

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	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 FPgrp frequencies are UP 4 kHz
 from the standard grp frequencies
 except for 20 meters.

In this issue:

Ramblings: By Dan, N8IE	Page 2
FP Pig Net Report: By Mike, WB8ICN/Joel, KE1LA/Rob, KC8NYW	Page 2
QRP Happenings in October:	Page 3
Special Events in October:	Page 4
ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE THREAT: By Dennis Bodson (c) 1985	Page 4
As Seen On Our Reflector!®:	Page 5
Bedford Hamfest Report: By Brian, KB9BVN	Page 6
Member Spotlight:	Page 6
Back To Japan: By Chuck, AA8VS	Page 7
Truffle Hunts are afoot!:	Page 8
Info about the Flying Pigs:	Page 9

Ramblings

IT'S SWEEPS MONTH! Next to Christmas my favorite time of the year. Dust off them mics, put fresh batteries in the keyer and get on air!

Also, it's Truffle Season again, check out the schedule on the Piggie Page and sign up today!

72, oo, God Bless America!
Dan, N8IE Ω

FP NET

10/1

The net battled with contesters tonight..had a hard time trying to figure out who was checking into the net and who was working the contest.....

W8DIZ Diz 599

NV4T Bill 569

N8IE Dan 559

WB8UOJ Bob 589

KB5ELV Buddy 559

and then got Bill, WA5PB (ex-KC5ADF) right after the net closed..he was 569 and good copy.

We may be changing either the freq or time in the coming weeks for the Sunday 40 meter net. It's been brutal lately so maybe a change will help out. Will announce it well in advance so there is no confusion. Thanks for a good net..and if I missed anyone, sorry about that..the contesters sure posed an interesting challenge for the K2 and DSP box tonight...LOL. Dah-Dit-Dah.... 72's/73's es oo's, Mikey...WB8ICN

10/4

High Y'all hey , guess who said HELLO to the fp....KL7CR evidently he was looking for states for was when I tuned up or sumthin... however he said he would qsy... and hi....

7.047.5 was in use when I tried to start the net so I moved down a bit as u noticed... Great net... some loud and some weak checkins even heard the elusive Mac... who relayed ,,, yes Mac relayed for Dan N8IE... now there's a happening..... I think I may have missed a piggie or two... sri bout that...thought I had a late late check in but I was mistaken again....

checkins WED NITE NET OCT. 3, O1 9PM EASTERN TIME
7.047 MHZ

N4VT

W9FCC

WB8ICN

W1QF... GREAT 5W SIGNAL

WB8UOJ

KB9BVN

W4STX

AF4PS

N8IE

KE1LA NCS, FP WED NITE NET....

KE1LA JOEL IN MAINE MAINELY FREEZIN AGAIN

10/8

The FP net just ended and I am listening to Mac and Richard (AF4PS and WB9LPU) work each other....go guys go!!!
Good net tonite and the band was very well behaved...

W8DIZ 599, Guess all of you Hooiser fest folks are quite tired about now.. hahaha...glad you guys had a good time even with the cold weather.

KC8NYW 599, and Rob got his antenna fixed today

NV4T 569, and solid copy

AF4PS 559, this unknown piggie is making a comeback, LOL...nice job Mac

WV9N 599, don't know why I keep wanting to put a "G" in your call Randy, sri.

WA5PB 559, good signal from Texas...you Lone Star guys are making quite the splash here on the midwest piggies...hi hi
KC0BOM 599, OK Jim, sounded like you had a full gallon tonite - whats the secret???

KB5ELV was abt 569, but never heard Buddy after the check-in.

WB9LPU 599, Hey Rich, good signal and fist...I gotta stop in and see you on one of my next Indy runs!!!

Thanks to all for a great net. I'm leaving for three days (south bend, Arlington Heights and then Grand Rapids), should be back on Wednesday or Thursday. This working thing is cutting into my bow hunting time...gotta fix that somehow...LOL.

Can anyone take the net for me next weekend? I will be up north and not sure if I will have an antenna up or not at the deer camp. Please let me know...

