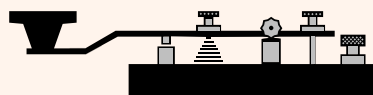


NAQCC NEWS

ISSUE 311 • MAY 2024



KEY CLICKS

• **IN THIS ISSUE**

The Prez Sez... we've got a little money, a lot of events, a missing benefactor, and a busy board; Member Polls; QSO Party action; Transmission line noise; The old, old ball game; Awards and winners; Reading the rules to find more on-air fun; A WFL outing report; Sprint results; Soapboxes; Nets; and more.

• **24TH QRP-MINIMALART SESSION — MARCH 9**

A TXCR with only 100 components? A Transmitter with only 50? A radio with just one IC? This German contest celebrates the art of QRP-CW minimalism. See the rules and details (the menu on the left links to the English) at <http://qrpc.de/contestrules/mas/index.html> and also the handy "Projects" page that lists designs from Sprat and elsewhere along with their parts counts.

• **MORE QRP CONTESTS**

Check out the QRP event page at <https://qrptest.com/> which lists our club events along with contests run by Flying Pigs, QRC ARCI, and 4SQRP

• **HELP MAKE A NEWSLETTER**

Your monthly news is cobbled together using Scribus and various other open-source tools. If you know how do any of that—or want to learn—I could sure use the help. brentWT4U@naqcc.radio

• **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

• **UPDATE YOUR MEMBER INFO**

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

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THE PREZ SEZ...

PRIZE POOL AND DONATIONS

As of today we have \$496 towards our prize goal for the 20th Anniversary Sprint in October. That's about a third of the way toward the goal. Meeting the goal early on gives us better choices for prizes.

The advertisers on our website and in this newsletter below, have paid in prize material donations of at least \$50 each for last year, please mention the NAQCC and thank them for their support the next time you buy from them.

Your \$5 or 10 Would Help

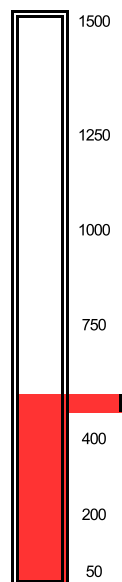
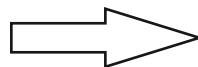
Donation amounts do not have to be large, \$5-10 or more would be great. Most folks with a checking account can have their bank send a check postage free, no cost to you or NAQCC.

Also an option (not my favorite) is to send to me through my Paypal account (jleahy00@yahoo.com). If you choose this method PLEASE be sure that you indicate NAQCC and your membership number.

please mail your check payable to:

North American QRP CW Club, Inc
35 Heather Circle
Cave Spring, GA 30124

4/29/2024



MAY MONTHLY SPRINT #235

Wed May 15 8:30-10:30P EDT
which also is:

Thur May 16 0030-0230Z

Sprint Bands – Frequencies

80m 3555 – 3565 kHz

(Be courteous to FISTS operating on 3558 kHz)
40m – 7030-7045 kHz
20m – 14059-14065 kHz

NAQCC MAY MONTHLY CHALLENGE

The Old Baseball Rules Challenge
85 characters this month, let's have some fun!

SPONSOR NEWS

MFJ, as you may have seen, is ceasing onsite production of it's product line in Mississippi, how that will affect NAQCC is uncertain at this time. MFJ have been a major contributor to NAQCC for our Anniversary Sprints in the past. I know personally the difficult decision to step away from that which one creates from scratch. My best wishes to Martin for a long retirement and a big **thanks** for all of his support over the years.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors Annual Meeting and election of officers was held on April 20th via ZOOM with 7 board members, 2 had just been released from medical facilities that week. Thanks to Chas, NK8O for arranging a 1-1/2 hour meeting.

The current BOD was re-elected for the ensuing 3yr period without any changes to the duties of each member.

Except for establishing a Communications Committee the bulk of the meeting revolved around communication/events/membership and participation by the membership.

If you have any items that you would like the board to address please contact me

AWARDS

NAQCC has a multitude of **Awards** some of which you may have already qualified for. In April I found that I have qualified for the Alphabet Prefix award by almost double and I am not too far from the Suffix Award also.

Until next time, water the flowers.

72/73!

John KK4ITX #7249

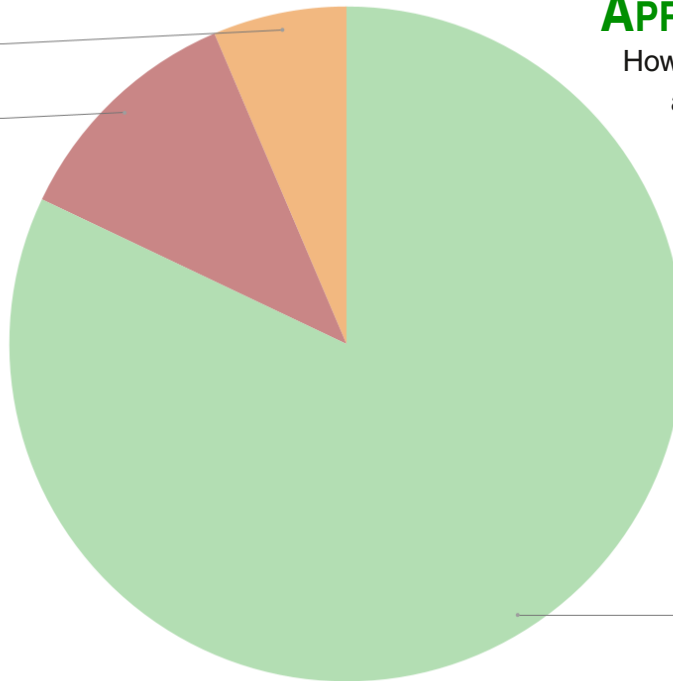
NAQCC President

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



MEMBER POLLS

No
6.4%
Yes
11.5%



APRIL POLL RESULTS

How's the warm Spring weather affecting your operating?

