

Bacon Bits

Flying Pigs QRP Club International, W8PIG
 1900 Pittsfield St, Kettering, Ohio 45420

E-mail: w8pig@yahoo.com Web Page: <http://www.fpgrp.com>

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	0000Z	14.062	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 FPqrp frequencies are UP 4 kHz from the standard qrp frequencies except for 20 meters.



The "Gang" at FDIM 2001

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Ramblings

Hello again, and I hope those of you that made it to Dayton have had time to rest up, and get all that great new “junk” you bought up and running.

There will not be any stories in this issue from Dayton, but if you head over to the Flying Pigs website you'll find our special Dayton 01 issue of the Bacon Bits later this month! STAY TUNED!

72, 00

Dan, N8IE Ω

UPDATE: A Simple 74HC240 Based DC Transceiver for 20m

Here the latest pic of the evolved 74HC240 that I had in Nov 2000's FPQRP Newsletter. Since then I've added an IRF510 PA (2.5 - 3w out) and sidetone. It is truly ugly in the best tradition of FP HB rigs.



Bill
KD4PWB
FP#-42 Ω

Member Spotlight!

This month were spotlighting:
Turner, FPqrp #-122-A



Hello everyone my name is Turner, I'm the son of Aron (N1ODL) and Kim Brown. I was born on 5/21/01 I weighed 8Lb-2OZ and 20.25 inches long and mom was in labor for 1 Hour 4 minutes.

Here is a picture of mommy and me, she's very pretty.



I want to grow up and be a Ham Radio operator like my dad, he has a lot of fun talking to people and building stuff, and he says that everyone in his club thinks he is the best at it. ☺

Well I have to take a nap now and let mommy and daddy get some sleep. I hope to talk to you someday on the Ham Radio.

72, 00

Turner, AK1D Ω

Review: PW-1 HF Portable antenna

By Chuck, AA8VS

Well this is my experience with Vern's [W6MMA] PW-1 antenna. It is a portable HF (40 - 10) meter antenna. It is capable of QRP to 150 watts. The PW-1 will fit into a laptop computer case with any small QRP rig. It has a universal [L bracket] with a SO 239 connector that will allow it to be mounted from almost anything.

Vern's web site: <http://www.superantennas.com>



The whip is in five 12 inch threaded sections that are easy to assemble. The capacity hat slider, at first seems a little stiff but turns out to be very easy to adjust. Once you loosen the band lock nut on the collar.

There is a base section that is 12 by 3/8" section that is threaded with lock nuts on each end. The Universal mount has a ground connection for the four counterpoises that are included in the box.

I purchased the optional 80-Meter coil because I try to check into some CW nets and it is a good winter band. Here is the box the complete antenna system comes in; I have an MFJ 249 Analyzer in the picture for reference.



While I did not follow the true spirit of the QRPTTF, I meant well. I setup my SG 2020 on a coffee table and setup power supply, tuner, and Iambic key. I ran the coax out the back door to family room and set up a small stepladder on the porch and I was ready to go.

I setup my station on QRPTTF weekend and I knew there would be plenty of stations out there. I am happy to report running about 4 watts with my SG 2020 with MFJ 971 to the PW-1 I was receiving 599, but on contest weekend everyone does. I assume, since I was not asked for RPT the antenna was doing FB.



Now lets get into what I did, unpacked the antenna, and I supplied a length of coax from the antenna to the rig. I clamped the antenna mounting bracket on the three-step ladder and using the 'C' clamp [that is supplied by Vern]. Next I fastened the antenna to the bracket and the coax to the connector.

I connected the counterpoise to the single blade type connector on the bracket and fanned them out at 90 degrees with respect to each other. It is important to remember to fan them out; it makes the antenna easier to adjust.

Another thing to make sure of, tighten all the connections, if there is a little breeze it will give you some fun trying to get it to settle down during the tuning part.

Next I loosened the setscrew and picked a spot to start. I used the MFJ 249 to see where I was at and found I was resonant at about 8.9 MHz. So I adjusted the capacity hat toward the bottom of the antenna a bit. I now was resonant at around 11.8 MHz.

