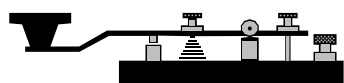


NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 333 • MARCH 2026



Key Clicks

- *In This Issue*

The Prez Sez; a few submissions; and the usual Nets, QRP Events, Polls, Sprints, Soapboxes, and more.

- *Vice President Opening*

With the resignation of Aaron Ray N4ARY, we have an opening for vice president.

- *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 <https://naqcc.info/memberlist.php> to make sure the rest of the fields are correct and then fill out the member update form here: https://naqcc.info/member_updates.html.

- *Content Submissions*

As always, keep sending us your stories and we'll keep getting them into the newsletter.

- *OpenHamClock*

We had a bit about HamClock in the last issue. With that service shutting down soon, check out [OpenHamClock](#). It's pretty slick and runs in a web browser.

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The Prez Sez...

Swap and Shop

A somewhat minor change will be tested for our April listings. Using a free tool we will have a “fill in the blanks” form which should keep the listings consistent in form content, easier to read, and with the blank boxes we expect so all information will be provided. Be aware that at present you can only list ONE ITEM per form. There are drop down options for item condition and shipping.

PLEASE share your thoughts and certainly report any issues encountered.

SARC Communicator

I recently received my second online version of the SARC Communicator—120 pages of full color, easy to read, and interesting articles of every description. The Communicator is a free electronic periodical published by Surrey Amateur Radio Communications in Surrey, B.C., Canada. The editor is John Schouten VE7TI, NAQCC# 12273.

Check out this great publication: <https://www.calameo.com/read/0076654748e4b7dfa8c39>

To subscribe for e-mail delivery of this electronic journal, notify communicator@ve7sar.net

Donations

Donations are always needed, appreciated and required for operating expenses. Please mail your tax deductible check payable to:

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

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.

Annual Directors Meeting

The Annual NAQCC Directors Meeting is scheduled for 4:00 PM EST April 18, 2026 via either Zoom or Google as stated in our bylaws.

2026 OzarkCon Registration

It's getting close for OzarkCon. If you're able to go, you won't be disappointed!

<http://ozarkcon.com/Registration/index.php>

72,

John, KK4ITX
#7249
kk4itx@proton.me





<https://xkcd.com/3217/>

Club Callsign: N3AQC

Use the Club Call

Help promote NAQCC by using our Club Call, N3AQC. Simply contact John KK4ITX via email and he'll get you going. Let him know the date(s), time(s), bands to be used, expected OPs, and location.

We'll Advertise Your Event

John will promote your outing via the NAQCC Groups.io and the NAQCC general news email system. Your event will be posted on the N3AQC QRZ page and is the official record of the call's use.

You Don't Need to Buy a "Portable" Key to Operate Portable

By Dan KB6NU #8711

Parks on the Air, or POTA, is all the rage these days. Personally, I love heading out to one of Michigan's great state parks and setting up my KX-3 to make some POTA contacts. I'd encourage everyone to give it a try.

"But," you might say, "I don't have a portable key!" That's no problem. Just take along one that you already have.

When I operate POTA, I take along my trusty Kent TP-1. I call it my "beater" key because I use it any time I operate away from home, including Field Day and POTA

operations. It's rugged as heck, and if I drop it, or it gets banged around a bit, I'm not going to damage it. The worst that could happen is that the paint gets chipped a little.

Sure, it's a little heavier than, say, the American Morse Ultra Portable Paddle, which a friend of mine let me use not long ago—but I didn't have to pay an extra \$169 for it, either. And, as you can see from the photo, when I'm operating POTA, I'm usually operating from a picnic table. Maybe if I operated SOTA instead of POTA, I'd opt for the Ultra Portable key—but even then, it might be worth taking the Kent paddle.

Don't let the lack of a portable key prevent you from having fun with POTA or SOTA. Get out there and give it a try with a key you already own. Then, if it's something you think you'll do again, you can consider buying a key specifically for portable ops.

I blog about CW—and amateur radio in general—at KB6NU.com and I am the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides. My book, *The CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun with Morse Code*, is available from my website or Amazon.



Morse? Of Course!

By John N3ZLQ

Sending and receiving the Morse code—CW in amateur radio operator parlance—has been in use by the amateur radio community for almost as long as we have been in existence.

Inventor Samuel F. B. Morse (1791-1872), a New York University professor, gets the lion's share of credit for the discovery of the code which bears his name, but actually a collaboration with Morse's friend and assistant, Alfred Vail, improved Morse's original code to make it more usable and more like the Morse code we amateurs use today. Of the several Morse codes extant, the International Morse code is what is currently in use by most amateur radio operators across the world.