Let us know at

http://www.naqcc.info/main_past_polls.html

MAY POLL

What are your favorite on-air QRP activities? http://naqcc.info/poll_new.html

Probably Not
82.1%

POLL SOAPBOX

Peter NO2D - My shack is in the basement. Can be very cold in the winter. Warmer weather means warmer shack. Thus I spend more time there and operate more.

Ken W4KAC - It has been wet and windy on many of my days off this winter, so I'm looking to get out more in the spring and summer. I don't think the summer heat is going to slow me down a lot this year. I just like operating outside.

NAQCC STATE QSO PARTY CHALLENGE

BY DON VE3DQN

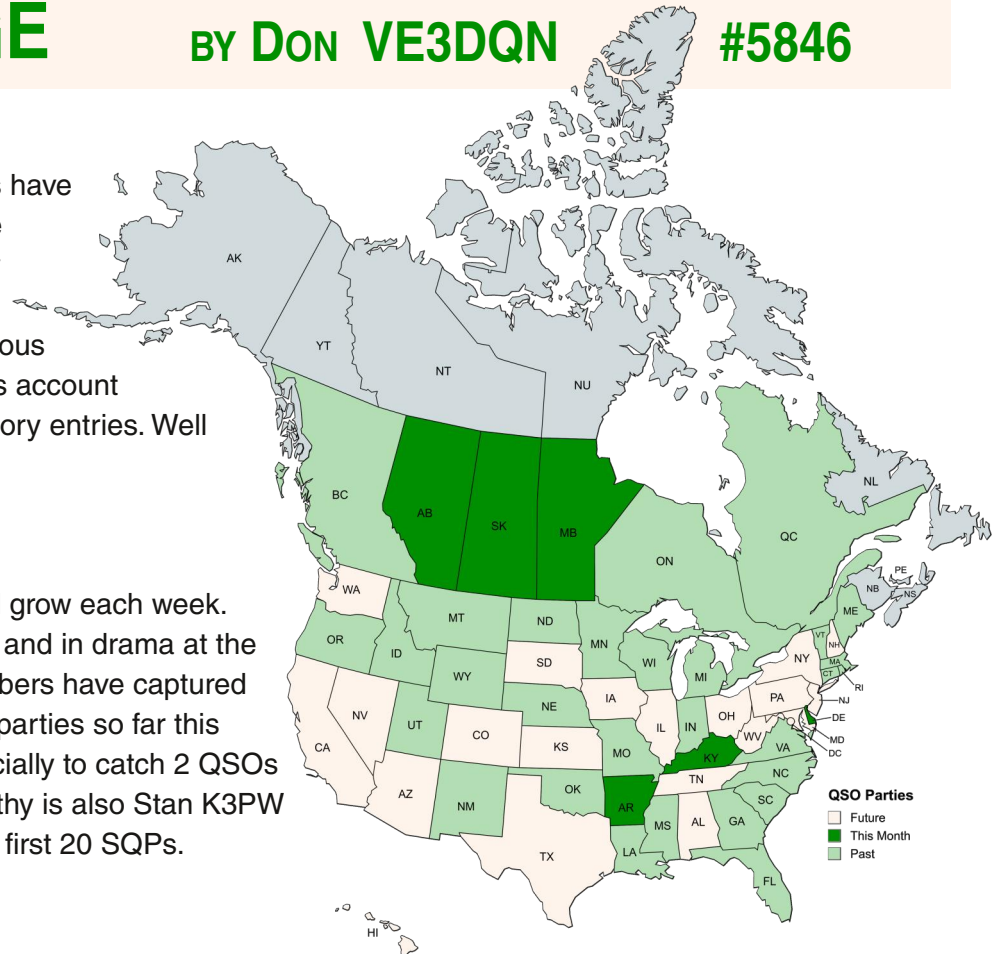
#5846

SMALL SIGNAL, BIG IMPACT

So far this year 51 NAQCC ops have made 12,034 QSOs in 24 State QSO parties. Five have already achieved the gold level certificate. And judging by previous rate counts, the NAQCC entries account for about 85% of all QRP category entries. Well done!

HIGH SCORERS

I love watching the leaderboard grow each week. Grow in number of participants and in drama at the top end of the chart. Four members have captured the multiplier in each of the 24 parties so far this year. That's no easy feat, especially to catch 2 QSOs from ND, LA, and QC. Noteworthy is also Stan K3PW who has multipliers in 19 of the first 20 SQPs.