So feeling braver I moved it a bit further toward the bottom and found I was [after a couple more tries] around 14.1 MHz. At this point I locked it screw down, you really don't need to do this, the capacity hat does not slip by itself.

At this point I connected the coax to the MFJ 971 and tweaked it in and I was on the air making contacts. I found that with minor adjustments on the tuner, I could very easily move around the CW portion of the band on 20 meters and enjoyed a pleasant time making contacts.



Next I wanted to change bands, so I disconnected the antenna from the tuner and hooked up the Analyzer. I shifted the capacity hat upward and ended up with it being resonant around 7.14. Next I unhooked the Analyzer and reconnected the tuner.

I was now ready to make some contacts on 40 meters. I managed to work a special event station for VA Tech's founder's day. I got a 54 from that contact. Considering I was running 10 watts into a shortened vertical I was very satisfied.



Well, here we are Sunday and I got the optional 80-Meter coil connected. This is an additional [extra cost] item that attaches to the lower part of the coil. I have found that I can work both 75 and 80 meters with it. But you do need to move the capacity hat to do this. The MFJ 207 allows you to do this very quickly. The MFJ 971 does not supply enough adjustment to work both ends of the band.

I think I have found my antenna to accompany me to the hotels and not have to worry about a semi in the parking lot taking out my random wire when he leaves. Here is a picture of the box the antenna was delivered in. I have placed the MFJ 249 next to it for a size comparison.

I did some additional setups of the antenna and getting it ready to put on the air using the MFJ 207 Analyzer. This is a simplistic device without frequency readout like the MFJ 249 has. But for setting up the PW I quickly, I have found it works just as well and is smaller to pack for a trip.

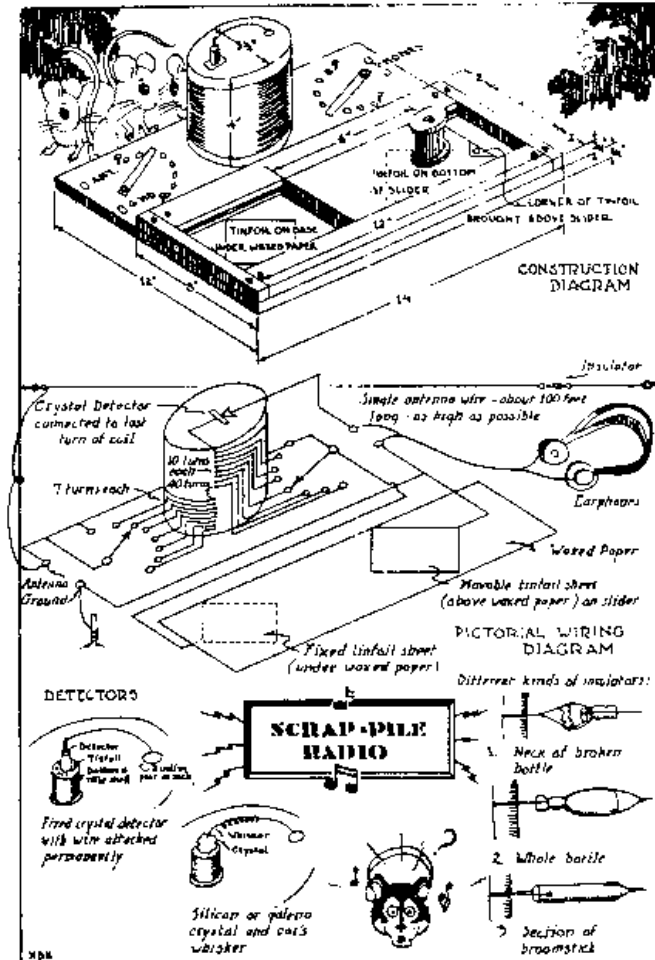
All in all I am very satisfied with the product, and Vern's company. The antenna was delivered in good order and within the time frame stated when I talked to them and placed the order. Looking back though, he has a tripod for \$20.00 that I would look at, but I really like the ladder.

