Flying Pigs QRP Club
Bacon Bits Quarterly

In this Issue:

Observations from the Pig Pen

Welcome to the July 2021 issue of the ***Bacon Bits Quarterly Newsletter***!

How or why did the phrase "when pigs fly" come into being? That phrase has been used in various forms, since the 1600s, as a sarcastic remark—imagine that!

One of the factors that attracted me to the Flying Pigs QRP Club is the sense of camaraderie that I've observed and felt, from talking to and hanging out with its members. It is in that sense of camaraderie that I ask for your input to this publication. Please send me your articles, pictures, and stories that you deem worthy of publication in the next edition.

My apologies go out to Anthony K8ZT who submitted his article months ago and is just now getting published here.

Cover Photo Spotlight

VE3IDS, Don, FP# 3791, graciously provided the cover photo for this month's issue of the BBQ. You will note that Don re-packaged his QCX CW Transceiver into a unique enclosure!

Wanted

N8IE, Dan – Looking for the Oak Hills DD-1 (frequency counter) user manual

If you have something that you are looking for and can't find it, please send a brief description of what you are looking for to N8WQ and I will add it to this column in the next issue of the BBQ.

State QSO Party Challenge
Online Certificate Generator Is Now Available
By Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

After almost a year and 46 contests later, the 2020 running of the State QSO Party Challenge has ended. If you participated, you can now generate your own suitable for framing color certificate by visiting the website at http://stateqsoparty.com or directly at www.b4h.net/sqpchallenge.

If you did not participate in 2020, get ready to compete in 2021. Work any or all of the 45 State, Province, or Regional QSO Parties and submit your scores via www.3830scores.com. For more information, you can visit the website http://stateqsoparty.com, view a Youtube Video www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yAf3XrAEic, or read through a slideshow at tiny.cc/stqspc.

Most of the QSO Parties have QRP categories and are an excellent place for beginner contesters to wet their feet. If new to contesting, you might want to watch the recent ARRL Webinar's recording- "Intro to Amateur Radio Contesting" or view the slideshow.

Dates of QSO Parties Included in State QSO Party Challenge

Weekend Group	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time	Contest Name/ Link
1	2/6/2021	1600Z	2/7/2021	0359Z	**British Columbia QSO Party**
	2/6/2021	0000Z	2/7/2021	2400Z	**Vermont QSO Party**
	2/6/2021	1400Z	2/6/2021	2400Z	**Minnesota QSO Party**
	2/7/2021	0000Z	2/7/2021	2359Z	**British Columbia QSO Party**
2	2/27/2021	1500Z	2/28/2021	0159Z	**South Carolina QSO Party**
	2/28/2021	1500Z	3/1/2021	0059Z	**North Carolina QSO Party**
3	3/13/2021	1500Z	3/14/2021	0200Z	**Oklahoma QSO Party**
	3/13/2021	1900Z	3/14/2021	1900Z	**Idaho QSO Party**
	3/14/2021	1500Z	3/14/2021	2100Z	**Oklahoma QSO Party**
	3/14/2021	1800Z	3/15/2021	0100Z	**Wisconsin QSO Party**
4	3/21/2021	1400Z	3/22/2021	0400Z	**Virginia QSO Party**
	3/22/2021	1200Z	3/22/2021	2400Z	**Virginia QSO Party**
5	4/3/2021	1400Z	4/4/2021	0200Z	**Louisiana QSO Party**
	4/3/2021	1400Z	4/4/2021	0200Z	**Mississippi QSO Party**
6	4/10/2021	1300Z	4/11/2021	0100Z	**Nebraska QSO Party**
	4/10/2021	1400Z	4/11/2021	0200Z	**New Mexico QSO Party**
	4/10/2021	1800Z	4/11/2021	0359Z	**Georgia QSO Party**
	4/10/2021	1800Z	4/11/2021	1800Z	**North Dakota QSO Party**
	4/11/2021	1300Z	4/11/2021	2200Z	**Nebraska QSO Party**
	4/11/2021	1400Z	4/11/2021	2359Z	**Georgia QSO Party**
7	4/17/2021	1800Z	4/18/2021	0500Z	**Ontario QSO Party**
	4/17/2021	1200Z	4/17/2021	1800Z	**Michigan QSO Party**
	4/18/2021	1200Z	4/18/2021	1800Z	**Ontario QSO Party**

