

Colorado QRP Club  
**The Low Down**

Promoting QRP Since 1994

# Club News...

## CLUB DUES REDUCED !

With the move to publishing the Low Down as a Web document we will be saving a substantial amount from the club funds. The executives voted to reduce the club subscriptions to \$6 a year. Please check the CQC web site for complete details at [www.cqc.org](http://www.cqc.org)

## CQC GARAGE SALE AND DONATIONS

Clean out the shack? Please consider donating your unused ham gear to the CQC club. All proceeds go to fund QRP activities. [KI0RB@arrl.com](mailto:KI0RB@arrl.com) for more info.

### Visit the CQC Table

Membership info, CQC Merchandise, Garage Sale items

Colorado QRP Club will be at the Denver Radio Club Hamfest Sunday, August 21, 2005 8:30a-2:00m Jefferson County Fairgrounds [www.qsl.net/w0tx](http://www.qsl.net/w0tx)

Our next Regular meeting will take place Saturday, July 9, 2005 at 10:00 am

Program is the Annual CQC Officer Elections Meeting Location: Offices of Milestone Technologies 10691 East Bethany Drive, Suite 800 Aurora, Colorado



2005 CQC Executives

From left to right outgoing President John Hewitt - KA3RDZ, Secretary Vince Kumagai - KI0RB, New President Jim Pope - KG0PP, and New Vice President Steve Finch - AI0W.

Not pictured Treasurer and Web Master Roger Wendell WB0JNR

## \*\*\* President's Message \*\*\*

Let me announce the Colorado QRP Club officers for 2005!

President - Jim Pope - KG0PP -

Jim is a charter member of CQC and has been the net coordinator and principle net control for the QRP net for about 13 years. He is the past Vice President.

Vice President - Steve Finch - AI0W

Steve has been our program coordinator for several years, and has been responsible for a tremendous improvement in program content.

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# Happy Forth of July !

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Colorado QRP Club  
Post Office Box 17174  
Golden CO 80402-6019

For more information, visit our website at [www.cqc.org](http://www.cqc.org)

# The Low Down

## Officers

President:	Jim Pope KG0PP	303-366-7864	EJin@aol.com
Vice President:	Steve Finch	303-816-2457	AI0W@laccess.net
Secretary:	Vince Kumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	KI0RB@ARRL.NET
Treasurer:	Roger Wendell WB0JNR	303-285-3481	CQC@ROGERWENDELL.COM

## Committees

Awards Chm:	Marshall Emm N1FN	303-752-3382	n1fn@mtechnologies.com
Program Chm:	Steve Finch AI0W	303-816-2457	AI0W@laccess.net
Banquet Chm:			
QSO Party Chm:	Jim Pope KG0PP	303-366-7864	EJin@aol.com
Contest Coord:	Vince Kumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	
Elmer Coord:	VACANT		
Field Day Chm:	Paul Beckett KF7MD	303-670-5837	pbeckett@qwest.com
(Rampart Site)	Al Dawkins K0FRP	303-361-0065	K0FRP@ARRL.NET
(Aloha Site)	John Hewitt KA3RDZ		KA3RDZ@ARRL.NET
Hospitality Chm:	VACANT		
W0CQC Trustee:	Marshall Emm N1FN	303-752-3382	n1fn@mtechnologies.com
Webmaster:	Roger Wendell WB0JNR	303-285-3481	CQC@ROGERWENDELL.COM

## The Low Down

Editor Emeritus:	Rich High W0HEP	303-366-3114	rhighaurora@comcast.net
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Editor:	VinceKumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	ki0rb@arrl.net

Newsletter: Some articles in The Low Down are copyrighted. Written permission is required to reprint any article. Articles for The Low Down are encouraged. Articles must be submitted electronically in Word, Word Perfect or ASCII Text format. Email articles to [LOWDOWN@CQC.ORG](mailto:LOWDOWN@CQC.ORG). Graphics or scanned photos should be in GIF, TIF, BMP or JPG format. Photos or graphics may be submitted to be scanned. Material submitted to the Low Down become the property of The Colorado QRP Club and cannot be returned. The Low Down is published bi-monthly in Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct. and Dec. The Low Down reserves all final decisions whether or not to publish submissions. The Colorado QRP Club does not warrant any item advertised, reviewed or described in this publication.

