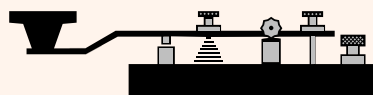


NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 300 • JUNE 2023



KEY CLICKS

• **IN THIS ISSUE**

The Prez Sez... we have new Board members; 19th Anniversary prelims; Elevate that Buddipole; Just one QSO Party; Field Day Challenge; Working the world from an HOA; Compact portable vertical; Awards; Chapter activity, Sprint reports; Soapboxes; Member polls; Nets; and more.

• **FIRST CALL FOR N3A OPERATORS**

This year we will be celebrating our club's 19th anniversary from October 8 through 14 (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 4.

• **DOUBLE SPRINTS, DOUBLE CHALLENGES**

The week after our regular Sprint it will be time to turn it down to 1 watt or less for the QRPp Sprint. Always amazing how well that works. This month's regular (and venomous) Letter Challenge (page 10) is joined by the popular Field Day Challenge (page 13).

• **HALL-OF-FAMER JOHN K3WWP #002**

At this this year's FDIM QRP gathering before the big Dayton Hamvention, our own co-founder was inducted into their QRP Hall of Fame "for outstanding contributions to the QRP community." A well-deserved honor. Details on page 9.

• **YOUR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS 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 KD2MX: kd2mx@arrl.net

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THE PREZ SEZ...

So here we are in June! In the USA, we are looking forward to Flag Day, Father's Day and Field Day..... pick 1, 2 or all 3 and enjoy the start of Summer, throw up a wire and make a few contacts.

SPRINT NEWS

We were down in all categories from a year ago but good participation still. For me it was my best showing from this QTH since Dec, '21.

As the saying goes, "the more the merrier" so join in on the fun **the second Tuesday evening in June** (13th) which is Zulu time Wednesday, 14th (00:30-02:30z).

Also this month is the **mW Sprint on Tuesday, June 20th/Zulu Time Wednesday 21st** (00:30-02:30z).

MONTHLY POLL

Please take the time to participate in the Monthly Poll found on the Home Page of the website, doing so helps to gauge the club's direction.

BOARD NEWS

After a few **donations** we are above the required amount for free checking, a BIG THANK YOU to our donors. Our next objective is to provide for the prizes for our 19th Anniversary Celebration in October, remember that since we are now a 501 (c)(3) organization your donations are Federal Tax deductible.

I am pleased to report that we now have a full BOD! A great recruiting effort by **Jerry Pereira (K4KBL)** produced candidates for **VP (Aaron Ray, N4ARY)** and **Secretary (Charles "Chas" Powell, NK80)**. The BOD was polled via email and voted by May 13th to accept the candidates as offered and also approved the appointment of **Jerry,**

K4KBL as the SE Director.

We are in need of new suppliers for Shirts & Hats and Engraved Plaques as both of our former suppliers have closed their businesses due to health reasons. If you are in the business or "hobby" of producing such items I thought that you should have first chances of making an offer to the NAQCC. Please contact me with your questions, thoughts and offers.

PARTICIPATION AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES (2022)

We have completed the results for 2022 and they show on the Sprint Pages. Division Certificates will be emailed to the top point earners in each area. The Top Place Winner plaque for 2022 and I think 2021 need to be made up, I am working on that issue.

QRPARCI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE.

I was thrilled to see that our very own co-founder **John Shannon, K3WWP** was inducted to the Hall of Fame at Dayton (FDIM). I am proud to be at the helm of an organization that he and Tom Mitchell, WY3H had the insight and courage to build. To be judged by your peers in such a manner is quite rewarding.

And for my closing note, my bride and I along with M-I-L will be leaving for our yearly trek to DownEast (Maine) and so communications will likely be spotty until we return in September. We do have Internet but sometimes it's touch and go. I will be operating from a beach, POTA, or mountain on a piece of wire and 5w or less, hope to hear you.

Until next time,

72/73!
John KK4ITX #7249
VP/NAQCC President



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

19TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Planning is starting for our NAQCC 19th Anniversary celebration the week of October 8th. 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.

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_19th_anniv.html](http://www.naqcc.info/prize_drawing_19th_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.

FIRST CALL FOR N3A OPERATORS

This year we will be celebrating our club's 19th anniversary from October 8 through 14 (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.

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. You can operate from your home QTH, on vacation or in a

park (POTA) or up on a mountain (SOTA). Use your imagination.

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.

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. I joined the NAQCC in 2019 and operated N3A/3 for the first time that year, less than four months after my first CW QSO and had a great time.

There is no limit to the number of people who participate so "the more the merrier."

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

PS – This will be my third year running the anniversary and I'm looking for a successor. If you would like to assist me and learn the ropes, contact me at my email address.

hamberger@ptd.net



MODIFY THE MFJ-1919EX MAST FOR USE WITH THE BUDDIPOLE

BY AL VE3RRD #2669

I recently acquired an almost new MFJ-1919EX heavy duty tripod with a fibreglass telescoping mast that extends to 18 feet. The top section tube is 3/4 inch outside diameter with a 1/2 inch inside diameter, but the only way I could see to mount an antenna to it was with clamps, which wouldn't work very well for the Buddipole.

ADAPTING THE MAST

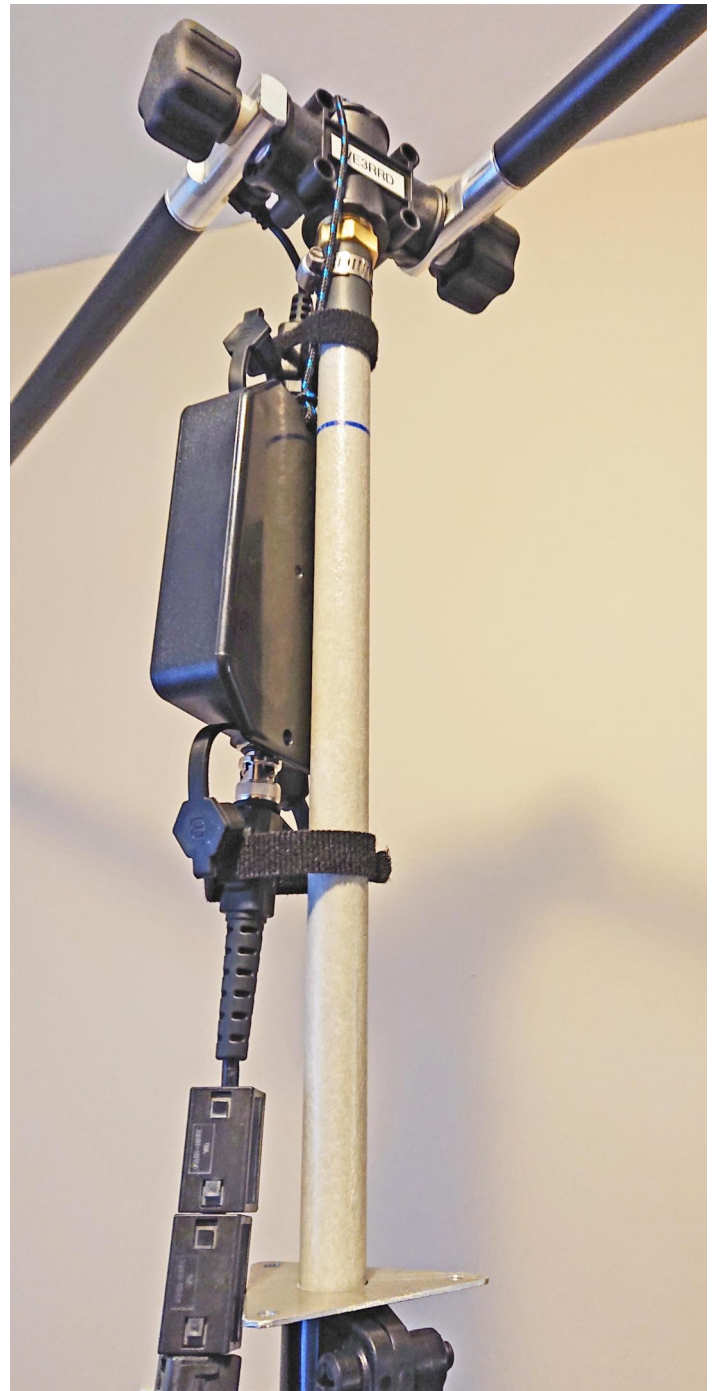
The solution was a 1/2 inch insert to 1/2 inch male pipe thread brass hose connector. The one I found at Home Hardware (D125-8D-BRASS, Home Hardware #8690179) would extend down into the top fibreglass section far enough for strength and screwed into the Buddipole VersaTee securely.

