NAQCC NORTH AMERICAN QRP CW CLUB

ISSUE 250 APRIL 2019



- EARLY PUBLICATION OF THIS ISSUE. This April issue of the NAQCC Newsletter is being published a few days early due to some travel plans that I have for the first part of the month. Consequently some of our regular features, like our CW Net reports, are incomplete. This also means that if you need to contact me regarding the club, there could be a bit of a delay before I can get back to you. Paul, N8XMS
- VIRGINIA QRS NET CLOSES. Our Virginia QRS net has ended operations due to a lack of participation. We certainly thank Jeff, K9VEG, for his fine efforts as NCS for this net. You can see our complete net schedule on page 18 of this issue.
- 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

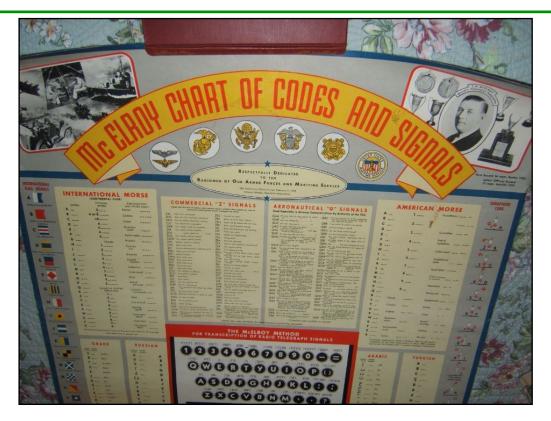
NAQCC has no membership dues and we depend on your generous donations to cover our operating expenses. If others would like to help out with a donation there are two ways that you can do it. The first way is to use PayPal to electronically send your contribution to Club Vice President John, N8ZYA, using 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."

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MCELROY POSTER BY JERRY, VE6CPP

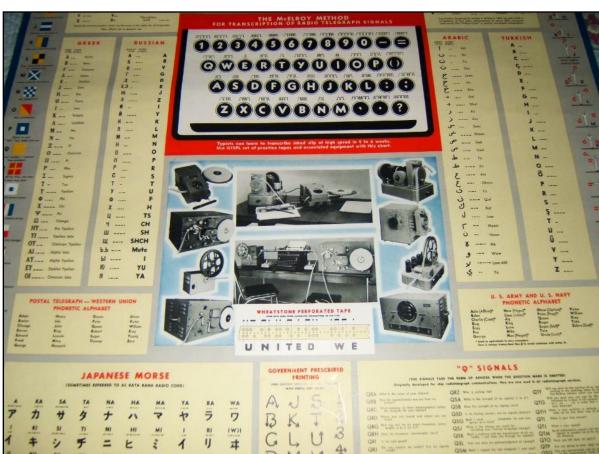


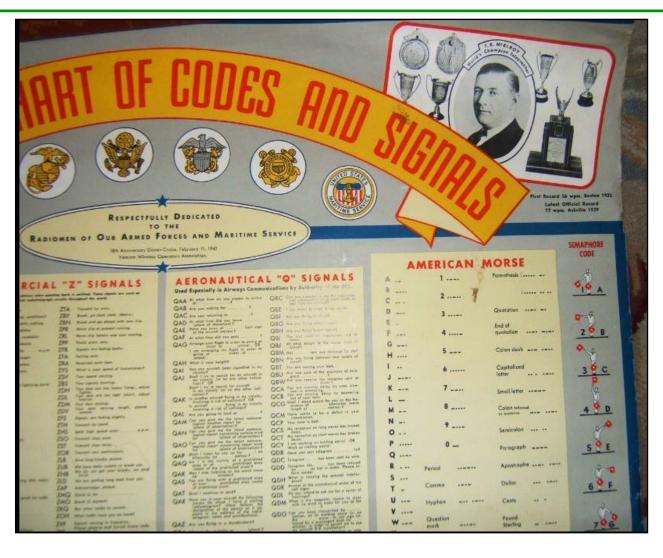
I had an interest in Radio at an early age, and was involved in the CB craze, then got involved as an avid SWL. It was there that I discovered Ham Radio! I Would sit and listen to QSO's for hours, and thought... 'I want to do this as well'! I took an evening course at our local College with 11 other 'Budding Future Amateurs'! I believe we 'All Passed' that terrifying 10wpm code.. and 'So it Began'! I Received my 'Certificate of Proficiency in Amateur Radio'.. dated February 14, 1984! Being the 'Young Fella' as I was often referred to.. I had the Honor of meeting many of the now 'SK Op's from way back then! Used to hear many of their QSO's on the local 2M Repeater, commenting on 'what a Nice Fist that Young Fella Has.. sat and listened to him on 40M very late into the night! Their Stories of the 'Old Days in Ham Radio'! Many even gave me numerous old copies of some Ham magazines from the 40's, 50's and 60's.. and I remember I was more interested in the advertisements for Ham gear than the articles! The old Collins, Swan, Heath gear, etc. It was in one of them I spotted a McElroy advertisement for a 25x38 'McElroy Chart of Codes and Signals'! Oh., got to find me one of those! It took many, many years of searching..but spotted an E bay auction for an original a YL had listed (in the Wrong Category!) The auction ended without me bidding..(okay, I forgot about it!) When I checked to see what it had gone for.. 'No One had Bid'! I messaged her, to see if she would put a 'Buy it Now' on it, I would 'Take It'..and she did! It ended up costing me (probably more than it may be worth..?) \$112CDN with the US exchange rate, shipping, etc. But..now 'I Own One'! It is sort of a cloth / canvas backed material.. dated 1943... and still in it's original mailing tube! Probably why it survived this many years! It is a bit tattered slightly on some edges..(but at 55yrs old now..so am I!) It will soon be framed and 'Proudly Displayed in My Shack'.. Forever!











