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

- CONTACTS:
  - Diz, W8DIZ  
    w8diz@cinci.rr.com
  - Rick, WB6JBM  
    ripowell@mpna.com
  - Dan, N8IE  
    n8ie@who.rr.com

- NETS:
  - DAY  TIME  FREQ  NCI
  - Sun  0100Z  7.137 KC8NYW
  - Mon  0100Z  7.047 WB8ICN
  - Thurs  0100Z  7.047 KE1LA
  - CLUB FREQS.
  - 1,814 kHz  3,564 kHz
  - 7,044 kHz  10,110 kHz
  - 14,062 kHz  18,100 kHz
  - 21,064 kHz  24,910 kHz
  - 28,064 kHz
  - (All days/times listed are UTC)

ALL FPqrp frequencies are UP 4 kHz from the standard qrp frequencies except for 20 meters.

- Mike KD5KXF during his truffle run.

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Hello folks, ONE MORE MONTH TO FDIM! WIIGII!.  

Word on the street is that our very own Diz, W8DIZ is working on a new QRP radio design. I have obtained this exclusive photo from his top-secret laboratory in Loveland, Oh. Could this be the “Maxi-Pig” that I keep hearing about? Stayed tuned as details emerge.

Maxi-Pig #1 during initial test phase?

72, oo,  
Dan, N8IE Ø

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FPI SPRING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By Arnold CW Timm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) 2001 All Rights Reserved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A sizeable squad of Flying Pigs,  
flown north along the lake;  
a camping couple heard their sigs,  
thought it was a quake!  

Delbert lost his rudder trim,  
Paulet's outboard tank;  
Peter's wing was smashed to him,  
Herb had luck to thank!  

Flying Pigs appear as flies,  
or pink mosquito herds;  
If seen with ( our ) naked eyes,  
a flock of humming birds!  

Camping couple sprayed the flight,  
on panic picnic grounds;  
it really wasn't a pretty sight,  
those awful " irking " sounds!  

Hidden on a sapling twig,  
a limp tel-graphic mash;  
keyed the Flying Piglet rig,  
and saved their sorry ____!  

KA0TPZ  
wdx0awt@juno.com

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FP NET</th>
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</thead>
</table>

3/4  
Piggies,  
Just a short report tonight. Checkins:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KC8NYW</td>
<td>ROB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W1QF</td>
<td>TERRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF4PS</td>
<td>MAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N8RQI</td>
<td>HAROLD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KC4URI</td>
<td>STEVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV4T</td>
<td>BILL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD4IH</td>
<td>JOE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KG9LZ</td>
<td>TOM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aron, N1ODL, if you were there and I missed you I am very sorry. I tried to get a relay later but no joy. Hope to cu nxt week. Also note how well 4-land is represented; Must be the wx. Until next weekend 72 es oo's  
Randy, WV9N

3/10  
Thanks for the check-ins guy's..Great signals, and you both held over s-9 afterwards at qrpp too!! I nibbled while watching tv with SWMBO:-)  
WV9N, Randy. 599+20  
W1QF, Terry. 599+10, 599 at 1w.  

72, 00 and agn great to see you!! rob, ab8mr..

3/11  
Well this was the largest pen of pigs I've had since serving as interim NCS. The band conditions were not the best but not terrible either. I was experimenting a little by running with the filters more open than usual. That helps with the checkins and worked pretty well through most of the net but when Joe came in a little weak then I started playing with the filters and got him tuned in about the time he finished his report :-). Here are the checkins for this evening:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB8MR</td>
<td>Rob, I don't know if I'll ever get used to ur new call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AF4PS</td>
<td>Mac in FL wid gud 559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV4T</td>
<td>Bill at 569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W1QF</td>
<td>Terry nr Detroit. We had a qso last nite after Sat net. We both got down to 100 mw and were still 559. that's abt 2500 mi/watt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W9FCC</td>
<td>Dan a gud 589 and making covet a Harley:-)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N10DL</td>
<td>Aron, back from vacation and 579/qsb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W8DIZ</td>
<td>Pappa Diz back from 5-oh and promising pix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KE1LA</td>
<td>Dr. Joel was 589 and trying to help me relax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA5PB</td>
<td>Bill checked in but must have needed to qrt. Just stop me at your first chance and tell me you are short time and I'll let you report then.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KC4URI</td>
<td>Steve had a nice 589 sig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K4FB</td>
<td>Paul at 559. I think that's my only qso wid him outside of truffle or fox hunts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AD4IH</td>
<td>Joe right at the end was 339. If I could have got my act together faster I would have had better copy. The K2 needs a filter memory. I have trouble running thru all the filters and setting the audio filter. I end up pushing the button one too many times and then have to go thru the process again :-).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you can see we had a great group of pigs tonite. The net ran just about one hour. Lots of you piggies out there need to shed their shyness and join in on some of the net fun. There are nets on Wed., Sat., and Sun. so there is plenty of opportunity to find a place to checkin. We are very informal and try to help each other out as best we can. Can't wait til FDIM to put some faces on some of these calls. 72/oo-randy,wv9n