I had to file the ridges slightly so that it would fit snugly so it can't turn, but not too tightly into the mast top section as it could crack the fibreglass. (pictures on the next page)

GUY ROPE MOUNTING

Guy ropes/cords will be required when using this fully extended outdoors. A triangular piece of heavy plastic or a piece of aluminum with a 3/4 inch hole in the centre and smaller holes in each corner can be used. I hack-sawed out a triangular piece of 1/16 inch thick aluminum about 3-1/4 inches on a side for my guy attachment plate. The top mast section can be removed and the guying plate slipped over the bottom end.

I added a small hose clamp to help prevent damage to the fibreglass from the torque produced on a windy day. The top end of the tube was filled





with a hard glue-like substance so I flipped it over and used the other end for the adapter. I drilled a hole through the glue to allow moisture to drain, but I will be sealing the hole in the 1/2 inch brass adapter.

HIGHER IS BETTER

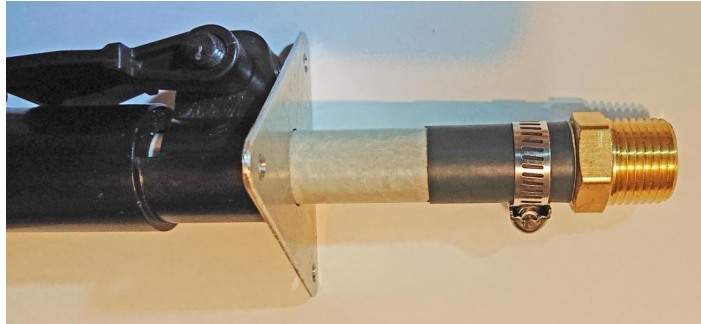
Raising the Buddipole up to double the standard nine-foot height definitely improves its performance when using it with my KX3. I also have the long telescopic whips and an extra 22-inch antenna arm for each side plus the TRSB to create what some

have called “the Super Deluxe Buddipole”. The extra wind loading and weight with everything attached does require a sturdy tripod and mast as it is almost 27 feet from tip to tip with whips fully extended.

The rotating arm kit is needed since you must angle the antenna arms up one notch to compensate for the sag. I use an 18-inch long screw-in type dog anchor under the tripod, attached with a hefty bungee cord to keep the fully loaded mast from possibly tipping over as I am raising/ lowering the antenna. A suitable weight could be used instead of the dog anchor if setting up on a cement or paved surface, although you may have to be creative when finding the three guy anchor points. I use a one inch S-hook with one end squeezed closed on the end of each guy cord for easy attachment to the guy plate.



Top mast section and 1/2 inch to 1/2 inch adapter



Finished installation with heat-shrink and hose clamp added, also showing my aluminum guy attachment plate



NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE

BY DON VE3DQN #5846

JUST ONE PARTY LEFT BEFORE SUMMER BREAK

So far this year, NAQCC ops submitted 481 of the 567 QRP entries, or 85% and 52 members have made 13,755 QSOs in the first 27 events. Great job!

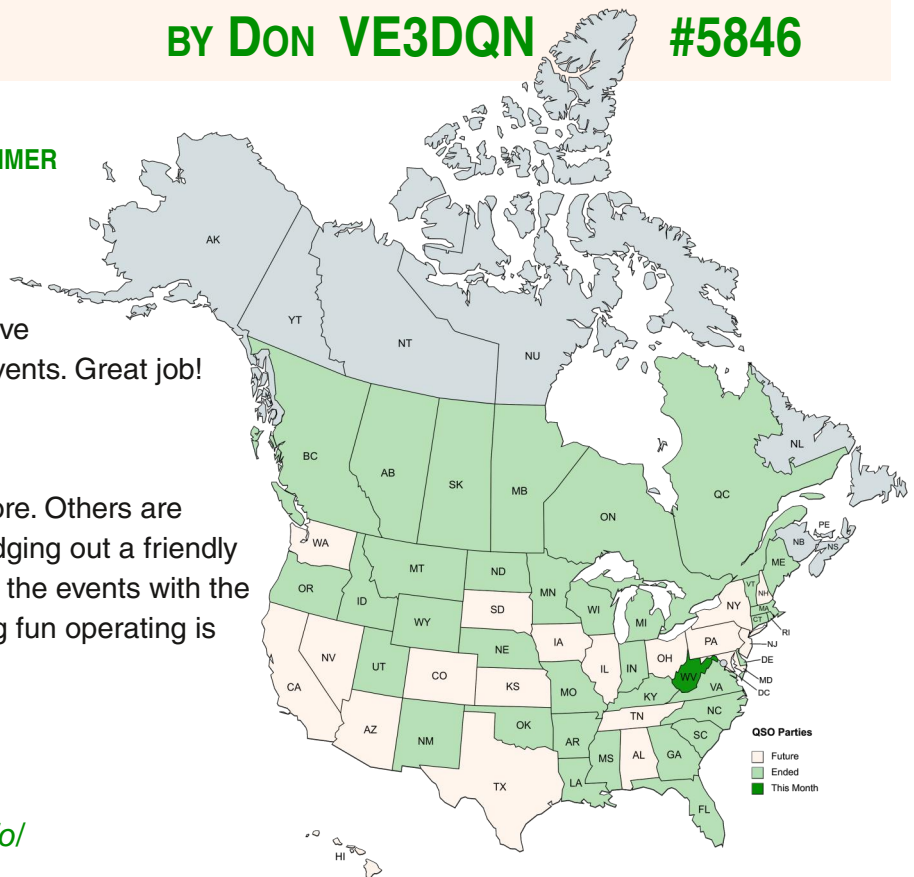
SET YOUR OWN GOAL

For some, it's beating last year's score. Others are intent on hitting Gold or Platinum, edging out a friendly rival, contesting practice, or working the events with the bare minimal equipment. Just having fun operating is also acceptable.

