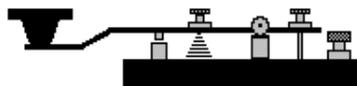


NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 245 NOVEMBER 2018



KEY CLICKS

● **COUNTING BLESSINGS.** It's the Thanksgiving season and an activity that I try to do every year is to pause and think about all of the things that I have to be thankful for. High on my list is the great group of volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes to make the NAQCC what it is - the largest club in the world dedicated exclusively to QRP/CW amateur radio. There are almost 40 people, most of whom never receive any public recognition, who give of their time (often very significant) and talents in support of this club. And if you will allow me to get a little bit "preachy," I would like to say that unfortunately these volunteers sometimes find themselves dealing with complaints from rather rude and grumpy people who frequently do not have all of the facts nor an awareness of the "big picture." Pointing out mistakes that have been made, constructive criticism, and even appropriately phased expressions of disagreement are always welcome, and you can send them to me. But grumpy complaints? Well, do you want to take over and do a "better job?" Enough said. So to all of these unsung heroes of the NAQCC I offer up a huge **THANK YOU!!!** - Paul, N8XMS

- **MAC SPREADSHEET FOR SPRINTS NOW DISCONTINUED.** As was announced a few months ago, support for the "NAQCC Sprint Logger" Numbers spreadsheet (Apple Mac computers) has now ended. In other words, membership data files for this spreadsheet will no longer be available each month on our website. It is highly recommended that all Mac computer users now switch over to the IOS version of AC2C's excellent "NAQCC SprintLogger" software, available at http://www.naqcc.info/sprint_ac2clogger.html. The software is also available on a special users group page at <https://groups.io/g/NAQCCSprintLogger>. That group page also provides great support for the logger through the questions and answers that other users post there.
- **ANY CHANGES TO YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?** Please remember that we rely on you to update any changes to your personal information. Changes to your callsign, email address, mailing address, etc. can be submitted to us through our *Membership Update* page at http://www.naqcc.info/member_updates.html.
- **NAQCC CLOGLOG GROUP AND FACEBOOK PAGE REMINDERS.** This is just a reminder that if you are a [ClubLog](#) users we have an NAQCC group that you can join there. That group currently has 90 members. We also have a [FaceBook](#) page with 321 members and a lot of interesting posts.

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- **DID YOU KNOW THAT?** The page that we used last month to post all of our special event N#A schedules is actually available every day for members to spot themselves on. View spots at http://www.naqcc.info/spot_schedule.php and post your spots at <http://www.naqcc.info/spots.html>.
- **CHECK OUT OUR MONTHLY POLLS.** Jerry, VE6CPP, puts up an interesting poll on our club website each month. You can cast your vote in the current poll and see past poll results using the links on the main club page <http://www.naqcc.info/>. The more people that cast a vote, the more interesting the results.
- **THANK YOU FOR THE DONATIONS!** A big "THANK YOU" goes out to everyone who has made a recent donation to the NAQCC treasury. The NAQCC has no membership dues and we depend on your generous donations to cover our operating expenses. If others would like to help out with a donation there are two ways that you can do it. The first way is to use *PayPal* to electronically send your contribution to Club Vice President John, N8ZYA, using the email found on the last page of this newsletter. To avoid any additional fees please be sure to check the box that says "*I'm sending money to family or friends.*" Also please add a note indicating that this is a donation to the NAQCC and include your call sign. The second way to make a donation is to mail a check or money order made out to *The North American QRP CW Club* and send it to *John Smithson, 1529 Virginia St E, Charleston, WV 25311*. Assuming that we have your correct email address on file, your contribution will be acknowledged by email with a carbon copy sent to a second club officer as a "check and balance."



2018 ANNIVERSARY REPORT BY PAUL, N8XMS



KD0V operating portable as N0A

Our NAQCC 14th Anniversary Celebration is now mostly in the books and like the old ABC Sports tag line we certainly experienced “the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat, the human drama of [radio activity in crummy conditions].” Here are a few basic statistics from our recent N#A special events:

YEAR:	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
TOTAL QSOs:	1148	1222	1396	1718	957
# OF OPERATORS:	31	39	46	37	35
AVG QSOs / OP:	37.0	31.3	30.3	46.4	27.3
US STATES:	45	48	50	49	46
CANADIAN PROVINCES:	4	6	8	4	7
DX ENTITIES:	40	16	24	15	21

Clearly the poor band conditions that all of us are experiencing lately had a negative impact on our total QSO count. Without a doubt the most common feedback that I heard from the operators was frustration over the rotten conditions. But nevertheless our guys fought through the tough conditions and posted some very respectable numbers.

We originally had 47 members signed up to put our 10 special N#A callsigns on the air. (The complete list can be seen at the end of this article.) Unfortunately things like hurricane Michael, health issues, work schedules, and technical problems, “took out” a few of them so ultimately only 35 actually managed to get on the air and make some contacts.

Two of our operators deserve some special recognition. For the 2nd year in a row, Joe, N3HEE, posted a significant outlier for our statistics and definitely skewed our averages. He used the N3A call in both our NAQCC sprint and in the CWOPS CWT contest and made a very impressive total of 230 QSOs! Our second “outlier” was Bob, K2YGM. In band conditions where most of us find DX contacts as rare

as hens teeth, Bob managed to work 26 DX stations! His 20-meter QRP/CW signal seemed to romp all over Europe with ease.

We managed to work every US state except Alaska, Hawaii, Montana, and Idaho. Canadian provinces in the log were Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec, and Yukon Territories. (I think this might be the first time that we have logged a YT.) DX entities were P4, CU, ON, E7, PY, LZ, HK, CO, HC, G, F, DL, HA, I, 6Y, XE, SP, CT1, YO, UA, and SM.

One final statistic is interesting but not surprising given the current solar cycle:

BAND:	160	80	60	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
# OF QSOs:	10	183	5	576	32	151	0	0	0	0

Soapbox comments from many of the N#A operators can be seen at the end of this article.

Of course the “big event” of our anniversary celebration was our October sprint, with it’s great list of prizes to be given away to the participants. Conditions have been pretty tough for quite some time and our monthly sprint participation has actually dipped below the 100-log mark 6 times in the last 12 months. But for our anniversary sprint I’m happy to report that we had 110 submitted logs. The prizes were given out in two tiers with a throughout-the-year participation requirement to be eligible for the top three prizes. Details on the eligibility requirements can be seen on the prize drawing webpage at http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_14th_anniv.html. You will also find pictures of the prizes on that page and comments from the winners will also be included there as they come in. Here is the list of the prizes and winners:

NUM	PRIZE	WINNER
1	YouKits 3-band transceiver	WB4OMM
2	YouKits 40m transceiver, no case	KC7DM
3	Switching Power Supply	WA2JSG
4	Portable AC Power Supply	WD4EXI
5	G5RV Antenna	N2HTT
6	Jr G5RV Antenna	NA4O
7	Straight Key on Heavy Metal Base	WB8LZG
8	24-Hr Analog Wall Clock	KN1H
9	Dual Digital Clock	KE5YUM
10	Digital Clock	K3RLL

All of the prizes were supplied by [MJF Enterprises](#) at discounted prices and we certainly thank them for their generous support of our anniversary celebration.

