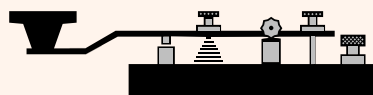


NAQCC NEWS



ISSUE 279 • SEPTEMBER 2021



KEY CLICKS

• IN THIS ISSUE

Prez Sez.. there are lots of fun NAQCC activities coming up; Gene N5GW homebrews a WM-2 wattmeter; Rich KC3MIO looks at the why of QRP; Chris KU4A fractures an impressive streak; Sprint results and soapbox; An explosive letter challenge; Net reports; WCF Chapter News; and more.

• N3A SEPTEMBER UPDATE

This year we will be celebrating our club's 17th anniversary from October 10 through 16 (UTC) and, as in past years, we need volunteers to put our special event callsign on the air during that week. No special equipment is needed other than your regular QRP/CW gear. Your operating schedule is completely flexible, and logging "paperwork" is kept to a minimum. See page 4 for details.

• G-QRP CONVENTION VIDEOS

This year's G-QRP Virtual Convention was a great success with ~750 participants and a lot of great presentations including: NAQCC member Steve G0KYA #2656 on antenna construction; The always-resourceful Anthony K8ZT #412 on QRP operating; RF construction techniques (Charlie, ZL2CTM); Making & using RF test equipment (Tony G4WIF); Designing simple rigs by measuring (Farhan VU3ESE); Valve (tube) construction in 2021 (Pete N6QW); and lots more.

Those presentations will be posted for free to YouTube soon, so bookmark the link and watch some of last year's presentations while you wait. And yes, that host you saw badly in need of a haircut and a new computer was your humble editor. <https://www.youtube.com/c/GQRPClub/videos>

• SEND IN YOUR ARTICLE

The well of reserve submissions has run dry, so 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

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THE PREZ SEZ...

GREETINGS NAQCC MEMBERS!

Fall is arriving! (Well for most of us anyway). Some highlights and information for September 2021.

OUR NAQCC 17TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IS NEXT MONTH!

We will be celebrating our club's 17th anniversary next month from October 10 through 16 (UTC). As in past years, volunteers will put our special event callsign N3A on the air during that week. During our Anniversary October Sprint, we will put our special N3A callsign on the air from all 10 US call districts, Alaska, Hawaii, the US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. More information can be found on our anniversary celebration page at http://www.naqcc.info/main_n3a.html. Similar to last year, we are lining up a great variety of prizes!! Thanks to Rich KC3MIO for taking the reins of our annual event!

NAQCC ACTIVITIES:

A review of last month's Club activities tells me we are alive and well! 100+ Sprint logs and lots of Challenge submissions—and lots of new folks participating for the first time!

Regular Monthly Sprint – September 16, 2021—0030–0230Z—<http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202109.html> (That's the evening of Wednesday, September 15th for us here in North America!).

Monthly Challenge—September Challenge 2021 – The Halifax Marine Disaster Challenge—<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202109.html>

Weekly Nets—<http://naqcc.info/cw/nets.html>

YES! Amazon Smile works! Our Treasurer received a payment of almost \$55 recently. If you shop on Amazon, please use this feature and select us as your favorite “charity”!

Have a SAFE and ENJOYABLE Labor Day Holiday!

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

72/73!
Steve Szabo WB4OMM #5913
NAQCC President



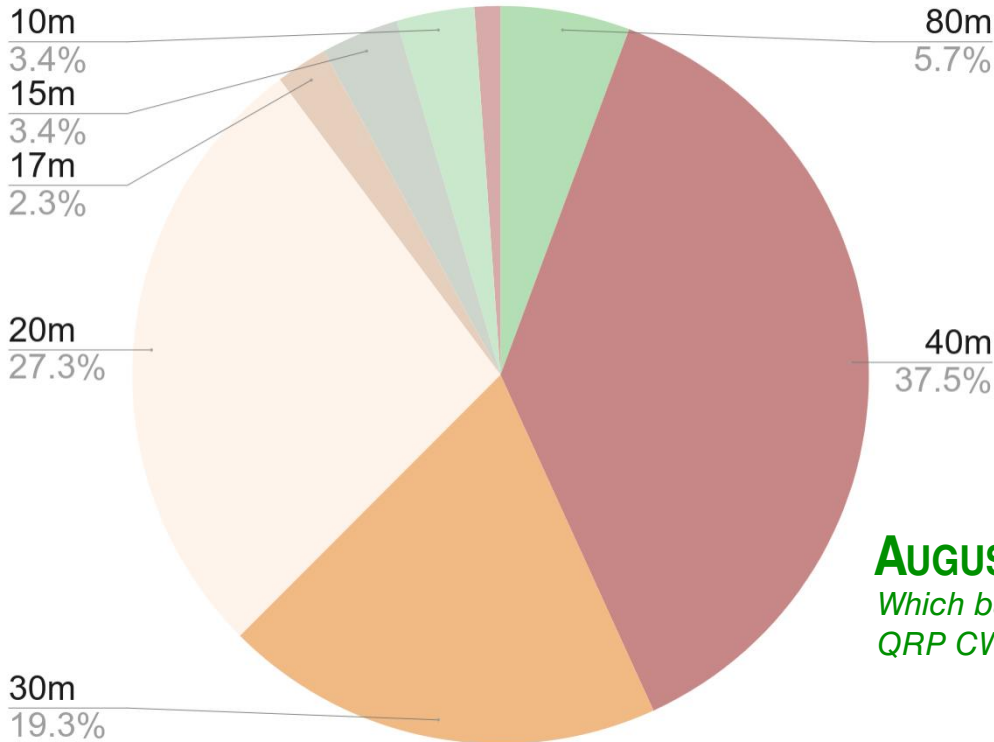
A little bit of QRP on a wire goes a long way!



