
Flying Pigs QRP Club

Bacon Bits Quarterly



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FPQRP membership is open to all licensed QRP operators who reside within 12,000 nautical miles of Cincinnati, Ohio.



Picture by
Ron Polityka
WB3AAL

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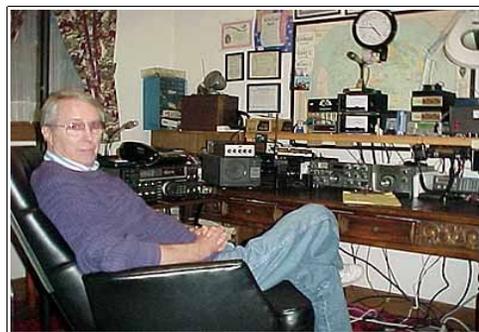
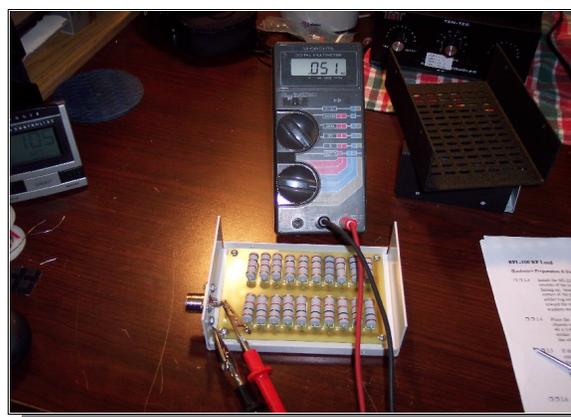
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On the Cover:

Ron, WB3AAL poses while completing his 1000th Appalachian Trail QSO.

The View from the Slop

By Rob, W0JRM FP#-330

Well here we are yet again, fine swine! Welcome to the March 2009 issue of Bacon Bits Quarterly. We've got yet another great issue dedicated to homebrewing, being outdoors, and acting like semi-rabid frat-boys.

As many of you noticed, there was no December 2008 issue of BBQ. I do humbly apologize for that, but there simply wasn't enough material to publish. Several folks stepped up to the plate and contributed to this issue, so enjoy!

Ron WB3AAL tells of his 1000th QSO on the Appalachian Trail. Way to go, Ron! Hank, KI5CW FP#-995, reviews the GHD Model GN-207 Mechanical Bug. Brian, KB9BVN FP#-57, tells us about the OHR RFL-100 dummy load, which appears to be quite the bargain. Of course, there's much more.

So we all know what the big news is, right? The economy tanked and it's probably not going to improve any time soon. We can all fret and worry, but what good is that going to do? Turn off the TV and quit letting the talking heads ruin your day.

I, like many others, lost my job in the mess. I'm not letting it get me down. Sure, cuts have to be made, but that's part of life. I'm enjoying things where I can and being thankful for the gifts God has given me.

Now's the time to just sit back and enjoy radio. Put some homebrew stuff together. Rearrange the shack. Invite the kids, grandkids, friends, churchgoers, or even the neighbor you haven't really met yet over to listen in as you work someone. Try out a new mode on the radio, or use one you haven't been on in years. Take the time to dig all the whar and duct tape out of the shack carpeting! Anything beats setting around and worrying about what you have no control over.

Do I have a simplistic view of life? Some would say yes, some would say no. I'd say I do, but it could be simpler. The world has it's problems, we have ours, and there's no point in worrying about any of 'em. I'm just gonna enjoy the bands and my friends, and make the most out of the situation. I think everyone would be a lot healthier and happier if they did the same!

===== (Flying Pigs QRP Club International) =====

1000 Appalachian Trail QSOs

Ron, WB3AAL

It was a very historic day on Sunday December 14, 2008. Who would ever think way back on March 4, 2000 that I would still be going out once a month on the Appalachian Trail (AT) and setting up an antenna just to make a couple of contacts with a QRP radio. Yes, I have been doing this once or twice a month for the past 106 months.

I still get a chance from time to time to go out and hike with a couple of QRP'ers to an East Coast Mountain top in PA on the AT to play with QRP HF Radio. My very first contact was with Carter de N3AO who is a good friend that went out with me to the AT. Since that first contact Carter has moved down to VA but I still managed to work him 13 individual times.

Since going out to the AT I have made one thousand QSOs, worked twenty-five countries and forty-eight states, and worked twelve other QRPers on the AT in twelve of the fourteen states.

I tried to go out to the AT on Dec. 13, 2008 to get my 1,000 QSO during the Polar Bear Moon Light Madness Event (PBMME). That day was the last day of deer season in PA. I traveled over 120 miles round trip and I went to 4 different locations, only to find the roads and parking lots filled with trucks from the hunters. I decided at that point to postpone my adventure for a day.

I started out on Sunday from my QTH around 10 AM / 15:00 UTC. I arrived at the trail head to an empty parking lot just North of Strausstown, PA on Rte 183. I hiked in about a mile to one of my favorite spots. We had a lot of rain during the past week and the area was covered in ice and running water.

The wx was ok but it was a cold and windy day. The temperature in the sun reached 48°F and in the shade it was 37°F most of the time. The wind was gusting 10 to 20 MPH which was making it a cold day even with the sun out. I was sitting out in the open because of falling trees due to the wind gusts.

I setup the W3EDP End Fed antenna over the pond and the Black Widow Vertical (BWV). This was the first time for the End Fed antenna so I tried it on my K1. It did not tune up too good on 40m and I could not get it to load on 20m. The antenna worked great on 30m and 15m. I did not get a chance to call CQ until 11:30 AM / 16:30 UTC. The End Fed took a while to setup but the BWV took 5 minutes. I made 5 quick QSO's in the first hour.

I heard someone whistling for their dog, so I went to check out what was going on. I greeted a gentleman who was a local resident of the mountain since 1945. He just

went for a hike and his dog chased out after something in the brush. I talked to the guy for a little while to find out some history of the area. It was very interesting, we talked for 35 minutes. His dog came running up the trail and he went on his way.

I went back to the radio. I tried 20m but I did not hear many signals, I did call CQ on 14.060.5 for a while but with no replies after 15 minutes I went onto 15m. I did not think I would hear anything but I still checked out the band. No signals heard but I did call CQ for 5 minutes on 21.060. I went to 30m and used the end fed, I made a couple of good QSO's. I went back to 40m and finished the day out on that band. I almost ran out of day light due to a setting sun.

I did work a couple of stations that said they have been following my adventures out on the AT. This is my log for the day.

988.	Bud	K1LC	MA	40M	1631Z
989.	Larry	W9UX	WI	40M	1645Z
990.	Jerry	K9UT	IN	40M	1653Z
991.	Jim	VE3DX	ON	40M	1703Z
992.	Dave	W1EUY	MA	40M	1714Z
993.	Bruce	WB8FMA	WV	40M	1801Z
994.	Fred	K5FA/M	MS	30M	1839Z
995.	Al	NN4ZZ	GA	30M	1848Z
996.	Alan	W4AMV	VC	40M	1912Z
997.	Tom	NU8Q	MI	40M	1930Z
998.	Tom	NJ8D	MI	40M	1950Z
999.	Brooke	KE4UMW	NC	40M	2020Z
1000.	Jake	N9FGC	IN	40M	2035Z

Back in the spring I pulled a muscle in my left foot. It seems to be 99% healed now. So I hope to start doing some longer hikes to operate in other places that I like to operate from with QRP. I am currently using my Elecraft K1 four band rig out on the AT. I am going to start building an ATS-3A five band rig over the holidays.

I would like to thank all those who worked me over the years and those who have been listening but just can't make the connection, hang in there for 2009. One other person really made this happen was my wife, Sue. She kicked me out of the house many of times so I could get out to the AT and operate QRP HF CW.

72 and Thanks,
Ron Polityka
WB3AAL

Tubs of Tubes

Dan, KB6NU FP#-1171

The other day I got a call from a guy whose website I'm working on. He says he's calling from the Ann Arbor Reuse Center and that they have two tubs full of vacuum tubes there. He asked, "Do you know anyone who might want them"?

"How much are they asking for them"? I reply.

"Ten cents a piece."

"How many are there"?

"I'd guess about two hundred."

"Well, tell them I'll give him 20 bucks for all of them."

He tells them that I'll give them \$20 for the lot. I hear some mumbling. He comes back on the line and says they're negotiating. After a minute or two, he says, "OK. You got them. How do I get to your house"?

I gave him directions, and in about 15 minutes, he pulls up to my house, gets out, opens the hatch, and pulls out two plastic tubs and a cardboard box with vacuum tubes in them. I can tell he was way off in his estimate. There must be at least 400 tubes in all.

There's nothing really exotic--most of them seem to have been taken out of old TV sets--but I did find a couple of 6J6s. These are the tubes used for the single-tube transmitter I have been thinking about building . In one of the tubs, there was even a socket for the 6J6.

There are also a bunch of 6KS7s. According to the RCA tube manual, these tubes were often used as RF or IF amplifiers. That sounds like the beginning of a receiver project, doesn't it? In fact, 6SK7s were used in the receiver section of the ParaSet, a "spy radio" used during WWII.

And, of course, there are a bunch of rectifiers to make a power supply. Now, all I have to find some cheap transformers. Anyone know a good source for them?

When he's not wondering what he's going to do with more than 400 vacuum tubes, KB6NU works CW and PSK on the HF bands and blogs about ham radio at www.kb6nu.com. You can reach him by e-mail at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Eight Reasons CW Ops Stay Off the Air

Milt, K4OSO FP#-1611

(We all have those times where we avoid the radio, CW especially, for one reason or another. Here's a list of some reasons folks stay off the air and what you can do. -Ed.)

I CANT COPY VERY WELL

Copy skills get better with time and practice. Nerves are certainly a factor at first. The answer to nerves is exposure. Get on the air and practice those skills. After all, you're not copying vectors for a brain exploration surgery, just fun stuff. So what if you do miss something?



I MAKE MISTAKES IN SENDING

Who cares? Everyone does! If you show me an op who sends flawless CW, I'll eat my hat. Even keyboarders make mistakes. Its what you do when you make one that is the measure of an op. A good op corrects his mistakes. When you glide past mistakes it leaves the other guy guessing.

MY CW IS VERY SLOW

Accuracy transcends speed. Accuracy is absolute, while speed will increase/improve over time. What you *don't* want is to get faster at sending poorly. Fast and poor are an awful twosome. Practice sending well, at a speed which is comfortable for you. You WILL make mistakes,...just correct them and move on.