Although this is just about the end of this anniversary report, it’s not quite the end of the celebration. Three lucky prize winners are yet to be drawn from the participants in our month long October challenge. And since the deadline for submitting those entries isn’t until November 10th you still have a few days to get your entries in for that.

Well, that's going to wrap it up for this year but remember that our 15th anniversary celebration will be here before you know it. Be sure to get in on the fun as an N#A operator, sprinter, or challenge participant and be sure to participate in our activities throughout the year so that you can have a chance at those top prizes. See you next year!

=====

Here is the list of our N#A volunteers this year. We thank each and every one of them for their spirit of volunteerism and for their enthusiastic support of QRP/CW and the NAQCC. (Calls in red were the special sprint operators.)

N1A - AB1VL K1IX WB1HGA K1RID W2APF W4YFJ **NF1U**
 N2A - N2JJF **NW2K** WA2AKV K2CM K2YGM
 N3A - K3WWP KC2EGL AH6AX **N3HEE** K3EW W3TTT N3IOD NR3Z
 N4A - **K7EK** K4KBL K4ARQ WB4OMM N4PIR K4BAI W4CGC
 N5A - KA5PVB **NF5U** WA5ZKP WA5LSV
 N6A - **N6IET**
 N7A - KG7WHX N6XJP N7CQR **AF9W**
 N8A - **N8XMS** AC8JW KD8RUQ
 N9A - NI9M **AC9EZ** NX1K
 N0A - **KD0V** W0EJ K0NIA W0IIT

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Soapbox comments from some of the operators:

N4A/K4BAI - Spent about 7 hours and 45 minutes calling CQ with the N4A call resulting in only 41 QSOs. Conditions seemed pretty good overall, but interest in working the special event call seemed pretty low. I have made as many QSOs in a monthly NAQCC sprint often. But, there were highlights. Several NAQCC members called. One (KF9VV) e-mailed me after the QSO that he was interested in joining NAQCC. A few FOC members called. Perhaps my most remarkable QSO ever was on 80M when LZ5XQ in Bulgaria answered my CQ at 0223Z. Maybe not remarkable if Steve was using a remote receiver in North America. He was 339 and he gave me 559. I assume he was running high power. If he really heard me in Bulgaria, it would be almost a miracle. I e-mailed him and asked if he was using a remote receiver, but he hasn't yet responded. Thanks for all QSOs. 73/72, John, K4BAI.

N4A/K7EK - I really enjoyed this event despite roller coaster like propagation, excessive crowding, and unusually high noise levels. There were many times of frustration but in the end I feel that my operator skills were greatly enhanced as a result. I hope to participate in this event again next year. Thanks to all who pulled my signal out of the noise.

N8A/N8XMS - My club duties and personal schedule combined to give me almost no operating time other than for the sprint. I had one weekday early morning (about 7 AM) half-hour slot that didn't find anyone else awake for a QSO, and one Saturday morning 1.5 hour session that produced only 6 QSOs. I'm sure that evening times would have been more productive. But the sprint was a totally different story. That N8A callsign attracted a lot of attention from the sprinters and I was pretty busy for the full 2 hours.

N5A/KA5PVB - Frustrating that more NAQCC members were not available to try to log the N#A stations. Listened to other ops. (N#A's) and didn't hear much activity at all. Many of the N#A stations were NOT even audible here in West Texas!!! Poor band conditions seemed to be the norm all week long. SFI-68 A=24 and K=4 are not very good for QRP stations!! Once during my 10/9 activation I scanned the band from 14.000 to 14.150 and heard two (2) signals plus the FT8 stations on 14.074! Hope everyone had "lots more fun than I did"! Best 73, Chuck - KA5PVB

N2A/NW2K - Happy Anniversary! Special thanks to all NAQCC volunteers for all of their efforts. Conditions seemed pretty good up here. I think 5 on 20, 43 on 40, and 20 on 80. My multipliers are really low! Had fun and thanks for all QSOs and thanks for letting me use N2A. 72, Dean, NW2K.

N4A/K4KBL - Tough going on 40 with noise. Contact came in on Saturday which didn't help. Had a great time.

N3A/AH6AX - Band condx were lousy in my area.

N4A/WB4OMM - Only had a short time to be on the air, and propagation did not cooperate! Was active a total of 3 hours over two days. Very poor conditions. Not many signals; not many members (of the 15 QSOs, only 4 members). But I enjoyed the event! 72/73, Steve WB4OMM

N1A/WB1HGA - Of course as everyone knows, poor band conditions turned this into a tedious project. Reverse beacon indicated my signal reaching towards Ohio and as far south as PA!

N4A/W4CGC - First time using just 5W I made one QSO, but that is ok since I have QRN from power lines and I live in a antenna restricted community but I really enjoyed the experience. Will be coming back for more.

N1A/K1IX - Apparently my reserved times were not optimal for conditions which were not bad, they were terrible! I could not "Buy" a QSO. I keep thinking everybody is still on FT8.

N5A/NF5U - My first NA Special Event as N5A Operator. It was a lot of fun. There were several sessions that yielded little or no results and at times it was very productive. 40m and 80m yielded the best results during evening hours. I think NAQCC received a lot of exposure to non members. About a third of my qso's were with non members. Thanks to the club for putting on this event. Thanks to Paul N8XMS, our club president for providing very clear instructions to the NA operators, and to the others that helped in organizing this and all other NAQCC events. 73's to all participants and I am looking forward to this next year. Jerry - N5A/ NF5U

N6A/N6IET - Bands were pretty good until the sprint, during which propagation was plagued by absorption and QSB. I had fun, despite sparse QSOs. My RBN signal reports indicated I was getting out all over the country with my 'stealth' rooftop fan dipole. Except during the sprint, only a handful of my QSOs during the week were with NAQCC members working the event. I only worked three other N#A stations, myself. 72 de Rick N6IET

N0A/KD)V - N0TJM, TIM, CAME OVER TO WATCH THE ACTIVITY. HE KNOWS VERY LITTLE ABOUT OPERATING. NICE TO HAVE COMPANY. THE BAND CONDITIONS WERE NOT THE GREATEST BY FAR. THE SKCC WEEKEND SPRINT AND FISTS SLOW SPEED SPRINT WERE GOING ON ALSO. LOTS OF QRM FROM TIME TO TIME. FROM 1900Z TO 2000Z 20M APPEARED TO DIE HERE IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA, BUT STARTED TO COME ALIVE AGAIN AROUND 2000Z. GOOD WAY TO SPEND A COOL FALL AFTERNOON. THE PORTABLE SETUP WORKED VERY WELL. I HAVE FOUND THAT A SHORTENED FOLD DIPOLES WORK VERY WELL IF I CAN GET THEM UP AT LEAST 20 FEET IN THE AIR.