MEMBER POLLS

SEPTEMBER POLL

With Fall approaching.. do you plan on spending more time with NAQCC Activities ? Ie: Sprints, Nets, Newsletter Submissions, Let us know at http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html



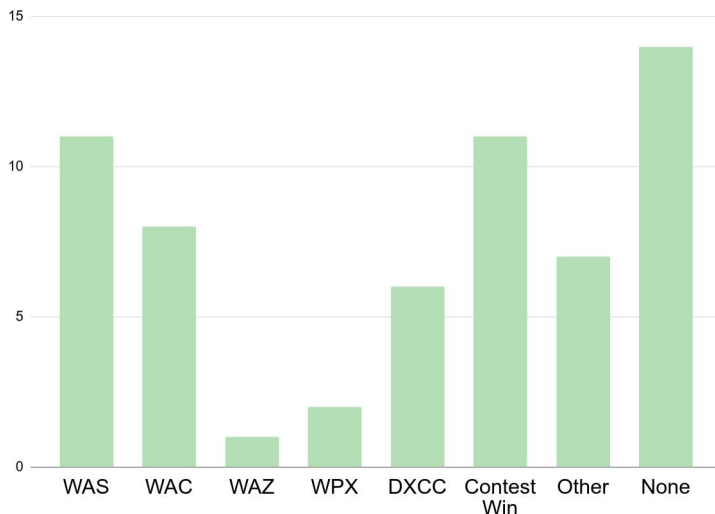
AUGUST POLL

Which bands do you use for QRP CW?

OLD POLL

Back in 2012 we asked:

"Which Awards have you earned using QRP?"



17TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

CALL FOR N3A OPERATORS

This year we will be celebrating our club's 17th anniversary from October 10 through 16 (UTC) and, as in past years, we need volunteers to put our special event callsign on the air during that week. No special equipment is needed other than your regular QRP/CW gear. Your operating schedule is completely flexible, and logging "paperwork" is kept to a minimum. See the details on page 3.

17TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Planning continues for our NAQCC 17th Anniversary celebration the week of October 10. Special event stations will put N3A/# on the air from locations all over the country and we are now starting to recruit volunteer operators for that. Of course, a big part of our celebration each year are the special anniversary sprint and monthly challenge, with their associated prize drawings.

PRIZES!

We usually don't reveal the prize list ahead of time but will list them in the months to come.

PARTICIPATION COUNTS

Please remember that there is a throughout-the-year participation requirement to be eligible for the best prizes. It's easy to rack up enough points, even if you started late. See http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_17th_anniv.html for drawing details.

MORE DETAILS

For more information about our celebration, and to see summary reports from previous years, go to http://www.naqcc.info/main_n3a.html.

We can put our special N3A callsign on the air from all 10 US call districts, Alaska, Hawaii, the US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

OPERATE AS N3A IN THE OCTOBER SPRINT

One operator from each district will be exclusively designated to use the special call in the Sprint that week. That person should have some previous Sprint experience. **We still have openings for the designated Sprint Operator in 0, 1, 6, 7, KP4 and KL7 regions.**

SIGN UP NOW

Other than that, there are no special requirements. If you are a member of the NAQCC and can operate QRP/CW (any speed) on one or more HF bands, you qualify. There is no limit to the number of people who participate so "the more the merrier." If you have not volunteered before, it's a great experience and a chance to make QRP contacts across the US and Canada and maybe work some DX stations. **We have 36 operators signed up so far and at least one op in all US regions except for KL7, but we could use more ops in 0, 1, 2, 6, 7 and KP4.**

If you would like to be one of our special ops, or if you just need some questions answered before making a commitment, send me an email. If you want to be the one designated N3A sprint operator for your district let me know that as well—first come first served. (Please be sure to include your call district and NAQCC membership number in your email.) –Rich, KC3MIO (hamberger AT Ptd DOT net).

Special thanks to Paul, N8XMS who has passed the baton after many years running the Anniversary. His work is greatly appreciated.