I GET LOST IN QSO'S

As many have suggested, by writing down the parts of a typical exchange/qso, you will be better able to get through a qso. Its really funny how few comments are directed to spelling. Spelling slows us down and trips us up in many qso situations.

When you practice off-air, its fine to use a sheet of text, but I find that sending as if in a qso is much more helpful. Practice this by sending out of your head. You'll get used to sending off the cuff and your spelling will improve tremendously.

If ragchewing is your goal, keep your exchanges short, at first. Don't try to say too much in one exchange. That way, it will give you time to think about what you'll say next, and will slow the other op down as well. That will make his transmissions easier to copy. Keep it casual, and don't let it become hard work.

MY PALMS SWEAT

Keep a hand towel at your operating desk. My palms sweated on my first date but it didn't stop me. Remember, no one can see you! Try PRETENDING you're as calm as a cucumber. Think of yourself as a "take charge" op who can handle any situation. As an op thinkest, so shall he be on the air.

One particular activity that improved my confidence and ability to handle most situations was learning traffic handling on the Maryland Slow Net. Net speed was maximum 10 wpm (and flexible), the instructors were patient and considerate. That training gave me the confidence I desperately needed.

I'm now an Instructor/NCS on that Net and watch the transformation of new ops from tentative and unsure to ops who would be welcomed on NTS traffic net throughout the country. Its easy and painless and proceeds at the new op's own pace. Even if you don't become an active traffic handler, the training is invaluable for learning general operating practices.

PEOPLE WILL THINK POORLY OF ME

Bull Crap!!! Everyone expects new/inexperienced CW ops to be somewhat tentative, make some mistakes and miss some copy. They expect it because *they performed the same way when they were new and inexperienced.*

Some well-meaning ops, in an attempt to sooth the nervous new op will say, "Aw, no one will notice your mistakes" Bull crap! Of course they notice them! They'd have to be idiots not to. *But*, no one cares about a your mistakes. This is a hobby, a means of having fun. It *will* be fun if you stop agonizing over it. The amount of fun you have at CW is inversely proportional to the amount you worry about it.

I'LL DO IT WHEN I GET BETTER

That's fine if you like spending your time procrastinating. "He was gonna get on the air tomorrow" would make a unfortunate epitath. "He really enjoyed his ham radio hobby and his CW" is a much nicer one. I waited until I was over 60 to finally get started in Ham radio. I often think of how much fun I could have had over the years if I had just bitten the bullet and jumped in. Now, I'm trying to make up for lost time. But, we all know that's impossible.

I HAVE PROBLEMS WITH THIS OR THAT TYPE OF KEY.

Use whatever you're good with, and develop your skills on the others at your own pace. Whatever you do, don't try to swage your fist into a type of key that frustrates you.

Learning new skills, while not easy, should be fun. Measure your progress in small chunks. Don't set your goals too far ahead. You must be able to see progress. If speed improvement is your goal, measure it one word per minute at a time. Don't try to go from 5 wpm to 10 wpm. That's doubling your speed! It would be like me trying to go from 35 wpm to 70 wpm. Not gonna happen. Go from five to six, then six to seven, and so on.

(In the interest of "fairness" here's the top ten reasons SSBers don't get on CW. -Ed.)

1. 10-4 is too difficult to send because no one knows the hyphen.
2. If God wanted man to do CW, he would have sewn his mouth shut.
3. The CW jack is in back and I'd have to move the radio.
4. There isn't enough room in front of the radio for a microphone and a key.
5. My reverb won't work with the key.
6. I can't drink beer while sending with the key, and I can't transmit the burps I make.
7. I can't run ultrawide CW like I can on SSB as spark is illegal.
8. A key didn't come with the rig, but a microphone did.
9. When I'm on CW, I can't take out my dentures so I sound drunk.
10. I waited twenty years for W5YI to propagandize for "No Code" to become a reality and I'll be damned if I'm going to give in now.

===== (Flying Pigs QRP Club International) =====

**As of March 16, 2009, the following Flying Pigs have been inducted into
The Secret Order of Reversed Polarity, aka FP-Z:**

#00(6) - Peter, DL2FI FP#-62	#1(3) - Diz, W8DIZ FP#-1	#2 - Jim, KR1S FP#-835
#3(1) - Rob, W0JRM FP#-330	?(4) - Mac, AF4PS FP#-51	#7(5) - Dick, K2JQ FP#-84
#8(7) - Ron, WB1HGA FP#-705	#9 - Aron, NN1F FP#-122	#10 - Jo, K5HOY FP#-325
#11 - Ivan, W9ILF FP#-1256	#12 - Matt, AA9YH FP#-4	#13 - Joel, KE1LA FP#-190

**May association with your fellow near-sighted piggie bretheren console you
over letting the magic smoke out of your rig.**

Three dits, four dits, two dits, dah. Radio, radio, rah-rah-rah!

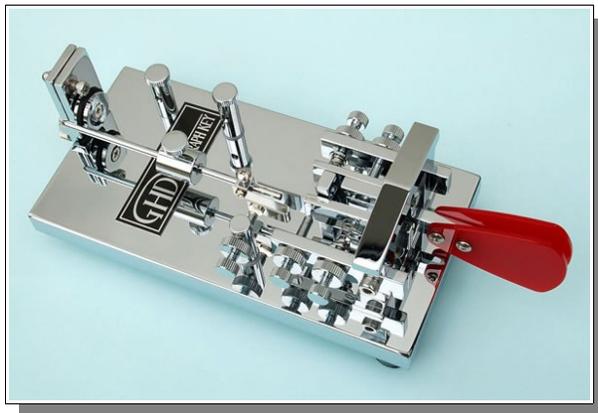
(For more information on this "illustrious" society, visit <http://www.robmatherly.com/fp-z.html>)

Product Review: The GHD Model GN-207 Mechanical Bug

Hank, K5ICW FP#-995

Earlier this year I acquired a new Vibroplex Anniversary Bug which is a better quality bug than my 1976 Original. The Annie has been enjoyable and I think I have it under control at about 15 WPM with a Vibroplex Varispeed. A great key for me.

I finally decided it was time to try a new GHD Mechanical Bug. One arrived from Morse Express in time for some practice before the SKCC two-hour sprint. I spent several hours tinkering and practicing with it. I found I could slow the dits down to around 15Wpm by sending with the standard weight.



The appearance is striking. Everything screams precision. The parts are refined and elegant. I find the geometry to be perfect. The chrome looks better than you can imagine.

The bug uses a ball bearing pivot. This makes it nearly frictionless. The only friction is what the springs crank in. This gives a smoothness I have only experienced with the new high end paddles (Schurr Profi 2 for example).

In use, it requires a light touch. I found that I get better sending if I don't slap it around like my other bugs. It almost demands using finger tip movement like that used with a high end paddle. A small amount of force and a lower velocity movement produces perfect dots. The dash side is the same. Easy does it, ham fist!

I use the same Bug rocking wrist motion but with finger tips barely touching the finger pieces. The side to side hand movement is smaller than with my Vibroplex. The motion is smaller, slower, and the force is very light in comparison with the Vibroplex. Now, if I can only refine my timing and technique to do justice to this piece of perfection!

Is it better than a Vibroplex? I don't know. I know that it is very different and I love the precise movement and operation. It demands a lighter touch! It is beautiful to look at. Would I buy it again? YES! It is not cheap, but it is at a level of perfection and quality that only comes at a price.

Ham Radio in the Park

Mike, KD5KXF FP#-214



Our local club, Ham Association of Mesquite, has a nice monthly activity called Ham Radio in the Park. Andy WY5V began this activity and the event grew. It happens once a month and rotates around various local parks, focusing on a myriad of activities. I have witnessed antenna experiments, vna analyzing antennas, portable ops, food, "hey does anybody want these old printer cables before I throw them away", homebrew projects, and lots of camaraderie. This club is not your typical "repeater" club, and has active members from all facets of the hobby. It is possibly one of the coolest things I have ever seen a club do and it is a popular activity for our members.

I assisted a group of builders in January HRITP in building Micro R-1 Receivers from the Experimental Methods in RF Design book and have included some

photos. This was done outdoors, in the wind on park benches. We had a chilli feed and bellied up, only to discover the bathrooms locked for the winter. Some of the results were less than QRP. It was really exciting to see guys reactions to seeing their oscillator come alive on the O-scope and by that point they had manhattan ugly construction down and were building on their own. All rigs were completed by dark.

This last month, several operated in a contest and VNA analyzed antennas and other activities. Take a look at the ham with his K1 bolted to a lawn chair... this guy is a pig candidate for sure! We actually do have some Flying Pig members besides myself in the club, Mark K5TAO is an officer of the club!

This next month, HRITP will be on March 21st and you will probably find me on 14.060 operating from a hastily fabricated gain antenna. Hope to work some of you...

The OHR RFL-100 Dummy Load

Brian, KB9BVN FP#-57



Last spring, Marc KC9CCM and I were the project leaders for a “Build It” day at our local Amateur Radio Club. I contacted Marshall Emm N1FN at Milestone Technologies to see what he might have for us to build.

We decided to build some simple VOM kits and everyone had a great time. Marshall did a great job getting the kits in stock and to us on time.

I discovered that Oak Hills Research, originally started by Doug DeMaw, was now under the ownership of Marshall. OHR is a well respected kit provider in the QRP arena, and I decided to buy the OHR RFL-100 Dummy Load.

The RFL-100 is a beginner level kit. You get lots of practice soldering since there are 20 each of the 1Kohm, 5W resistors to install. The kit is very moderately priced at \$39.95 and it comes with a very nice black crinkle finish cabinet, a top of the line SO-239 panel mount connector, and all the required finish hardware. This is a complete kit.

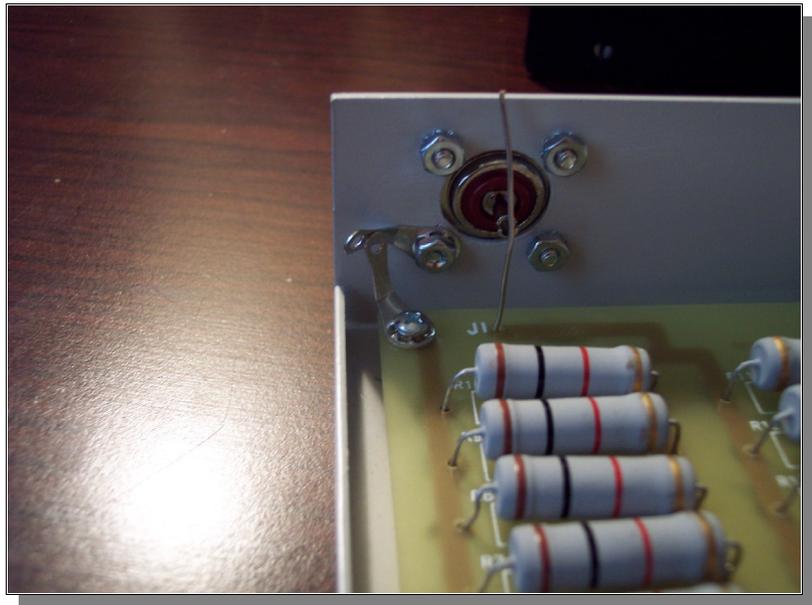
Total finish time for me from start to finish was less than 30 minutes. Simply put, if you have never built a kit, this may be the kit for you. The instructions are very clear, and ever I was able to get through them without getting anything wrong.

