

# Bacon Bits

Flying Pigs QRP Club International, W8PIG

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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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## NETS:

DAY	TIME	FREQ	NCI
Sun	0100Z	7.137	KC8NYW
Mon	0100Z	7.047	WB8ICN
Thurs	0100Z	7.047	KE1LA

(All days/times listed are UTC)

## 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 FPqr frequencies are UP 4 kHz  
 from the standard qrp frequencies  
 except for 20 meters.

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## Ramblings

Hello fellow Piggies and all friends on the air!  
Welcome to 2002! I hope it's a good one for each and all.

Also, sorry for the skimpy offering this month, (not to mention late) but things have been moving fast and nonstop here at the palatial N8IE compound. ☺ Next month will be better and on time I hope.

From long time contributor, KA0TPZ comes this:  
*COMMON HAM WB0L ANNUAL RADIO REVIEW*  
*2002 Press release - The once proud Common Ham Radio Archives Newsletter, changes format and remains "open" as an annual effort. Please submit your qso stories, fantastic feats, plus radio related information to:*

*Jay Mathisrud*  
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Minneapolis MN 55406  
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72, oo,  
Dan, N8IE Ω

## BUILDING THE ORIGINAL RECEIVER

By Len Buckwalter (Mechanix Illustrated 1970)

Can a receiver capable of picking up stations 7K miles away (without a power source of its own ), be anything but the latest electronic wonder? Ask Grandpa, he assembled such detectors about the time of the First World War. Without batteries or house current -- not all homes even had electricity in those days -- his homemade device stole signals out of the air. Sixty years later, you can still enjoy this form of legal larceny with the broadcasters paying the electric bills.

In 2001 the practical features of this living electronic fossil keep it in such demand, that there is a mail order house specializing in crystal detectors. XTAL SET SOCIETY BOX 3026 ST LOUIS MO 63130 <[www.midnightscience.org](http://www.midnightscience.org)> . There is still great need for an inexpensive receiver that requires no power source. [Vectronics and Ramsey Kits offer a \$20 version currently. Check out their web sites when you save up funds.]

A crystal detector is a complete receiver. It may appear simple & require no power consuming amplifiers or speakers, but it does have every essential aspect of a regular radio unit. An antenna to intercept standard broadcast, a coil and tuning capacitor to filter out the one you wish to hear, a detector - the crystal - to convert RF energy to an audio signal and ear piece to hear it. To pick up the signal from the crystal, you probe it with a fine wire called, obviously, a cat's whisker. This galena crystal, a small chunk of lead ore, is embedded in a metal disk for easy mounting. [Depends upon the dexterity of individual - Hi]

No battery, transformer or other power source (LISTEN UP CALIFORNIA) is included -- the crystal set operates on radio wave energy transmitted from the sending station. [Qrp'ers take note of this also -- imagine using the current caught in each qso -- to continue waves!]

Start assembling your rig in the traditional manner, by winding the coil on a mush box. Oatmeal container to you. Wind 30 turns of enamel magnet wire onto the box, pushing the strands together and securing with tape. Scrape the ends to bare the wire before soldering into the circuit. Cut down the oat box to about 3-1/2 inches high and glue it to the 5 x 7" plywood base. Add rubber feet if you like. [Here again, adjust for amount of material on hand or that you can afford out of any allowance forthcoming.]

Tuning capacitor glues to the board with one wire to the side solder lug and the other to its frame. [Use metal glue if you parents don't trust you.] The crystal and cat whisker take special handling. Do not touch the crystal with your fingers when you press it into its holder and mount it on the board. The ball joint holding the whisker is too stiff for easy operation. Free it by springing the holder so the ball will just stay where you put it. Change the stock whisker which is too coarse, for the superior phosphor bronze type ( strands from welding shop rods? ) and solder it in place.

The antenna should be at least 50 - 100 foot long and as high as you can mount it, to pick up distant broadcast stations; if you are on holiday up at the lake. Since there are no amps in the set, a good ground and antenna connections count. Keep the antenna away from other metal surfaces and insulated from the end support with a piece of plastic. Connect the ground wire to a damp earth ( mud puddle ) in more clay soil and not too sandy.