72's and OO's....Mikey

10/11

WED NITE NET OCT 10, O1 9PM EASTERN 7.048 CW
CHECK INS

NV4T... GOT TO SAY HELLO 2WICE

W9FCC... SAY WHO... AT 4 WATTS.... GUD SIGNAL INTO MAINE

W1QF 4W... PIPELINE IT WAS 4 807;S LATER...

WB9LIF... THANKS FOR CHECKING IN

AC4FS OR AF4FS NEVER CAN GET IT STRAIGHT MAC

AC4BT.....JERRY HOWDY, JUST AS PROUD TO MEET

YA

N8IE ...PUTTEN THE COALS TO IT... WHEN THINGS GOT RUFF..

KE1LA ...THINK i WAS THAIR GUYS... GOTTA GET BETTER TO DIE, I'LL TELL U...

MAN WHO WAS THAT CALLING CQ? DON'T MESS WITH ME WHEN I'M FEELING BAD FELLA... U SAW ME QSY ON HIM HUH.... :-) BY THE TIME HE GOT THRU CALLING CQ AGAIN HE WAS IN A GROUP ALL BY HIS SELF.... SURE HAD A NICE SIGNAL THOU....

THANKS FOR QSYING GUYS...UR GREAT...

KE1LA JOEL

IN MAINE

FEELING LIKE AH WAS

FARTHER SOUTH.... HEE HEE...

10/15

Hi Gang, Almost forgot that I volunteered for the net tonight!
QNI were...
NV4T 439
WA5PB 549
WB8ABE 569
KB5ELV 569
W1QF 599
N8VAR 579
KC8BOM 599
Lots of QRN at my QTH. TNX to all that checked in. Mikey will return next Sunday for a REAL net :-) 72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ

10/18

high y`all
what`s that ah did to nite? qsk or sumthin to let that fellow kneaux he was jumping on peaux little 5 watt stations...sry bout that, he angered me, shame on him....
anyhow... look at all the checkins... from 1.5 watt to 5 watts we had em tonite... the qsys yes qsys went very smoothly... did I send enough v v v for everyone to zero beat... see I listen, just don`t get betterer fast.... :-)

Thanks for the great turnout.... conditions were qrn and qrm but u guys had the signals....u qrp ed the competition....way to geaux.....

Check ins WED NITE NET OCT. 18, 01..... 9PM EASTERN 7.047.5 AND A BIT OF QSY... CW

W9FCC... GREAT SIGNAL
W1QF... SRY ABOUT THE AF...SOMETIMES i GET THAT WAY.... :-)
WB9LIF... YES IT WAS U.... U CAME UP ON ME.... WAY TO GEAX...
N4VM... SRI i MISSED UR CALL THE FIRST HUNDRED TIMES, I NEEDED AN 807 TO CALM
W2XN... DAT WAS FRED IN FLORIDA... THANKS AND COUNT AGN ERRR COME AGN...:-)
N8ICN... MY MAN, MY HERO WHARE DID U WENT TO....???? SRY LOST U
N8IE OK DAN HOW MANY MILLIWATTS WAS IT???
OH U MAKE ME WORK
N8VAR... DON`T KNEAUX HOW I KEPT HEARING VLR... ANOTHER 807 CURED THAT...
N8WVD... DAVID WAS IT U OR VAR AT 1.5 WATTS...UR 55 AT TIMESGREAT SIG...

KEILA ... JOEL... NCS MEAUX OR LESS...THANKS GUYS UR THE GREATEST....

10/25

wed nite checkins
NV4T
N8IE
KE1LA

NOISE LEVEL S9+ signal levels s3 and s5
that was the net also I seem not to be abel to post anything... so no one will hear from me oh what rejoicing I hear...
thanks joel
ke1la joel
in maine

10/29

Well it was a small net...

NV4T and WA5PB
A battle of the "Bill's" both were about 559 hope things improve next Wed :)

'oo' - Diz, W8DIZ Ω

Quote of the year!

From Bill, WA5PB Fp# -337:

"FPqrp - Where OO does not mean Official Observer!"

QRP Happenings in November

November 3-5: ARRL Sweepstakes, CW

For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands.

More info at:

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

November 17-19: ARRL Sweepstakes, CW

For stations in the United States and Canada (including territories and possessions) to exchange QSO information with as many other US and Canadian stations as possible on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands.

