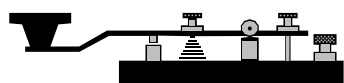


NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 334 • APRIL 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.

• *New Feature Next Month*

Some of us, like me, are relatively new here. We will soon start re-publishing some of our most popular articles from the back issues. This way we can all benefit from knowledge built over the club's 22-year history!

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The Prez Sez...

Swap and Shop

We had a misfire on the new submission form mentioned in last month's column, so we'll stick with what we have for now.

April's listing was quite short, but that happens from time to time. Spring is the time to clean house, so get ready for the May listing notice. I try to give you a week's notice to submit your QRP items for sale or swap.

CW Player

For newbies and those needed practice, here's a link to a simple online program that you can use with just about any device.

Simply click on the link <https://www.ab7e.com/CW-Player.html>, enter some text, and listen. There are enough intuitive labels on the screen that further information is not needed.

I would suggest that you aim towards 20 WPM and get used to trying to copy there. Or you can start at 5 WPM and increase to 35 WPM with something like your call to appreciate just how fast you can understand it. Great practice.

Of course you can simply type some text into Notepad or whatever and copy/paste away, allowing easy practice listening and copying what you find most difficult.

QRPp and 20 Feet of Wire

We've all been told that QRP doesn't really work well and a ton of books have been written on making the *perfect* antenna to at least make *some* contacts on any real scale. And to some extent, the naysayers are somewhat right... But along comes John, N6HI from Arizona, confined by HOA rules in his condo, to actually demonstrate that none of the above matters!

To get a better understanding, you can start by reading an article in our June 2023 (#300) newsletter found in our website newsletter [archives](#). It's an eyeopener on operating at 1/2 W (500mW) on a 20ft wire, and other such unlikely methods.

Finish off his story by checking his QRZ page, and then give it a try and see what you get for results.

Fingerpieces

Fingerpieces are back as a monthly drawing from the Challenge participants each month. The program fell by the wayside after Steve's passing because it was another one of those things he did and we missed it.

We will try to get the website updated with the details and some photos.

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.

72,

John, KK4ITX

#7249

kk4itx@proton.me



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.

Monitoring Band Conditions

By Howard K4LXY

I'm a ragchewer, not a DXer, but I do like to monitor band conditions.

In my last post, I discussed the HamClock that includes a wide variety of ways to monitor conditions. Unfortunately, however, HamClock is planning to close in June due to the developer's death.

Fortunately, a group has developed an open-source, web-based version of Hamclock entitled Open Hamclock. This will run in your browser and thus doesn't not require anything but a computer. It provides a lot of information though being DX-oriented, I don't find it quite as useful for my ragchewing needs as the original Hamclock. Still, it is one way to keep track of conditions and I'm guessing that development is continuing.



Another way to monitor real-time propagation is through WSPR. I have a WSPR beacon (see earlier entry) and it gives me great feedback on my antenna's propagation at any given time. However, it is a bit awkward to use regularly due to my antenna setup.

My alternative is to monitor another WSPR beacon in the region that runs 24/7; for my purposes I have chosen NB3A. It clearly has a better antenna than I do, so the reach is farther, but

IC-705 Message Controller with Built-In Paddle

By Luc ON7DQ / KFoCR



The IC-705 manual shows a simple circuit to add some message buttons to the paddle/key input (see page 13-2 in the Basic Manual).

Keying the rig for CW is done by grounding the TIP (Dot) or RING (Dash) of the connector, but when you connect a certain resistance to ground, one of the 8 stored messages is transmitted. This works for CW, Voice and RTTY, if you don't forget to change the appropriate settings via MENU > Set > Connectors > External Keypad.

Such a box with buttons is available commercially, like this one at [Wimo](#). Cheaper versions can be found on Amazon, Ali Express, etc.

On that box, two buttons are provided to key some CW, but I doubt you will make very long QSO's with those buttons. It's probably OK for an emergency, like keying with the microphone but-

tons. But for real CW ragchewing, you still need to connect an external key or paddle.

So that got me inspired to brew my own... and include the paddle IN the box. And it cost me virtually nothing!

The box I used was from a small laptop adapter. The large hole where the mains socket was is now the opening for the paddle.