N5A/WA5LSV - CONDITIONS WERE JUST OK VERY EARLY ON BUT WENT AWAY FAST. NOISE, STATIC CRASHES AND QSB IN MY AREA MADE OPS DIFFICULT. BUT, HAD FUN ANYWAY AND GOT A LOT OF CQ PRACTICE. HI HI !

N1A/K1RID - Seems like there were band openings on 15 & 18 according to the RBN I always enjoy this event even though the number of Qs hasn't been high for me. TY!!

N0A/W0EJ - Wow, not sure what was wrong but condx were not favorable for me this year plus some unexpected distractions took me away from the shack. Looking forward to working N0A again next year.... 72 Bill

N3A/K3EW - tried for one hour at beginning of the event- only two takers. No time available after that. Ministering to XYL who broke bone in her left foot.

N9A/AC9EZ - This year's anniversary celebration was terrific! I enjoyed working all the great hams at low power. Conditions were up and down, with the sprint showing the whole spectrum of conditions 40m has to offer, at least in this solar cycle. Hope everyone enjoyed the NAQCC's 14th anniversary. I know I did!

N2A/N2JJF - Had a frustrating week. Called CQ quite a lot with little or no response. Most of my operating was during daylight hours. Band condx did not help but I was happy to be on the air to celebrate the NAQCC anniversary. I look forward to next year.

N7A/KG7WHX - When I volunteered to activate I said that I was "antenna challenged" but that I thought I would be replacing the portable antenna I had with a better more permanent setup. Unfortunately I had a health challenge that meant I didn't get to work on antennas this summer. I decided that I would still try to participate with my portable antenna. I tried activating on Monday morning local time to take advantage of any gray line propagation that might be available. I called CQ for approximately 45 minutes but never heard a response and I didn't see N7A show up in the Reverse Beacon Network. I did try with 100 watts output later and verified that my setup was getting some signal out. Bad weather and work meant that my next opportunity would be on Saturday. I got the antenna set up and was getting ready to self spot when a cold front moved through the area. When I looked out the window and noticed the tripod rocking onto 2 legs in the strong wind gusts I decided to take down the antenna before the wind took it down for me. I did have fun and look forward to more QRP operations in the future. - Scott Gollightly KG7WHX

N4A/K4ARQ - Worked a couple of sessions on Monday and Tuesday, and then Michael struck. The storm left me with no power and no internet. I had lowered the antenna, and my "antenna trees" were spared, so I was back on the air next day checking in with the Hit and Bounce CW Net. But without an internet connection I couldn't spot myself. Using my smart phone as a hot spot was not so hot. Unfortunately, I had to QRT. GL and 72 to all. See you next year. - John K4ARQ

N7A/AF9W - DUE TO OTHER PERSONAL ISSUES I DID NOT OPERATE AS MUCH AS I WOULD HAVE LIKED. CONDITIONS FOR THE SPRINT WERE NOT TOO GOOD HERE ON THE WEST COAST AND A TECHNICAL PROBLEM HAD ME CUTTING SHORT ON THE SPRINT. MAYBE NEXT YEAR I WILL HAVE MORE TIME AND CONDITIONS WILL BE BETTER. THE LITTLE I DID WORK WAS FUN.

N2A/WA2AKV - This was my first time, I would love to do it again next year, but spend more time at it.

N7A/N7CQR - Hard to tell if it was just bad propagation, or what-especially on 40 M out here on the west coast. I didn't see a lot of activity from some areas. Still-I'll keep trying!

N9A/NX1K - Much time calling CQ without response, but still enjoyable.

N3A/W3TTT - IT WAS OTHERWISE A BUSY WEEK FOR ME - INTENDED TO OPERATE MORE. I DID PARTICIPATE IN THE SPRINT BUT NOT AS N3A.



DAKOTA DX

BY GREGG, WB8LZG

More radio adventures from the prairie.

A continuing saga of portable ops in the Dakota territories.

When my son Jordon, KC8QYU moved out to Minot, ND a few years ago, I was fortunate to be able to bring radio equipment along. Each trip brought a new QTH and new antenna configs. (You can read about some of them in Nov&Dec2015 NAQCC newsletters.) Well this is the story of the vertical.

In 2014 I brought out an old 5BTV vertical in pieces, and assembled it in some spare time. He lived in an apartment complex with oh, 8 or 10 units. NO trees! So the dipoles I brought along.... Useless! Well, they did have a small pond, so the plan was to put the vertical up at night, and take it down after each use. One afternoon we pounded a stake in the ground to mount the 5BTV. All was going well and we soon had it in the air with feed point about 2 feet above ground. Ran the RG58u into the window, and attached a few radials, one per band. Connection to the rig confirmed that indeed there were stations, as the receiver jumped to life.

All going smoothly until I'm testing each band for SWR at about 30 watts. Jordon is outside putting tools away when he notices something very ODD.

All of the apartment complexes garage doors are opening and closing "by themselves." (Quite a site to behold! hi hi)

My ol' pal Murphy. Shoulda known. It was just going too doggone easy. Well, we tried moving radials, moving the whole thing, no radials. Even some "words of persuasion," QRP of 10 watts! Even in desperation, we tried an indoor dipole, taped around the ceiling. No go! Every time I keyed the rig, all the doors went wild. We pulled it all down in disappointment, and packed it away. So ended my first episode of "prairie propagation."

Then in 2015 Jordon bought a home with some acreage and trees! After an initial short FD style operation in the summer with the dipoles hanging in the trees at 25-30 ft, I asked Jordon and his fiancé about the possibility of a Sweepstakes op from North Dakota. They agreed and I got a special call sign for the Sweeps week - N0T. Had a blast, but used the dipoles again, no vertical. (Story also in past newsletter.)

On a visit last spring 2018, I pulled out the vertical and placed it up on a wooden fence post. With the feed point at about 6 ft above ground. I thought I had more wire for radials, but only had wire for 2 radials for 20m, and 1 for 40m! No time to run to the hardware store for more. I got on the air with it and made several good Stateside QSOs, but it didn't have any punch. Only a few DX QSOs. Lacking time to play radio, I resolved to try it again with a better radial system on the next trip out.

