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# *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.

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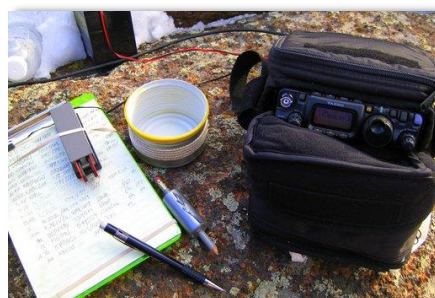
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## On the Cover:

Flying Pigs assume the position at FDIM

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# The View from the Slop

## By Rob, W0JRM FP#-330

Oink-oink, all you pigs! Welcome to the June 2008 issue of Bacon Bits Quarterly. By now, FDIM has passed and all that's left to look forward to is Field Day. I have to work, but will be there in spirit with all of you. Enjoy the beer and brats... err, emergency preparedness operations!

I would like to, again, thank everyone who contributed to this month's newsletter. Here are some compliments we've received on past newsletters:

Maybe there will be some new Flying Pig members as a result of learning about the club from reading the newsletter and seeing how fun we are!

There are! I've been informed that people are mentioning the newsletter in the FPQRP Membership form as a *reason they joined!* Keep it up gang; the newsletter is doing great with your help.

This issue we have a quick update on the Flying Pig Field Day plans, photos from Four Days in May, a great story about a new ham receiving their first rig courtesy our cousins in the Polar Bear QRP Club, details of a Polar Bear outing by Steve, N0TU, and other great content.

A new feature this issue is the "Member Spotlight" column. This is something Brian once did, but I haven't really picked up yet. He'd ask a random new member to say something about themselves for BBQ. Well, I'll sorta do it like that. I'm going to use a random number generator to find a FP number, and use that to pull up the associated member's QRZ profile, or a profile from a website, to publish in BBQ. So if you have an online profile, you better clean it up before I find it.

Enjoy this issue, and everyone have a safe Field Day.

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

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# How a Morse Finds Her Roots Using QRP

By Ed, WA3WSJ

It was late December of 2005 when I received a phone call from a young lady that would change not only her life, but others as well. The young lady stated that she was a newspaper reporter for the Allentown Morning Call. She asked if our Polar Bear Club swam in the frigid water in January as many other Polar Bear Clubs across the country do as she was looking to write a story about it.

I first asked how she found me, and she stated that she found our Polar Bear Website and that it looked very interesting. I stated that the Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club is an amateur radio club involved in low power amateur radio operation. The Polar Bear part of the club started in February of 2005 and we seek the highest mountain etc in the area to operate our QRP radios from during a full moon, but only from October until March.

After a brief chat on the phone, I suggested that she call the Dictator of the EPA QRP Club. Yes I said "Dictator" as that's what we all call him. Ron, WB3AAL, is the EPA QRP Club dictator or leader. He sets all rules, policies etc and there's no questioning his dictates.

Ron later called me and confirmed that he did speak to the reporter on the phone. In fact she was so interested in our activities that she wanted to come along with us to Pulpit Rock on the Appalachian Trail. Pulpit Rock is located next to a large open field with six telescope buildings owned by the Lehigh Valley Amateur Astronomical Society. We usually spread out and setup our radios in this field.

Our next Polar Bear Moonlight Madness Event was scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 and all the Pulpit Rock Bears and the other polar bears throughout the US, Canada and England were ready for some fun! The polar bears scheduled to operate at Pulpit Rock were WB3AAL, WA3WSJ, K3YTR, NK8Q, W3HF and his son Matt, KB3JJV.

WB3AAL and I hiked the 2.5 miles up to the summit as the others drove up. As I approached the observatory, I saw a woman walking around the field. She later came over to chat with me about what we were doing here. The temperature was hovering around twenty-five degrees and dropping fast with a steady wind of about fifteen miles per hour.

She introduced herself as Diana Morse and I immediately asked her if she was related to Samuel Morse. She had no idea who Samuel Morse was and didn't know if she was related to him. As she asked me questions about the event, I could sense that she was becoming excited about what we were doing and how much fun we were having with amateur radio. She took a bunch of pictures of us polar bears sitting in the snow operating our QRP radios and having a ball!

After that PBMME, Diana asked Alpha Bear Ron, WB3AAL, how she could become an amateur radio operator or ham. Ron did some checking and pointed her to a local ham radio license class. As she studied for her license, she also remembered what we Polar Bears said about Samuel Morse and looked into her family genealogy.

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Turns out that Diana Morse is a 5th cousin, 5 generations removed from Samuel FB Morse. He is 7th and she is 12th generation from Anthony Morse, who came to Mass. in 1635.

This story doesn't end there. As Diana Morse studied for her amateur radio license, we Polar Bears came up with the idea of buying her an HF radio. If she passed the class and picked up her ticket, we Polar Bears would present her with her very first amateur radio.



*Diana is presented a TS-440AT by the members of the Polar Bear QRP Club*

She passed with flying colors and her code speed was over five-words per minutes. This was very important to Diana, now knowing the Samuel Morse connection. So on May 25, 2006 the Founding Polar Bears, consisting of WB3AAL, WA3WSJ, K3YTR and NK8Q, drove to Diana's house in Allentown, PA. We presented her with a Kenwood TS-440AT that was in mint condition. We installed it and she later made a contact with Ron, WB3AAL.



*Ron, WB3AAL, presents Diana, KB3NNP, with a paddle donated by Vibroplex*

The Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club always operates the ARRL Field Day at French Creek State Park here in Pennsylvania. So during the ARRL 2006 Field Day, we all presented Diana a brand new chrome-plated paddle donated by Vibroplex. She seemed overwhelmed and very thankful for the paddle and all the help from so many hams.

Life has this way of just moving on, but sometimes special connections occur when you least expect them. This was one of those "special connections." Diana Morse is now an amateur radio operator with the call sign of KB3NNP.

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Here's an email from Diana and her thoughts about the Samuel Morse Connection.

*Fellow hams, Polar Bears, QRP'ers, et al (I know some of these overlap...)*

*Thank you for the good wishes. It occurred to me this morning that there may not be many relatives of Samuel FB Morse transmitting, although mathematically speaking there should be quite a few of us out there.*

*My daughter is going to take classes next fall...she is 5th cousin, 6 generations removed to Samuel.*

*My parents, of the puritan bent, didn't tell my siblings and me of our relationship because it was "vain." Sadly, I very nearly missed knowing about my heritage.*

*I'm 5th cousin, 5 times (generations) removed from Samuel FB Morse--he is 7th & I am 12th generation from Anthony Morse, who came to Mass. in 1635.*

*In an unusual twist of events, as Ron can better explain, it was brought to light. Thanks, Ron & all the Polar Bear QRP'ers who kept after me till I got my ticket.*

*Everyone, I'm pretty slow yet...5 wpm is all I can copy...but I'm working on 7.*

*My heartfelt and warmest thanks for welcoming an "L", whether Y or XY into your ranks. I will try to make you, and Cousin Sam, proud.*

*My best regards & 72,*

***Diana Morse, KB3NNP***

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

## **PBMME as W3PBC/n0tu on Mt Herman, CO By Steve, N0TU**

### **Who are the Polar Bears and what's a PBMME?**

Well first off who are the Polar Bears? The Polar Bear QRP Club is a "den" of amateur radio operators who love rap and the outdoors. They especially like to operate during winter full moons calling their winter fun events Polar Bear Moonlight Madness Events or PBMME. The key word here is 'Event'. It's not a contest but a casual gathering of PBs on the air. The purpose is to test their skills and radio equipment should the need arise to provide emergency communications where there is none (Katrina?). You needn't be a member to participate but you may wonder what all the "GRRRR"s sent during PB QSOs mean. It's nothing more than our standard 'friendly' greeting amongst us Polar Bears. For more information about the PBs visit the yahoo PB group at: [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PolarBearQRP\\_Ops/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PolarBearQRP_Ops/)