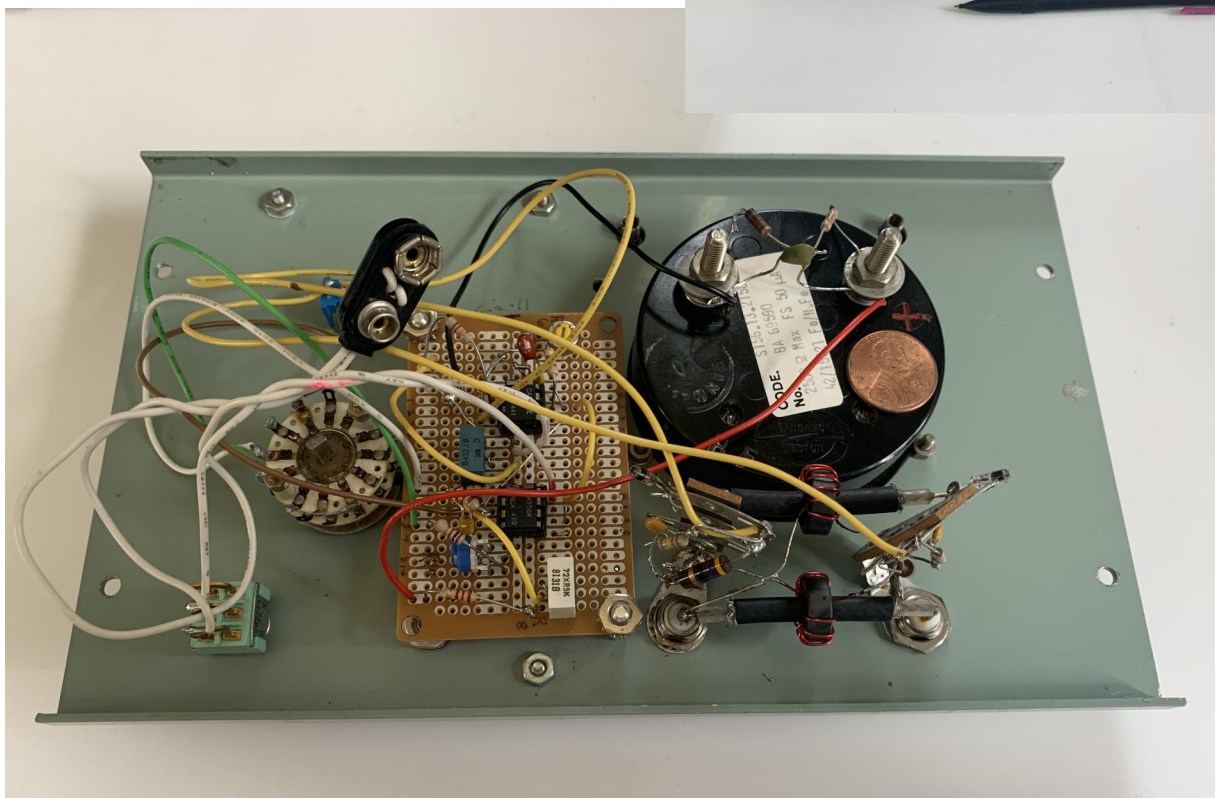
A WM-2 WATTMETER CLONE

BY GENE N5GW #5353

I wanted a QRP wattmeter to use as a piece of bench test equipment in my shack. Years ago I had assembled a *WM-2 kit*, so I had a copy of the schematic. The latter is not shown here because of copyright considerations, although I have seen it published online.

The first photo shows the “clone” built into a surplus cabinet which contains a high-quality meter. The second photo reveals the innards. Circuit layout is not critical. I used a piece of perf board. However, care should be exercised in the construction and placement of the directional coupler transformers. This circuit calls for a 500- μ A meter, mine was 50- μ A requiring a meter shunt.

This device requires a conversion scale which can be set up using a 50-ohm dummy load and a calibrated RF source or oscilloscope.



WHY QRP, ANYWAY?

BY RICH KC3MIO #9942

Amid the enthusiasm, new ideas and QRP doings, the June Newsletter had one sour note. Our President, Steve WB4OMM quoted an email he received from an unidentified new member who was frustrated after hours spent fruitlessly trying to make a QRP contact. He wanted his membership expunged and hoped he could sell the equipment he had purchased for QRP.

WE ALL STARTED AS QRP BEGINNERS

I thought about this op's experience and began to wonder if he had a point. I know that when I was first licensed in 2018 and put together a station, I turned my radio on at its full 100 watts and ventured out to make contacts. Why would you artificially limit the resources at your disposal? I never gave it a second thought until one night on 80 meters, I heard two hams chatting and found out that one of them was running five watts and I could copy him perfectly. I sent my call and joined the conversation. Even though they were only 100 miles away in upstate NY, the fact that five watts was all that was needed for a QSO intrigued me. During two contacts, I experimented with lower power and found that I could talk to stations in LA and TX with five watts or less, but I made no systematic attempt to pursue QRP operation. After I studied and passed my Extra exam, I started to teach myself the Morse Code and learned the rudiments of CW operation.

Two months after my first CW contact in June, I made a QRP contact, during the Skeeter Hunt, with an op in NH. During the next month I made

a couple dozen more QRP contacts after which I joined the NAQCC and impetuously volunteered to put out the club call during the 2019 anniversary celebration. I think I made 17 contacts, but I worked the west coast including an op on his kayak. I was hooked.

**“I BELIEVE
MANY
OPERATORS
VIEW QRP AS
SOME ODD
CULT.”**

I believe many operators view QRP as some odd cult. There is a group on 40 meters SSB that gathers most mornings, and the moderator told me that they consider 100 watts to be QRP. They are inclined more to amps, towers, beam antennas and working DX. How you want to operate is a matter of personal taste and it is futile to argue which is superior: QRO or QRP. Why not pitch QRP to other ops? They might catch the bug.