8	4/24/2021	1600Z	4/25/2021	0159Z	**Florida QSO Party**
	4/24/2021	1200Z	4/25/2021	2159Z	**Florida QSO Party**
9	5/1/2021	1500Z	5/2/2021	0300Z	**Indiana QSO Party**
	5/1/2021	2000Z	5/2/2021	0500Z	**New England QSO Party**
	5/1/2021	1300Z	5/2/2021	0700Z	**7th Call Area QSO Party**
	5/1/2021	1700Z	5/2/2021	2359Z	**Delaware QSO Party**
	5/2/2021	1300Z	5/2/2021	2400Z	**New England QSO Party**
10	5/8/2021	1400Z	5/9/2021	0200Z	**Arkansas QSO Party**
11	6/5/2021	1400Z	6/6/2021	0200Z	**Kentucky QSO Party**
12	6/19/2021	1600Z	6/20/2021	0400Z	**West Virginia QSO Party**
13	7/31/2021	1400Z	8/1/2021	0400Z	**Missouri QSO Party**
14	8/1/2021	1400Z	8/1/2021	2000Z	**Missouri QSO Party**
15	8/7/2021	1400Z	8/8/2021	0400Z	**Maryland-DC QSO Party**
16	8/28/2021	0400Z	8/29/2021	0359Z	**Hawaii QSO Party**
	8/28/2021	1600Z	8/29/2021	0400Z	**Ohio QSO Party**
	8/28/2021	1400Z	8/29/2021	0200Z	**Kansas QSO Party**
	8/29/2021	1400Z	8/29/2021	2000Z	**Kansas QSO Party**
17	9/4/2021	1300Z	9/5/2021	0400Z	**Colorado QSO Party**
	9/5/2021	1800Z	9/6/2021	0300Z	**Tennessee QSO Party**
18	9/11/2021	1400Z	9/12/2021	0200Z	**Texas QSO Party**
	9/11/2021	1500Z	9/12/2021	0300Z	**Alabama QSO Party**
	9/12/2021	1400Z	9/12/2021	2000Z	**Texas QSO Party**
19	9/18/2021	1400Z	9/19/2021	0200Z	**Iowa QSO Party**
	9/18/2021	1600Z	9/19/2021	0359Z	**New Jersey QSO Party**
	9/18/2021	1600Z	9/19/2021	0400Z	**New Hampshire QSO Party**
	9/18/2021	1600Z	9/19/2021	0700Z	**Washington St Salmon Run**
	9/19/2021	1600Z	9/19/2021	2200Z	**New Hampshire QSO Party**

	9/19/2021	1600Z	9/19/2021	2400Z	**Washington St Salmon Run**
20	10/2/2021	1600Z	10/3/2021	2200Z	**California QSO Party**
21	10/9/2021	1500Z	10/10/2021	0500Z	**Arizona QSO Party**
	10/9/2021	1600Z	10/10/2021	0500Z	**Pennsylvania QSO Party**
	10/9/2021	1800Z	10/10/2021	1800Z	**South Dakota QSO Party**
	10/9/2021	0300Z	10/10/2021	2100Z	**Nevada QSO Party**
	10/10/2021	1300Z	10/11/2021	2200Z	**Pennsylvania QSO Party**
22	10/16/2021	1400Z	1017/2021	0200Z	**New York QSO Party**
	10/17/2021	1700Z	0/17/2021	0100Z	**Illinois QSO Party**

Two Years Younger Than Dirt

By
Jack Purdum, W8TEE

When I was a Cub Scout, we had a trip to a local ham's home. His name was Chuck Zeigler, W8FTQ (SK), and allowed about a dozen of us to be there on a Sunday. He picked Sunday because that was the day that he regularly talk with his son on the radio. As I walked into Chuck's home via a side entrance leading to his basement shack, I noticed a huge TV antenna on what must have been a 50' tower in the back yard. His shack was beautifully organized with what I later came to know as all Collins S-Line equipment, all housed in a cabinet that was slanted slightly giving the operator with a perfect and functional view of the equipment.