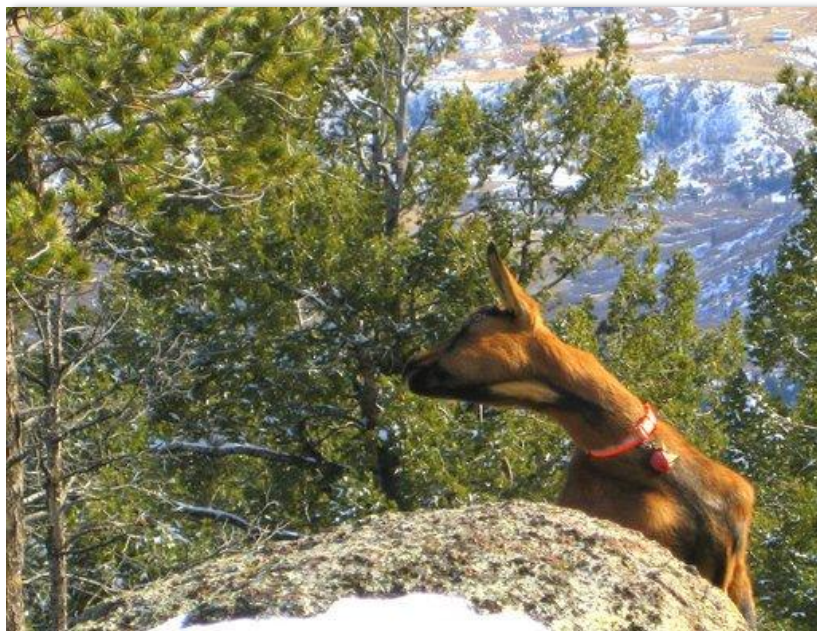
### **It was a GRRRREAAAT PBMME outing on Mt Herman!**

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My 2-pack goats (Rooster and Peanut) and I hiked up Mt Herman (9,000' ASL) mid morning after it had stopped snowing. I had request to use the Polar Bear Club's call sign W3PBC which had just been recently issued wanting to give some exposure to the new club call sign. It was typical late February weather cycling between sunshine and snow. I had recently built a home brew version of the W3FF BuddiPole and wanted to test it out from on high. Several weeks prior I did a similar outing with the BuddiStick but the results were dismal! I was much more pleased with a just simple EFHW wire in the tree which allowed for several FB QSOs! Just to clarify the BuddiStick (BS) is just half of the BuddiPole used as a vertical with only one radial also called a counter poise. Photos of my HB BS and BP can be seen here: <http://picasaweb.google.com/n0tu.qrp/PBpole/photo#s5163651812905657922>



*Just minutes before snow storm (flurries) hit*



*Peanut exercises his neck*

A few weeks prior to this February's PBMME outing I spent several afternoons on my deck at home using an antenna analyzer tweaking my BuddiStick for max performance. I had realized that my prior poor experience was mainly due to not having done my homework! Trying to tweak it in the field in winter conditions isn't the brightest option! Because taking your gloves off and on in snowy-freezing temps aren't fun or safe! Well it paid off in spades. Results were quite gratifying to say the least.

### **A few 599s were almost too much!**

The radio site I had scouted out earlier was on top of Mt Her man's south summit on a rocky ridge with a sheer 1000' drop-off to the east which all toll is ~1800' above the valley floor. When I got to the site I setup my HB BuddiStick and gear. I bungeed the BS support mast to an old dead tree limb, which was jammed between 2 huge boulders. My BS mounts on a 16' telescoping fiberglass mast which I also use as hiking stick and wire antenna support when not supporting the BS. I fired up my FT817 on 14060 KHz and

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noted I got full power out which was a very good sign. It meant the SWR was very low and not folding back power trying to protect the PAs! Woohoo it was working! I also noticed my fellow PB QRP stations received signals were quite loud ...another good sign! But the signal reports of 579, 589, and a few 599s were almost too much! WOW! I was so pleased my HB BuddiStick performance (needless to say) and went on to have a GRRRREAAAT PBMME!!

I must confess though I think it's more the 1800' tower Mother Nature provide me on that day than the antenna. When the warmer weather returns it'll be fun to go back up and put up two antennas on that site to compare my BS to an EFHW side by side and actually see if there's any noticeable difference?

Until then here's a YouTube video I made of my PBMME experience:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/goathiker>

GRRRR, Steve/n0tu  
<http://www.angelfire.com/planet/goatman/>

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

## **A Homebrew Single Lever Paddle** **By Tom, N2UHC FP#-1149**

I had previously built a straight key using a PC slot blank (see January 2005 edition of BBQ) as the straight key lever, so I knew it would be a fairly simple project to build a set of paddles using the same basic idea.

My first plan was to use two slot blanks on a wooden base and make an iambic paddle set out of them. I was going to have a wooden base, an upright wooden piece attached to the base which would hold the levers, and a single post between them to make contact. However, I came up against the problem of not having two slot blanks that were similar.



*A homebrew paddle by Tom, N2UHC*

I could have used two different ones but I wanted the project to look nice, plus I really didn't want the levers to say "DELL" on them. So instead I decided to scrap the two levers, single post idea and go for a single lever, dual contact post plan. I had seen this done before with a hacksaw blade, so I knew that using a slot blank would work fine.

For the contact posts, I used a couple of old 1" standoffs salvaged from electronic equipment. The standoffs are hex-shaped with a screw thread on one end and screw holes in the other. Luckily they had nuts attached to the screw threads so it would be easy to attach them to the base.



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I drilled holes into the base & then countersunk holes for the nuts. Near the screw-hole end, I drilled holes perpendicularly through the standoffs. These holes were made to hold the screws which would act as contacts.

The lever would move back & forth contacting the end of each screw to make the dit & dah connections. A pair of nuts on each screw would hold them in place with the nut on the lever side being epoxied to the standoff. The outer nut on each post acts as a locking nut to hold the screw in place and keep the spacing constant.

For the wooden parts, I cut a base and an upright part to hold the lever from a scrap piece of 3/4" thick board. I drilled the holes I'd need for the posts & to hold the upright into the base, and then routed the top edge of base. I then sanded it smooth.

I sanded down the upright part, and rounded off the top a bit to give it a smooth appearance. I decided to try to make the upright so that the paddle lever would be inserted into it instead of just screwed to one side with a wire hanging down. I thought it would look a lot better with all wires & screws hidden.

I had brainstormed for days trying to think of the best way to do this. One plan I had was to either glue or screw two separate pieces of board together with the lever between them, but I really didn't want any screws showing. I finally came up with the idea of trying to cut a slit into the upright, but I wasn't sure how to do it.

As a lark, I came up with the idea of hammering an old small metal ruler into the wood, so I tried it with a scrap piece. Luckily the wood was soft enough to give, but not so soft that it split. It was also soft enough that I was able to easily remove the ruler once I had hammered it into the wood. Since it worked so well in practice, I went ahead and used this procedure on the piece I'd use for the upright on the paddle.

Once this was done, I drilled a small hole on the bottom of the upright so that I could insert a wire to make contact with the lever. I inserted the wire through the hole and pulled it through the slot, then made a small loop so that it'd make better contact with the lever, and then carefully pulled the wire back into the slit. Once I straightened out the bent part at the end of the slot blank, I inserted it into the slit I made in the upright. I tested the continuity with my multimeter and it worked. The connection was good and the wire would be hidden from view.