THE WORLD OF QRP

Once you have decided to go QRP, there is a magic to operating. Each contact is special in its own way, whether it's local, halfway across the country or halfway around the world. Some contacts are small victories, where you fight fluctuating band conditions to make out call signs, names and QTHs. You become more aware of favorable band conditions and focus more on antenna types. You learn how to ride the QSB to get through and fight your way through a pileup with higher power stations. There is a special kick to a QRPx2 contact as you connect with a fellow aficionado. Even QRO stations are sometimes surprised at the strength and clarity of your low power signal.

QRP gear can be lightweight and compact, run on batteries or solar power and is ideally suited for taking outdoors, whether along the roadside or at the end of a hiking trail. Parks on the Air (POTA), Summits on the Air (SOTA) and other outdoor programs are ideal for QRP. You learn to deploy effective portable antennas under varying conditions. And you get to understand what it is like to be a DX station, as your CQs draw a pileup.

Homebrew equipment and kits are a major part of the QRP world as you have the satisfaction of making contacts with gear you have assembled. Finally, there is the astonishing fact that your little pulse of electromagnetic energy, shooting out of a wire, can be detected thousands of miles away.

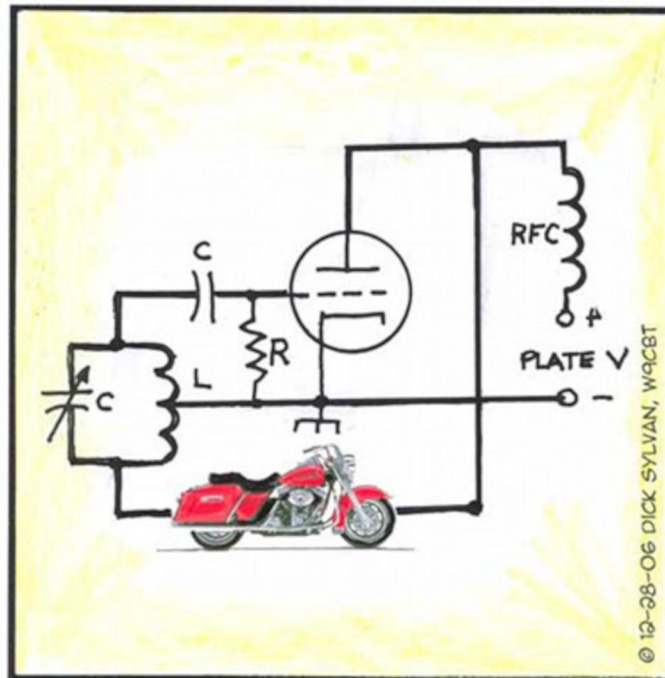
WHAT WENT WRONG WITH OUR ERSTWHILE QRPER?

Steve and Brent speculated as to why the operator was unsuccessful and quit in disgust. Frustration is part of QRP operation, when noise levels are high or propagation is marginal. But the rewards of a successful contact with your low power gear makes it worthwhile. I am almost certain that our discouraged (former) member could have been successful with a little help and guidance from an experienced QRP operator. A little bit of success could have propelled him on to new achievements; maybe he'll give it another try.

—Rich KC3MIO #9942



HAM QUIPS BY DICK SYLVAN W9CBT



HARLEY OSCILLATOR CIRCUIT

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 SPRINTS

SEPTEMBER SPRINT

Our Sprint this month will be on Thursday, September 16, 2021, 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, September 15 here in North America.

Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202109.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.

AUGUST SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202108.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	58	94	217	4/17
Participants	93	133	269	2/13
Total QSOs	607	1161	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	347	682	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	260	479	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	76	171	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	500	956	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	31	34	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	10.5	12.4	19.3	9/11

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KN1H	WB1GYZ	N1JI
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	W2JEK
W3	AK3X	KD3CA	-
W4	WT4U	K4PQC	K8LBQ
W5	N5GW	W5WIL	-
W6	W6STR	K6FA	K6GPB
W7	-	-	-
W8	WB8LZG	NF8M	N8XMS
W9	WB9HFK	N8HWW	KA9FQG K9QEW (TIE)
W0	N0TA	AA5LH	KD0V
Canada	VA3NU	VE2KZW	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	-	-	-
W2	WA2FBN	-	-
W3	K3RLL	-	-
W4	AA2MX	-	-
W5	NF5U	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	-	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	-	-	-
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	AC5XK	KB1M	N2CN
W2	WA1GWH	K2OID	N2ESE
W3	KC3RN	-	-
W4	N4MJ	-	-
W5	WI5H	K5WX	KE5YUM
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	WA8SAN	-	-
W9	NN9K	AB9BZ	-
W0	N8LA	KC2MJT	-
Canada	VE3DQN	-	-
DX	-	-	-

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

FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE			
Key Type	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	-	-	-
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	-	-	-
PRIZE DRAWING WINNER			
W4HH			