More info at:

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

November 24-25: CQ WW DX Contest, CW

Sponsored by CQ Magazine, 0000Z Oct 27 to 2400Z Oct 28 (CW is 0000Z Nov 24 to 2400Z Nov 25). Exchange RS(T) and CQ zone.

More info at:

<http://cqww.com/>

Special Events for November

Arlington Heights, IL: Armored Force AR Net, KA9NLX, 1500Z **Nov 9** to 2000Z **Nov 11**, to honor all veterans and to remember those who have died. 7.283 7.030 14.325 21.375. Certificate. John Paskevicz, 1423 North Ridge Ave, Arlington Hts, IL 60004.

Arcadia, FL: DeSoto Co Amateur Radio Club, W4MIN, 1500Z to 2100Z **Nov 10**, Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibit's visit to Arcadia. 14.265. Certificate. Vern Erickson, PO Box 1401, Nocatee, FL 34268.

Whitefish Point, MI: Stu Rockafellow Amateur Radio Society, N8F, 1400Z **Nov 10** to 2000Z **Nov 11**, operating from the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum commemorating the sinking of the *Edmund Fitzgerald*, 7.270 14.270 21.270 28.370. Certificate. John Ebejer, K8DSL, 15855 Winchester Dr, Northville, MI 48167.

Colorado Springs, CO: Rocky Mountain Navy Amateur Radio Club, KØUSN, 1400Z to 2300Z **Nov 11**, Veteran's Day operation honoring our service men and women. 14.275 50.150. Certificate. Mike Anderson, WV7T, CPO, USN, Ret, 2815 Main St, Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

Hackensack, NJ: 10-70 Repeater Association, NX2ND, 1400Z to 2230Z **Nov 11**, USS *Ling* SS297 Veterans Day, anniversary of NX2ND. 14.260 7.260 14.070 7.039. Certificate. William Stagg, 38 Rutgers Dr, Oakland, NJ 07436.

Bay Pines, FL: METRO Repeater Association, W4BPH, 1500Z to 0000Z **Nov 11**, Veterans Day. 28.430 21.330 14.230 7.230. QSL. George Baustert, W3BL, 5037 88th Ave, Pinellas Park, FL 33782.

Nutley, NJ: Robert D. Grant United Labor Amateur Radio Association, N2UL, 1200Z to 2400Z **Nov 11**, "CQ Veterans Day" dedicated to all veterans who served our country. 28.420 21.375 14.260. Certificate. R.D.G.U.L.A.R.A. c/o WA2VJA, 112 Prospect St, Nutley, NJ 07110-0716.

Baton Rouge, LA: USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club--Baton Rouge ARC, W5KID, 1500Z to 2300Z **Nov 11**, Veterans Day. 28.440 21.340 14.240 14.060. QSL. W5KID, 305 River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Gold Rock Ranch--Glamis, CA: Yuma ARC, K7YA, 1500Z **Nov 23** to 0100Z **Nov 24**, Camp Fire Boys & Girls Fund Raiser. 7.248 14.250 21.350 28.375. Certificate. Yuma ARC--K7YA, 13329 E 47 St, Yuma, AZ 85367.

Plymouth, MA: Whitman Amateur Radio Club, WA1NPO, 1400Z **Nov 24** to 0100Z **Nov 25**, the first Pilgrim Landings at Plymouth, Massachusetts. 3.890 7.250 14.260 28.360. Certificate. Whitman ARC, PO Box 48, Whitman, MA 02382.

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE THREAT

By Dennis Bodson (c) 1985

[From library of John Lauzenheiser WDX8JAL]

[Book report by Arnold Timm 1995]

Military radio (MARS)stations conducted a series of tests evaluating various EMP devices. The national Communications System (NCS) wished to develop equipment, which may if utilized, significantly enhance the emergency amateur radio research resources.(In event that a rogue missile unloaded its 100 megaton cargo on the bread basket of North America, auxiliary stations may escape serious damage.)The human element must fend for them selves.