TWEEZER SQUEEZER BY GENE, N5GW

Shown here is an iambic (squeeze) key I cobbled together using a square of 5/8 inch plywood, suitable tweezers, four 1-1/2 inch corner braces (CB's), a few electrical box cover plates, and miscellaneous screws & nuts. It offers the following adjustments: tension, contact spacing, paddle height, paddle selection, and base weight.

Initial construction involves spacing the two pairs of CB's, consistent with the length of the tweezers. Fixation screws are about the same length as board thickness, use star washers, and are half the diameter of the CB holes to allow some adjustment. The tweezer is clamped in place at the pair of fulcrum CB's and centered at the pair of contact spacing CB's. Finger paddles are then attached and can be stick-on rubber feet, glue-on plastic or wood, or even small control knobs. The paddle end of the levers can be raised or lowered as desired. Loosening the clamp screws and pushing the tweezer against the spreader screw slightly widens the space between the paddles, but more importantly, increases the amount of finger pressure required to close the contacts. Contact spacing CB screws



are next loosened, allowing the CB's to be slid to the desired position. Fine adjustment can be achieved by slightly rotating the CB.

The base weight is also adjustable. The second pic (*next page*) shows three of the 6 oz. metal plates were required to prevent the key from wobbling or sliding across my smooth Formica table top. Notice there are three rubber feet on the bottom-most plate, two at the near end and one at the far end. If four feet are used, the key is likely to wobble, especially if it is placed on an uneven surface. The key is somewhat wide, but this actually aids stability.

If you decide to build such a gadget, pick tweezers which are not too stiff, because it is much easier to increase the tension than to try to decrease it. A sideswiper key can be constructed on a similar layout, perhaps using a rake tine, hacksaw blade or other springy metal.

Unpainted wood is shown here for illustration purposes, but several coats of paint would dress up the appearance.



NEW ANTENNA AT N8XMS BY PAUL, N8XMS

Since 1993 I have used the same antenna at my home QTH for all of my operating. It's an old Cushcraft (pre-MFJ) R7 trap vertical and, although it is definitely getting "long in the tooth," it has served me very well. Using this antenna I have managed to earn numerous QRP/CW awards like WAS, and DXCC, and have also been able to post some pretty competitive scores in our NAQCC sprints over the years.

Of course the R7 is a multi-band antenna that covers 6, 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, and 40 meters. I don't have a rig for 6-meters but I have certainly used this antenna to log QSOs on all of those other bands. I have even used it with a tuner to force out a little bit of 80-meter RF now and then, but on that band it works much more like a big dummy load. And this is exactly where my hunt for a new antenna started.

If you take a look at the statistics for just about any one of our recent NAQCC sprints you will see that 80-meters is definitely the place to be to find the QSOs and multipliers, especially during the final hour of the contest. This shouldn't be a surprise to anyone who has paid attention to the sunspots in the current solar cycle. So I decided that, after 25 years, it was about time for me to get a decent 80-meter radiator.

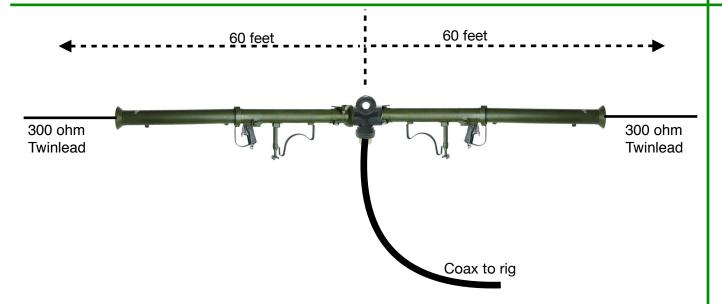
I first surveyed my yard for available antenna supports - i.e. trees - and there were a couple of good possibilities. My days of tree climbing are long past but I was able to work out a system with launched lines and pulleys. Next I researched antenna types and there are certainly many to choose from - dipoles, EFHVs, G5RVs, random wires, etc. I finally settled on a somewhat uncommon antenna called a "Double Bazooka." Here is a basic description of this antenna taken from an internet source:

A DOUBLE BAZOOKA antenna is an extremely broad banded Half Wave Antenna which can operate efficiently across an entire Ham band with little change to the SWR. The BAZOOKA antenna design was developed by the staff of M.I.T. in the early 1940's for use by the US. Government as a radar antenna. It was modified for amateur radio use in the 1950's. This unique design eliminates the need for antenna matching baluns and is fed directly with 50 Ohm coax. The DOUBLE BAZOOKA is 98% efficient and typically provides NOMINAL S.W.R. readings of less than 2:1 over the entire band. Since this antenna has no exposed metal wire static charges cannot build up, thus reducing noise over antennas constructed of exposed wire. The DOUBLE BAZOOKA antenna will handle full legal limit power with no effect to performance.

The DOUBLE BAZOOKA can be mounted in an inverted "V" configuration for optimum results, "Center elevated, with 90 - 120 degrees between the legs". Then it will have vertical polarization and will usually out perform a dipole type antenna at distances of over 500 miles due to its lower angle of radiation. However the DOUBLE BAZOOKA can be configured horizontally with equally good results. If erected as a Dipole this antenna has horizontal polarization.

Much of what I needed to build my antenna was already available in my junk box and I was able to find sources on the internet for some of the more unusual parts. Since the demise of my local Radio Shack store I have often turned to the internet for electronic components and I have never failed to find what I need. It seems like everything from "tinker toys to tanks" is for sale from someone, and shipping charges are usually reasonable or even free with minimum order limits.

The plans for my antenna can be seen on the next page.



As ham radio operators we are all used to getting the occasional odd look from our neighbors when we are trying to get our wires up into the trees but this time one particular neighbor apparently went a "little ballistic" because, after I went back into my shack and was working on soldering a BNC connector on the end of my new coax, I heard a commotion outside. I looked out the window and was surprised to see a couple dozen people with weapons and body armor pouring out of big black SUVs labeled FBI and ATF!

To say the least, things were a little bit tense for a while! But when I showed them a copy of my FCC amateur radio license they realized that I was a fellow Fed and everyone calmed down. It was explained to me that my neighborhood association has a deed restriction that bans outdoor bazookas. Who knew?!?!

I do admit that one of my bazookas happened to be lined up on my neighbor's house, but it's not like she really needed to be concerned. After all, I'm not one of those "big gun" stations, I'm just a "little pistol" QRPer!

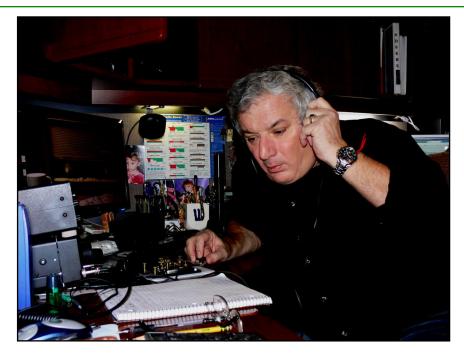
So for now I'll still be using my ancient R7 in our sprints. But I haven't given up. Does anyone out there have any experience with attic-deployed bazookas?

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.



SERGEY KRAVCHENKO, KD9EBS, #8177

I am not used to writing about myself at all but here goes.

Radio and electronics have been always my passion. At the age of 12, I built my first crystal radio, then it was a TRF radio, next a regenerative, and later a super heterodyne radio. I liked to listen to the SW broadcasts, especially "Voice of America" and "Radio Europe". I tried to get my license, or at minimum SWL call sign, but did not have enough patience to get through the bureaucratic Soviet system in the Radio Inspection of Ukraine. (USSR at that time).

In 1992 my family and I moved to the U.S. Not until 2015, did I have the time and motivation to get my amateur radio license. This was all thanks to my coworker, who saw on my desk my homemade nixie clock, and inspired me to start work on getting my ham radio ticket.

I passed my "Technician" in June of 2015, the "General" in 2016, and finally "Amateur Extra" in 2017.

In 2015 I became a member of the "North Shore Radio Club", one of the largest radio clubs in Chicago land. In one of the club meetings, I listened to Warren (KC9IL) who prepared an amazing presentation about QRP radios. Since that night I've been hooked. In the beginning of 2016, I joined NAQCC and proudly own my NAQCC number 8177.

When asked about my favorite activities within our wonderful hobby, I would list here NETs, rag chewing,

chasing DX, and for sure the homebrewing. That part is my favorite. I've included a couple of pictures from my projects: My nixie clock and my super-regenerative AM Radio. I am currently trying to built a "Paraset" clone. It's a QRP vacuum tube transceiver, used by the resistance fighters in Europe during WWII (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraset).