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+	KF7WNS N2CN KB0ETU NF5U K2YGM AA7CU KC7DM NQ2W WI5H WA1GWH WB4OMM KB1M AA0W N8QY WY3H WA2FBN VE3DQN NN0SS K6CSL W5UAA WB1GYZ WB9HFK KJ4R N7QR WK6L KC2EGL VE3GNU AB8FJ K2HT K4ORD KE9DR WD4OHD KB4QQJ K5GQ
75+	K4NVJ NO2D AK3X NA4O KA9FQG N5GW VE3FUJ KN1H WD0K KQ1P N8BB N4MJ K9OSC K6MGO N8LA N8APO K9EYT KD3CA
100+	K1IEE W4DUK KE5YUM N2ESE WX4RM WA8SAN WG8Y KD2MX N0TA K4KRW WB8ENE AA9L
125+	NF8M K3RLL K4JPN K2CWM N4FI KD0V
150+	W2SH WB8LZG W9CC N8XMS KU4A K4BAI
175+	K3WWP KA2KGP W2JEK

SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

K3RLL - 1946 Vibroplex Deluxe wired almost directly to G5RVjr. 40m seemed pretty empty at first with only 3 other stations heard across our segment, but really picked up when I started calling. Love it! What do they say about there being no such thing as a 'dead band'? I was guessing everyone was partying up on 20m but I guess not. Thanks so much for the good contacts tonight and some great signal reports. –Don

KE5YUM - Hello from western Arkansas. My 123rd sprint if my count is correct. Not a lot of activity on 20. Thanks to KB1M for working me. FT 817 @ 5 watts. –Terry

W5WIL - Experimented with antennas. Setup on the deck with a magnetic loop, using a wa3rnc 40m crystalplexer xmtr and belka-dx rcvr. CQ'd for an hour, tried answering others - almost zilch K5WX heard me 300 mi away and gave me a 4-4 rpt. But, the loop is very quiet and I could hear almost as well as on the doublet. Moved inside and quickly contacted NN9K via the doublet. Next month I will try the loop as rcv and use efhw for xmit. 73, Dennis

WT4U - Nothing doing on 20 or 80. 40 started off so bad it took 17 minutes to land the first QSO. About an hour in, conditions were almost decent. Got lucky on multipliers with only one state worked twice. Maybe condx were equally bad in all directions? Except Florida, which I never heard. Great fun and glad I stuck with it. –Brent

KB1M - Ran QRPp at 1w trying out a new 40m EFHW. 3 Q's on 20, and 2 on 40 over 1K miles. KE5YUM the longest at 1380 miles, K4BAI two bands at 1069 miles. Some very good signal reports received. Many thank for the QSO's and good ears. 72/73 Walt



LEG BROKEN, STREAK BROKEN

BY CHRIS KU4A #1960

As long as I've been a member of NAQCC I've always been impressed with K3WWP's incredible QSO-a-day streak. What incredible dedication to fight through some of the lousy propagation we've had. Plus you have to be well enough organized to make sure you can get on the air every day.



When I joined the club I knew I would not be able to pull off something like that, but I decided to do a different kind of "streak," namely the monthly Sprint. That only requires a commitment of one evening a month - hi. But lousy propagation can certainly take the fun out of it.

SATURDAYS IN THE PARK

Saturday, July 24th dawned a beautiful sunny day in central Kentucky. Ten-to-12 local hams went to a

local city park that morning. It's become tradition here locally to get together for coffee each Saturday morning. We used to do it in a coffee shop but the pandemic sent us "to the field." That is really nice anyway when the weather cooperates.

Local QRPers have also joined the group and often set up their stations for some QRP field work. With the weather being so nice and cool that day I decided to load up my go-kit and join them. All my



stuff worked well for Field Day and I was looking forward to making some nice contacts from the field.

When I arrived, I sipped coffee and traded war stories with some of the locals. When I was finished with the "wake up juice" I got a plastic tub out of the car which includes my ropes, antennas, coax, etc. I set it on a picnic table. I started unwinding one of

my ropes and headed toward a nearby tree. Suddenly, my right leg completely lost footing in the morning dew and within a fraction of a second I was on the ground. No biggie I thought. But although I wasn't in pain, I knew something wasn't "right" and didn't try to get up.

After talking to the rest of the guys, including one who is a retired EMT, I told one of them to call the "buggy" (Lexington speak for an "ambulance") to take me to UK Med to get checked out. Sure enough I had two leg bone breaks plus an ankle break. I had surgery the following night to insert pins, rods, screws, etc., and have been on the mend ever since.

A BREAK IN THE ROUTINE

I have a monthly "routine" that I go through at the beginning of every month. One of the to-do items is to find the date of the monthly NAQCC Sprint, and put reminders on my phone. But with the reduced mobility I never got around to the monthly routine on the 1st of August. I thought a couple of times about the streak but with my mind pre-occupied, I didn't check the web site, until August 11th. Yup, I missed the August Sprint which had been held the night before, August 10 local time.

LOOKING BACK

So the streak has ended. I operated every single NAQCC regular monthly Sprint from September 2010 through July 2021. That's 131 consecutive. I'm proud of the fact that I made at least one QSO in all but one of those 131. But I did get "shut out" in a Sprint recently, in which after 30 minutes of operating I did not make a single contact.