Tuning a crystal detector is a real juggling act. Start with the tuning cap fully closed ( meshed ) and tickle the crystal with the fine cat's whisker wire. Probe the rough surface with the tip of this wire until you hear something in the ear piece. Nothing? Open the capacitor plates slightly and try again. [Hope there is a country or light rock music station therein.]

This tuning method works but it takes time. You can make it easier by cheating. Substitute a sealed crystal diode (1N34A) for the crystal & whisker. Then tune with the variable capacitor until you hear [something other than an all talk station.] Leave the cap tuned and replace the crystal in the circuit to make final tuning, by the more finicky tickling -with-the-whisker technique. If you can't get a station at the extreme low or high ends of the dial, you bring them in by changing the number of turns on the coil. To tune lower, add (5) five turns at a time until you find the missing broadcast. Removing turns shifts the band up to the higher end. Whether you cheat or play it straight, Grandpa's crystal receiver has a lot going for it as a power free item or just for Flying Pig FUN!

KA0TPZ  
[wdx0awt@juno.com](mailto:wdx0awt@juno.com) Ω

<b>FP NET</b>
---------------

**12/3**

I'm still laughing from tonights net and IM chatter!!!! You folks are too much..but I love every minute of it!!!

Ten FP checkins..11 counting this Nut Control Station..and that wasn't a typo...grin

W8DIZ 599

AF4PS 579, either at 1 watt or on Aron's 500mw, not sure what those two were up too, but know it was no good!!!

KC8NYW 589, gud signal and steady fist

WV9N 599 as always, nice sig Randy

N8IE 599, and he is now our official QRM chaser-awayer station..thaks for the assist Dan (Mac's Hero)

NV4T 589, Bill you always seem louder when I'm on EST time and not DST time...hahaha

KB5ELV 589 with QSB, sounds like you were full of talk tonight [grin]..good to hear you on!!!

KE1LA (my Hero) 589 at 500mw, and a LOUD 599+ during a QSO afterwards. Joel, I help pay for your room at FDIM if you and the lovely red-head will come down for it!!!!

N1ODL (the other half of the evil twins [Mac and Aron] 589 at 1 watt or less...you and Mac get me confused sometimes...hahaha

KC4URI 589, good copy tonite Steve. Thanks for checkin!!!

Gotta pack and get to bed, got three states and four cities to hit this week on the road..these lasers must like me a lot!!!! Take care and see everyone next weekend...don't forget about the Wed and Sat nite nets!!!!

OO's...Mikey

**12/6**

HIGH Y'ALL fear not it's me...joel...

what a great nite for qrp.... all signals 58 to 59+++ u guys gotta check in, u is missing a thrill in qrp... and the band has been good... thanks to u guys that could make it and hope to c u next week.... oh, ah got the dit paddle set now... geaux figure...

WED DEC 5, 01 7.047.5 Mhz cw 9PM EASTERN CK INS W1QF... 1W... 599 S9 FROM DET. GREAT QRP SIGNAL

NV4T... 59 AND EASY COPY, THANKS FOR QNI...

KC5URI... THOUGHT AH HAD LOST U... 59 HEAH

WV9N... IN THE GREAT COLD NORTH...ICY 62???

REALLY!

KB5ELV... NICE SIGNAL 59 S9... GLAD U COULD MAKE IT TONITE

KE1LA... USUAL 59 SIG...MUSTA FIXED HIS SIDETONE.....:-)

tHAT'S IT U SWINE... SRY IF U MISSED IT...AND Y'ALL COME BACK NEXT WEAK.... U HEAR...

KE1LA JOEL

IN MAINE

FREEZIN

**12/10**

Nice net tonight. Some QSB to the NE but got all the important stuff. Tnx to all that QNI'ed.

AJ4AY Jay 559

N1ODL Aron 449

K4FB Paul 569

AF4PS Mac 569

WB0WAO Dennis 559

VE3FAL Fred 559

KC4URI Steve 559

K2JQ Dick 449

KD5KXF Mike 559

Best 72's and 'oo' to all –

Diz, W8DIZ Loveland, OH

**12/13**

High y'all standing room only tonite... lots of carriers... only 2 checkins... and they were both 59 signals and one was only 2 watts.... don't forget I always call for checkins after working 2 stations and before I secure for the nite... so I'll get to u... really...