The first thing you do is start soldering in the resistors. These things are 5W resistors and they are big enough I can read the color code without my glasses, or a magnifying glass. There are 20 resistors of the same value, so you can’t get them mixed up.

The directions tell you to use plenty of heat and lots of solder, so I did. The PCB provided is a nice board, and the soldering went without any hitches.

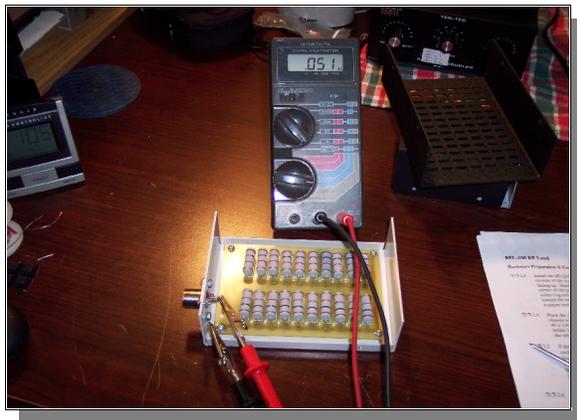
Once I had all the resistors in place, I simply attached the include SO-239 and mounted the PC Board in the cabinet. The kit came with plenty of screws, nuts, and lock washers, so I didn't need to go to the junk box once for spare parts.

As you can see here, the board connects to the SO-239 via a single solid wire, and to the chassis via soldered together solder lugs.



Once I had it all finished, I hooked up the Ohm Meter and checked my work. The display bounces between 50 and 51 Ohms as shown in the photo. On another Ohm meter it's exactly 50 Ohms, which is what Ohm's Law says it ought to be.

This dummy load is very simple to build, and it is rated at 100W continuous power. Since I am 100% QRP this dummy load ought to last me just about forever.



Contact OHR at <http://www.ohr.com> and take a look at their kits, loads of fun for just a little bit of dough.

Radioing and Stargazing in Hocking Hills

Jason N8XE FP#-443

On my way out, I remembered that I forgot my 12v battery that I charged just for this trip. I figured that I would just use the internal batteries that would result in 1-2watts out. I also brought my little 66mm "QRP" refracting telescope to enjoy some of the darker skies as well.

After we got there, I did a little fishing at the pond and caught a blue gill after he stole my bait a couple of times. The XYL was entertained to say the least. After I caught him, I put the little guy back to get caught another day.

The first night I kept the radio packed away and enjoyed many views of Saturn, Jupiter, the Moon, and various clusters and nebula. The moon was causing some major photon based QRM resulting in the signal to noise ratio to go down. So it masked some of the fainter objects. However, old Luna could not beat out the "S9" signal strength of some of the bright double stars I like to observe (Alberio in Cygnus is one of my favorites).



Anyways, I digress... back to radio :)

The next day, after eating a nice breakfast, I brought out my trusty KX1 and Buddistick. I set up next to the cabin in a nice shady area of pine trees. I called CQ for a bit around 14045.00 and worked KD4GPV in Florida. He was using a bug (I think) and I was having a difficult time copying his callsign. He would add extra length to his dash right before the next dit. After I kept messing his callsign up, he went to a keyer and we continued with a nice QSO.

I gave a nice plug for SKCC and he said he has been looking into them. I later tuned up around the SKCC frequencies on 20M, called CQ a bunch of times, with nothing

coming back. I then tried 40M both around 7055.00 and 7110.00. However, I don't think my 2 watts were getting through. I packed up my gear and the XYL enjoyed some hiking at Cedar Falls.

That night, by the light of the moon and the nice campfire, I set up my station to try again. I called CQ several times to no avail. However, I heard KC0PWA calling CQ and I responded to his call. He came back and mentioned my signal report, his name, and QTH. I then sent him my information.

After I turned it back to him, he was gone. I later attempted to respond to some CQs and called CQ myself. No one was hearing me. The sky signaled an approaching storm. It was a good time to pack up and enjoy the company of the XYL on the back deck, watching the storm roll in.

The next day was spent mostly indoors watching movies (it was on and off storming). I got some reading done, set up the station real quick.. called CQ a few times.. but storms came back into the area. It was time to pack it up again.

By evening, the front passed, and the weather got super nice and cool. My wife and I watched the sunset from the hot tub. Afterwards, I made a nice campfire, roasted some marshmallows, and set up the station again. I heard W5QEP in Louisiana calling CQ so I answered. After a few tries, he finally got me, and gave me a 439 signal report but was having difficulty copying me. I hope he got my signal report back.

After trying to call CQ many times, and stations not hearing me, I ended the evening on top the hill behind the cabin observing with my little telescope and old skyward friends again. With a nice breeze going and the silver light of the moon, the whipperwills and I ended the night up on that hill.

Even though I did not make many contacts, it was still fun. I wanted to see how well the field station would work and I believe it will work well. I don't think the bands were very good the past couple of days so there isn't much to do about that. I think I will be ordering the antenna tuner and paddle for the KX1. I will still have the SK for SKCC contacts, but sometimes I wish I had the keyer going to call CQ. I also think it will be nice to use during field day.

I will be going to a star party a couple hours north of here during field day. I will have my 18" "QRO" telescope for that trip. But the little KX1 and Buddistick will be with me. I wonder if this will be the first field day site at a star party?

73, and Clear Skies!

The Ones That Got Away...

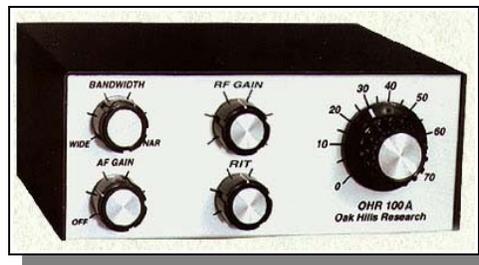
By Mike, KD5KXF

As I sit here in January 2009 remembering years past, the thoughts of other rigs from other days flutter by in the background. The immediate days after straight key night tend to lead to those kinds of thoughts and memories... no doubt accompanied by the rigs we got rid of and in hindsight know we should have kept.

Those are the "ones that got away". No doubt you had a good reason and great intentions... but now, you know it is among the truly great mistakes you have made in your life.

As I worked through various phases, stages, goals, tastes and fickle desires as a new extra class operator, I bought and sold gear like some kind of high tech gypsy... always looking for the next great thing. Some of that gear was of course built by myself from the many qrp kits that have come and gone... always seeking to reach that QRP nirvana that must exist with the next step up.

I sold a wonderful OHR100A for 40 meters just because I wasn't using it anymore and chasing the K2 mojo... and so went many other rigs. The hotrod'd HW-8 with Heathkit power supply that gave this ham his first QSL cards, gone... with not so much as a tear.



The HW-9 complete station with antenna tuner, power supply, all in the beautiful brown and cream sent off to some other operator... why? In the name of the pursuit of funds for Elecraft. What about the K2? Ohhh, sold that one too... sent to some foreign place because of waning interest in fox hunting.

The list goes on and on... my HW16 and HG1 vfo, the TS440, ahhhh man I could go on forever. I know if you are still reading this, you are relating to it... because I bought rigs from some of you. I bought Brian's TS140S, I now have another man's HW-8 with power supply and keyer in the gunsights.

As I solder on my recently purchased K1 kit, I have talked to others that regretted selling theirs. It is evidently an endless cycle to which there is no cure and the worst part is that your memories sometimes do not even remotely resemble reality.

My memory painted over the HW-9 drift of the RX, the occasional high voltage love bites received by the HW-16, the ringing of the audio filter in conjunction with the narrow filter of the K2.

My memory thinks we broke DX pileups with the HW8 and all CQ's were answered immediately. In my memories, all of those old ex girlfriends are perfect tens. Going back and operating some of them now is like seeing an ex girlfriend in Walmart, tearing through a dozen jelly filled Krispy Kremes... wow, we used to date that pig?

Well ummmm... okay so thats what they say when they see me. But with those rigs, they were all beautiful when I had them. So as I turn up the volume on this AM radio and listen to the next tears-in-my-beer country-western breakup song, I tell you... I am going to never sell another piece of ham gear again.

Of course, we all know that is bull@#\$%! That is just the yang on the ying of what we tell our spouses... "no, this is the last one baby"! Happy 09 and OO's. I gotta go take inventory, I heard there is a new K-something that only requires partial adult assembly. Why, I can already hear what I will tell the wife... "but baby, just think what money we will save on solder and trouble shooting... Why, this lil' gem will pay for itself..."

===== (Flying Pigs QRP Club International) =====

Bits 'n' Pieces

Rem, K6BBQ sent us these pictures of his FYBO setup. Somehow I don't think he had to deal with the "F" of FYBO.





Mikey tells us that he's (once again) a proud grandpappy! This was back in September, but news comes slow in a quarterly newsletter..

Melissa (daughter #2 who is active duty Navy) had the baby this morning... 7 pounds 4 ounces (but two weeks early) baby boy... I guess now with two grandchildren, I'm an official "OM"! Being retired and a Grandpa seems like the best two jobs in the entire world.

Jason, NT7S has established a valuable resource for QRP homebrewers at <http://www.qrpedia.com>. There you'll find a circuit repository with loads of info, links to tutorial sites, and even blogs by members.

Dan informed the list that FD 2009 at the Caesar Creek Group Horse Camp is a go. For info or to register, email /rick at ripowell@mpna.com. (We're also informed that rumors of Brian and /rick eloping are, in fact, entirely unfounded.)

If anyone in the vicinity of Southeastern Iowa is interested in a local FP Field Day outing contact Rob, W0JRM FP#-330, at jimrob@gmail.com. Plans are for a toned-down, relaxed effort with the emphasis on camping with family and being outdoors. Don't plan on a multi-op winning effort. Fishing and marshmallow roasting can be expected, however.