I didn't really need all 8 messages for regular SOTA or POTA operation, so I made a box with only four buttons, connected to the TIP, and a 3.5mm connector. The box is connected to the IC-705 with a regular 3.5 mm stereo cable.

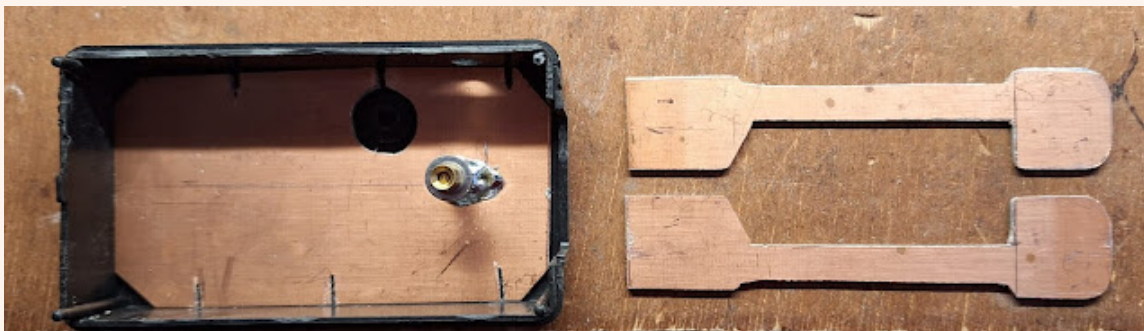
If I ever wish to use the other 4 messages, I could easily add a small slide switch to move the resistor chain to the RING, for message 5 – 8. And if I want to use an external key or paddle, I can still add another 3.5 mm connector in parallel to the first one.

The paddle was inspired by the work of Carel, PA0CMU, see his PCB paddles here: <https://www.pa0cmu.nl/paddle.html>

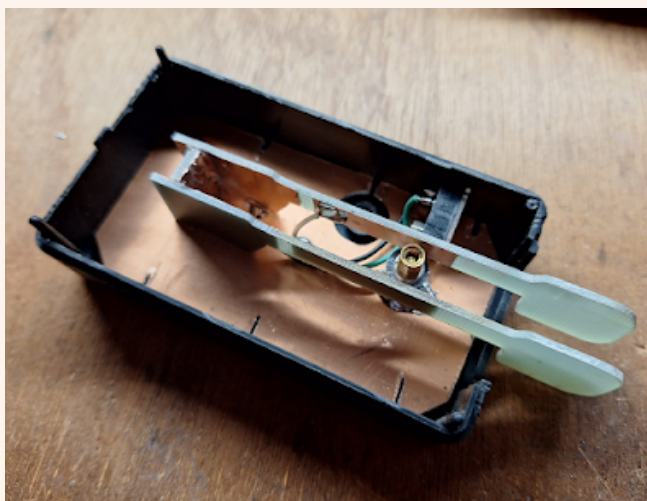
So I took some pieces of single sided copper clad board, and started cutting and filing:

- a bottom plate for the box (8 cm x 4.5 cm), glued inside the box
- two paddles, with copper removed where it is not needed (9 cm x 2cm), soldered to the bottom plate at the back end
- A HEX standoff with a washer is soldered to the bottom plate as the center contact

This is what I got before assembling :



To make sure the paddles wouldn't collapse or come loose with "heavy copper pounding," I added a small piece of PCB between the two paddle arms. A 3.5 mm stereo connector is mounted on the side of the box. This is the finished paddle (bottom part):



The top cover contains the four buttons and four resistors, wired as in the diagram from the manual.

As you can see, I drilled the holes for 8 buttons, but then decided to mount only 4.