Morse's interest in the code, a series of sounds corresponding to letters of the alphabet and punctuation, stemmed from his attempts to invent a method of communication, which he called "telegraphy," that he intended for use by the U. S. War Department by means of wires placed between locations to carry the messages. By 1838, Morse would use his personal contacts to arrange a successful demonstration of telegraphy for the U. S. Congress. Despite some initial resistance, and a certain amount of disbelief from several members of Congress, in 1843, with the help of \$30,000 of Congressional financial back-

ing, Morse constructed a working telegraph line thirty-eight miles from Washington, D.C. to Baltimore, Maryland.

His first demonstration message across that distance was suggested to Morse by his daughter and was taken from the Holy Bible: "What hath God wrought?" Although Morse's telegraph would transmit just ten words per minute, this was just what Morse needed to show the practicality of his system. Western Union, an early Morse supporter, then built the first successful transcontinental communications cable between America and Great Britain in 1861. The age of rapid international communications had begun.

Telegraphy would change the face of communications during the American Civil War, and make possible the passing of information and orders from President Abraham Lincoln himself to the far-flung Union armies in the field, helping to ensure a Union victory in that conflict. Morse's invention would revolutionize the entire world of communication from its inception in 1843 right up to our present day, and in some ways, help set the stage for internet communications.

The first telegraph operators were highly trained in the skills needed to operate the so-called telegraph key used to transmit

Morse code messages. These devices were more primitive than the code keys used by amateur radio operators today.

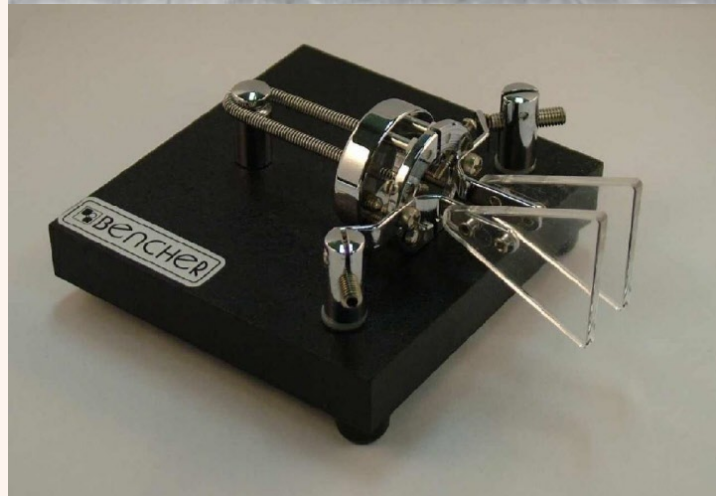
These days there are numerous ways to send CW wirelessly across the world, including straight keys, semi-automatic keys (known as bugs), paddles, and even computer programs that will send the code with input from a keyboard, but this is a far cry from Samuel Morse's concept of telegraphic messaging.

Above right is a photograph of an American straight key, my Bunnell J-37 built for the US military in 1941, as well as a Speed-X and a British Kent Straight key, all work well.

And below right are photos of a Vibroplex Semi-automatic key (bug) and Bencher standard paddles respectively.

All of these sending devices are capable of sending crisp and clear CW across the world.

For those who are interested in learning Morse code, there are many courses available that are suitable for the purpose. The ARRL publishes frequencies, days, and times in QST magazine when the League sends HF Morse code at varying speeds throughout the month to facilitate practice and increasing speed. The ARRL also sponsors CW awards and identifies the recipients of those awards in QST magazine every month. Our own NAQCC organization sponsors contests, sprints, and indi-



vidual speed frequencies using QRP, or low power communications, to help teach and maintain the art of sending and receiving Morse code with other members of like interest.

Most accomplished operators who use CW would agree that you should never send faster than you can reliably receive, and also that it helps immeasurably to listen to good Morse code sending every single day, if only for ten minutes at a time. The idea is to set in your mind and memory the intervals between the dot sound and dash sound.

So, what is the spacing in Morse code? Generally speaking, the dot is one time unit, the dash is 3-time units; the space between symbols, dots and dashes of the same letter is one time unit. The space between letters is 3-time units, and the space between words is 7-time units. If this sounds like there is a lot going on, there is.

But the solution, as previously stated, is to listen to good Morse code sending every day. Your mind and memory will soon mirror the correct sound, and your practice sessions will get better and better until you are sending correctly at your chosen speed. Don't try to push for more speed over intelligibility. Good Morse sending is fun to lis-

ten to, but less-than-good sending is a chore at best for other hams to try to interpret. In an emergency, only good sending (at any speed) will get your message through.

Above all, practice is essential—learning Morse code is just like learning any new language, and it takes time to be reasonably fluent. Schedule a set time for your practice sessions. Getting your receiving up to speed is the first order of business for any first-class operator. By integrating eye-hand coordination with language capability, Morse code sending and receiving makes it possible for two amateur radio operators to communicate across the world without needing to know each other's language.