LEADERBOARD

See the full list at http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_scores.html

Member	Mult	QSOs	Score	Award	Pace
Will NQ2W #4839	24	909	21,816	Gold	83,666
Steve NI8W #11335	24	720	17,280	Gold	66,270
Chris KU4A #1960	24	693	16,632	Gold	63,785
Mike W7LG #10391	22	586	12,892	Gold	49,442
Ron VE3SIF #10033	19	616	11,704	Gold	44,886
Rick KY0Q #9647	19	456	8,664	Silver	33,227
Brent WT4U #9019	24	343	8,232	Silver	31,570
Bob N2EIM #10373	19	372	7,068	Silver	27,106
Kevin NN3E #9851	21	314	6,594	Silver	25,288
Anthony K8ZT #412	20	290	5,800	Silver	22,243
Marty N9SE #7425	14	414	5,796	Silver	22,228
Don VE3DQN #5846	20	252	5,040	Silver	19,329
Kevin KE3V #855	19	258	4,902	Bronze	18,800
Ernie N2DGQ #11090	15	323	4,845	Bronze	18,581
Dave AC7FF #7618	18	258	4,644	Bronze	17,810
Jeff N0MII #7878	10	305	3,050	Bronze	11,697
Stan K3PW #9637	22	115	2,530	Bronze	9,703
Ray WB0SMZ #3889	16	133	2,128	Bronze	8,161
Chris WB9G #6311	12	172	2,064	Bronze	7,916

EACH TO THEIR OWN

Most of us have no aspirations for "top of the leaderboard." We may have a goal of doing a little better than last year, or to achieve a certain certificate level by the end of the season, or to do well in our home state party. Or simply to have some diversion and radio fun over the weekend. The parties do it for me :-)

Upcoming QSO Parties					
State	Times	IN	Out	Freqs	Links
Canadian Prairies	May 11 1700Z to May 12 0300Z	RST District	RST ST	35 up	rules
Arkansas	May 18 1400Z to May 19 0200Z	RST County	RST ST	1.830 & 40 up	rules
Kentucky	Jun 01 1300Z to Jun 02 0100Z	RST County	RST ST	1.815, 50.095, & 40 up	rules

QSO PARTY SOAPBOX SAMPLER

Alan KR4AE #5847 As always, living in Ga., the GA QSO Party is a lot of fun. I have gone QRPp for all of my contesting and even operating in general most of the time, but I have always used 5W in the past for this contest. I couldn't decide whether to use 500mw or 1 watt, but decided to go with 1w really not knowing what to expect. I ran the entire contest except for about 15 contacts. The first hour was totally amazing to me for 1w and I logged 61 contacts during that hour with 26 of them in the first 10 minutes! Either the first or second contact spotted me and it was pretty wild for 1w! This was on a 30,20 and 15m fan dipole at about 30 feet on 20m....

Don VE3DQN #5846 My favourite "catch" of the SQPs this weekend was working Alan KR4AE in the GAQP. It's always fun to hear, and work, a fellow NAQCCer! And to learn later that he was operating QRPp 1 watt. Amazing! The 2nd favourite event for me was catching two ND stations in the evening, after not hearing a peep from ND when I was on the air in the afternoon.

Ernie N2DGQ #11090 GA Q's were in abundance this weekend. ND and NM not so much. I was concerned about qualifying for ND, as I only heard (2) Calls from ND. Worked them both but kudos to AI0Y as he was the only call except for K0AJW, that I work on 40, 20, and 15! AI0Y was heard throughout the weekend...

Ron VE3SIF #10033 I was happy to hear so many ops participating in the [ONQP] contest, not just Ontario stations. Saturday conditions were great; Sunday not so much. I was running an FTDX-10 at 5 watts into an end fed half wave (15, 40 and 80 meters) and a G5RV Jr for 20 meters.

See the full soapbox at http://naqcc.info/qsoparties_soapbox.html



TRANSMISSION LINE NOISE

BY DAVID CA K8BYP #11325

QRP operation is low transmit power. In many case, that also means low received signal strength.

There are three components of received signals:

1. The intended signal from the antenna
2. Atmospheric noise from the antenna
3. With a mis-matched antenna feedpoint, local noise coupled into the transmission line

A paper from Oslo University (1) shows that when a transmission line is mismatched, the shield becomes “transparent” to RF and it is coupled into the center conductor, the shielding effect is lost.

I did testing recently by varying the receive frequency on a perfectly matched 40-meter dipole, noting signal and noise, and sweeping the system with a MFJ Analyzer to locate the frequencies of the first asymptotes (where the feedpoint appears to be parallel resonant and open circuit).

This established a bandwidth limit for the system. A broad sweep up to 8 MHz showed a natural noise peak around 7.5 MHz; this atmospheric noise is said to be mainly due to lightning.

As expected, both signals and noise decreased uniformly when the receiver was tuned away from the optimum match frequency. Mismatch means less energy is transferred and the sys-



tem can not distinguish between signal and noise.

Since there are no broad-band RF sources on HF, a second transmission line, about 100 feet long, was laid on the ground parallel to the transmission line for the dipole, spaced about 10 feet apart. The second transmission line was loaded with a Yaesu 857 at about one-watt into a dummy load.

With the dummy load on the far end of the second transmission line, nothing remarkable happened. When the dummy load was disconnected, a very large signal was coupled into the antenna system, showing that the second cable became very “leaky.”