3/14

High Y'all

great net tonite... all the big names were thair... ;-) even had some ssb and cw qrm... however they heard the mighty pigs and moved on... kinda short and sweet tone net wed net wed mar13, 02 9PM Eastern 7.045.5 Mhz cw

Check ins
WIDIZ... BUSY WITH FDIM PROJECTS, THANKS DIZ
NV4T... NICE SIGNAL TONITE
W1QF... 59 AGAIN.... WHAT A QRP SIGNAL
K8WEK- U DIDN'T COME BACK!!! SRY WE LOST U;;
JOEL
AD4IH --- UR SIGNAL WAS THAIR i JUST COULDN'T GET MY MIND IN GEAR... THANKS FOR CHECKING IN... HONORARY CHECK IN AF4PS... MAC WE KNEAUX HE TRIED TO MAKE IT...
KE1LA... U GOTTA GET AN ANTENNA JOEL, THE RUBBIE DUCKIE WON'T CUT IT ON HF....

KE1LA JOEL
IN MAINE
NCS WED NITE NET

3/17

Greetings Fellow Piggies-
We had a nice net tonight. There was a little qrm and qrn on my end and although the signals were not blasting in they were pretty easy to copy. Our checkins for the net were:

AJ4AY Jay at 569 reporting on his vertical for his truck. Sounds like he’s going to catch that rare dx on his lunch break!
AB8MR Rob at 589. He’s getting used to little paddles. I wud have to nail them to the table to keep from slamming them all over the place.
NV4T Bill at 569 reporting on his most recent purchase of a boat anchor Hammarlund receiver. I used to look at them in OLD handbooks and drool when I was MUCH younger
AF4PS Mac at 559. The DX Master reports that the dx is good but the job cuts back on the dx chasing time. On the other hand he does have a great Boss.
W1QF Terry at 599. He was a later checking in than usual but reports that he has that problem with work also. I’m glad not many of us have that problem:-)
N1ODL Aron at 579. He almost dozed thru the net but made it just in time. Sometimes it appears that I might be sending in my sleep but I assure that is not the case.

So we had a great net tonight and you missed it. It happens every week so you still have another chance. 72/oo from your interim NCS, Randy,WV9N

3/21

High Y'all
wow what a net... had Mike, Mac?, Terry and myself... Terry checked in at one watt... I talked him down to 5 mw rst 549 and s8 on the k2... Terry said to be sure and say he wasn't sure about the accuracy of his attenuators... so actual pwrr may vary however, the indication was 5 mw..... congradulations mr 599.... short net tonite, great conditions....glad mike and mac and terry could make it....

WED NITE NET MARCH 20 02 7.047.5 Mhz 9PM EASTERN CHECKINS

WB8ICN... GOING FOR HIS EXTRA THIS WEEKEND...GUD LUCK...
AF4PS.... THE MYSTERIOUS POSSIBLY MAC, THANKS W1QF... FIRST CHECKED IN AT 1W STRONG...FINALLY AT 5 MW...
KE1LA .... IMAGINED MAC "TRIED TO CHECK IN TONITE"

KE1LA JOEL
NCS MAINE

3/25

Well, the band conditions were not the best at my qth. The noise was loud and the signals were there one moment and gone the next. I heard the following stations at least one time. My apologies if I missed anyone. There were times when I thought I could here something then it was gone in the noise. Might have been my imagination.

QNI's
AF4PS MAC
AB8MR ROB
NV4T BILL
KC4URI STEVE
W1QF TERRY

Again if I missed anyone my apologies.
72/oo-Randy,WV9N

3/28

high y'all
Great net tonite, great conditions... who was that guy trying to chat over me?... think I scared him?!