My favorite NAQCC activities are the NAQCC QRP and QRPp sprints. I use the QRP "Youkits" HB-1B 5 Watt and Alinco DX-SR8, reduced power to 1 watt, when working QRPp. And my favorite key is my trusty J-38.

I also enjoy reading books, playing chess, and fishing. I have been married for 31 years to my lovely wife Irina. We have two children. No grandchildren yet, I guess we are still young for that :-)

In conclusion I would like to thank our NAQCC club board of directors and all our club members for the great pleasure to be part of this organization. Thank you and 72! / 73!

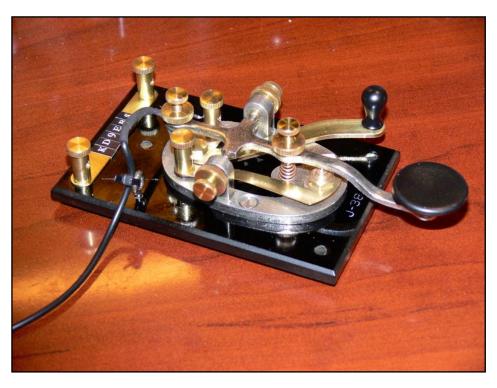


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NAQCC SPRINTS

CURRENT MONTH'S SPRINT: Our sprint this month will be from 0030-0230 Z on April 10. That's the evening of Tuesday the 9th here in North America. Complete information about can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201904.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: 95 logs were submitted for our March sprint which was 7 less than we had in February. But most participants sited improved conditions and we averaged about 14 QSOs per log compared to only an 8.4 average last month. Complete sprint results, including some great soapbox comments, can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201903.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: KB3SAR KE9V KN6EY N1YL W0KFG WD5RS

PLAN YOUR PARTICIPATION: Remember that regular participation in both our sprints and challenges will qualify you for the great prize drawing in our anniversary celebration in October.

SWA	SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY				
Division	1st	2nd	3rd		
W1	KN1H	W1PQO	WB1GYZ		
W2	W2SH	KA2KGP	W2JEK		
W3	AI4SV	K3EW	N3LPJ		
W4	K4KBL	WX4RM	KQ4MM		
W5	N5GW	-	-		
W6	-	-	-		
W7	KC7DM	AJ4JA	-		
W8	AJ8S	NF8M	N8XMS		
W9	WB9HFK	KC9IL	W9CC		
WO	N0TA	NN0SS	K0CW		
Canada	VA3NU	-	-		
DX	-	-	-		

	SWA BUG CATEGORY				
Division	1st	2nd	3rd		
W1	-	-	-		
W2	-	-	-		
W3	K3WWP	-	-		
W4	KJ4R	K3RLL	-		
W5	NF5U	W5ODS	-		
W6	-	-	-		
W7	-	-	-		
W8	KI8JY	K8NGW	AB8FJ		
W9	K9DRP	AA9L	-		
W0	-	-	-		
Canada	VE3IDS	-	-		
DX	-	-	-		

SWA F	SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY				
Division	1st	2nd	3rd		
W1	KB1M	N2CN	KC1DVT		
W2	WA1GWH	N2JJF	N2ESE		
W3	NR3Z	-	-		
W4	KB9ILT	N4MJ	WB4OMM		
W5	WD5RS	WI5H	KE5YUM K5MBA (TIE)		
W6	-	-	-		
W7 KF7Z		-	-		
W8	W8 WA8SAN		N8VAR		
W9	KE9V	-	-		
W0	AA0W	K0EW	WD0K		
Canada	VE3DQN	VE3GNU	-		
DX	-	-	-		

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

FIRST TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE				
KEY	1st	2nd	3rd	
SK				
BUG				
K/K				
SPRINT PRIZE DRAWING WINNER				

	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	95	102	217	4/17
Participants	125	144	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1331	855	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	713	425	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	618	430	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	6	0	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	798	300	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	527	555	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	14.0	8.4	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) KB8FE KQ1P NQ2W WY3H AA7CU N8QY K9OSC KB0ETU K6CSL K9EYT N5GW AK3X K2YGM KC2EGL VE5BCS(SK) N8LA KN1H K4ORD KF7WNS N4MJ WK6L KD3CA AB8FJ N2CN WI5H
75+	K4NVJ KE5YUM KB3AAG WB8ENE K4KRW N2ESE VE3FUJ WX4RM WA8SAN NO2D N0TA WG8Y N8BB AA9L NA4O WD0K K6MGO KA9FQG
100+	K4BAI KU4A KD2MX NF8M K4JPN K3RLL K1IEE KD0V WA2JSG N4FI W4DUK
125+	W9CC W2SH WB8LZG N8XMS
150+	W2JEK KA2KGP K3WWP

NAQCC CHALLENGES

CURRENT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: If you manage to complete our challenge this month you just might decide to go out and "paint the town red." But what does that phrase really mean? Well you can learn about that and many other common phrases in our "Why Do We Say That" alphabet challenge. Complete details can be found at http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201904.html.

