

North Carolina QSO Party 2023 SOAPBOX

Comments from Tad, K3TD about the NCQP. He did the driving and Jim, K4QPL did the operating.

- It was our best rove ever in NCQP in terms of

Qs - 845 all on CW!

- It was FUN!
- We activated Counties we had not activated before in previous NCQP events, including Alleghany and Wilkes and there was plenty of demand for them. We were parked at the Eastern Continental Divide in Alleghany County for at least 30 minutes while Jim was running stations!
- The station ran flawlessly - K3 with a Tarheel mounted to the rear bumper on 80/40/15/10 and a 20 meter fiberglass wire wound antenna with a stainless steel whip out of the top of it clamped to the right side of the hood near the front - total height approx 8'

Worked OM2VL MANY times. I believe he had 78 multipliers in the contest (not sure how many we accounted for) but it was his best NCQP ever as well

73, Tad Danley, **K3TD**

AJ, **KN4RZD** and I, **KN4RFT** had originally planned to operate together Portable from Wilson county in the style of a Parks On The Air activation. Partially motivated by the efforts of NCQP to stimulate mobile entries, we switched our plans last minute and set out for a 13 county adventure across eastern NC. Along the way we operated from 3 North Carolina counties shown as Inactive in 2022. AJ and I both became licensed in late 2018 and this was the first time either of us have operated HF mobile.

Full trip summary for the KN4RZD mobile effort during the NC QSO Party. Stats: Contacts: 360 Total Multipliers: 83 Bonus Stations Worked: 1 Miles Driven: ~267 Time Behind the Wheel: 9 Hours 45 Minutes Counties Visited: Bertie, Franklin, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pitt, Wake, Washington, and Wilson. *the above numbers are manually calculated to give credit for every county we worked and worked in.

Total Points: 59,810 (unofficial) Thank you to KN4RZD for making most of these contacts and for trusting my wild route. AJ operated the radio and logged while I drove and continued to log when we were parked. Also, thank you to all of the FCARC club members who worked us on multiple bands and in multiple counties. This was the first time AJ or I operated mobile during a contest and we treated this as a once in a life time trip.

My only regrets are not operating from Edgecombe county since we drove all the way around it and not tallying how many times I changed the hamstick on top of the car to operate on different bands. Equipment: We mainly used equipment I had acquired for activating Parks on the Air. The only purchases we made specifically for the trip were gas and food. Vehicle: 2018 Kia Forte Radio: Icom 7100 with an LDG IT-100 tuner Power: 24 Ah homebuilt LiFePo4 battery pack and 65Ah SLA Logging: N3FJP on a Windows laptop connected to the radio via USB Antennas: Shark S-F5MS Mini Hamstick set, a heavy duty PL-259 to 3/8-24 adapter, HYS SO-239 triple mag-mount antenna base.

I began county-hunting in the early 80s then accomplished the USA-CA-Award (confirming all the 3077 Counties with paper QSL-ard) in 2016.....and two year ago began again...exciting task for the rest of my life, since I don't have so much time like in the first turn...hi! I get many counties from POTA- and SOTA-activist however now the chance is very low that there is a park in a needed County...it means that I have three options: wait until a mobil-runner hits the road and goes through a wanted county or I ask a ham for a sked...I don't like this method, it's something like "begging", and most of the hams

neglect such request...last not least the regular QSO-parties...eg. in case of NCQP I couldn't get anything, though N4CW was in Hertford but too late for me....73, Eli - **HA9RE**

My first NC QSO Party! Appreciate you guys dealing with my sloppy CW and slow sending.. still a novice CW op. Was using a straight key with a TenTec Scout 555 50w with an inverted vee/longwire @ ~25ft. Started the morning on 40m, switched to SSB for a short time mid-day to try to pick up N4T (saw their Facebook comments that they were phone only), then finished out the evening on 80m. All search and pounce, I didn't bother calling CQ.. plenty of stations around. Grateful to all who got me in their log! The OM is not into contesting, but I twisted his arm to listen with me and make sure I was copying those over 20-25 wpm correctly since its still a little tough to keep up. I very much appreciated those that automatically QRS a bit for this YL! My kids were restless throughout the day so I didn't get to participate much, but I was ecstatic to get a few here and there, as well as all of the bonus stations for the clean sweep! Born & raised in NC.. Laurinburg (Scotland County) until about age 24, Moore County for a year, and been in the Charlotte area for the past 11 years. Was really excited to take a quick tour around NC in a day! hi Many thanks to the NCQP committee and volunteers! Looking forward to next year!
73, Ashley, **KX4ASH**