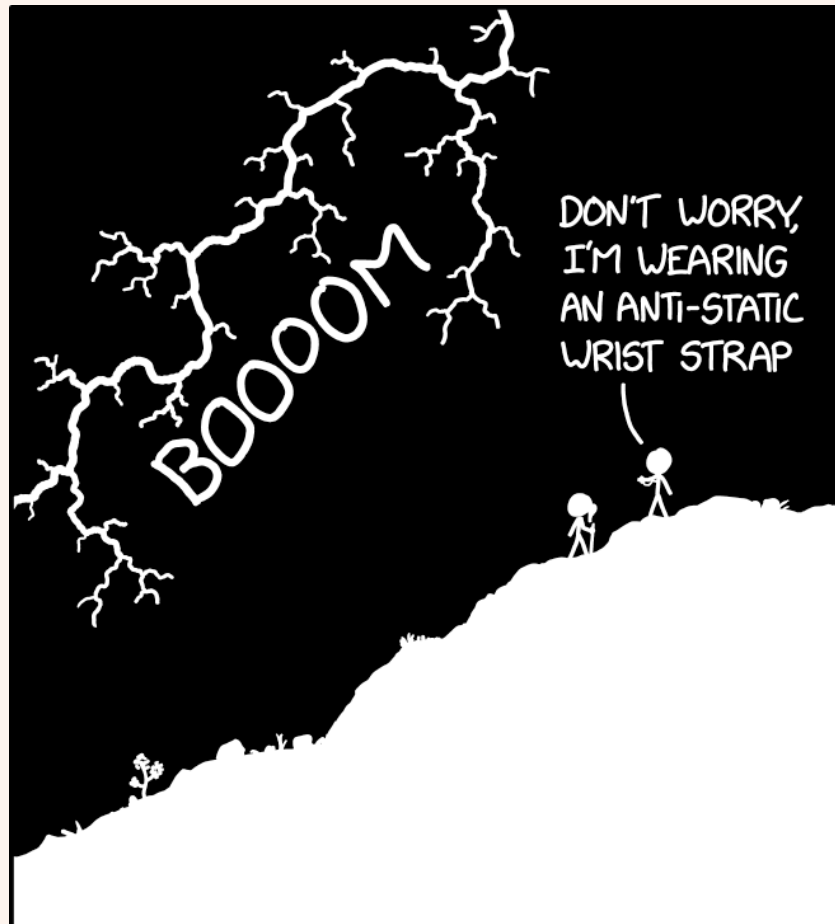
See the picture at the top of the article for the final result, including a label showing what's stored in the messages.

There is no provision to adjust the spacing (yet), but a larger size washer would fix that. I chose a rather wide spacing, since I may use the paddles with gloves on, during a winter SOTA or POTA activation.

The tension is also fixed, but I think I got it just right by filing away enough of the PCB material in the middle of the paddles. A spring or two small magnets may be an option if you wish, but I didn't want to make it too complicated.

And it works!

I did a POTA activation recently, and made 16 CW QSO's in just 26 minutes, the only errors were operator errors, not the fault of the paddle, hi.



<https://xkcd.com/3231/>

QRP Contest and Event News

By Jim K7QI / Z8IA #5020

Hello my fellow QRPers and welcome to another great season with spring in full gear. My garden looks healthy, my yard is shaping up, and I've just about completed rebuilding my back-yard fence before the real hot weather hits here in Mississippi. This month we have a lot of QSO parties coming our way, such as Louisiana, Georgia, Missouri, and 4States QRP, just to name a few. Then we have the all important Field Day.

For the first time in 51 years as a licensed ham, I volunteered as the only A-1 operator for the NOA Special event station and I had a blast. Skywarn Youth is a group of young amateur radio operators dedicated to weather spotting, emergency communication, and community education.

So, get your outside work done, get in your shack, and enjoy the upcoming events this month. If you hear me on the lower bands, stop in and say HOWDY!

72/73

Jim
K7QI

Event	When	Link
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/
Missouri QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 11 to 0400Z, Apr 12	http://www.w0ma.org/index.php/missouri-qso-party
New Mexico QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 11 to 0200Z, Apr 12	http://www.newmexicoqsoparty.org/
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 11 to 0359Z, Apr 12	https://gaqsoparty.com/
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Apr 13	http://www.4sqr.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf
NTC QSO Party	1900Z-2000Z, Apr 16	https://pi4ntc.nl/ntcqp/
World Wide Holyland Contest	2100Z, Apr 17 to 2100Z, Apr 18	https://tools.iarc.org/wwhc/#/rules
ES Open HF Championship	0500Z-0859Z, Apr 18	https://erau.ee/images/LL/ES-Open_rules.pdf
Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	0600Z, Apr 18 to 0559Z, Apr 19	http://www.mulandxc.com/index/upload_log
QRP to the Field	0800 local-1800 local, Apr 18	http://www.zianet.com/qrp/qrpftf/pg.html