Chuck briefly explained what we were looking at and then started saying something into a microphone that made no sense to me at the time. He flipped a switch and the room filled with strange noises. After a minute or two, he flipped the switch again, silence re-emerged, and he talked a little more. He flipped the switch again and the room fill with the strange noise, but then a clear voice said something followed by "Hi Dad!" For the next half hour or so, Chuck talked with his son and he let several of us talk with him, too. After the conversation was terminated, Chuck turned to us and said: "Any questions?"

I raised my hand and asked: "When does your son live?"

He responded: "Cape Town, South Africa."

That was all she wrote...I was hooked and became a W8FTQ junkie. I spent every moment I could in Chuck's basement and, to his credit, he was the greatest, most patient, Elmer in the world. A few months later I got my Morse code speed up over 5wpm and passed the Novice license exam. That was 1953, but I didn't get my license until 1954...it seemed like it took years to arrive. I passed my General a year later and was shamed into getting my Extra a few years ago. I've been continually licensed for 67 years and have never tired of being a ham.

Chuck help me build a crystal-controlled, two tube, 15W transmitter and he found a used Hallicrafters S-40A that cost me $15. (See Figure 1.) The main tuning was the dial on the left and the bandspread was the dial on the right.

Figure 1. Hallicrafters S-40A.

The thin red tuning line on the main tuning faceplate literally covered the entire 40M Novice section of the band, but the bandspread made it a viable receiver for my station, KN8MGT. All that raw power was sent through a balun to a 40M dipole fed with 300Ω Twinlead. It was a nice lawn-mowing-budget station that enabled me to make contacts all over the world.

A year later, I passed my General to become K8MGT. When I got my General, I started mowing a bazillion lawns to get enough money to buy a rig that supported "voice" and a VFO. By the time I got enough money together, the brand new DX-40 was on the market. Once I got it, I vowed to never use CW again! Yep...be careful using the word

"never"...

As schooling and jobs changed, so did my call (W0ODF, W9NMT, and finally W8TEE). While I was teaching at a university in Omaha, I used my GT-500 transceiver to do phone patch traffic for spouses at Offutt Air Force Base (SAC headquarters) and their partners on duty on Guam and the Marshall Islands. With telephone calls running about $5/minute, they were so appreciative that Christmas was an avalanche of cookies, cakes, and booze. It was a very satisfying part of our hobby to me.

Then, in the later 1970's, I discovered small computers. My XYL thought it was a phase and wouldn't let me purchase one. I told her I needed it the legal consulting (i.e., expert witness testimony) I did on the side. Still, "No". At the time, most of the PC's were kits so I suggested that I build kits for people until I got enough money to buy my own kit. That was acceptable...and that's what happened. I built a SOL-20, taught myself Northstar Basic, wrote a simple accounting package, and never looked back. A friend who owned a small appliance store said that, if I made a few modifications, he'd pay me for the software. That started Ecosoft, a software company I started in 1977 and kept for 17 years until I sold it.

The Big Change

By 1985, I was teaching economics full time at Butler University, writing books, helping to raise two kids, and running Ecosoft. I loved programming so much I decided to resign my tenured position at Butler and go with Ecosoft full time. I went in to tell my boss that I was resigning. I told him that I was going to be doing programming for my company. He was shocked. He said: "You know what they say is true; you can't teach old dogs new tricks."

Really?

I resigned and managed my company until I sold it in 1994 and then did consulting, including writing a couple of programming books. In 2000, Purdue noticed the books and asked if I'd like to join their faculty. Since I really did enjoy teaching, so I jumped at the chance. I worked there until I retired in 2009.

