** - As usual, another fine NAQCC Sprint. Only played on 20 and 40 and both bands were in fairly decent shape. Only had a limited amount of time but that time was filled with QSOs. Very enjoyable! Thanks for the contacts and the opportunity to participate. 72, Will, NQ2W

**NOMII** - This is still one of my all-time favorite contests :-). Had fun trying to get K7EK in the log - we kinda chased each other around the band!

**WD9EGW** - My first Sprint. 72, Chuck

**K3EMS** - 40 meters was the place to be- lots of very strong signals punching through the QSB and noise. Used my portable set-up- Mountaintopper 4b, ZM-2 tuner. Looking forward to next months Sprint.

**KN1H** - Based on recent experience I had very low expectations for this Sprint, but surprise! All three bands were in good shape with low noise and actual propagation. How un-summer-solstice like! Looking forward to seeing everyone next week in the QRPp. 72, John

**K4KRW** - Fun night. It was nice to get to work the entire event for a change. I got contacts on 20, 40 and 80. Thanks everyone!

## QRPP SOAPBOX SAMPLER

**K3RLL** - This mW Sprint is almost always a fun event with surprisingly good signals. Tonight, someone must have been out there somewhere shaking 20 meters as fairly nice signals would come and go within seconds. Missed a number of good ones tonight when they slipped in and out, and sometimes not back in. ;-( Big signal into FL tonight was Glenn, N4MJ. Thanks for the fun. 72 ... Don

**K1SN** - Thanks to everyone for their patience. Really stoked to work John, KC7DM, from Oregon on 20 meters with less than one watt output power both ways.

**KN1H** - A very tough night at sub-one watt, thanks to those who pulled me out of the noise. I really like the new fist at KN2G, Ken's modified side swiper is a delight to listen to. IC-7300, on battery, @ 950mw output. Nye Viking Master Key. 72, John, KN1H

**KC7DM** - A nice x-county pipeline early on 20M. OR to GA, NC and VA. 72 all.

**KC5F** - Not a lot of activity, but mostly decent signals. But the only 4-call I worked from here in NC was in TN on 20m! Also had two members who were loud and didn't give NAQCC numbers, and when asked were running 100w, so I logged them as non-members with their power levels. I guess it's still a challenge to see what stations you can work, too. Fun, as always. Thanks, all!

**K7EK** - Lots of signals this evening, however regional storm static really made things rough. Surprised at how well I did with 1W, despite the wall of static.

**KN2G** - Choppy waters tonight! 20 was muted and sparse. 40 a bit variable but the place to be and the surf was way too high on 80. Almost got you Ron, VE3SIF on 80. Good fun even as the crashes slowly intensified. See you on the weekend as W2F on CW for Field Day from NNY.

**WG8Y** - Hi all, Rough start. Made my first QSO one hour into the Sprint. Worked 4 Q's in 3 states. Spun the dial but decided pulled the plug at 0200Z. Ran my FT-817ND at 800 to 900MW into 10-80 OCF at 40ft. Still fun. Now to get "stuff" ready for a very hot Field Day. Stay hydrated everyone. 72 From N.C. Mark WG8Y

**K9DRP** - Put the mCHF rig to work tonight. I heard a lot more stations than could hear me. Worked one on 20 and the rest on 40. Still amazing where you can go with 1 watt. 72 Don

**KC3MIO** - I knew the MW sprint was this week, but forgot the night until I heard KC5F calling "CQ NA" at 0131. I quickly dialed down the power on my Icom 705 and stuck with the Bencher BY-1 I had hooked up and worked Steve. Most contacts on 40, but did work 2 stations on 20 in FL and NE; the band was very quiet. Noise on 80 was too high to work anybody. It is always amazing what you can do with one watt. Thanks, all & 73/72.



# 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](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 7:30PM 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)	Off the air			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 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)

Jun 07 – QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, W7VK, WB7WHG, WB4SPB, AD7BP, N7QR

Jun 14 – QNI (6) NCS WB4SPB, AD7BP, KB7DYP, W7ANM, NB6M, N7QR

Jun 21 – QNI (4) NCS KE7LKW, KB7DYP, WB4SPB, AD7BP

Jun 28 - QNI (5) NCS KE7LKW, NB6M, WB4SPB, AD7BP, N7QR

## NAQCC MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0030 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/-  
Main NCS - Bob W0CC (Kansas)

Jun 03 – QNI (1) W0CC

High levels of QRN S-9 plus adjacent stations with 1.5 to 2.5 KHz wide signals made it more challenging. Next week, the challenge will be overcome!