28 counties activated and that qualifies for 28 more mults in the total number of mults. NCQP log checker should adjust score accordingly per W4MPS.

N4CW

WNCHam Activators NC4NP OPERATING AS W4W
W4W

THX FOR A GREAT QSO PARTY! I REALLY ENJOYED WORKING THE NEW SINGLE PORTABLE CATEGORY. I STARTED ON BUN/YAN LINE AND MOVED TO MCD/MIT LINE WHEN THINGS SETTLED DOWN. I HAD GOOD WEATHER AND LONG PILE-UPS!
73'S - MIKE **K4MLY**

Single Op / Portable / Vance County
K4TCT

Single Portable Low Power CW
KN4YTA

Ashe-Watauga county line activation by the Ashe County Amateur Radio Club.
K4J

ic-7610 & efhw
W4GHV

was only able to operate a short time.
Best 73, Mark **WG8Y**

I really enjoyed this party! 20m was my main band running QRP.

Mostly out of state contacts this year. Rig was a Ten Tec Argonaut VI 5W. 20m dipole and trap 80m/40m Inv Vee in my back yard up 34Ft. Wake Cty. Thanks to the organizers and testers.
72 Dick

N4HAY

Always great to hear the bands come alive from the Old North State!
KK4KFG

Tuna Tin 2 on LiFePO4 battery (13.2V) 0.3W to 44 ft doublet up 35 ft
KI4DEF

For many years I have enjoyed the NC Qso Party, my utmost Thanks to all who make it possible
K4REB

Man that was fun! Thank you to the committee who keeps this great QSO Party going! I missed some of the usual suspects this year, heard some of you on 20 but couldn't pick you up, N4MIO. The bonus stations came down to the wire also. Not as many Q's as last year, the conditions seemed much more crashy and noisy, 40 turned on us pretty early, but 80 was also open and occupied earlier, so it was a good trade off. Thanks to everyone who came out and made contacts and special thanks to everyone who turns in logs!
73 see you next year from **AJ4TW**

Thank you for another year of the QSO party and to every that worked me. I really enjoyed it and was able to push myself this year. Also special mention to K4WHM for letting use his shack as a contest location. Without all of y'all this wouldn't be possible.
Thank you! De Nick **N4NAG**

1st Time NC QSO Party! Licensed for Less than 1 year and born in 2003! Having tons of fun contesting and 73 if I worked you!
KQ4AAR

Fun Fun Fun
Thanks to South Carolina Stations that supported us!
KE4GTQ

12TH NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY
N1NN

Fun chasing the weak sigs on upper bands. Solar CME and mag storm HF blackout - not so much fun.
W2CN

Fun QP! Worked out much better for me this year with at least one resonant antenna. Worked everyone I heard. Great ears at N3CZ. I

worked Vlad on 4 bands that included 15m, and down through 80m. Excellent CW op N4CW. I worked Bertrand in 7 counties and 9 Qs altogether. I had fun chasing him down for a new one. Great activity for a Sunday afternoon! When things did slow a bit, waiting for new stations to pop up, I would go chase 3B7M around the bands as well
Rig= K3S 100 watts to 6BTV ground mounted.

Thanks for a fun Sunday afternoon.

73 Gene **N9TF** Clarksville, TN.

CERTIFICATE: YES

N8DNA

Rig was FTdx101 and Butternut vertical.

I heard fewer stations than I did last year. But still good.

W1END

Used two indoor fan dipoles and 80 Watts. Score includes 200 points from bonus stations.