WED NITE NET WED MARCH 27, O2 7.047.5 CW 9PM EASTERN CHECKINS

W1QF...Q5 TERRY, WITH HIS DIT DIT AND DAH DAH...
W8DIZ...BUSY ON PROJECTS
WV9N... THANKS FOR RELAY
AF4PS.... N0UR... MAC AND ? STILL EATING BREAKFEAST
WR5O... FROM THE WEST SIDE OF TEXAS
N1ODL... ARON, IS THAT U?
KE1LA .... COUNT TO 5 AGAIN....
KE1LA JOEL IN MAINE NCS
### QRP Happenings in April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/6</td>
<td>Missouri QSO Party</td>
<td>CW/SSB--sponsored by the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society of St Louis (BEARS) from 1800Z Apr 6 to 0500Z Apr 7, and 1800Z Apr 7 to 2400Z Apr 7. More info at: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/w0ma">http://www.qsl.net/w0ma</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/27</td>
<td>Florida QSO Party</td>
<td>Sponsored by the Florida Contest Group from 1600Z April 27-0159Z April 28 and 1200Z-2159Z April 28, no time limit, work FL stations. More info at: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/fqp">http://www.qsl.net/fqp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/27</td>
<td>Nebraska QSO Party</td>
<td>CW/SSB--sponsored by the Heartland DX Association 1700Z Apr 27 through 1700Z Apr 28. More info at: <a href="http://www.qsl.net/hdxa">http://www.qsl.net/hdxa</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### IC Repair 101

By Dan, N8IE

How many times has this happened to you, your working on that new project in the latest QST when POOP, you release all the smoke out of that hard to find IC that took you 3 weeks to get mail order? Well fear no more, here’s how you can replace the smoke in the IC and get your project back up and running.

First a little background. When IC’s are manufactured there is a certain amount of semi-conducting smoke added to facilitate the proper operation of the IC’s design parameters. Look on any IC and you’ll notice a notch or dimple located on the edge of the chip, this is not only used to identify the position of the number 1 pin, it’s also where the smoke is inserted during the manufacturing process. Armed with this knowledge and with the help of a common Ink Refill kit sold for color Ink Jet printers, you can replace the smoke and restore the IC back to proper operating condition.

Here is a list of what you’ll need ahead of time. You’ll need a small workbench vise, the hypodermic needle from an Ink Jet refill kit, a 2oz. tube of Big Johnson Fill-A-Crack Gel®, a small drill bit, and a can of liquid semi-conducting smoke (available from Radio Shack, PN# OICU812).

Let’s work with a very common IC, the 555-timer. First remove the chip from the circuit and clamp into a small workbench vise. Next locate the dimple or notch and using a small drill bit, drill into the IC. Note that you’ll only want to drill to a depth of 1/64 of an inch.

Fill the hypodermic with the liquid smoke and set this aside for now. You’ll need to look in the data sheet for the proper amount of smoke to replace in the chip. This is very important because not using the exact amount recommended by the manufacturer may cause the chip not to operate as designed. An example of this would be adding too much smoke in the 555 would cause it to operate as a 556 dual timer IC. For my test IC, I found it requires 2gms of smoke to operate properly. Carefully inject the required amount of smoke into the IC while being careful not to breath any of the smoke as the Surgeon General has determined that smoking IC’s can cause cancer and lead to low birth weight in babies.

When you have the proper amount of smoke in the IC grab your Big Johnson® and smear the gel around the orifice (of the IC). Allow a minute for the gel to start curing and carefully remove the hypodermic from the hole while keeping pressure applied to the gel while it hardens. If your finger becomes stuck in the gel, simply use an Exacto knife to remove the top few layers of skin from your finger thus freeing the IC. Let the IC sit over night to allow the gel to completely setup, then re-install into your circuit and test. If you find that the IC is still not working properly, repeat the above process until you get it working. This method can also work with diodes and transistors, but resistors and capacitors require a different type of smoke as they are not semi-conducting devices. Radio Shack sells this type of smoke as well.

72, oo Dan, N8IE
## Special Events for April

There are a lot of special events this month including several BSA events. Check out the ARRL page for a complete listing, here is a small example of what’s going on this month!