A Funny Thing Happened After Retirement

I had a consulting job after retirement that required a device that could be mounted outside and record the coming and going of maintenance workers on private homes. That's when I discovered microcontrollers. At the same time, I learned about QRP operating and the small transceivers that supported such operations. I built a Tuna Tin QRP rig and the hook was set...again. I also found out I enjoyed CW. Long story short, that interest in QRP lead to a synergy with ham radio and microcontrollers. And, unless you've been living under a rock for the past decade, you know how pervasive these little controllers are in a huge number of devices that we hams use all the time. This lead me to start writing about them in various books and articles.

When I talk to other hams about projects involving microcontrollers, I often get "...but I don't know how to program!"

Don't care.

That's the old-dog-new-tricks put-down with different packaging. When you started studying for your ham radio license, did you know what a Colpitts oscillator was...a center-fed half wave dipole? Probably not, but you learned enough to get your ticket.

If you can still fog a mirror, you're more than capable of learning enough programming to open up a new and, to me at least, exciting aspect of our hobby. Most microcontrollers use C as the development language and, if you interested, I can suggest a good book to introduce you to programming these little devices. All of the programming tools are free, an Arduino Nano cost a few bucks, and if you don't want to buy a book, there are free C programming tutorials on line. Why not give it a go? After all, Custer took a chance!

Chuckle Corner

"My name isn't McGiver for nothing—pass me that hammer!"
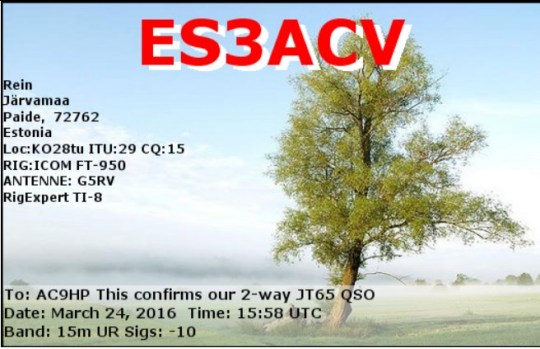
eQSL killed the QSL Card

When I became an amateur radio operator back in 2013 I found that QSL cards were not all that common.   Many hams have a pile of paper at home and are ready to send out the QSL cards but programs like eQSL and LOTW have transformed how amateurs log and verify their QSO's.
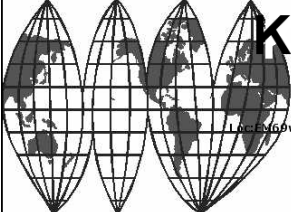
eQSL is reported as the first electronic QSL system, making it the oldest of its kind. It is attacked by many people as a fraudulent system that has no meaning or value.   I have heard that people can cheat for awards, and we should all just use the complex monster known as LOTW.   I then came across the QRZ system and it was not perfect, but it also is a nice system.

All these systems have different attributes and functionality and I do use all three. My preference is eQSL for the simple reason it allows an amateur to design and publish customized QSL cards that are like the paper QSL cards of the past. The customization and artistic features I believe require that you have donated some level of funding.   Early on I did a comparison of stamps, number of QSO's and the fact that I knew this would be a hobby that would last a long time, I purchased the life membership for eQSL.   This investment has paid off multiple times over. I did this with a monthly small donation until I had reached the lifetime membership status.

LOTW has failed from a creative user viewpoint. The QSL confirmation from LOTW is all text about the QSL confirmation and no card like product to offer.   I think if they had done this, they may have put eQSL out of business but honestly we have room for both in our world.