I attached wires to each post & tested everything to make sure it was working OK. Once that was done, I disassembled it and thought about the best way to add weight to the paddle so that it wouldn't slide around during use. I decided to hollow out the base the best I could and add some lead weight. I drew out the area I wanted hollowed out with a felt tip pen, and then placed the base in a vise. I then took a wood chisel & hammer and carefully began hollowing out the base. However, I wasn't careful enough because I knocked part of the base apart.

I then cut another base out of board and once holes were drilled, began the process of carefully hollowing it out. However, this time I used my Dremel tool and using a rotary saw bit, I cut the outline of the part I wanted to hollow out. This worked much better and with a bit more care, I didn't knock the end out of the new base. Once it was hollowed out, I routed along the top edge of the base to smooth it out & then sanded it smooth.

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Once all construction on the base & upright was complete, I began working on the paddle handle itself. I cut a basic paddle shape out of a piece of 3/4" board and using the Dremel with a sanding drum attachment, continually smoothed it down until I had the shape I wanted.

The shape of the paddle handle is unique in that I wanted it to be ergonomically comfortable, so I routed a horizontal concave shape for the thumb side, and a vertical concave for the finger side. The feel is really remarkable and comfortable, and feels totally natural. This was one of the most labor-intensive parts of construction, since I sanded it down from 3/4" thick to parts of it less than 1/4," all the while making sure the feel was right. I cut a slit in the lever end and then drilled two holes for two small screws & nuts. I countersunk the holes on each side so that the screws & nuts would be in the wood and not on the surface.

Once all the woodworking was completed, I took the wooden parts and sprayed them with wood stain. After wiping them with a paper towel and letting them set for a day, I then took some clear spray paint and sprayed them with several coats. After letting them dry for a day or two, it was time to insert the lever & wire into the upright.

I had originally planned to solder the wire directly to the lever, however PC slot blanks don't lend themselves to being soldered easily. I then had the idea of drilling a hole in the lever and twisting the (solid) wire around through the hole, but the slit I made in the wooden upright was too narrow to allow the lever & wire to be inserted. I was going to have to rely on simple contact.

I pulled the wire back into the slit after making a small loop. I then placed epoxy on just one side of the lever and inserted it into the slit, making sure the wire made contact with the non-epoxied side of the lever. I'd rather have soldered it, but the slit is narrow enough that it keeps contact between the wire & lever.

After making sure the lever was firmly in the upright and had continuity with the wire, I attached the paddle handle. I then ran the wire from the upright through a corresponding small hole in the base and ran two screws through the base to hold the upright in place. I then attached the contact posts to the base and attached wires to them using round lug connectors.

In the rear of the base I drilled a hole to run some audio cable through to which I had attached a 3.5mm stereo audio plug on the keyer end, and around the cable inside the hollowed-out base I put a nylon wire tie. This holds the cable & prevents it from being pulled out. All the necessary connections were made from the wires to the cable, and I had a working paddle.

Finally, I took about 1/4 cup of bird shot and mixed it with epoxy. I then filled the base of the paddle up with the bird shot and let it set to cure. As a final aesthetic touch, I took a couple of rhinestones from my wife's sewing kit and epoxied them to the top of each post to cover the screw holes. Final adjustment was made by screwing in the contact screws and locking them down with the locking nuts. Four plastic feet were attached to the bottom.

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The paddle works quite well, though at first it took a little getting used to. It takes a light touch, so anyone used to slapping their paddle probably won't like using one like this. One thing I realized about this paddle is that the contact spacing can't be too narrow or else you'll get "bounceback."

What this means is that when you let off the paddle, it swings back & makes contact with the other contact causing an extra dit or dah. So a somewhat wide spacing and a light touch are necessary for this paddle, as well as to avoid "flipping" the paddle. I believe shortening the lever would alleviate this problem since this would make the lever a bit stiffer.

However, as built this paddle works nicely and I'm really pleased with the way the handle turned out. It has a very nice, natural feel which is pleasing to use, and it has become one of my favorite paddles to use on the air.



*A detailed view of the bird-shot weighting of the paddle*

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

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# **N5MZX Guide to Elmering**

## **By Ev, N5MZX FP#-1192**

The ARRL Handbook “2006” defines an ELMER in chapter 1 on page 1.8 as “an Elmer, teaches newcomers about Amateur Radio on a one -to one basis.” This is an excellent definition of an Elmer. I think it is necessary to expand this definition to include “and continuing to nurture, advise, and give aid to all in the Amateur Radio Fraternity”.

Why Elmer's? Because it is the right thing to do, and because each one of us has knowledge to share with others. Elmering can be as simple as helping a new ham put up a dipole antenna, or helping a disabled ham fix a problem with his rig. The most visible form of Elmering is to help the prospective ham to get his license and to help him get on the air.

Who can be an Elmer? An Elmer can be a friend, stranger, or relative. They can come from a local radio club, an on-line radio club or an e-mail reflector. But in my opinion it should be done by personal contact with the prospective ham. My early Elmer's were my father, WA2BHS, family friend John Young, K2IFR, and my Uncle “D,” W5AMF.

My Dad and Jack Young were the ones to get me interested in Amateur Radio and help me earn my license. My Uncle encouraged me to home brew and build kits. He also encouraged me to return to Amateur Radio after my Novice ticket expired. My Dad helped me to build my first transmitter using a 6L6 tube from a 1950's ARRL Handbook. I also built a power supply for the rig. My Dad was also my first contact. We worked each other on dummy loads from my room to his basement shack. All of my Elmer's gave me long term encouragement. Other Elmers included people from the local radio club, and even people that I net on the air.

It was my membership in the Morris County Amateur Radio Club that got me out of the shack and involved in outside radio activities. We were involved in the local Soap Box Derby, the Salk Polio vaccination program, and Civil Defense. There was also Field Day. Now if there is a formal amateur radio club in your area I urge you to join it. The club can be a valuable tool for finding Elmer's in your area.

If you don't have a local club in your area the World Wide Web can be very helpful. The Internet offers a form of Elmering in the contents of its web pages, forums, and e-mail reflectors. Examples of where you can find help include [www.fqrp.net](http://www.fqrp.net), [www.qrparci.org](http://www.qrparci.org), [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org), <http://www.qrp-l.org>, and a host of other sites. There are list to help you build your favorite kit, operate DX, build antennas, operate QRP, and for specific radios like the Yaesu 817. Elmering does not always require face-to-face interaction.

Still not convinced that you want to be an Elmer? Are you reluctant because of the changes in Amateur Radio? Well guess what. The chances are that some of you reading this remember Incentive Licensing. My Uncle “D” had a conditional license. He did not like the changes in the license structure of the late 1950's and thought it was a dumbing down of amateur radio, but he never refused to teach me or answer any of my questions. He never and I repeat never treated me as any less of a Ham than he was. A lesson that I have only recently learned myself.

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I urge all Hams to be Elmer's to our new hams no-matter what you think about the new license structure. Take them under you Piggy Wings and help them gain the knowledge and experience to be better radio operators. Heaven knows that you might just get one to learn the code and use it.