When I got home I pre-measured and cut 4 radials per band, (NR 18 gauge enameled copper) and coiled them all neatly in my laptop case. My son was to be married in August and we had several days before the wedding to visit with family, and maybe I'd have time to play a bit of radio. As it turned out, I did manage to get on the air one afternoon while others were doing their thing. I got out a shovel and spaded in the 20m radials. That way the lawn mower wouldn't eat them later. I wanted to get the 40m wires in the ground too, but no time..... I also wanted to operate for a bit. Did I mention it was a record breaking 102 Degrees in Minot. Whew! So I connected the new 20m radials to the 3 wires I already had

in previous operation, and rolled those out on the ground in the ENE direction. Now, with 7 radials, I attached the feedline, and ran it over too the rig parked on a picnic table in the shade. Cool glass of ice water in hand, I sat down and thought "This is just like Field Day." Now what to write on.... all I had handy to log on was the back side of old Sweeps log sheets. No computers. No Cell Ph app. No DX summit. Just me 'n a key, paper 'n pencil and an untested vertical. How could I lose?

I powered up the Yaesu FT 990 in hopeful anticipation. Would I get the improvement I worked for? Or would it be just so so mediocre???

As I tuned down to the band edge, I was not disappointed! Seemed most of Europe and many stations in Africa were coming in "loud n clear". Ok! Bands open, I thought as I plugged in the paddle. A quick check of 20m showed SWR was under 2 to 1, so hey, I started answering CQ's. My first try at about 80 watts bagged EA8DQ in the Canary Is. Yes! Weeee Doggies! The ol' vertical still got some zing! Still nobody around..... me alone, and tuning around the band. It proved very rewarding fer a bit over an hour. I was grinning ear to ear as I put these stations in the log. N9MM doing POTA in Iowa. Then CN8KD, EA1NE, G3HGE, LZ1WR, F5PRH, CT1BQH, who I also exchanged SKCC Nr's with! Alas, the gang came back home and I had to call it quits fer the night. As I unplugged the radio, I could hardly believe my good luck. Yeeup, may have to think about another Sweepstakes operation in Minot ND. "The ND section alone is worth 3db on your signal." As I was winding up the coax and radials to store until the next time I thought, "Great run!" Yes the bands were open perty good, and timing right. But it also goes to show that with a good radial system under it, even the lowly vertical can give good account of itself. When we visit Minot again, the 40m and 15m radials are next.

The rest of the week went by way too quickly, as Nr 1 son Kevin KC8QZE, es XYL came up from California, and Nr 2 son Jordon KC8QYU got married to Ali, a beautiful bride from VE5-land, es gained a new XYL! Sort of a whirlwind of fun, and blur of family and friends, having a great time together.

We said our tearful goodbyes, and headed out the next morning to the airport. As our plane lofted airborne, I was checking out N7IV's contest grade antenna farm on the north side of town. What a tower! I just gotta get back fer Sweeps! As they say in ND. "Why not Minot?" hey?

73, Gregg WB8LZG



ANTENNA THROWING WEIGHT

BY DEJAN, SA3BOW



My Sunday Best ...

Some days one might feel that the usual outdoors ugly style is not right. But one have no intention to fix and make everything shiny. Just one gem is enough. Here a suggestion for a dandy throwing weight. I used an empty CO²-thingy from a life vest. As vests should be tested regularly or simply discarded after a few years this item is not an unobtainium thing.

How to ...

I drilled a hole from the side, poured in some steel shot gun pellets, sealed said holes with a split key ring and sewed a lanyard. The lanyard is from a set of tent lines and the cleat thing serve as an adjustable grip. In the real world, outside QRP, steel pellets are used in recoil less tools, like sledge hammers. Overkill? Yupp. But QRP compensate that.

72,
Dejan
de SA3BOW

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Each month one of our members is randomly selected and asked to share their ham radio biography with all of us. Questions or comments should go to Paul, KD2MX.

DISCLAIMER: Any views expressed in this section are those of the submitting member and may or may not be those of the NAQCC or its officers.



BERNIE LEBEL, VE9BEL, #7027

Hello from the Great White North,

First of all, I want to let you know that my first language is French, so pardon my English.

I live in Edmundston, New Brunswick. My QTH is located at the borders with the state of Maine and the province of Quebec. Near my location, you can actually stand exactly on the border between Maine, New Brunswick and Quebec. I plan on doing a BOTA there one of these days...BORDERS ON THE AIR...HI HI.

Since high school I had always wanted to be a ham operator, but never took the time to do it.

Nearly 40 years later, in 2010, a friend who is a member of the Club de Radio Amateur du Madawaska (C.R.A.M), VE9CRM, asked if I wanted to take a course to be a ham operator. I accepted and a few weeks later I passed my exam and got my basic plus proficiency certificate in amateur radio. That means I can operate in the VHF-UHF AND HF bands with limited power.

My first radio was a Kenwood 2M VHF handheld radio, which I still use.

I like a challenge, so from the beginning I decided to be a QRP Op. My first rig was a Yaesu FT-817nd and it is still my main radio. My main antenna is an End-Fed dipole 10-20-40M. I just hung it in some trees in my back yard. Depending on the weather, I operate outside on the deck or indoors. That's it! Nothing complicated. I now also have a BUDDISTICK vertical antenna that I enjoy very much when working portable.

I first started making QSO's in voice mode, then I got an old laptop and a SIGNALINK USB module to do digital modes. In 2013, I decided it was time to learn CW. My Elmer was my friend Marc Morel (VE1MAM). Marc has been a ham for many years and is a great CW op. I do a lot of my CW with a Speed-X straight key. The key was a gift from my Elmer, Marc. I also have a Pico single paddle, which also permits me to send CW as a Cootie or Straight Key.

With this simple setup, I have been able to make QSO's as far as Australia, the Yukon, Africa and Kuwait with only 5 watts or less.

I also like to work the birds. My satellite antenna is an Arrow UHF-VHF portable Yagi. I use it with my battery operated FT-817 to make my satellite QSO's from FN57 land.

When I have time I like to do contests and the monthly NAQCC challenges.

My next challenge is to learn how to work my new rig...an OLD Ten Tec Argosy. The filtering should help me a lot in the monthly challenges.

Well TTFN and hpe to meet u on the bands soon !

73
Bernard
VE9BEL
Qrp strong !



NAQCC SPRINTS

CURRENT MONTH'S SPRINT: Our sprint this month will be November 22, 0130-0330 UTC. That's the evening of Wednesday the 21st here in North America. Please note the adjustment in the UTC starting time due to the end of DST. In most locations the sprint will start at your same local time as always. Complete information about the sprint can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201811.html>.

Complete sprint rules and instructions on how to submit your log can be found at http://naqcc.info/sprint_rules.html. On that page you will also find information about the different computer loggers that are supported for our sprints. The membership data files for those supported loggers can be downloaded at <http://naqcc.info/contests.html>. **Please be sure to always get the latest membership data for your logger about a day before the sprint.** A complete schedule for our upcoming sprints can be found at http://naqcc.info/sprint_sked.html.