Wed Dec 12, 01 7.047.5 9PM Eastern Time CW CHECKINS

NV4T... LOUD AND CLEAR... THANKS FOR CHECKING IN

W1QF... WOW... UR 2 WATTS WERE 59 SOLID... GREAT QRP SIGNAL...

KE1LA ... USUAL 59 INTO MAINE...

KE1LA

JOEL IN MAINE

**12/17**

Well, the net ended up on 7046 with three checkins...

KC4URI Steve 599 with filtering on...Steve is now home after surgery and doing well. Thanks Steve fro helping out tonight with call signs!

AJ4AY Jay 579 with filtering, Jay haven't heard you on for a while..but then again, I've been gone too much anyway..hahaha. WV9N Randy 559...just to go to show you how bad the band was, Randy is always 599+ here...glad you found us Randy!

7047.5 had strong SSB and 7042 was covered up with QSO's and a buzzing sound. Hopefully next weekend will be better.

For those of you I may miss this next weekend, have a wonderful holiday and the best of New Years greetings to you and yours!!!! OO's ... Mikey

**12/20**

High y'all

well a most interesting net tonite...if u weren't thair u missed out.... we had a stranger check in an out... nice strong signal had he or she but it was not to be, ah suppose...

WED NITE NET DEC 19, 01 9PM EASTERN 14047.5 CW....

KE1LA NCS

CHECK INS

NV4T... KEVIN... GREAT 59 SIGNAL THANKS

W1QF... TERRY AT 3 WATTS, GREAT S9, 59 SIGNAL IN MAINE

K9DI... HI CHECK IN AGAIN, DID I SLOW DOWN ENOUGH?????  
KEILA ... USUAL LOUSY SIGNAL JOEL... GET UR ACT TOGETHER OK?

KEILA JOEL  
IN MAINE  
NCS HEE HEE

### 12/22

First off I want to thank you brave guys, for battling the 50,000 watt commercial stuff! Very nice signals!

KB9BVN, Brian 599. Great to see you, and very nice copy. I was pretty coffee'd up so it took me a while to get it together. Dad was just here and went back to Anderson this evening. Tnx qni and have a great Christmas.

NV4T, Bill 579. Great copy despite increasing BC noise. Its been awhile and really nice to see you Bill. Tnx qni and have a great Christmas down in the tropics!

N1ODL, Aaron 539. Wow! BC noise was ten over but you came through great anyway. Was that our first QSO?? Have alot of fun with Turner next week and hope to see you again soon. By the way my 14 year old bratty daughter is typing while I dictate :-)

Thanks again to all who checked in, and hope I didn't miss anyone in the noise. A very merry Christmas to all. oink oink! Rob KC8NYW..

### 12/31

Great way to end 2001...20 checkins on the Sunday evening net!!!

W8DIZ 599  
AF4PS 449  
WV9N 599  
W5VAF 589, Dennis in AR..first time checkin  
KC8NYW 589  
WB6JBM 589, nice ot hear you on again Rick!!!  
K04WX 589, Thanks Mike for a new one for the FP Matrix  
K4FB 449  
N8IE 599, with shorts on  
NV4T 569  
KB9BVN 599, thanks for coming back in Brian!!!  
KB5ELV 339, near solid copy and he wasn't even tuned up  
W1QF 599  
KQ0I 579  
W8IQB 599, Lowell is a MI QRP member who should also become a FP member!!! Thanks for the QNI assist tonight Lowell  
K8PZ 579, nice to hear you on again Steve, don't be a stranger to the nets!!!  
K9DI/M 569, thanks Wayne for FYBO and checking into net (Wayne has to go out to his car to checkin-true Piggie dedication!!!)  
KG4DZU 579, first time checkin for Bruce..do it again, and again [grin]

N4VM 589, good to hear you on the net!!!  
W8PIG 579

My thanks to all who helped make this a wild nite...good patience and help made the net one of the best!!!

72's...OO's,,,and Happy New Year to all  
Mikey

### My New All-Band Antennas, or -"How I do'd it!"

By Terry, W1QF/8



"Height and Heat", my Elmer said. QRP isn't a lot of heat, so I went for height, which isn't easy either, when you live in a single story ranch and have a thin wallet.