Volunteer radio amateurs (if alive) could improve the nationwide posture of telecoms readiness for a conceivable national emergency. This report was prepared for NCS by IRT Corp San Diego CA. Vulnerability of equipment and its ops survivability, were foremost in the minds of military brass. Flying Pigs needs lots of Bacon Bits to stay aloft. Hi

The widespread use of solid state components in MARS gear pushed this test forward. It was found that basic protection of ham gear could be bought for \$100. (This is the price most Flying Pigs pay for their complete pigpen!) Transient suppression devices could also be (hi) homemade. Who would feel up to soldering under 100-megaton meltdown? Perhaps a series of robots should be installed? Hi

EMP is defined as a large impulse EM wave generated by nuclear explosions. 100 megaton above ground detonation results in a field strength (conservative) of 50Kv horizontally and 20Kv vertically, with a pulse rise time of 5-10 nanoseconds. In above 30-mile attitude blast, EMP is produced by gamma rays interacting with atmospheric molecules making " Compton electrons ". These photons decay in the earth's magnetic field, emitting photons in the process. Wonder what it does to the ozone layer density?

Interaction can also create high energy photons with radio equipment, computers, in-flight missiles, and satellite systems. Longer duration, smaller amplitude, magnetic hydrodynamic EMP, poses a threat to very long landlines (telephones etc) or submarine cables. Animals and plant life in the wilderness are extremely stressed. Flying Pigs fry on the sidewalks or buy space in the space station? Hi

A high altitude explosion will produce the same peak field strength as a low level (small geographic area) nuclear strike. Gamma rays react with the ionosphere to make electrically charged currents. The physical process which converts gamma rays into EM is known as "Compton effects". Possibly because somebody named Compton was burnt beyond recognition by these inert elements? Hi

With the charge separation in the atmosphere, a huge electrical current is created. An additional charge is generated when these electrons are deflected by the earth magnetic field, thus spiraling around these input lines. A broad-spectrum frequency range is pulsed at light speeds into surface mount transceiver and nursing homes? Hi

An increase in the ionized "D" layer is created by this line-spiral. Not only in the local area, but also in the opposite hemisphere! A sudden loss in HF coms -- broadcast, rush hour radio, and 1750m Lowfers (Imagine what the WW2 Japan atomic bomb did!) occurs. [The California black outs of electricity recently brings this article to mind]

Instant peak power density of nuclear EMP pulse is 6 million watts per square meter. Example: 60 Joules (J) is 60 watt (W) light bulb burning for one second (S) ($W = 3D J/S$). The energy expended during one second by an electric current of 1 amp into one ohm. EMP freq. coverage is 10 kHz - 100 Mhz. Thus, VHF-Microwave is the least affected. Hi

Magnetic induction readily occurs in the perpendicular plane of a closed loop. A spark AC can jump to a low resistance; as with lightning bolts and Mad Cow Disease? Normal MUF (Maximum Useable freq.) may be disrupted permanently or return after impact. Not to mention our human frailties. Or ugly bug xcvr damage? Hi

As new propagation paths are cut, old ones may drift in pieces. The fireball itself can disrupt coms because it generates an "opaque" area that radio signals can't penetrate. Reeling from the concussion, ozone patches may never adhere to each other. More delicate regions of the ionosphere may fuse into dissimilar substances and form metallic gas droplets. There goes the Flying Pig neighborhood? Hi

The most susceptible components are ICs and transistors, field effect transistor front ends; the least affected are relays and transformers. Old vacuum tube gear has shown very little vulnerability. Power line transformers act as a band-pass filter shunting such freqs?

In the event that a nuclear bomb is exploded within a region, old tube-type radio equipment will survive, more so than IC xcvs. It's then suggested that you (A) be able to operate minus fancy complex circuits, (B) reserve an old Collins, Drake, Heath, or Swan transceiver; (C) forget computer code readers & iambic keyer; and (D) depend upon yourself and basic gear until the electricity fails and nuclear winter sets in. Hi

KA0TPZ/wdx0awt@juno.com Ω

As seen on our Reflector!®

Rock Grinding:

By Karl, W8TIF Piggie #221

A few tips on grinding crystals from an Old Timer, both from FT-241/243 blanks as well as HC-6/U holders!