While CW is a perishable skill, it amply repays anyone's attempts to keep it current in our memories and in our amateur radio station practices. It has been said that CW always gets through, and especially with today's crowded bands, it remains a very viable method of communication across the world of amateur radio. Morse code—of course—will continue to demonstrate its value and fun-factor to the amateur radio community in the 21st century and beyond.

Won't you join us?



QRP Contest and Event News

By Jim K7QI / Z8IA #5020

Welcome to Spring finally arriving here in the South, my fellow QRPers. I can't believe how many hours I spent last month working POTA, W1AW, USA250 stations, and the list goes on. My Yaesu FT-891 already wants a vacation. Hope to work with you all on the bands.

Event	When	Link
QRP Fox Hunt	Mar 11 0200Z-0330Z	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	Mar 14 1200Z to Mar 15 2400Z	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/
AGCW QRP Contest	Mar 14 1400Z-2000Z	https://www.agcw.de/contest/qrp/qrp-c-engl/
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 14 1500Z to Mar 15 0200Z	http://k5cm.com/okqp.htm
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 14 1600Z to Mar 15 0400Z	https://www.idahoqsoparty.org/
Tesla Memorial HF CW Contest	Mar 14 1800Z to Mar 15 0559Z	http://www.radiosport.yu1srs.org.rs/HFTeslaMemorial/index.php/rules
YOTA Contest	Mar 15 1000Z-2159Z	https://yotacontest.mrasz.org/
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 15 1800Z to Mar 16 0100Z	http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	Mar 15 2300Z to Mar 16 0100Z	http://qrptest.com/pigrun/
QRP Fox Hunt	Mar 18 0200Z-0330Z	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
A1Club AWT	Mar 18 1145Z-1300Z	https://a1club.org/contest/awt/
CWops Test (CWT)	Mar 18 1900Z-2000Z	https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	Mar 19 0000Z-0100Z	https://qrptest.com/pigwalk20/
Virginia QSO Party	Mar 21 1400Z to Mar 22 0400Z	https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2026_VQP/2026_VQP_Main.html
SKCC Sprint	Mar 25 0000Z-0200Z	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/
QRP Fox Hunt	Mar 25 0200Z-0330Z	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Sasquatch Stomp	Mar 27 1900Z to Mar 28 0300Z	https://www.pnwqrp.org/sasquatch-stomp
Bill Windle QSO Party	Mar 28 0000Z-2359Z	https://www.g4foc.org/bill-windle-qso-party/
QCX Challenge	Mar 30 1300Z-1400Z	http://www.qrp-labs.com/party.html
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Apr 1	http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm
Louisiana QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 5	http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso_rules.htm
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 4 to 1500Z, Apr 5	https://spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl/2024/rules.php
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 7	http://ars-qrp.com/Spartan_Sprint/Spartan_Sprint.html
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 11	http://qrparci.org/contest/spring-qso-party
JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 11 to 1300Z, Apr 12	http://www.jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html
DIG QSO Party, CW	1200Z, Apr 11 to 1100Z, Apr 12	https://dig-contest.de/rules
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Apr 11 to 2359Z, Apr 12	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

NAQCC Challenge

The FP-45 Liberator Pistol

By Gary KIYAN #2365

During the course of WW II, German forces occupied a number of countries. Often, the native populations wanted to resist, but found themselves without the arms to do so. In March of 1942, the US Army came up with the idea of mass manufacturing a cheap, simple weapon that could be supplied to an occupied country to aid the resistance. The theory was that it would be used to kill off occupying forces and obtain their weapons for later use.

The weapon proposed, the FP-45 Liberator, was a small, single shot, .45 caliber pistol, with a short, unrifled barrel, suitable for close up, ambush type, encounters. Being designed for a limited number of shots, about 50 total, allowed the use of stamped metal parts to speed manufacture and kept the price down. The cost per unit was about \$3.50 in 1942 dollars.

In eleven weeks, in the fall of 1942, General Motors Guide Lamp division assembled one million pistols. Frigidaire, the refrigerator company, reamed out the barrels since GM did not have the necessary tooling for the job. It was said that the guns were manufactured faster than they could be loaded.

Five hundred thousand pistols were shipped to England for insertion into European countries. The effort fell to the British Special Operations Executive. They were not in control of the project, which resulted in a lack of interest on their part. One argument against the project was that a Whitley bomber, the plane to which the project would fall, could only carry 600



You can use each letter in a call TWICE. For example you could use K3WWP for 2 K's, 4 W's, and 2 P's.

Subsequent QSO's with the same station cannot be used for additional letters. For example, no matter how many times you work K3WWP, you can only use his call for 8 of the letters in the words.

See General Rule #5 for more details on what callsign letters can be used.