Event	When	Link
CQMM DX Contest	0900Z, Apr 18 to 2359Z, Apr 19	http://www.cqmmdx.com/rules/
Georgia State Parks on the Air	1200Z, Apr 18 to 2359Z, Apr 19	https://gaparks.org/rules-register/
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 18 to 0400Z, Apr 19	https://miqp.org/index.php/rules/
EA-QRP CW Contest	1700Z, Apr 18 to 1200Z, Apr 19	https://www.eaqrp.com/index.php/actividades/concurso?id=307
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19	http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/rules.htm
International Vintage Contest HF	0700Z-1100Z, Apr 19	https://vintagecontest.webnode.it/residenti/
Quebec QSO Party	1200Z-2200Z, Apr 19	https://quebecqsoparty.org/
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Apr 19 to 0100Z, Apr 20	http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Apr 22	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/
UK/EI DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Apr 25 to 1200Z, Apr 26	https://www.ukicc.com/dx-contest-rules.php
Helvetia Contest	1300Z, Apr 25 to 1259Z, Apr 26	https://uska.ch/en/events/uska-helvetia-contest-h26/#
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 25 to 2159Z, Apr 26	http://floridaqsoparty.org/rules/
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, May 1	https://ncccsprint.com/rules.html
AGCW QRP/QRP Party	1300Z-1900Z, May 1	https://www.agcw.de/contest/qrp-qrp
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, May 1	http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html
RCC Cup	0300Z-0859Z, May 2	https://www.contest.ru/rcc-cup-rules/
ARI International DX Contest	1200Z, May 2 to 1159Z, May 3	https://www.ari.it/
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 2 to 0700Z, May 3	http://7qp.org
Indiana QSO Party	1500Z, May 2 to 0300Z, May 3	http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, May 2 to 2359Z, May 3	https://www.fsarc.org/
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 2 to 0500Z, May 3	https://neqp.org/rules/
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, May 4	https://internationalcwcouncil.org/mst-contest/
OK1WC Memorial (MWC)	1630Z-1729Z, May 4	https://memorial-ok1wc.cz/index.php?page=rules2l
MIE 33 Contest	2300Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5	https://www.ztv.ne.jp/isoda/33/annual/48/48rule-e.html
ARS Spartan Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, May 5	http://ars-qrp.com/Spartan_Sprint/Spartan_Sprint.html
A1Club AWT	1145Z-1300Z, May 6	https://a1club.org/contest/awt/
CWops Test (CWT)	1300Z-1400Z, May 6	https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest	0000Z-0100Z, May 7 0200Z-0300Z, May 8	https://qrpcontest.com/pigwalk20/
SKCC Sprint Europe	2000Z-2200Z, May 7	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/skse/
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 9 to 1159Z, May 10	https://cqm.srr.ru/en/rules/
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, May 9 to 2400Z, May 10	https://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/



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www.qwantz.com

<https://www.qwantz.com/index.php?comic=4455>

NAQCC Challenge

Power Grid Black Start

By Gary KIYAN #2365

There have been times when large parts of the power grid go off line and a major blackout results. Nothing in a very large area has power. Everything is dead, including the generating stations. What happens now? The recovery process is known as a black start and it is a long, complicated sequence of events. There are a couple things that we need to know to understand how this takes place.

First, it takes power to make power. A major generating station consumes perhaps 5 to 10 percent of its output to run motors, pumps, fans and other equipment needed to make the plant operate. Once you have power at the plant, the actual start up process can take many hours to get boilers running and providing steam to turn the generator's turbine.

The whole grid must be brought back into synchronization. All the parts of it must be running at the same 60 Hz frequency. Voltages across the system must be in phase, rising and falling in step or damage to equipment will occur.

Re-energizing the load must be handled in an organized manner. You can't just throw one switch and turn everything on at once. As soon as power returns, every device that has been off tries to start up at the same time. This is called cold load pickup and results in a much bigger demand than would occur on the normally running system. If done improperly, the result can be more outages to be dealt with.