Finally, someone sent in the following picture. I don't know why they did, or how they found it. I say we make this our official group motivational poster.



Member Spotlights

Each issue, Bacon Bits Quarterly will draw random member numbers. Those with online profiles saying a bit about themselves will be spotlighted here for the purpose of getting to know each other. Information is generally gleaned from QRZ or personal web pages.

Flying Pig #-1095 – Charles, W1CG

First licensed in 1949 as W9FFH in Evansville, IN while in high school, Charles operated stations W9YB at Purdue and W3ADO at the US Naval Academy. Charles was licensed as W1IOW in 1955 and operated in Warren, RI and Norwich, CT while on active duty in the US Navy. Charles and his family moved to their present home in Bristol, RI in 1965. In 1968 he upgraded to extra class and started work as an engineer at Raytheon Company. In 1977, he changed his call to W1CG, and he started work at the Naval Underseas Warfare Center in Newport, RI as a software engineer. Charles retired in 1997.

Charles operates a repeater on on 146.805 Mhz. He operates PSK31 and CW on HF using a Laptop with a Ten-Tec Omni VI and Elecraft K2 transceivers. He uses a W3EDP, Hustler 6BTV and G5RV antennas. He occasionally writes technical articles for newsletters and Ham Radio QRP publications. He is a member of ARRL, QRP ARCI, SOC, and the Newport (RI) County Radio Club.

Charles' hobbies include sailing and gardening as well as ham radio.

Flying Pig #-120 – Chuck, W8VOM

I have been involved with Radio since 1958 when I built my first crystal radio. I entered the Amateur Radio Hobby and Service in 1981.

Michigan..what a great place to live..hundreds of uncharted islands to activate and more shore line than any other state! We also have more Lighthouses than any other state due to this vast shoreline. I along with other members of the MDXA have activated 15 Islands and 4 Lighthouses. To me the greatest thrill is landing that DX with 5 watts or less ..QRP!

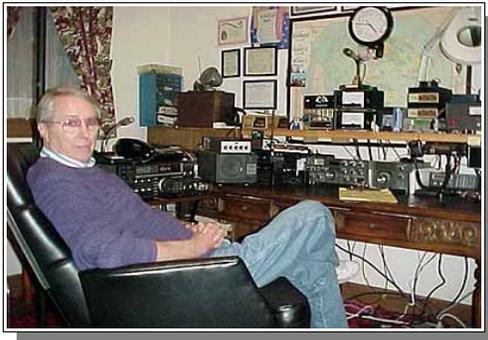
My interests include,DXing,Contesting,Qrp,PSK 31 and Web page design. I am a member of FISTS,MDXA,TSRAC,S.A.T.E.R.N. I am the Webmaster for the MDXA,Michigan DX Association.I am also the former manager of the eHam Speak Out forum. Over the years I have achieved WAS-DXCC-WAC-Goldwings-SM and the Great Lakes Award. I have also been an O.O. and VE.

Flying Pig #-1675 – Steve, WX5SD

My QTH here in Aspermont is about 65 miles NNW of Abilene, Texas. We call it the "Big Country" I just retired (semi) from teaching. I hope to have more time for amateur radio. I started in radio in the military during the Vietnam era. The Navy taught me Morse Code and radio theory in 1970. In the Navy I was a Communications Technician (CT). I was a Novice Class, WN7EYJ, back then but let it drop. I decided about 10 years ago to get back in to the amateur service. I am intrigued by the QRP communications resurgence going on out there. I have an FT-817 but haven't made many contacts on it. I recently joined the NAQCC so I can get more active on QRP. My base is an ICOM 746 PRO into a G5RV. It seems to work well. I plan to put up a tower fairly soon as well. I also have an IC-706 MII G for mobile and such and a spare base IC 718 with an LDG AT 100Pro autotuner.



Flying Pig #-307 – William, NG4W



I have enjoyed all facets of ham radio since learning about it while recuperating from open heart surgery in 1976 at age 44. Included in my activities has been a 3 time president of the Rocky Mount Amateur Radio Society and participating in the County Hunters Network for which my picture appeared in QST "on station" in rural Eastern North Carolina in 1987. My volunteer examiner activities has led me in assisting in classes for new hams. I have 256 countries worked with a modest antenna system.

Flying Pig #-1301 – Brad, K0DBK

I have been a ham for going on 35 years and was first licensed as a novice with the callsign of WN4KUP. Fortunately my Dad, AE3Z, was my elmer so I didn't have far to go. After I upgraded to Technician, my callsign changed to WA4KUP. At the end of the 70s I became inactive and joined the Air Force and moved to California. During the mid 80s my interest in the hobby sparked and I upgraded to General.

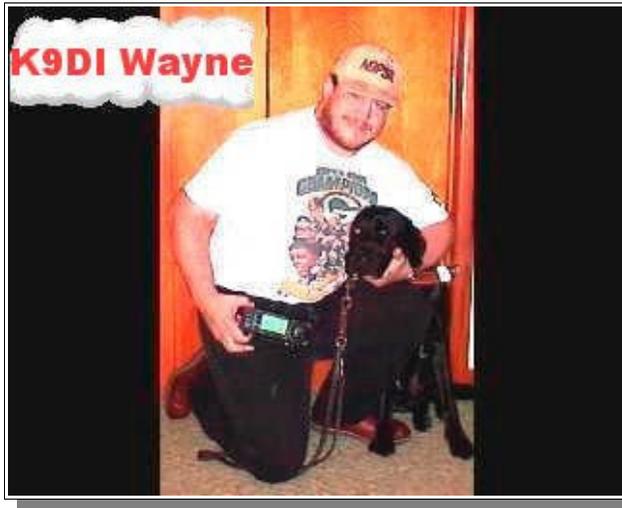
In 1993 me and my family moved to Minnesota where we have been ever since. My XYL, Loreen is also a ham and is licensed as KC6MJO with her Advanced license. Our two oldest sons, Brandon (KC0CGZ) and Brian (KC0CHA) have Technician licenses. Hopefully one day our two youngest sons will get theirs' as well.

My interests in the hobby range from CW, SSB and some digital. I am on the 10-10 International board of directors and authorized to operate the 10-10 club station, W6OI, on CW. Along with the 10-10 number, W6OI also has SKCC and FISTS numbers.

Another hobby that I recently got interested in thanks to Wolfgang, DK7LA, is geocaching.



Flying Pig #-217 – Wayne, K9DI



Hello, I am a graduate of Western Illinois University (BA in broadcasting), an audio engineer, a full time spouse, dad and dog guide handler. My XYL es harmonic are currently studying to get their technician class license.

The dog you see in the picture is Leader Dog Sequoia (ret.), my first dog guide from Leader Dogs for the Blind. I am currently working with my second dog guide. Leader Dog Patriot and I were in training during the "blackout of 2003". My favorite aspects of ham radio are QRP, CW, elmering and Field Day. www.k9di.org is my webpage address.

===== (Flying Pigs QRP Club International) =====

Fresh Pork

The members of FPQRP wish to welcome the following new members to the pig pen:

2040	Bill	KC9GEL	Scottsburg, Indiana
2041	Bob	WA9KPI	Lockport, Illinois
2042	Alex	KB9UIY	Dayton, Ohio
2043	John	G0XBJ	Peterborough, Cambs, England
2044	Clyde	N5WQP	Mountain View, Arkansas
2045	Wayne	N9IBN	Springfield, Illinois
2046	Thomas	KI6KWY	Antelope, California
2047	Kent	KE5UFY	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
2048	John	WB2SGS	Chenango Forks, New York
2049	Ken	AA7JC	Sierra Vista, Arizona
2050	Darin	KD0DRQ	Pierre, South Dakota
2051	Elwood	WB0OEW	Tucson, Arizona
2052	James	N0KWA	Talisheek, Louisiana
2053	Phyllis	KC5IJH	Talisheek, Louisiana
2054	Jim	N0JL	Chillicothe, Iowa
2055	Stephen	WX5SD	Aspermont, Texas
2056	SCARC	W7PIG	Stanwood, Washington
2057	William	W0EJ	Slatington, Pennsylvania
2058	Kenneth	WA9WJL	Paducah, Kentucky
2059	Manuel	CT1BWW	Porto Salvo, Portugal
2060	Stan	N7OC	Custer, Washington
2061	Attie	ZS6RFT	Ansfrere, South Africa
2062	Robert	WD8NVN	Columbus, Ohio
2063	David	N9TTX	Eau Claire, Wisconsin
2064	Billy	KC0HAZ	Harrisonville, Missouri
2065	Denny	KD0EVI	Nebraska City, Nebraska
2066	Paul	KC2NXO	Springville, New York
2067	Stuart	KG4LMW	Knoxville, Tennessee
2068	Michael	KA2V	Lockport, New York
2069	Christopher	KI5BQ	Pearl, Mississippi
2070	Bob	K8EAC	King George, Virginia
2071	Phil	K4PQC	Roswell, Georgia
2072	Clyde	K9JWI	Lafayette, Indiana
2073	Oscar	EC1AE	Oviedo, Spain
2074	Ted	AJ8T	Sturgis, Michigan
2075	Luke	W7XQ	Orange, California
2076	Lynn	N0ALO	Hutchinson, Kansas
2077	Larry	VU2HQ	Calcutta, India
2078	Nobuo	JA1AAA	Isesaki Gunma, Japan
2079	Megan	KB3RGW	Silver Spring, Maryland