If you need some help with your alphabet challenge record keeping take a look at our Alphabet Tutorial page for everything from some great pencil & paper methods to fully computerized tools.

Awards

A certificate goes to everyone making all the words and submitting their report before the deadline.

Logs

For your report, list the words you made and the station used for each letter in the word. The number of stations listed must be the same as the number of letters in each word, even though you use the same station for more than one letter as in:

WORD - K3WWP N2OD WA8REI N2OD
NEXT - NF8M W8REI N8XMS K9EYT

(Note how N2OD is listed for both the O and D.)

You may also include comments about the challenge. Please preface any comments you want posted with "SOAPBOX:" so we will know what you want posted and what is private.

Submitting your Entry

Send your results as text in the horizontal format shown above to Charlie N1AOK at: charlie.wilber AT gmail.com (You must type that address into your email program.)

Subject must read: (your call) NAQCC (month year) Challenge

For example: K3WWP NAQCC January 2022 Challenge

All entries must be RECEIVED before the 10th of the following month at 2400Z.



NAQCC State QSO Party Challenge

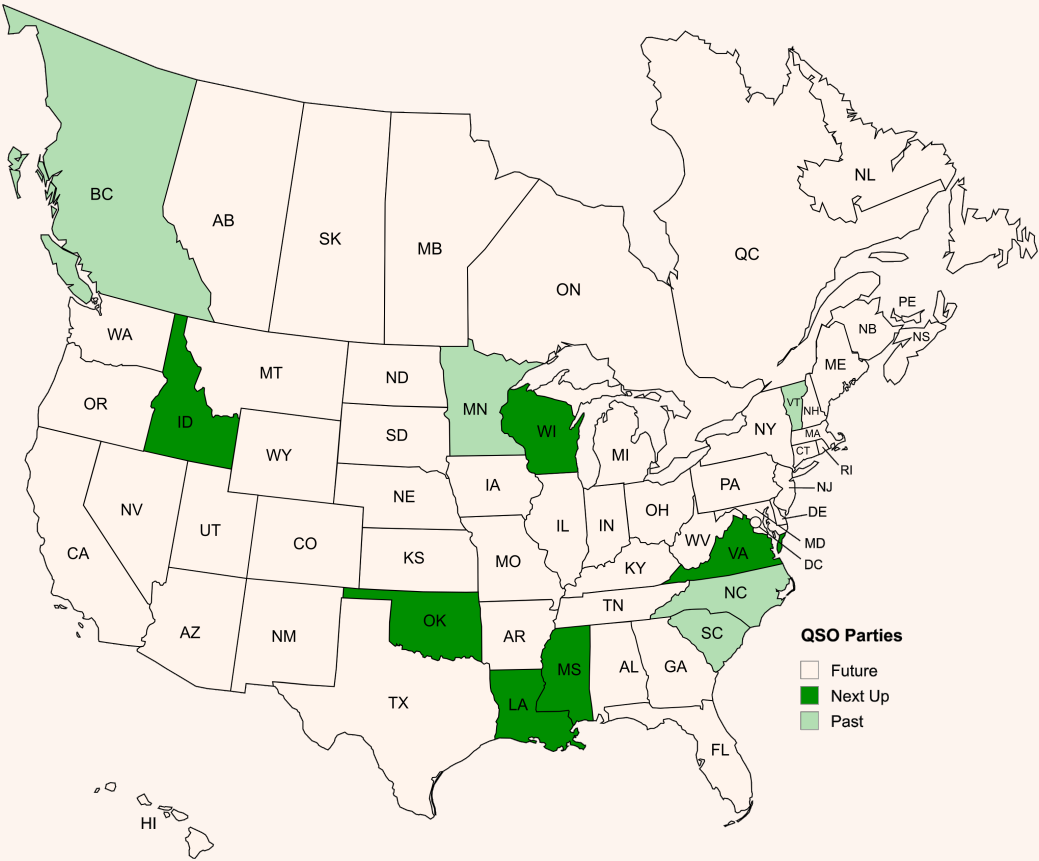
By Don VE3DQN #5846

Follow the Leaders

New to the top of the scoreboard is fellow Canadian Ron VE3SIF. He sprinted out of the blocks on the first five SQPs (State QSO Parties), leading by a kilometre (sorry, a “mile”) and already securing the Bronze certificate. Mike W7LG also has impressive scores, and is also sliding into the Bronze certificate level. New to our scoreboard is Kraig AA4SD, having scored 191 QSOs in his home state SC. Now after 5 parties, the pace is being set. Familiar names/callsigns are appearing in the top ten (Ernie N2DGQ, Steve NI8W, and others) and we’re delighted to see newcomers. Keep watching them month by month, notice when their home state’s party comes up, and see their scores leap ahead.