When the second transmission line was connected to the receiver, open circuited on the far end, a frequency sweep showed a rise in noise decreasing in frequency, the opposite case from the received atmospheric noise. This noise was much greater on certain frequencies below 2 MHz and peaked at 855 KHz coming from a big-screen TV set downstairs from the ham shack.

The transmission line noise due to feedpoint mismatch was upwards of FIFTY DB, with a loss in signal.

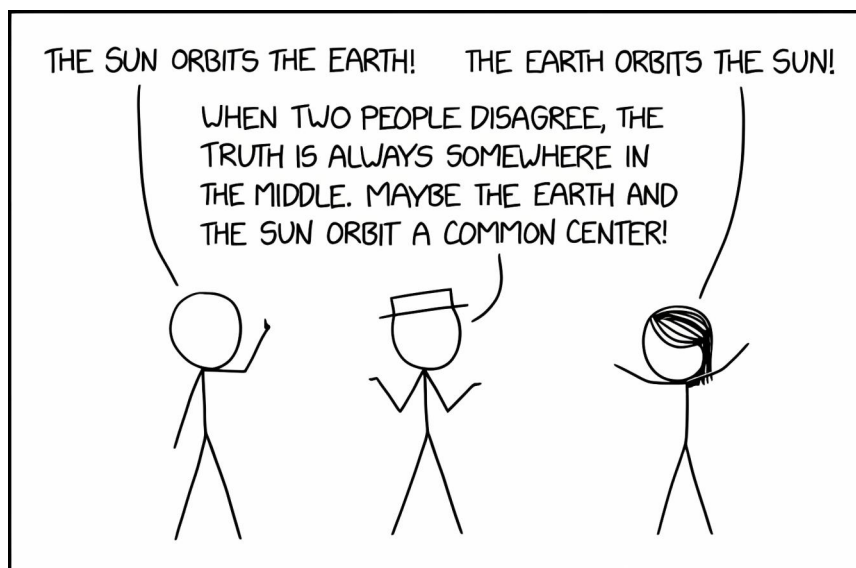
This testing proves that not only does antenna feedpoint mismatching result in less received signal, but can allow extreme local noise sources to dominate.

ANTENNA TYPES

While so called multi-band antennas have been popular since the 1930s, they are horrible performers, especially in poor band conditions, and are rarely correctly matched. They should be avoided.

In conclusion, most of hams' complaints of local noise sources are due to improper and mismatched antennas. Often, the noise sources cannot be found or dealt with, but in many cases a little antenna work to get a resistively matched feedpoint should eliminate most of the interference. This is easier to observe in the currently very poor propagation conditions when “the bands are dead.” When there is no atmospheric noise, the noise is all locally generated.

(1) https://www.uio.no/studier/emner/matnat/ifi/INF5460/v09/undervisningsmateriale/F2-3-en_part1.pdf



IT'S ANNOYING WHEN PEOPLE ARE RIGHT BY ACCIDENT.

xkcd.com

NAQCC CHALLENGE

BY GARY K1YAN #2365

THIS MONTH'S LETTER CHALLENGE: OLD BASEBALL RULES

The boys of summer take the field and you sit back with a cold 807 to watch the action. If you roll back the clock to the 17 and 1800s, the game would be a different experience than what you see today. Here are a few things that used to be part of the game back when.

Don't plan on a nine inning game. Expect the game to end when one side scores 21 aces, or as they are know today, runs.

Is this softball I'm watching? Nope, it is baseball ... the pitching was under-handed until 1872.

Why is that bare-handed outfielder so happy he got the ball on the first bounce? It is because the batter is out, same as if it were caught on the fly.

Hey look, the home plate umpire is talking to a fan. Is he going to get that guy tossed out for something? Not at all ... he is getting his opinion of the play before he makes a ruling. The umpire

is allowed to check before he makes his final ruling if he thinks the fan might have had a better view. There seem to be a few fans today that think this rule is still in effect and try to be helpful by offering up their opinion without even having to be asked! Speaking of opinions, there was an official umpire from each team, whose job it was to makes appeals to the referee (now the umpire) on behalf of their team's players.