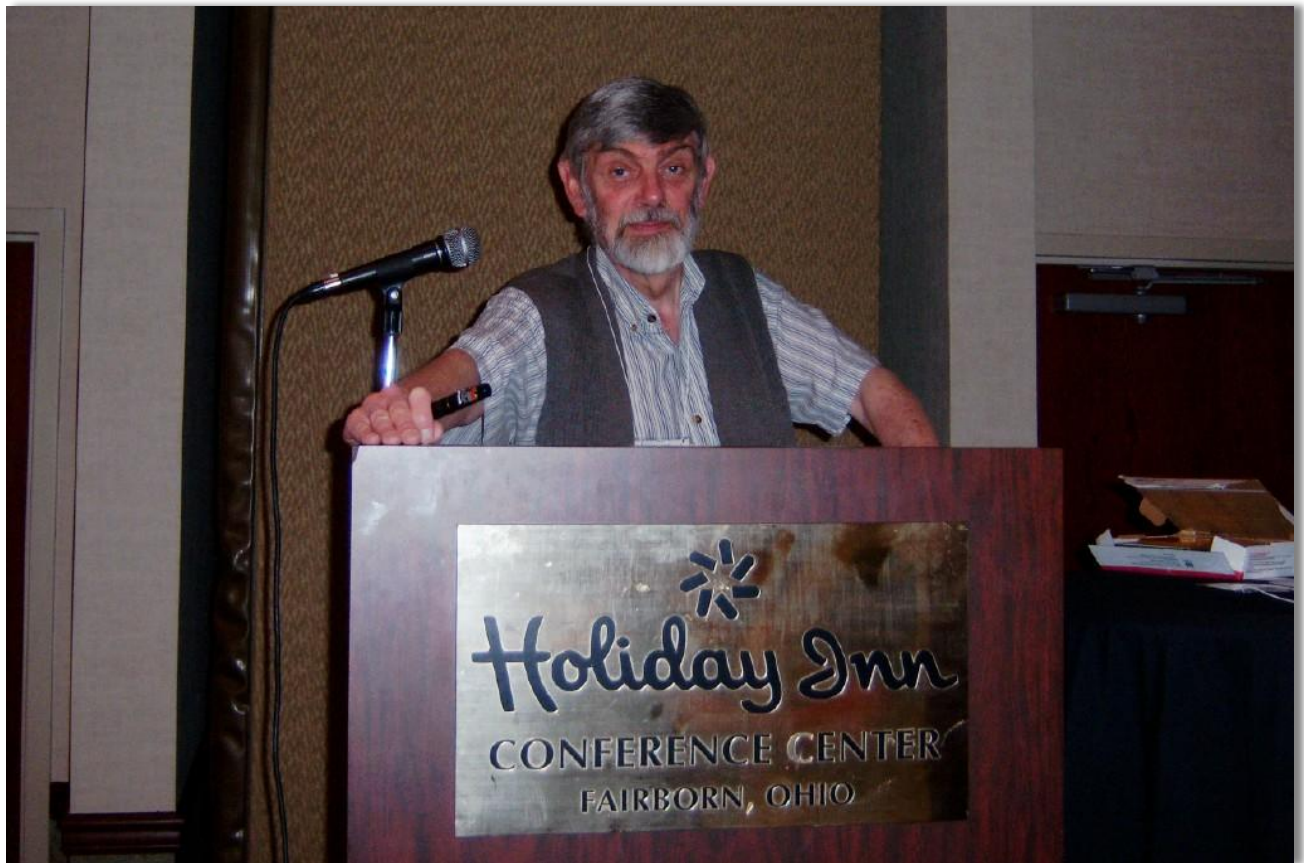
Remember as Uncle Sam once said "Amateur Radio Needs Elmers" or something like that".

Vi Minore plus Gaudium

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

## FDIM Photos By Various Contributors

*Here's some photos from the 2008 Four Days in May convention, contributed by various individuals.*



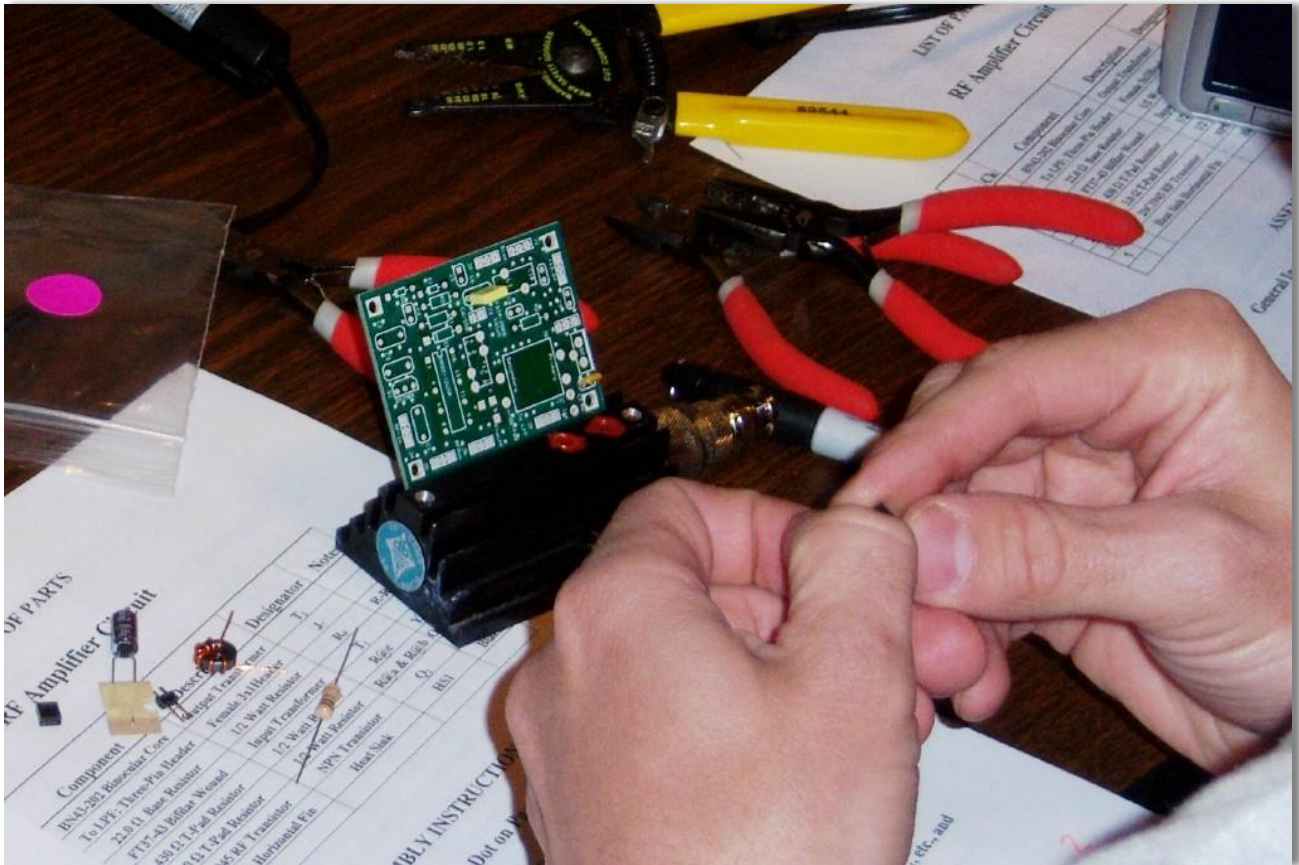
*Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV, delivering his seminar talk at FDIM-2008. This was part of the events on Thursday, May 15.  
Photo by Dean, KH6B.*