2080	Alex	M0SFR	Baldock, England
2081	Fabio	IZ8FTW	Parete Caserta, Italy
2082	Frank	W1VER	Billerica, Massachusetts
2083	Tom	AK2B	New York, New York
2084	David	N7EQO	Seattle, Washington
2085	Steve	KB3JC	Oil City, Pennsylvania
2086	Will	WA7OET	Seatac, Washington
2087	Wayne	WA9VEE	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2088	Philip	K9PL	Morton Grove, Illinois
2089	Peter	M3SUW	Condover, England
2090	Ray	GM0CDV	Roxburghshire, Scotland
2091	Bonnie	WB4FSF	Sanford, Florida
2092	John	KS7R	Helena, Montana
2093	Sidney	KC5LAN	Quapaw, Oklahoma
2094	Joe	KD0EIX	Alamosa, Colorado
2095	Seppo	OH3FER	Finland
2096	John	W7JTT	Spokane, Washington
2097	Cotter	KJ6EB	Corinth, Mississippi
2098	Andrew	G7COD	North Yorkshire, England
2099	Michael	N3MWR	Newark, Delaware
2100	John	K8ASA	Fremont, Ohio
2101	Dave	N1ZS	Woodbury, Connecticut
2102	Craig	KD8FYT	Cincinnati, Ohio
2103	Tony	G4LLW	West Midlands, England
2104	Gerard	VK4TGL	Darra, Australia
2105	Chris	N9YH	Fox Lake, Illinois
2106	Mike	KT4FJ	Stafford, Virginia
2107	Richard	N2IU	Akron, New York
2108	Gil	W7JBJ	Olympia, Washington
2109	Zahid	S21VA	Dhaka, Bangladesh
2110	Alexander	4X1MH	Haifa, Israel
2111	Tim	N3TL	Athens, Georgia
2112	Rick	N4CYC	Lincolnton, Georgia
2113	Don	K7OLU	Blythe, California
2114	Robert	K9LWA	Lafayette, Indiana
2115	Mark	K5TAO	Mesquite, Texas
2116	Tjeerd	PA3GNZ	Netherlands
2117	Chuck	K4QS	King George, Virginia
2118	George	K2WO	Orlando, Florida
2119	Patrick	KC8OYQ	Jacksontown, Ohio
2120	Nathan	KA1YMX	Loudon, New Hampshire
2121	Stephen	KE7GRL	Litchfield Park, Arizona
2122	Gail	AB8S	Point Pleasant, West Virginia
2123	Ralph	W8BHJ	Lakewood, Ohio
2124	Walter	VE3HNE	Woodstock, Ontario

2125	Dimitrios	SV7NHN	Serres, Greece
2126	Brad	WA3PAK	Marion, Ohio
2127	Peter	N1PQ	Harvard, Massachussets
2128	Vernon	NA9L	Mooresville, Indiana
2129	Ken	K1SHR	Dover, New Hampshire
2130	David	KD0R	Elmdale, Kansas
2131	Rich	N6BX	Lexington, Kentucky
2132	Ronald	KD6EDV	Torrance, California
2133	Frederick	KA4RUR	Saint Louis, Missouri
2134	Pete	KF2U	Tonawanda, New York
2135	David	KU9L	Marathon, Florida
2136	David	KE0AZ	Aurora, Colorado
2137	Werner	N8BB	Concord, Michigan
2138	Jim	W5JAW	Austin, Texas
2139	John	WX4O	Anniston, Alabama
2140	Larry	VE7LFN	Castlegar, British Columbia
2141	Richard	W1WFE	Harrah, Oklahoma
2142	John	AF4EX	Palm Bay, Floridah
2143	Tommy	N5PJY	Conroe, Texas
2144	Rich	K8IG	Lockland, Ohio
2145	Gregory	KI6UIJ	Newark, California
2146	Dave	KE7EWI	Tacoma, Washington
2147	Steve	K8DND	Hamilton, Ohio
2148	Mike	KG4TGP	Sun City Center, Florida
2149	Nick	PE1GOO	Eindhoven, Netherlands
2150	Dale	KB3FEI	New Castle, Delaware
2151	Keith	W8GX	Boardman, Ohio
2152	Peter	W4PRT	Charlottesville, Virginia
2153	Tom	K7TOM	Monroe, Washington
2154	Sam	W8VVE	Cross Lanes, West Virginia
2155	Tom	K1TSW	Marlton, New Jersey
2156	John	KC0IEM	Gowrie, Iowa
2157	Mike	VE3EDX	Thunder Bay, Ontario
2158	Tom	K5LOT	Houston, Texas
2159	Torgeir	LB6WE	Holmestrand, Norway

Run for the Bacon Roundup

The third Sunday of each month, the Flying Pigs QRP Club hosts the Run for the Bacon sprint. Results for each month's contest are posted at <http://fpqrp.com/fpqrprun.php> and recapped here quarterly.

SEPTEMBER 2008

N4BP, Bob Patten, 5W fpqso=27 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=14 spc=35 total=3325
K3, Cushcraft A4S, 40/80 Armadillo coax trap dipole. 20M good for twenty minutes. S8 noise level on 40M, even higher on 80M of course. But was surprised to work eight guys on 80 in spite of the extreme noise. Apologies to those I couldn't pull out on the low bands. Good turnout tonight!

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=33 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=12 spc=27 total=2997
FT1000MP, WM-2 QRP Wattmeter, dipole, zepp, inverted vee. 20M was open at the start, but heard no one in the contest and got no answers to CQs. 40 and 80M were pretty good. 40M was too long for stations closer than TX, IN, VA. My west antenna for 40 has one end low after it fell down in a windstorm. Need to get it back up where it belongs as the 5 and 0 stations seemed weaker than usual. Apologies to N0?? (maybe **N0NBD**) that I couldn't pull out on 40M. That station was about 300 Hz higher than my frequency and was constantly QRMmed by another station running just above my frequency. Zero beating is particularly important when signals are weak. Thanks for all the QSOs. CU next month. 73, John, **K4BAI**.

W5TA, Dick Foster, 5W fpqso=26 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=7 spc=29 total=2465
Orion I to verticals on 20 & 40; dipole on 80m. Band conditions are getting better with some very strong 5W signals on 20 and 40, but QRN (static crash) level remains high in Texas on low bands. Hope things quiet down so I can copy everybody next month. Vy 72 & OO, Dick **W5TA**

KB9BVN, Brian Murrey, K2 at 5W fpqso=17 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=5 spc=17 total=952
All on 40m - ruff nite - **K7ZYV**, **KC4FLT**, **W7OM**, **KC0GIO**, **K4BAI**, **AA4W**, **W0CH**, **N0AR**, **VE3KI**, **KF8GE**, **WB2SGS**, **W0LGU**, **WB8YYY**, **AB9CA**, **K4OSO**, **W0RSP**, **KA3WWP**, **W3RT**, **N4FI**, **N5KIP**, **N4BP**, **W6GMT** - Gave it up about 02:10Z - the highlight of the night was getting to work Ade Weiss, and Brock Thomsen. Once again a very enjoyable sprint...I keep telling myself I need to do more of these.

N0JRN, Jerry, 5W fpqso=19 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=7 spc=14 total=896
Lots of activity and then the band died. I hear some folks on 80 but too much noise fer my poor ole ears. I hope ya'll had a good time. Looken for some big scores and lots of logs from the sounds of what I was hearing. 72 es OO to all

WB8LZG, Gregg Mulder, 5W fpqso=16 fpdxqso=1 nonfpqso=2 spc=16 total=880
Gud twst tonight. Condx were much improved over the past few months. Nice to hear alot of the regulars es new oinkers too. Tnx to a couple of u guys who hung in there on the weak copy. 73 Gregg

AA4W, Rick, 5W fpqso=16 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=12 total=576
Would whoever turned 20 meters off please turn it back on? QRN on 40 meters but I still had a ball!

W0CH, David Bixler, 5W fpqso=14 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=12 total=504
It's been a long time since my last pig run. Glad to work a few guys tonight. 72, Dave

K8BTD, Gil, 4.5W fpqso=11 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=12 total=420
Returning after many months. Had fun. Worked 6 on 40 and 7 on 80. 80 was NOISEY. Looking forward to next month. Best, Gil

K7TQ, Randy Foltz, 5W fpqso=7 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=4 spc=9 total=225
Got a late start. 40 m held up well until 0220Z. Got a few new calls in the log. Didn't hear anything on 80 m.

W1PID, Jim, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=7 total=196

N4FI, Dan, 5W fpqso=06 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=03 spc=09 total=189
Argonaut V with a G5RV Jr. in the attic.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=10 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=6 total=180
Not many piggies heard squeelin' out there. 80m. sounded like frying bacon with no pigs heard there. Only one grunt worked on 20m. with the rest rounded up on 40m. I hope more bacon will be enjoyed on next run. 73 to all.

KJ4IC, Bob, 4W fpqso=8 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=7 total=168
Had a great time on my 2nd FP Run. Mostly 40m with 2 on 80m this time. Used a newly acquired HW-9. 72 es cu next time - Bob

W6GMT, Brock Thomsen, 5W fpqso=7 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=7 total=154
Nice Run from MN. Last run of the season from here. Look for me and my trusty 703 from KS next month on my way to Del Reo TX for a winter hosting Job with the park service. These are sure Great fun! 73 Brock

KF8GE, Bill, 5W fpqso=7 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=7 total=147
Just got back from a camping trip for QRP Afield (which didn't go very well either). 20 went out about 20 minutes after the contest started, unfortunately I didn't get on the air until quarter after. Heard very few people on, heard N4BP on 80 but couldn't catch his ear. All but 2 QSO's were on 40.

VE3KI, Rich, 5W fpqso=7 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=6 total=126
My first Run for the Bacon. I need a better antenna!

N9GGE, John, 4W fpqso=4 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=4 total=48
Static crashes here in IL were low for a change but I had time to operate only abt a half hour. 72 73

N0NBD, Paul, 5W fpqso=4 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=36
Worked N4BP on 20, **K7ZYV**, **N4BP**, **N9SZ** on 40.

KE4I, Den, 4.5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27
Wasn't on long, but wanted to make a few contacts.

AC6NN, Craig, 5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27
Conditions were a bit rough tonight (and time short!). Got a couple though -- thanks for working with me.

N8WS, Bill Squires, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12
I got a late start and only worked 2stations but at least I was able to give out some points. Bill **N8WS**

WD6FDD, Rich, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12

heard alot of people, but could not get through. still had fun, been a while since i have done this..**W5TA** & **N4BP** my only two contacts.

WA8THK, Perry, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
I know ! Very Busy week-end. Tired. out early. oo oo **N4BP** heard. worked him. Good Night.

K3ESE, LL, x-ray vision fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

OCTOBER 2008

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=26 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=5 spc=26 total=2158
FT1000MP, 5W, dipole, zepp, inverted vee. Started on 20, but band seemed dead. Obviously I wasn't patient enough since **K7TQ** worked GA on 20(**K4PQC** I assume). 40 was very good for 30 minutes, then went pretty long. Signals from the west coast were good for the whole first hour, but I missed a lot of them. 80M had fair activity, but QRN was bad. 57 minutes on 40: 15 QSOs and 13 mults. 60 mins on 80: 16 QSOs and 13 mults. Thanks for all the QSOs. CU next month. 73, John, **K4BAI**.