There are lots of ways to hang wire, but this one has worked very well for me, because there are several trees in my yard.

I put a tripod mount (Radio Shack, big budget item!) on the ridge of the roof, that holds a guyed 12 foot thinwall steel tube (chainlink fence rail, very cheap, and they cut it for free) with a plastic end coupler on top, and 10 feet of 1-1/2 inch plastic pipe above that, with a small brass pulley at the top. The antenna wires also serve as the essential second set of guy wires at the top of the plastic pipe, which is very flexible but also very hard to break.

So, the pulley is up 22 feet plus 15 feet to the ridge of the house, that's 37 feet above ground, which is not too bad for 40 meters and below.

The lower guy wires have insulators every 6 feet. These are made from 1-1/12 inch pieces of 1-inch plastic pipe with small 1/8 holes drilled through.

There are two inverted vee antennas suspended from the top. One is an 80-meter simple dipole cut to the formula, with the ends about 24 feet up (tied off to two handy trees). The other is an off-center fed (OCF) dipole, fed at 62% from one end. This raises the impedance at 40 meters, but lowers the impedance at the harmonics (20m, 10m) so that they all work

out around 400 ohms or so, which is good for ladder line feed. This OCF dipole tunes and loads very well on all bands from forty through ten, including the WARC bands. The two dipoles need to be roughly at right angles so they guy the top of the plastic section of the mast.

The OCF dipole legs are 39 and 24 feet long. The 80m dipole is 63 feet for each leg, with ladder line feed also.

The OCF dipole needs a balun at the feed point, otherwise the ladder line will radiate too. Mine is 2 FT50-37 ferrite cores glued together, with 5 turns of 20 gauge, wound bifilar. It is mounted inside yet another short piece of that 1-inch plastic pipe, with an end cap, which keeps the rain out and also holds a small eyebolt for the halyard that runs through the pulley. There is also a 100K resistor across the antenna feed point so I can tell from the shack if anything breaks. Everything was painted "stealth" matte gray, and the whole assembly was put together for a mechanical trial run while horizontal, on the ground.

It IS possible to put this up single-handed, because I did. Just don't pick a windy day and don't tangle the guy wires, hi. And don't forget strain relief at the trees, another pulley with a weight or a bungee cord.

This antenna has worked Joel, KE1LA in northern Maine with 1 watt on 40m (rst 599) and Italy with 3 watts on 20m (559). I tune it with a home brewed Z-match per Charlie Lofgren's design <[http://www.njqr.org/mbrproj/zmatch\\_original.html](http://www.njqr.org/mbrproj/zmatch_original.html)>. The whole thing is fairly discreet- not 100% stealthy, but you don't notice it unless you're looking for it. In a high wind it moves around a little, but not enough to affect the tuner settings. We had peak gusts of 65 mph this fall, and it stayed up fb. If anyone wants to put one up, give a holler. I'm at <w1qf@arrl.net>. Oink oink.

72 es o o, FP79, Terry Ω

## Caribbean Cruising – QRP Style

By Mikey, WB8ICN

How often does an OM get a chance to spend eight days hamming and vacationing with the XYL and she fully approves it? In fact, the only problem I ran into was her question of..."Why can't all your ham radio trips be like this one?"

From October 27<sup>th</sup> to November 4, Marybeth and I traveled on Holland America's MS Westerdam with another 260 QCWA members through the Caribbean. We had stops in the Bahamas, Puerto Rico, St. Maarten, St. John and St. Thomas, and the cruise line's own island called Half Moon Cay. The unique part of this cruise was the fact that the Captian and Communications Officer allowed us to operate our HF rigs while on-board.

I was fortunate to be able to conduct a QRP Forum while on-board to about 100 interested QCWA members. Many of them afterwards operated QRP SSB and CW from various decks of the ship.

Nearly all of my contacts were with stateside hams...many who became very interested in both QCWA and QRP operating. Funny thing was, I spent as much time, if not more, talking with QCWA hams about the joy of QRP as I did operating QRP. I didn't have as nearly as many contacts as I thought I would prior to the trip. I laugh now, but the time went so quick, and my conversations with so many new hams on-board about QRP and the Thrill of QRP...well, I'm ready for another trip that will be mostly operating and not so much of the other stuff...HI HI. The following are photos of my hamming portion of the trip.



