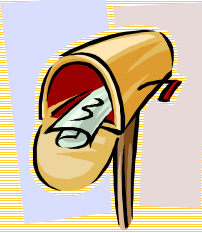
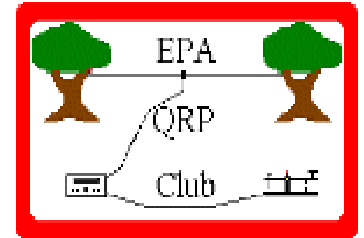


EPA-QRP Club Sounder

August Newsletter
8/01/2004

Publisher: Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club

“QRP- More than Radio, it’s a Lifestyle”



EPA-QRP Club Articles:

- August Website Sponsor
- WA3WSJ's PA AT Trip
- WA3WSJ's DE L.H. Tour

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The Battery University

Hi all, I often wondered about all the different battery types out there and which type to use for my applications. Well click on the link below for a course on batteries! I found the information very useful and I think you will too. Here's the introduction to the course.

Dear reader,

Battery University is an institution that provides practical battery knowledge for engineers, educators, students and battery users alike. The papers address battery chemistries, best battery choices and ways to make your battery last longer.

The presentations are easy-to-read and are limited to about 1000 words. The material is based on the book *Batteries in a portable World - A handbook on rechargeable batteries for non-engineers*, and is written in condensed form. The 300-page book and a library of battery articles are available on www.buchmann.ca. Battery service products are shown on www.cadex.com.

Battery University is sponsored by Cadex Electronics Inc., a manufacturer of battery analyzers and chargers. The material is free of charge for the benefit of all battery users and cannot be used for profit. If intended for publishing or educational purposes, please obtain permission from Isidor.Buchmann@cadex.com.

Battery University is organized into three parts. **Part One** addresses the 'mechanics' of the battery and deals with chemistries, charging, discharging, storing and recycling. **Part Two** looks at the personalities of different battery systems and describes ways to get the most out of them. **Part Three** reveals who is behind Battery University and provides links to various products to service your batteries. I hope you will enjoy the reading.

Isidor Buchmann
President
Cadex Electronics Inc.

<http://www.batteryuniversity.com/index.htm>

August Website Sponsor: N3ZIL



Yes Jonathan Mordosky, N3ZIL, is the August EPA QRP Website sponsor. Jon as we all call him lives in Whithall, PA and loves to play around with antenna modeling programs. In fact he designed the “ Green Monster “ we used for the SSB station this Field Day. Thanks a lot Jon for sponsoring the website this month. Get this guys – his wife even stayed at field day with him – my kind of woman!

EPA-QRP Appalachian Trail Awards Program News

The AT Awards program now has a chairman - Carter Craigie, N3AO. I hope Carter will provide me with information about who has obtained an AT Award. As you might know, certain contest contacts are now allowed to count towards your AT Award! This is a great idea that might allow more operators to have one of these beautiful At Awards hanging in their shack. The award is very beautiful so make a few AT contacts and receive one. Check out our website for more details at:

<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/AT/AT.htm>

WA3WSJ: Pennsylvania AT Trip

I started my hike from the town of Port Clinton, PA on Friday morning. The first mile was straight up and had a climb of 1,000 feet.

I was shocked when I looked at my watch and saw that I had climbed the first mile in about 45 minutes! I stopped to rest at a pipeline line crossing and Trevor and myself had a good drink on water. It was a beautiful day to be hiking!

The next 7.5 miles seem to fly by without incident and we arrived at Eagles Nest Shelter five hours after starting the hike. We arrived at 2:30pm rested a bit and then went to filter some water. The mosquitoes were all over us as I filtered water. I got away from the stream as quickly as I could and only got bit about two times.