K1EV, Bill, 5W fpqso=20 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=015 total=900
Just updated my score - either the rules have changed since my last Bacon Run or I was thinking of another contest and counted states only once, regardless of different bands. Oh well.... Great to be in another Bacon Run after such a long lay off. Conditions not too good in CT this evening, lots of QRN. Thanks for the fun. Rig is K2 @ 5W with a 40m vertical loop and an 80m dipole at 50'. 73 & oo, Bill

W9ILF, Ivin, 5W fpqso=15 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=4 spc=16 total=784
Rig: Icom 703 to a ground mounted vertical. **K5GQ**, **N4FI**, **KF8GE**, **W6GMT**, **N5KIP**, **K7TQ**, **NO2D**, **AA5CK**, **K8BTD**, **N2JNZ**, **W7OM**, **NS7P**, **KM1Z**, **KA5OAI**, **K5JSP**, **K1EV**, **NN1F**, **K4BAI**, **WB0OEW** Great to hear piggies all over the place! I love hearing the regular guys. **K4BAI** on 80M was sounding great. The last half was horrible. But... Can't wait to do it again. OO.

K4PQC, Phil, 5W fpqso=15 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=15 total=690
Clear weather and fairly noisy conditions in North Georgia. Running < 5 W with K2 and 160 meter horizontal loop at about 25' This is my first RFTB Sprint lots of fun! QSOs on 20, 40 and 80 but no luck on 160.

WB0OEW, Elwood Downey, 5W fpqso=14 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=15 total=675
First RFTB - great fun! Just used 40 -- it was pretty lively at first but it fell apart last 30 mins or so. Using K1 and HFp vertical. Thanks everyone.

K7TQ, Randy Foltz, 5W fpqso=13 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=12 total=492
Good first hour with 20 m open for 10 to 15 minutes. Got LA and GA there. 40 m ok for rest of first hour then little heard. Got an 80 m station. Until next month, oink-oink.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=17 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=9 total=468
Nice to hear all the piggies oinkin' out there on this Bacon Run! 80m. was a bit noisey here in WNY, but 40m. was better. Pickin' those grunts & squeels out of the mud was tough at times, but a lot of fun anyway. OO & 72 to all.

K8BTD, Gil, 4.5W fpqso=12 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=9 total=342
Only worked **K4BAI** on 40. 80 had lots of noise. K2 with new audio filters helped. 80M windom and a new expermental dipole. The dipole shows promise. Thanks to all for the contacts and fun. Looking forward to next month. 72/73 Gil Update - Worked **K4BAI** on 40 and 80. Only counted him once.

AA4SD, Kraig, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=9 total=261

K2 with vertical. Heard some loud stations. See you next time.

KB9BVN, Brian , 5W fpqso=9 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=9 total=252
(SF:70 A:7 K:3) Using K2 at 5W to my 40m 1/2 wave attic dipole...started on 20m...nothing...moved to 40m/80m...**N4FI-VA**, **W7OM-WA**, **W6GMT-KS**, **N5KIP-LA**, **K1EV(40/80)-CT**, **AJ4AY-AL**, **K5JHP-TX**, **K4BAI(80)-GA**, **K4PQC(80)-GA** ...well that's it for me...I spent 10 hours on ARCI today and one hour here...my ears are fried...see ya next month!!

N4FI, Dan, 5W fpqso=10 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=8 total=240
Rig: Argonaut V with an attic G5RV jr. for 40M and a random wire at 20 ft in the backyard for 80M.

W6GMT, Brock Thomsen, 5W fpqso=7 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=7 total=154
/P from Beloit KS nice Run See you all from the Winter QTH in Del Rio TX next Month

KB4QQJ, Randy, 5W fpqso=6 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=7 total=133
Odd, I had the exact same conditions as N3A/4?? Bet I had more fun though. I heard several signals I just couldn't quite pull out. Thanks to all for trying though. It is always fun playing in the slop!! OO **KB4QQJ**

N3A/4, Randy, 5W fpqso=6 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=7 total=133
Tuff band tonight for QRP! Operated as **N3A/4** Special Event Call celebrating the 4th anniversary of NAQCC. Great time as usual though. Thanks to all that pulled me out of the mud. ummm..mud, oink oink!!! maybe ya'll thought I was happy there!! hi hi

KE7LKW, Stewart Fletcher, 5W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=5 total=70

K5JHP, Bill, 5W fpqso=5 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=4 total=60
Bands in bad shape here on Texas coast.....hope for better condx next month.....

N9GGE, John, 4W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=4 total=52
40m was pretty good at the start. Worked a station in WA state at 0134 from here in IL with my low 20ft inverted v

NN1F, Aron, 5W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=4 total=48
Been away from the rig for a few months. Great to be back on the air. Lousy conditions but still had a blast. only made 4 contacts in 1 hour. **AA4SD**, **K4BAI**, **KA2KGP** and **W9ILF**. Four great guys for pulling me out of the slop tonight. Thanks friends. Aron

K5GQ, Mark Tyler, 5W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=4 total=48
WA0ITP, **W9ILF**, **W6GMT**, **K4PQC** · K2 40m dipole -15 feet up outside Hurricane took down my triband beam & tower. Looking for two stage crank up tower. 40M dipole attached to tree that went down. Able to get 40M dipole up. Very noisy tonight, · Mark -

AF4O, Chuck, 5W fpqso=3 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=4 total=40
Played around and worked 4 stations. Band conditions not that great but still had alot of fun. Was using a straight key. I need to get the paddles hooked back up and practice with them a bit. Also need to modify my blt to do 80 meters so i was on 40 the entire time with 20 being dead here. Now my Ubuntu Linux box died this evening but resurrected it with the boot disk and now posting my results. Need to retire so i can do all these things, hihi. Dream on Chuck. 72, Chuck **AF4O**

K3DCB, fred, 5W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=3 total=39
80 meters only.

N3A/9, CLYDE, 5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27

I did not have much time to participate. I have joined your austere group (**K9JWI** - #2072) and will do the whole two hours next time. 73, Clyde

K6CSL, Bert H. Cook, 5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27

Great fun! Rig is Yaesu FT-450 running 5W to 14ft high by 27ft wide Delta Loop that is radially mounted, on 12" TV stand-offs on the back wall of my mobile home. I also use an indoor, 45ft long, end-fed, Coaxial Dipole that runs on the center beam of my mobile home, and a 10ft square, indoor, horizontal loop that is mounted on the ceiling of my radio room. The mobile home park I live in allows no "visible" antennas, so mine are "invisible" 73's to all. TNX fer a nice party. Bert, **K6CSL**

KJ4IC, Bob, 5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27

Very tough conditions in NC, but got to play with 80m on a long wire. Not too many heard anywhere, but fun as usual. 72 es CU next month - Bob **KJ4IC**

A13G, Doug Ermer, 3W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=4 total=24

KX1 @ 3 watts Ant. Outbacker vertical indoors. Enjoyable contest again this month. Better conditions than last month but still noisy on 40 meters. See you again next month. 73

WB2SGS, John, 4W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=02 total=12

Worked **K1EV** 589 strong signal on 80m Worked **K8BTD** 599 strong signal on 80m FT817 with Windom at 30 ft.

NR5A, Jerry Felts, 400MW fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12

Dead after the first 45 minutes on 40m. Rig was my Tuna Tin 2 running 400MW into 6BTV wirth 30 radials. rig was Tuna Tin 2, and Drake 2A. Jerry

KD2MX, Paul, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3

Just stopped in for a few minutes around 0230. Conditions seemed pretty lousy (for a change?).

KF8GE, Bill, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3

Only one station worked, **W9ILF**. could hear some CW behind the noise but couldn't pull any calls out. Sorry, QC, I culd hear you calling me, but all I could copy was your last two.

WA8THK, Perry, 5W K2 fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=1 total=1

looking for contacts :) so far ns7p,

AC7ZN, Glenn Dixon, 5W fpqso=5 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

NOVEMBER 2008

N4BP, Bob Patten, 5W fpqso=33 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=5 spc=26 total=2704

Elecraft K3, 40/80 Armadillo Trap Dipole. Condx seemed almost better on 80M than 40M tonight! Several guys worked on two bands were louder on 80. Nothing heard on 20M as usual for this time of the year. Worn out from Sweepstakes, hung in for an hour. Thanks for the Q's.

N0AR, Scott, 5W fpqso=24 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=20 total=1460

Hi All - Rig K2 antenna EFHW 25' to 45' or so. Lots of qrn up here, 20 long gone, 40 went long quickly. 80 was the work horse tonight. Nothing hear on 160. Thanks all for the repeats, qsb was just short of wild at times! OO

K1EV, Bill, 5W fpqso=19 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=17 total=1003

Found a few on 40; much better on 80, but noisy. Heard several that I couldn't get through to. Great to hear another CT piggie. Rig is K2 at 5W with a 40 m vertical loop and 80 m dipole at 55'. 73 til next time, Bill

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=20 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=16 total=976

FT1000MP, WM-2 wattmeter, 5W, inverted vee dipole. Worn out from SS Phone and missed first 45 minutes due to that contest. 40 had no discernable activity by that time, so all QSOs were on 80. 80 seemed to be in excellent condition. I worked everyone I called and that I heard calling me. Did hear **WA9VEE** working **W0IIT**, but never got in sync for a QSO with him. **W9ILF**, the 80M resonator was definitely working. I never heard you so loud before. You were almost as strong as Clyde, **K9JWI**, also in IN. CU next month. Look for me as **PJ4/K4BAI** from Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles Nov 26-Dec 3 and with others as PJ4A in CQ WW CW. 73/72, John, **K4BAI**.

W5TA, Dick, 5W fpqso=17 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=16 total=864

Orion at 5W to dipole on 80 and vertical on 40. Disappointing, activity seemed down. 20 dead from beginning. 40 long and noisy. More activity this go on 80. Have a Happy Tnxvgv, see y'all in December. Dick **W5TA**

W9ILF, Ivin, 5W fpqso=19 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=14 total=812

Rig: Icom 703 - What a time! 80M seemed to be the only place to play. I just added 80M to my Hustler BTV vertical Monday, which seemed to work. QSB was fast and strong. See ya'll next month!!!

KG1W, Richard Davis, 4W fpqso=19 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=14 total=812

All but 1 QSO on 80 meters near 3561. Tnx all for a vry nice evening. Sri to **WA9VEE**, lost u in QSB.