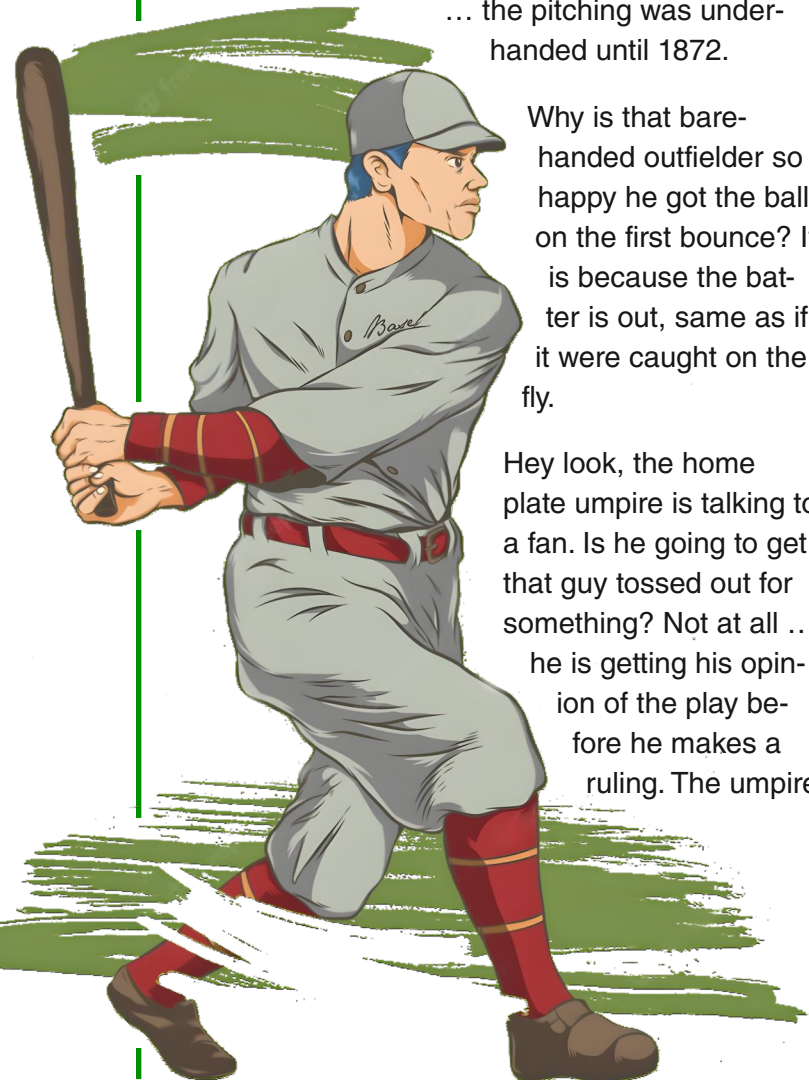
Four balls and you get a walk. Not in the day. It used to be three. Bad for the pitcher? Not really, only every third ball counted toward the total. You needed nine balls to reach first on a walk.

As part of keeping the game a manly sport, outfielders could get a runner out by throwing the ball and hitting him before he reached the base. This was know as plugging.

In the mid 1800s it was impossible for a pitcher to catch the corner of the plate ... there were no corners to catch since the plate was a 12 inch diameter circle. Could this be where the name plate originated?

For you stats guys looking at old home run records, some of the old players may have done better than you think. If the winning run was on base and you hit a homer to end the game you only got credit for what it took to drive the base runner home. For example, if a man on first scored the winning run off your HR, you only got credit for a triple since that was all that was needed to get the runner home and end the game.

So that is how it was back then. Is the game better or worse for the changes? You decide.




WORDS

- 21 ACES
- UNDERHANDED PITCHING
- ONE FOOT DIAMETER HOME PLATE
- OUT ON THE FIRST BOUNCE
- PLUGGING THE RUNNER

CHALLENGE TRACKER

1	2	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	L	M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U

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 charlie.wilber@gmail.com

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

What's going down? Next month's Controlled Demolition Challenge!
<http://naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202406.html>

LAST MONTH'S CHALLENGES

The deadline for submissions for the AI's Cadillacs letter challenge is still a few days away. You can see what has been submitted so far at <http://www.naqcc.info/challenges/challenges202404.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+	AC2C KC5F KU4A WT4U N1JI K9OSC KA5PVB W2ITT KD0V NN9K AB9BZ N2EIM WY3H K14IO NN3E ND9M WY7N K18I W1BLU VE3HUR AD0YM W4LSV N1LU ON7DQ KD2MX K4KBL NOIPA N9WVM
50+	AH6AX VE3DQN KJ4R VE3FUJ NF1U KB1M WB4OMM N4OW N9SE G3JFS DK1VD
75+	PA9CW PA0XAW WA2FBN W3IQ WI5H AK3X
100+	K1IEE
125+	K1YAN
150+	W2JEK K3WWP
175+	N8XMS

CHALLENGE SOAPBOX SAMPLER

AK3X: Fun challenge as usual. Completed in a personal record of 4 days thanks to DX on 10 and 40 meters. Looking forward to next month.

PG4I: Interesting challenge with all the added numbers. This one took a lot longer. Thanks for all the fun!

W1BLU: My first completed Challenge from my new QTH in Delaware. I found it was easier to obtain QRP QSOs up here than in south Florida, (I wonder how much easier it is in mid-America). Those 'nearby' stations call signs, (2 & 3), added to the challenge though. I really enjoy these. Thanks again.



NAQCC AWARDS

FEATURED AWARD:

2X QRP

I have often thought that a great deal of the credit for a successful QRP QSO should go to the operator on the receiving end of those radiated QRP watts, and our 2X QRP Award gives you the chance to see what you can do on that end of the QSO. To earn this award you not only need to transmit at QRP power levels, but the person on the other end must be doing so as well. Any kind of QSOs are allowed for this award, including contest QSOs, so our NAQCC

sprints can be a fertile place to earn your points. QSO points vary based on whether or not the other person is DX and whether or not they are an NAQCC member. Certificates are issued at several different point levels and numerous endorsements for things like single band, home-brew gear, or straight key use are also available. Complete details for the 2X QRP Award can be found at http://www.naqcc.info/awards_2xqrp.html.