Here I am operating from Deck 6 as we entered the port of the Virgin Islands. Those are ham buddies in the background enjoying themselves.



Here is my K2 set-up. I used the K2 with auto-tuner option to a PW-1 vertical antenna and also a 33-foot wire (with a 10-foot counterpoise). I used a K-Mart plastic bag to act as a kite sail to keep the wire aloft behind the ship...this work surprising well.



Here is a newfound QRP buddy, Virgil Hinson, W5URP. Virgil and I became very good friends...he is as much of a QRP fanatic as I am! Virgil takes several cruises a year and operates from many of the ships he boards. He is planning a ten day cruise next spring on a freighter ship that will skirt much of South America. If I can get his schedule of ops times, I will pass it on to the MI QRP gang. We spent as much time talking



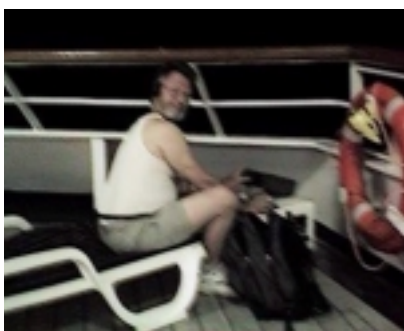
about QRP as we did operating. Virgil was the one who should me the K-Mart bag idea of keeping a antenna floating behind a ship...super idea!!!



This was taken as we were docked in Philipsburg, St. Maarten. I'm working several stations on 10 meters.



Operating while at open sea. We had two days of open sea sailing, and when we weren't conducting forums or informal gatherings, many of us were either on Deck 6 or 9 just enjoying ourselves with our toys. Can you tell I seem to be very happy and content with this newfound style of a family vacation?



Its almost midnight, and here I am working 30 meters. The band was wide open and 3 watts was all it took to talk to about anyone I could hear.



I don't recall these two gentleman's names or calls, but they thought it was fantastic to be able to work 20 and 10 meters SSB on only 10 watts. Many of the hams operated 20 meter SSB and checked into several of the SSB nets they were members of back home.

72, 00

Mikey, WB8ICN Ω

## QRP PRACTICAL

By Arnold CW Timm

Once we find ourselves surrounded by the big guns there is a tendency to freeze up, if ever so slightly. The giant economy size 15 watts of the new Patcomm PC-500 for example. It may not be a kilowatt, but has all the bells and whistles saddled up quite nicely. Our fear of basic gear is decidedly increased while rubbing elbows with such as these. And our age group needs some reflection upon this very subject, in order to survive the future in the deep freeze.

Electrical power companies add to our frightened state. The mere fact that they fail when we need them the most should ring warning bells on contact. Sirens screaming as we down shift from alternating currents for renewable power sources instead. Just imagine how our technology has impacted electrical lines already. Coal reserves are dwindling and crude oil costs skyrocket if we add more memory or hardware. Being afraid of this lock-step robotics is good.

Low power telegraphy has been around for well over 100 years. It has communicated our health and welfare as the primary device, while encroaching upon enemy weapon stores. Many happy and sad scenarios were sharpened in focus by this crude concoction. The blurry image our youth may have of qrp cw, is especially disheartening in light waves just now appearing. Perhaps as wine, telegraphy can age even after we savor it on parched palates of drought?

Nothing is more important than some form of communication. If on-going natural disasters are any indication, qrpcw has to play front line duty after modulation dies. Battery powered and then solar panel charging requires less current consumption. And if a nuclear winter or volcanic sky darkening occurs, the minimum of power inputs must be earnestly incorporated.