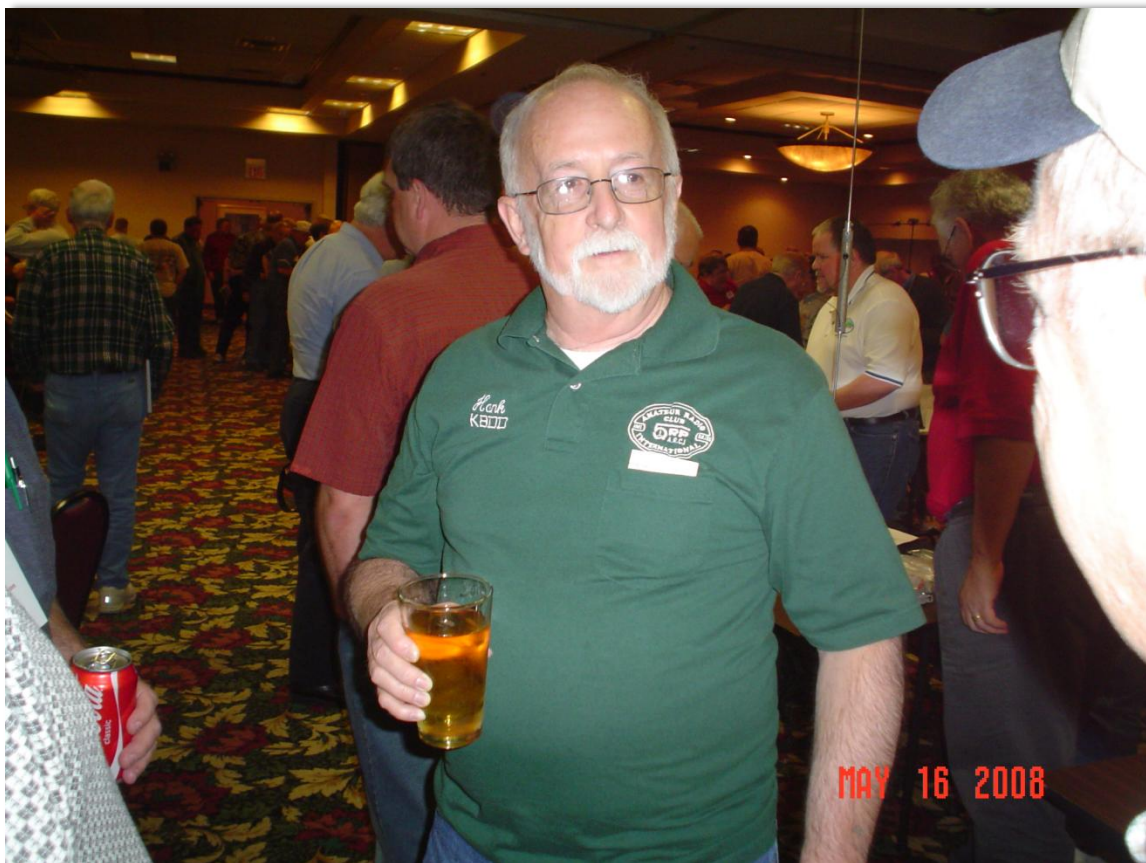
*Friday evening at FDIM-2008: Vendor's night and Homebrew events took place in the main Ballroom.  
Photo by Dean, KH6B.*



*David, GM4ZNX, seminar Q&A speaker and Diz, W8DIZ, at breakfast, FDIM-2008, Fairborn Holiday Inn.  
Photo by Dean Manley, KH6B/W8FGB*



*Buildathon at FDIM-2008. The Friday night, May 16 project this time was a broadband single-ended BJT RF amplifier. Photos by Dean KH6B.*



**Hank, K8DD FP#-281**  
Photo from <http://www.fqrp.com/>



**Mikey, WB8ICN FP#-68**  
Photo from <http://www.fqrp.com/>





*Piggies show off their pelf  
Photo from <http://www.fpqr.com/>*

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

## **Hocking Hills QRP Report** **By Jason, N8XE FP#-443**

Here is a short report on my QRP adventure in the lovely Hocking Hills region of Ohio (if you have never been there, it is well worth it). On my way out, I remembered that I forgot my 12v battery that I charged just for this trip, so I figured that I would just use the internal batteries that would give me a 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

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difficult time copying his call sign. He would add extra length to his dash right before the next dit. After I kept messing his call sign up, he went to a keyer and we continued with a nice QSO. I also gave a nice plug for our club and he said he has been looking into us. 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. So 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 so 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. Oh well, a storm started to come in so it was a good time to pack up and enjoy the company of the XYL on the back deck and watch 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 whippoorwills 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!

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

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## **How Not to Fix an Oscilloscope**

### **Or: David, WN5Y FP#-1397 Joins FP-Z**

One day while cruising the Internet I found a link to a Tektronix oscilloscope repair Yahoo Group. I have a 475 scope that had been on the blink for a long time that I really liked using. Excited about the chance to fix it, I signed up for the group.

After the usual scan by the group moderator I was accepted. Like a good newbie to the group, instead of immediately posting my problem, I did a search in the archives for "power supply problems - fuse blows on turn-on." I got 161 messages.

After reading all 161 messages it was clear that my scope had a bridge diode failure problem. Since the scope was first built in 1978, the power supply capacitors were probably old with the usual problems of high leakage and shorts.

Off with the case and armed with the DVM, immediately found a short across one of the electrolytic caps. It was either the cap or the bridge diode. After taking out the cap, the short was found in the bridge diode. Being safe, after replacing the bridge, I replaced the cap that was downstream from that part of the bridge. There were two caps on that bridge as it generated two voltages with two caps back to back. But the other side of the bridge was OK. The cap for that side was impossible to remove without removing a side-mounted PCB the looked like a lot of trouble to remove.

I put the case back on. The old fuse at the back of the case was blown. Unfortunately, I had used up all the 1.5 amp fuses that it required. I did have a whole bag of 4 amp fuses. While looking at the 4 amp fuses, the center wire looked so delicate that I thought to myself, "It will blow and keep the scope safe."

I pulled the on switch and it worked! All the trace controls worked great and I was so proud of myself. I stared at it in disbelief. Wow! I turned off the scope to get on my bicycle for a trip to the store for my favorite neurotoxin, Diet Coke, to celebrate. At the store I bragged to my friends about how I repaired this complicated piece of test equipment that I thought I had no chance of ever fixing.

On the way back I had what turned out to be a premonition. I thought that it would have been good to replace the other cap on that bridge, a 350mfd electrolytic, just to cover all the bases for that failure.

When I hit the door of my place I dug out my probes, set up a receiver I was working on to see my first reading from the receiver VFO on the scope. What a thrill!

I anxiously turned on the scope, but no trace. I turned it off, turned it back on: no trace. Then there was "the smell." I pulled the scope up on my lap and did the nose test to find out where it was coming from. Wasn't that bad and could hardly smell anything. Turned it back on and still no trace. A little more of "the smell." Tried a couple more times - no luck - a little more "smell."

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Took the case off and felt something really hot. The power transformer was almost too hot to touch. Checked my work on the bridge and found a dead short across the unfixed leg of the diode bridge. Took the bridge out and found the capacitor had shorted, probably immediately when I turned on the scope. The bridge checked good. Partially removed the side PCB, got the cap out and confirmed my suspicions, a dead short across the leads of the electrolytic.

The next day I was more ambitious, took the side PCB completely out and had great access to all the caps and diode bridges. Replaced them all.

Got it all back together for the next test. Turned it on and it worked! What a beautiful trace! Pat myself on the back!

But then slowly...very slowly...ever so slowly...the trace disappeared, the LEDs went out one by one, until the only LED on was one labeled "Low Line Voltage." I guess I got the transformer too hot – damn it!

I put the case back on and relegated the scope to the storage room. After some thinking, I decided I had put too much work in the scope to give up. I knew the problem. I could still fix it.

So, my first post to the Yahoo Tektronix group: "Does anyone have a power transformer for a 475 from a junker or know where to find one? I had a bad piece of luck and made a stupid error."

I will be buying some 1.5 amp fuses tomorrow.....

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

## WTF???

### By Doc Joel, KE1LA FP#-190

Once upon a field day two groups of ops stood on opposite hilltops. One laughing and merry. The other tired and dreary for they had just carried tons of generators, gasoline, hundreds of pounds of radios and coax and extension cords up the hill, not to mention the towers and antennas and rotors... yes it was field day...

And gro is a heavy way to geaux, u neaux. 29 mules to haul the junk for one operator or maybe two...

Meanwhile on the qrp hill, each of the ops had brought their own rig and antenna wire and string or light rope along with their favorite brew... no mules for these guys as a back pack would do.