AB9CA, Dave, 5W fpqso=14 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=11 total=473

K2 @ 5W to OCF 80m Inv Vee. Good to hear quite a few familiar calls and also some new ones. Called on 40 for a few minutes early and worked 2, but 80 was the place to be. 80 seemed to be in good shape - noise was not bad. Getting into winter I guess. Missed 1, or maybe 2, but just could not hear ya' well enough to pull ya' out, sorry. Thanks to all who stopped by! 73, dave, ab9ca

K8BTD, Gil, 4.5W fpqso=12 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=11 total=407

K2 @ 4.5 watts, antenna 160 M Carolina Windom up 75 ft. Loudest signal was **K1EV**. 20 dead, 40 went early, only 2, rest on 80m. With 4 minutes left before quitting time, found a new one. **N4LCD**, Paul in Cartersville, GA. Good job Paul, tnx for hanging in their. QRM, QRN QSB, etc., but... we did it! Happy thanksgiving everyone. See you next month in the pig pen. Gil

WB8LZG, Gregg Mulder, 5W fpqso=12 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=11 total=407

40 was slow es niosy, es 80 started out slow but picked up abit. sri i heard several partals es some faded to gud test tonight with lots of slop being thrown around the sty. Running a solar pwered FT817 .Needed to pull plug early due to SS itis, (old age)I operated W8SH at Michigan State fer the Sweeps. Nice to work some of u same guys, es its always fun to hand out the "check 19" from MSU, 73 oo Gregg

K9JWI, CLYDE, 5W fpqso=11 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=11 total=374

Nothing on 20m. 40m not much better. All but 2 Q's on 80m. Pretty fair activity.

N4FI, Dan, 5W fpqso=012 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=09 total=324

KB4QQJ, Randy, 5W fpqso=11 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=8 total=272

Well that was fun, but brief!! I forgot. Only got 45 minutes on the air with my 817 and doublet at 85 feet. Grand time though. Strongest signal was **N1VWD** in VT. 20 oinks over S9!! Thanks to All. See ya next month. Randy **KB4QQJ**

KT4LF, Dale, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=8 total=216

5 watts to a long wire, typical noisy 80, nearly dead 40. Part time effort with company leaving and phone ringing, but enjoyed playing in the sty.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=10 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=7 total=210

20m. was nil here in WNY. 40m. was poor, but 80 not too bad & I worked a few squeelin' oinkers out there. Happy Thanksgiving to all us piggies! OO & 73!

WB0OEW, Elwood Downey, 5W fpqso=7 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=6 total=132

K1, HFp vertical, 40M. Lots of QRN. Thanks everyone - always fun.

N1VWD, Bradford McKirryher, 5W fpqso=6 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=6 total=108

Icom 703+ @ 5W windom @ 35' modified KK-1 key Tough night but still had a good time.

W5RCP, Ron Pearson, 5W fpqso=6 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=6 total=108

Rig was K2 @ 5W to ocf dipole up 45ft... 40M went dead early so I switched to 80m and worked a few. Only 6 Q's but was fun anyway. See ya next month... Ron

WA9VEE, Wayne Adams, 5W fpqso=5 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=5 total=75

QSB made it hard to make entire exchange. Lost 2 that way. 80 was only place I heard anyone. Times are rough. Ant 200' wire up 30' CU nxt

K6BFA, Pete Hadley, 5W fpqso=5 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=5 total=75

I had a good time thinking how much better it will be someday.

WA8THK, Perry, 5W fpqso=5 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=4 total=60

80/40 not good conditions I guess. Alway Fun

N8CX, Alan Moriarty, 5W fpqso=4 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=36

First time in a few months that I actually heard anyone on 40 or 80. I answered 3 CQs and had 1 answer my CQ. Its always fun and conditions should get better over the winter. I worked 2 TX, 1 NM and 1 VA stations. vy best 73s to u es urs, Alan, **N8CX**

W1OH, Geoff, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12

Elecraft K2 and doublet at 30ft. Just a couple of QSOs on 80M after looking around unsuccessfully on 40M for the Sunday evening Elecraft CW net. 40M was not very good anyway - might have heard **N4BP** there before I went to 80M for my couple of contacts. 73

N8ZYA, John Smithson, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=2 total=8

Well....it's a start. My first contact (and the best was Texas on 40 meters) 80 meters is not a good band for me but heard most of the stations here. Worked MN and got a decent RST. It was fun but challenging using an indoor antenna. FM Charleston, WV

N9GGE, John, 4W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3

Since I don't have any 80m Qrp equipment,rig or antenna, I was pretty much sitting on the side for this RFTB. Wish it could start a couple hours earlier during standard time.

N9QU, Leo, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Very few signals heard and fewer worked. 40 QRN s6+. 73 til next time

KB9BVN, Brian, 4W HW-9 fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Using my complete HW-9 station tonight in preparation for SKN in a few weeks. **N4BP** was first one tonight...tried to work **W6GMT** on 40m...but no dice...bands ugly. Heard N0AR on 80m but no dice.

N4LCD, Paul Quillen, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0
K3, SGC-230 tuner feeding a Cobra Ultralite Sr. My first Run for the Bacon. Made 1 contact on 40 meters in the last 5 minutes with **K8BTD** in Quaker City, OH, from my QTH in NW Georgia. Myron, many thanks for putting up with my slow code. 10, 15, and 20 were dead. 80 was quiet, but no contacts there. See you next month. 73 Paul **N4LCD**

N5WVR, Cathy, 5W fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0
Was only on about 10 minutes, from 9:00 - 9:10 PM EST. Heard no one and nothing on 40 or 80 FP freqs. Best of luck to everyone.

KI4SNS, DOUG MILLS, 10 WATTS fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

December 2008

K8BTD, Gil, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=4 spc=11 total=341
Didn't hear very many stations tonight. Probably weather and the holiday season. Only one contact on 40M. The rest was 80M. The loudest station was **KD2MX**. Tried 160M. Nothing. Rig, K2 @ 5 watts, Ant., Windom & 40/80 wire vert. Wishing all a Happy Holiday season. See you next year. **K8BTD**, Gil Retired in SE Ohio in the woods, raising antenna's instead of cows.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=5 total=145
40 m. was in poor shape here in WNY, so 80 m. was the place to be for this Bacon Run. Thanks to **K4BAI**, **KG1W**, **W1IS**, **N1WPY** & **N2COD** for digging me out of the mud. Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to all us piggies! OO & 72

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=3 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27
FT1000MP, 5W output, inverted vee for 80M apex at 35'. Missed the first 45 minutes due to forgetting the contest. Then could only find three stations to work. All on 80M. 20 was totally dead and the only signals heard on 40 were in Europe, so it was really long. On 80M, **K8BTD** and **KA2KGP** were quite active and easily workable. Finally, **N3TL** in GA called me for my third QSO. I heard **W5ACM** and **KG1W** call and work **K8BTD** or **KA2KGP**, but could never hear them calling CQ and they didn't answer my CQs. Didn't try 160M, but since **K8BTD** found no one there, maybe I didn't miss anything there. Hope for better conditions and less forgetfulness on my part next month. Seems I used to get an e-mail reminder, but haven't lately. Best wishes to all for the holidays and new year. Thanks for all the QSOs throughout the year. My new year's resolution is to hook up my newly acquired K2 and begin using it in QRP events. 73/72, John, **K4BAI**.

N3TL, Tim, 2.5 watts fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12
My first RFTB, and I was having some tuner issues here. Thankfully, it provided about 1.4:1 on 80 meters, so I was able to work **K4BAI** and **K8BTD** - the only two stations I heard. Rig here is an FT-817ND and antenna is an end-fed longwire, roughly 200 feet. I mostly used an Arizona Scorpion paddle into the 817 keyer, but I did spend some time on the Morse Express 2008 Christmas Key I treated myself to. I thought it might bring a few more stations around. It didn't, but it sure was fun. Merry Christmas to all. Here's hoping 2009 exceeds all of our expectations! o72o, Tim

N0JRN, Jerry, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12

Well, figured since it was zero outside, the bands would be pretty quiet. Man was I right about that one. LOL Thanks to **W5TA** and **W8BTD**. That was all I could hear. Hope everyone has a great holiday season and you get everything you want from Santa. OO Jerry

W5TA, Dick, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=1 total=4

TenTec Orion at 5W to dipole on 80 and vertical on 40. Guess most all the piggies flew away to the Mall to do their Christmas shopping. The bands were quiet... way too quiet. Only CQ I heard on 40 was **N0JRN**. I CQ'd a while with no answers. Answered a non-FP CQ. Thought he was QRP by his signalstrength, but he wasn't. QSY'd to 80. Heard no one. CQ'd and had one Q with **WA0ITP**. Gave up after first half hour. Seasons Greetings, y'all. Hope we have better conditions (and a few sun spots!) in 2009. Vy 72 & OO, de Dick **W5TA**

KD2MX, Paul, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3

Was I in the middle of another black hole or was everybody off watching TV or something? Only station heard (and worked) was **K8BTD**. I called CQ a lot off and on during the first hour and then went to join the xyl. Happy holidays and here's to better conditions in '09.

W6GMT, Brock Thomsen, 5W fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

Very QSB here in TX on 40. Heard 2 piggies but no luck. 80 was better but cant load 80. Hope for better conditions in Jan. Happy holidays to all &# Brock

K6CSL, Bert H. Cook, 5W fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

I listened and called on 1812, 3560-3562 and 7040-7045 and never got a reply or heard any other station calling. Now I realize that much of the country is having really bad weather, but I have never heard things this bad. I sure hope things are a little better for next months Bacon Run. 73's, Happy Hannukah, Merry Christmas(which ever y'all celebrate), and a Happy New Year to all. Drive safely over the holidays so we'll see you back here next year. Bert, **K6CSL**

K4UWH, , fpqso=0 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=0 total=0

JANUARY 2009

K8BTD, GIL, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=11 total=330

Again, 80M was the band tonight. The noise made it almost impossible at times. With 40 over static crashes, tonight was character building at it's best. I had to ask **WA2NHZ** to QRS near quitting time. The static, my grey cells and the CW all meshed together, my brain hit the ditch! **W1IS**, Bob was the loudest along with **K3Y/4** who also stopped by to say hi. Thanks to those who hung in there with the repeats. Things have got to get better next month. K2, 160 meter Windom up 50 feet. Thanks to all for the fun. Gil Retired in SE Ohio, raising antenna's instead of cows.

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=8 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=4 spc=9 total=252

FT1000MP, 5W, inverted vee dipole; 88' CF zepp. 20 and 40 had no FP signals. Got no answers to CQs on 40. 80M seemed in good shape here. Low noise at the beginning, but QRN built up as the period went on. Seemed **K8BTD** (congrats on another win, Gil), **KA2KGP**, and I stuck in there for the whole period. But no QSOs for me in the last 32 minutes. Stations who called Gil didn't all call me. I called, but could not work, **WA9VEE** and **WA5RML**. At least Andy, **WA5RML**, sent QRZ? Conditions would have permitted many more QSOs if the activity had been there. Hope for more activity next month. Look for me as a Fox in the 40M QRP Fox Hunt Thursday night. 73/72, John, **K4BAI**.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=9 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=7 total=210
Whew! ... another nasty nite in the pig pen! Thanks to **K4BAI**, **W3PO**, **NB7Z**, **N8RN**, **K8BTD**, **W1IS** & **K3Y/4** for digging me out of the mud. My brother **N2COD** had no problem from 1/4 mile away! Better conditions for all next bacon run!