LEADERBOARD

Complete results at http://naqcc.info/qso parties_scores.html

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Lee AA4GA, #5415	25	1,604	40,100	Platinum	121,510
Alan KR4AE, #5847	27	1,473	39,771	Platinum	120,513
Ben AC2YD, #10378	23	1,040	23,920	Gold	72,482
Steve NI8W, #11335	26	779	20,254	Gold	61,373
Chris KU4A, #1960	24	609	14,616	Gold	44,289
Mike W7LG, #10391	23	548	12,604	Gold	38,192
Sean KK9U, #10869	13	880	11,440	Gold	34,665
Don VE3DQN, #5846	24	414	9,936	Silver	30,108
Brent WT4U, #9019	23	416	9,568	Silver	28,993
Kevin NN3E, #9851	21	440	9,240	Silver	27,999
Will NQ2W, #4839	16	507	8,112	Silver	24,581
Dave AB9BZ, #9309	22	280	6,160	Silver	18,666
Dick N9EEE, #11389	21	285	5,985	Silver	18,136
Rick KY0Q, #9647	15	344	5,160	Silver	15,636
Ernie N2DGQ, #11090	14	248	3,472	Bronze	10,521
Bob N2EIM, #10373	13	238	3,094	Bronze	9,375
Dave N3CKI, #8478	6	424	2,544	Bronze	7,709
Anthony K8ZT, #412	16	155	2,480	Bronze	7,515
Robin NG8S, #3261	14	114	1,596	Bronze	4,836
Don KI4MZC, #10922	6	253	1,518	Bronze	4,600
Dan W9SAU, #10073	12	95	1,140	Bronze	3,454
Kevin KI4DEF, #247	14	74	1,036	Bronze	3,139
Brock W6GMT, #2390	5	101	505	Bronze	1,530



LOW-KEY CONTESTING PRACTICE

QSO Parties bridge the gap between our friendly sprints and “real” contesting. Speeds are generally lower and many of the in-state ops are more interested in filling the log for other goals or the joy of being the “DX” than racking up a high score.

GRAB THAT MULTIPLIER

Even if you can't spend much time on a given event, fire up the rig long enough to grab two quick QSOs to earn the multiplier.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Yep, just one! Make it count and we'll see you in August.

State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
West Virginia	Jun 17 1600Z to Jun 18 0400Z	RST County	RST ST	3545 7045 14045 21045 28045	rules

MAIL BAG

It was a great surprise to get this email from Dave WN4AFP who started this wonderful QSO Party Challenge idea. Thanks Dave!

Also a big thanks to Anthony K8ZT #412 for helping organize those events (and all the other great work he does for our hobby). We know it takes a lot of work to keep those events happening.

Hi Don,

Tonight at the State QSO Party Challenge Team meeting my friend Anthony, K8ZT, shared a link with me to the NAQCC QSO Party Challenge website. It looks great!

I'm glad that NAQCC was able to build a fun Challenge from our original contest concept.

73 and all the best!

Dave Edmonds, WN4AFP
Director/Founder, State QSO Party Challenge
stateqsoparty.com

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Work the QSO Parties. Rules differ slightly by state, so check those. Work at least two stations in each QSO Party.
- 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 on the left side of the page in yellow.
- 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 NAQCC some visibility.
- 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.

- 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 2021 article](#) or contact him at: don@hekman.net

QSO PARTY SOAPBOX SAMPLER

Steve NI8W #11335 - I like the 10 hour format of the CPQP. I can work the contest on Saturday and have all day Sunday to do other things without worrying about missing some QSOs. My strategy of looking up last year's CW stations and watching for them on DX Summit seemed to work pretty well. A few 40 meter QSOs during the last hour of the contest helped my score.

Alan KR4AE #5847 - I was able to more than double my contacts from last yr. (5 , i think??) to 12 this year. For some reason, I don't hear many signals down here.

I thought maybe I would hear more activity on 40m the last 3 hours of the contest, but heard very little. Lot's of QRN ,but that's the norm on the lower bands here this time of year.

Will NQ2W #4839 - The FQP was a very enjoyable QSO Party. Propagation wasn't the greatest but whenever I had a chance to sit in front of the radio there was someone new to work, either a fixed station or a mobile. The 1x1 callsigns kept things interesting. The mobiles did a great a job with the pile-ups...it was a little difficult being heard in those pile-ups but patience and persistence eventually paid off. Great job by all the Florida stations...you folks put on a funtastic party!

Don VE3DQN #5846 - My impression was that there were quite a few more participating stations from the prairie provinces this year than there were last year. Or maybe it's that my year-ago memory is more sluggish. I hope that the SQPs are being promoted on the

prairies, as I wish they'd really be promoted in Quebec as well.

This coming Saturday my grandson is getting married! I'll have to squeeze in a bit of ArQP time before the celebration begins ;-)

Steve NI8W #11335 - Delaware was difficult from Ohio. Most stations seemed to stay on 20 meters. I could hear others working them, but I couldn't hear them. I used a new (to me) idea of looking up last year's in-state winners, entered their callsigns into the DX Summit spotter, and then kept an eye on it. There were quite a few spots posted, and I jumped on all that I saw. I found 2 of my 3 contacts that way. I wish I would have thought of it for the North Dakota contest. Next year!

Brent WT4U #9019 - Most of the day the action was bouncing over my head on the higher bands, but I managed 2 contacts on 20m, and 3 each on 40 & 80m. Score bolstered by working KM5G on all three bands and particularly by nabbing the 3-county W5YO club station on both 20 & 40m. Four watts from the MTR-4B into the 80m EFHW which had been gradually de-tuning in recent weeks. I took a break to go out and shorten it back into range and my finals are happier.

Lee AA4GA #5415 - I was in it this week just for the mult...luckily I picked it up!

Rick KY0Q #9647 - Count me in as one who never heard a DE station this year. Activity was good for the NEQP and 7QP contests.

Many more soapbox reports at http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_soapbox.html



JOHN K3WWP #002 ELECTED TO THE QRP HALL OF FAME

Tonight at the QRP-ARCI annual awards banquet at Four Days in May and the Dayton Hamvention the announcement was made that John Shannon - K3WWP has been elected into the QRP Hall of Fame!

Can you share this with the membership of NAQCC?