QRP Information Net: The Colorado QRP Club also meets on the air every Monday evening at 2000 local time on the 147.225 repeater serving the eastern slope of the Rockies from Cheyenne, WY, to Pueblo, CO, with linked repeaters in Boulder (145.46) and Colorado Springs (145.16). Backup frequency: 145.145. The Club's Denver metro simplex liaison frequency is 146.445. Meeting Dates: 2004 Meetings: Jan. 10, Mar. 13, May 8, July 10, Sept. 11, Nov. 13 at a location to be determined. Annual Picnic: Sat. Sept 18, 2004. Annual Banquet: To Be Announced. Changes will be announced on the Monday evening Net and posted on the [WWW,CQC.ORG](http://WWW.CQC.ORG) website, if time permits.

Informal Monthly QRP Gatherings: Members meet informally at a local restaurant -- details on the web-site. Annual Dues: \$12.00. Join via the internet at [WWW.CQC.ORG](http://WWW.CQC.ORG). Or, send dues and requests for membership applications to: CQC, POB 17174, Golden CO 80402-6019.

Internet: [WWW.CQC.ORG](http://WWW.CQC.ORG). Information, membership, renewals, officers, activities, CQC Swap List and CQC-List subscriptions.

Correspondence: Editor, The Low Down POB 17174. Golden CO 80402-6019.

## CQC Logo mugs

Don't leave your shack without it!! Vince, our club Secretary, arm-wrestled a half dozen vendors until we got a good deal on a few dozen of these beautiful, cobalt-blue coffee mugs. Get yours while supplies last!!

Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN



Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN

\$10.00 (Pick one up at our meeting or other gathering)  
\$4.00 (Shipping and handling if we mail one to you...)  
Order from our web site using our PayPal secure service.

Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN

## CQC RFL-10 QRP Dummy Load Kit

The kit consists of 2 5W metal oxide resistors an SO239 socket and includes adaptors for connecting to either SO239 or BNC antenna sockets. Rates to 10W continuous power for at least 60 seconds, with a flat SWR across the HF spectrum.



\$7.00 - Members  
(Includes Shipping and Handling!)  
\$9.00 - Non Members  
(Includes Shipping and Handling!)

New  
CQC Logo Tee Shirts

These beautiful tees are 100% cotton with the club logo and motto. Your call sign and name call can be added for \$2  
Available in sizes XXL, XL, L and M

Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN



Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN

\$12.00 plain or \$14.00 with Call and/or Name  
\$4.00 Shipping and handling  
Order from our web site or pick one up at the next meeting and please specify size.

Photo courtesy Marshall Emm N1FN

Tentative Meeting  
Schedulde for 2005:

Jan 08 - Regular  
Feb 12 - Chat 'N Chew  
Mar 12 - Regular  
Apr 09 - Chat 'N Chew  
May 14 - Regular  
Jun 11 - Chat 'N Chew  
Jul 09 - Regular  
Aug 13 - Chat 'N Chew  
Sep 10 - Regular  
Oct 08 - Chat 'N Chew  
Nov 12 - Regular  
Dec 10 - Chat 'N Chew

Regular Meeting Location:  
Offices of Milestone Technologies  
10691 East Bethany Drive,  
Suite 800  
Aurora, Colorado

President's message cont.

Secretary - Vince Kumagai - KI0RB

Vince is continuing as secretary and editor of the LowDown. In addition to these duties, Vince has had great impact on the club's success due to his involvement in some many areas of the CQC's activities. Thank you Vince.

Treasurer - Roger Wendell - WB0JNR

Roger is continuing as treasurer and also as our website manager. The CQC web site is one of the most valuable resources the CQC has to spread the word about QRP operating. Roger's work on the web site has resulted in a treasure of information for interested hams, and we are deeply indebted to Rojer for his fine work.

Thank You past and current officers for all the work that you ahve put in to our club.

What did we accomplish in 2004?

Here are some highlightes from 2004:

The LowDown went to an electronic form of delivery. In this form the club can provide any number of pages of content, photographs can be in color, and delivery is instant. The huge savings in postage has allowed the CQC to reduce it's annual dues from \$12.00 to \$6.00.

The Colorado QRP Club has continued to foster QRP operating by hosting several contests. The format of the CQC Summer QSO Party changed dramatically, going from a stricktly HF contest to a VHF/UHF contest. One of the largest un-tapped sources of new QRP hams are the ranks of the No-Code and Code Technician class. By changing to a VHF/UHF format, we hope to attract larger numbers of new hams to the wonderful world of low power operating. Although there were glitches in the 2004 Summer QSO Party, the rules will be modified to improve the participation. The concept is sound, however, and will be maintained as a VHF/UHF endeavor.