There are some small generating stations, called black start units, that are scattered across the grid. They can be brought on line using on site power sources such as diesel emergency generators. To get this power to larger generating stations, pre-selected transmission lines are stripped of



Now we can begin to put the grid back into operation. Pieces of the high voltage grid that have been separated are reconnected. Generators begin to be connected to the grid. The phasing and frequency of each generator brought on line is matched to the energized system as they are reconnected. The overall system is re-energized, starting with the highest voltage parts and working toward the lower voltage parts. Customers are reconnected in an organized process that manages the cold load pickup. Priority is often given to selected loads like hospitals, pumping stations and other critical customers. Gradually, blocks of customers are reconnected until all are back in service. This whole procedure follows a well organized script that is updated and practiced to ensure a successful recovery.

[illegible]

The first day of the month 0000Z through the last day of the month 2400Z.

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.

Just make these words from calls of stations you work, subject to the General Challenge Rules. 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

Words

- BLACK START PROCEDURE
- SYSTEM SYNCHRONIZATION
- CRANKING PATH
- BOOTSTRAPPING
- CRITICAL LOADS
- COLD LOAD PICKUP

Challenge Tracker

The 92 total letters contain these 20 different letters: A B C D E G H I K L M N O P R S T U Y Z

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.

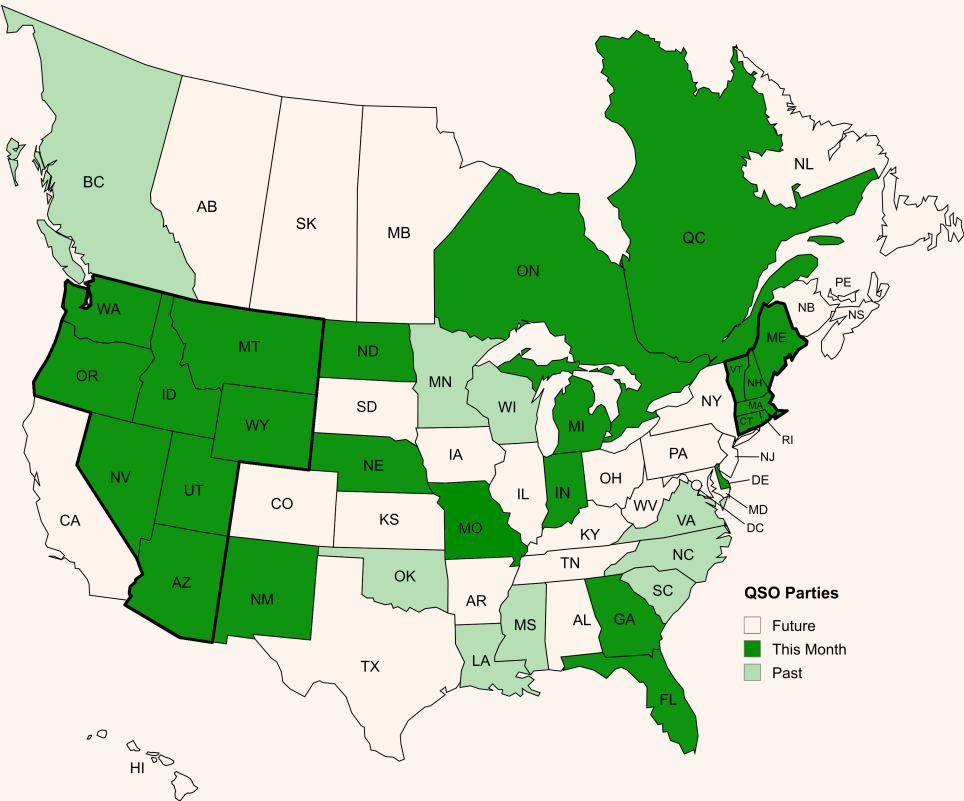


NAQCC State QSO Party Challenge

By Don VE3DQN #5846

Scoreboard Shuffle

Eight of our participants have already secured the Bronze award for the season-long SQP Challenge. Congratulations! but they're also eyeing the higher awards as the season progresses. Ron VE3SIF's sprint out of the blocks has secured him a good lead, but look how Ernie N2DGQ has jumped up to 2nd place this month. Others have also crept up, mainly due to their "multiplier" factor, participating in nearly every SQP.