Brave new world hand cranked CW transceivers (if only milliwatts) can prevail under adverse conditions quite well indeed. Our chance to prove this out is offered daily. We can improve loss of life factors and gather low power advantages, by experimenting with renewable energies. That vegetable garden this summer may enhance qrp cw under siege. We owe it to ourselves and future generations, to install low power backup means. Weak signal operations may frustrate us as we age, yet it is just this struggle we demand. Cell phones and other wireless devices fall silent if their landlines are threatened. Satellites perform miraculously long as the power grid provides. It will be the qrp cw rig, which saves the day under such gigantic shutdowns. And not the fancy spreads either — our homemade midgets I mean. Garden compost piles and

junkyard landfills can super heat geo-thermo apparatus. Basement crawl spaces might grow mushrooms and peat moss to charge our batteries. Direct current generators can be pedal cranked in trickles if complete electrical loss ensues. Don't depend upon government to rebuild any electric distribution quickly. Thunder storms and tornadoes already reduce alternating current supply on priority basis. As in computer filing, backup the backup in case the hard drive fails. Qrp cw can do that.

Now if we consider our radio hobby as a lifesaver, maybe those many kits we assembled can benefit someone other than our selfish self. Low power might not excite the neighborhood now, but once they read this — watch out. There will be hundreds of converts knocking on your door, asking for help in this regard. When their entertainment centers belly-up and no TV cable or VCR remains, qrp cw class may result overnight. Don't say " I told you so ", just take up where Y2K left off. Qrp cw offers us a lifesaver!

Modulation and printed text currently renders you failsafe items. Whenever mass insanity or destruction happens, the least amount of material is put to good use. We sap away raw material and burn fossil fuels to generate electric current. There is a definite time line drawn in the sand, where these combustibles deplete. Like the gold rush era, our electric use also, will become useless. The heavy water stored as nuclear waste in Idaho is a prime example. Military atomic utilization is but a quick fix for data dissemination, and further Naval accidents. Qrp cw from our Grandfathers' adolescence can readily prepare us for sudden disasters. It behooves us to remind others of its utilitarian prowess.

KA0TPZ

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## Truffle Logs

Please note, I lost a couple of reports due to E-mail crash. If you have a fill please pass it to me so I can add it next month. ..

12/5

Now, THAT was fun... It was also a personal record, with 14 in the log. That was about what I figured I should be able to work, given my experience and equipment. Conditions were much better this time around at this end. Still have some skills I need to work on, but I really appreciate the practice...Thank you.

Here's the log:

0133 7045 W8DIZ 559 DIZ OH 5W  
 0134 7045 W5YR 559 GEORGE TX 5W  
 0136 7045 W5USJ 559 CHUCK TX 5W  
 0137 7045 AF4PS 559 MAC FL 3W  
 0138 7045 N1TP 559 TOM FL 5W  
 0140 7045 K5JHP 559 BILL TX 5W  
 0141 7045 WV9N 559 RANDY OH 5W  
 0143 7045 N7TX 559 STEVE TX 5W  
 0144 7045 K8KFJ 559 GARY WV 5W  
 0146 7045 AJ4AY 559 JAY AL 5W  
 0150 7045 K4BYF 559 JACK FL 5W  
 0152 7045 W9HL 559 RANDY IL 5W  
 0153 7045 W0CH 559 DAVE MO 100MW -- Wow.  
 0200 7045 WA8BXN 559 MIKE OH 5W

Corrections are requested. I really want to thank Randy W9HL and Mike WA8BXN for hanging in there. The SSB seemed to peak right when you were sending your calls. Once I got the call, the rest seemed easy :-). Mac told me later that I had SSB on frequency, which figures...it was the quietest spot I could find. Now I know why :-D. Thanks to all, and I'll be looking for you again in January. 72/73 & oo, Dave Winfield, WR50

12/7

Hey all, thanks for turning out tonight on short notice. Condx here was not the best but the SSB sure was. :-) 22 Q's in the log, not bad at all. I'll be back for another run in Feb.