Jun 10 – QNI (4) W0CC, W1TM, KI5MZK, KC9TYA

I feel honored to have had so many GREAT Operators pull out my weak signal, buried in QRN, this evening. It shows their dedication to excellence in operating!

Jun 17 – QNI (2) W0CC, W1TM

Tim did another GREAT JOB picking out my signal in the QRN!

Jun 24 – QNI (2) W0CC, W1TM

Lots of QSB and QRN. During the last half of the Net, I could not hear any other stations, not even W1AW! Probably some residual of what we experienced on Field Day this past weekend! I am TRULY AMAZED at the job Tim did in 1) finding me because, someone had a carrier tone on 7031 and I had to QSY to 7.03260 to find a "quiet spot" and 2) pick out my signal from all the QSB and QRN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## NAQCC EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0000 UTC,  
on 7067 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)  
Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

Jun 04 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Interesting net tonight. YUM was using his new FT710 and sounding real good. Said he loves the filters on that rig. Sure he will have fun with the learning curve! Andy YGA was off freq. and we finally got his rig set up right again. Those darn buttons HI HI.

Jun 11 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Usual crew, lots of rain in AR. Good weather all around. A little cooler for a few days. All reports were 599 this week with a little QSB.

Jun 18 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Great conditions tonight! Started with a little QRN but it dropped off shortly after the net started. Allen N4NN reported some QRM but I did not hear it. Discussed Field Day plans and weather. Signals 589/599 from all.

Jun 24 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Well it was hot out in the garage, but I managed to get it usable with the window AC. Good signals tonight and no QRM so far on 7.067kc. Talked about what we did for Field Day and other things. Stay cool and CUL.



# NAQCC CHAPTERS

## START A LOCAL CHAPTER

The North American QRP CW Club currently has six local chapters - 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 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 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 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.

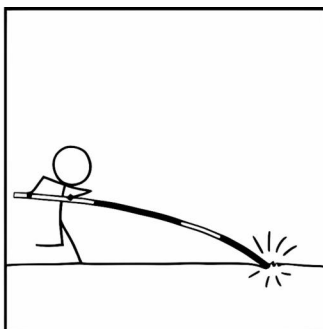
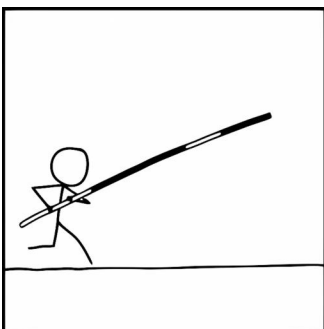
The Illowa Chapter website is at <https://sites.google.com/site/naqccillowa2/>.

## 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

# MFJ

## MFJ Enterprises, Inc.

<https://mfjenterprises.com>

**Get  
Radio-active**

**Join ARRL**  
arrl.org/join



**ARRL**  
The National Association for  
Amateur Radio®

<https://www.arrl.org/>



<http://www.4sqrp.com>



<http://zaarc.org/gsqrp.html>

***KB3IFH QSL CARDS***  
***& Ham Radio Gifts***

<https://www.kb3ifhqslcards.com/>



# 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 contest 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.

## NAQCC CONTACTS

NAQCC President	John KK4ITX	jleahy00@yahoo.com
NAQCC Treasurer	Dennis W4DWS	w4dws@arrl.net
Downeast Maine Chapter	Jeff KA1DBE	<a href="mailto:j.hanscom@gmail.com">j.hanscom@gmail.com</a>
Florida Chapter	Nikki KM4SBQ	nickies1130@aol.com
Illowa Chapter	Tim N9BIL	n9bil@arrl.net
West Florida Chapter	Ron N9EE	n9ee55@gmail.com
Long Island Chapter	Howard WB2UZE	wb2uze@yahoo.com
Newsletter Submissions Member Spotlight	Paul KD2MX	kd2mx@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Brent WT4U	brentWT4U@naqcc.radio
NAQCC CW Nets	Mark W8EWH	<a href="mailto:mark.yergin@gmail.com">mark.yergin@gmail.com</a>

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 John Leahy KK4ITX  
3513 Aquamarine Way  
Zephyrhills, FL 33540 USA

