

NAQCC NEWS



ISSUE 284 • FEBRUARY 2022



KEY CLICKS

- **IN THIS ISSUE**

Lightning Bug restored; Prez Sez we have winners!; Member Polls are stuck on PDF; Portable QRP out west; Introducing your Net Control Ops; Double Spring results; Chapter trip report; and more...

- **STATE QSO PARTIES START FEB 5**

And you've been challenged to see how many you can work this year. See page 3.

- **ARRL LETTER ON JOHN K3WWP #0002'S 10,000+ QRP-CW-QSO-A-DAY STREAK**

The *ARRL* checked in with our co-founder right before he broke 10,000 days. Better yet, they posted his picture wearing an NAQCC T-shirt! John's streak is still going strong.



- **NAQCC ON GROUPS.IO**

Did you know NAQCC has a mailing list for discussions about QRP CW and club activities? <https://groups.io/g/NAQCC>

- **YOUR ARTICLE NEEDED!**

Please take a few minutes to tell us about your latest excursion, that thing you built, your favorite rig, or something funny—as long as it relates to QRP CW. Send it to Paul K2DMX: kd2mx@arrl.net

- **UPDATE YOUR MEMBER INFO**

Any time you change your QTH, email, or callsign, you can update your member info with a simple online form. First, check your information at <http://naqcc.info/memberlist.php> to make sure the rest of the fields are correct and then fill out the member update form here: http://naqcc.info/member_updates.html

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Key Clicks | 1 |
| The Pres Sez . . . | 2 |
| QSO Party Challenge | 3 |
| NAQCC oin Groups.io | 4 |
| Vibroplex Lightning Bug Restored | 5 |
| Member Polls | 7 |
| Sprint Results | 8 |
| Out West Portable 2021 | 13 |
| Awards | 17 |
| Challenge | 18 |
| Net Control Stations | 21 |
| Nets | 25 |
| Chapter News | 27 |
| Sponsors | 32 |
| About The NAQCC | 33 |
| Contacts | 34 |

THE PREZ SEZ...

GREETINGS NAQCC MEMBERS!

Not much new to report here: our Georgia Non-Profit Status and IRS Report for 2022 are complete and we remain a not-for-profit entity, which mean donations to us are tax deductible!!

CONGRATS TO THE 2021 PARTICIPATION AWARD WINNER STEVE SMITH KC5F #10148

Steve amassed 33 points out of 36 possible points. Notice his number—he's a relatively new member! Well done, Steve! A laser engraved plaque will be sent to Steve to commemorate his accomplishment shortly (once it's ordered!).

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SECTION AWARD WINNERS:

- W1 - KB1M (30/36)
- W2 - WA2FBN (26/36)
- W3 - NN3E (31/36)
- W4 - WB4OMM (36/36)
- W5 - WI5H (22/36)
- W6 - K6GPB (8/36)
- W7 - N7QR (11/36)
- W8 - N8XMS (23/36)
- W9 - AB9BZ (25/36)
- W0 - N0TA (10/36)
- VE - VE3DQN (28/36) (Last year's winner - He has a plaque coming too!)
- DX - DK1VD (12/36)

Each of these winners will receive a commemorative NAQCC certificate of their accomplishments. Well done to all!

The Participation Awards Page will remain until February 10th, 2022, when it will then be archived and a 2022 Participation Award Page will be uploaded.

FEBRUARY NAQCC ACTIVITIES:

Regular Monthly Sprint – Wednesday, February 9, 2022 0130-0330Z - (That's the evening of Tuesday, February 8, 2022 for us here in North America!).

<http://naqcc.info/contests.html>

Monthly Challenge - February 2022 The Night Witches Challenge -

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202202.html>

Weekly Nets - http://naqcc.info/cw_nets.html

Hope to see you in the Sprints! Stay safe, stay healthy, KEEP YER DISTANCE, WASH YER HANDS, and get radio-active! Have FUN!

72/73!
Steve Szabo WB4OMM #5913
NAQCC President



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



It's NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE TIME

In the *November '21 issue* Don VE3DQN #5846 described how much fun he had working State QSO parties and particularly the State QSO Party Challenge, which sums up your QSOs from the individual Parties and multiplies them by the number of events you participate in.

A FRIENDLY COMPETITION

Don noticed that other NAQCC members are working the Challenge, but the rankings don't make it easy to see who they are, or how much of their score is from QRP CW. This is a fun way to encourage our favorite way to operate.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Work the QSO parties, starting this weekend with BC, MN, and VT. Rules differ slightly by state, so check those. Work at least two stations in each state.
2. Post a summary of your results for each QSO Party to the appropriate page on <https://www.3830scores.com> The links to the submittal forms are in on the left side of the page in yellow.
3. Under "club" choose "other" and then type in NAQCC. If enough people do that we can

get added to the pulldown menu. If you're already committed to another club, don't worry about it. It won't affect our friendly competition, but it's nice to get some visibility for the club.

4. Some QSO Parties lump CW together with digital or other modes. If that happens, send a note to QSO Party Challenge Manager Don VE3DQN at don@hekman.net and let him know that you worked strictly CW, or if mixed, how many of your contacts were CW.
5. Check the NAQCC Newsletter each month to see how everyone is doing.

NOTES

Individual QSO Parties will do their own official scoring based on uploaded Cabrillo logs. We're just looking at the summary you post to 3830scores.

To participate, you must enter as a QRP station. You don't have to limit yourself to CW operation, but only those QSOs will count toward the NAQCC QSO Party Challenge.

Questions? Read Don VE3DQN's *November article* or contact him at: don@hekman.net

| February QSO Parties | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-----------------------|
| | Start | | End | | Links |
| | Date | Time | Date | Time | |
| Vermont | Feb 05 | 0000Z | Feb 06 | 2400Z | Rules |
| Minnesota | Feb 05 | 1400Z | Feb 05 | 2400Z | Rules |
| British Columbia* | Feb 05 | 1600Z | Feb 06 | 0359Z | Rules |
| | Feb 06 | 1600Z | Feb 06 | 2359Z | |
| South Carolina | Feb 26 | 1500Z | Feb 27 | 0159Z | Rules |
| North Carolina | Feb 27 | 1500Z | Feb 28 | 0059Z | Rules |

* Two segments, see event rules for details



NAQCC ON GROUPS.IO

BY NAQCC VP, JOHN KK4ITX #7249

NAQCC Groups.io

Hey fellow NAQCC members, we have had a Groups.io email reflector since at least September 2018 and it has had very little action, I think in part because it wasn't really advertised throughout our organization so here goes.....

The link below will get you to the Subscribe Page where the usual info is requested. The moderator will then get an automatic email of your request to join and he/she will follow up on it.

AFTER you get the welcome to the NAQCC Group confirmation please take the time to go to your account and locate your Group Profile and at least change your DISPLAY NAME to your FIRST NAME, CALL SIGN. That way we all will know who is sending the email. If you need help with this please contact me at [kk4itx \(at\) arrl.net](mailto:kk4itx@arrl.net) and we'll walk you through it.

You probably already belong to one or more of these reflectors and you probably are aware that "almost" any topic can be covered, but we would like to keep it, of and having to do with NAQCC, QRP, or other Amateur Radio topics.

Also the reflector can be used to give a heads up on your next outing or report your last endeavor, or ask for help on a related product or problem you're having (Ham related).

At the bottom of emails there is the following line:

You receive all messages sent to this group.

[View/Reply Online \(#70\)](#) | [Reply To Group](#) | [Reply To Sender](#) | [Mute This Topic](#) | [New Topic](#)

Please note the "Mute This Topic" and use it if you no longer want to follow the thread.

The "Reply to Sender" allows you to send a message to just that person and that too is useful.

So enter/click the link below and join the NAQCC Group.io, we'd like to have you.

NAQCC+subscribe@groups.io

72,
John, KK4ITX #7249
NAQCC V.P.