LAST MONTH'S SPRINT RESULTS: We had 110 logs submitted showing a total of 168 participants for our October sprint. Of course this was our special 14th anniversary celebration sprint and included a drawing for some great prizes. Complete details on that can be found in the *Anniversary Report* earlier in this newsletter. Complete sprint results, including some great soapbox comments, can be seen at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201810.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

We would especially like to welcome our first-time sprint loggers and hope that they will return to participate often: AB9LM AG7CC K3EW K7III KG7WHX N3KZK W9YAP

MAC SPREADSHEET FOR SPRINTS NOW DISCONTINUED: As was announced a few months ago, support for the "NAQCC Sprint Logger" *Numbers* spreadsheet (Apple Mac computers) has now ended. In other words, membership data files for this spreadsheet will no longer be available each month on our website. It is highly recommended that all Mac computer users now switch over to the IOS version of AC2C's excellent "NAQCC SprintLogger" software, available at http://www.naqcc.info/sprint_ac2clogger.html. The software is also available on a special users group page at <https://groups.io/g/NAQCCSprintLogger>. That group page also provides great support for the logger through the questions and answers that other users post there.

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KN1H	WB1GYZ	K1IEE
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	W2JEK
W3	K3ESE	K3EW	AK3X
W4	KB4QQJ	WG8Y	NA4O
W5	N5GW	WA6EEM	
W6	AI6SL	AA6OC	
W7	KC7DM		
W8	WB8LZG	N8BB	WV8DH
W9	WB9HFK	AB9LM	W9CC
W0	N0TA	NN0SS	
VE	VE3DQN	VE3RDE	VA3NU
DX			

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	K1IX		
W2	WB2LQF		
W3	AC2C	AH6AX	K3WWP
W4	KJ4R		
W5	K5GQ	WI5H	
W6			
W7			
W8	W8ES		
W9	AA9L		
W0	K0FG		
VE			
DX			

SWA KEYSER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KB1M	N2CN	
W2	K2YGM	WA1GWH	N2JJF
W3	K3RLL	KC3RN	
W4	N4MJ	KU4A N4IAG (TIE)	WU4B
W5	K5MBA	KE5YUM	
W6	KG6UBG		
W7	K7MK	K7III	AG7CC
W8	N8NK	WA8SAN	
W9	K9CW	NX1K	N9WKE
W0	K9OSC	AA0W	WZ0W
VE			
DX			

N#A ANNIVERSARY OPERATORS			
	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	N2A/ NW2K	N8A/ N8XMS	N9A/ AC9EZ
BUG	N5A/NF5U	N0A/KD0V	N1A/NF1U
K/K	N3A/ N3HEE	N4A/K7EK	N7A/ AF9W

GAIN CATEGORY			
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	K4BAI		
BUG			
K/K			

FIRST TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE			
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	K3EW	AB9LM	W9YAP
BUG			
K/K	K7III	KG7WHX AG7CC (TIE)	

SPRINT PRIZE DRAWING WINNER			
WV8DH			

	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	110	94	217	4/17
Participants	168	119	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1408	952	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	758	564	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	650	388	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	85	14	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	1012	853	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	311	85	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	12.8	10.1	19.3	9/11

SPRINT HONOR ROLL: We honor the following members for their outstanding participation over the years in our regular sprints. Exact counts can be seen at http://naqcc.info/sprint_dates.html.

NUMBER OF SPRINTS	MEMBERS
50+	NU7T(SK) K6MGO KB8FE KQ1P KA9FQG NQ2W WY3H AA7CU N8QY K9OSC KB0ETU K6CSL K9EYT N5GW AK3X K2YGM KC2EGL VE5BCS(SK) N8LA KN1H K4ORD KF7WNS N4MJ WK6L KD3CA AB8FJ N2CN
75+	K4NVJ W4DUK KE5YUM KB3AAG WB8ENE K4KRW N2ESE VE3FUJ WX4RM WA8SAN NO2D N0TA WG8Y N8BB AA9L NA4O WD0K
100+	K4BAI KU4A KD2MX NF8M K4JPN K3RLL K1IEE KD0V WA2JSG N4FI
125+	W2JEK W9CC W2SH WB8LZG N8XMS
150+	KA2KGP K3WWP



NAQCC CHALLENGES

CURRENT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: Our challenge this month is an alphabet challenge working with a list of words that are all related to the famous "Kilroy Was Here" from WW2. The full list of words and some interesting historical information about "Kilroy" can be found at <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201811.html>.

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: The December challenge was originally scheduled to be a QRPP activity but with the current band conditions we are rethinking that. So we are probably going to have an alphabet challenge instead but the exact details have not yet been worked out.

Complete information about our challenges including a helpful tutorial on how to organize your work for an alphabet challenge can be found at <http://naqcc.info/challenges.html>. Detailed general rules for our challenges can be found at http://naqcc.info/challenges_rules.html.

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGE: The deadline for submissions for our October anniversary alphabet challenge is still a few days away. Remember that all of the member/participants will be entered into a drawing for 3 great prizes so be sure to get your submissions in soon. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201810.html>. The drawing results will be posted there shortly after the 10th of November.

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://www.naqcc.info/challenges_schedule.html.

NUMBER OF CHALLENGES	MEMBERS
25+	PA9CW NF1U WI5H KU4A K9OSC KD0V PA0XAW WY3H N1JI VE3HUR N9SE N1LU KD2MX WA2FBN
50+	VE3FUJ NU7T(SK)
75+	K1YAN
100+	K1IEE
125+	N8XMS W2JEK
150+	K3WWP

NAQCC AWARDS

We have an extensive list of awards that you can earn. Complete details can be found at <http://naqcc.info/awards.html>.

FEATURED AWARD: WAS Award Simple Wire Antennas

This month we are featuring the NAQCC's version of the classic Worked All States award. Our version of this award has three categories: 50 US States, 50 US States 2X QRP, and Lower 48 US States QRPp. Single band endorsements are also available. Complete information can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_wasswa.html.

RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS:

DXCC AWARD (Category A - QRP)

0022 - NJ3K 10/24/18 All Mobile QRP CW

DXCC AWARD (Category D - All Mobile)

0001 - NJ3K 10/24/18 All Mobile QRP CW

1000 MPW AWARD

0542 YD3KNJ AC4CA - 1,951 11/02/18 Inverted V (speaker wire)



NAQCC QRS/QRQ NETS

We have a number of nets (QRS = slow speed, QRQ = higher speed) designed to help people build up their CW operating skills. Complete information about these nets can be found at http://naqcc.info/cw_nets.html. Questions should be directed to Net Manager Wayne, NQ0RP.