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE: The May challenge will be an alphabet challenge with a word list that is related to the famous Paraset spy radio of WW2. Details can be found at <a href="http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challen

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 March "Home Brew" challenge is still a few days away but preliminary results can be seen at http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges201903.html. Final results will also be available there shortly after the 10th of the month.

PLAN YOUR PARTICIPATION: Remember that regular participation in both our sprints and challenges will qualify you for the great prize drawing in our anniversary celebration in October.

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.chedule.html.

Number OF Challenges	Members
25+	N9SE KU4A K9OSC KD0V WA2FBN WI5H PA9CW NF1U WY3H N1JI VE3HUR G3JFS N1LU KJ4R KD2MX AK3X VE3DQN KA5PVB
50+	PA0XAW 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: FRIENDSHIP CLUB AWARD

This month we feature our Friendship Club Award where the goal is to work, and get to know, your fellow club members. The basic award is earned with 200 points and there are endorsements for earning additional points beyond that level. A QSO with a member consisting of RST, QTH, NAME, RIG, WX, and NUMBER is worth 1 point. A sprint QSO is worth 2 points. But a rag-chew kind of QSO with a member where you learn at least one additional piece of information about the person beyond the 6 items listed above will earn you a whopping 4 points. A QSO with club call N3AQC or one of our N#A stations during our anniversary celebration is worth 5 points. You can find complete details about this award at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_workedmembers.html. You will also find on that page a link to a tutorial on how you can use GenLog to help keep track of your point progress.

RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS:

2X QRP AWARD - 100 POINTS 0022 - AJ8S 03/22/19



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 QRQ Round Table Nets (FRN)	Sunday 5:00 PM PDT 6:00 PM PDT 8:30 PM PT	Monday 0000 Z 0100 Z 0330 Z	5348 KHz ch2 7046 KHz 3556 KHz	60m JB, NR5NN (in CA) 80m Rick, N6IET (in CA)
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7 PM CDT	Tuesday 0000 Z	3564 KHz	Allen, KA5TJS (in TX)
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 PM CDT	Tuesday 0030 Z	7031 KHz	Bob, W0CC (in KS)
Rocky Mtn Regional/Continental 20/40 QRS Nets (RMRc)	Tues & Thurs 4:00/4:30 PM MD	Tues & Thurs 2200/2230 Z	14060/7062.5 KHz	Dale, WC7S (in WY)
Pacific Northwest 80 m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 7 PM PDT	Friday 0200 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 QRQ Round Table Nets (FRN)

Sunday evenings 5:00 PM PDT, which is Monday 0000 UTC, on 5348 kHz (Ch 2) Sunday evenings 6:00 PM PDT, which is Monday 0100 UTC, on 7046 KHz +/-Sunday evenings 8:30 PM PDT, which is Monday 0330 UTC, on 3556 kHz +/-60m NCS - JB NR5NN (California); 80m NCS - Rick N6IET (California)

No report

NAQCC East Texas QRS Net (ETN)

Monday evenings 7:00 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0100 UTC, on 3561 kHz +/- Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

2019-3-5 QNI(3) NCS KA5TJS KE5YUM WA5IEK

Terry (KE5YUM) was booming in at 599 the whole net. He was running 30 watts. Greg (WA5IEK) was 579 with some QSB but good copy. Good net tonight.

Next week we go to DST but will continue to use 80 meters as the primary calling freq. with a call on 40 just to see how the propagation is this early in the year.

2019-3-12 QNI(3) NCS KA5TJS KE5YUM WA5IEK Despite the time change and an hour earlier we got Terry and Greg both 579 last night. I was surprised. QSB and QRN were about the same as last week. At the end I announced a QSY to 7.065kc to check the propagation but got no bits up there so the first test of 40 meters this year is a bust! I guess we will continue on 80 meters for the time being.

2019-3-19 QNI(2) NCS KE5YUM KE5YGA I was in the hospital and Terry and Andy both made calls but got nothing. Don't know if you can call that a net or not?

2019-3-26 QNI(2) NCS KA5TJS KE5YGA Well got Andy on 3.564 589 tonight. Good signal for AR. We tried 7.064 but no joy so guess we will hag with 80 for a few more weeks and see how the propagation goes this spring.

Allen KA5TJS

NAQCC Rocky Mountain Regional/Continental QRS Nets (RMRc)

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

No Report

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS Net (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 01:30 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/- Main NCS - Bob W0CC

2019-03-11 QNI W0CC (1) S-8 QRN A loud station on 7.031 and a less strength station on 7.0305 so, moved down to 7.030 MHz. Plan to re-work the weather damaged antenna and, next week, anticipating better transmissions!