'Way back when, in nineteen-forgotten, I used a piece of PLATE glass, about 3/8-inch thick (I don't recommend that thin, fragile window-pane glass be used) and about 7 or 8 inches square. The initial abrasive I used (as did a lot of others) was Bon-Ami scouring powder, but Ajax and other similar scouring powders will also work. For a finer abrasive, you can use "Soft Scrub" (allegedly a "non-abrasive", but it really is - just a bit finer than the heavy-duty stuff). For still more gentle

action, you can use toothpaste (not the gel stuff - get ol'-fashioned Colgate). For the really-really-really fine touch(es), get some jeweler's rouge. Let's assume your crystal blank (from the FT-243) is about 25 to 20 kHz BELOW your desired operating frequency. It could be lower than that, and it's okay - it'll just require more grinding on your part.

I'd recommend you FIRST build a test oscillator and check the initial operating frequency of your "surplus" crystal. Jot it down on a piece of paper or your "lab notebook". Carefully remove the screws that hold on the cover plate of the FT-243. Try not to destroy the neoprene gasket that seals the cover plate to the body of the crystal holder. Inside, you'll see a compression spring and a (usually) brass plate that has a little "tail" that runs off to one of the crystal holder pins (provides one of the two electrical connections to the crystal blank). G-e-n-t-l-y lift up that plate (I used a sharp-pointed awl) jussssst enough that you can tip out the crystal blank from between the two brass plates (there's one on the backside of the crystal blank).

On the heavy-duty glass plate, make a thickish paste of water and some of that scouring powder. Use a pretty good glob of it, 'cause you're going to be spreading it about as you grind your "rock". Place the crystal in the scouring power paste, and using just your index and middle finger (you know, the one you use on the highways when that %&*\$#@! cuts you off), apply gentle pressure on *diagonally opposite* corners. Using this "grip", begin to move the crystal in a FIGURE EIGHT (NOT circular!) pattern over the glass base plate - any size "8" will do; use one that's comfortable for you (mine, as I recall, were about 3 inches or so). After about five or six "figure eights", grasp the OTHER two diagonal corners in the same fashion and continue with the figure eight pattern, same number of laps. Now, turn the crystal blank over and grind the OPPOSITE SIDE the same number of turns, using first one pair of diagonal corners and then the other pair of corners, as described above. If you need to, add some more scouring powder/water to the mess you have on the glass plate. The number of "figure eight's" you'll need to get the rock on the desired frequency is a function of how low in frequency it is (relative to the desired operating frequency), how hard you press down as you grind, and just how abrasive your scouring powder is. Only experimentation and years and years of doing this will give you a "feel" for the technique!

You're going to need either: a) A test oscillator to check the frequency and operation of the crystal or b) A working transmitter to verify the frequency and operation of the crystal. Carefully remove the quartz blank from the grinding compound and in a slow stream of cool water, thoroughly rinse off the grinding paste (you can gently apply a toothbrush to aid in this process if you want). LEAVE THE GRINDING PASTE ON THE GLASS "GRINDING PLATE" - you'll probably need it again. With clean fingers, hold the crystal blank *by its edges* and reassemble the blank in the FT-243 holder - just slip it in between the two brass plates. Don't forget to re-install that compression spring! Put the cover plate back on the assembly and re-install all cover screws. Torque them down pretty well, since the amount of pressure on the crystal affects its operating frequency. Install the assembled FT-243 crystal in the test oscillator and measure the new operating frequency. Knowing how many figure-eight laps you did on each side will give you a rough idea of how many kilohertz you can move the crystal

blank versus the "number of laps" of grinding effort. I doubt that just a few turns will move the rock very much, but I highly recommend you begin slowly and gently until you develop a feel for how much your efforts will actually move the frequency. Then you can be more aggressive in future "grindings".

Let's assume your FT-243 still isn't on frequency (it won't be, believe me), so disassemble the FT-243 again (see initial steps above), remove the crystal blank and grind it some more - maybe this time, 20 or 30 laps on both corners, and 20 or 30 laps of the OTHER side of the blank. Again, clean the blank thoroughly, reassemble the FT-243 and re-check the frequency in your test oscillator. As it says on the laxative bottle, repeat as necessary. Keep in mind that if you are checking the frequency in a test oscillator, the operating frequency may be slightly different from that of the ACTUAL transmitter in which the crystal is used. I'd recommend using the "real transmitter" as your test oscillator, to avoid the differences in circuit capacitance, oscillator type, et cetera.