Power of Home State QRP

Don’t overlook these terrific scores being turned in by QRPers in their home states. I’ve already mentioned Kraig AA4SD in SC. Also note Randy N1SP in VT (201 Qs), Dave W4JL in NC (175 Qs), Dick WA0LIF in



Upcoming QSO Parties					
State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
Oklahoma	Mar 14 1500Z to Mar 15 0200Z and Mar 15 1500Z to Mar 15 2200Z	RST County	RST ST	up 40	Rules
Idaho	Mar 14 1600Z to Mar 15 0400Z and Mar 15 1400Z to Mar 16 0200Z	County	ST	up 35	Rules
Wisconsin	Mar 15 1800Z to Mar 16 0100Z	County	ST	up 50	Rules
Virginia	Mar 21 1400Z to Mar 22 0400Z and Mar 22 1200Z to Mar 22 2400Z	QSO# County	QSO# ST	up 50	Rules

MN (82 Qs), and Marc W4MPS in SC (67 Qs). Participate in your home state party plus a few other SQPs during this year and you've earned yourself a certificate.

Casual Contesting

For some folks this is an oxymoron, but I expect it fits for most NAQCCers. The "contesting" part motivates me to get on the air for weekend parties, to strategize for which bands and which operating times will give me the highest rate of QSOs per hour. "Contesting" motivates me to catch the "multiplier," the minimum two QSOs in as many of the 47 parties as I can. The "casual" part means that ham radio activity doesn't dominate my, or my family's weekend. Except for a few parties (ON, CA, FL, for example), I generally put in less than an hour for a party. "Casual" for you might mean having a modest goal for a certificate at the end of the Challenge season.

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Ron VE3SIF #10033	5	246	1,230	Bronze	108,683
Mike W7LG #10391	5	128	640	Bronze	56,550
Kraig AA4SD #1842	2	201	402	-	0
Ernie N2DGQ #11090	5	77	385	-	34,019
Steve NI8W #11335	5	65	325	-	28,717
Kevin KE3V #855	5	53	265	-	23,415
Dave AB9BZ #9309	5	53	265	-	23,415
Randy N1SP #3985	1	201	201	-	0
Don VE3DQN #5846	5	37	185	-	16,347
Dave W4JL #10660	1	175	175	-	0
Kevin NN3E #9851	5	35	175	-	15,463
Pete NO2D #1625	3	41	123	-	10,868
Alan KR4AE #5847	3	35	105	-	9,278
Brent WT4U #9019	5	18	90	-	7,952
Anthony K8ZT #412	3	30	90	-	7,952
Barry K6RM #11022	2	42	84	-	0
Dick WA0LIF #9281	1	82	82	-	0
Marc W4MPS #6259	1	67	67	-	0
Will NQ2W #4839	1	50	50	-	0
Mat N4DLA #8939	3	16	48	-	4,241

Read the Story

About five days after an SQP weekend you can find the Soapbox comments from the participants at https://naqcc.info/qsoparties_soapbox.html. That's where you get to read what went on behind the scenes—the experience of the operators apart from their callsign and score. This is where we debrief and chat among ourselves.

Coming Up

Six more SQPs will take place before the April NAQCC Newsletter, OK, ID, WI, VA, LA, and MS. See <https://naqcc.info/qsoparties.html>. Idaho has moved to a two-day party, giving better options to catch more QSOs. Overall, the VA and WI parties give the best chance to pad your scores, but the others can also

yield a good QSO count. And besides, you don't want to miss that all important multiplier. See you next month!

NAQCC Awards

The NAQCC offers an extensive array of awards, at least one of which should appeal to every member's tastes. Some duplicate other organizations' awards, but ours are FREE. Others we believe are unique to the NAQCC, unless they have been copied by other organizations since their inception.

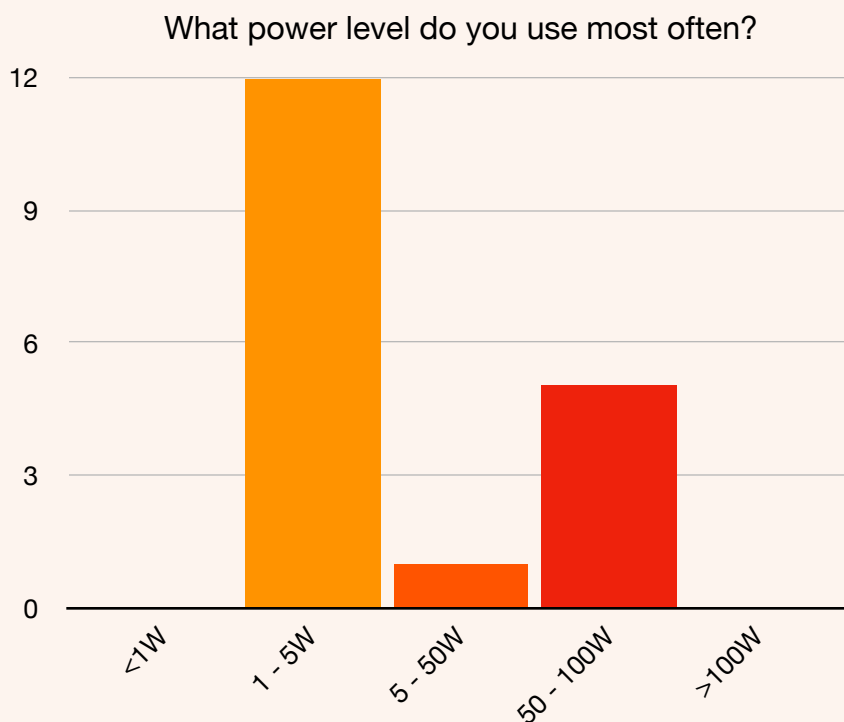
Tim W1TM earned a **30-30 Award** in February by making 30 QSO's on 30 meters during the calendar month!