NAQCC NET SCHEDULE

Net	Local Time	UTC	Freq +/-	Primary NCS
FarnsWord 60m, and 80m QRQ Round Table Nets (FRN)	Sunday 5:00 PM PT 7:00 PM PT	Monday 0100 Z 0300 Z	5348 KHz ch2 3556 KHz	60m JB, NR5NN (in CA) 80m Rick, N6IET (in CA)
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7 PM CT	Tuesday 0100 Z	3564 KHz	Allen, KA5TJS (in TX)
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 PM CT	Tuesday 0130 Z	7031 KHz	Bob, W0CC (in KS)
Rocky Mtn Regional/Continental 20/40 QRS Nets (RMRc)	Tues & Thurs 4:00/4:30 PM MT	Tues & Thurs 2300/2330 Z	14060/7062.5 KHz	Dale, WC7S (in WY)
Pacific Northwest 80 m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 7 PM PT	Friday 0300 Z	3556.5 KHz	Stewart, KE7LKW (in WA)

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 FarnsWord 60m and 80m QRQ Round Table Nets (FRN)

Sunday evenings 5:00 PM PST, which is Monday 0100 UTC, on 5348 kHz (Ch 2)
 Sunday evenings 7:00 PM PST, which is Monday 0300 UTC, on 3556 kHz +/-
 60m NCS - JB NR5NN (California); 80m NCS - Rick N6IET (California)

NAQCC FarnsWord QRQ 60- and 80-meter Round Table Nets

FRN/60 at 6PM PST Sunday (0100 UTC Monday) on 5348 kHz (Ch 2)
 Oct 7 QNS (6) NR5NN NCS, N6A, AI6SL, N6KIX, K6GVG, WI6O
 Oct 14 QNS (7) NR5NN NCS, K0DTJ, W7SAG/p, N6IET, K6GVG, KW6G, K6JJR
 Oct 21 QNS (6) NR5NN NCS, N6IET, AI6SL, KW6G, K6GVG, W7SAG
 Oct 28 QNS (4) N6IET NCS, K6GVG, AI6SL, W7SAG

FRN/80 at 8PM PST Sunday (0300 UTC Monday) on 3556 kHz ±
 Oct 7 QNS (6) N6A/N6IET NCS, K0DTJ, K6GVG, KW6G, AI6SL, NR5NN
 Oct 14 QNS (7) N6IET NCS, K6GVG, AI6SL, K9JJR, KW6G, K0DTJ, NR5NN
 Oct 21 QNS (6) N6IET NCS, KW6G, K6GVG, AI6SL, K0DTJ, NR5NN
 Oct 28 QNS (6) N6IET NCS, K0DTJ, K6JJR, K6GVG, AI6SL, WI6O

FRN Commentary

Note the new FRN schedule for November, below, to accommodate the switch from DST to standard time.

FRN/60 at 5PM PST Sunday (0100 UTC Monday) on 5348 kHz/Ch 2 (NR5NN NCS)
 FRN/80 at 7PM PST Sunday (0300 UTC Monday) on 3556 kHz ± (N6IET NCS)

For the month of November we're moving both net times to an hour earlier, which means they stay at the same UTC times of 0100z for FRN/60 and 0300z for FRN/80. There will always be nights when we lose NVIS during either net. For December I'm considering moving FRN/80 forward or back 30 or 60 minutes to stay within the NVIS sweet spot during the winter. The fxF2 (NVIS max) tends to dip in the winter at about 7pm local (0300z) and then rebound.

We cancelled FRN/40 this month, because the band always seemed to be long and signals weak in the afternoons and evenings.

JB grabbed the reins of FRN/60 (actually, I sorta threw them at him), while I tried to keep FRN/80 active. With the shorter daylight hours and dropping Solar Flux, NVIS was never a sure thing, regardless of what time each net started.

I'm soliciting suggestions for an FRN/40 that would meet some morning each week, when the band tends to be both short and long, say between 1500z and 1700z (7am and 9am). Feel free to volunteer to NCS such a net.

All of our participants have become very good at handling relays or taking over as NCS as conditions dictate. And I think we've all become pretty good at head copy. Now if only the signals at my QTH could stay above the noise! I'm having fun, and I hope everybody else is, too!

I hope everyone had a fun Halloween and will have a joyful Thanksgiving!

72/73/77,

Rick N6IET (and JB NR5NN by proxy)

=====

NAQCC East Texas QRS Net (ETN)

Monday evenings 7:00 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC, on 3561 kHz +/-
 Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)
 10/02/18 - No report - NCS not available.
 10/09/18 QNI(3) NCS KA5TJS KE5YUM KE5YGA Thunder storms in the area but managed to pull Terry and Andy out.
 10/16/18 QNI(3) NCS KA5TJS KE5YUM KE5YGA Had great signals at the start and during the QSO with Terry he completely disappeared! Could not raise Andy after that. Band went long on use.
 10/22/18 QNI(1) NCS KA5TJS Nil on QNI's tonight. Think the band was to long for short skip.
 10/29/18 QNI(1) NCS KA5TJS Band was long and QRM on 7.065 and 7.066. Called on 7.064 with nil results. Later heard KE5YGA very light talking to a W1 station. Went down and checked out 3.565 and found carrier QRM there but up and down seemed clear. We will try 3.564kc next week after the time change and see how that works.

Allen KA5TJS

=====

NAQCC Rocky Mountain Regional/Continental QRS Nets (RMRc)

Tuesday/Thursday at 4:00 PM MST, which is Tuesday/Thursday 2300 UTC, on 14060 kHz
 Tuesday/Thursday at 4:30 PM MST, which is Tuesday/Thursday 2330 UTC, on 7062.5 kHz.
 Main NCS - Dale WC7S (Wyoming)

No Report

=====

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS Net (MWN)

Monday evenings 9:00 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0300 UTC, on 7117 kHz +/-
 Main NCS - Bob W0CC

2018/10/01 NCS W0CC A LOT of activity on 7.031, similar to a contest. Every time I found a "spot" and starting calling CQ, another station would start call on top of me
 2018/10/08 NCS W0CC Nil Report
 2018/10/15 NCS W0CC There were several stations; however, I was not successful in receiving a call to CQ.

Bob W0CC

2018/10/22 NCS W0CC There was only one other station calling CQ, I was not able to connect. Hungry for a CQ, I answered the CQ of a special event station, 6D50I.

2018/18/29 - No report

Bob W0CC

=====

NAQCC Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 7:00 PM PST, which is Friday 0300 UTC on 3556.5 kHz.

Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

2018/10/05 QNI (4) NCS KE7LKW, AD7BP, WB4SPB, K7JUV.

2018/10/12 QNI (5) NCS KG7JEB, VE7PJR, WB4SPB, KE7LKW/7, AL7RS

2018/10/19 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, AD7BP, WB4SPB, K7JUV, KG7JEB, N7CPM.

2018/10/26 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, AD7BP, WB4SPB, K7JUV, KG7JEB, AL7RS.