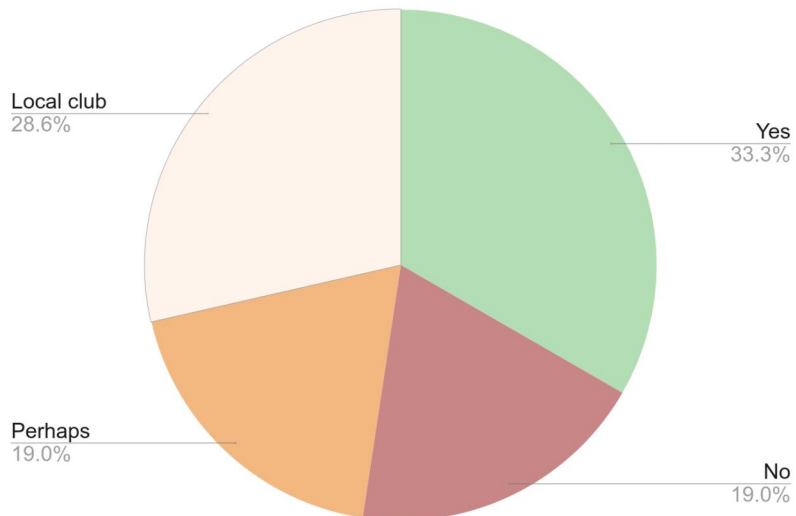
I will be delivering the award to John later this summer at a Hamfest closer to his home.

Thanks 73/72
Jeff - VE3CW
QRP-ARCI Board of Directors



MAY POLL

Are you planning a QRP CW Outing for Field Day?



JUNE POLL

How often do you take QRP CW portable? Let us know at http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html

NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: MEDICINES FROM VENOM

Venom ... toxic, fast acting and often very specific in how it attacks the body. It is usually a chemical soup that has many different toxins which act in different ways. It hardly sounds like something that could be beneficial, but science has found ways to create medicines based on venom chemistry. Unlike their prey and victims in nature, we have benefited from these deadly chemicals in many ways. Which venoms have been researched and what drugs have come from these efforts? Here is a short list of some of them:

- Brazilian pit viper venom led to ACE inhibitors, a widely used group of blood pressure control drugs.
- Cone snail venom resulted in a treatment for severe pain.
- Southeastern pigmy rattlesnake venom yielded a model for an anti blood clotting medication.
- A treatment for Type II diabetes came from the venomous saliva of the Gila monster.
- Research on venomous pit vipers from South America yielded drugs to stop bleeding and also to break up blood clots.



Hopefully you will never need to use any of these drugs, but if you do, thank those dangerous creatures who made them possible.



Getting your pit viper venom directly from the source is *not* recommended

WORDS

- BRAZILIAN PIT VIPER
- CONE SNAIL
- SOUTHEASTERN PIGMY RATTLESNAKE
- GILA MONSTER
- ACE INHIBITOR
- TYPE 2 DIABETES

CHALLENGE TRACKER:

2	A	B	C	D	E	G	H	I	K	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	Y	Z	

X 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

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

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://naqcc.wb5rvz.org>

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

Subject: (your call) NAQCC (month year) 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

NEXT MONTH'S CHALLENGE

Get a nutritious start to your month with the Cereal Mascots Challenge.

<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202307.html>

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the Sports Quotes letter challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202305.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_schedule.html.

Number of Challenges	Members
25+	N4OW KB1M AC2C DK1VD KU4A N1JI K9OSC KA5PVB KD0V KC5F WY3H WT4U WY7N KI8I W2ITT AB9BZ VE3HUR K14IO NN9K ND9M N1LU KD2MX
50+	WA2FBN W3IQ VE3FUJ AK3X KJ4R NF1U VE3DQN AH6AX WB4OMM G3JFS N9SE
75+	PA9CW PA0XAW WI5H
100+	K1IEE
125+	K1YAN
150+	W2JEK N8XMS K3WWP

CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

PA9CW - This time I made all QSO's from 2 Flora and Fauna parks in The Netherlands. 73 and cu in the next challenge. Tonnie - PA9CW.

N8XMS - I finally got around to repairing the ice damage that my vertical antenna took over the winter. That work cut into my available operating time but I was still able to complete this challenge by the 26th. These challenges are always a lot of fun!

SN9MT - nice challenge. Unfortunately 11 "E" and 5 "G" defeted me ;-) I hope next month will be better.

K4CBW - I enjoy the NAQCC newsletters and decided to submit the calls from a couple POTA activations. QRP CW + POTA is pleasant this time of year in NC, post-pollen and pre-bug!

K2CWM - Keeping my 2023 streak alive...



FIELD DAY CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

The special Field Day Challenge is one of the most popular NAQCC events. It's fun and easy for whatever your level of Field Day participation. Details at: <http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202306fd.html>

RULES:

ARRL Field Day rules govern all aspects of the contest for purposes of this challenge, except as noted:

- You must use QRP or QRPp power. The other station may use any power. You may use any type of antenna.
- If you are part of a multi-op FD station, no matter what call sign is used, even if it is your own, only the QSOs *made by you personally* at QRP or QRPp power count.
- Entities to be counted are the ARRL/ RAC Contest Sections used for the FD exchange (see table), not US States.

ARRL / RAC Contest Sections	
W1	CT EMA ME NH RI VT WMA
W2	ENY NLI NNJ NNY SNJ WNY
W3	DE EPA MDC WPA
W4	AL GA KY NC NFL SC SFL WCF TN VA PR VI
W5	AR LA MS NM NTX OK STX WTX
W6	EB LAX ORG SB SCV SDG SF SJV SV PAC
W7	AZ EWA ID MT NV OR UT WWA WY AK
W8	MI OH WV
W9	IL IN WI
W0	CO IA KS MN MO NE ND SD
VE	AB BC GTA MAR MB NL NT ONE ONN ONS PE QC SK
DX	DX - The DX entity may be counted only once regardless of how many countries you work.

Participation Point	
10 Sections	Work 10 or more ARRL Contest Sections, either from home or portable in the field for a Participation Point (<i>Note: only 1 Challenge PP per month</i>)
Certificates	
30 Sections	Work 30 or more ARRL Contest Sections, either from home or portable in the field
Clean Sweep	Work all Continental US sections OR all VE sections
WAS	Work all 50 states on simple wire antennas
WAVE	Work all 8 Canadian provinces on simple wire antennas
Endorsements	
QRPp	Make all qualifying contacts at QRPp power, 1 watt or less
US Clean Sweep	For the US certificate only, there are endorsements for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, and DX sections



OVER 10,000 QRP(P) QSOs

104 COUNTRIES ON 20' OF WIRE

BY JOHN N6HI, #642

First, here's the original post that prompted all the questions:

OVER 10,000 QRP HF CONTACTS COMPLETED WITH MY IC-705

Wow, my IC-705 is now almost two and a half years old, and it still feels like a "new" rig to me!

I hit a milestone today: As of today, I have now made 10,018 QSOs with my IC-705.

