

## **NAQCC FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS: December 2019**



### ***We finally go out and play!***

On Friday, December 20, 2019 the Florida Chapter of NAQCC (we'll two of us anyway) arrived at our park – after last month's weather washout. We held our latest "Operation in the Park" at Candace Strawn-Lake Dias Park in DeLeon Springs, Florida.

A small county park "sandwiched" between State Road 11 and Lake Dias, this park has a nice covered pavilion, adjacent parking, a restroom and several large picnic tables (many near the water), making for easy setup. We've been to this park quite a few times and it is one of our favorites. I arrived to a temp of 65 degrees and 50% humidity, accompanied by mostly clear skies and a light breeze (Florida Winter).

But it didn't start out that way!

This month was almost another "washout". Driving from my home to the site on State Road 40, it began to pour rain about halfway there (it came down in "buckets" for about 10 minutes). It had been raining regularly

almost every day for the previous 4 days, and today again was dark and overcast in my QTH City of Port Orange (about 30 miles South-Southeast from the park). I actually was on my cell phone with the XYL, telling her I was thinking of turning around and heading home, but figured I'd at least arrive to see if anyone else was braving the wet weather.

As I approached State Road 11, the rain stopped; making the left turn towards the park some 5 miles South, the skies actually cleared and the road was dry!!! I arrived at the park finding Nicole KM4SBQ #8749 and Art AG4QQ #9748; both high and dry! They said there as a slight "drizzle" for a few seconds, but other than that, no rain, no wind, no wet! WONDERFUL!



**Steve WB4OMM #5319**

Steve's setup his trusty Elecraft KX-3 and a ground mounted Hamstick vertical for 20 meters with a Vibroplex Code Warrior Jr and GenLog. 5W out produced a large number of members!

Steve worked: Walt KB1M #8058 in NH; Don VE3DQN #5846 in ON; Phil K2NPN #1469 in NY; Tom KA2KGP #555 in NY; Dirk WA9TUT #8375 in IL; F4HQL (France); Glenn K3SWZ #3793 in PA; Gary W0ITT #9113 in MO; Curt WI5H #7128 in TX; Don KD3CA #6602 in PA; Alan KA3FAD #9400 in PA; and ZF1DM in the Cayman Is.

9 members in 6 states, 1 member in Canada, and two non-member DXCC contacts - a total of 12 QSOs in just under 90 minutes! Signals were pretty good, and 20M was pretty quiet. A plethora of Qs! It was GREAT FUN!



### Art AG4QQ #9748

Art brought one of those new fangled Chinese SDRs with him - hooked up to a vertical with "tape measure" radials.

He was experimenting with the radio and the antenna, but didn't make any contacts.



**But Art had FUN!**



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

**NEXT MONTH'S SCHEDULED EVENT:**

**Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 starting at 10:00 AM EST**

**Hontoon Island State Park (2309 River Ridge Rd DeLand, FL 32720) –  
Park webpage with directions: [DIRECTIONS TO PARK AND INFO](#)**

**WHO: “The Usual Suspects” – Art WB4MNK, Steve WB4OMM, Rick AA4W, Don K3RLL, Wally KG4LAL, Bob W2EJG, John KM4JTE, John KD4JS, Phil Nikki KM4SBQ, John W2IV, Doug W4DBL (and whoever else can make it).**



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**Visit our Web Page:**

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

***Look for our announcement!***

**72/73 to all – Steve WB4OMM, #5913**

***THE NAQCC-FL CHAPTER EXTENDS OUR MOST SINCERE WISHES TO ALL OF YOU FOR A SAFE, PROSPEROUS, AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR***

***!***

**2020**  
*happy new year*