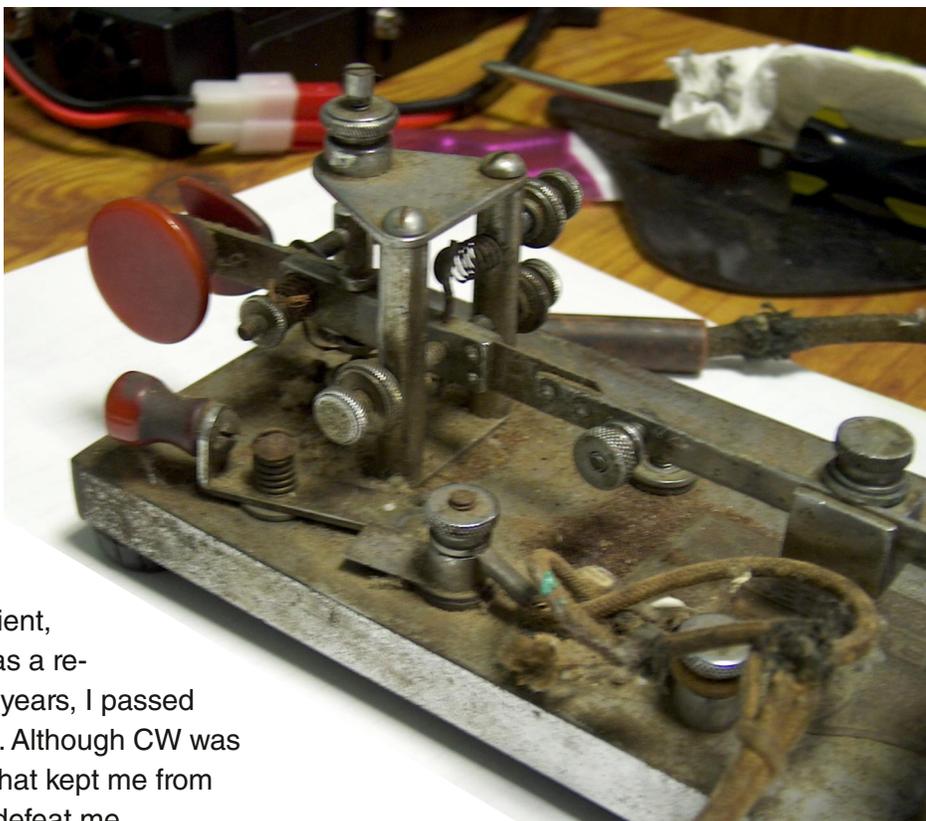


RAILROAD VIBROPLEX LIGHTNING BUG RESTORED

BY DANNY KI4KXO #7037

It has been said that when the bug of amateur radio has bitten an individual that it is hard to cure it. Some 40 years ago, I dreamed of earning my Novice license but between the cost of the equipment and learning Morse code the dream did not materialize.

Although I became a Technician Class in July of 2005, Morse code was still a roadblock to obtaining my General class license at the time. Before I was able to be proficient, Morse Code was eliminated as a requirement. Over the next few years, I passed my General and Extra exams. Although CW was not required, I did not want what kept me from getting my Novice license to defeat me.



FATHER-IN-LAW'S OLD RAILROAD BUG

After becoming licensed, I started talking with my father-in-law, Lural Hale, who was a telegraph operator for the railroad as well as in the Army during the Korean Conflict. While visiting my in-laws, we would talk about ways to learn Morse code and the "bug" that he used at the railroad depot. As many companies do with used computers today, the railroad gave the bugs to employees after the service was no longer used.

Over the next few years we discussed the hobby, Morse code, and the bug. In August 2006, my father-in-law passed away. One of the last things

that he said to me was to keep learning the radio and pointed towards the ceiling of the hospital room showing me where he stored the bug that we had talked of pulling out so many times.

During one of our visits after his death, we searched the attic and located the bug in an old dresser. Shown below is a picture of the bug after many years of storage.

A LITTLE HELP FROM VIBROPLEX

The bug is a Vibroplex Lightning Bug manufactured 1942 based on the serial number research. The records of these units were lost or burned

during changes of ownership of the company thru the years. With the help of Betsy (WB4ZYK) of Vibroplex, I started a restoration project to bring the bug back to life with the hope that I can put it back on the air. The completed project is shown below. There were only a few items that were replaced (the dit spring/contact, dah spring, rubber feet, & dit & dah knobs) since they were lost or broken. The base was sent back to Vibroplex for re-plating and the remaining components were cleaned and polished.

Bob WB1GYZ Had the Answer

With the restoration project finished, there was one problem that I did not solve until reading Bob's (WB1GYZ) article in last month's NAQCC newsletter. With the bug fully operational, I will be practicing sending with the bug so I can put it back on the air. So if you hear me on the CW bands, please be patient and help me reach this goal.

—Danny KI4KXO #7037



After 80 years and a little TLC

MEMBER POLLS

FEBRUARY POLL

Do you submit your articles, projects, and updates to the NAQCC Newsletter?
Let us know at http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html

Rarely Read

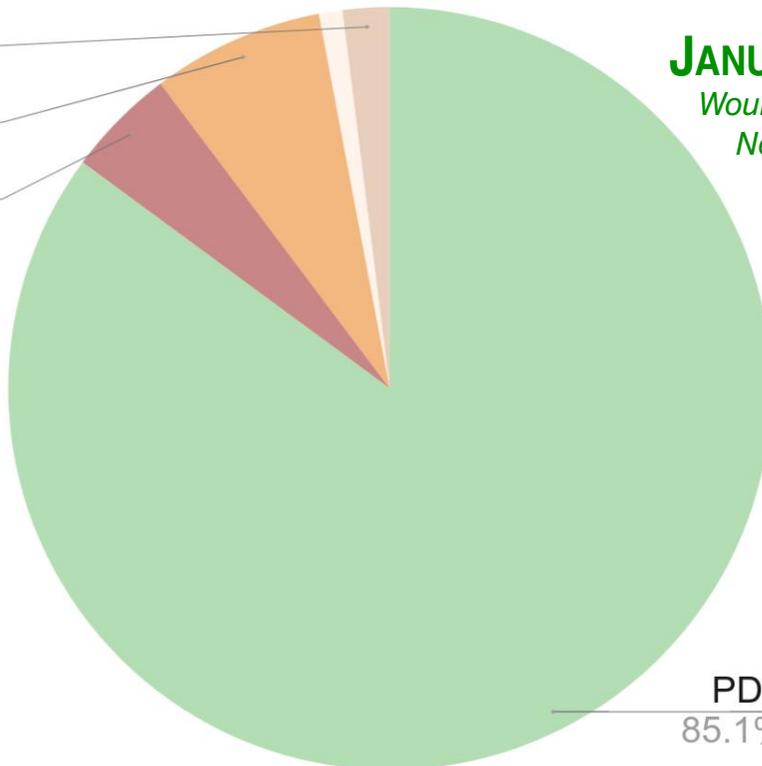
2.0%

Both

7.3%

Website

4.6%



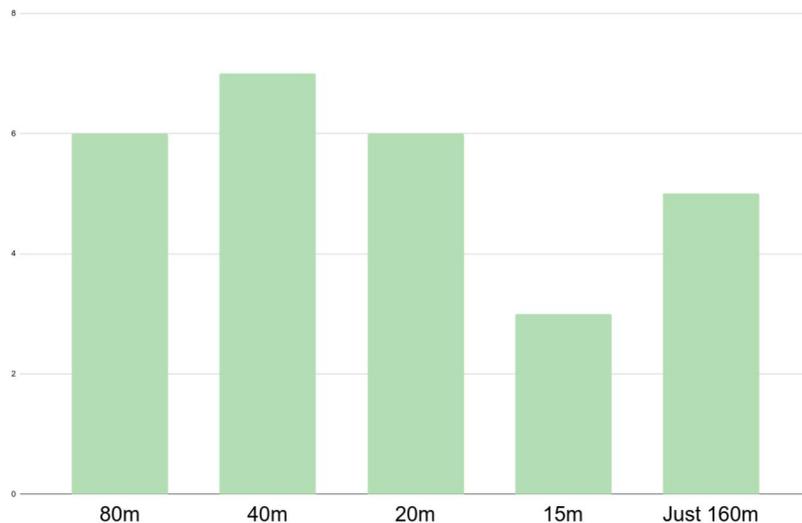
JANUARY POLL

Would you like the
Newsletter to move an
online format or keep
the PDF?

OLD POLL

Back in 2018 we asked:

“Would you be interested in special single-band sprints in addition to our 160-m sprint?”