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## PRODUCT REVIEW - Palm Radio Peg Tilt Stand for the Yaesu FT-817

by - Vince Kumagai - KI0RB CQC #432

My two main rigs in the shack are a Elecraft K2 and a Yaesu FT-817. While the K2 does a fine job of looking like a shack rig the FT-817 does a good job of looking like a portable. That changed last CQC meeting when I picked a Palm Radio Peg Leg. The Peg Leg is the part that Yaesu left off the FT-817. Made in Germany these stainless steel legs bolt on to FT-817 underneath the shoulder strap bracket. The legs swivel down to tilt the front of the rig to a useable angle. In the up position the legs still allow the use of the FT-817 carry case. Installation took about 15 minutes and requires only a screw driver. There was some difficulty with the first leg figuring out the proper order to install the different washers that allow the leg to pivot. The instructions are easy to understand and the kit come with some extra pieces. There are also 4 plastic buttons that you adhere to the bottom of the rig so to stick it on to whatever surface you are working on. The price of \$16.95 is reasonable. The manufacture and finish on the Peg Leg is very good and once installed looks like it came from the factory. Additional reviews of this product are available at: <http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/5087>. The Peg Leg is available from Morse Express - <http://www.morsex.com/palm/pegleg.htm>.





The CQC adopted the Fox Hunt. Another very popular operating activity, the Fox Hunt was in need of a sponser, and the CQC stepped up to become the host club. This affiliation will present opportunities for the CQC to expand the club's influence in the QRP world.

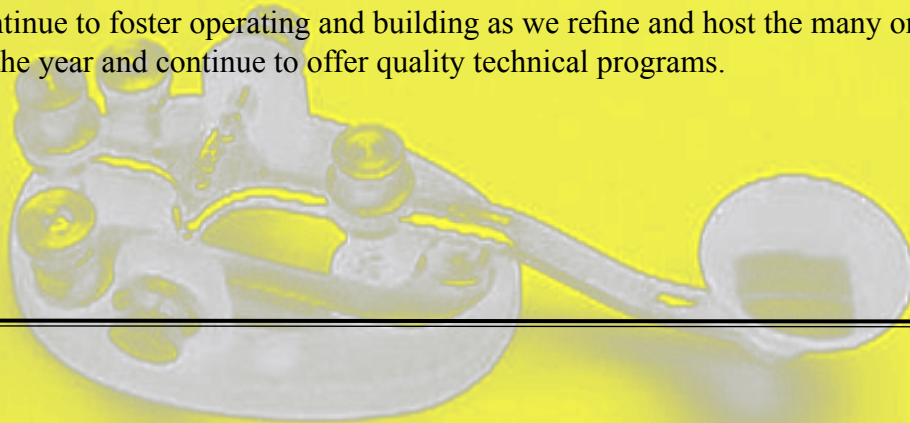
The annual picnic has been moved to a more pleasant time of the year, from it's former month of July to September.

Where are we going in 2005?

If QRP'ers have defining interests, they are operating and building. In a way, the Colorado QRP is a throw-back to the golden age of radio when all hams understood the technology of their equipment, repaired and otherwise maintained their equipment, and in many cases, built their own stations. Operating was the principle pasttime.

The CQC will continue to foster operating and building as we refine and host the many on-the-air events during the year and continue to offer quality technical programs.

Jim Pope



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The Colorado QRP Club is interested in 'What's been happening in your Shack'.

The Low Down is our communications channel to all our members and we are interested in hearing from you. Please consider submitting articles and pictures of your QRP intrests, new equipment, homebrew projects, awards and any other QRP related item. Articles need not be long but a sharing with other QRPers. The Low Staff is here to help you. Please send your material to [ki0rb@arrl.com](mailto:ki0rb@arrl.com).

Want to try your hand at Net Controlling?

The Colorado QRP Club is always on the look out for new Controllers for Monday night 2 Meter Net. It's fun and easy. We supply you with a script and you are welcome to ad lib. Schedule can be once a month or ever other month. If this interests you then contact Jim Pope KG0PP at [EJim@aol.com](mailto:EJim@aol.com) or drop the 147.225 mhz repeater any Monday evening at 8:00pm mountain time.

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## The Doctor is Destinated

Questions & Answers for the New Ham.

Q. Can you explain the difference between IRLP and IRC?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it true that the ARRL has proposed giving away amateur radio licenses in breakfast cereal boxes?