Challenge Season Overview

As of this writing we're roughly a quarter of the way through the State QSO Party Challenge season, 11 of 47 parties. Time to assess how I'm doing and what's ahead. Speaking of what's ahead, note that April is a big SQP month. If we count from NAQCC Newsletter to Newsletter (roughly 10th of the month to 10th of next month), there are 13 Parties in April, including two 4-party weekends. Here's our chance to take up the slack in one month.

Pace

I love the "Pace" column on the Scoreboard https://naqcc.info/qsoparties_scores.html. It tells me if I'm within striking distance of my goal (Platinum, score of 25,000 in my case) by the end of the season in October. It shows me how my buddies are doing as I mentally urge them on.

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Ron VE3SIF #10033	11	368	4,048	Bronze	73,901
Ernie N2DGQ #11090	11	264	2,904	Bronze	53,016
Mike W7LG #10391	10	184	1,840	Bronze	33,591
Steve NI8W #11335	11	135	1,485	Bronze	27,110
Don VE3DQN #5846	11	107	1,177	Bronze	21,488
Kevin NN3E #9851	10	88	880	Bronze	16,065
Dave AB9BZ #9309	10	78	780	Bronze	14,240
Kevin KE3V #855	7	81	567	Bronze	10,351
Rick KY0Q #9647	6	78	468	-	8,544
Kraig AA4SD #1842	2	201	402	-	
Brent WT4U #9019	11	32	352	-	6,426
Anthony K8ZT #412	6	39	234	-	4,272

Soapbox

Will NQ2W VAQP - I had some time to play because the weather was kind of crummy here. Seemed to be lots of VA stations on. N4CW did a great job with his mobile operation. 40 and 80 were the bands of choice. Happy to have had a chance to play radio!

Brent WT4U OKQP and IDQP - Upper bands were awfully quiet on Saturday, but 20m opened up on Sunday. Lots of OK, but oddly enough I had an easier time finding Idaho stations than Wisconsin.

Ernie N2DGQ OKQP and IDQP - My thanks to the OK OP's working multiple counties at the same time. It must be very flat there to be able to do this. They helped my score as well as the rest of us working this State QP. ID was a tough get for me but was able to grab this QP for the valuable multiple.

Ron VE3SIF SCQP and NCQP - I made more contacts in the SC party than I thought I would - seemed to be quite a few ops. And N4CW was very kind to me during the NC party. He was mobile and time after time picked my signal out of the pileups.

Upcoming QSO Parties

State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
Missouri	Apr 11 1400Z to Apr 12 0400Z and Apr 12 1400Z to Apr 12 2000Z	RST County	RST ST	up 40	http://w0ma.org/
New Mexico	Apr 11 1400Z to Apr 12 0200Z	RST County	RST ST	1820, 7045, and up 50	https://www.newmexicoqsoparty.org/wp/rules/
North Dakota	Apr 11 1800Z to Apr 12 1800Z	RST County	RST ST	up 45	http://ndarrlsection.com/
Georgia	Apr 11 1800Z to Apr 12 0359Z and Apr 12 1400Z to Apr 12 2359Z	RST County	RST ST	1.815 and up 45	https://gaqsoparty.com/
Michigan	Apr 18 1600Z to Apr 19 0400Z	RST County	RST ST	up 45	http://www.miqp.org/
Ontario	Apr 18 1800Z to Apr 19 0300Z and Apr 19 1200Z to Apr 19 2000Z	RST County	RST ST	up 30	http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/
Quebec	Apr 19 1300Z to Apr 19 2400Z	RST County	RST ST	up 30	https://quebecqsoparty.org/
Nebraska	Apr 25 1400Z to Apr 27 0200Z	County	ST	up 45	https://nebraskagsoparty.com/
Florida	Apr 25 1600Z to Apr 26 0159Z and Apr 26 1200Z to Apr 26 2159Z	RST County	RST ST	up 20-50	http://floridagsoparty.org/rules/
7th Call Area	May 02 1300Z to May 03 0700Z	RST ST/County	RST ST	7025-7035 and up 40	http://7qp.org/new/page.asp?content%3Dstart
Indiana	May 02 1500Z to May 03 0259Z	RST County	RST ST	up 30; up 35-40 mobiles only	http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/
Delaware	May 02 1700Z to May 03 2359Z	RST County	RST ST	1825 & 50 up	https://www.fsarc.org/qsoparty/rules.htm
New England	May 02 2000Z to May 03 0500Z and May 03 1300Z to May 03 2400Z	RST ST/County	RST ST	up 50	https://neqp.org/



