

## **NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS:**

On Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015, the Florida Chapter of NAQCC returned to the local park system for our monthly adventure. We held our latest "Operation in the Park" event returning to one of our favorite locations, Reed Canal Park, in South Daytona, FL.

Reed Canal Park is a 35-acre natural area including a small lake; we access a pavilion area on Nova Road.

The park features shell walking trails in the nature area, picnic facilities and restrooms, multipurpose field for flag football/soccer, a barrier free playground, Frisbee golf course, lighted concrete paths around the lake and picnic facilities for large and small groups. The lake is used for the model sailboat club, area fishermen, and hosts the Enchanted Forest Program, an alternative to scary Halloween activities.

This park, like many of the others we have visited, has a covered pavilion, picnic tables, BBQ grills, restrooms, water fountains and easily accessible adjacent parking. On our arrival, we had the entire park and the pavilion to ourselves; only a few folks jogging/walking, or walking dogs were present.

Today we arrived to our site with bright blue skies and a temp of 76 degrees with 50% humidity, accompanied by a light, cool breeze. It was very comfortable for us to operate. The weather was "Chamber of Commerce" stuff and absolutely beautiful!

The signals were not good today on any of the bands we used. 20M was nice and quiet, but 30M had some noise. 40M was again, horrible (few weak signals and lotsa noise) just like last month. No joy there!



**Steve WB4OMM #5913** brought his ol' reliable Elecraft KX-3 with Vibroplex Code Warrior Jr paddle, running 5W out to a 20M or 40M Hamstick on a ground mounted tripod. Steve worked 3 members in 3 different states; N1ZX in FL; N4SX in GA; and regular Karen W4KRN in VA; also had a QSO with W4FGO in FL, for a total of 4 Qs; 3 on 40M and 1 on 20M.



**Art WB4MNK #5274** used his Elecraft KX1 running 3W, a Dirt Cheap paddle, 2.2 amp LIPO power supply, AND A Magnetic Loop 6 feet above ground on 20M. Art made 5 QSOs in 4 different states – WN0WWY in KS; W4KRN in VA; KI4IO in VA; NN9K in IL; and W5KCM in TX.



**Darryl AB8GU #6913** NAQCC-FL Official cheerleader and all around “supervisor” spotted us on the internet, helped with antennas, transport, and kept us informed on each other’s progress.



**Wally KG4LAL #6278** brought his Yaesu FT-817 running 5W out to a wire dipole up about 25’ in a tree. Wally spent most of his time troubleshooting his auto-tuner that was “misbehaving”. After much figuring, gnashing of teeth, and sighing, he found his patch cable from the radio to tuner was shorted. Voila! Fixed!



**Rick AA4W #1628** brought his Elecraft K-1. Running 3W, he fed a 53’ wire and worked 15M; he worked stations in France, Ecuador, Italy, and Sweden. Great DX for QRP!

We quit around noon and enjoyed lunch at an Italian Restaurant in a plaza that adjoins the park. As usual the discussion revolved around great ham radio adventures and all of the great facets of our noble hobby. While the band conditions weren't quite "great", the weather was great, the location was great, the food was great...and the friendship was great! A GREAT day!



*Art's Homebrew Magnetic Loop*

***Many thanks to those who listened for us and helped make this another successful NAQCC-FL event!***

***NEXT MONTH: WE WILL NOT HAVE A JUNE EVENT AS THE ARRL FIELD DAY IS THE SAME WEEKEND OF OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED OPERATION***

***AS IT IS OVERBEARINGLY HOT IN JULY AND AUGUST, WE WILL BE LOOKING FOR AN "ENVIRONMENTALLY CONDITIONED" (COOL) LOCATION – WE MAY EVEN HAVE AN EVENING SESSION! PLEASE LOOK ON OUR WEB PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION***

**<http://wb4omm.com/naqcc-fl-chapter/>**

***Look for our announcement!***

***72/73 to all –***

***Steve WB40MM, #5913***

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