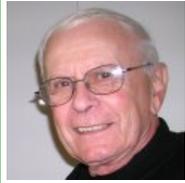
73,

Stewart KE7LKW, Randy WB4SPB, George WB4SPB

=====



HAM QUIPS



Dick Sylvan, W9CBT, #2062, has been a QRP/CW operator for a long time. He is also a very accomplished ham radio cartoonist and his work has appeared previously in the K9YA Telegraph newsletter. His book "HI HI - A Collection of Ham Radio Cartoons" is available at www.lulu.com.

HAM LINGO "Ham Radio Fox Hunt"



"What The Well Dressed Ham Radio Fox Hunter Looks Like."



NAQCC CHAPTER NEWS

The North American QRP CW Club currently has eight local chapters - Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, West Florida, Central Texas, Illowa, Delmarva, Downeast Maine, and Florida - 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 Paul, N8XMS.

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 Vice President John, N8ZYA, 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 or N8XMS 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 Paul, N8XMS, to schedule the use of N3AQC.

Chapter Reports Begin On The Next Page

NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Steve, WB4OMM.

The Florida Chapter website is <http://wb40mm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter>.

Well, we thought we'd be back by now.....

Our September event was cancelled due to the heat – yes, Florida in September can be quite hot – and on the day of our outing it was 94 degrees with a humidity of 80%. The Heat Index was 129 degrees! Yes, too hot to be out in the field. We cancelled the day before.

Our October event, well.....that wasn't heat, it was rain! We arrived at our park (myself WB4OMM; Art WB4MKN; John KD4JS; Bob W2EJG; and Nikki KM4SBQ), and by the time we got from the parking lot to the tables it started to drizzle, then monsoon! Almost 2 inches of rain in less than an hour. The rain stopped but everything was soaked. We left disappointed.

Our next Parkepedtion is planned for Friday, November 16th. I won't be there, I'll be returning from Washington, DC on a work-related trip. Hopefully, Mother Nature will be kinder to us and members of our esteemed group can provide some badly needed Qs for the deserving!

72/73 to all! Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving Holiday to All!

Steve WB4OMM #5913

NAQCC ILLOWA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Illowa Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Mark, KONIA.

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/>.

The Illowa group had a monthly chapter meeting **on October 11th** at the Bettendorf Village Inn. In attendance were Mark, KONIA, Matt, N9MAT, Tim, N9BIL, and Peter, NN9K.

We discussed a variety of NAQCC topics discussed, including antennas, the use of WSPR for antenna testing, how we might promote more Illowa Chapter activity, and (to that end) the possibility of appointing an activity coordinator.

Most importantly, we discussed an upcoming event! We’ll be hosting our event **at the home of Dave, NI9M on January 19th from 1500 to 2100 UTC** . This will be a “coffee and doughnuts on the air” event. More information will be forthcoming.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 8th at 7:00pm in the Moline Village Inn location.

NAQCC WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Western Pennsylvania Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to John, K3WWP.

A complete report for both October and November will be included next month.

CENTRAL TEXAS CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Central Texas Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Danny, N5DRG.

The chapter is located in the Austin, TX area and maintains a website at <http://www.naqcc-centraltexas.net/index.html>.

No report available.

DELMARVA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Delmarva Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Bill, N3IOD.

The chapter is located in the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia area.

No report available.

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.

No report available.

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

No report available.

NAQCC WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the West Virginia Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to John, N8ZYA.

The chapter's web site is at <http://n8zyaradioblog.blogspot.com/>.

Non report available.

MEMBER SUBMISSIONS



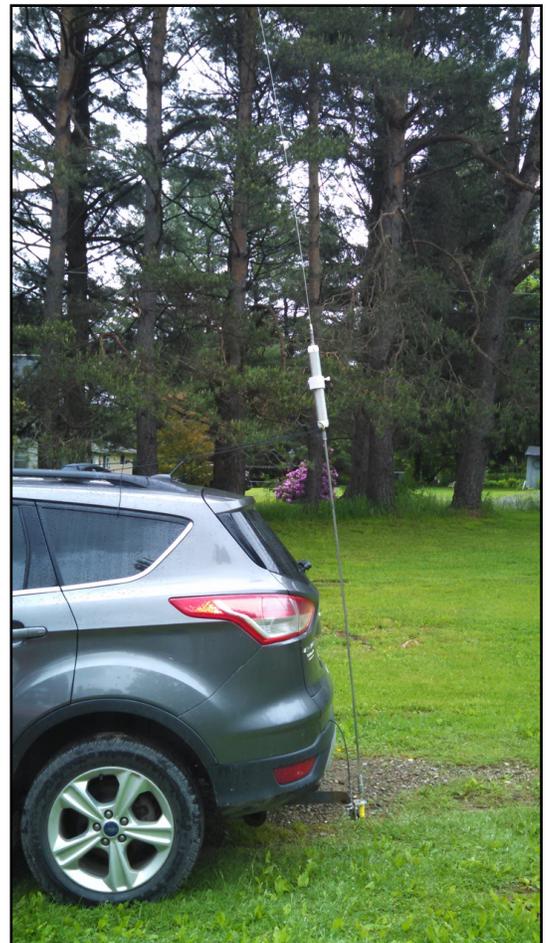
This section is a forum for you to tell other members what you've been up to on the ham bands or to submit a short article dealing with some aspects of CW and QRP operation or equipment. Just about anything that would be of interest to our members would be welcomed. Send your items to our News Editor Paul, KD2MX.

DISCLAIMER: Any views expressed in this section are those of the submitting member and may or may not be those of the NAQCC or its officers.

From Bruce, NJ3K, #1834 —

A little over a year ago I started working on a quest to earn DXCC, QRP, CW Mobile. Today I worked number 100. All contacts were made using my KX3 and 5 watts CW, and the mobile antenna. Most of these were made while I was parked but a few while mobile. One comes to mind was the WL7F. I had just left my house headed for a Radio Club meeting and I heard the small pile up and on the 3 call I got him. Another memorable one was ZL4YL, 8630 miles This was in April during the CQ WW WPX contest. She did the heavy lifting on this one with her antennas and amp. Last year at this time I had 17 DXCC Entities now as of today I stand at 100. I have attached a couple of pictures of the set up.

If some one ever says "I cant work DX without an amp and tower and beam", well I have proof you can. If I can work 100 from my car with 5 watts and a mobile antenna all CW any one can.



From Tom, VE4AKI, #8145 —

A recent and unfortunate accident in my shack resulted in an interesting experience. Due to my own carelessness I inadvertently connected the power to my LNR FX4A reversed ie. positive to negative. The FX4A died instantly.

Now most rigs these days have protection built in to prevent this from being catastrophic. But have you seen the inside of one of these modern rigs? With no circuit diagram and components barely seen with the naked eye there was no hope that I [with cataracts and all] would be able bring it back to life. I contacted LNR Precision and they offered to look at it and report back. So off it went in the mail with fingers crossed.