NAQCC Awards

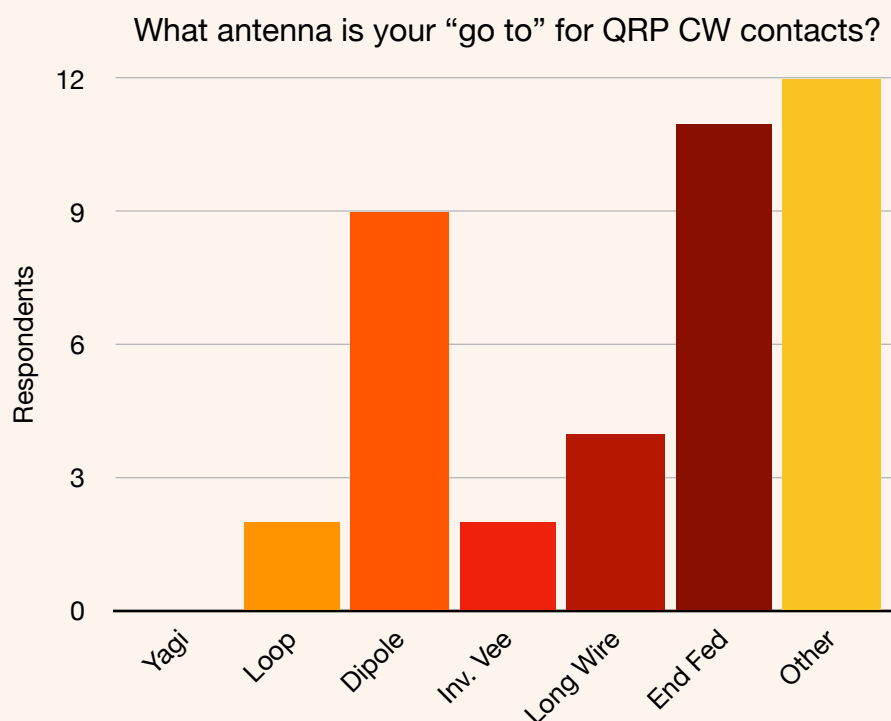
The NAQCC offers an extensive array of awards, at least one of which should appeal to every member's tastes. Some duplicate other organizations' awards, but ours are FREE. Others we believe are unique to the NAQCC, unless they have been copied by other organizations since their inception.

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

NAQCC Member Polls

April Poll

What percentage of your QRP CW operating is NAQCC related (i.e. sprints, nets, challenges, etc.)? https://naqcc.info/poll_new.html



March Poll Results

NAQCC Sprints

April Sprint

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Wednesday, April 15th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Tuesday, April 14th in North America. Complete information at <https://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202604.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](#).

March 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.

MARCH SPRINT STATS				
	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Total QSOs	809	250	3,154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	549	186	1,704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	260	64	1,450	4/17
20m QSOs	175	2	1,232	8/13
40m QSOs	539	128	2,203	4/17
80m QSOs	95	120	1,417	2/13

Sprint Soapbox Sampler

N2QFD Only time for one. I start my days at 0430 and it's a work day. Need to do these more I'm realizing I'm an old timer now seeing the numbers in play! Have fun tonight and thanks for keeping QRP alive and well.

KF7Z Nice condx tonight, lots of calls from past sprints, nice to hear John, K4BAI in GA and Charles, W2SH out in NJ. thanks for the email reminder for the sprint, I have a hard time remembering when the sprints are but love to jump in for a bit and see just what 5 watts can do. See you next month 73 Danny

K3RL What a great evening. 20m was solid with some good signals and great operators. Went down to 40m at the end to chase my former PA neighbor and, Voila! K3JZD heard my faint whistle in the wind. Very successful, if not high scoring, evening. Thank you! 72,... Don

VE3DQN Strong signals tonight. Gave out several honest 599s.