0132 w5yr 559 tx geo 5w  
 0134 kg4ldy 559 va jim 5w  
 0135 k0evz 559 nd doc 5w  
 0136 wa8bxn 589 oh mike 5w  
 0138 k4adi 559 sc frank 5w  
 0139 n7tx 449 tx steve 5w  
 0140 af4ps 559 fl mac 3w  
 0141 n8var 559 oh ron 2w  
 0142 w0ch 559 mo dave 500mw  
 0144 ve3fal 579 on fred 5w  
 0146 kd5kxf 559 tx mike 5w  
 0148 k5jhp 559 tx bill 5w  
 0150 kg6cyn 559 wi trevor 5w  
 0152 w9hl 559 il randy 5w  
 0153 k4byf 559 fl jack 5w  
 0154 w4bqp 569 nc jim 5w  
 0155 k0pc 559 mi pat 5w  
 0156 n1tp 559 fl tom 5w  
 0157 w5usj 559 tx chuck 5w  
 0158 ac5jh 559 ok tom 5w  
 0159 w5tb 559 tx don 5w  
 0159 k4fb 559 fl paul 5w  
 72, oo Dan, N8IE

**12/12**

I subbed for Mike KD5KXF, who got held up in a meeting... You owe me one, Mike :-).  
W8DIZ and AF4PS made me do it... This joyride was only 20 minutes, because I took a little convincing :-).

AF4PS 559 MAC FL 3W  
K4BYF 559 JACK FL 5W  
W8DIZ 559 DIZ OH 5W  
K0EVZ 559 DOC ND 5W I'm really sorry about the mix up, Doc...  
K4FB 579 PAUL FL 5W  
N1TP 559 TOM FL 5W  
WV9N 559 RANDY OH 5W  
K5JHP 559 BILL TX 5W  
N8VAR 559 RON OH 5W  
N2CQ 559 KEN NJ 5W  
AJ4AY 569 JAY AL 5W  
VE3FAL 559 FRED ON 5W  
WR5O DAVE TX / TX DAVE 5W

12 in 20 minutes, my best rate yet (36/hr). Not too bad for being unprepared. I usually use my logger to do the sending, so I can concentrate on copying. That's why there are no times listed... I forgot to write most of them down :-). I'm having a hard time getting my primary paddles adjusted, so my sending was somewhat rough at times. It's now on the workbench, and I'm going to use my back up paddles until I can get it straight. Thanks to everybody who braved the QRM, QRN and QLF! 72/73 es oo, Dave Winfield, WR5O

**12/14**

FINAL Truffle LOG – Thursday  
Time Call Name RPTr QTH PWR  
0130 W5YR George 559 TX 5W  
0131 AF4PS Mac 599 FL 3W  
0133 K5DI Karl 559 NM 5W  
0135 K1NNP Don 559 CT 5W  
0137 WR5O Dave 559 TX 5W  
0138 WA8BXN Mike 559 OH 5W  
0139 KG4LDY Jim 559 VA 5W  
0140 NW7DX Ben 559 WA 5W  
0141 N9NE Todd 559 WI 5W  
0142 AA5O Vern 559 LA 5W  
0143 KD4JEZ Dave 599 FL 5W  
0144 KV4EE Keith 559 OH 5W  
0146 N4NK Bill 579 CA 5W  
0147 N9NE Todd 569 WI 5W  
0148 W5TB Doc 599 TX 5W  
0149 K4BYF Jack 559 FL 5W  
0151 K5JHP Bill 559 TX 5W  
0152 W0CH Dave 559 MO 5W  
0153 K0EVZ Doc 599 ND 5W  
0154 ND7K Chuck 599 FL 5W  
0155 KO4WX Mike 559 GA 5W  
0156 AD4IH Joe 559 FL 5W  
0157 KD5KXF Mike 559 TX 5W  
0158 K5USJ Chuck 559 TX 5W  
0159 AC5OH Gary 599 MS 5W

Tom, N1TP Naples, FL

**12/20**

Here are my corrections... and the last trooper was Art in OR KA7WW.... I copied it every way but correct. Art is a great guy and gracious in his email - GRIN!

