

NC QSO Party 2017 Chairman's Message

Another NC QSO Party is done. That makes the fifth one for me as chairman, and 13th one overall (first in 2004) for me personally. I have to say it would not be possible without the dedication and help of the NCQP committee. As I have said in the past, these guys make me look good, but the thanks go to these guys and gals!

I got to operate this year in activating W4DW. Bruce, N1LN, decided he wanted to compete (and that he did taking 1st Place in Club In-State Mixed High Power) so Andy, AA9P and me did it from my station in Harnett. Conditions were interesting, to say the least. The bands went long early making it good for the out-of-state ops that were on top of their propagation game.

It's good to see the mobiles coming out in greater numbers. Connie, K5CM, was out again this year from Oklahoma. His daughter lives in Cary. Now I see the draw! Next year, Connie, maybe we can have an eyeball QSO as I live in Harnett County the next one over from Wake. It's always good to see my friend Bert, N4CW, out there. He and Jim, W4TMO, can always be counted on for many county mults. Road warriors they are! And what about Lone Ranger Joe, K4REB! He says he's nearly 80 and this may be his last year mobile. I hope not, Joe, but the most important thing is for you to be able to do it safely. In any event, I hope to hear you in NCQP from whatever location for many years to come.

We made a big effort to get the club rules settled out in to a workable state. I think we have it. Many good reports come in from the clubs about what good fun is had by all, and that's what we intend. I know our home club here at RARS, N4RAL, is the place to go as Joe, WA4GIR, and Liz, KO4CK, put on a great event every year.

We are very fortunate and blessed to have the great historical landmarks here in North Carolina. Namely the Battleship North Carolina and Voice of America. Both are supported (radio wise) by great clubs who help with participation in NCQP. I personally like the bonus structure we have here in NC with activating these interesting places rather than spelling out names of things. Not that there is anything wrong with that, but I think it makes us unique. Marc, W4MPS, made a landmark out of Anson and NC4QP county by his BOGO bonus operation. Two for the price of one!

Can't let you go without mentioning the Carolina Weekend. Working with the guys in SC is a pleasure. What a great bunch. We are looking forward to things to come as the idea of working together seems such a natural thing to do. Like, "peas and carrots" quoting Forrest Gump. We have received very good positive feedback in what we have done so far.

Thanks go to NCQP Committee Member, Bill, W4WNT, Western NC Representative for writing the summary. Enjoy the results summary and will be looking for everyone on the air and around! Cheers!

Marty, W4MY
NCQP Chairman