Chuck AA8VS
FP #-113 Ω

SCRAP PILE RADIO

[Author unknown] By Arnold, KA0TPZ

The chief and I have been having a wonderful time assembling a crystal detector. It all began when a friend of ours, (a radio engineer), came up for a week of vacation last fall. He got the idea it would be a real achievement to assemble a radio from odds and ends; material you'd find lying around a camp in the north woods. We couldn't expect to find metal to make earphones, but he thought if we worked hard enough, we might dig up the rest. Before he left, he made a diagram for a detector and said he'd mail up the earphones. So we started to search. [Get a cup of coffee -- this may take awhile, but isn't FUN? Hi]



It was like one of those scavenger hunts you hear about. When the two of us put all our findings together, we had some pieces of well seasoned pine board, various bits of metal, 2 or 3 dozen brass headed tacks, an empty sewing spool, a handful of assorted screws, and an old cardboard oatmeal box. [Soundly edited for Flying Pig perusal purposes Hi]

The two main problems were the tuning coil and the variable capacitor. Following the diagram, we found we'd need about 150 feet of insulated copper wire. Any size between #22 to #28 or even finer, would do. For a while it looked as if we did not have any radio. The chief got an idea and we snowshoed over to the old abandoned mine to see what we'd find there. As luck

would have it, in the corner of the blacksmith shop, (where it had lain for nigh on to 20 years), was an old ignition coil, once used for firing a gas engine. I certainly was excited when I pulled that thing apart and saw what was inside. Sure enough, there was a winding of fine wire, just the kind we wanted. [Discarded TV sets did have fine wire also]

The oatmeal box turned out to be just the thing for winding our coil on. So we cut off one end 4 inch long and soaked it in melted candle wax, so it wouldn't take up moisture. Then we began winding; beginning one quarter of an inch from the end of the box and put on a total of 166 turns. At the start of the winding we anchored the wire, by passing it back and forth through three pinholes punctured in the cardboard tube, so the wire didn't slip. Every seven (7) turns, we twisted a little loop to make a tap until we had (8) eight of them. Then we wound on 40 turn's (40) without any taps from then on to the end. We made a tap every ten (10) turns, scraping off the insulation on each tap to make a good connection. Those taps, connected by short wires to the switch points, make it easy to use any desired number of turns on the coil to tune in a broadcast station. [Forty meters will have to wait? Hi]

When all the turns were wound, the end of the wire was (again) fastened by passing it back and forth through pinholes in the tube. Then we painted the oatmeal box coil (tube) with candle wax, to keep t he wire somewhat in place. While we were doing that, the chief made a little wooden disk to go on top of the coil and hold the crystal detector. [In those days a rock and a hard place - was a crystal detector (open faced) you know! Hi]

Making the movable capacitor had us puzzled for some time. But we looked on the diagram and it said tinfoil would do. So we began hunting and it wasn't long before the chief thought of the tinfoil lining of the packages our tea came in. We got enough to make two sheets 4 x 6" and the chief smoothed it out very evenly with the edge of a knife. We also needed some waxed paper and found it on a package of dry cereal. Meantime, I cut out a pine baseboard for the detector, 14-inch and 12 inch wide. [That in itself is puzzling - Hi]

The first thing we did then was to start on the capacitor and you'll get an idea from our benefactor's diagram, how we continued. Out of an old piece of tongued and grooved siding, I cut (2) two narrow guides. From another piece of the board, we made a slider 5-1/4" wide and 6" long - fitted between the two guides. This piece slides back and forth very nicely, after being shellacked and waxed, making it easy to adjust the variable capacitor. [Following along so far gang? Takes a bit to proofread I guess? Hi]

The next step was to shellac and fasten one of the sheets of tinfoil onto the baseboard at a 45-degree angle, leaving on e corner free to connect a wire. We then covered it with waxed paper, extending the full width and length of the guides; which are 12" long. Then we screwed the guides in place on top of the waxed paper, making sure that the slider board moved freely; with just enough clearance so it didn't touch the baseboard.