8011 contacts were initiated and completed with Output Power of ONE HALF WATT, the rest were at 5 Watts. (I have never run my IC-705 above 5 Watts, and 80% of my logged contacts are at my favorite power level: ½ Watt.) ALL contacts were completed using my only station antenna: a 20 Foot end fed wire, thrown out my window into a tree. ALL contacts were made using real-time modes: CW, RTTY, or VOICE. (These totals include no JT or FT mode contacts) Contacts have been made on all bands, 160m to 6m. So far, I have worked 104 Countries at 5W, and 53 with ½ Watt.

I believe that my humble setup shows what can be done with QRP, even with a very simple antenna. Consider giving QRP a try, especially if you have CW skills! You may be surprised at the DX you can work with low power!

-73-
John N6HI

MY ORIGINAL POSTING PRODUCED A LOT OF QUESTIONS FROM THE GROUP. HERE ARE THE ANSWERS:

First, there is nothing magic or even special about my antenna's length. The 20 Foot length of my antenna is NOT any special length. It is a "random wire" antenna, and 20 feet length is about all I have space for here in my HOA condo!

DETAILS ON THE END-FED ANTENNA:

My home antenna is a 20 foot end-fed random wire. A couple of you have asked me for photos or details about my antenna configuration ... There's not much "configuration" to my antenna ... It's literally a 20 foot insulated wire with a rock tied on the end. I threw the rock over a tree limb out my window. The antenna rock hangs down a couple feet from the tree branch, which acts like a pulley, taking up the slack in the wire whenever wind blows the branches around.

The "inside" end is held in place by the window being tightly closed against it! The wire comes in the window, and is terminated in a male banana plug, which plugs into the center conductor of the SO-239 antenna jack on my antenna tuner, an LDG Z11Pro. A short coax connects my QRP rig to the tuner input.

That's it. There is NO ground system—no water pipe, no ground rod, no radials, no "earth ground," no counterpoise—nothing. (Well, maybe a little bit of "random counterpoise" from



The 20-foot wire, exiting the window and out to the tree.

headphone, paddle, and speaker cables etc. but no actual "ground.")

I do acknowledge that *not* having a good, solid, low-loss earth ground system (or even a counterpoise) does not reflect good engineering practices. However, you can usually get away with things like this with QRP power levels. It's hard to argue with success of *any* kind from a "no antennas allowed" HOA condominium in the middle of the city.

HOW WELL DOES THE 20 FOOT WIRE WORK?

Better than you might expect! I use this setup on all hf bands, 160 meters through 6 meters. So far, (NOT counting FT8) I've managed - so far, over many years - to contact 124 Countries with a 20 foot wire and only 1/2 Watt, and lots more countries

with 5 Watts. The short wire and tuner, together, provide a surprisingly good antenna for 30-20-17-15-12-10-6 meters. It works a bit poorly on 40 meters, but still good enough that I have made thousands of contacts on 40 meters with it.

80 METERS AND TOP BAND

To use my short 20 Foot random wire on 160 meters, I add an extra coil, crudely wound on old plastic CD boxes, between the antenna wire and tuner output. The extra coil allows the tuner to provide a good match to the 20 foot wire on 160 meters. The Tuner, Coil, and 20 Foot Wire provides a very inefficient antenna on 160 meters, but it is usable. I only operate 160 meters during contests, where I tend to jump on, make a few contacts, usually early evening after dark, and occasionally early morning before sunrise. I've only logged 124 contacts on 160 meters with the IC-705 and short wire, all in the SW United States, plus one contact with Hawaii.



My crude "extra loading coil" (wound on CD boxes) that allows using the wire on 160 meters.

For operation on 80 meters, I add a 15 Foot coax and UnUn between the Tuner output and the Wire. Although this does allow me to use the antenna on 80 meters, I rarely use that band, except occasionally in a contest, it's just not a favorite band for me.

Although I have made hundreds of contacts on the 80 meter and 160 meter bands, I have made many thousands of contacts on the higher bands. (ie; the "juicy DX bands"!)

CONTESTS

I seem to have good luck making contacts for a QRP station with a 20 foot wire. One reason I make a large quantity of contacts is because I love working contests, especially CW, and contesting racks up a lot of contacts fast. Still, about a fourth of my contacts are not contest QSOs, and I have some very long rag-chews, especially on CW.

FREQUENCY AGILE

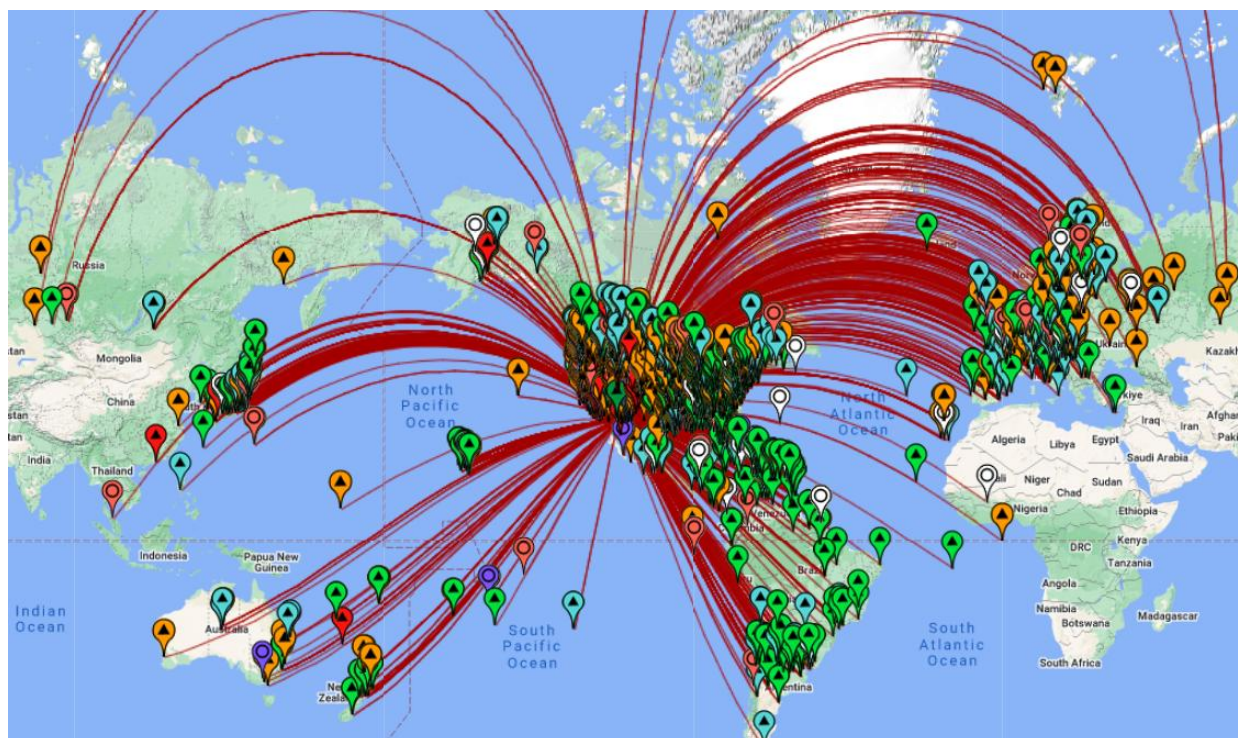
Another reason for my QRP success is “frequency agility.” Being able to work many bands, and to change bands quickly and effortlessly, helps me to “be in the right place at the right time” and take advantage of even brief or unusual band openings. I do not use spotting networks, DX clusters, or internet spots. I prefer finding contacts by spinning the BIG KNOB, which, surprisingly often, allows me to catch rare DX stations when they first come on the air, be-

fore the spot-hunters will even know that the station is there! (Even for contesting, I do not use spots or “pre-fills.” I enjoy copying all call signs and exchange information. It’s fun!)