U sea these qrp guys kneaux whare to put string in the trees to make elaborate antennas with little effort and use light coax or twinlead for their milliwatts of power...

And wire antennas for their great signal strength... the qro chaps haven't a clue... and need to concern themselves about electrocution too.

Sumthin the qrp crowd couldn't due... unless lightning came thru in a storm or two....

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I guess qrp is less power combined with meaux brains while qro is pure brawn... witch is good for mowing lawn's, I guess....

As the weekend ends the qro crowd stumbles on down the hill, to tired and grumpy to pack things right they watch objects geaux tumbling downhill... just money, no problem...

At the same time the qrp crowd cleans up the area of camp, and marches downhill each holding a can of their favorite brew and looking foreward to future things to due.....cause they (qrp crowd) had a good relaxing time and got their share of qso's too... maybe even a first place or two....

Ah yes, the joy only qrp can bring...

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I kneaux what u gonna due whan the other guy decides to use a kw against ur 5w... well u can cuss em, which won't due anyone any good or u can got u-self a better antenna system and null the dude out or make ur 5 watts strong enough to get through him.....

or could got u-self some books and got ur-self smarter to learn how to make them new circuits what gonna notch that jerker out...

U kneaux, back whan god was young... we didn't have that option.. If a better ant system didn't work or the knotch filter didn't work we just qsy iffin we had another crystal for the radio.... Yea, crystal control days...

And the knowledge then was U can't stop interference what be exactly on ur freq... well ah don't think that holds true today with all them active wiz filters and stuffs.. But then how many of us got the no-how to build them things or afford to buy them for out little radios...

Course we could ask Diz to draw up sumthin for us... but by the time we got round to building the thing... it gonna be to late... so qsy and keep the blood prssure down seems to the logical thing to due...

Due ewe kneaux how logical doc joel can be???? Weel tell u what I like to due... ah jump in the simulator and fly to that guys house and drop a hook onto that antenna of his and pull it up eleven- teen hundred foots and drop it back in his yard... or as close as I can... sometimes it catches the power lines and lightning flashes and the areaa goes dark... cept for little scattered fires heah and thair...

Sure makes a fella feel better to got the rudeness off the bands... specially when I can use the ultra light and two meter rig... course now the ultimate revenge be evvn better and cause less trouble for everybody...

U sea, u have small remote control rigs with u... and u tune in this fella... and whan u hook his antenna u let ur hook pull out the small remote rig... and use just a few milliwatts and a small telescoping antenna ... now u wait for the guy to stop transmitting and u call cq or call him directly and u humble him by tellen him u is using milliwatts and a two foot antenna... drives some of them nuts I tell u...

/course then u gotta land somewhere and geaux knock at his door and introduce u-self and then get ur radio off his antenna... just to prove u was using milliwatts u kneaux...and got u-self a pin in his coax when possible....

Well ah better geaux have some kick a poo juice before ah starts writing stupid...  
joel

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

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# FPQRP Net Reports

## MARCH 2, 2008 40M NET

KE1LA NCS

yes Martha we had a net tonite... with a working antenna lots of things are possible!

I heard lots of folks trying to check in but u was too dang weak... the band was noisy here and it was frustrating to hear so many i could just not pull in... thanks millions for trying and consider urself checked in if u tried...now some stations I did get even if only their call sign...

CHECK INS

K2HYD....RAY... GOOD 589...THANKS

AE4DT.....JIM IN GA... THANKS

NOJRN.... JERRY... GOT UR CALL AND THAIR U WENT... THANKS OO

WB9BVN OR IS THAT KB9.... ANYHOW IT'S BRIAN.. THANKS I GOT UR CALL

55 AND THEN U WAS GONE.. SILENT, NOT EVEN A WISPER...JOEL

AND THE USEAL GUYS... OREO AND COOKIE THE GUINIES AND BUN BUN THE RABBIT WERE THAIR...

GREAT TIME ON THE NET THANKS TO ALL...

## MARCH 9, 2008 40M NET

KE1LA NCS

HIGH FOLK...  
ONE CHECKIN

N0JRN.. ABOUT 33... LOTS OF NOISE

AND THAT'S IT... JOEL

## MARCH 16, 2008 40M NET

KE1LA NCS

BAND WENT DEAD HERE ABOUT THREE MINUTES TO 9PM EASTERN

SRY. HEARD LOTS OF STATIONS BEFORE NINE

## MAY 11, 2008 80M NET

W0JRM NCS

Impromptu net, 3.564 MHZ @ 0430 UTC

Well, I dunno what happened. I had the rig on the frequency for an hour before net time and heard nothing but static. I called "QRL?" three times, then started calling CQ FP NET.

Out of nowhere, two guys start sending random dits and dahs, then told me to QSY because they were in the middle of a conversation. I guess they both got up to go to the bathroom at the same time. Hrmph.

Anyway, that's how tonight's net went. See you all in two weeks, perhaps at a different time and/or frequency.

I'll leave the rig on. After these two guys QRT, I may send a CQ or two and see if I can snag a QSO before bed.

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## Member Spotlights

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

### **Flying Pig -1737 – Kevin, KB9WVI:**

*An Assistant ARRL Emergency Coordinator and an assistant RACES officer for Monroe County EMA. Member Monroe County ARES/RACES Group and public information officer for the Bloomington Amateur Radio Club.*

*Editor ARES-RACES Group Newsletter (see current issue at <http://www.co.monroe.in.us/> navigate to the Emergency Management page).*

*One of many net control officers for the Monroe County Repeater Association and a National Weather Service volunteer storm spotter and Skywarn net controller since 2000.*

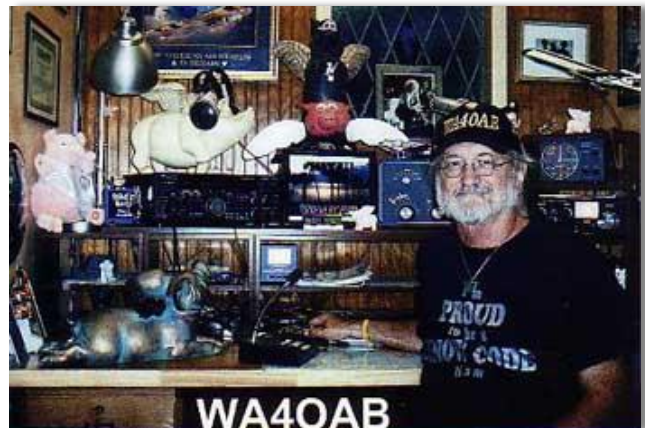
*Upgraded to General in June of 2006 just before the end of the CW requirement. Can't wait to tell young new hams "back when I took my General..." Just now getting a little active on HF (20 meters mostly) and enjoying it very much.*

*Oh yes, and Flying Pig #1737*



### **Flying Pig -588 – Bob, WA4OAB:**

*First licensed in 1962 as WN4OAB while in the 101st Army Airborne Paratrooper and assigned to a communications unit. WA9MHK came next in 1964 after getting out of the service and moving to WI. WA4OAB was issued when I moved back to my home QTH in FL. in 1965. Active until 1972 when I let my license expire while raising a family and managing a career.*



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Got back on the air as KG4QKA in Dec. 2001 and received my old call, WA4OAB through the vanity program on March 8, 2002.

