

# *SOAPBOX*

## North Carolina QSO Party 2019

### **Mark KG4ZOI**



Enjoyed the NCQP once again. Ventured up to Lake Hyco this year. Got a little cabin rental on the lake. Severe rain storm mid-morning followed by 40-50 wind gusts later afternoon. Failed laptop. No problem, paper log. Already received 20 QSL's wanting Person County. Maybe committee

should consider bonus points for activating 10 least counties?

### **Keith K4MHC**



This was my first NCQSO party. I am not clear on the bonus points/multipliers. I am sorry for an incomplete summary and I hope someone will take some pity on a 1st timer and check it for me. PS This was actually my first contest ever, lots of fun.

### **Dean, K2JB**

Thanks again for a great NCQP. W4PH and I had a ball operating Expedition from the Transylvania/Jackson County Line. We operated our rig off a deep cycle battery which allowed us to also activate it as a SOTA summit. We did the same thing on Sassafras Mtn in SC for the SCQP but didn't have near the success we had on Toxaway. The only drawback was that by 5:00 PM, the temperature was 39, and

the wind was literally blowing us off the mountain with 60-70 mph winds so we cut short our operating time and headed down.

I wanted to save you the trouble of asking for verification of our county line operating by sending our determination of the county line and operating setup.

Google Earth, Google Maps and Bing Maps all show the Jackson/Transylvania county line crossing Toxaway Mtn but none agree exactly. So, I went to the Transylvania County GIS which is based off actual survey data. It indicated a corner on the summit marked by a USGS Survey Marker directly under the existing fire tower. We located this survey marker and set up our operating position directly over it. We also suspended our dipoles from the fire tower with one leg extending into Jackson County and the other extending into Transylvania County. So, with this arrangement, we satisfied the County Line rule for NCQP. Please see the pictures/screen shots below that verify our setup.

Keep up the good work for NCQP and we will be back again next year.

**Bob, K3ZGA**

Thanks for another fun NC/SC QSO Party this year. I lived in Greensboro for 21 years prior to moving to The Villages three years ago. I traveled throughout NC and SC for my work in electrical product sales for those 21 years and love the Carolinas. I always enjoy your events.

I'm currently serving as the Secretary of The Carolinas Club here in The Villages. We have monthly social gatherings and share stories of our time living in those great states. I have about 150 Carolinians on my membership list.

Our Villages Amateur Radio Club has about 189 members. Our website is [www.k4vrc.com](http://www.k4vrc.com). We are pretty good at stealthy antennas here. I use an OCF Flagpole Vertical myself. If you are ever down this way stop by and say hello.

TVARC meets the Third Thursday evening every month. QCWA Chapter 217 meets for lunch the Second Thursday of every month. And a group of about 12 or so of us plus wives meet for lunch every Tuesday at Chick-Fil-A. This started with just three of us, K3ZGA, K9IA and N0SMX, and has grown into a priority for a good group of mostly CW guys every week. We call ourselves the Chicken Chompers. Bun intended.

Thanks again. CU on the Band, 73

**Bert N4CW** (W4TMO DRIVER/NAVIGATOR/STRATEGIST)

Unlike rainy Saturday, Sunday was a beautiful sunny day which made driving for Jim (W4TMO) much more pleasant! We started out and ended on county lines which we had never done before; we'll be using that strategy from now on!

Band conditions weren't any better than Saturday's, and the ops I worked were great! I really appreciate the patience shown by all while we coped with problems or I had to make corrections due to hitting multiple (undesired) keys on the laptop due to bumps in the road or potholes. Occasionally 20-over line noise would plague us, making copy impossible...that took patience from me too! But it didn't happen often; I was lucky! Unless you've operated mobile, you can't imagine how hard copying can get, and there's nothing you can do about it but wait it out. "It" happens...

Our modest station had only 3-band (80/40/20) capability, but we did try to work W6OAT on 15 meters using our 40M antenna...it didn't work. I couldn't hear Rusty and he couldn't hear me. K1GQ did hear him but not me...maybe if I had a separate 15M antenna I could have garnered ONE Q on 15. 20M wasn't very productive; 40M was the bread 'n butter band for us and 80 was great. K1GQ, DL3DXX and W0BH would work us wherever we were. It was always fun seeing who'd work me first after a county change! Thanks, everyone, for the very pleasurable weekend we enjoyed. Jim, W4TMO, my driver/navigator/strategist, monitored the entire contest plugged into my headphone jack.

Please look for us in the FQP.  
BEST of 73,

**Bruce, N1LN**



The NC QSO party is over for another year and we had a great time. I would like to start out by thanking the NCQP organizing committee and specifically committee chairman Marty, W4MY, for giving us the opportunity to sign W4DW as a bonus station. We ran Multi-Two with one station on CW

and the other station on SSB. Howie, WA4PSC, and Bill, N8BR made up the CW team. Laurie, N1YXU, and Bruce, N1LN, made up the SSB team. We discussed running high power but, in the end, decided that since we were the "target station" and we had a decent selection of antennas, low power should work. In short, we believe it did.

When the final bell rang we had 1200 QSOs in the log with 55 states and provinces and 59 counties. Where were UT and RI? The 1200 total Qs included 964 unique calls or just over 80% of our Q total. As in past years we made more SSB Qs than CW with the split being 476 CW and 724 SSB. However, the points per QSO of 3 for CW and 2 for SSB brought the totals much closer with 1428 CW and 1448 SSB. Almost a tie!