If you look at the N6HI QRZ page and scroll *all the way to the bottom* of the page, you will see a graphic representation of my contacts for last year, 2022. All contacts shown were made with the 20 foot wire. It really is that simple. It works, and I have been doing this since the early 1970s, when I used various manual tuners, home-brew, MFJ, etc. They all worked fine also, but the new Auto-Tuners of today are SO fast and automatic, very handy for quick, frequent band changes.

ALL BANDS

In answer to some other questions, I do operate “all bands” but mostly 20 meters and up. I tend to often be found on the highest frequency band that is “reasonably open” at the time. I enjoy



Here are my IC-705 QSOs (so far!) plotted out in Google Maps

working DX, and the higher frequency bands are generally the best for QRP DXing. I may be found on the air nearly any time of day or night, but, unless there is a contest, most of my operation is during daylight hours, and into the evening when the bands are good for that and I have time for it.

I operate a *lot* of contests, especially CW and DX contests. I also enjoy the weekly CWT, SST, and MST one-hour mini-contest sessions, and the half-hour NS CW Sprints. I love to chase DX, work SOTA and POTA stations, and rag-chew, especially on CW.

QRP AND QRPP

Currently, my hf operations are 80% with 1/2 Watt, the rest at 5 Watts, and never more. My hf operations are 80% Contest, 90% CW, and 100% fun.

I have received many questions about what bands and modes I use most for my QRP work. The tables here show the Band / Mode usage for my IC-705 5 Watt and Half Watt contacts:

Sometimes, it is just best to see your contacts plotted in Google Maps!

I will repeat what I said in my original posting about 10,000 QRP QSOs completed with the IC-705:

N6HI IC-705 Stats – 05 May 2023 – 10125 QSOs

	QSOs	CW	SSB	RTTY	DV	FM
160m	124	123	1	0	0	0
80m	71	60	0	11	0	0
60m	8	8	0	0	0	0
40m	2077	1872	40	164	1	0
30m	79	79	-	0	0	0
20m	5208	4786	112	307	3	0
17m	195	188	7	0	0	0
15m	1413	1250	82	81	0	0
12m	65	63	2	0	0	0
10m	877	788	52	33	0	4
6m	8	5	3	0	0	0
TOTAL	10125	9222	299	596	4	4

N6HI IC-705 contacts to date. (Only modes shown were used)
IC-705 ops began 9 Oct 2020. 105 Countries worked with IC-705 (5W) to date.

N6HI IC-705 1/2Watt Stats

	TOTAL	CW	RTTY	SSB
160m	12	12	0	0
80m	60	59	1	0
60m	4	4	0	0
40m	1886	1715	157	14
30m	44	44	0	-
20m	4596	4225	306	65
17m	98	97	0	1
15m	940	848	69	23
12m	21	21	0	0
10m	442	411	27	4
6m	6	5	0	1
TOTAL	8109	7441	560	108

I believe that my humble setup shows what can be done with QRP, even with a very simple antenna. Consider giving QRP a try, especially if you have CW skills! You may be surprised at the DX you can work with low power!

73
–John N6HI



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: ALPHABET PREFIX

This month's featured award is a simplified version of CQ Magazine's popular WPA award. The goal is to work as many letter/number combination prefixes as possible using QRP CW and SWA. There are two categories for the award - World Prefixes, and USA Only Prefixes.

Handy tables showing all of the possible prefixes in both categories are available for downloading

from the award web page. Basic awards are earned with 200 world prefixes or 50 USA prefixes and certificates are issued at the 400 and 100 prefix levels.

Complete details on this award can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_wpxswa.html.

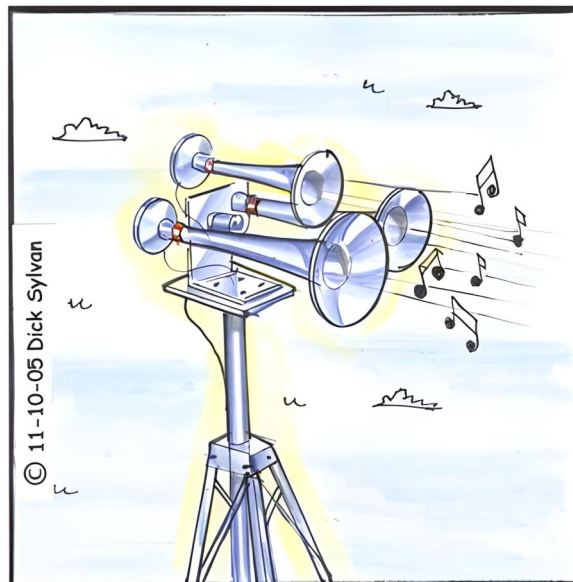


Awards earn you participation points so you're eligible for the best prizes in the annual anniversary drawings.



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

HAM LINGO "Horn" Antenna



"You'll Be Heard With This Baby!"

NAQCC SPRINTS

JUNE SPRINTS

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Wednesday, June 14th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Tuesday, April 13th in North America. Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202306.html>.

MILLIWATT SPRINT

The bonus one-watt-or-less mW Sprint will be on Wednesday, June 21th at 0030-0230Z. That's the evening of Tuesday, April 20th in North America. Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202306mw.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.