2019/03/18 QNI W0CC (1) QRN S 4-8. Many more stations around sunset. Working on repairing damage to antenna from winter and racoons! Using portable antenna. Hopefully, will have he main antenna repaired soon!

NAQCC Virginia QRS Net (VAN)

Wednesday evenings 8:00 PM EDT Which is Thursday 01:00 UTC, 7035 KHz +/-Main NCS - Jeff K9VEG Net cancelled. Jeff K9VEG

NAQCC Pacific Northwest QRS 80 Meter Net (PNW80)

Thursday evenings 7:00 PM PDT, which is Friday 0300 UTC on 3556.5 kHz. Main NCS - Stewart KE7LKW (Washington State)

2019-03-01 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW. KG7JEB, WB4SPB, N6KIX, W7ANM, AD7BP. 2019-03-08 QNI (7) NCS KE7LKW. KG7JEB, WB4SPB, W7ANM, N0DA, AD7BP. N7TES. 2019-03-14 (2300z) QNI 2, NCS wb4spb, kg7jeb

2019-03-22 (0200z) QNI 4, NCS wb4spb, kg7jeb, ke7lkw, ad7bp, k7juv

03-29-2019 QNI (4) NCS KG7JEB, K7JUV, AD7BP, WB4SPB

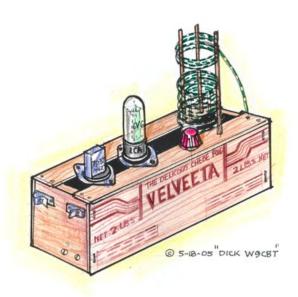
Stewart KE7LKW, Randy WB4SPB, George WB4SPB

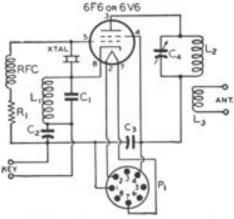


HAM QUIPS



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.





Wiring diagram of the inexpensive easy-tobuild transmitter.

C₁ — 470-μμfd, mica.

C2, C3 - 0.01-µfd. 600-volt paper.

C₄ — 140-µµfd, variable (Hammarlund SM-140 or Bud MC-1876).

R₁ — 0.1-mcgohm 1-watt composition,

L₁ — 5 turns No. 18 d.e.e., 1¹/₄-inch inside diameter, close-wound.

L2 - 3.5 Mc.: 19 turns. 7 Mc.: 12 turns.

L₃ — 13 turns and 6 turns. Requires experiment — see text. See text for L₂ and L₃ winding instructions.

P₁ — Sec text.

RFC - 2.5-mb, r.f. choke (National R-100U).

NAQCC CHAPTER NEWS

The North American QRP CW Club currently has nine local chapters - Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, West Florida, Central Texas, Illowa, Delmarva, Downeast Maine, Long Island, 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 LONG ISLAND CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Long Island Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Howard, WB2UZE.

March 29 2019 QRP outing of Long Island Chapter

We started off on March 29 as per usual at the Atlantis Diner in West Islip and 8 of us had good eats and conversation. In fact we all wanted to stay longer and chat but had to get going to the beach. We then headed out to Robert Moses State Park Field 5 under a cloudy day with 46F temperature. The usual photos going over the Causeway Bridge to document the weather conditions were taken. The wind gusts were not as bad this time at the beach and it was somewhat comfortable being outside of the cars. In fact a few members operated from their tailgates. Antennas took longer to put up this time as there were some first time arrays.

Here are the set ups for the day:

John W2XS: Jackite pole 28 ft Inv. Vee end fed with twin lead, and KX2 5W. John stayed on 40m and did well and likes to ragchew as opposed to chasing DX

Walt KA2CAQ: 102 inch whip and Wolf River Coil with Youkits HB1B 5w transceiver 40-15m which was an interesting and very effective rig, getting out to Europe

W2BUD Bud and his brother Bill put up what was called a "Irrigator Special" antenna made out of vertical PVC pipe with a wire wound all the way up meeting a short whip at the top. Rig was a vintage Heathkit HW9 at 4W that boat anchor enthusiasts would enjoy seeing

Bob W2OSR: Jackite pole 31 ft end fed with 9:1 balun, with FT817 5W

Hal WA2AKV: Jackite pole 31 ft end fed sloper, with FT817 5W. Hal was able to help Bob set up his FT817

Ed N2GSL: Buddipole with a compact MountainTopper LNR 4W

John WI2C: Buddipole in an L formation as the initial dipole formation was too close to the ground and not receiving well, with KX2 5W

Peter AA2VG: Buddipole with KX3 5W

Helpful Ops without rigs: Walt W2TE, Howard WB2UZE, Tom WB2JSY and Howard WB2TQE visiting from FL

Narrative:

We had a good turnout today with 8 operating stations. 20m was wide open to Europe and 6 stations made QSOs into various parts of Europe which was very rewarding and a new experience for some of

the members. The farthest contact was made with 4L8A in Georgia Russia. Its very interesting to see small radios like the MoutainTopper make it to Europe. Inter QRM was at a minimum as the antennas were well spaced out.