NAQCC SPRINTS

FEBRUARY SPRINT

Our Sprint this month will be on Wednesday, Feb 9, 2022 0130-0330Z. That's the evening of Tuesday, February 8th in North America.

Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202202.html>.

RULES

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

JANUARY SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202201.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

We would especially like to welcome our first-time regular sprint loggers and hope that they will return to participate often: KG4IKQ, N8RVE, W0LMS, NG7IL, K1WHS, & W9REA

| January Sprint | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| | Current Month | Previous Month | All-Time Record | Record Date |
| Logs | 102 | 88 | 217 | 4/17 |
| Participants | 146 | 122 | 269 | 2/13 |
| Total QSOs | 1373 | 812 | 3154 | 4/17 |
| Hour 1 QSOs | 852 | 478 | 1704 | 4/17 |
| Hour 2 QSOs | 521 | 334 | 1450 | 4/17 |
| 20m QSOs | 1 | 0 | 1232 | 8/13 |
| 40m QSOs | 504 | 303 | 2203 | 4/17 |
| 80m QSOs | 868 | 509 | 1417 | 2/13 |
| Avg QSOs/Station | 13.5 | 9.2 | 19.3 | 9/11 |

| SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | KN1H NX1K (TIE) | - | K1MZM |
| W2 | W2JAZ | WA2NYY | W2SH |
| W3 | KC3MIO | KD3CA | AK3X |
| W4 | KC5F | WG8Y K7EK (TIE) | - |
| W5 | N5GW | KF5WJ | - |
| W6 | W6STR | K6GPB | - |
| W7 | K9QEW | - | - |
| W8 | W8GG | AB8RL | NF8M |
| W9 | WB9HFK | N8HWV | KA9FQG |
| W0 | KD0V | NO2D | AA5LH |
| Canada | VA3NU | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

| SWA BUG CATEGORY | | | |
|------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | W1ND | K1IX | - |
| W2 | WB2LQF | WA2FBN | - |
| W3 | K3WWP | NN3E | - |
| W4 | AA2MX | KJ4R | K3RLL |
| W5 | - | - | - |
| W6 | - | - | - |
| W7 | NG7IL | N7QR | - |
| W8 | K8NGW | N8XMS | - |
| W9 | K9DRP | AA9L | - |
| W0 | KD0Q | - | - |
| Canada | VE3HUR | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

| SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | AC5XK | K1WHS | KB1M |
| W2 | K2OID | N2ESE | N2EIM |
| W3 | - | - | - |
| W4 | K4NE | K4KBL | N4MJ |
| W5 | W5WIL | KA6J | KE5YUM N5MHI (TIE) |
| W6 | - | - | - |
| W7 | KF7Z | - | - |
| W8 | W8RTJ | WI8J | WA8SAN |
| W9 | NN9K | W9REA | AB9BZ |
| W0 | K9OSC | AB0TX | N8LA |
| Canada | - | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

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

| FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Key Type | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| SK | KG4IKQ | N8RVE | W0LMS |
| BUG | NG7IL | - | - |
| K/K | K1WHS | W9REA | - |
| PRIZE DRAWING WINNER | | | |
| KC5F | | | |

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+ | WA1GWH KB1M KF7WNS WI5H WA2FBN VE3DQN KC7DM WB9HFK KB0ETU NQ2W AA0W WB1GYZ K2YGM AA7CU NN0SS KJ4R N7QR N8QY WY3H VE3GNU K6CSL W5UAA WK6L KC2EGL K2HT KE9DR AB8FJ WD4OHD K4ORD K5GQ NN9K K4KBL KB4QQJ KB9ILT K1IX N1JI |
| 75+ | NA4O KN1H K4NVJ N4MJ KQ1P N8LA VE3FUJ WD0K KD3CA K9EYT N8BB K9OSC K6MGO NF5U N8APO WB4OMM N2CN |
| 100+ | K1IEE WX4RM WA8SAN WG8Y N0TA W4DUK K4KRW KD2MX WB8ENE AA9L AK3X NO2D KA9FQG N5GW |
| 125+ | NF8M K2CWM K4JPN N4FI KD0V K3RLL KE5YUM N2ESE |
| 150+ | W8GG W9CC N8XMS K4BAI KU4A |
| 175+ | KA2KGP W2JEK W2SH |
| 200+ | K3WWP |

SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

N1JI - Tonight was my 50th NAQCC sprint. I only had 30 minutes to operate, but conditions on 80 meters were pretty good tonight. 73 and thanks for the contacts!

KC2MJT - Felt good just to bag a few tonight. Wouldn't wish a rain gutter on anyone, but it's all I've got and it kinda works

W0LMS - Lots of static crashes and fading of signals, this is my first sprint in a long long time, great to be back at the CW straight key again. Thanks to my one contact for the patience to send slow code, I've brushed up on my CW with my old code quick material. I will get better with each QSO.

K3RLL - K3 to HOA stealth antenna - Good activity on 40m this evening with a few calls from out of the past. How nice! Thanks for the good contacts, old & new.

W5WIL - Recently installed new Pacific Antenna 40/20 and 30/17 trap dipoles. Getting older and need resonant antennas (I forget to hit 'tune' on a tuner). They seem to work fine and are a little 'quieter' than the 240' doublet I used for many years. Hope to have a 80/15 dipole up as well before next month. 73, Dennis

NG7IL - First QRP operation for a very long time. Tried to work only CQ NA stations to try and get a feel for the sprint. Had a QRO digital station causing a lot of QRM 7040 - 7045. Guess we are too close. I had fun and will try to participate again. Really been working the CW bands after not much activity for a while. Its good to be back. Thanks to the receiving stations patient enough to work me. 72 de Gil

160M SPRINT

| SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------|-------|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | K1MZM | KN1H | WS1K |
| W2 | W2SH | KN2G | W2JEK |
| W3 | KD3CA KC3MIO (TIE) | - | AK3X |
| W4 | WG8Y | WT4U | K4JPN |
| W5 | AA5XA | N5GW | - |
| W6 | K6GPB | - | - |
| W7 | - | - | - |
| W8 | NX8Y | NF8M | - |
| W9 | WB9HFK | KR8L | - |
| W0 | KD0Q | AA0W | KD0V |
| Canada | - | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

| SWA KEYSER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-----|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | - | - | - |
| W2 | - | - | - |
| W3 | - | - | - |
| W4 | K4BAI | - | - |
| W5 | - | - | - |
| W6 | - | - | - |
| W7 | - | - | - |
| W8 | WI8J | - | - |
| W9 | NN9K | N8HWV AB9BZ (TIE) | - |
| W0 | N8LA | - | - |
| Canada | VE3DQN | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

| SWA BUG CATEGORY | | | |
|------------------|-------|-----|-----|
| Division | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| W1 | W1ND | - | - |
| W2 | - | - | - |
| W3 | - | - | - |
| W4 | KJ4R | - | - |
| W5 | - | - | - |
| W6 | - | - | - |
| W7 | N7QR | - | - |
| W8 | K8NGW | - | - |
| W9 | - | - | - |
| W0 | - | - | - |
| Canada | - | - | - |
| DX | - | - | - |

| 160M SPRINT STATS | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Logs submitted: | 33 |
| Total participants: | 40 |
| Total QSOs: | 269 |
| States + Provinces represented: | 23 + ON |

160M SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

KN1H - Thanks for the fun 160M QRP sprint! Had a lot of loud atmospheric noise which was tiring but it was fun anyway. IC7300 and Nye Viking Master Key.

NF8M - Lots of QSB on 160 tonight. Sigs would be strong, then drop right into the noise.

K8NGW - I love 160 although I had to work hard tonight to pull signals out of the noise and had to ask for quite a few repeats when the QSB added to the difficulties. Unfortunately some signals were just too far down in the noise to decode. All in all, I can't think of a better way to spend 2 hours on a Wednesday night! See you all next month!