MAY SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202305.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: K1WOR, K4WM, KI5FZV, & N9EEE

May Sprint				
	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	87	102	217	4/17
Participants	117	139	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1193	1596	3154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	685	852	1704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	508	744	1450	4/17
20m QSOs	335	355	1232	8/13
40m QSOs	794	1101	2203	4/17
80m QSOs	64	140	1417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	13.7	15.6	19.3	9/11

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	K1MZM	AC1KV	K1YAN
W2	KA2KGP	W2SH	KN2G
W3	KC3MIO	K3JZD	W6WU
W4	KC5F	W4NLT	WX4RM
W5	KD5ZCQ	KE5YUM	KI5FZV
W6	K6GPB	-	-
W7	KC7DM	KI7LW	KJ7KDB
W8	-	-	-
W9	WB9HFK	K9NUD KD9EBS (TIE)	-
W0	N8LA	W1TM	AA5LH
Canada	VA3KRJ	VE3IIM	VA3NU
DX	-	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1TER	-	-
W2	AC2YD	N2DGQ	-
W3	NN3E	K3WWP	-
W4	KG4IKQ	K3RLL	-
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	K8NGW	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	WU0A	KD0V	AE0IB
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY

Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KB1M	N1JI	N2CN
W2	K2OID	WA2FBN	WA1GWH
W3	KQ3Z	-	-
W4	K4KBL	K4KRW	-
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	NF8M
W9	N9EEE	K9EYT	AB9BZ
W0	KC2MJT	-	-
Canada	VE3DQN	-	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

GAIN CATEGORY

KEY	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	AE7AP	-	-
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	-	-	-

FIRST-TIME ENTRANT HIGH SCORE

Key Type	1st	2nd	3rd
SK	K1WOR	K4WM	KI5FZV
BUG	-	-	-
K/K	N9EEE	-	-

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+	NN0SS KJ4R N7QR KF7WNS KC7DM VE3GNU WD4OHD K4KBL KB0ETU K2YGM AA7CU K1IX N8QY WY3H AA5LH K6CSL W5UAA KE9DR AB8FJ NN9K WK6L KC2EGL K2HT N8HWV KC2MJT K4ORD K5GQ N1JI W4HH KC3RN VE3HUR KB4QQJ KB9ILT WA2NYY KD9EBS KD0DK
75+	KD3CA K9EYT KQ1P K4NVJ KB1M WB4OMM VE3FUJ K9OSC WA1GWH VE3DQN WD0K N8BB WB9HFK N2CN WA2FBN WB1GYZ NQ2W K6MGO NF5U WI5H AA0W N8APO
100+	KL7IEE AK3X W4DUK N5GW NA4O KN1H AA9L NO2D KA9FQG KD2MX WB8ENE N4MJ N8LA
125+	K4JPN KD0V N2ESE KE5YUM WX4RM WA8SAN N4FI WG8Y N0TA K4KRW
150+	NF8M K3RLL K4BAI W9CC N8XMS K2CWM KU4A
175+	W2SH W8GG
200+	K3WWP KA2KGP W2JEK

SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

AB9BZ - I had fun transmitting 610mW to a homebrew 16 foot vertical fed with 300 ohm twin lead. Contacts are in the 1000 Mile per watt range. Thanks for the Q's 72

WA4CHQ - First Sprint using my DIY 1 tube (6T9) xtal controlled transmitter (3w)...RX was the Drake 2B and antenna was a Delta Loop. Key was a mini cootie. Operated only an hour. Now for the best part...I had 6 QSO's but only looked at my watch for the first one! geeze.... I still had fun

K3RLL - Fun night on 20m and, once again, I think I qualified for the WANJ (Worked All New Jersey) award. ;-) The Garden State Thruway must have had a 20meter access ramp this evening. Great mix of new & 'seasoned' ops made for an enjoyable half-hour. 72/73 ... Don

AC2YD - Thanks for good ears/antennas out there! I wanted to practice my bug technique, so entered that way tonight. Focused on Run mode to keep my fingers busy with CQs and sending a variety of callsigns, instead of just my own callsign with my exchange. Had some nice runs going on 20 and 40, and a very modest run on 80; thanks for the calls!

K1WOR - Living in MA, I got mostly eastern states, but was pleasantly surprised toward the end with a MT qso. Thanks to the runners -- I'm more comfortable with the S&P, although my score will be lower. Fun!

N9EEE - This is my first QRP sprint. This was truly fun to work only QRP signals where we all know the game to make a contact, and we're not afraid to work a station that barely moves the needle. It goes both ways. I'll be back for more. --73-- Dick



W6IPA 20M PORTABLE ANTENNA DESIGN USING BUDDIPOLE WHIPS

BY JOHN VE3IPS #5908

John W6IPA created a 3D project for the 20m portable antenna coil. It's on Thingiverse: <https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:3197539>

I used the Buddipole Featherweight whip that has a 1/4 thread on the base. These antennas are cheap.

<http://www.buddipole.com/fetewh.html>

Get a couple of BTS IT adapters as it will allow a FW whip to fit onto a 3/8" stud mount.

You don't need it for this project but it's useful to create other antenna designs.

I use the BST IT adapter at the base of the antenna and as a mount in my design

You do need a counterpoise of about 11 to 14 feet to get best SWR and it's possible to lower the whip elements and shorten the counterpoise for use on 17m and 15m



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)
Wyoming Daily QRS 80 Meter Net (WY80)	Daily 6:30 AM MDT	Daily 1230 Z	3565 kHz	Steve KE7UUJ (WY)

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 PACIFIC NORTHWEST QRS 80 METER NET (PNW80)

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

May 05 – QNI (3) NCS WB4SPB, KE7LKW/p, KI7SJE

May 12 – QNI (6) NCS WB4SPB, KE7LKW/p, WB7WHG, KI7SJE, NB6M, KB7DYP

May 19 – QNI (5) KE7LKW NCS, WB7WHG, WB4SPB, K7JUV, KB7DYP

May 26 – QNI (4), NCS WB4SPB, DE7LKW/p, KC7CW, KB7DYP

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

May 01 – No Net

May 08 – QNI (1) W0CC

QRZ reported the Band conditions as poor and they were correct. When tuning up and down the Band, very few signals. It looks like it would be a good Digital night!

May 15 – QNI (2) W0CC, KI4MZY

A lot of QRN and QSB. Bradley did an outstanding job on picking out the 5-watt signal!

May 22 – No Net

May 29 – No Net

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)

May 02 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Conditions not too bad on 80 tonight. 589/579 respectively. QRN was lower than usual. Conditions have been pretty poor the last week here. YUM got a new roof and YGA has a big concert coming up soon. Playing the bass that he built himself.

May 09 – No Net

May 16 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

The usual crew minus Allen N4NN. Good copy with some QSB/QRN. Conditions still holding on 80 but probably going to have to look at trying 40 meters shortly. YUM was 599 and YGA 579 with bad QSB. Terry got a 100 yr. old clock last week that still works.

May 23 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA

Conditions were OK last night. YUM was 589 but YGA was down at 569 with lots of QSB. Don't know if it is the solar activity or just summer conditions on 80 meters.