RECENT WINNERS:

1000 MPW AWARD

Nr (beginning w/#233)	Call	Stn worked	-	MPW	-	Award Date	-	Notes & Antenna
0658	VK4MFX	DL2DXZ	-	8,987	04/24/24	30' vertical		
0657	N4NRL	YE1BON	-	2,968	04/23/24	15m Hustler		
0656	WT4U	ZL4TT	-	1,719	04/13/24	15/10/6 fan dipole @36'		
0655	VK4MFX	XV9G	-	3,275	04/05/24	30' vertical		
0654	VK4MFX	JG2LGM	-	3,701	04/05/24	30' vertical		
0649	VK4MFX	YV8RVI	-	1,982	04/04/24	30' vertical		
0647	VK4MFX	JJ1FXF	-	3,745	04/03/24	30' vertical		
0641	VK4MFX	ZL2BFQ	-	2,321	04/07/24	30' vertical		
0639	VK4MFX	XL2GD	-	2,297	04/07/24	30' vertical		

(VK4MFX blew this category away...)

see http://naqcc.info/awards_winners.html for the complete list)

0635	K7NWA	F6EAZ	-	3,784	04/01/24	41' EFRW@30'
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KMPW 100 AWARD

0017	-	ZS6WAR	04/16/24
0018	-	VK4MFX	04/21/24



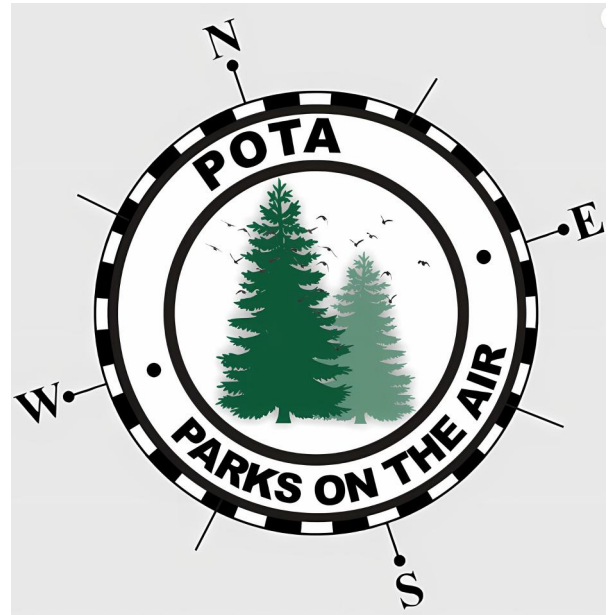
READ THE RULES TO FIND YOUR NAQCC FUN

BY JOHN KK4ITX #7249

Last Fall I was determined to become more active in on air CW than I have been and needed to find a workable way. NAQCC Sprints only happen once a month except for the few QRPp events and the 160m Sprint simply doesn't work with my setup and other events offered by other QRP groups require evenings and those don't always come easy with our lifestyle.

WORD CHALLENGES

So I looked over the offerings at hand and decided to try the Monthly Word Challenge since I could participate anytime that was available to me. So in November, (note to self..... read rules before pushing the start button), I was all primed to begin this new challenge but half way through the month I realized that some of my QSOs didn't qualify, so I put it all off to December.



SOTA AND POTA TO THE RESCUE

I struggled somewhat with the impending holidays and family issues and needed a better method of finding contacts. After re-reading the rules again I noticed that one could use SOTA, POTA and other similar events as long as it wasn't a contest QSO for either party. The rest of the month went well and I completed my very first MC with just a few days to spare using mostly POTA as a Hunter!

AWARDS

For January I improved my POTA Hunter methods and learned the "ropes" of the hunt and about 3 weeks in I finished that challenge. Twiddling my thumbs I told myself there's more to be done here, it's so easy I need to find something else to do with the rest of the month..... ah! How about a QSO a day?

EVERY DAY?

So in February I started with the Monthly Challenge and QSO a Day for my goal. READ the rules, the devil is in the details. EST/EDT/UTC, yup, messed up about 7 days in. Missed on the 7th thinking I could get the contact after dinner, nope that's tomorrow already!! I made a course correction and continued on deciding to at least get a 30 day award, so now I am deep into April with a continuous string of at least one QSO a day but usually two or more and hopefully will finish off with 90 consecutive days of QSOs or more before I hit the road for the summer. I don't think I'll be able to work from the motels but perhaps? I expect that I'm done until fall.



LOG REVEALS MORE AWARDS

Keeping a Log on QRZ enables me to check for progress on and complete the requirements for the prefix and suffix awards too..... I must read the rules ;-). These awards are just a fill in for that idle time you may have as a side bonus it helps to keep our Awards Manager busy.

THE REAL BENEFITS

Beyond all of the above, what I have gained from this exercise is that I am getting better at



Make nature your shack!

hearing and my concentration level has improved, my sending speed has picked up a bit and I believe is cleaner and I have several hundred extra QSOs in my log. I only have a few states left for WAS but working from the extreme SE or NE, that goal may evade me but it still is fun to try.

LOTS OF OPTIONS

If you look over our website you will see that the NAQCC organization has activities for just about everyone but should you see where there is a need for improvement or you have an idea for something different, please share it with a board member or me, there's always room for improvement.

Happy Hunting!!

John KK4ITX



NAQCC SPRINTS

APRIL SPRINT

Our regular Sprint this month will be on Thursday, May 16, 2023 0130-0330Z. That's the evening of Wednesday, May 15th in North America.

Complete information at <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202405.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.

APRIL SPRINT RESULTS:

Complete Sprint results, including all of the soapbox comments, can be found at <http://www.naqcc.info/sprint/sprint202403.html>. High scores can be seen in the tables on the next page.