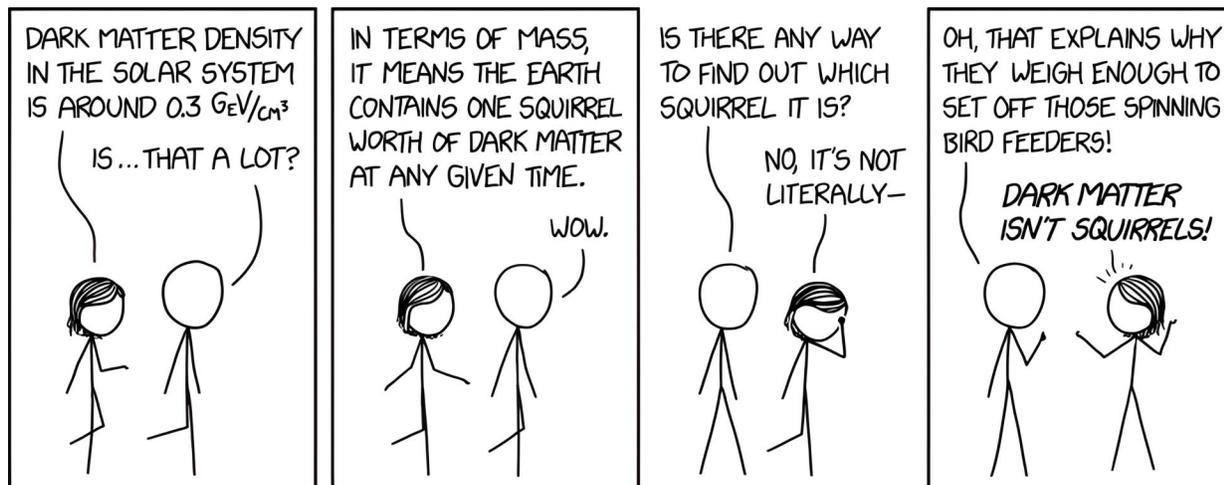
NX8Y - Had fun. Always amazing what 5W will do on 160M. Sorry to the stations I couldn't pull out of the noise. 72

WT4U - Put up twice the wire and made twice the contacts over last year. By the end I'd worked everyone I could hear CQing. Longest was surfing QSB to Vermont with Alan K1MZM (I think he worked everyone on that big doublet). Shortest was a SKCC contact in Tennessee running 500w; we exchanged 579 reports.

W2SH - Although having participated in all of these NAQCC 160m since they began in 2007, getting only 19 QSOs is the lowest I've booked over the past 12 years. This might be due to a smaller number of entrants or my not having a vertical antenna. There was quite a lot of QSB and several items needed mutual repeats. KN1H at 599 plus 10 dB was my first and loudest QSO.

KR8L - I've been looking forward to this sprint and was NOT disappointed. In fact, it exceeded my expectations! I was very happy with the level of activity and band conditions were good with little noise. Top Band is not always an easy band to get on and it has a certain mystique that brings me back to it every winter. This was FUN!

KN2G - The band was amazing! The fading and the overlapping signals crammed into just a few hertz were almost like a 3D photo! Great sigs from my new qth and very little powerline noise. Fun to the very last attempt at a qso.



OUT WEST PORTABLE 2021

BY GREGG W8GG/WB8LZG #1444

It had been over two years since our last visit to see the kids in California, so my XYL and I packed up the pickup truck and trailer before Thanksgiving and headed for the west coast. Driving out west was and is an adventure all of its own. We stopped in several small towns along the way to rest and to see the local sights. I couldn't resist a picture of this caboose in Missouri. Great logo on the gondola. They must have been using "spark" to send messages.

We arrived in southern California the day before the holiday to nice warm weather. Perfect for assembling the ham gear. My rig of choice for portable operations is the Yaesu FT-817. I've used this radio for portable ops for many years now, and it has proven itself a very capable rig for this purpose.

QRP IN THE HIGH DESERT

The kids live in the desert on the edge of the Sequoia National Forest. I was looking forward to some great fun running QRP from this new QTH out in the high desert, Field Day style.

So, while they were cooking the Thanksgiving dinner, I was busy assembling the ham station in the trailer. I had previously tested all of the ham gear prior to leaving and now was the real test.

I pulled out the "Phoenix Vertical" and extended it to the proper length. (see Dec. 2021 NAQCC newsletter) Making sure all the clamps were tight, I hoisted it up to the top of the ladder rack in the trailer, and secured it on the mount. Then I spent the next 20 minutes



spreading out the radials. My radial pack has six wires for 20 meters, and six for 40 meters, with a couple extra for 80 and 15.

Extra care was taken when laying them out to make sure none of the other family members tripped or "hung" themselves on all the wire. I plugged in the coax and power to the rig and was rewarded with lots of signals as I switched on the radio. Oh boy! A quick check of the SWR on 20 and 40 showed all was playing nicely. I even had a nice match on the 18 Mcs band. Icing

on the cake! Just then the chow bell rang. Looked as though I'd have to wait until after the family meal.

Later in the afternoon with a full belly, I snuck off to the trailer to see if my lashup would produce some good results.

BREAKING IN THE NEW CALLSIGN: W8GG

I had recently applied for, and was granted a new callsign, W8GG, so after nearly 50 years as WB8LZG, I was anxious to give the new call a try. My first QSO was with N9JF, Jim, in Illinois on 18 Mcs. (that's where I had left the dial) We had a good solid QSO and then I switched to 20 meters to see what I could raise there. I had a very nice rag chew with Cecil, K5YQF, in Texas, who was also a trailer traveler. Small world.

Then I listened around to see if I could snag any DX. Sure enough, I answered CQs from two different Japanese stations, both giving me good signal reports. Yes, the new skyhook was indeed working !

The next evening right before the CQWW contest, I answered a CQ from Hawaii, and smiled in satisfaction as he came right back to me. Oregon also made it into the log on 40 meters before going QRT for the night. I had thought about getting on the air for the CQWW contest, but family obligations kept me from the radio for the rest of the weekend. All too soon it was "tear down" time. The radials were wound up, the vertical taken down and collapsed, ready for the next temporary QTH. Next stop, Arizona!



P/6 from California

Close up view of the radial system



CATTAIL COVE STATE PARK, ARIZONA

We were going to stay in Lake Havasu, Arizona, but the state park there was full. This turned out to be advantageous for us as we continued south and found a great location at Cattail Cove state park. This park was very quiet, and very beautiful. The only trouble being the fact that it was in a very DEEP canyon with mountains on all sides. A real challenge for radio propagation. We were “Off the Grid.”

This meant no TV, internet, cell phone, radio, and no contact with the outside world, except for ham radio. This also proved to be a refreshing relief from the “same old news” every day on the TV and FM radio. As I assembled the antenna and radials, I wondered if I’d have any success at all getting a QRP signal out from down in the canyon.

I wanted to set up my 20-meter dipole, but park rules forbid the use of the trees. I did ask the rangers for permission to lay out my radials. So up went the vertical, although I was a bit skeptical as to my odds for any radio contacts. Conquering the high canyon walls would take all the juice I could get.

SUPPLEMENTAL POWER

I figured that I might need a bit more power to “get out” through the tall canyon walls. I found a local Power Plant at Parker Dam AZ. to hook into to supplement my FT-817 output. That night I snuck out of camp and secretly plugged in my two-mile-long, 12v power cord to the “mains.” Only problem was, every time I went “key down,” Lake Havasu, Barstow, and half of Las Vegas, all experienced blackouts on the electric grid. hee hee

It took a few tries, but I did finally grab good QSOs from AZ p/7 land with hams in Florida and Oregon before wrapping it up. Proof that

*Parker Dam. My own “personal”
200 Gigawatt power supply*



Here I am at the radio P/6



Hiking in the tall Arizona canyons along the Colorado river, CA on the other side in background.



even with a less than ideal location, ham radio can get through! We stayed a few more days there, however there was no more time for radio ops, as we were busy hiking the trails and taking in the beauty of the canyon lands.

PETRIFIED FOREST

The next leg of the trip took us to the Petrified Forest National Park. This looked like it would be a great place to set up the rig, however we spent all of our time exploring the park. No time for radio. (oh the shame)

After more than three weeks as traveling vagabonds, we had to pack it all up and head back to Michigan. I didn't get as much on air time as I had envisioned, however, the times I did get to operate were fun and rewarding.

PLUG FOR PARKS AND RANGERS

In closing, I'd like to put in a plug for our state and national parks. They are the most beautiful destinations in the world. I can't say enough good things about them. Breathtaking views every place we went.