01 0130 N5IB 559 LA Jim 5w  
02 0131 K4FB 599 FL Paul 5w  
03 0132 AD4IH 559 FL Joe 5w  
04 0133 N8IE 559 OH Dan 5w  
05 0134 N1TP 599 FL Tom 5w  
06 0135 W8DIZ/4 599 FL Diz 5w  
07 0136 K5JHP 559 TX Bill 5w  
08 0137 W5YR 559 TX George 5w  
09 0138 WV9N 559 OH Randy 5w  
10 0139 W0CH 579 MO Dave 900mw  
11 0140 K8KFJ 599 WV Gary 5w  
12 0142 N3BJ 599 VA Alan 5w  
13 0143 K4TJD 599 GA Tom 5w  
14 0144 N2CQ 559 NJ Ken 5w  
15 0145 VE3FAL 579 ON Fred 5w  
16 0146 W5USJ 559 TX Chuck 5w  
17 0147 AB8DF 559 MI Ed 5w  
18 0148 K9DI 559 IL Wayne 5w  
19 0150 W9NE 579 WI Todd 5w  
20 0151 K4ADI 559 SC Frank 5w  
21 0152 KB9YIG 569 IN Tony 5w  
22 0154 WR5O 559 TX Dave 5w  
23 0155 N8VAR 559 OH Ron 5w  
24 0156 WA8BXN 559 OH Mike 5w  
25 0158 AA5O 559 LA Vern 5w  
26 0159 K4BYF 559 FL Jack 5w  
0200 KA7WW --- OR ART --

Truffle AF4PS 559 FL Mac 5w

Thank you for the fun, and I'm wishing you the Happiest Hollidays!

-MAC-  
AF4PS  
Odessa, FL



## Hurley Parkhurst, NL7GT

When I began our newsletter, back in the late 1980s, I met an elderly native American by regular mail. He was experimenting with medium and long wave reception via crystal detectors. Hurley Parkhurst NL7GT was living in Alaska (retired) baby sitting for relatives, in a trailer home near Denali national park. His detailed reception reports sparked our publication. So much so, that we soon had our largest following of elderly individuals. He went silent key February 14 1990.

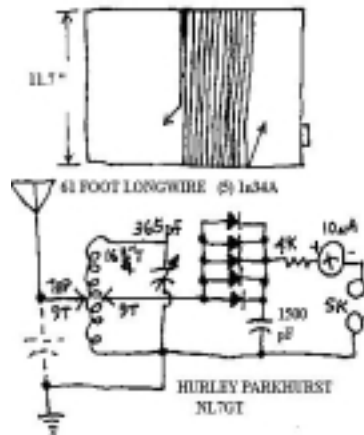
Mister Parkhurst had a BS in agronomy and a Masters degree in library science. His love was electronics. He served in the US Navy as a electronics technician (Radar Specialist). He went to FAA Academy. He worked on the original Atlas Missile and later helped pioneer lasers at BYU in the late 1960s. He developed an electronic means of measuring soil moisture and temperature. He also published a book on Native American use of herbs and plants as medicine. His grandmother was a Native herb healer and that got him interested in this.

From 1980 to 1990 he was working day and night (literally) gathering information on crystal detector radio receivers and antennas. He planned to publish a book on this material. His crowning achievement was hearing Calgary Alberta Canada on a crystal detector from Arizona. We published this data in our humble handout, and it is offered in a radio museum now in Fullerton CA.

July 24 1989 --- " I had strung a 160 foot long horizontal #9 solid copper wire antenna and had hoped for great passive receiver results. Unfortunately, it works TOO GOOD! Locals (KTNN - 660 - 50KW) and (KHAC - 1110 - 10KW) BOOM-IN all across the dials of my crystal sets, as well as over loading the Radio Shack DX - 302 superhet receiver. KHAC - 1110 fortunately, goes off the air at sunset, but KTNN - 660 is now 24 hours. Now, I am getting a taste of what you city dwellers have to endure trying to DX with a crystal set.

I put up a shorter 61 foot sloping longwire [outside my hogan] made of #16e copper wire. With my biggest (and best) coil, L-116TR2 (wound on a 5 gallon plastic container), I am able to get DX up to 800 miles away regularly, using a half-power bandwidth of 40 kHz at 110 kHz. L-116TR2 yields a Dxing crystal detector that works well with 27-115 foot longwire antennas. I hope some Flying Pig readers try it out. [Tune for a classical broadcast stations though -- Hi]

Coil L - 116TR2 rebuilt from June 10 1989, consists of 16-3/4 turns of #8e solid copper wire wound on 11.7 inch diameter plastic 5 gallon drum. Windings are spaced to 4 inch winding length. Drinking straws separate each turn of wire.



KA0TPZ

[wdx0awt@juno.com](mailto:wdx0awt@juno.com) Ω

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

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

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

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