Check out the awards page here: <https://naqcc.info/awards.html>

NAQCC Member Polls

March Poll

What Antenna is your 'Go To' for your Main QRP CW contacts? https://naqcc.info/poll_new.html



February Poll Results

How to Keep RF Out of Your Rig

By Paul WoRW

If you are getting RF Feed back on your microphone and get squealing when you transmit, you probably don't have a good match to your antenna. You probably have high SWR and your microphone is trying to be part of your counterpoise. The best solution is to fix your antenna.

When you have a marginal ground, which you might have when operating POTA or SOTA, try a clamp-on ferrite bead. This will keep RF from being picked up by your microphone, or from your FT8 computer or modem. Use shielded cable for your microphone or paddle or data cable and make sure it has a separate ground return wire for the microphone or data input

If that doesn't work and you have really high levels of RF, here is a sure-fire way to eliminate the RF feedback. You must be using shielded microphone or data cable, then you wind up the cable to make a trap to keep RF out. For 20 meters, wind 4 turns of the cable into a loop 3-inches in diameter, cut back the insulation to expose the braid on each side of the coil, and resonate it with a capacitor. In this example it took about 100 pF for 20 meters (see picture). You will need a unique trap for each band.

A grid dip meter is helpful to find resonance. This parallel trap will block all the RF.

If your CW keyer is behaving erratically you can try a 0.01 MFD ceramic capacitor across the shielded key line (or two capacitors across the iambic lines) or use this trap filter.



NAQCC Sprints

March Sprint

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Thursday, March 19th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, March 18th in North America. Complete information at: <https://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202603.html>

Rules

Complete sprint rules and instructions on how to submit your log can be found on our website [here](#). 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 from our website [here](#). 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 on our website [here](#).

February Sprint Results

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found on our website [here](#). High scores can be seen in the following tables.

Sprint Soapbox Sampler

NI4U Caught a few stations tonight. 20M died out early, 40M did OK, and couldn't really find much on 80M. Had a few instances of my paddle sticking, so sri abt the hiccups! 73 & have a great week!

N02D QRN vy low this evening. Got the 2 foxes early so had time to chase in the NAQCC sprint. Always fun and thanks to those who do the hard work to make it happen. Pete, N02D

K9NUD Nice bands for a change! I made four on 20, a bunch on 40, which was great until it petered out at around 02:30, and six more on 80. Several two-fers on 40-80. All around a great event. Thanks, ops!

K3RLL RBN was my friend this evening but tough finding Sprinters who could hear me. Can't understand it; I'm located on a 79 foot "peak" here in FL. ;-) Thanks for the skilled and patient ops who I had the pleasure of working this evening. 72, ... Don

SWA - STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	WB1GYZ	W1BRY	KQ1P
W2	KA2KGP	N2TNN	KN2G
W3	K3JZD	KC3MIO	N1BIV AK3X (TIE)
W4	WZ2N	K4BAI	WX4RM
W5	N5GW	-	-
W6	K6GPB	-	-
W7	KN1H	-	-
W8	NF8M	W1BLU	KE8ZGS
W9	K9NUD	WB9HFK	K9QEW
W0	N0TA	NN0SS	NO2D
Canada	VE3SVQ	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA - BUG CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	-	-	-
W2	-	-	-
W3	NN3E	-	-
W4	AF4PX	W4NLT	KJ4R
W5	KD5ZCQ	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	N7QR	-	-
W8	K8NGW	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	WU0A	-	-
Canada	VE3IIM	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA - KEYSER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY

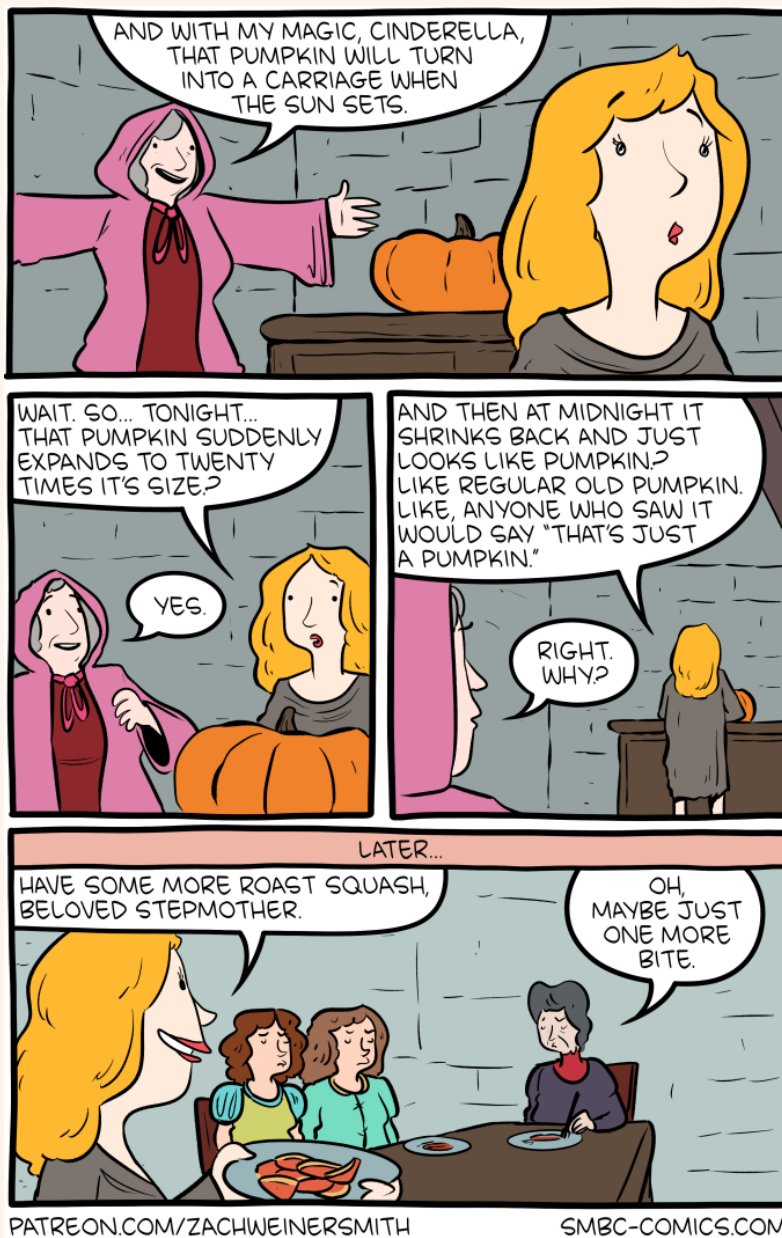
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	N1SP	W1TER	KB1M
W2	N2ESE	WA1GWH	-
W3	KC3RN	KM3D	KD3CA
W4	WB0CJB	N4MJ	NI4U
W5	KA6J	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	-	-	-
W9	WD9EGW	N9EEE	AB9BZ
W0	-	-	-
Canada	VE3SIF	VE3DQN	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

GAIN ANTENNA CATEGORY

Key Type	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	-	-	-
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	-	-	-

SPRINT FREQUENCIES

Band	Frequencies
80m	3555-3565 kHz Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz
40m	7030-7045 kHz
20m	14059-14065 kHz



<https://www.smbc-comics.com/comic/pumpkin>

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 on the website [here](#). Direct questions to Net Manager Mark, W8EWH.

NAQCC Net Schedule				
Net	Local Time	UTC	Freq +/-	Primary NCS
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7:00 PM CDT	Tuesday 0000 Z	7067 kHz (summer) 3566 kHz (winter)	Allen KA5TJS (TX)
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 PM CDT	Tuesday 0030 Z	7031 kHz	Bob W0CC (KS)
Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80)	Thursday 7:00 PM PDT	Friday 0200 Z	3556.5 kHz	Stewart KE7LKW (WA)

Note: On the rare occasion that there is a conflict between one of our scheduled nets and one of our regular sprints, the sprint will take precedence.

NAQCC East Texas QRS Net (ETN) Control Station Report

Monday evenings 7:00 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0000 UTC, on 7067 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)

Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

Feb 03 QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Conditions were good on 3.567kc and no QRM. Weather better and snow cleared out. No major damage from storms. Back to normal for now.

Feb 10 QNI (2) NCS KA5TJS, N4NN

Had a nice chat with Allen about cleaning leaves off the roof and climbing ladder at our age.