Thanks to everyone that called us. Conditions were not great but with the occasional repeat almost everyone calling got in the log.

73 from the W4DW CW and SSB team!

Laurie – N1YXU/ Howie – WA4PSC/ Bill – N8BR/ Bruce – N1LN

## **Marc, W4MPS**



For those of you who contacted either W4DW or W4MY on PSK31 during NCQP, that was me operating remotely from W4MY's QTH in Harnett County. But your log will show WAK. That's where the transmitter and antennas were located. I was proud to be a part of Paul's, AA4XX, remote radio project. We were successful in getting the system operating just before NCQP and it worked without a hitch during the contest. I was remotely operating a Flex 6300 running about 30 watts, controlled by RemoteRig units, to an 80 Meter full wave horizontal loop at about 50 feet. The entire station is solar powered battery with no commercial mains. We're hoping the authors of WSJT-X will implement modifications so that next year we can operate FT8 mode, which I think will substantially increase digital participation.

## **KB8ZR**

~45w, I had FUN

## **K4HC**

Not a full time effort - granddaughter was in town, and my wife's birthday. Nevertheless, had a lot of fun, and ran into several friends along the way. Always fun in the NCQP!

## **K3ZGA**

Great Contest As Always. Thanks to all the organizers and participants.

## **AA8TA**

Better conditions to this Carolina compared to Saturday. Thanks for the Qs.

## **KB3PQT**

great event!

### **N7WY**

claimed score is a rough guess based on bonus and calls with unconventional sending of county like McDowell and Pitt

### **W4KAZ**

Limited effort from the house.

### **KE2SX**

Only had an hour and a half to give it this year. Good to hear some familiar CWOPs calls out there.

### **AD8J**

Slightly higher score than last year due to more mults.

### **N4NTO**

What fun! Cdx not the best, but great fun!

Glad to hear good activity!

Glad to have SC and NC on the same weekend!

Didn't hear much from the eastern counties this time.

### **N4GM**

OP'S K6RM KI4KK WA2IOB KK4RNL N1BDL

### **KE0TT**

K3/10 at 5 watts to wire antennas fed with ladder lines and tuners.

Thanks for some winter Fun! C U next time, 73, Dan ke0tt

### **W8IQ**

Made my first ever QRP QSOs on SSB. Greater receivers!

### **WA0MHJ**

Limited time, but nuce to be back after 9 years! - WA0MHJ

### **AI4WL**

Great fun!

### **KF4QFJ**

I had good time in North Carolina QSO Party. Thanks to operators

and organizers! 73 de Jerome, KF4QFJ

**KI4MZC**

Kx3 to a multi-band dipole fed with window-line. I think I worked most of the cw stations participating and apparently I got the chairman on 40 & 80m. Seemed like it was a 2-band only contest. 80m really picked up toward the end. Thanks to the organizers and the in-state amateurs for puttin' on this event.

**W5QLF**

Including 50 Bonus points for working W4MY

**W4SDJ**

Here we go again!

**N4ARO**

Enjoyed my 11th year participating in NC QSO party. This year I toughed it out doing only CW. Band condx were terrible on higher bands. 80M was great but a few more NC cw operators overall would have been nice. Even SOAPBOX: 40M seemed "dead" part of the day. Worked all 4 bonus stations. SOAPBOX: I never heard either of the two bonus counties appear on CW.

I managed one contact on 20 meters (AD8J/m) by pointing the beam due West, working off the reflection.

**W1QK**

Thank you for sponsoring the contest.

**N1NN**

8TH NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY

**W4JHU**

Thanks for organizing, sponsoring, and conducting this contest.

**W4GHV**

IC7300

**K4REB**

As always I enjoyed the party !

**W2HTI**

Started contest on 20 m. at 100 watts - nil. Conditions poor. Would be more productive to go out and rake leaves. So, this will be my check log for.

**N4HWH**

Enjoyed this contest!!

**W4MGT**

Due to the cold and rain, we decided to stay close to home. We did get on the air for a few hours.

**W1END**

Rig was FTdx5000 and Butternut vertical.  
Nice activity but I did not do as well as last year. Hi.

**DL5AWI**

Thanks for the activities! Hard job for both operators with my 100 watts...

**VA3RKM**

Thank you for the fun!

**K3TW**

"Many thanks for another enjoyable North Carolina QSO Party."

**KC4DD**

OPERATORS KC4DD AND W4TAD. OPERATING EXPEDITION WITH ONE TRANSMITTER ONE COUNTY. WISH WE DID NOT HAVE TO COMPETE AGAINST MULTI TRANSMITTERS. STILL HAD GREAT FUN.

**KE0TT**

K3/10 at 5 watts to wire antennas fed with ladder lines and tuners.  
Thanks for some winter Fun! C U next time, 73, Dan ke0tt



**DL3DXX**

264 pts x 37 mu lts + 150 bonus pts

**N4JRC**

Had some problems with logging software - if any of my bands are wrong, I apologize - not intentional.

**K4FAN**

First time back on HF in over a year!

**K3TW**

"Many thanks for another enjoyable North Carolina QSO Party."

**N4IY**

I struggle with the logging software.