On the bottom of the slider, at a 45-degree angle, we fastened the other sheet of tinfoil - glued on with shellac. Leaving one end turned up over the edge of the slide, for connecting wire. The slider ought to be shellacked too, for you want to keep all wooden parts dry as possible. Then the chief screwed the sewing spool on top for a handle, fitted wood strips at each end as stops for a slide, and our variable capacitor was completed. [Salvage all those oatmeal boxes men! Never can tell if it really fights cholesterol, but makes Gud parts box! Hi]

I used 2 narrow strips of brass cut from the nameplate of an old canoe, for the two switchblades. Copper wires were brought down and attached under the brass head tacks. The connection for earphones (2K ohms) and antenna and ground were made of "bits" of copper wire, but we hoped to have something better; such as binding post, spring clips, etc some day; [Use your imagination - plastic jars and metal cans abound today!]

For a cup to hold our detector crystal, we used half of a .38-55-caliber rifle shell, cutting it off half inch from the cap end - so you could screw it to the top of the coil. Matter of fact, you could use the end of a 28 gauge shotgun shell or even one of those little cups they use on brass curtain rods. [Back when kids knew what appliance operator really meant? Discharged shotgun shells he means now! Do not cut apart loaded shells kids. Hi]

For cat whisker (fine wire) you take 2" of fine steel wire that you sharpen to a point at one end, where it touches the crystal rock. This should be a little lump of galena ore or silicon or even iron pyrite ore. I have heard that you can use a couple of razor blades set in slots in a block of wood, with a fine wire resting on the sharp edges for a detector. Some fellows say a small piece of coal will do, but I don't put much reliance on such detectors.

The best detector of all is one of the small fixed crystals that you can buy at Radio Shack - ten for a dollar. When our earphones arrived, tucked in with them was a fine fixed crystal and I can tell you we didn't lose much time putting it in place. It has a small tip on one end. So we set the large end in the holder and made it snug by tamping in tinfoil. Then we wound fine bare wire up around the tip, to make the other solderless connection; the cat whisker is inside these glass manufactured detectors. [Oh for the days of outback crystals? Hi]

For a spell, it looked like we wouldn't have an antenna either. But then I thought of the copper wire I used for deep trolling for lake trout, and we stretched 100 feet of it between 2 jack pines above the cabin, taking care to insulate the ends. [Hopefully he used a climbing belt to gain access to top of pines - sturdily waist - strapped and not dried out] From one end we brought an insulated lead wire through the cabin window. We also took some bare wire to ground and buried it in a damp place below the eaves at 100 ohm negative.

For insulators on our antenna we used pieces of broken syrup bottles, but if you have no glass you can take a well-seasoned piece of hardwood or a rubber band. I will never forget that evening when at last we had everything ready and I put on the high impedance earphones. I listened to the new government

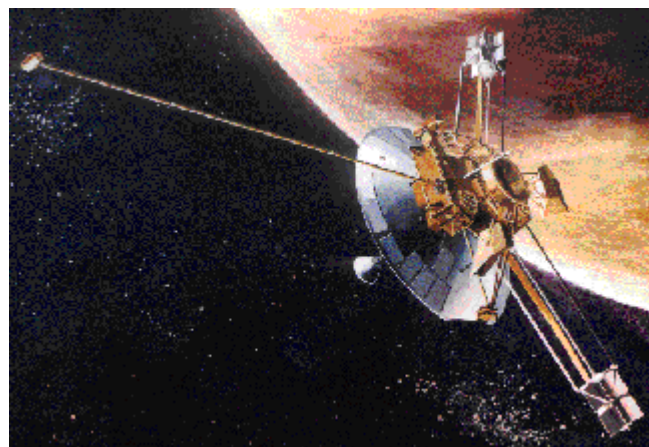
station that was built in the woods about 20 miles from us - it covered the North Country. At first I didn't hear anything, so I changed the little switchblades and moved the sliding capacitor. All of a sudden, I heard a girl singing "ANNIE LAURIE" clear and sweet! [From Radio Archives summer 1987]