**Port St Lucie, FL:**

**Casper, WY:**

**New York City, NY:**


**Kill Devil Hills/Kitty Hawk, NC:** Tri-County ARC, NC4AR. 0900Z Apr 27 to 1200Z Apr 30. Anniversary of the first powered aircraft flight at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina. 14.260 7.260. Ω

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## PUMPING QRP

By Arnold CW Timm

Flying Pigs (and other outfits) find low power exceptionally useful and rewarding. While modulation is more appealing, there is that justified mental dexterity, old timers swear by. That weak signal songfest sure to attract military brass pounders. Railroad rib-ticklers take-to CW, whether it was American or International. Spark gaps spouting model A Ford fascinations, praise our continued waving from a far. Stronger than dirt, the waveform x-rays itself into our bodily functions. Sine "signs" show upon our faces. RF burns are predominately exposed as a red badge of courage. Certainly a sedentary pastime, our radio hobbies settle no score or label less obvious. We can buy a 13.8-volt direct current workout generator, where the hapless Ham, is subjected to sweaty heart pounding electricity. Couch potatoes running in place to produce early morning QSO? Fourteen volts of everlasting face saving, and off-grid nose thumbing! Where else can you find such determination? Peanut galleries the world over, find blissfulness in a second language of any type. Talking with your fingers and that quarter section of brain retention leaves one firmly attached to said communication. One if by land and two if by sea, signaled Revolutionary forces in Boston. The tea party really got going as British men-of-war were emptied into the harbor. Finding a giant slice of lemon became the battle cry of John Paul Jones and his tea-tippers. They snapped their fingers to seafaring ditties yet to be considered. And when Vail and Morse puzzled over coded cadence, some years later, perhaps this "independence" tea cup tinkling, influenced their bird call code?

We all know most wars and conflicts remain skirmishes unless we introduce technology. Without weapons or wigwag signaling, mountain molehills of human dissatisfaction somehow grow stagnant. But once we add low power drumbeats or saber rattling, battle plans and earth-shaking combat erupts. We are using turn of the century (1900) jealously and racism. No matter how socialized or capitalist we claim we are, our technology tackles the onslaught head on. While a little continuous waves would soothe the savage breast. Look what petting zoos provide!
Rubbing lamps and combing fur, rugs, and scalp, may yet produce enough static electricity for Qrp cw. Ben Franklin bemused himself with lightning bolts and combing, until he lost his hair and most of the feeling in his right arm. He wasn’t satisfied in just assembling wood stoves, or vocabulary. Sparks sprang from his printing press and pampered pups in passing. Our Qrp cw would of appeased his frugal waste not want not, idealism. Cranking out newspapers or paving the way for Tesla and Edison; * Free play receivers might not of ever been designed. Today we plug + play computer programmed transceivers encasing integrated circuits and surface mount circuit boards. Top of the line leftovers from world wars and civil unrest. The mother of invention pressing her face against the "windows" of our machines. Point and clicking to the tuning techniques Armstrong and De Maw professed. Microscopic mud puppies barking from the primordial ooze. Mathematics meant to ease our drudgery, dancing endlessly over humdrum conversations, contests, and microphone confirmations. The globe trotting terrorism took this into effect as they calculated our individual enfeeblement. Qrp cw and cell phones may yet help us escape from such batten down belittlement. Age and illness limits much of what we can accomplish in this time frame.

Consumer electronics has stolen much of our free time in video or cable TV. Back before 1952 (when TV began) and various sunspot cycles; our allotted radio spectrum was jammed nightly with one hour QSOs. Persons who could converse on subject matter few even comprehend currently. Qrp cw can allow for lost landmarks. It returns most of the preambles as a diversion. And for those who must monkey around with microphone audio, there are playgrounds galore forthcoming!

Trevor Jacobs - KG6CYN hails from Burbank, CA.

Hi Guys,
Figured it was about time I signed up! After all, I'll need a club number to put on one of those beer mugs, Hi! Had a couple of pictures that a friend of mine took a few weeks ago. The HB project next to the DSW-40 is a homebrew DDS signal generator.

The boat anchors are both rigs that I resurrected last winter (although I just had to fix the AVC line in the BC-779!).

Take care...
Best 72/73’s Trev, KG6CYN
Truffle Logs

Well conditions were better than I thought considering an A-index in the teens.