In terms of number of QSOs in a Sprint, my record was 38 contacts. I hit that twice, September 2015 and January 2016.

I also had a streak of consecutive months with at least one participation point that started in September 2007. So that was 167 consecutive months of at least one point. I have done the alphabet challenges a few times but generally don't care for them. Since they seem to be the vast majority of the challenges these days, I haven't paid much attention to challenges lately. So, no point was earned for August.

Will I return to the Sprint some day and start a new streak? Possibly, although I'm going to concentrate on getting healed up and perhaps pursue some other interesting QRP CW pursuits. Thanks for all the Sprint QSOs down through the years!

—Chris Gay KU4A #1960



NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: THE HALIFAX MARITIME DISASTER

PREMISE

It is December of 1917 and WW I rages in Europe. Convoys, from the Nova Scotia port of Halifax, shuttle war goods to Europe. The Norwegian ship SS Imo docked in Halifax on December 3rd for inspection and fuel. She was supposed to leave on December 5th, but, late arrival of her load of coal pushed her departure to the next day. The French ship SS Mont-Blanc arrived on December 5th with a full load of TNT and other volatile goods to convoy to Europe the next day.

Both ships departed around 0730. Ships leaving the harbor passed through a strait known as the Narrows. They were expected to stay close to the side of the channel on their starboard (right) side and pass other vessels "port to port" (left side to left side). Imo encountered a tramp steamer on the wrong side of the channel. They agreed to pass "starboard to starboard," moving Imo further into the channel. A tugboat, traveling near mid channel, then forced Imo even further from shore. Mont-Blanc sighted Imo and her captain feared a collision, should their courses remain the same. The ships signal whistles began sounding ... Monte-Blanc a short blast (I have right of way) ... Imo two short blasts (I will not yield position). Monte-Blanc began evasive maneuvers. The ships approached with engines cut. The maneuvers by Mont-Blanc had placed the ships on an almost parallel course. Imo then re-

versed her engines, causing her to pivot and collide with Mont-Blanc. Highly flammable benzol stored on Mont-Blanc's deck, spilled and ignited. Several vessels approached and attempted to douse the flames and tow the ships apart, but failed. Soon a massive explosion took place.



After hearing from a sailor, that an explosion was imminent, William Lovett, a railroad dispatcher, sent messages to halt incoming trains. He undoubtedly saved many lives but died in the blast. Mont-Blanc's deck gun landed almost 3.5 miles from the blast while a half ton part of her anchor flew some 2 miles. A cloud rose almost 12,000 feet into the sky and the blast was felt in Cape Breton, 130 miles away. The explosion leveled about 400 acres and a tsunami surged into Halifax, engulfing land as high as 60 ft. above the high water mark. Buildings within 1.5 miles were destroyed and fires sparked by

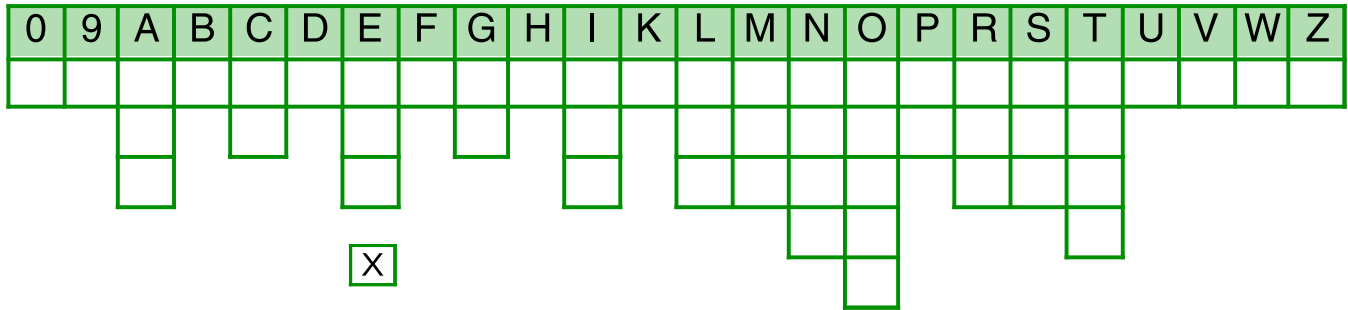
overturned stoves and lamps began. Over 1,600 died immediately and 9,000 more were injured.

Medical aid was an immediate need and the Boston Red Cross and Massachusetts Public Safety Committee quickly responded. The next year Halifax sent Boston a huge Christmas tree as thanks for their efforts. The gift was revived in 1971 and now each year Boston's official tree arrives from Nova Scotia. It is decorated, lit and stands on the Boston Common through the holiday season.

WORDS

- NORWEGIAN SS IMO
- FRENCH SS MONT BLANC
- PASS PORT TO PORT
- TNT CARGO
- BENZOL FIRE
- WILLIAM LOVETT
- 90 MM DECK GUN

SEPTEMBER CHALLENGE TRACKER:



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.

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) Challenge
Body:
your call:
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 callsign 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

	Entering the Challenges earns you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual anniversary drawings.
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NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

October's Diner Talk Challenge will have the cure for what ails you.