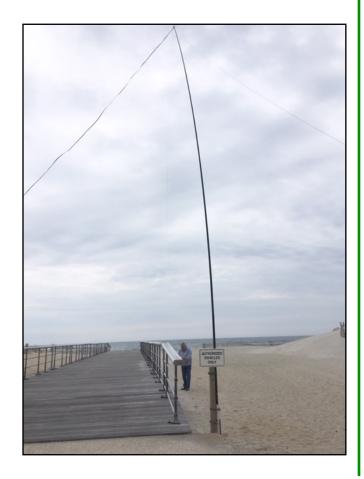


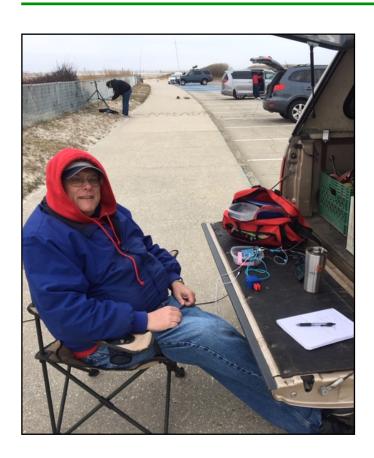






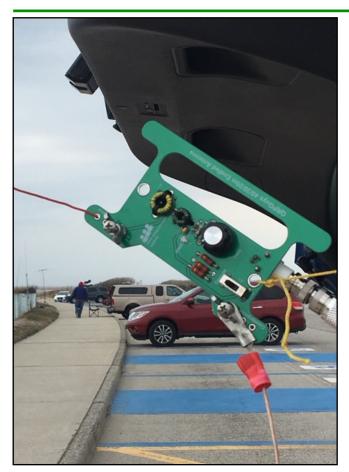
















NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER



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/nagcc-fl-chapter.

NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS: March 2019



On Friday, March 15, 2019 the Florida Chapter of NAQCC arrived at another one of our favorite parks. We held our latest "Parkpedition" at Lake Ashby in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

This Park was named after Major James A. Ashby. He helped to lead American military forces during the second Seminole War. This is a 71 acre park that includes a camping ground, playgrounds, nature trails, fishing pier, pavilions with picnic tables. A free public boat ramp is nearby.

We arrived to a temp of 71 degrees with a nice breeze. It was 81 degrees when we left.

This trip we had a total of 8 members/operators in our group to include: Don K3RLL #1905; Art WB4MNK #5274; John KD4JS #8019; Nikki KM4SBQ #8749, John KM4JTE #7966, Rick AA4W #1628; Phil NW4X and Doug W4DBL.



Don K3RLL #1905 and John KM4JTE #7966 at the K3RLL Station

Don's Elecraft KX-3 and a 31'9:1 Unun-fed vertical wire with counterpoise on a telescoping pole. Don switched between the KX paddle and a newly acquired 1969 Vibroplex Lightning bug. Don was able to work WA9VFD and N4NA #5549.



Rick AA4W #16



John KM4JTE #7966



Art WB4MNK #5274 and John KD4JS #8019 at the WB4MNK Station

Art's station was a KX-1, 4 watts out to a 20-foot wire vertical. Art had 1 QSO with KD4MV who is a non-member.



Doug W4DBL at the W4DBL station.

Doug's station was a FT-817 to a Buddipole on a 15' paint pole.



Don K3RLL and Phil NW4X and NW4X's station

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

NEXT MONTH'S SCHEDULED EVENT:

Friday, April 19th, 2019 starting at 10:00 AM EST (1500Z)
Mill Lake Park (230 S. Orange Ave, Orange City, FL 32763)
Park webpage with directions:

http://www.sportsvolusia.com/facilities/orange-city/millake.stml



KM4JTE WB4MNK KD4JS AA4W NW4X W4DBL K3RLL

Visit our Web Page:

<u>http://wb4omm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter/</u>
Look for our announcement!

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/.

The Illowa group had a monthly chapter meeting on March 14th at the Moline Village Inn. In attendance were Tim - N9BIL, Matt - N9MAT, K0NIA – Mark, N9YPN – Tony and Peter - NN9K.

We reviewed our participation in a recent state QSO party, and are planning to try QRP CW only next year. We discussed the various definitions of QRP and QRPp that we have encountered and wonder why the standard isn't adopted by all contest organizers.