Rig here was a Yaesu FT 817 running 5 watts to a ground mounted vertical. Not the best of antennae, but adequate to net me 40 states and 54 DX countries since the first of the year.

Here is what I heard.

W5TB 559 TX DOC 5W
W5YR 559 TX GEORGE 5W
WU9N 559 WI FEROZ 5W
W9HL 559 IL RANDY 5W
AF4PS 559 FL MAC 3W
K8CV 559 MI WALT 5W
W5USJ 559 TX CHUCK 5W
WA9TZE 559 WI JIM 5W
K4BYF 559 FL JACK 5W
K5SR 559 TX DALE 5W
K0EVZ 559 ND DOC 5W
K5JHP 559 TX BILL 5W
K5DW 559 TX DON 5W
KC9LC 559 VA RANDY 5W
WE9K 599 WI GLENN 5W
N1TP 579 FL TOM 5W
W0RSP 559 SD ADE 2W GOOD SIG
WA8BXN 559 OH MIKE 5W

18 OF Y’ALL. Even operating split, at times there were so many I couldn't make out a call. Jolly good show gang.

TU es oink-oink. Thanks for the new state Ade.

72, oo
Paul, K4FB

This is embarrassing....:-). My public apology and thanks for the corrections. Why I personally like log corrections:

Randy's entry error was just not paying attention to detail. For some reason, I keep having trouble with S and H. What's really strange was that my old call had both letters (KB5MHS). Looks like G4FON's software and Pile Up! are going to get a workout this summer. My apologies, Bill. Jim's entry error was faulty logic...A 4 call and an *A must equal GA. No excuse for not asking for a fill.

When I play CW contesting, it's pretty much S & P. I don't call anybody until I have their complete exchange down already. It's a LOT different being live on the “other” end. I have much to work on before the 2002-03 season, and I *really* appreciate everybody being a good sport while pointing it out. Thanks!

*Corrected entry:
1 0131 7043 W5YR 559 TX GEORGE 5W
2 0132 7043 W5USJ 559 TX CHUCK 5W
3 0133 7043 AF4PS 575 FL MAC 3W
4 0134 7043 K4BYF 559 FL JACK 5W
5 0136 7043 W9HL 559 IL RANDY 5W
6 0137 7043 K5JHP 559 TX BILL 5W
7 0139 7043 K8CV 559 MI WALT 5W
8 0140 7043 K5SF blown call - Dale did keep trying, though! :-)
9 0141 7043 K5SR 559 TX DALE 5W
10 0144 7043 N1TP 559 FL TOM 5W
11 0146 7043 W9HL 559 IL RANDY 5W
12 0149 7043 KG4LDY 559 VA JIM 5W
13 0151 7043 W2XN 559 FL FRED 5W
14 0154 7043 K66RS 559 CA RON 5W
15 0156 7043 K5DW 559 TX DON 5W
16 0157 7043 K5TX 559 TX ROY 5W
17 0200 7043 WR5O 559 TX DAVE 5W

Thanks to all the hunters and the brave souls who volunteered to be Truffles for another great season. We will start again towards the end of summer, hope to see you then! Ω
HP breathes new life into Boat Anchors!

Hewlett Packard announced today (4/1/02) a new line of computers geared for the Amateur Radio community. With a cache of surplus computer hardware and the recent resurgence of “Boat Anchor” Ham Radio gear, the folks at HP have struck what could be a potential goldmine with their latest offering: The HP Model 0LD Computer.

“What is so exciting about this new PC is that now we can run the new digital modes on our old radios”, said Mac Steinhammer, W4QTOO of the Sunny Village Retirement ARC in Odessa, Fl.

“Right now we are using one of the 0LD computers with our clubs restored Drake TR-4 transmitter. Early results look good but it’s getting hard to find 5-1/4” floppy disks,” said Mac.

They plan to use the new setup during Field Day 2002 but may have to put those plans on hold due to no one in the club being able to lift the equipment. 

About the Flying Pigs QRP Club

OUR MISSION:
1: Have Fun.
2: No rules.
3: Have a group of Friendly Hams who enjoy Amateur Radio, and sharing their skills with their fellow Hams.

CLUB EMAIL 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.

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.

PROBLEM REPORTING:
If you are having problems with email, the web page, or a fellow club member, please report this to either: Diz, W8DIZ at w8diz@cinci.rr.com
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! Ω