Example of LOTW Versus eQSL confirmation

eQSL	LOTW
	Summary View
	Detail View

						Station		
						Call Sign	AC9HP	

KB9BVN

Brian Murrey
47 Grassy Dr
New Whiteland, IN 46184
USA
Loc:EM69wn ITU:8 CQ:4 Johnson County
Fists 5695. SKCC 2076T
NAQCC 18, Flying Pig -57
QRP-ARCI 10223
https://kb9bvn.net

To: AC9HP This confirms our 2-way CW QSO
Date: July 28, 2020 Time: 22:56 UTC
Band: 40M UR Sigs: 339

Station
Call Sign AC9HP
DXCC UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (291)
CQ Zone 04
ITU Zone 08
Grid EM69TS
State Indiana (IN)
County Hendricks
Worked Station
Worked KB9BVN
DXCC UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (291)
CQ Zone 04 (Inferred; user did not specify zone)
ITU Zone 08 (Inferred; user did not specify zone)
Grid EM69WN
State Indiana (IN)
County Johnson
Date/Time 2020-07-28 22:56:00
Mode CW (CW)
Band 40M
QSL 2020-07-29 18:41:20

Record ID 1213160735 Received: 2020-07-29 03:39:10

The QRZ confirmation is even less exciting as they just put a star next to each QSL that confirms. I am not sure if QRZ has any user authentication system, but they may. I do not recall.

5-11	23:44	KØEU	(30m)	10.137	FT8	DM79lp	🇺🇸	United States	RANDALL K MARTIN	FT8 Sent: +05 Rcvd: …	⭐	⬜
5-11	22:58	F5DBT	(15m)	21.075	FT8	JN23xk	🇫🇷	France	Daniel Galletti	FT8 Rcvd: -08	☆	⬜
5-11	22:51	EC5C	(17m)	18.101	FT8	IM98	🇪🇸	Spain	Jaime Ferrer (Jim)	FT8 Sent: -17 Rcvd: …	⭐	⬜
5-11	22:33	CT3MD	(15m)	21.075	FT8	IM13		Madeira Island	Jose Manuel Barcelo…	FT8 Sent: -15 Rcvd: …	⭐	☑
5-11	22:24	CU3HN	(17m)	18.101	FT8	HM68		Azores	FABIO SILVA	FT8 Sent: -14 Rcvd: …	☆	⬜
5-11	20:15	KO4JZM	(20m)	14.076	FT8	EL87	🇺🇸	United States	TIMOTHY A REDMAN	FT8 Sent: -15 Rcvd: …	☆	⬜

I will also note that I do subscribe to QRZ as well for many reasons, but mostly for the XML lookup abilities that interface with my logging tools.

eQSL can save a ton of money on postage. I guess if you still collect paper to apply towards awards then eQSL may not be for you as a primary too, but it could allow you to collect digital images.   If you have not signed up for eQSL you might be shocked what QSL cards are already waiting for you in the inbox, upload your logs and confirm those cards so people can get credit for awards and you can start earning your eQSL awards.

On the argument of eQSL awards are not valid because you can fake an eQSL, the eQSL system has a verification system called authenticity guarantee. This requires amateurs on both sides to submit proof they are the amateur sending the log removes any doubt about that some bootlegger is providing you with a fake confirmation and raining on your award parade.

The eQSL award system provides the awards as a digital image and you can purchase physical awards if you want more than that. I have yet to purchase any physical awards. Membership opens all awards to you. My goal in purchasing a membership was customizing my QSL card.   The awards are just a bonus, and they seem free to me as I have access to all of them.   I am not sure what awards would be free if I had not purchased a membership. When I first started using eQSL I was amazed that I could make a contact one night and have a card in my inbox the following morning. With the current tools you can make a contact with me, and you may have your confirmation delivered to you in a minute or less.   Automation is not perfect so sometimes you may have a delay start to finish.
I recall being excited about my next eQSL in the inbox. I would sit at work and when not busy I would find myself downloading the next QSL card in glee. The feeling was like going to the mailbox and finding the next paper QSL card in the mail.

DX QSL cards are even more exciting because you worked extra hard to make that digital contact or use your voice to contact that RARE dx station you have been wanting.   Even when the DX user sends a "stock" eQSL image you are still happy to have it.