The other pleasant experience was the park rangers. All of the rangers we met were friendly, courteous, knowledgeable, and very helpful. After explaining that my radial wire wouldn't damage anything, they even let me hang some of my radials from nearby trees. In short, we had a wonderful trip visiting family and touring the countryside together.

Stay tuned for more adventures in 2022, as we will be planning to go south some time during the winter to escape the cold.

73, Gregg W8GG

Petrified logs lying about in all directions for miles



Looking down from top of the canyon trail near our campground



The "Blue mountains" in Petrified Forest National Park



NAQCC AWARDS

You may already be a winner! NAQCC has an extensive list of awards. Check your log to see if you're close, or just need to submit. Complete details can be found at <http://naqcc.info/awards.html>.

FEATURED AWARD:

SUFFIX WORDS

Many call letter suffixes form common words such as W3CAT, K3GO, EA1JAR, etc. This award is for working stations with such call letters. This award is adapted from a suggestion made by George KN2GSJ (now K2GJM). Sounds like a lot of fun - thank you George.

Work as many different stations as possible whose suffixes form two or three letter words. An arbiter is needed to decide what is a word and

what is not. We've decided on a commonly used official Scrabble word list. See the end of these rules for the list which you may cut and paste into a text file for printing out if you wish. Working W2CAT and W3CAT counts as 2 stations, so there are a large number of available 'word calls' since the same word can be used with many different prefixes.

Only the whole suffix counts as a word - you can't get AT from W3ZAT or US from K2USN, and so forth.

RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS:

30-30 Award - 1 Month

| Nr | Call | Month | Date | |
|------|---------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| 0058 | - PA9CW | Dec 2021 | 01/09/22 | all DX Contacts |
| 0059 | - PA9CW | Jan 2022 | 02/02/22 | all DX Contacts |



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



NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: THE NIGHT WITCHES

When you think of WW II bombing raids, you probably think of B-17s filling the sky and dropping tons of ordinance. While that was certainly one scenario, there was another playing out in the Russian air force.

The 588th Night Bomber Regiment, later known as the 46th Taman Guards Night Bomber Aviation Regiment, was an all female bomber group, from the company commander right down to the ground crews. They were one of three female units deployed in October of 1941 by order of Stalin himself. Their specialties were night time harassment bombing and precision bombing.

They flew over 23,000 sorties from 1942 to the end of the war, delivering over 3,000 tons of bombs and 26,000 incendiary shells. The regiment logged 28,676 flight hours, damaging or completely destroying 17 river crossings, nine railways, two railway stations, 26 warehouses, 12 fuel depots, 176 armored cars, 86 firing points, and 11 searchlights. The unit also per-

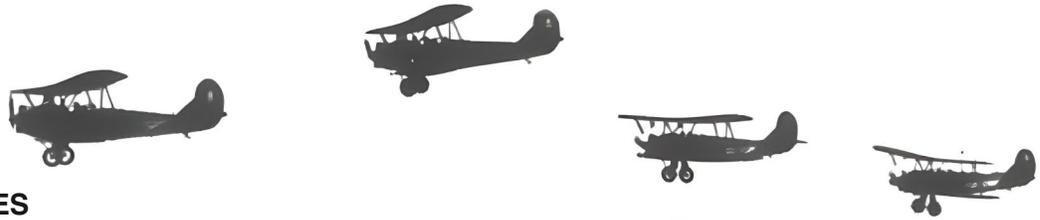


formed 155 supply drops of food and ammunition to Soviet forces.

Operations moved about from day to day and were staged from grass fields rather than from established air bases. Their aircraft, the Polikarpov PO-2, a 1928 wood and canvas biplane design, was intended for training and crop dusting. Its simple design and small size made it well suited to a grass field environment. It was very maneuverable and flew below the stall speed of German fighters, making it a difficult target. Its two bomb capacity was offset by flying numerous missions per night.

An attack tactic of the night bombers was to idle the engine near the target and glide to the bomb release point, with only wind noise from the struts and wire bracing to reveal their presence. German soldiers likened the sound to witches broomsticks and coined the name "Night Witches."





WORDS

- NIGHT WITCHES
- 588TH NIGHT BOMBER REGIMENT
- POLIKARPOV PO2
- GRASS STRIP BASE
- WOOD AND CANVAS BIPLANE

CHALLENGE TRACKER:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 5 | 8 | A | B | C | D | E | G | H | I | K | L | M | N | O | P | R | S | T | V | W |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Every time you work a new station this month, mark off the lowest box under each letter of the call to track your progress and see what letters you still need. You can download a printable version of this month's tracker at: http://naqcc.info/challenge_tracker.pdf

SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

The easiest way is to use the great tool hosted by Robby WB5RVZ. Create an account, choose this month's challenge, and paste in all the eligible calls you worked. It will apply the letters, tell you what you're missing, and fill out the email for you. <http://naqccletters.azurewebsites.net/>

If you want to do it by hand, or got some but not all of the words and want to pick up a participation point, send an email to: charlie.wilber@gmail.com

Subject:

(your call) NAQCC (month year) Challenge

Body:

word1 - call1 call2 call3
word2 - call1 call2 call3

RULES:

Just make ALL the words from calls of stations you work subject to the General Challenge Rules. (Any spaces in the phrases should be ignored. For example the challenge phrase "INVERTED V ANTENNA" should be treated as if it is the single word "INVERTEDVANTENNA.")

Each letter in a call sign you work during the month can be used twice to complete the challenge words. Complete rules, information, and a helpful tutorial on how to organize your work for an alphabet challenge along with detailed general rules and submission instructions can be found at http://naqcc.info/challenges_rules.html

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

March's Phillips Code Challenge will get the message across.

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202203.html>

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGE

The deadline for submissions for our Poison Squad Challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202201.html> and final results will be posted on that page shortly after the 10th of the month.

CHALLENGE HONOR ROLL

We honor the following members for their outstanding participation over the years in our monthly challenges. Exact counts can be seen at http://naqcc.info/challenges_sdchedule.html.

| Number of Challenges | Members |
|----------------------|---|
| 25+ | VE3DQN AH6AX N1JI KU4A KD0V K9OSC KA5PVB WY3H N4OW KB1M WY7N VE3HUR KI4IO AC2C DK1VD N1LU KD2MX |
| 50+ | VE3FUJ PA9CW WI5H NF1U WA2FBN AK3X W3IQ G3JFS WB4OMM N9SE KJ4R |
| 75+ | PA0XAW |
| 100+ | K1IEE K1YAN |
| 125+ | |
| 150+ | W2JEK K3WWP N8XMS |

CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

VE3DQN - Snagged almost all the letters/numbers by the 10th of the month. But then it took me another 10 days to find that elusive 6. I had to look to Europe for my 6, F6HKA, as I see that Bert also provided his 6 for other Challenge participants.

AD0YM - Sometimes it comes together quickly and then there was this month. Of course, if it were easy it would not be as much fun or satisfying to complete.

N8XMS - I missed the challenge by just one letter - an H. It was still a lot of fun as always.

WB4OMM - Wow.....had a lot of time on the air this month.....including a bonus run of 41 at a Parkpedition! Easy Peasy! 72/73! Steve

KA5PVB - It's really nice to see the SFI get above 100 and the bands starting to open-up. It's making QRP more FUN and less Challenging! See ya' next month. HNY Best 73, Chuck



INTRODUCING *YOUR* NAQCC REGIONAL NET CONTROL STATIONS

BY MARK W8EWH #9622 AND THE NET CONTROL CREW

Our QRP CW Nets are regular on-the-air gatherings of hams which share a common interest in promoting low power CW operation. They are slow speed (QRS) so accessible to all. You can meet new hams, sharpen your CW skills, or test out a new rig or antenna during one of these nets.

As Nets Manager, I've had the privilege of working with the net control stations who host these nets. They provide a great service to the club, but my rough calculation is that less than 0.2% of our members regularly participate in one of our nets. As I thought about why that is, it occurred to me that we as a club know very little about these

hams, why they do what they do, or what happens during their net.

With this article I hope to provide you with a bit of a look behind the curtain. Who they are, why they do it, and what to expect if you decide to check-in. And maybe by getting to know these club members, you'll take some time to listen for and check-in to one of their nets near you. Can't hear them? Maybe you'd like to establish a similar net closer to your QTH. Let me know if you do.