April Sprint				
	Current Month	Previous Month	All-Time Record	Record Date
Logs	79	76	217	4/17
Participants	107	102	269	2/13
Total QSOs	1,054	1,031	3,154	4/17
Hour 1 QSOs	662	638	1,704	4/17
Hour 2 QSOs	392	393	1,450	4/17
20m QSOs	277	294	1,232	8/13
40m QSOs	737	715	2,203	4/17
80m QSOs	40	22	1,417	2/13
Avg QSOs/Station	13.3	13.6	19.3	9/11

SWA STRAIGHT KEY CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	KN1H	N1BRI	-
W2	KA2KGP	KN2G	W2SH
W3	K3JZD	KC3MIO	W6WU
W4	KC5F	WZ2N	WB0CJB
W5	N5GW	KD5ZCQ	KE5YUM N5MHI (TIE)
W6	W6IRA	K6GPB	-
W7	KI7LW	-	-
W8	NF8M	-	-
W9	K9NUD	WB9HFK	K9QEW
W0	N0TA	KA8HDE	W1TM
Canada	VE3IIM	VE7HI	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA BUG CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	WB1GYZ	-	-
W2	KF2P	-	-
W3	NN3E	-	-
W4	K7EK	K4TNE	K3RLL
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	K8NGW	-	-
W9	-	-	-
W0	KD0V	WU0A	-
Canada	-	-	-
DX	-	-	-

SWA KEYER/KEYBOARD CATEGORY			
Division	1st	2nd	3rd
W1	W1TER	KB1M	-
W2	K2OID	N2ESE	WA1GWH
W3	KC3RN	KE3V	K3WWP
W4	N4MJ	K4BAI	AF4PX
W5	-	-	-
W6	-	-	-
W7	-	-	-
W8	WI8J	WA8SAN	-
W9	WD9F	N9SE	-
W0	NO2D	-	-
Canada	VE3DQN	VE3SIF	-
DX	DK1VD	-	-

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

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 KC7DM WD4OHD VE3GNU K1IX KB0ETU K2YGM AA7CU AA5LH N8HWV KC2MJT VE3HUR N8QY WY3H W4HH K6CSL W5UAA KC2EGL KE9DR AB8FJ NN9K KC3RN K3JZD WT4U KD9EBS WK6L K2HT KD0DK AB9BZ K4ORD K5GQ N1JI K8NGW K9QEW WA2NYY KB4QQJ KB9ILT VA3NU W4NLT
75+	WA1GWH WB9HFK VE3DQN K4NVJ WA2FBN WB1GYZ NQ2W WB4OMM N2CN VE3FUJ K9OSC WD0K N8BB AA0W KJ4R NN0SS N7QR K6MGO NF5U WI5H K4KBL N8APO
100+	KL7IEE N5GW KN1H NA4O W4DUK KA9FQG NO2D N4MJ WB8ENE AA9L N8LA KD2MX KD3CA KQ1P K9EYT KB1M
125+	WA8SAN WG8Y N0TA N4FI K4KRW AK3X
150+	NF8M K4BAI W9CC N8XMS KD0V K2CWM K4JPN N2ESE KE5YUM KU4A WX4RM
175+	W8GG K3RLL
200+	K3WWP KA2KGP W2SH W2JEK

SPRINT SOAPBOX SAMPLER

WD4OHD - Some good signals tonight, but also significant QSB and QRN. Finally gave up early due to the constant static crashes, making reception difficult. Better luck next time, I guess. Thanks to those who managed to dig my signal out of the noise.

W1RCP - I was testing a prototype capacitive key on an unsuspecting victim. Will took it in stride. It wasn't quite working reliably, but I was able to gather enough information during the test/evaluation to make some changes to the circuit. KX2 @ 5W, 5BTV ground mounted vertical with 125 feet of coax to get there. -Rob W1RCP

K3RLL - It too 15 years, but my neighbor finally trimmed his tree so my HOA stealth, after-dark vertical actually worked tonight! (But now is easily seen.) Got more RBN spots from Europe than US. ;-) Big signals tonight into FL were KC5F & NF8M. Tnx for the fun. 72, ... Don

KC3RN - A pretty good night, despite high noise levels here. Stayed on 40 the entire sprint, and it was pretty good to me. My FT-817 performed beautifully, although it got a little warm at the end. I was even able to make my last 2 QSO's at 1 watt. I worked K3WWP early in the evening, and it was great to hear him again. John, K4BAI was my last contact. We seem to work each other in every sprint. I also worked a non-member QRPer, which is a first for me during a sprint.

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 7:30PM 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)	Off the air			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)

Apr 05 – QNI (7) NCS WB7WHG, KE7LKW/P, WB4SPB, AD7BP, N0DA, W7VK, KB7DYP

Apr 12 – QNI (7) NCS WB4SPB, KE7LKW/p, AD7BP, WB7WHG, KB7DYP, K7JUV, W7VK

Apr 19 – QNI (6) NCS WB7WHG, KE7LKW/P, WB4SPB, AD7BP, W7VK, K7JUV

Apr 26 - QNI (6) NCS KE7LKW, WB4SPB, AD7BP, K7JUV, KB7KDP, N7QR

NAQCC MIDWEST QRS NET (MWN)

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

Apr 01 – QNI (1) W0CC

Still under Tornado Watch, however lightening passed to the east. Significant QRN, no surprise. After NET, tried a couple of stations calling CQ and no response.