I stored all my eQSL images into a folder in my pictures folder on my windows PC. I would then setup my windows PC to use that folder for a screen saver with the photos screen saver.   This would allow my computer to play my radio

accomplishments when it was not in use by me.   This would often strike up conversation at first about what they are. People where interested a bit but then usually moved on as their eyes glazed over when talking about HF radio.

Designing your custom eQSL card is easy to do with eQSL. They have plenty of predefined templates or if you do not want to bother with a custom eQSL card, your card can just be a blank page with your QSO data displayed. I see many people send a card like this and although I don't enjoy these cards as much as I do the customized cards, I do appreciate the fact that they took the time to have an interest in my aspect of the hobby as well as the aspects of the hobby they like, such as QRZ or LOTW logging and award systems.

My enjoyment of eQSL grew and the quantity of QSO's has grown. It got to the point where I no longer had the time to download the eQSL images.   It became a chore and seemed pointless. I created a tool to download the images automatically.   I wrote this in .net and published the source. This tool was not perfect and did not conform to the standards that the eQSL API established (which I had not seen at the time I created the tool).

Years later I rewrote my tool to the API standards using Java so it would be cross platform compatible and would work on my Linux or mac systems as well. This version complied with the API and is more stable in my opinion.
I do not often get requests to help with the eQSL downloaders that I created but I suspect people still use them and enjoy having the images on the PC too.

There is one thing to note about the images that you might download, eQSL does not have a child filter or have much in control of what an image might have on it.   I am not sure they allow full out nudity, but I have had some very questionable eQSL images come in and on my office computer at work – I have had to go hunt these images down and delete them. This is one flaw in the system, but it is rare that it is an issue.

So did eQSL kill the paper QSL?   I was not around during the inception of eQSL, LOTW or QRZ confirmation systems but I doubt that the systems killed the paper QSL hobby. I suspect new paper QSL card users are coming into the hobby and some more mature users are leaving from lack of excitement and desire. Most amateurs I know have the attitude that if you send them a card they will return one and that statement holds true for many. Some more rare stations ask that you send a SASE and I do so for those cards that I wanted paper copies of the card and it has always worked.   I think paper is alive and well. For those who cannot or will not use paper, you might get lucky and be able to download an image, print that image and put it in your binder to show the QSL you made. If your goal was some award that requires paper you likely cannot use it, so no luck.

Interesting numbers

Confirmed AG contacts on eQSL 17918
Total confirmed contacts on eQSL 20028
Total confirmed QSO on QRZ 36009
Total Contacts logged on QRZ 46108
Total QSOs on LOTW 57208
Total QSL on LOTW 27263
Paper QSL cards – Starting on my third 3-inch 3 ring binder. Perhaps 200-300 paper cards total.
By tomorrow these numbers will be different.

I enjoy the QSL card, paper or electronic it does not matter. Numbers alone tell me most hams have adopted the electronic QSL and paper QSL senders belong to a rarer minority. More often I see people flagging on QRZ that they do not send QSL cards by mail.

What are the benefits of paper QSL cards?

	eQSL	Paper QSL	QRZ
Cost to join	Free	Free	Free
Minimum storage	Yes	No	Yes
Personal touch in QSL cards	Yes	Yes	No
Easy to reject invalid QSO	Yes	Yes	Yes
Instant delivery	Yes	No	Yes
Award Programs	Yes	Yes	Yes
Increases revenue for the postal services	No	Yes	No
Helps people collect stamps?	No	Yes	No
Easy path to years of friendship as pen pals	No	Yes	No
Can save as paper in boxes, photo albums or binders	Yes – print your own on demand	Yes	No
Cost to send a QSL	Free	.35+ per card (us post office, not sure about elsewhere)	Free
Users can collude and cheat together awards?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Someone is going to not participate in this system?	Yes	Yes	Yes
AC9HP will confirm?	Yes	Yes	Yes

At the end of all of this, I am hopeful that most hams will sign up for eQSL, become AG certified and submit logs from time to time, if not for themselves, for the other hams who use the system. Those hams likely submit to your logging system and courtesy is a wonderful thing.   Annoyed about the SWL QSLs or think people are cheating? Just ignore or reject those and move on. If you still are not going to have anything to do with it then good luck and thanks for the confirmations on other systems.