KA0TPZ

wdx0awt@juno.com Ω

Website Spotlight

From: http://spaceprojects.arc.nasa.gov/Space_Projects/pioneer/PNStat.html



Good News!! Pioneer 10 lives on. At GMT 17:27:30, Saturday, 4/28/01, the signal from Pioneer 10 was received at station 63 in Madrid, the first time since August 19 of last year. As Samuel Clemens (AKA Mark Twain) once reported to the newspaper - "The report of my death was an exaggeration" could be applied to the premature reports of the demise of Pioneer 10. Once again - muchas gracias - to the DSS 63 crew for their continuing excellent support. So it appears that Pioneer 10 has life, albeit in another mode - only in a two-way coherent mode. Our Chief Flight Controller Ric Campo says, "In order [for Pioneer 10] to talk to us, we need to talk to it." This means from now on, we need two-way round-trip light time (RTLTL) passes to allow the Deep Space Network (DSN) to send up a strong stable signal to lock up with a coherent downlink signal. We will have to schedule tracks on the busy DSN schedule to allow uplink and downlink support (competition for time includes Galileo, Cassini and Ulysses). This will greatly limit the monthly tracking available for Pioneer 10. More information to follow. Stay tuned to this status report.
Larry Lasher, Pioneer Project Manager

March 2nd marked the 29th anniversary of the launch of Pioneer 10. Designed to complete its mission to Jupiter in 21 months, it has lasted over an order of magnitude longer than that as a testament to the brilliant management by the late Charlie Hall and the meticulous workmanship of the prime contractor TRW Space and Technology Group and a variety of subcontractors. Pioneer is fighting to maintain contact with Earth. Its fate should unfold in the next several months.

Since Pioneer 10 is over 75 AU distant and its telemetry signal is virtually at the limit of overall communication systems link margin, the spacecraft was chosen as a convenient test vehicle for the new methodology of Chaos theory. Chaotic.com has been testing the applicability of new methods in semi-blind signal estimation and noise reduction using Pioneer 10 signals. From the latest progress report by Richard. R. Holland of chaotic.com, there are two main areas of development: algorithm development and data analysis. Currently NASA and JPL are working with chaos.com to resolve issues regarding the data analysis. Keep tuned to this web-site for future progress reports on chaos theory and Pioneer 10.

The Project Phoenix system is designed to detect faint communication signals coming from light years away while rejecting the cacophony of terrestrial communications. How do they know the system works? Click here to find out:
<http://www.seti.org/science/pioneer10.html>

For the Pioneer Mission Descriptions, click here:
http://spaceprojects.arc.nasa.gov/Space_Projects/pioneer/PN10&11.html

Build a paper model of Pioneer 10:
<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/sso/cool/pioneer10/education/paper/index.html>

72, oo
Dan, N8IE Ω

FP Net

5/3/01

U GUYS are the greatest.. we had a great net tonite.... Diz I heard u.... where u went?....thanks for the rst reports on the new antenna... everyone was good copy till about 20 after the hour when the band changed... sry if I missed anyone... sometimes my best shot an't close enough... but I always aim to please... :-)

Check ins

KC8NYW GREAT SIGNAL FROM OHIO THANKS
W8DIZ..... HEARD U CALL... U DID NOT HEAR ME....
SRI...HAD GOOD CPY ON U
KC4URI.....STEVE, I THINK.... NICE SIGNAL THANKS FOR QNI
W4STX..... BILL... NICE SIGNAL.... HOPE TO C U NEXT WEEK
WV9N..... RANDY... IN OHIO, FIRST TIME CHECK IN... DON'T BE A STRANTER RANDY... U HAVE A GOOD SIGNAL INTO MAINE...
KQOI..... NICE TO C U AGAIN... THANKS FOR NICE REPORT....
NA1XX.... MIKE... QSB GOTCHA AT THE END ... BAND CHANGED THANKS 1st TIME
WB8ICN... MIKE... WAS THAT U i HEARD... GAVE U A CALL... SRY...

KE1LA JOEL NCS FP WED NITE NET 0100Z TO 0134Z

Also 5/3/01

Didn't hear ham Joel 60 miles west of Canton so called the net..had four checkins...Andy, N8MX was in there which is a new one for me!