Apr 08 - No Net

Had an opportunity to view the eclipse in an area of 4 minutes of totality and was not able to set up a rig on their property.

Apr 15 – QNI (2) W0CC, W1TM

As usual, Tim did a GREAT JOB negotiating the QSB!

Apr 22 – QNI (2) W0CC, W1TM

Tim did a GREAT Job of pulling out my 519 signal!

Apr 29 – QNI (3) W0CC, W1TM, KG8DA

A lot of QRN. Both Tim and George did a Great job! This was the FIRST Net contact for NAQCC Member, George. Congratulations!!!

NAQCC EAST TEXAS QRS NET (ETN)

Monday evenings 7PM CDT, which is Tuesday 0000 UTC,
on 7067 kHz +/- (Summer) or 3566 kHz +/- (Winter)
Main NCS - Allen KA5TJS (Texas)

Apr 02 – QNI (3) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YGA, N4NN

Band was in pretty good shape with storms coming from the west. Low QRN tonight. Talked about the eclipse next week and Andy has family coming because he is 100% in AR. Allen's doing POTA this week in GA.

Apr 09 – No Net

Thunderstorms then the power went out. No net tonight. CU next week, I hope. The eclipse was cool!

Apr 16 – QNI (5) KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN, KF5WJ

Good signals YUM was short time and YGA commented on an FB eclipse in AR and NN still doing POTA's and welcome to Jack in Denton TX. Good fist and hope he will be back.

Apr 23 – No Net

Apr 30 – QNI (4) NCS KA5TJS, KE5YUM, KE5YGA, N4NN

Good signals tonight with some QRM. All stations were 579 or better. YGA went to a retirement party and YUM got 1 inch of rain over last few days and NN reported not much going on but Dr. appt. HI HI. Used 7.067kc again with good results.



NAQCC CHAPTERS

START A LOCAL CHAPTER

The North American QRP CW Club currently has six local chapters - 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 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/>.

Eagle Point Park

April 27, 2024

Had a great time this last Saturday, April 27, at Eagle Point Park in New Port Richey, FL with Suncoast ARC members.

I had my IC705 and MC750 vertical, Chuck, KA4CEM had his FT710 and BuddiStick Vertical and Wayne, KD2UDU had his G90 and short End Fed Wire.



Attending

Tim WD8MVU
 Ron N9EE IC705 with MC750 vertical and 20m End Fed Wire
 Frank KK4DYF
 Don KA2KDP
 Chuck KA4CEM FT710 with BuddiStick Vertical
 Wayne KD2UDU G90 with End Fed Wire
 George N2OWE
 David KQ4PIY

Log

Ron, N9EE, IC705 with MC750 vertical.

TIME	CALL	FREQ	COMMENT
0941	K0YY	14.062	AR
0945	N5FZ	14.0565	POTA
1019	W4M	14.063	SOTA
1041	DL5YM	14.0477	TST, UK
1048	VA2JR	14.0164	T2T?
1053	W9RNY	14.031	Mike, IL, FTDX10
1107	KC4PGN	14.050	
1109	AC3WM	14.051	Bill, PA, SKCC 25193
1118	KY9T	14.054	
1140	KB4QQJ	14.054	NC
1143	NZ0T	14.061	Bill, MO TS530, 100W, 2 Ele Quad
1222	KU8TT	14.061	IN
1224	K4JYS	14.0573	Bill, NC Johnson xmtr & Hammuland rcvr



From last few NAQCC-WFL events have realized 20m and above does not open until after 1000 hrs. 20m was good and the MC750 performed well. Wayne, KD2UDU did not fare well with his short end-fed wire.



Chuck, KA4CEM working with his FT710 and BuddiStick vertical worked well on 10m. He was very surprised that 10m came alive in the afternoon. It was dead in the morning. He stayed until 4:00 and it was still going.



Had hot dogs with Tim's cooking and soda and a good lunch. We QSY's out of the park around 1330 hrs.



NAQCC LONG ISLAND CHAPTER



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

Questions and comments should go to Howard, WB2UZE.

NAQCC 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 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>.

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NAQCC CLUB INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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

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

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

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

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

REPRINT POLICY

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

NAQCC CONTACTS

NAQCC President	John KK4ITX	jleahy00@yahoo.com
NAQCC Treasurer	Dennis W4DWS	w4dws@arrl.net
Downeast Maine Chapter	Jeff KA1DBE	j.hanscom@gmail.com
Florida Chapter	Nikki KM4SBQ	nickies1130@aol.com
Illowa Chapter	Tim N9BIL	n9bil@arrl.net
West Florida Chapter	Ron N9EE	n9ee55@gmail.com
Long Island Chapter	Howard WB2UZE	wb2uze@yahoo.com
Newsletter Submissions Member Spotlight	Paul KD2MX	kd2mx@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Brent WT4U	brentWT4U@naqcc.radio
NAQCC CW Nets	Mark W8EWH	mark.yergin@gmail.com

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

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

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

Inquires can be sent to:

Club President John Leahy KK4ITX
3513 Aquamarine Way
Zephyrhills, FL 33540 USA