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202110.html>

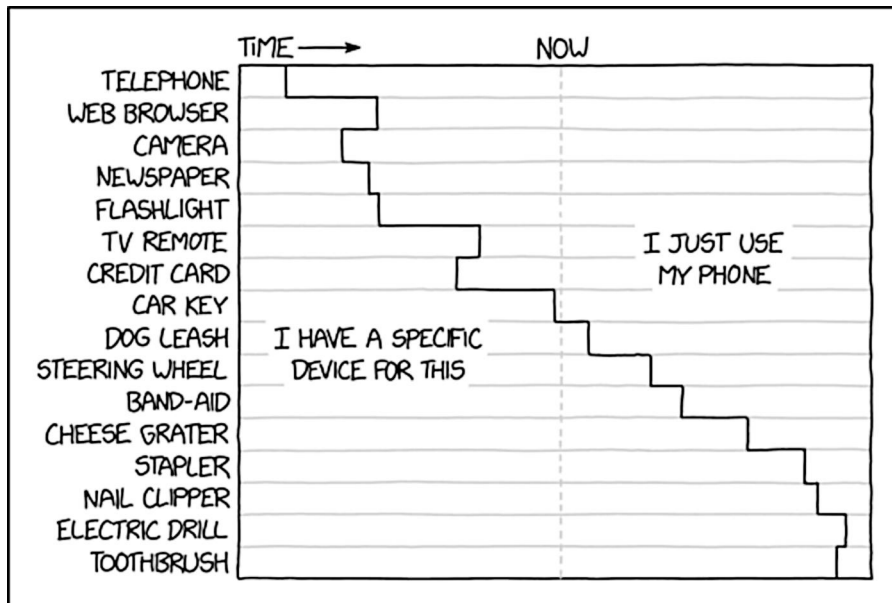
LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGE

The deadline for submissions for our Patent Medicine Challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202108.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+	KJ4R VE3DQN KU4A AH6AX KD0V K9OSC WB4OMM N1JI KA5PVB WY3H VE3HUR KI4IO N1LU N4OW KD2MX KB1M WY7N AC2C DK1VD
50+	VE3FUJ PA9CW WI5H NF1U N9SE G3JFS WA2FBN AK3X W3IQ
75+	PA0XAW
100+	K1IEE K1YAN
125+	
150+	K3WWP W2JEK N8XMS



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
East Texas QRS Net (ETN)	Monday 7pm CDT	Tuesday 0000 Z	7066 kHz Summer 3566 kHz Winter	Allen KA5TJS (TX)
Midwest QRS Net (MWN)	Monday 7:30 CDT	Tuesday 0030 Z	7031 kHz	Bob W0CC (KS)
Pacific Northwest 80m QRS Net (PNW80)	Thursday 7 PM PDT	Friday 0200 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 EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0000 UTC,
on 7066 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)
Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

Aug 03 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Pretty good signals last night on 80 meters. The QRN was about S6 and signals 579/569 respectively. I tried a call on 40 after we finished on 80 and got NIL. YUM was QRP and YGA was QRO.

Aug 10 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, N4NN

80 meters was pretty good tonight. Both Terry and Allen were hitting 589 but QSB was bad. Summer noise also. Tried a call on 40 meters about 7:35 with no luck there.

Aug 17 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Good signals last night, Terry and Andy were both hitting 589. QRN and QSB were there for sure but good copy on both stations. Can't believe we are still using 3566 kHz this late in the summer! Lots of pop-up thunderstorm around last night made it fun.

Aug 24 QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Pretty good signals last night with big QSB and some QRN. YUM was hitting 589 with 5 watts. YGA was 579 with 100 watts. Go figure! My ears were not working to well last night. More of that as we get older, I guess.

Aug 31 QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Very good signals to AR tonight and not so hot to GA. Terry and Andy were both hitting 589 tonight on the first check in round. QRN was pretty low. Got Allen on the second call and he was down in the noise with 25 watts. About 569 with S6 noise. Still using 3566 kHz for the net.

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

Monday evenings 7:30 PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0030 UTC, on 7031 kHz +/-
Main NCS - Bob W0CC (Kansas) — Assisted by Dave AB9BZ

Aug 02 QNI (2) NCS W0CC, WB0QFU

Unable to complete QSO with KE8PAG and KI5II. Hopefully, next week, I will be able to complete the QSO's!

Aug 09 QNI (0) NCS W0CC

Heard, but too weak to copy NA5?? Looking forward to next week!

Aug 16 QNI (0) NCS W0CC

QRN - S-9 + 20! Heard one faint station but unable to read call. Next week!

Aug 23 QNI (2) NCS W0CC, N5HWV

Nate did a GREAT job pulling out the signal from the QRN!

Aug 30 QNI (2) NCS W0CC, AB9BZ

Both Dave and I heard another faint signal but neither of us could pull out a call sign. Next week we will find the faint station!