So after a few days of staring at the space usually occupied by the FX4A I had a bright idea. Now I do have other rigs capable of operating QRP but I get more enjoyment out of using a dedicated QRP rig. Sitting on the shelf was a Green Mountain GM20 transceiver I had built back in 1996. It had provided a great deal of fun operating QRP over the years but had been replaced by rigs with more advanced features. Last I remembered it had flakey audio due to an intermittent head phone jack. A few minutes with the soldering iron and a better jack [from the junk box] replaced the old one.

Maybe the gods of propagation were smiling upon me but when I fired it up the 20M band seemed in good shape. I quickly worked a SOTA station in PA. and over the next few weeks made contacts most days including 5 SOTA and 1 POTA stations from coast to coast. My 1.5 watts and a ground mounted vertical were doing as surprisingly well as I remembered from years before. It still amazes me how a simple rig, a decent antenna and some patience can be such fun. I guess I should give some credit to the stations who worked my little signal.

But what about the FX4A? While out doing some yard work the postman [or post lady in this case] delivered a small package. To my surprise the FX4A had been returned. Abandoning the yard-work I quickly connected it up [double checking the polarity first, I won't make that mistake again] and low and behold the display lit up and it roared back to life. Of course I had to try it out and my first contact WORW/ pedestrian mobile. After getting my elation back under control I looked at the invoice. To my surprise the repair was no charge and all I had to pay was the shipping charge for its return. I have not dealt with LNR Precision before as I bought the FX4A used, but would not hesitate to do business them again. Outstanding customer service in supporting their products!

So an unfortunate accident turned out not so bad after all. I actually made room in the shack for the GM20 and will continue to operate QRPP as often as possible.

73 Tom-----VE4AKI #8145

From Paul, N8XMS, #0675 —

I came across this interesting Youtube video on the history of telegraphy.

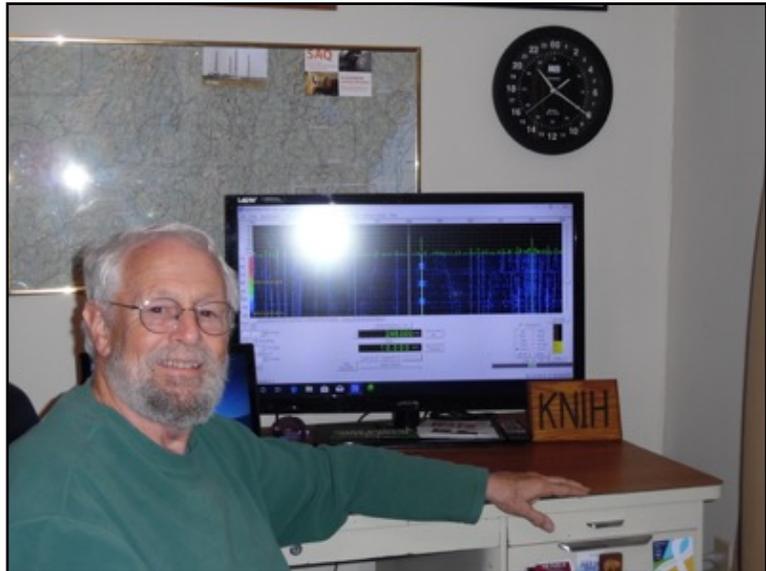
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abq95BTwOG0>

From John, KN1H, #1204 —

John was one of the prize winners in our special Anniversary Sprint drawing last month. He sent this in after receiving his prize. - Editor

I was quite pleased to receive the MFJ 24-Hr clock as a result of the NAQCC Anniversary Sprint drawing. It is a very cool addition to the shack. Thanks to NAQCC and MFJ for this great prize!

73, John Collins, KN1H



From John, KC7DM, #7273 —

John was also a winner in our special Anniversary Sprint drawing last month. He asked us to donate his prize back to the club and said this. - Editor

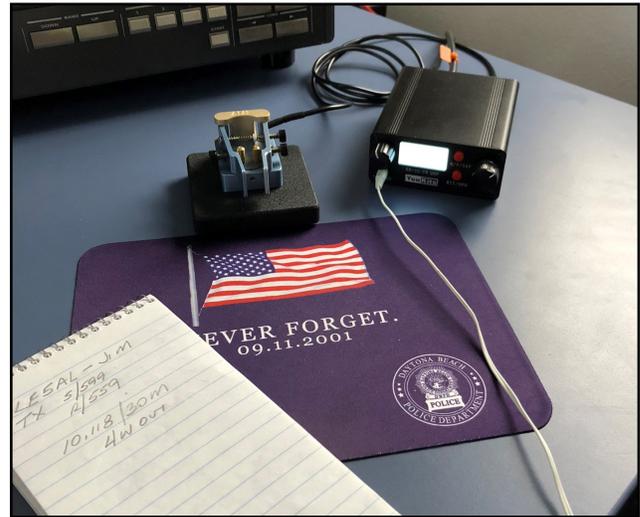
If the rig finds a good QTH and makes many QSOs, then that's the grand prize win for everyone.

From Steve, WB4OMM, #5913 —

Steve won the 1st place prize in our special Anniversary Sprint drawing last month. He sent this in after putting his prize on the air and he also made a special QSL to commemorate the 1st QSO with it. I think that's a very cool idea. - Editor

Yea!!! I received the YouKits EK-1C in today's mail.....immediately hooked it up, and worked Jim-KE5AL in Texas with a 559! Egads! 4W out to a G5RV at 35 feet! It's alive!!!! THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!!!!

72/73,
Steve WB4OMM #5913







YouKits EK-1C running 4W
G5RV @ 35 feet
American Morse Equip Paddle
NAQCC Anniversary Prize
Volusia County - Grid Locator EL991b

Inaugural QSO Port Orange, Florida

QSO WITH	CALLSIGN	DATE	TIME	FREQ/MODE	R S T	72/73!
KE5AL	WB4OMM	30 Oct 2018	2034Z	30M/CW	599	NAQCC# 5913



NAQCC CLUB INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

From NAQCC President Paul Huff, N8XMS

Amateur radio has something for everyone. SSB, FM, AM, the digital modes, and QRO power levels all have their place in this great hobby and we certainly recognize the importance of these modes as well as the enjoyment that they give to many. But for a growing number of hams the challenge of *“doing the most with the least”* makes QRP (and QRPp) CW operating the greatest thrill available in amateur radio, and the North American QRP CW Club exists to promote this exciting facet of the hobby. As part of our focus we also encourage, but do not limit operators to, the use of simple wire antennas.

The NAQCC provides numerous opportunities for hams to enjoy QRP/CW operating. For contester types we have a popular monthly 2-hour sprint that runs at relatively low CW speeds and at a fairly relaxed pace. Three special sprints also take place during the year for 160-meter and QRPp 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. 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 our club website and we are more than willing to try to answer any questions about QRP and CW 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.

The North American QRP CW Club was founded in 2004 by WY3H and K3WWP and now has over 9000 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 also be sent to

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