About 4:30pm or so, I don't remember the exact time, I fired up the K1 on 40m. On my first CQ who answers me but none other than WB3AAL. This guy always gets me on my first CQ! I worked about seven stations Friday evening including a EA7 and hit the sack by 8:30pm. We were both tired and then two AT Thru-Hikers stopped in to bed down for the evening. These guys hike all day and land in a shelter near dark to eat and sleep. I asked the one how far today? He replied 19 miles today.

We broke camp on Saturday by about 8am. I fired up the K1 again first on 40m and then on 20m, but after an hour of calling CQ, I had no takers so I shut down and hiked out. We hiked the final six miles in two hours including a ten minute break. I guess the back is ok, but my left calf muscle is starting to say otherwise- hi! My backpack weighted a bit to much and I didn't dare weight it. I think it weighted-in around 40lbs or so. So now I will rest the left calf muscle for a few days and then hike up to Pulpit Rock to take air samples for the AMC - hi!

All in all, it was a nice hike except I would have liked to have worked more people, but that's the way it goes sometimes. I worked a 2-station who said I was called out on a DX

Cluster of all things. I saw about seven people on the AT and talked to four of them. The stories they tell! Well, thanks for reading about my AT Hike and if I go out again, give me a CALL!

72,
Ed, WA3WSJ

WA3WSJ Delaware Lighthouse Tour 2004

On July 22nd to July 26th I activated four lighthouses and one lightship in the State of Delaware. I had a blast even with terrible band conditions. In fact the guys on the Lightship Overfalls gave me an open invitation to operate on board the vessel anytime. I think that I was the first amateur ever to activate the Overfalls from on board the vessel! I had to erect my VBWFPA on the second story railing in a howling wind with torrential rain. I camped at Cape Henlopen State Park in Delaware and even operated PSK31 from my tent on Thursday and Friday evenings. My favorite part of the trip was Friday evening. It was dusk and I was at Cape Henlopen Point. I saw a herd of deer cross the point; many birds and a fox. All this with the Lighthouse Harbor of Refuge shinning in the background with its fog horn blowing in the wind.



Picture to left is Harbor of Refuge Lighthouse at dusk. A beacon in the night to warn ships. It's a beautiful sight to see and you'll also view much wildlife.
72,
Ed, WA3WSJ/p



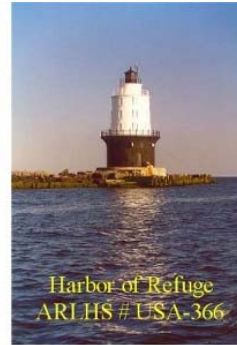
Inner Breakwater
ARLHS #USA-223

WA3WSJ

Delaware Lighthouse Tour 2004

ARLHS # 983

July 22nd - July 26th



Harbor of Refuge
ARLHS # USA-366



Overfalls Lightship
ARLHS # USA-573

Cape Henlopen (H)
ARLHS # USA-120



Fenwick Island
ARLHS # USA-283



K6CRA

QRP Forums etc. Place

ARLHS Convention October 8th to 10th <http://arlhs.com/convention2004/registration.html>

Pacificon California October 16 – 18 <http://www.amqrp.org/pacificon>

OzarkCon 2005		
Joplin, Missouri	April 29 & 30	www.ozarkcon.com



Summits on the Air

This year the SOTA BBQ weekend will be held on the 17th & 18th of July on the beautiful Lleyn Peninsula, North West Wales. The campsite belongs to Chris GW4VAG so there is no problem if anyone wishes to erect aerial's and operate from the site. His shack, tower and location would make most of us very envious indeed!

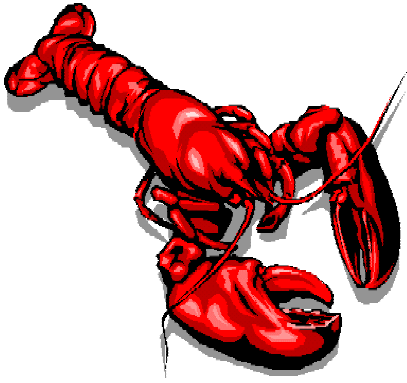
There is plenty of room for tents and small touring caravan's plus a limited number of cabins/bunks available, (cabins/bunks require a 50% deposit). **BUNKS/CABINS NOW FULLY BOOKED**

A BBQ supplying the usual fare will be available on a first come first served basis but you are welcome to bring your own food and use the BBQ.