Using graphite (from a soft-lead pencil) will move the crystal blank frequency DOWN (grinding moves it up, of course), but you have to be v-e-r-r-y careful where you apply it to the crystal blank surface - that's a lesson for another time.

Karl K - W8TIF Piggie #221

McKinney, Texas Ω

Bedford Hamfest Report

By Brian, KB9BVN

Well the 40th Hoosier Hills Hamfest is now in the history books.

The Flying Pigs QRP Club hosted the QRP Forum at 9am. It was attended by 23 hams interested in QRP operation. QRP ARCI and KitsandParts.com gave out some nice prizes and we had about a 70-minute discussion about QRP, clubs, internet sites, and a great assortment of homebrew show and tell gear. I think we also brought 4 new QRPer's to the fold as well. So all in all, not a bad day.

Randy, Diz and myself got there at 3PM on Saturday. We put a nice dipole up about 40 feet in the air and used the K1, K2, and Diz's Multipig Rig to make contacts on 20 and 40m. The contesters were everywhere and we could hear them all so the antenna was doing a FB job. Managed to work EA, LX, LY, CO, HC, and a few others. WE had visitors to the campsite up until about 11pm....when the temp hit 32F. When we got up Sat morning, it was a balmy 25F.

Loads of fun, and we have been asked to do a QRP presentation at the FT. Wayne Indiana hamfest in November, and a few others next year, including the Indy Hamfest. 72 Ω

Member Spotlight!

This month were spotlighting:

Randy, K8ZFJ FP #-22



First licensed Feb.'69 as WN8BUM in Milford, Ohio, way back when the novice license was only a 2 year non-renewable type !

Following 4+ years in Uncles' Army, tried it again as WBOUMX, while living in MN and working for E.F. Johnson company... alas, another 2 year license. My "Elmer", Carl, the original K8ZFJ, advised me back in the early 60's to learn the code and strive for the General Class ticket. Thankfully I listened, remembered and practiced his words. In March '80, once again the "ham-bug" hit me, but this time within a year I upgraded to General class, retaining the KA9HAO call.

A career move from IL to AZ, when in July of '86 upgrades to Advanced & Extra class occurred on the same day. KA9HAO "lived" until February, 1997 when K8ZFJ was received while living in RI. Thanks to my "Silent Elmer". Equipment includes an Heathkit HW-16 (like the first rig) and an HG-10VFO, Ten-Tec Argonaut 515 (almost 20 years old & still in use), various Qrp kit rigs, along with a newer IC-706MKII and the K1EL, K-10 Keyer. Good things do come in small packages & low power. Wire antennas have always been my first love, and the trusty old G5RV, still works just as good as a tower & beam, when compared to the expense & effort to raise. (My humble opinion)

In 20+ years of hamming, I doubt I have ever operated with more than 50 watts. In 1981 while in IL, I had the opportunity to meet K9PNG (Jim Jones), K5VOL (Red Reynolds), W9ZSJ (George Dorner) & K9BCM (Rich Bernstein). All active Qrp'ers, and before I knew it, Field Day had arrived QRP-FD style was in my veins. Thanks to them for introducing me to QRP ARCI & the G-QRP clubs, providing the rewards QRP has to offer.

Today, hamming continues to be mostly a "winter months" hobby in addition to tying flies for the fishing months, but as warmer weather returns, less time is spent on the radio & out comes the fly-fishing & watercraft "toys", along with those graceful soaring R/C sailplanes... along with collecting whatever may come along Fly-fishing & powerless flight, like QRP is a challenge, maybe that's why all are appealing. 72's & 73's de K8ZFJ, the 2nd. Ω

Back to Japan!

By Chuck, AA8VS

Let me start out by saying GM has allowed me the privilege to travel again to Japan on a business trip. The last trip I wrote about was in Hamamatsu City, Japan, which is a fairly large built up city. This time I had the chance to travel to a smaller community. This reminds me of comparing Cleveland to Hamilton, Ohio.