Please let me know what your favorite parts of collecting QSL cards are and if you use the electronic systems or still use only paper, you can use the club email reflector or direct email if you like.   I may also follow up with my adventures in paper printing QSL cards and what that been like over the last year.

I hope to catch you all on the air in one fashion or another. I often operate on FT8 and you can also find me on CW from time to time trying to earn my way to S in the SKCC program or activating a park for the WWFF and POTA programs.

No matter what the mode or the band--please remember to send a QSL.

73 for now from Wayne AC9HP.

QRN Reducer

Unfortunately, I have a plasma TV that emits great amounts of RFI on the lower HF bands. I have tried toroid's and grounding of the TV with no improvement. I bought a kit from Terry VK5TM. The kit has all the on board parts but not the case, jacks and knobs. Assembly is straightforward and the only tiny parts are the two FETs which are surface mount. There is quite a bit of room if you solder these on first before other parts get in the way.

The unit is very similar to the MFJ 1026 but is a fraction of the price and you get to melt solder! You will need a second antenna for the unit to work. There are 4 connections: your main antenna, a secondary or sense antenna, a PTT input from the rig, and the antenna line from the box to the antenna connection on the rig.

The way it works is as follows:

The main antenna input sees the desired signals as well as the noise. The second or sense antenna sees this as well but a poorer antenna for your sense is actually better. It will have more of the local noise as compared to the main antenna. You have two phase controls and a level control for the main antenna. The sense antenna signal is inverted 180° and mixed with the main antenna input. With the phase adjustments you can null or cancel the noise component but not the desired signal. It actually does work well and seems to be stable across a good portion of the band you are set up on. An important feature is the rig PTT input. This input reverses a pair of relays inside the box which bypasses the active components inside during transmission. Without this hooked up, you will let out the magic smoke from the FETs— guaranteed--as soon as you transmit.

I have built a second unit from an eBay kit from China as well. This is a lower priced copy which worked well when finished but there is no documentation and some parts are missing, no LEDs to show active state for instance. I wouldn't recommend this unless you have some experience homebrewing as you will need to do some reverse engineering. Terry's kit is great and Terry will respond to your emails as well--great customer service.

I have a YouTube video of the QRN Reducer in action:

https://youtu.be/zUzTtnjSYy8

There are many other videos from other hams posted there as well. This can be a low cost solution to handle some of the QRN that is very common today from switch mode supplies found in almost everything these days.

73 Don VE3IDS

PIGWALK-40 Contest

This Is a 2 Hour (Total Time) CW Only Contest on 40 Meters Only

Part 1 Operating Window: Starts Every First Wednesday Night Of Every Month (8-9 PM EDT) = (7-8 PM EST) = (0000Z - 0100Z)
Suggested Frequencies are from 7050 to 7065 with 7060 the hot spot

Part 2 Operating Window: Starts The Very Next Night (10-11 PM EDT) = (9-10 PM EST) = (0200Z - 0300Z)
Suggested Frequencies from 7110 to 7125 with 7123 the hot spot

All logs are submitted on https://qrpcontest.com

Work CW stations only on 40 Meters
Minimum Exchange: RST, SPC (State/Province/Country) and FP# (if a member)
QSO Points: Member = 3 points, Any DX = 5 points, Non-Member = 1 point
No SPC - No Multipliers - Canada: US Contacts not considered DX.
Power: QRP only (QRP defined as 5 watts or less RF transmitter output)

20m Walk for the Bacon

The "20m Walk for the Bacon" event will be held every month, on the third Wednesday and following Thursday of the month, July 21 and 22. This is a slow speed CW sprint event that lasts one hour.

Part 1 is Wednesday EVENING from 8PM to 9PM Eastern Daylight Time (00:00z to 01:00z Thur ZULU) and operating frequency range is 14061-14065 with 14063 being the hotspot. Speed limit is 13 wpm.