Rigs-Home QTH - Kenwood TS-950S, Ameritron 811H Amp & ICOM 706MKIIG  
Antennas - 2 element Cubex Quad and a G5RV

Portable QTH in Floyd VA. - Kenwood TS440-S hooked to a dipole

ARRL - FISTS#9187 - QCWA#33315 - Flying Pig QRP Club#588

### **Flying Pig -1883 – Jeff, K8KZB**

*Hello from ARS K8KZB,*

*My name is Jeff and I thank you for looking up my info. I was first licensed in May 1998 as KC0DNQ, I got this vanity call when I moved in 2001. I hang out on 40 meters, 80 meters and have been chasing dx on just about every band.*

*I am President of the Genesee County Radio Club (W8ACW) and have been for 3 years now. The club has been active since 1933, currently we have over 50 members and hold an average attendance of 20 members at our monthly club meetings.*

*My Wife Amy (WA8MY) teaches Technician and CW classes at the local high school. I have been helping her with the Technician and General Classes more now that I have time.*

*April 2007 - \*\*\* Update\*\*\**

*Amy and I did our first QSO Party, we have never got involved in any kind of contesting but we got the bug when the club we belong to (Genesee County Radio Club) decided to do a field day this year. We did the Michigan QSO Party to get our feet wet and we had a blast.*

*\*\*\*\*EQSL Now Active\*\*\*\**





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Amy and I also have eQSL logs uploaded, we are both authentically guaranteed as well. I did not even know about eQSL until I stumbled on it on 4/25/07. Anyway I found that my logging program (Logic 8) does all the work for me so I look forward to your eQSL. I will still send out paper QSL's as well as EQSL's, I might do LOTW down the road but right now I'm going to get used to this new way of QSLing.

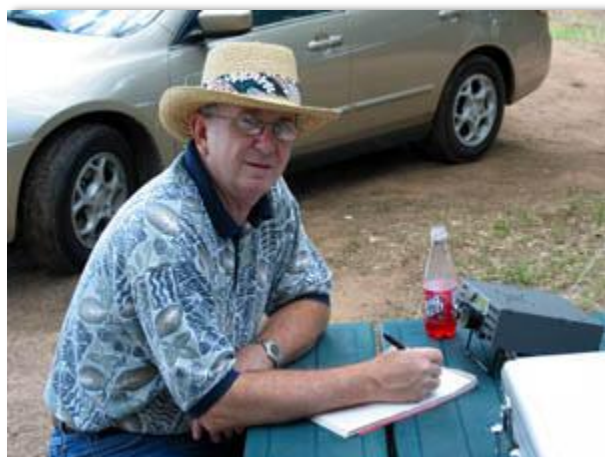
Amateur Radio has been very good to me and I love this hobby!!!

I look forward to talking to you on the air.

73's Jeff

### **Flying Pig -481 – Phil, WA5PQL**

I go by the name "Phil" and am an Extra Class Amateur who has been operating since the 60's. I have been active in Ponca City, OK, Arlington, TX, Richardson, TX, Garland, TX, Lubbock, TX, Sherman, TX, Dallas, TX, Waco, TX, Ellicottville, NY, Midlothian, TX, and now currently in Waxahachie, TX (45 minutes south of Dallas). In the past, I have operated the following modes: CW, SSB, PSK31, RTTY, 2 & 440 AM & FM, and FS TV. Currently, I am interested in working all states CW. Current rig: ICOM IC-718. Current Antennas: Buddistick Vertical at 20 feet and a 33-foot multi-band wire vertical using the LDG AT-100Pro antenna tuner.



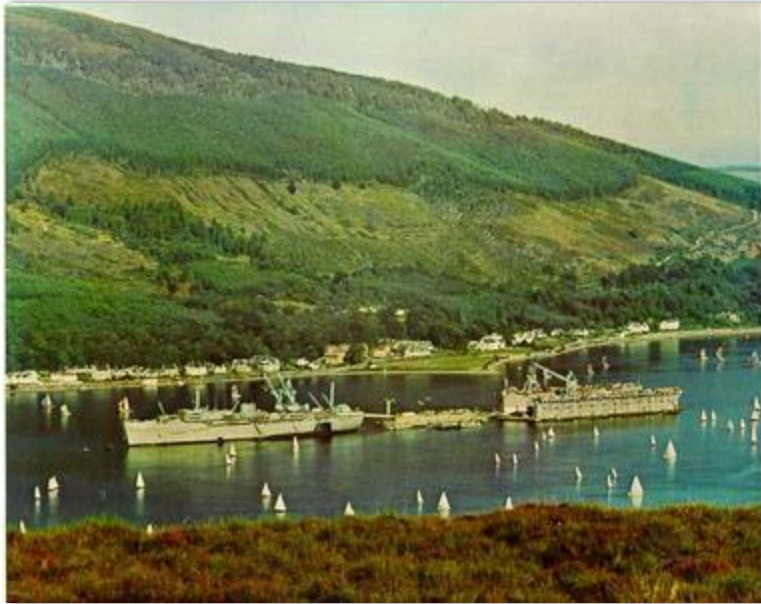
### **Flying Pig -141 – Michael, KK5F**

#### Callsigns Held

Amateur: WN5WGJ (1968-69), WA5WGJ (1969-80), KC5AO (1980), KK5F (1980 to forever).

Navy-Marine Corps MARS: N0LTD (1968-75), NNN0LTD (1975-81).

Army MARS: AAT6UI (1982-83), AAT5VT (1983-86).



Radio/Electronic Background

*Bachelor of Electrical Engineering - Georgia Tech*

*Radiotelegraph Second Class License With Ship Radar Endorsement*

*Radiotelephone First Class License*

Amateur Radio Topics

*Amateur Radio Interests: Old military and vacuum tube radios; Portable HF operation (QRO/QRP); Real QSOs.*

Professional Background

*Former Lieutenant Commander, US Navy. Served on USS Intrepid/CVS-11, Hr.Ms. Amsterdam/D819 and Hr.Ms. Beemster/M845 of the Royal Netherlands Navy, USS Daniel Boone/SSBN-629.*

*Formerly Senior Engineer, General Electric Company.*

*Now with the US Tennessee Valley Authority (Unit Supervisor, Engineer, Senior Reactor Operator).*

Miscellaneous

*Proud member of the National Rifle Association, the US Naval Institute, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and the American Nuclear Society.*

*Favorite Places: The Buffalo National River and the Ozark National Forest in northern Arkansas.*

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

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# Fresh Pork

The members of FPQRP would like to welcome the following new members to the pigpen:

1885 – Bob, W9WTF	Hopedale, Illinois
1886 – Bill, KJ4ADQ	Axton, Virginia
1887 – Sherie, KJ4ADQ	Axton, Virginia
1888 – Hannah, KJ4AMX	Axton, Virginia
1889 – Susannah, KJ4AMW	Axton, Virginia
1890 – Rosannah, KJ4BZO	Axton, Virginia
1891 – Josiah, KJ4AMU	Axton, Virginia
1892 – Isaiah, KJ4AMV	Axton, Virginia
1893 – Deannah, KJ4AUW	Axton, Virginia
1894 – Stewart, KE7LKW	White Salmon, Washington
1895 – Ed, KC0ZLR	Aurora, Colorado
1896 – John, N8ZYA	Charleston, West Virginia
1897 – Oliver, VR2UIX	Hong Kong
1898 – Dave, W8NF	Helvetia, Oregon
1899 – Derek, MM0WST	Edinburgh, Scotland
1900 – Skip, K5AWC	Atlanta, Georgia
1901 – Michael, M1ETC	Gillingham, England
1902 – Bert, K6CSL	Riverbank, California
1903 – Steve, WA2NHZ	Howell, New Jersey
1904 – Grant, KT6L	San Diego, California
1905 – Nat, K2DYB	Verona, New York
1906 – Paul, WN7T	Seattle, Washington
1907 – John, W0JFR	Louisville, Colorado
1908 – George, KH6OZ	Saint Ignatius, Montana
1909 – Don, AD7QU	Milwaukie, Oregon
1910 – David, WB6DHW	Kamiah, Oregon
1911 – Art, WB8ENE	Mantua, Oregon
1912 – Dennis, AK5D	Alamogordo, New Mexico
1913 – Bill, W7ZT	Mesa, Arizona
1914 – Dick, AI5F	Alamogordo, New Mexico
1915 – Jeff, KH6OY	Wyoming, Minnesota
1916 – James, W8JWA	Kettering, Ohio
1917 – Charles, N4UED	Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina
1918 – Nick, M0NJP	Wiltshire, England
1919 – Bob, WB0IQT	Cedar, Minnesota
1920 – Lincoln, AB9QN	Winamac, Indiana