W8DIZ DIZ 599, not sure what hand he was using...the dude can send with both of them
AF4PS MAC 559
N8MX ANDY 559
N1ODL ARON 559 TO 339
Now Joel, you gotta come to FDIM to buy me lunch! smile!!!!
OO's to all...Mikey

5/6/01

Despite noise and SSB QRM, we had seven check-ins...

KB9BVN BRIAN 599
AF4PS MAC 559
KC8NYW ROB 579
KC4URI STEVE 559
W8DIZ PAPP 599
WV9N RANDY 599
AJ4AY JAY 339 AT CHECKIN, THEN 000 DURING TRANSMISSION...MAC COULD HEAR YOU BUT POOR COPY EVEN WITH ALL HIS k2 FILTERS ON .
WB8ICN MIKEY NCS

Thaks to all who braved the noise and HOOOLLLLLAAA's tonight. See ya next week on Wednesday and then Sunday evenings. Hopefully, I will be able to hear Rob on the Saturday evening net on 20 meters if conditions are better here.

OO's...Mikey

5/10/01

High y'all
Thank you one and all great net... numerous checkins.... don't think I gave anyone too bad a chuckly tonite.. u gotta check in to hear my goofs... won't repeat em heah....although I am getting meaux confident with the ncs thing... wow... what a treat thank u... u swine... I really like it...we'll work on getting it right but no=20 promices... had a couple of stations over s9 tonite... sure makes me breathe easier... qsb was wild at first... must be in the air up heah... ok checkins Wed Nite Net May, 10, 01.....
0100Z
KB9BVN
W8DIZ
KC4URI
NV4T
AF4PS
KC8NYW
AJ4AY
KE1LA NCS... SORTA :-)
DID i LEAVE ANYONE OFF THE=20 LIST???
KE1LA JOEL
IN MAINE
OO...
SHRINK
NCS
POET LOW-RATE
OO & 72 U'ALL

5/14/01

Hello my Oinksters...
good net tonite...though got a bit noisy at the end..seven
checkins:

AF4PS MAC 589
KC8NYW ROB 599
N1ODL ARON 589 – ARON AND HIS LOVELY WIFE KIM
ARE ABOUT TO HAVE THEIR FIRST BABY...ARON
WILL LET US KNOW OF THE BIRTH VIA E-MAIL AND
HOPE TO GET A PIC OF THE NEWEST HARMONIC ON
THE NET SHORTLY THEREAFTER
KC4URI STEVE 579
WV9N RANDY 599+
N8IE DAN 599
AJ4AY JAY 569, q5 COPY

Looking forward to checking into Joel's Wed nite net from the
FDIM hotel along with Brian and Paul. We are getting down to
the final hours...I'm past ready for FDIM and Dayton! The FP
group there will be helping out at Friday nights vendor/club
night for FDIM. Also have several fo the MP20's being
submitted as a club entry for the homebrew design contest
sponsored by the FDIM gang.

If I live through Brian's pranks and Paul's snoring, I will see all
of you next Sunday evening!

Have a great week!

OO's...Mikey

5/17/01

High y'all tell u what, from the reports I got tonite... things are
going well at fdim... I got the net going 10 minutes late, sry
bout that...and I found some signals 3 to 5 khz away, must be
an off by so much contest going on... hee hee...that's naughty,
must consult with dr joel

Wed Nite Net May 16, 2001 0100Z on 7.047.5 and there
abouts....☺
N1ODL... NICE SIGNAL
KC8NYW... LOUD
K4BYF... THANKS... HAVE FUN
K4FB/8... CELEBRATING EH?
KB9BVN... THANKS FOR CHECKING IN...
WV9N... CONFUSED ME ON THE CALL SRY... I TRY...
WB8ICN/8... GOD ONLY KNEAUXS THE TRUTH 'BOUT
MIKEY
W2TO... ??? NO ANSWER
W8/G3AOO... ??? NO ANSWER
NV4N... GOOD SIG BETWEEN QSB THANKS
KB9GVN... THANKS FOR CHECKING IN
KEILA NCS WAS ALMOST ON TIME... GEEZZZZZZZZZ

tHANK U ONE AND ALL... IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE UR
NCS... THANK
YOU....