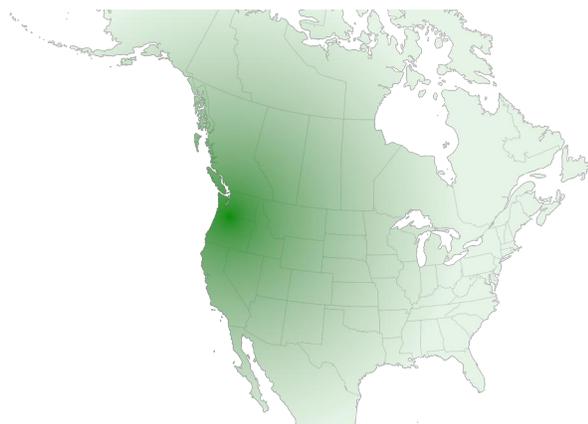
In their own words, here are your NAQCC Net Control Stations:

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST (PNW) NAQCC SLOW SPEED NET

MAIN NCS STEWART – KE7LKW

The PNW is a weekly 80M net held Thursday evenings on or around 3556.5 kHz that serves the Pacific Northwest region, with best coverage of Washington and Oregon, but occasionally Northern California, Idaho and Southern British Columbia.

The PNW was started so that "local" hams would have a place to learn and use CW. The PNW joined the NAQCC organization for greater visibility/participation. We welcome anyone at any skill level learning or brushing up on CW. Our excellent mentors provide patient guidance to those learning CW operations, radios, antennas etc. We can arrange on-air one-on-one CW practice. On the PNW you can make CW



acquaintances so that when operating from your regular station or remote locations you have someone with which to arrange communications for any reason. This is a great benefit.

The PNW starts out with 15 minutes of early check-ins using relays as necessary, then about an hour of round robin style rag-chew. We talk about vacations, family, pets, gardens, cooking, hobbies, WX, etc., and occasionally ham radio. We usually have 6 to 8 check-ins mostly from Washington and Oregon. We go about 10-12 wpm and will slow down as needed. We also have operators out of the region listening to the net via remote internet receivers.

The Main NCS is Stewart – KE7LKW in White Salmon, WA. Licensed since 2007, I mostly do

QRP CW. I enjoy portable operations from remote camps with simple wire antennas. I also NCS a weekly QRPp CW net.

I would like to thank all our participants for their continued support of PNW. Special thanks to our PNW alternate NCSs: Randy – WB4SPB in Tacoma WA.; Dan – N0DA in Corvallis, OR.; and Dave – WB7WHG in Bend, OR.

If you have any questions about PNW or QRP/ QRPp portable operations, please contact Stewart – KE7LKW: stewart@gorge.net.

THE MIDWEST (MWN) NAQCC SLOW SPEED NET

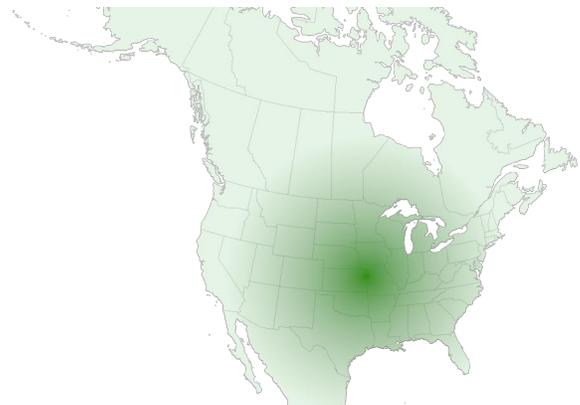
MAIN NCS BOB – W0CC

I started in Ham Radio in 1974 with a Novice License and a hand-built HW-16 Transceiver. I only had a couple of crystals for that 75-watt CW rig. Eventually, I found a used VFO which greatly increased my horizons. Never having "boots" and, early on, living in apartments, I found my most success with DX on CW.

I wanted to serve my Ham community and when an opportunity became available to run the NAQCC-MWN, I had an opening to do so. I have, in the past, worked with the Boy Scouts as a Radio Merit Badge Counselor instructing over 200 Scouts, mostly using field radio style set-ups with QRP.

Currently, I serve as Vice-President of a local club, KOANT. Although I have a lot to do to improve my operating skills, I as MWN NCS want to share my passion with fellow hams and communicate not only with other NAQCC members but also with hams who are just starting or just returning to CW.

I have had the privilege to interface with several members of the NAQCC community and I always



cherish the chance to extend these relationships. Hopefully, as my skill level improves, the NAQCC-MWN will also grow.

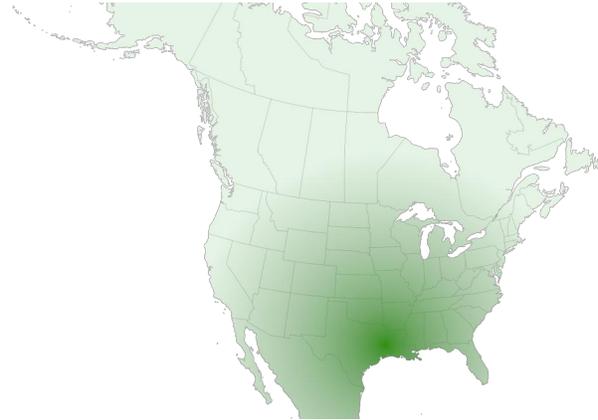
The MWN is a weekly 40M net held Monday evenings at 7:30 PM Central (0130 UTC Tuesdays) on or around 7031 kHz. Although it was intended to be a "local" net, the signal is frequently received on both coasts as well as by stations that are in neighboring communities. I have been fortunate to have had assistance in spotting from Dave, AB9BZ, in Chicago. It is exciting to see what stations that he may copy that I cannot hear and vice versa.

THE EAST TEXAS (ETN) NAQCC SLOW SPEED NET

MAIN NCS ALLEN – KA5TJS

I started the East TX QRS net back in January of 2011 so have been doing it now for about 11 years. It is a very informal net and we have had many ops come and go over the years. Some have become good on-the-air friends. We get stations from most of the lower eastern US and meet at 7:00 PM Central on Monday nights (0100UTC Tuesday). I call the Net at about 12 wpm but will speed up or slow down pending the speed of the op that I am working.

I love to work slower ops and try to catch them when they are calling CQ anywhere on the bands. I am one of those guys that had to work at CW. It did not come naturally to me as it does some. We have been using 3566 kHz now for a while and although the QRN can be rough, it has been working better than 40 meters for the last year.



We normally have only 3 or 4 ops and spend about 10 or 15 minutes with each one if the conditions allow. The subjects can be anything that comes up from WX to rigs, antennas or what we had for breakfast.

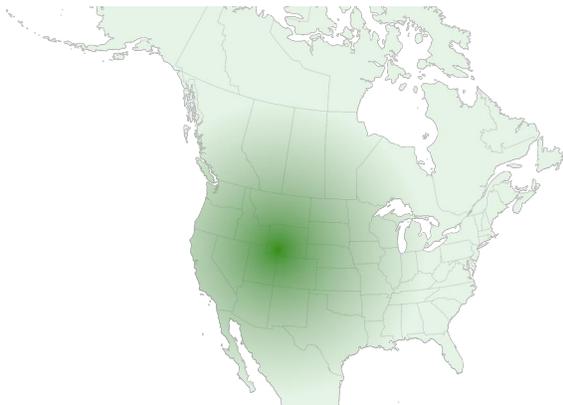
Would love to hear you on the air so please come by and give it a shot.

THE WYOMING (WY80) DAILY SLOW SPEED NET

MAIN NCS STEVE – KE7UUJ

Hello NAQCC members/fellow QRP CW Ops! I'm Steve Rizzi, KE7UUJ, from Rock Springs, Wyoming. I'm 34 years old. I became interested in Ham Radio by playing around with CBs and other electronics as a kid. I got interested in the science and magic of Amateur Radio and took my Technician test in 2007. A fellow ham (my elmer Dale WB7DJ) told me that I would probably enjoy CW and told me I should try it. He was right. I took right off with it. I started off with 5 wpm cassette tapes, and soon I was having slow speed QSOs on 7114 kHz and 14050 kHz until I got enough speed and guts to move on to faster QSOs. My copy and sending speed are faster now, but I never forget where I started.