Feb 17 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN

Had to QSY down to 3.566kc again due to QRM. Signals were good but GA was fading at the end. Nice day for all stations and hope the good WX continues for a while.

Feb 24 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KD5GCQ

Good net tonight and little QRM. Cold still in QR and Terry is doing well.

Good to hear John in Atlanta TX. again. Been a while. 5 watts and random wire.

NAQCC Midwest QRS Net (MWN) Control Station Report

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

Feb 03 QNI (3) NCS W0CC, AE0MM, K4DSX

The bands were good and both Mark in MN and Rod in NC had GREAT signals!
Because of the activity around the Net Frequency of 7.031, was constantly trying to find "a spot". These fine operators were able to pick me out!

Feb 10 QNI (2) NCS W0CC, WB9HFK

The bands were great and there were a lot of stations that were appreciating it!
Had to keep QSY so that I would not get "drowned out"! Mark did an excellent job hanging in there with me!

Feb 17 QNI (2) NCS W0CC, N8LEM

Several stations had strong and wide signals. Had to QSY x 3; however, Lou was able to find me! Suspect everyone is watching the Olympics!

Feb 24 No Net

NAQCC Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80) Control Station Report

Thursday evenings 7:00 PM PDT, which is Friday 0200 UTC on 3556.5 kHz +/-
Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

Feb 06 QNI (5) NCS KE7LKW, KI7SJE, WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG

Feb 13 QNI (5) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG, N7QR

Feb 20 QNI (5) NCS WB7WHG, WB4SPB, AD7BP, KI7SJE, KB7DYP

Feb 27 QNI (5) NCS WB4SPB, WB7WHG, AD7BP, KE7LKW/p, NB6M



NAQCC Chapters

Start a Local Chapter

The North American QRP CW Club currently has seven local chapters – West Florida, Illowa, Downeast Maine, Long Island, Florida, Southern Tier New York, 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 John, at the email address listed on next to 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 next to 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, Club President John KK4ITX, to schedule the use of N3AQC.



NAQCC Green Swamp WCF

Items in this section are from the Green Swamp WCF Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Darryl N4VLP.

The chapter's website is: <https://zaarc.org/gsqrp.html>



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 website is:

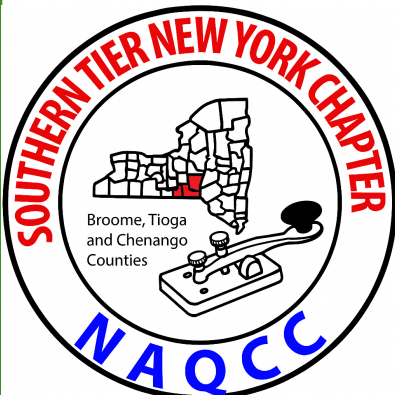
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/967110089994401/>



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 Southern Tier New York Chapter

Items in this section are from the Southern Tier New York Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Tom, W2TJ.

The chapter is located in the Broome, Tioga, and Chenango counties area of New York.



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.

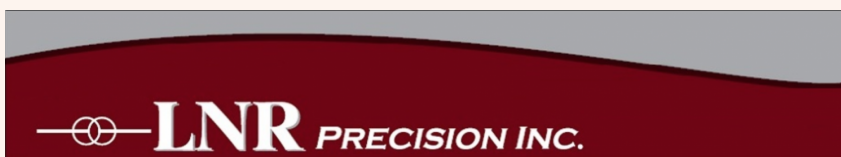


NAQCC Sponsors

LNR Precision

LNR Precision, Inc. is a North Carolina based company that specializes in the manufacturing of QRP transceivers, namely the Mountain Topper series designed by Steve Weber (KD1JV).

www.lnrprecision.com



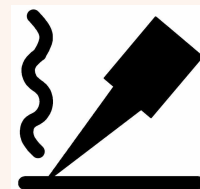
Four States QRP Group

Four States QRP Group is devoted to low power (QRP) amateur radio building and operation. We offer quality kits to the QRP community with all proceeds going to fund our annual Conference, OzarkCon.

www.4sqr.com

QRP Builder

Kits, projects, and ideas for the QRP community. Paddles, antennas, PTO kits, and more. qrpbuilder.com



Green Swamp WCF

Green Swamp WCF Is a chapter of the NAQCC.inc located in Pasco County, Florida in the area of the Green Swamp.

zaarc.org/gsqrp.html

Route 45 Apparel

Route 45 Apparel creates custom decorated products such as shirts, jackets, hats, mugs, & more for NAQCC and the Amateur Radio Community. Please visit our website and let's see if we can help you. route45apparel.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.

NAQCC Contacts

NAQCC President	John KK4ITX	kk4itx@proton.me
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NAQCC Board of Directors 2024-2025

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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, include a link to the club website at:

<http://www.naqcc.info>

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 Non-profit 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