Part 2 is Thursday EVENING from 10PM to 11PM Eastern Daylight Time (02:00z to 03:00z) and operating frequency range is also 14061 to 14065 with 14063 being the hotspot.

All logs are submitted on https://qrpcontest.com

Work CW stations only on 20 Meters
Minimum Exchange: RST, SPC (State/Province/Country) and FP# (if a member)
QSO Points: Member = 3 points, Any DX = 5 points, Non-Member = 1 point
No SPC - No Multipliers - Canada: US Contacts not considered DX.
Power: QRP only (QRP defined as 5 watts or less RF transmitter output)

Don't miss out!
72 es OO
de KB9BVN
FP -57

Flying Pigs T Shirts

Here is Brian, KB9BVN, FP -57 modeling the Flying Pigs QRP Club International T Shirt.

Hey Flying Pigs...I have found a source for the original Flying Pigs T Shirts. These are 50/50 cotton poly blend, the brand is Gilden and they come in sizes from Small to 5XL. The cost is $19.95 plus $5 shipping. I have no financial interest in this deal, she was nice enough to agree to take orders for us and make the shirts. Pick the shirt and it'll be on its way. They are a light gray.
Go to: **HTTP://hensonshandcrafted.com**

Corey Klumper N0ECK FP -3113 Enjoys his new shirt!

CONTACT THE AUTHORS:

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS:
We welcome any and all contributions to the ***Bacon Bits Quarterly Newsletter***. Prior publication is not an issue, provided the original publisher allows such. If pictures accompany your submission, attach them to the email and include a plain text file with descriptions/captions. If you wish, article text, photos, and photo descriptions can be placed in a compressed archive.

Please send all submissions to Alan Jones, N8WQ, via email at oalanjones@gmail.com. Suggested topics are: QRP, home-brewing, antennas, public interest stories such as hamfests, club meetings, group builds, contesting, and general interest.

OUR MISSION:
1: Have Fun.
2: No rules.
3: Be a friendly group which enjoys ham radio and sharing skills with their fellow hams.

CLUB MEMBERSHIP:
To join The Flying Pigs QRP Club, visit https://fpqrp.org/join.php

CLUB EMAIL REFLECTOR:
To subscribe to the club email reflector, send a message to fpqrp+subscribe@groups.io with the subject "subscribe" or go to the Flying Pigs groups.io page at https://groups.io/g/fpqrp and click on the "Join" button.

CLUB E-MAIL POLICY:

These are not rules, just common sense. Club email is not moderated, as we are not a stuffy group. You can send off topic messages about most subjects, but please keep it clean and in good taste. We do like good-natured ribbing and joking with each other, but we will not tolerate flaming other members or spamming the group. We will remove offenders who abuse our open policy. The word **eBay** is allowed.

CLUB WEB PAGE:
The club web page is our forum for sharing projects, and information about us. You are encouraged to submit your ideas and projects to be added to the web page. https://fpqrp.org/

OUR MONTHLY CONTESTS

THE RUN FOR THE BACON SPRINT:
This event is held on the 3rd Sunday Night (EST) of the month. For full details on how to participate, see the website address of: http://www.fpqrp.net/fpqrprun.html

PIGWALK40 CW CONTEST:
This two part event starts on the first Wednesday of each Month. For full details on how to participate, see the website address of: http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/

CONTEST RESOURCES:

https://qrpcontest.com/
http://qrpspots.com/

FPQRP OFFICIAL FREQUENCIES:

160m – 1.814MHz   80m – 3.564MHz   40m – 7.044MHz   30m – 10.110MHz

20m - 14.062MHz   17m – 18.100MHz   15m – 21.064MHz   12m – 24.910MHz

10m – 28.064MHz   2m Hamfest Frequency – 145.72 Simplex

PROBLEM REPORTING:

If you are having problems with email, the web pages, or a fellow club member, please report this to either:
Dan, N8IE at N8IE@roadrunner.com
Jim, W0EB at W0EB@cox.net