There are a number of SOTA summits along the Lleyn Peninsula with plenty of great beaches close by and Snowdonia a short drive away. 145.500 FM will be monitored from the site if directions are required and "SOTA signs" will be posted from Llanbedrog.

Not far from the site at the end of the penninsula is Aberdaron where regular boat trips to Mynydd Enlli GW/NW-072 (EU124, WAB SH12) on Bardsey Island run during the summer (only 15 minute's to island). Duration on the island is about 3 1/2 hours, so plenty of time to activate the summit and enjoy the views before heading back to the mainland.

Lobstercon 2004



Well well, look what showed up at Lobstercon 2004. It's N1BQ's tent and his VBWFPA! That silver haired guy behind the tent looks like Dave Benson of Small Wonder Labs. Sounds like they all had a bunch of fun up there in Maine. Maybe next year I will get up there to join in on the fun.
72,
Ed, WA3WSJ



State of the EPA Club

Now that the EPA QRP Club 2004 Field Day logs in and the dust has settled. I need to recognize one EPA member for his efforts to make this years Field Day a success. If it was not for Jon, N3ZIL, we would not had the 2004 Field Day. I also would like to thank all those who came to the meeting on Saturday, your Show and Tell was very interesting and those who stayed to help run the FD exercise.

The EPA QRP Club took the 1st Place Class 3A in the Milliwatt Field Day Contest from The Amateur Radio Club International.

I have recently completed logging all the ATC 2004 logs into my spreadsheet. We had a total of 30 entries this year, this does not include the N3EPA club call. Most of the contestants would like to see the contest to continue. Which I am happy to say there will be a 2005 TAC Sprint. You can check out the logs by going to www.n3epa.org and clicking on the TAC Sprint link.

We might make one change to the TAC Sprint. Fellow hams were stating that we should think about moving the sprint to another month other than a summer month. So I will be taking suggestions at the n3epa@verizon.net address. I also plan to give the QRPP entries and extra bonus for using power under 1 watt.

Would anyone like to have a meeting this fall at a park or maybe on the Appalachian Trail?

72

Ron de N3EPA
EPA QRP Club El Presidente'
n3epa@verizon.net
www.n3epa.org

A Note From WB3AAL

Hello to all my fellow QRP'ers,

Well if you have been following the e-mails that I have sent out over the past two months, life around the new QTH is busy. My wife, Sue, has been kicking me out of the house from time to time to play radio on the Appalachian Trail. So far I have made a total of 381 QSO's from the Appalachian Trail and I plan on making a lot more. I will have a total of States and DX stations worked in the next News Sounder for September 2004. Recently I worked the Bumblebee Run from the trail. I was using my K1 and WA3WSJ's VBWFPA antenna. The sprint was a challenge due to the weird propagation. I was trying to work a 7-Land station and just seconds later all I could hear is 1 and 2 land calls. I still had fun operating while watching the barometer and the clouds. I had to cut the operation short due to a falling barometer and dark clouds.

Don't forget to check out some other sprints that QRP Clubs run during the year. I just entered the CO Gold Rush Sprint and I only worked for about an hour. I still placed 2nd in the vertical division with WA3WSJ's vertical.

New QTH is coming along. I plan on planting a ground mounted Butternut HF9V vertical in the back yard. I plan on also planting radials, four for each band if I can make them fit into the area. So hopefully I will be back on the air soon from the new QTH.

72 and Thanks,
Ron Polityka
WB3AAL
www.wb3aal.com
www.n3epa.org/