Now that I have learned the code and I'm now a proficient, capable CW operator, I thought it would be fitting to give back to the Amateur community



that gave me the opportunity and tools to get started in CW. There were no CW nets for the State of Wyoming until recently, but there are a few local operators who wanted to get some daily practice, so we decided to start The Wyoming CW Net. The Wyoming CW net runs from 6:30 am Mountain time (13:30 UTC) until 7 am (14:00 UTC) daily on or around 3565 kHz for a bit of stress-free CW practice. I appreciate all the help I

got from other hams when I was a newbie. Now it's my turn to help others just as I was helped by gracious friendly hams. I would not be where I am today if it were not for lots of good, patient friendly hams willing to help me along.

The goal of The Wyoming CW net is to give local CW operators or interested parties a chance to use their code skills to become proficient. The idea is to get new people into CW & QRP and use their skills on the airwaves. CW is a useful skill to have as a ham. Also, QRP shows you that you don't need an amplifier capable of a Kilowatt and a monster tower/beam to exchange messages with hams near and far. Also, CW and QRP have something that communities need for Public Safety/Public service, which is an easy, cost-effective way to communicate when all else fails. There is so much radio and computer infrastructure dependent on the internet today that is convenient and works well, it is both shocking and alarming when the network connections fail. It is good to have a backup plan for your backup plan, and that's why we practice—to improve our skills and capabilities in real world conditions. One of my goals as net control is to get Technician class hams on the HF bands using CW. This is something I have never seen since I have been a ham, and I wish that when I was still a Tech, someone would have helped me get started with CW and HF instead of having to wait until I upgraded to General. What a great opportunity for Technician class hams to have some privileges on HF. This is very underutilized in my opinion.

On the Wyoming CW Net, we usually give a Good Morning, and exchange the current temperature, wind speed, and local weather conditions between our local QTH's while having our first cups of coffee. Also, we talk about current solar and band



Wyoming NCS, Steve – KE7UUJ

conditions, along with any other questions or comments that members have.

As there are only 3 or 4 stations a day that check into the Wyoming CW Net, there are plenty of opportunities for fellow hams to jump in and join the fun. Our net is a low-stress situation. Don't be afraid to ask net control and participating stations to QRS/slow down the speed, and don't get frustrated if your copy is not 100%. That's why we are here, to teach and learn. Most of us that check in are involved in the teaching and mentoring of new CW operators. We usually use the Koch method at 20 wpm, but we do vary our speed anywhere from 6 wpm to 25 wpm to practice and improve our skills. We also run a newbie CW practice net on Wednesday evenings at 7pm Mountain time on Zoom for new CW ops who are trying to learn code or improve their skills. Everyone interested is invited to join the fun.

Thank you to the NAQCC for sponsoring our net. Without the support of you, the CW/QRP ops, and the NAQCC, we would not have a net. It has been a great learning experience. I hope others enjoy QRP/CW as much as I do.



NAQCC NETS

We have a number of nets (QRS = slow speed, QRQ = higher speed) designed to help people build up their CW operating skills. Complete information about these nets can be found at http://naqcc.info/cw_nets.html. Questions should be directed to Net Manager Mark, W8EWH.

NAQCC Net Schedule

| Net | Local Time | UTC | Freq +/- | Primary NCS |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Wyoming Daily QRS 80 Meter Net (WY80) | Daily 6:30 AM MST | Daily 1330 Z | 3565 kHz | Steve KE7UUJ (WY) |
| East Texas QRS Net (ETN) | Monday 7pm CST | Tuesday 0100 Z | 7066 kHz Summer 3566 kHz Winter | Allen KA5TJS (TX) |
| Midwest QRS Net (MWN) | Monday 7:30 CST | Tuesday 0130 Z | 7031 kHz | Bob W0CC (KS) |
| Pacific Northwest 80m QRS Net (PNW80) | Thursday 5 PM PST | Friday 0100 Z | 3556.5 kHz | Stewart KE7LKW (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 MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CST, which is Tuesday 0130 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/-
Main NCS - Bob W0CC (Kansas) — Assisted by Dave AB9BZ

Jan 03 – QNI (2) W0CC, N4NRL

Jay did a GREAT Job picking my signal out of the QSB!

Jan 10 – QNI (0) W0CC

Dave did not report hearing any other station than mine. Next week will be better!

Jan 17 – QNI (0) W0CC

Dave said that the signal was the strongest in California!

Jan 24 – No Net tonight. Nothing heard in response to CQs.

Jan 31 – No Net tonight. Nothing heard in response to CQs.

NAQCC EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CST, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC,
on 7066 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)

Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

- Jan 04 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN, KG5CMS
Signals were pretty good tonight and welcome to Don. Mostly weather reports, up and down for everyone.
- Jan 11 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN
Band was up and down tonight, fair copy on Andy and Allen. Talked about winter field day.
- Jan 18 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KA5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN
Band was in good shape last night. We got 599/599/589 signals. Talked about WX and winter field day.
- Jan 25 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KA5YUM, KE5YGA
Well, the conditions were outstanding tonight. 599+10 and 599 reports both ways. Best 80 Meter signals in a while. Talked about winter field day. Coming this weekend.

NAQCC PACIFIC NORTHWEST QRS 80 METER NET (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 5:00 PM PST, which is Friday 0100 UTC on 3556.5 kHz +/-

Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

- Jan 06 – QNI (9) NCS WB7WHG, KJ7KDB, AD7BP, WB4SPB, KE7LKW/P, W7ANM, KI7SJE, K7JUV, N0DA/P
- Jan14 – QNI (8) NCS KE7LKW, WB7WHG, WB4SPB, KI7SJE. NC7CQR, W7ANM, K7JUV, AD7BP
- Jan 21 – QNI (7) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, KI7SJE, K7JUV, N6KIX, AD7BP, W7ANM
- Jan 28 – QNI (6), NCS WB4SPB, N0DA, W7ANM, K7JUV, AD7BP, KE7LKW

NAQCC WYOMING DAILY QRS 80 METER NET (WY80)

Daily at 6:30 AM MST which is 13:30 UTC, on 3565 kHz +/-

Main NCS - Steve KE7UUJ (Wyoming)

(Listing of stations checking in during the week. # after call = number of check-ins that week.)

- Week of Jan 02 – NCS KE7UUJ (7), WB7GR (6), WB7S (4), WC7S (5)
- Week of Jan 09 – NCS KE7UUJ (7), WB7GR (4), WB7S (1), WC7S (4)
- Week of Jan 16 – NCS KE7UUJ (7), WB7GR (3), WB7S (1), WC7S (3), N8GEO (1), AC7AF (1)
- Week of Jan 23 – NCS KE7UUJ (4), WB7GR (3), WB7S (2), WC7S (3), K0AMY (1)



NAQCC CHAPTER NEWS

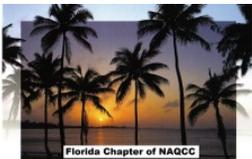
The North American QRP CW Club currently has seven local chapters - Western Pennsylvania, West Florida, Illowa, Downeast Maine, Long Island, Florida, and Green Swamp WCF—but we would be more than happy to expand on that list. Chapters are more or less independent local gatherings organized by NAQCC members in a geographical area and subject to a list of guidelines from the NAQCC. They provide opportunities to have fun and to promote our parallel passions of QRP and CW. If you are interested in forming a local chapter please contact Club President Steve WB4OMM.

If your chapter is planning a portable operation activity and would like to have it promoted on the club email list or in the newsletter, send an email with the subject “NAQCC Portable Operation” and with the exact wording of the announcement to Steve, at the email address listed on the last page about a week before the operation. Please be sure to include the UTC time for the event and not just the local time.

A report about your chapter activity should appear here. Please send them to KD2MX 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 Please contact call sign trustee, Club VP John KK4ITX, to schedule the use of N3AQC.

NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Nikki, KM4SBQ.

The Florida Chapter website is <http://wb4omm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter>.

On Friday, January 21, 2022 the Florida Chapter of NAQCC arrived at a favorite park to start the new year. We held our latest “Parkpedition” at Hontoon Island State Park on the St. John’s River in DeLand, Florida.