A lengthy discussion comparing the features and price point of the Elecraft KX3 and KX2 to the new Chinese made ZIEGU. Mark is trying out Pete's ZIEGU and is pleased with many of its features.

Matt is considering setting up his truck to run QRP CW mobile the group discussed many configurations from rig selection to antenna installation.

A lengthy discussion of using the Google Suite of product to organize and share our club related records. Mark will be showing us how he is using Google and help us navigate through the many features to find the best way to organize our club records and online communications.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 12th at 7:00pm at the Bettendorf Village Inn.

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/.

NAQCC-WFL March 23rd Event

Location: BayPort Park, Hernando Co, Florida on Gulf of Mexico.

Arrived at Bayport Park at 0900 hr

Attending:

N9EE, Ron

KO2I, Jack

KR4X, Larry

W4FAS Tom, visiting

KA2KDP, Don

K1YYB, Nils

W6CWE, Steve

W4REM, Ron

Rigs:

FT817 w/Z817 tuner and 40m Windom up 20ft.

FT817 w/buddiPole on tripod.

LOG:

0913	DL4YM, Fred	Germany	559	539	14.034
0920	LY1J	Lithuania	599	599	14.023
0921	DL1CW	Germany	599	559	14.022
0930	RG2A	Russia	599	559	14.014
0934	WA2Z, TSA,	AZ	599	599	14.008
0951	F8GY	France	599	599	14.015
0954	K2NV	NY	599	599	14.030
0959	NB1N	NY	599	599	14.040
1411	AA3EQ	MD	599	599	14.032
1414	W5TM	OK	599	599	14.032
1417	K3MD	PA	599	599	14.023
1419	N3GM	MD	599	599	14.015

Tried 40m, but little activity. 20m stayed opened the whole time, very good signals. There was a contest, think in Europe, gave FOC numbers. I don't believe most of the signal reports given for most contesters have one respone, hi. I worked all on 20m, KR4X, tried 17m and only stations heard were in a pile up trying to get XR0ZRC inJuan Fernandez Island. 17m was open, but all was trying for him.













DOWNEAST MAINE CHAPTER

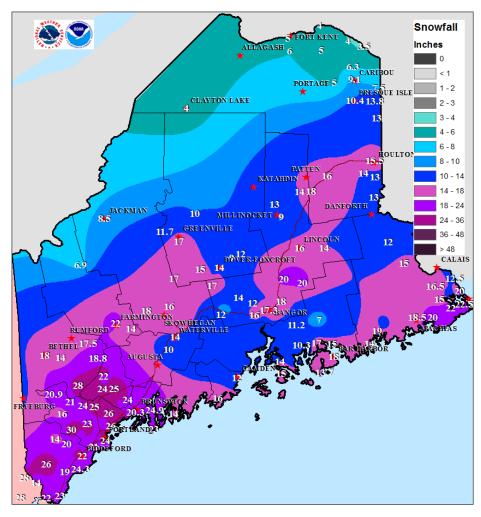


Items in this section are from the Downeast Maine Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should be directed to Jeff, KA1DBE.

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

The winter months have not been kind to the Northeast and Downeast Maine was not exception. I think there will be a lot of antenna work being accomplished this spring.

Snowfall January 26-28, 2015



This month I would like to spotlight another of our members. Joan, W1DLC (#2068) got bitten by the QRP bug in 2007 and turned her Icom IC-735 down to 5 watts. In 2008, she built an OHR 100A for 20 meters. Her Dad, W1DLC (SK) built a Ten Tec transceiver for 40 meter QRP.



In October of 2013, Joan participated in her first NAQCC monthly challenge. The theme was Halloween and there were 10 words with 72 letters to match to callsigns. She completed that challenge and was awarded her first challenge certificate. With that accomplishment under her belt, she went to work on the November challenge. In 2014 she participated in the "home brew" challenge.



In 2017 she built an OHR 100A for 40 meters to add to her QRP arsenal. With two bands at her disposal, she participated in the Baseball challenge this past February. She is currently working on the March "home brew" challenge. She really wants to complete this one. She says "conditions are tough, my radios are only putting out 2-3 watts, and my code speed is a little slow, but I am determined!"

I must applaud Joan for her efforts. I personally have not done a monthly challenge but after this submission, I think I will have to make the effort and encourage all Downeast chapter members to do so.

72/73, Jeff, KA1DBE (#1570)

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.

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/.

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.

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.

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.

No submissions.



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 homebrew 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 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 also be sent to

Club President Paul Huff, N8XMS 9928 Eckles Livonia, MI 48150 USA

Additional contact information can be found on the next page.



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NAQCC CW Nets	Wayne - NQ0RP	wayne.dillon@gmail.com

NOTE: These email address are not automatic links. They are given here in graphic form to avoid harvesting by spambots.

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.