K3Y/4, RANDY, 5W fpqso=4 fpdxqso=1 nonfpqso=4 spc=7 total=147
Well that was fun! I answered all the CQ FP's I could while running the SKCC Special Event Call **K3Y/4**. Wish I could have come up with a quick way to give my FP#, 1936. I'll be back as **KB4QQJ** next month. Thanks to all. 73, Randy _ **KB4QQJ** FP# 1936

N2COD, Mike Perry, 5W fpqso=5 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=15
Too cold to sit very long in the truck, only made it 20 minutes before I pulled the plug! Heard a few oinkers, but conditions were lousy here in the mobile. I can't wait until it warms up & the sunspots break out! Oinks & Grunts to all. 72

N0JRN, Jerry, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=2 total=14
Well, least I wasn't skunked..... 20 was dead ! 40 was dead ! found John and Gil (**K4BAI** & **K8BTD**) on 80. Almost worked Tom (**KA2KGP**) the band took a dump before we could finish. I'm going buy me a 50 acre farm so I can put up some good antlers. Oh Well, it's was fun while it lasted. See ya'll again. Oink Oink Jerry

W6GMT, Brock Thomsen, 5W fpqso=2 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=12
Sorry for the late log. But i do not have access to a compuet much less the internet often. Hard sprint only 2 FP heard worked 40 meters only. Hoped for better conditions next month 73 Brock

W9ILF, Ivin, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=2 total=8
Icom 703 to a ground mounted vertical. The noise level was horrible so I ended my pain early. Hope next month is better.

NG7Z, Paul, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Cq'ed for 20 minutes on 40M with no responses. Went to 80M and listened for a bit. Nothing heard but that's not unusual that early. It's was only 6:30 here on the west coast. Ate dinner and came back at 0311 to hear **KA2KGP** and worked Tom. Heard John **K4BAI** for about two seconds and then he was gone. CQ'd for awhile with no calls. Hung it up at 03:45. First time with only one Q. Ugh...er I mean oink oink. 72 Paul **NG7Z** PS give me a call between 1700Z and 1800Z. I'm **K3Y/7** every weekday. Look for me on 20M between 14050 and 14055. PPS the phone contest last weekend was a real test of mettle. Had enough SSB to last a long time.

WB8LZG, Gregg Mulder, 5W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Only full call heard was **K4BAI**, John. Thought my antennas were down! Heard no activity on 40, es only a couple on 80. Hope to get better condx next month. 73 till then, Gregg

WA3ZBJ, Don, 5 W fpqso=1 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Could hear John **K4BAI** and others on 80, but can only transmit on 40 meters and it was dead - dead - dead here. Stuck it out until got at least one contact, thanks to Brock **W6GMT** for his patience. Maybe next month? Oink Oink

February 2009

K4BAI, John T. Laney III, 5W fpqso=14 fpdxqso=0 nonfpqso=7 spc=16 total=784
FT1000MP, 5W, zepp, dipole, inverted vee. 40 and 20M sounded very good here. 40 was a bit long, but signals from stations as close as TX and MI were good. Went to 80 early after no further callers on 40. Went back to 40 after 03Z to check and call, but didn't hear **NG7Z**. Sorry Paul. 80M sounded

very good with strong signals from NH to TX. No QRN at all. Pete, **K6BFA**, your QRN must have been horrendous. You were 589 here calling CQ and you couldn't hear anyone calling at that time. And, you pulled me out last Tuesday in the NAQCC event when the QRN was terrible here! Thanks for the QSOs. We need to figure out how to get more publicity and more activity. With over 2000 members, more than a few should be QRV every month. 73/72, John, **K4BAI**.

KA2KGP, Tom Perry, 5W fpqso=13 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=10 total=420
80M. was the only productive band here in WNY. Heard a grunt or two on 40m. & no squeels on 20m. Most piggie's were squeelin' & gruntin' on 80 this Bacon Run. See ya next time, 72

W5TA, Dick, 5W fpqso=8 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=3 spc=10 total=270
TenTec Orion I at 5W to vertical on 40 and dipole on 80 plus 250' beverage receive ant. 20 sounded dead so I started on 40. Worked a few. Rate got low so went to 80 at 02:30Z. The beverage helped me pull a few through the QRN, but I'm sure **KF8GE** wasn't the only one who called that I couldn't copy. The noise level was high at my QTH on both 80 and 40. Went back to 40 at 02:45Z, no luck there, QRT at 03:00Z. Where have all the piggies gone? We need more activity on this fun little run. I'll post it on a couple local reflectors. Y'all do the same. We need more guys (and gals) so someone can get those double points making more than 50 Q's! Very 72 & OO, Dick **W5TA**

KF8GE, Bill, 5W fpqso=5 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=6 total=102
Heard **W5TA** but couldn't make the contact. Sorry for anyone who answered me on 80 but didn't get through, traffic nets started up on freq and clobbered everybody. Only made one contact on 80. Didn't make any QSO's the last 20 minutes.

WA9VEE, Wayne, 5W fpqso=3 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=1 spc=4 total=40
Better than usual bands but not great. Ran into a local bud on 40M **N9XAK** that wondered what this contest was about since it's not on ARRL site. Fun as usual. Made sure to make a 1 pointer out of him since he likes QRP. Maybe he'll be back. Heard **K6BFA** but no contact.

NG7Z, Paul, 5W fpqso=2 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=2 spc=4 total=32
Got a late start (0240) so probably missed several potential contacts. 40M usually dies out shortly after this. Even so, the four who came back to my CQ's were very much appreciated. Went to 80M just after 0300Z but nothing heard. CQ'ed awhile and got clobbered by nets. Gave up and went back to 40 and worked **W9ILF** who had a great signal into WA. Thanks for hanging in there **KF8GE**, **N6GA** and **WB4YZR** so late on 40M otherwise it'd be a nil oink tonight. 72 Paul **NG7Z** in far off WA state.

W9ILF, Ivin, 5 watts fpqso=3 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=3 total=27
rig: Icom-703 & MFJ 9040 ant: ground mounted vertical. Not a very good night for me. My antenna gave me trouble so spent part of the sprint outside with a flashlight. I worked 40M with my MFJ 9040 and was very happy to hear **KF8GE** and **NG7Z** respond to my CQ! It was just an off night so I ended early.

KB9BVN, Brian, 5W fpqso=4 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=2 total=24
KI4TI, **W5TA**, **KF8GE**, **W6GMT** - at 02:35Z 40m went dead and I gave up and went to bed.

KD2MX, Paul, 5W fpqso=1 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Came in late. Just heard **KA2KGP** on 80m with a fb signal tonight. Called some CQs then but no takers.

K6BFA, Pete, 5 fpqso=1 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3
Lotsa QRN.

AC6NN, Craig, 5 W fpqso=1 fpxqso=0 nonfpqso=0 spc=1 total=3

Pig Stuff

ATTENTION ALL PIGS!! Did you know there is a wide range of piggie merchandise available for purchase at the FP website? Everything from hats to shirts to laser-etched beer steins! To get your super-classy, hamsexy pig gear visit <http://fpqrp.com/shirts.htm>.



KB9BVN

Brian Murrey
47 Grassy Drive
New Whiteland, IN 46184
Johnson County - EM69wn

FLYING PIGS QRP CLUB INTERNATIONAL

FP# 57

Confirming QSO with	Date Day/Mo/Yr	UTC	RST	Freq	Mode	QSL



===== (Flying Pigs QRP Club International)=====

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS:

Any and all contributions from all who wish to submit them, pig or not, ham or not, are welcome. Prior publication is not an issue, provided the original publisher allows such. Please submit articles as a plain-text file attached to an email. Please DO NOT format the submission. If pictures accompany your submission, attach them to the email and include a plain text file with descriptions/captions. If you wish, article text, photos, and photo descriptions can be placed in a compressed archive.

Please send all submissions to Rob Matherly, W0JRM, via email at w0jrm@cedirs.net. (We'll also take hand-written snail-mailed submissions if you're so inclined.) Suggested topics are: QRP (duh), homebrewing, antennas, public interest stories such as hamfests, club meetings, group builds, etc., contesting, general interest.

OUR MISSION:

- 1: Have Fun.
- 2: No rules.
- 3: Be a friendly group which enjoys ham radio and sharing skills with their fellow hams.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

To join The Flying Pigs QRP Club, visit <http://www.fpqrp.net/join.php>

CLUB EMAIL REFLECTOR:

To subscribe to the club email reflector, send a message to majordomo@mpna.com with the subject "subscribe fpqrp-l". Please note that HTML emails are NOT accepted by the server, and will die silently.

CLUB E-MAIL POLICY:

These are not rules, just common sense. Club email is not moderated, as we are not a stuffy group. You can send off topic messages about most subjects, but please keep it clean and in good taste. We do like good-natured ribbing and joking with each other, but we will not tolerate flaming other members or spamming the group. We will remove offenders who abuse our open policy. The word **eBay** is allowed.

CLUB WEB PAGE:

The club web page is our forum for sharing projects, and information about us. You are encouraged to submit your ideas and projects to be added to the web page. <http://www.fpqrp.net>

OUR MONTHLY CONTEST – THE RUN FOR THE BACON SPRINT:

This event is held on the 3rd Sunday Night (EST) of the month. For full details on how to participate, see the website address of: <http://www.fpqrp.net/fpqrprun.html>

OUR WEEKLY NETS:

A weekly net is held every Sunday at 9PM Eastern time, except if there is a Run For The Bacon Sprint that evening, on 7.044 MHz.

An 80m net is held as needed, usually during the winter months, on 3.564MHz. Day and time are determined by whoever feels like being net control, and announced to the list.

FPQRP OFFICIAL FREQUENCIES:

160m – 1.814MHz	80m – 3.564MHz	40m – 7.044MHz	30m – 10.110MHz
20m - 14.062MHz	17m – 18.100MHz	15m – 21.064MHz	12m – 24.910MHz
10m – 28.064MHz	2m Hamfest Frequency – 145.72 Simplex		

PROBLEM REPORTING:

If you are having problems with email, the web pages, or a fellow club member, please report this to either:

Diz, W8DIZ at w8diz@cinci.rr.com
Jim, W0EB at W0EB@cox.net
Rick, WB6JBM at ripowell@mpna.com
Dan, N8IE at n8ie@who.rr.com

We welcome all to join the Flying Pigs QRP Club, and we hope you have fun!