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1921 – Stephan, VE3SJB	Thunder Bay, Ontario
1922 – Daniel, N9BAV	Goshen, Indiana
1923 – Bill, KC9CS	Largo, Florida
1924 – Cynda, K8CMG	Dayton, Ohio
1925 – Andy, M3YFC	Sandhurst, England
1926 – Beverly, N1OKG	Southington, Connecticut
1927 – Rod, K5BGB	Houston, Texas
1928 – Leo, N9QU	Luxemburg, Wisconsin
1929 – Rob, G1WVV	Shropshire, England
1930 – Dennis, WD9DWE	Seymour, Indiana
1931 – Lou, WA0CW	Webster Groves, Missouri
1932 – Dick, KB3OMJ	Edinboro, Pennsylvania
1933 – Edwin, W5TM	Henryetta, Oklahoma
1934 – Pete, K6BFA	Vienna, Virginia
1935 – Craig, AC6NN	Fairfax, Virginia
1936 – Randy, KB4QQJ	Burlington, North Carolina
1937 – Bill, NT9K	Melbourne, Florida
1938 – Ronald, KI4TI	Deland, Florida
1939 – Jim, W4VJ	Johnson City, Tennessee
1940 – Patrice, F8BON	Froidfond, France
1941 – Fred, WA5BUC	Houston, Texas
1942 – Allan, GM1SXX	Paisley, Scotland
1943 – Thomas, AA8XX	Southfield, Michigan
1944 – Terry, KQ5TF	Richmond, Texas
1945 – Donald, N9GOD	Bloomington, Illinois
1946 – Ed, AE5FV	Corrales, New Mexico
1947 – William, KB8KAC	Charleston, West Virginia
1948 – Billy, W4BPT	Charleston, West Virginia
1949 – Ronald, KD8FTH	Louisville, Kentucky
1950 – Randy, N2ZHF	Cayuga, New York
1951 – Charlotte, WD8DIN	Hendersonville, North Carolina
1952 – Emory, N4LP	Ocala, Florida
1953 – Hannes, OE3SGU	Amstetten, Austria
1954 – Tom, KC9ECI	Galesville, Washington
1955 – Steve, KG4PEQ	Mechanicsville, Virginia
1956 – Bob, KF4IMF	Winter Park, Florida
1957 – Allan, HC2AD	Guayaquil, Ecuador
1958 – Steve, N4HVY	Homestead, Florida
1959 – Stephen, VE7NSD	Savona, British Columbia
1960 – Steve, NH6Y	Kapolei, Hawaii
1961 – Peter, N8MHD	Rochester, Minnesota

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1962 – Russell, NM1K	Enfield, Connecticut
1963 – Ken, G7OAH	Southampton, England
1964 – Tim, K6CA	La Mesa, California
1965 – Rod, G4JVJ	Wiltshire, England
1966 – Paul, WO5X	Hartman, Arkansas
1967 – Doug, AI3G	Baltimore, Maryland
1968 – Chad, KC8YFP	New Concord, Ohio
1969 – Fred, W0LPD	Kerrville, Texas
1970 – Bill, N6PIG	Escondido, California
1971 – Dan, KF8Z	Benton Harbor, Michigan
1972 – Walt, K3CXB	Reisterstown, Maryland
1973 – Nick, N3WG	Santa Clara, California
1974 – Lou, N8LA	Saint Louis, Missouri
1975 – George, K8VU	Troy, Ohio
1976 – Bill, N8IJG	Wickliffe, Ohio
1977 – Tony, WR5T	Bedford, Texas
1978 – George, N5JDM	Longview, Texas
1979 – Jay, KC2NRQ	Rochester, New York
1980 – Sanjin, E73ST	Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina
1981 – Christopher, NV4B	Russellville, Arkansas
1982 – Cami, KD8ILG	Westerville, Ohio
1983 – Peter, KC1JB	Franklin, Massachusetts
1984 – Steven, K8PEZ	Reynoldsburg, Ohio
1985 – Chip, W1AIM	Cabot, Vermont

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

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## Bits 'n' Pieces

Here's the latest on the upcoming Field Day effort from /rick:

*Dan, N8IE and Daryl, K8FP have CW station 1 all set, except for rig power Gordon, 8YOH has the HF digital station all set, except for rig power, and shelter/table/chair Nigel, W8IFF has the HF SSB station all set, except for rig power, and shelter/table/chair Phil, WB8ABE has the VHF/UHF side all set, except for rig power.*

*hrm.... looks like we are seeing a pattern here..... AH, but not to fear!!! /rick has lotsa batteries.... so i just have to make sure who gets what, but we will have power covered.....*

*we will probably have at least one more hf cw station, provided by an operator to be named later...*

*no gota, no satellite, no meteor scatter, we are really hurtin on 'bonus points' (media/public info/ elected official, etc) (yeah, the stuff warren county used to do) still havent' heard from Rob & Judith looks like we also aren't going to score solar power, unless phil comes thru with that... as far as logging goes,,,,, what 'yall think of <http://www.n3fjp.com/FD.htm>?*

*food/beer/etc.... yep. we'll all have that....*

Our thoughts go out to Brian, KB9BVN FP#-57 (aka P.B.), who had quadruple-bypass surgery. Word has it that he's recovering fine, and is well on the way to returning to his usual foul-tempered and ornery self.

This photo was sent by an anonymous reader of Bacon Bits. I couldn't help posting it. I believe it's a photo from last year's FP Field Day. I think that's Dan in the back holding up his... firearm.



## HOW TO CONTACT THE AUTHORS:

Rob, W0JRM  
Ed, WA5WSJ  
Steve, N0TU  
Tom, N2UHC  
Ev, N5MZX  
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hiloarc@aol.com  
jhisson1@columbus.rr.com  
wn5y@yahoo.com  
hamjoel@juno.com

## ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS:

If you enjoy the BBQ, and who doesn't, feel free to write something! Remember, we're pigs so we have very low standards. If your spelling, grammar, or composition skills aren't as good as you'd like, don't worry about it. That's what spell chickens are for!

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 republication. Please submit articles as a plain-text file attached to or in the body of 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, jimrob@gmail.com.

Suggested topics are QRP (duh); homebrewing; antennas; public interest stories such as hamfests, club meetings, group builds, etc.; contesting; beer.

## 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 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](mailto:majordomo@mpna.com) with the subject "subscribe fpqrp-l". Please note that HTML emails are NOT accepted by the server, and will die silently.

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**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. 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 – RUN FOR THE BACON SPRINT:**

This event is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 7.044MHz.

An on-occasion net is held on the 80M FPQRP frequency of 3.564MHz. An announcement will be made to the list if one is to be held.

**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](mailto:w8diz@cinci.rr.com)

Jim, W0EB at [W0EB@cox.net](mailto:W0EB@cox.net)

Rick, WB6JBM at [ripowell@mpna.com](mailto:ripowell@mpna.com)

Dan, N8IE at [n8ie@who.rr.com](mailto:n8ie@who.rr.com)

**FPQRP OFFICIAL FREQUENCIES:**

160m - 1.814MHz

80m - 3.564MHz

40m - 7.040MHz

30m - 10.110MHz

20m - 14.062MHz

17m - 18.100MHz

15m – 21.064MHz

2m - 145.720MHz

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