NAQCC PACIFIC NORTHWEST QRS 80 METER NET (PNW80)

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

Aug 06 QNI (5) NCS KE7LKW, W7ZDX, W7ANM, K7JUV, AD7BP

Aug 13 QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, KI7SJE, AD7BP, N0DA, W7ANM, WB7WHG

Aug 20 QNI (7) NCS KE7LKW, AD7BP, W7ANM, WB7WHG, WB4SPB, K7JUV, KI7NRI

Aug 27 QNI (9) NCS KE7LKW/p, WB4SPB, KI7SJE, AD7BP, N0DA, W7ANM, WB7WHG/p, K7JUV, KC8YTV/7.



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 AWARDS:

QSO-A-DAY

This award, which is renewed annually, is designed to encourage hams to spend more time on the CW bands thus increasing the CW presence there which is so important in this day and age. The award was initially suggested by K4UK in a QSO with K3WWP late in 2004. It is based on K3WWP's 'streak' of having made (and continuing to make) at least one QRP/CW QSO each day since August 5, 1994.

Note the new additional DX endorsement.

TIME FRAME FOR QUALIFYING QSO'S:

January 1, 0000Z through December 31, 2400Z of the current year. The award starts over again each year.

BASIC AWARD PREMISE:

Make at least one QSO per day.

CATEGORIES:

1. FULL YEAR - Make at least one QSO on each of the 365 (366) days during the calendar year.
2. PARTIAL YEAR - Make at least one QSO on each day of the following number of calendar months in the calendar year:
 - 2A. 11 MONTHS
 - 2B. 10 MONTHS
 - 2C. 9 MONTHS
 - 2D. 8 MONTHS
 - 2E. 7 MONTHS
 - 2F. 6 MONTHS
- 3A. 30 DAYS - Make at least 1 QSO on each day of a consecutive 30 day period during the year. The 30 days can span months.

RECENTLY ISSUED AWARDS

30-30 AWARD

0051 - PA9CW Aug 2021 08/24/21 all DX Contacts (28/30 were /P :)
 0052 - N8HVW Aug 2021 08/30/21

30-30 MAGNUM (3 MONTHS)

0012 - PA9CW May, Jun, Jul 2021 08/24/21

FRIENDSHIP CLUB - ENDORESMENTS

0002 - N8XMS 1144 08/03/21

SUFFIX WORDS HONOR ROLL

N8XMS 388 08/02/21



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



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 LONG ISLAND CHAPTER



Items in this section are from the Long Island Chapter unless otherwise credited.

Questions and comments should go to Howard, WB2UZE.

No Report

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/>.

No Report

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/>.

ANCLOTE PARK

August 28, 2021

Arrived at park at 8:45 AM after having breakfast with the Hernando Co Amateur Radio Association.

Attending:

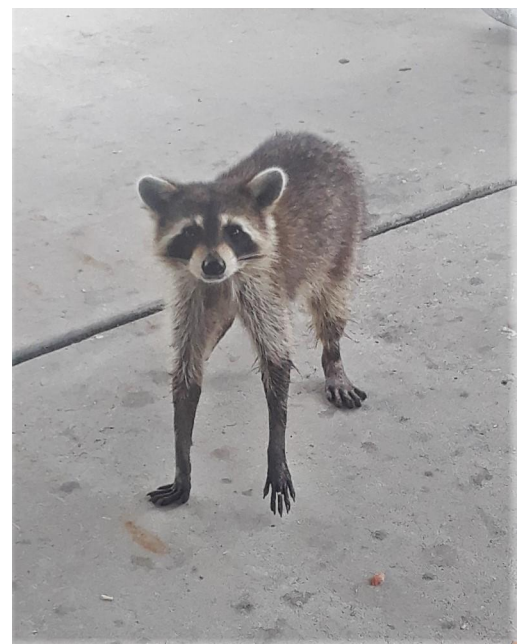
Members of the Suncoast ARC
 Tim, WB8MVU
 Don, KA2KDP
 Frank, KK4YDF
 Ron, N9EE
 Jim, N0NL

Ron had his IC705 QRP rig with 40m OCF Dipole with 20ft portable flag pole.



LOG:

CALL	TIME	RST	FREQ	EXCHANGE
W0S	1058	579/599	14.048	THO
W0L	1108	579/599	14.032	STA
N3UA	1111	579/599	14.023	TST 18
N0C	1116	579/599	14.033	JOH
N0A	1134	579/599	14.045	JOH
N0P	1138	579/599	14.043	STA
W0Q	1146	579/599	14.042	LAB
K0N	1149	579/599	14.028	JOH
W0UY	1201	579/599	14.0445	REN
N0R	1203	579/599	14.0346	LOM
N0Q	1204	579/599	14.0335	MIT
N0C	1208	579/599	14.031	MIA
N0N	1206	579/599	14.028	JOH



Obviously 20m was working fine. Activity was from the Kansas QSO Party.

Had small picnic with hot dogs.

Left around 2PM



NAQCC GREEN SWAMP WCF

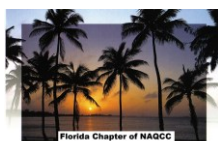


Items in this section are from the Green Swamp WCF Chapter unless otherwise credited. Questions and comments should go to Gary N3OS.

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

No Report

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>.

No Report

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.

The WPA Chapter has suspended all its activities until further notice because of the virus situation.

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.

No Report

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		
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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