I visited Nippei Toyama Corporation (NTC) in Fukuno Machi, Japan. Here is a picture standing in front of Plant Five and looking back toward the town of Fukuno which is a suburb of Toyama. There are several stores, but a lot of small family owned businesses. You can barter prices!

The interesting thing here is they have a Toyama mailing address, but are about 80 Kilometers from Toyama. Let me start by saying from Detroit, Mi I flew to Tokyo and the next day took the shuttle flight to Toyama. The next part of the trip was by car to the work place and hotel.



The pictures are from one of my walks around the town to show the differences from [if anyone remembers] my last article about Japan. I start down the street and you have a rather large house on the right hand side of what is a fairly wide residential street. The first thing you notice though are no front yards or much of a sidewalk.



After you go a ways down that street I looked to my left and you'll notice another large house with a field behind it and the major thing growing is rice. The thing of interest I have found if there is no house or commercial building on it, they are growing food.



As I continue around the block we are now looking at a field and a row of flowers next to a road. The flowers on these bushes are 9 to 12 inches in diameter, but it is hard to tell by the scale of the picture. Really beautiful scenery around this little town, as I said it is not built up like Tokyo at all.



Now I am on that road with the flowers to my left, but you will notice a small canal on the right side of the street and the edge of another field. The interesting thing about this area is they have these type canals all through town but in the 'city' parts they have square cement slabs over them and this becomes a narrow sidewalk.



Now I have made the turn and heading back toward the hotel and I found a place that has a stone shrine portal as you look in the front yard. It had some writing on it, but unfortunately I can't read it to be able to tell you what it is. But it really looked interesting.



That is pretty much my nickel tour around Fukuno for you, but on the way back I managed to snap a picture out the window of the airport in Toyama. This is a neat airport only two gates; just love the friendly people at this place.



As we are taking the bus from Tokyo Haneda airport to Tokyo Narita airport [newer International airport], I took a picture of the Ski Dome from the bus. This gives the folks a chance to do downhill snow skiing anytime they want. I am not a skier, but I was curious about the day pass [like we have] price. I heard it was \$100.00 and I thought it was a little steep for a day pass. But don't worry that is the price each time you ski down the hill. I think I would fall a lot just to get my monies worth HI HI.

But there you have my trip last month [June/ July] time frame. I hope everyone enjoyed the pictures and my rambling and thanks to Dan for letting me share it with everyone. 73 Chuck AA8VS FP-113 Ω

Truffle Hunts are afoot!

Report from Diz, W8DIZ for the first Truffle Hunt® for Y2K1! Look for future reports in the Bacon Bits, and remember to sign up today!

WOW!

Lots of truffle hunters on the first outing this fall. Got clobbered with SSB when I started out. That section between 7043 and higher is most definitely SSB territory. Finally ended up near 7042 where it was a bit more manageable.

Also learned I need more practice doing this HUNT stuff :)

K3NG 559 PA Goody 5W
 W5YR 559 TX George 5W
 K9DC 599 IN Dave 5W
 WA8BXN 599 OH Mike 5W
 W2XN 559 Fl Fred 5W
 KB9YIG 559 IN Tony 5W
 K1KID 569 MA Carl 4W
 K2ZW 5?9 ?? Larry ?W
 WB5QYT 559 NM Tom 5W
 N5IB 559 LA Jim 5W
 AC5JH 559 OK Tom 5W
 KD5KXF 599 TX Mike 5W
 K4BYF 559 FL Jack 5W
 VE3FAL 599 ON Fred 5W
 VE3SP 559 ON Ron 5W
 WS0T 589 IA Tom ?W - he smoked my AGC circuit
 N0TU 559 CO Steve 5W
 KQ5U 559 TX Terry 5W
 N8TT 599 MI Jim ?W

Could have picked up another dozen but I'm not a seasoned contender. Anyway, thanks to all that participated tonight in the 1st Truffle Hunt. Now to find DA FOX!

72 and 'oo' - Diz, W8DIZ
 Loveland, OH 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

Rick, WB6JBM at ripowell@mpna.com

Dan, N8IE at n8ie@who.rr.com

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