SWA - STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	NX1K	WB1GYZ	K1YAN
W2	KA2KGP	K2OID	KB2GKC
W3	K3JZD	KC3MIO	-
W4	KC5F	K4BAI	WG8Y
W5	KE5YUM	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	K17LW	-	-
W8	W1BLU	-	-
W9	WB9HFK	N9JFZ	N8HWV
W0	NN0SS	N0TA	AA0W
Canada	VE3HUR	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA - BUG CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	-	-	-
W2	N2QFD	-	-
W3	NN3E	-	-
W4	W4NLT	K3RLL	KJ4R
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	N7QR	-	-
W8	-	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	-	-	-
Canada	VE3IIM	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA - KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1TER	KB1M	-
W2	WA1GWH	N2ESE	-
W3	KC3RN	KD3CA	-
W4	WB0CJB	N4MJ	W8GG
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	KF7Z	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	NF8M
W9	WD9EGW	K9FAA	AB9BZ
W0	-	-	-
Canada	VE3DQN	-	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

GAIN ANTENNA CATEGORY

Key Type	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	-	-	-
BUG	K1SP	-	-
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



Don't forget to update your information, like if you just got a new callsign or would prefer that we contact you at a different email address:

https://naqcc.info/member_updates.html

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)

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

Had some QRM but not bad. All stations 599 on 3.567. Time change coming and will see what conditions are like.

Mar 10 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Band good on 3.567. WX cool and no rain. Not much going on this week.

Mar 17 No Net

Mar 24 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN

QSB big time. Conditions still poor. 3.567 was OK.

Mar 31 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

STILL ON 3.567 for now. All doing well and no yard work till we get rain. Spring break is over.

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 WOCC (Kansas).

Mar 03 QNI (1) NCS WOCC

Band conditions were good. Will recheck gear to be sure that I am getting out!
The numbers look good. I need to tune-up the operator!

Mar 10 No Net

Mar 17 QNI (2) NCS WOCC, N5PP

Jim did an excellent job picking out my signal amount the crowd!

Mar 24 QNI (1) NCS WOCC

Most of the action were stations trying to work CY0S.

Mar 31 QNI (1) NCS WOCC

QRN and no QSO's. It seems that everyone is trying to work CY0S!

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)

Mar 06 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, KI7SJE, WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG, N7QR

Mar 13 QNI (5) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG, NB6M/p

Mar 20 QNI (5) NCS WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG, KI7SJE, KE7LKW

Mar 27 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, AD7BP, WB7WHG, NB6M/p, KI7SJE



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.

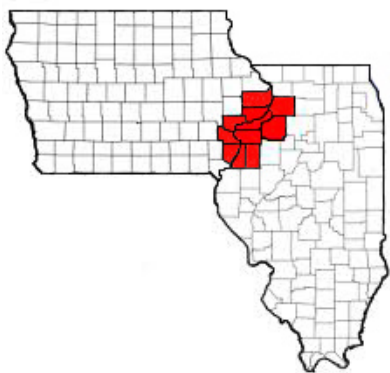
The chapter is located in the Broome, Tioga, and Chenango counties area of New York.



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.

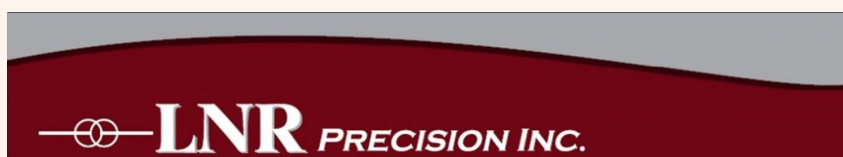


NAQCC Sponsors

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



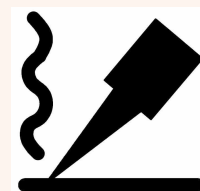
Four States QRP Group

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
NAQCC Treasurer	Dennis W4DWS	w4dws90@gmail.com
Downeast Maine Chapter	Jeff KA1DBE	j.hanscom@gmail.com
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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