This island, located in the St. Johns River in Volusia County, welcomes visitors to enjoy nature and history in quiet solitude. The island is accessible only by private boat or park ferry. Evidence of Native

American habitation over thousands of years can be witnessed in the park. It boasts an impressive visitor center to learn more about the many inhabitants and uses of Hontoon Island over the years. Boating, canoeing and fishing are popular activities and canoe rentals are available. Picnic areas include tables, grills and a playground.

We arrived, to a temp of 61 degrees and 50% humidity, accompanied by clear skies. It was 71 degrees when we left - Winter in Florida! Yes!!!

We had a total of 7 of us for this Parkpedition - Steve WB4OMM #5913; Rick AA4W #1628; Steve K8SR #10527, John KD4JS #8019; and John W2IV #6150. We were joined by non-member Steve WB0AOD and his XYL Toni.

STEVE WB4OMM #5913

Steve WB4OMM #5913 really racked up the Qs on 20M working a total of 41 folks in just under 70 minutes! Members: AJ8S #6829 OH; W3WH #151 PA; AK9A #5664 WI; W2AAB #2661 NJ; K1WAT #4528 PA; NI0R #2631 MO; K9IS #235 WI; K2CWM #3457 NJ; W2NR NH #577; KD2KUB NY #9803; WA2NYY NY # 6388; W4NLT VA #8847; KF9RX TX #9243; W0CC KS #5363; KY0Q IL #9647; W1ND NH #9353; W0YJT KS #2765; WI1G MA #3375; and WZ9B IL #4387.

Steve also worked 22 non-members in: AZ, BC, CA, DL, F, HB, ON (Belgium, not Ontario!) IN, MA, ME, NJ, NY, OH, PA, TX and WI.

Steve used an Elecraft KX-3 to a ground mounted 20M Hamstick - FB!!

This is the 20M Hamstick on a small mount with 4 10-foot radials...

5W and this simple antenna...

SIMPLY AMAZING!



RICK AA4W #1628 AND STEVE WB0AOD

Rick AA4W #1628 was on 40M with a KX-3 and Buddipole Vertical worked members Jim K4AHO FL #1713; Mark WG8Y NC #4405; and Sid WB4HUL VA #3268; along with 4 non-members in SC, GA, MD and TN.



STEVE K8SR #10527

Worked non-member XE2I on 20M using an Elecraft K1 to a 31-foot end fed wire.



The Ferry Boat from the Island to the Mainland

Many thanks to those who listened for us and helped make this another successful NAQCC-FL event!

NEXT MONTH'S SCHEDULED EVENT

Friday, February 18th, 2022
 starting at 10:00 AM EST
 (1500Z)



NAQCC GREEN SWAMP WCF



Items in this section are from the Green Swamp WCF Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Gary N3OS.

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

NAQCC 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 ILLOWA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Illowa Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Tim, N9BIL.

The Illowa Chapter operates in the "Quad Cities" area of Davenport, IA / Moline, IL.

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

NAQCC WEST FLORIDA CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the West Florida Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Ron, N9EE.

The chapter's web site is

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

NAQCC DOWNEAST MAINE CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Downeast Maine Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Jeff, KA1DBE.

The chapter is located in the Hancock and Washington counties area of Maine.

NAQCC WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER



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



HAM LINGO DICK SYLVAN, W9CBT



"CW HOUND"

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.

NAQCC PRIZE SPONSORS

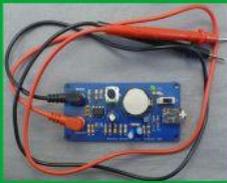


ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®



MFJ Enterprises, Inc.

Fun and affordable kits from
Pacific Antenna





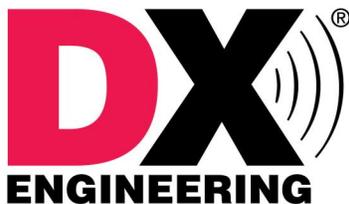

Tracer Injector Tenna Dipper II

Micro Attenuator Mini SWR Indicator

See our selection of quality
kits starting at \$5
www.qrpkits.com



GIFTS4HAMS
Laser Engraved Gifts



KB3IFH QSL CARDS
& Ham Radio Gifts



Astrid's Embroidery & Quilts



NAQCC CLUB INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Amateur radio has something for everyone. For a growing number of folks, the challenge of "doing the most with the least" makes QRP (and QRPp) CW operating the greatest thrill available in amateur radio. The North American QRP CW Club Inc. exists to promote and pursue designing, information sharing, building, and operation of low power, Morse Code enabled Amateur Radio (FCC Part 97) equipment with simple wire antennas for both emergency and personal communications purposes, an exciting facet of the hobby.

The NAQCC provides numerous opportunities for hams to operate in QRP/CW activities. For contest types we have a popular monthly 2-hour sprint that runs at relatively low CW speeds and at a fairly relaxed pace to increase code skills and experiment with different antennas. Three special sprints also take place during the year for 160-meter and QRPp (less than 1W of power) operators. For a month-long activity we offer our members a Monthly Challenge that can be anything from forming a list of words from the calls of stations worked, to making a prescribed number of contacts using home-brew gear. There is also an extensive awards program to recognize the significant QRP/CW accomplishments of our members.

We also serve as a resource for people who are just getting started in QRP and/or CW, sharing information on low power Morse operations. Our slow-speed CW nets are a great place for beginners to practice Morse code under real on-air conditions. Beginners will also find a wealth of helpful information on these web pages and we are more than willing to answer any questions about QRP, CW, and simple wire antennas that you might have. An extensive monthly newsletter is filled with useful projects and news from fellow QRPers.

A number of local NAQCC Chapters offer opportunities to get together for in person socializing and QRP/CW activities. Portable operations are especially popular with the local chapters.

Whether you are a veteran ham radio operator who is looking for a new challenge in the hobby, or a beginner who is intrigued by the possibilities of QRP/CW communication, we cordially invite you to join us. Membership is free and the benefits and fun are significant.

REPRINT POLICY

Unless otherwise stated in the article, local clubs and other ham radio organizations are free to reprint featured articles from this newsletter, provided appropriate credit is given to the North American QRP CW Club and the author of the article. If at all possible a link to the club website at <http://www.naqcc.info/> should be included.

NAQCC CONTACTS

| | | |
|--|---------------|------------------------|
| NAQCC President | Steve WB4OMM | sszabo1@cfl.rr.com |
| NAQCC Vice President | John KK4ITX | jleahy00@yahoo.com |
| NAQCC Secretary | Gary AF7T | gary.af7t@gmail.com |
| NAQCC Treasurer | Jerry K4KBL | digilink@gmail.com |
| Downeast Maine Chapter | Jeff KA1DBE | j.hanscom@gmail.com |
| Florida Chapter | Nikki KM4SBQ | nickies1130@aol.com |
| Western Pennsylvania Chapter | John K3WWP | naqcc33@windstream.net |
| Illowa Chapter | Tim N9BIL | n9bil@arrl.net |
| West Florida Chapter | Ron N9EE | n9ee55@gmail.com |
| Long Island Chapter | Howard WB2UZE | wb2uze@yahoo.com |
| Newsletter Submissions Member Spotlight | Paul KD2MX | kd2mx@arrl.net |
| Newsletter Editor | Brent WT4U | brentWT4U@naqcc.radio |
| NAQCC CW Nets | Mark W8EWH | mark.yergin@gmail.com |

NOTE: These email address are not automatic links.

They are given here in graphic form to avoid harvesting by spambots.

The North American QRP CW Club Inc., is organized exclusively for scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code to advance, promote, and pursue designing, information sharing, building, and operation of low power, Morse Code enabled Amateur Radio (FCC Part 97) equipment with simple wire antennas for both emergency and personal communications purposes. No dues or membership fees - open to any licensed radio amateur or shortwave listener (SWL) worldwide with interest in CW/QRP operation. Encouraging the use of CW and helping all hams increase CW speed and proficiency is a top club priority. Club activities are dedicated to QRP/QRPp operation, using CW and emphasize using simple wire antennas.

The North American QRP CW Club was founded in 2004 by WY3H and K3WWP and now has over 9500 members world wide. Membership is free and anyone interested in CW/QRP operating is welcome. Complete information about the NAQCC, including a membership application, activities schedule, and useful resources, can be found on our website at <http://www.naqcc.info>.

Inquires can be sent to:

Club President Steve Szabo, WB4OMM
536 Central Park Blvd
Port Orange, FL 32127 USA