K2MN

100 watts to wires up 35 to 45'. Enjoyed the contest, thanks for the fun! C U next time,
73, Dan **ke0tt**

Sorry to miss SCQP. Activity was good from NC

KJ9C

One of my favorite State QSO Parties!

N3JJT

Thanks for the contacts.

73 - Dan, **W1QK**

Portable QTH - FM29jw

QSO Points: 22 QSOs * 3 Pts / CW QSO = 66 Points

Multiplier: 17 Unique Counties

WRIGHT Spelling Bee stations, 50 Pts: N4F, N4H; 100 Points

$(66 \times 17) + 100 = 1122$ Total Points

Thank you for the 2023 North Carolina QSO Party.

KF3G

Glad to see lots of NC activity, Sorry to hear that N4T had no CW operators. Managed to get the Spelling BEE finished mixed mode.

I live close to the NC border but was able to pull a good number of NC stations on 20M. The rest on 40 and 80 meters. Used Contest Online Scoreboard to keep tabs on how I was doing.

This is the kick off of state QSO party season. Spotting networks helped me find stations.

K8LF

$(37*3) + (19*2) = 149 * 31 = 4619 + 200 \text{ bonus} = 4819$ in 2:00
BONUS FOR N4W N4R N4I N4G N4H, did not work N4T.

W0BH

INCLUDED 500 bonus points

VE2GT

FUN CONTEST, GOOD PARTICIPATION.
MANY THANKS TO ALL NC OPERATORS!

WB2FUE

Fun contest thanks for having it.

73 Matt **ka0pqw**

Good fun! Worked all 5 WRIGHT stations heard - couldn't find "R" though.

WA3KCP

Had fun but saw very little on digital.

KD5ILA

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

K3TW

Thanks for good ears/antennas copying my 5-watt QRP CW sig from New Jersey! Lots of fun to make lots of QSOs in my home state of North Carolina! Especially W4NC ... my Dad's first cousin Al Hege was one of the founders, and I think he was the first

president. All my activity was limited to 80-20 ... no propagation on higher bands (too close), no antenna for 160.

Where was N4T hiding???

AC2YD

Very enjoyable! K3TD and N4CW did a great job!
Kudos to N4CW for pulling me out of the noise on 80m!
I appreciate your patience. Great QSO Party!

Thank you for the opportunity!

73, Will, **NQ2W**

Skookumlogger, Flex 6600M, 40M EDZ fed with ladder line

WU4G

5 watts

KG4IGC

Good number of stations to work. Tnx for Bonus stations.

N9EEE

Was hoping that 10 and 15 meters would be more open as they boost QRP. Fun QSO Party. Thanks to those who make it happen.

NO2D

First one using my new Vibroplex Bug

N2DYT

Thanks for the great experience.

KC3STZ

5 bonus stations for 250 pts

KA8TOA

IC-7610; 3 Element Tri-Band Beam; G5RV Dipole

K3GWK

Always a Nice Contest.. moving to Brunswick Cty in 6 months.

N1ICL

Did not have much time but enjoy every minute I could put into the contest.

K1SO

Thanks for QSO party.

WA1SAY

Plans to work portable from GRA & SWA were dashed. 2024!

WB4E

Fun to work neighbors to the north - thanks for a nice party and 73, **W9TCV**

Just a quick remote operation since I'm on a cruise ship. Today I was able to use cellular internet in Mexico, so no latency problems like I had in the SCQP the previous day when I tried to use satellite internet.

NN6U

Had a great time!

N4T

I demand the category be put in place for next year's event! So there! Because I think that's a category I could win.

But seriously, folks, that's ok. I usually enjoy the Carolina weekend from our winter home in Florida, where I can't put up a permanent antenna. So I do what I can do.

There are so many humorous comments to make, like my first one. I was going to add that if you don't make that category available to us out-of-staters then I would consider boycotting the contest. People

are getting so upset about such minor things these days that I thought I'd beat you up a bit. But don't worry about it. I can go with the flow. Don't take me too seriously.

When ham radio is no longer fun, I won't turn the radio on. Big deal about a few points or status.

Hope to see you next year. Be well.

73,

Bruce, **WA3RHW**