KEILA JOEL
IN MAINE

5/21/01

Wasn't sure if I would make it through the net or not...FDIM
sorta takes a
lot out of you!!!

N8IE DAN 589
W8DIZ PAPPAS SMURF 599
KC4URI STEVE 569
N8MX ANDY 589
AJ4AY JAY 559...LOTS OF QRN ON MY END
AF4PS LOST PIGGIE FROM FLORIDA IS WHAT MY QRZ
CD SHOWS ON THIS CALL
SIGN...569
KQ0I MARK...IOWA QRP CLUB...579
WV9N RANDY...LOUD AS USUAL
W8PIG 589..GOTTA BE DAN
N1ODL ARON...569, STILL AWAITING THE NEW BABY
N8VAR RON...599
AC7CF ANDREW OUT IN UT...339, BUT SUPER CHECK-
IN CONSIDERING CONDITIONS
WB8ICN POOPED PIGGIE JUST IN FROM FDIM

Don't forget about Wednesday nite's net with Joel, KE1LA at
9:00pm (0100Z).

good nite ya'll and sweet dreams to the FDIM'ers...don't think
any of us will have a problem sleeping tonight!

OO's.....Mikey

5/24/01

Here be the Net results
checkins
W8DIZ
WV9N
WB8ICN... WHO'S STILL WORRIED BOUT SUMTHIN...
KB9BVN
AF4PF

THANKS TO ALL WHO CHECKED IN, QRM WAS
HORRIBLE ON THIS END...C U ALL NEXT WEAK....:-)
KEILA JOEL
IN MAINE

5/28/01

Short net and lots of static.

KC8NYW ROB 589
KB9BVN BRIAN 589...BUT NEVER CAME BACK FOR
TRANSMISSION
NV4T BILL 569...THNX BILL FOR HANGING IN
THERE...ONCE
I GOT YOU, COPY WAS GOOD hi hi
AF4PS MISSING PIGGIE 569
KEILA DOCTOR JOEL LOUD, AS USUALLY <grin>..nice
signal Joel

Hope everyone is having a good holiday weekend...mine is all
but rained out...Mac, come get this wet stuff man!!!

OO's.....Mikey

5/31/01

Oh Joy... what a nite....Great net guys... some of u were 599
some were 33... but I heard u all on or near the net freq....
amazing....for some... hee hee....

Wed May 30, 2001, 9Pm Eastern 0100 May 31... hmmm
W4STX
WB8ICN.... PAROLED AGAIN... or was it a pardon this time?
:-)
WV9N
KC4URI
N8IE... WHO DAT BEE????
AJ4AY.... WHO i KEPT CALLING AJ4JAY.... OH BOY....
N8VAR.... AT 2 WATTS.... 559 WAY TO GEAX....
NV4T ... HE WHO SNUCKITH UNDER THE WIRE...
THANKS...
KEILA ... JOEL NCS WED NITE NET 7.247.5

tHANKS Piggies for letting me be ur ncs tonite... was fun...
kella joel
in maine...

Attaching antennas to fiberglass masts

By John, AL7JK

Howdy, curious how others are attaching their antennas to the fiberglass masts. Tried several methods this worked out best for me so far ...

Remove 12 inches of the outer insulation from RG-8 or RG213 (similar sized coax) so that you have a 12 inch long flexible tube. A couple inches down from the top poke a appropriate sized hole from one side to the other. This hole will allow a horizontal wire to pass through distributing the strain over a large surface area when the wind starts blowing.

For a vertical antenna, I pass the end of my 33-ft wire through the insulation tube first and leave a few inches to spare hanging out the other end. Slip the whole affair over the top section of the DK9SQ mast and gently pull it snug, rotate the whole mast as I'm telescoping it so that my vertical wire is spiraled up its whole length. For a feedpoint attachment I'm using a Velcro cable tie (popular in computer stores) to secure the bottom end. A LDG balun makes the attachment to my feedline and a couple of radials on the other balun terminal.