May 30 – No Net

MAY 29 – No NET NAQCC WYOMING DAILY QRS 80 METER NET (WY80)

Daily at 6:30 AM MDT which is 12:30 UTC, on 3565 kHz +/-

Main NCS - Steve KE7UUJ (Wyoming)

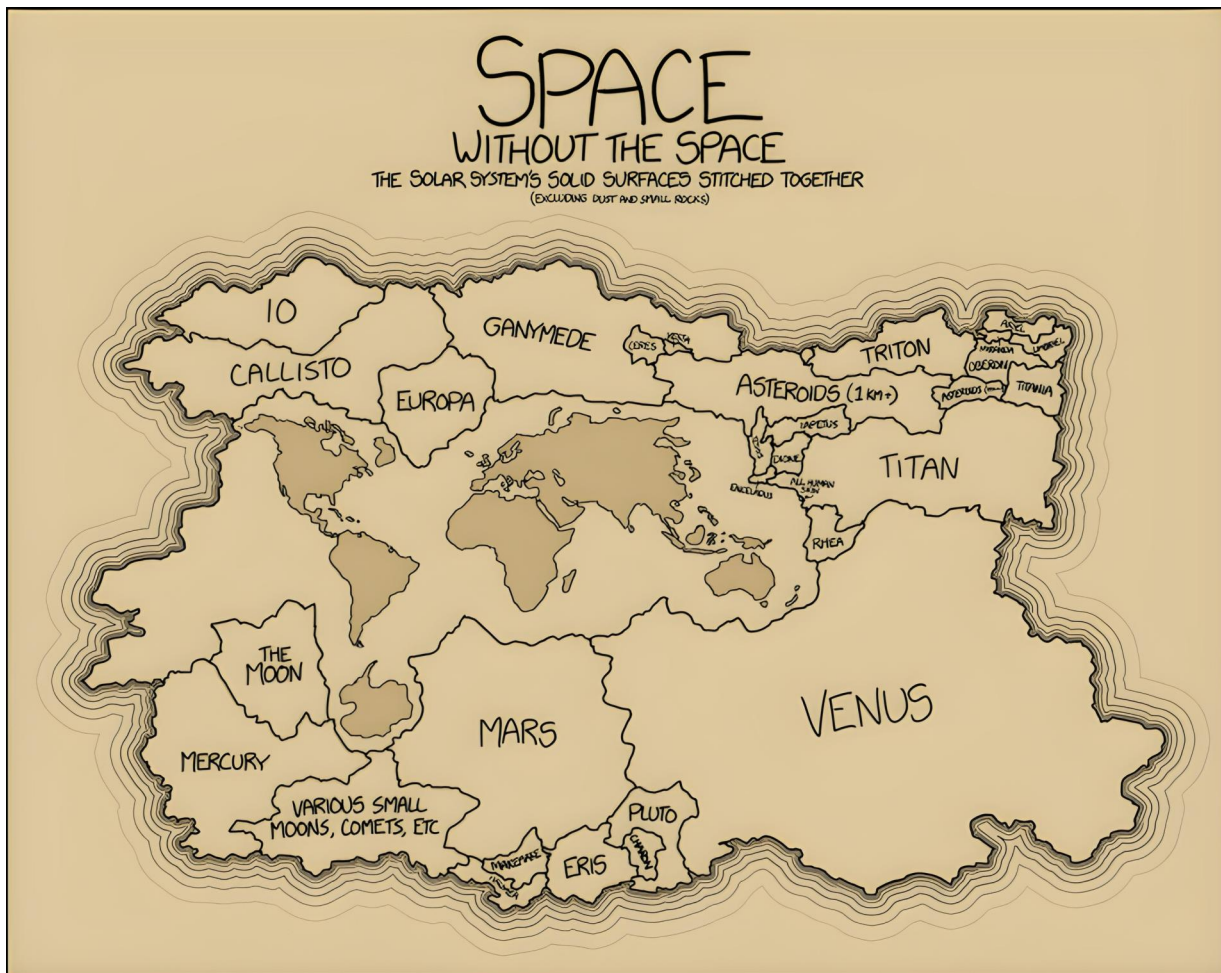
(Listing of stations checking in during the week. # after call = number of check-ins that week.)

Week of May 01 – KE7UUJ (5), WB7S (3), WC7S (2)

Week of May 07 – KE7UUJ (6), WB7S (3), WC7S (3)

Week of May 14 – KE7UUJ (5), WC7S (4)

Week of May 21 – KE7UUJ (5), WC7S (2)



This isn't an informational illustration; this is a thing I think we should do. First, we'll need a gigantic spool of thread. Next, we'll need some kind of ... hmm, time to head to Seattle.

NAQCC CHAPTERS

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 John KK4ITX.

If your chapter is planning a portable operation activity and would like to have it promoted on the club email list or in the newsletter, send an email with the subject “NAQCC Portable Operation” and with the exact wording of the announcement to 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 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 President 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.

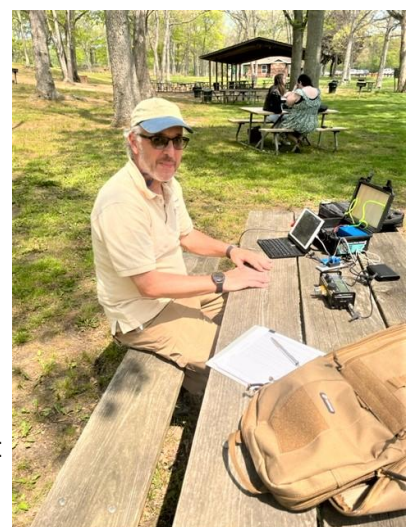
We had a nice turnout and a gorgeous day on May 11, 2023. We started off at the Embassy Diner for good food and conversation and then went to Bethpage State Park POTA K2014.

We set up four stations as follows:

Rob W2ITT: KX2 5W and a linked dipole.

John W2XS: KX2 5W with a sloping dipole using twin lead feed.

Ed N2GSL: SW-3B 5W and EFHW. The SW-3B is only \$188 and it has a tuneable encoder and is very cute and works great. Very surprising how good this radio is overall.



W2ITT

Walt W2TE and Tom KA2D: KX3 with 10w to a wire vertical. Walter has made an antenna out of a cane and we have a photo of that.

Conditions were OK and we all managed to get out and make a number of QSOs as far as the midwest and down south. We heard DX from Europe but with only 5-10w, conditions have to be ideal and that is mostly late afternoon on 20m but we usually break down before that optimal time for QRP.

Also in attendance were Jerry K2GV, Howard WB2UZE, Evan AE2TT, Russ N2FRB, Ken WB2KWC, Drew N2AKJ and Ron KC2PSA who made his first 12 QSOs. This particular park and area we set up in is very convenient and pleasant but we will probably change up the venue for the next outing.



W2ITT's antenna



AE2TT,
N2FRB,
K2GV



KA2D,
WB2KWC



W2TE
Cane
antenna



W2XS



W2XS
Antenna



KC2PSA



N2GSL rig



N2GSL



N2AKJ (front left)

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/>.

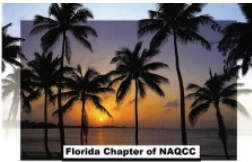
NAQCC DOWNEAST MAINE CHAPTER



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 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>.

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 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 PRIZE SPONSORS



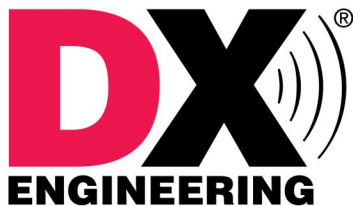
Fun and affordable kits from Pacific Antenna






Tracer Injector Tenna Dipper II Micro Attenuator Mini SWR Indicator

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



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.

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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>.

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