Why 33 ft length? No reason just happens to be the length of wire I grabbed from the junk box. LDG Z-11 loads it up just fine.

Recently returned from a week spring camping/skiing trip in the Chugach Mountains was dropped off via a Cessna on skis. Camp was near 61.04.57N 149.17.22W getting caught up on old e-mail and filling out Qsl cards (wanted to mention that for those folks on this reflector). Plans for this summers trips to Prince William Sound Ingot Island 61.31.34N 147.38.58W Lone Island 60.41.52N 147.45.01W are firming up. Will make a comment before heading out, the Chugach icefield trip was a short notice thing for me. Got home and packed ... ran out the door...



The end of the ant pokin thru. I've added a ring terminal, which lets me attach other sections of wire off the top making an "inverted L" when there is another support available.



Rotating the mast to give that vertical wire spiral look ;-)



Velcro cable tie secures the bottom end. It's waiting for the BA-1 balun by LDG to attach. I add another Velcro cable tie to the RG58 feedline and mast to make things tidy. Yeah I know ... its "politically incorrect" to use a balun on a vertical. But those DX stns in my logbook could care less about my "political polarization" ;-)



Ridgeline in Chugach Mountains east of Anchorage.

Cheers!
73 AL7JK, John
Eagle River, Alaska Ω

Jimmy Doolittle's Special Event

By Chuck, AA8VS

Annually, the Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society of Plymouth, Michigan operates a special event station to honor the WWII Airmen and Sailors who took part in Jimmy Doolittle's Raid.

Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle led 16 B-25s, crewed by 80 men off the deck of the aircraft carrier Hornet. They struck Tokyo and three other Japanese cities. Although the damage was relatively light, the mission was a tremendous morale booster for the U.S. armed forces and civilians in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor.



Two years ago the club made arrangements to setup this event at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. This occurred during the time of the annual get together of the original surviving Doolittle raiders. There were about 19 of them on hand at the base during this event. There were many events during this time honoring these brave American service men.



Amateurs around the country had the unique experience to be able to actually talk to some of the men who took part in this historic raid on Japan.

This year the Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society was setup at the Yankee Air Force Museum in Belleville, Michigan. The event was held on April 21 to April 22. The club uses the 1x1 call November 8 Doolittle during this time.

There were three stations setup, but unfortunately the bands were not cooperative. There were only about 150 contacts made. The event was posted in CQ, QST, and World Radio. Do not know if any of you reading this were lucky enough to make a contact, but there is a really nice certificate that will be sent out. If you made the contact but can't find the address.



Send QSL and SASE to
Chuck Van Vleck KB8WHQ
9225 N. Canton Center Road
Plymouth, MI 48170

The actual annual Doolittle raider's reunion this year was May 12, 2001 in Fresno, California at Early field. There are 26 survivors of the original 80 raiders.

The following page, for the historically interested lists the 16 aircrews. <http://www.b25.net/raiderslist.html>



Here are a couple of fellows trying hard to make some more contacts during the two days the event ran.

Chuck AA8VS Ω

QRP Happenings in June

Jun 2, QRP TAC Contest (CW):

The EPA QRP Club's Telephone Area Code (TAC) Multipliers. 1800z to 2400z

More info at: <http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/TAC-Contest.htm>

Jun 5, Adventure Radio Spartan Sprint (CW):

Testing of lightweight radio gear suitable for outdoor QRP expeditions. 0100z to 0300z (Monday evening US/Canada)

More info at:

http://www.natworld.com/ars/pages/spartan_sprints/ss_rules.html

Jun 16, Kid's Day Operating Event:

Sponsored by the Boring ARC, from 1800-2400Z. While not a QRP event, it is a good opportunity to introduce kids to one of the many modes of Amateur Radio.

More info at: <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/kd-rules.html>

Jun 23-24, Field Day:

The goal of Field Day is to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions.

More info at:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-fd.html>

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 shepherd@aol.com

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