A. No. That is absolutely untrue. It is just a rumor being spread by people who hate America and amateur radio.

The ARRL proposes to distribute coupons, which you can send in for an amateur radio license, but only if you include the proper fee.

Q. Do you think that BPL will be the death of amateur radio?

A. Yep. You bet. Or maybe not. After careful study of his crystal ball, the Dr. will lay you 6/4 that amateur radio will self-destruct long before they get all the kinks out of BPL.

Ten-four till next month, when the Dr. will answer even more questions.

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## CQC TOP TEN...

...QRO Accessories for a QRP Field Day

10. Umbrella
9. Sun-block.
8. Sunglasses and Hat
7. Mosquito Bat.
6. Snake repellent.
5. Lightning Rod.
4. Food.
3. Computer
2. Aspirin.

And the Number 1 QRO Accessory for a QRP Field Day

1. Beer.

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## HOME BREW VERTICAL

by Jake - N0LX

This is a center-loaded, 1/4-wave vertical that I made for 40-meter pedestrian mobile operating. I plan to use it with my backpack setup and on the rowboat while marine mobile.

The antenna starts with 9.5 feet of 20-gauge stranded wire at the top.

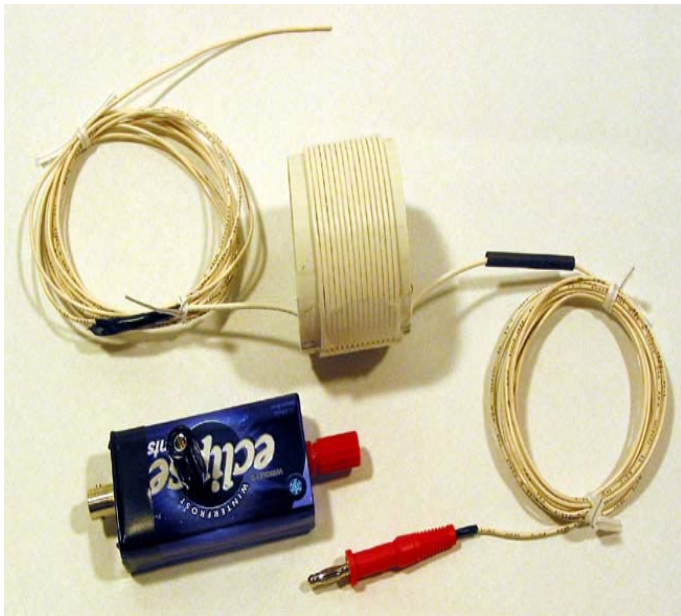
This connects to a coil made with 15 turns of 18-gauge wire wrapped around 2-inch (thin-wall) PVC tubing.

Finally, a 10-foot length of 20-gauge wire ending with a banana plug.

The antenna plugs into a small mint box which allows me to add a counterpoise wire and coax with a BNC connector.

Tested the antenna this evening from an 8,000-foot mountain top here in Colorado. The antenna was supported by a 20-foot fiberglass fishing pole.

With five watts I worked stations on 40-meters from Oklahoma and Kansas to as far away as New York and Georgia, with a 56 report from the GA station.



Visit Jake at his web site and see other QRP mobile articles -  
<http://hometown.aol.com/n0lx/hamradio.html>

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## Emergency Communications

Have you ever wished that you could help you community by doing what you consider fun? Now you now have the opportunity to volunteer at the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Centennial, Colorado. This is a new EOC with new radios, including the Yaesu FT-1000 Mark V and Kenwood 570s, Kenwood D700, and Motorola CDM 750. The Mark V is equipped with most of the add-on filters.

You can make use of the expertise that you gained doing your QRP hobby. You learned how to pull a signal out of the pileup. You know the ins-and-outs of HF communication. As a member of our club, you know we consistently rank among the top of our class (and QRO classes) during Field Day. It sure isn't BIG WATTS that makes it fun -- it's your skill. You can now use that skill while helping the State in times of need in the luxury of a warm, air conditioned EOC.

This is a great opportunity for hams that would like to operate some excellent equipment but just don't have the room in your apartment or are stifled by restrictive convents. As a member of the Commo Support Group you'll be able to operate the equipment during none emergency times, constantly training for what we hope will never come. You will do most of this when you want, during normal working hours.

The new EOC is located near Mineral and Yosemite. We also have openings at our Camp George West facility. Need more information? Call Richard Bardsley at 720-852-6603 for phone and digital openings.



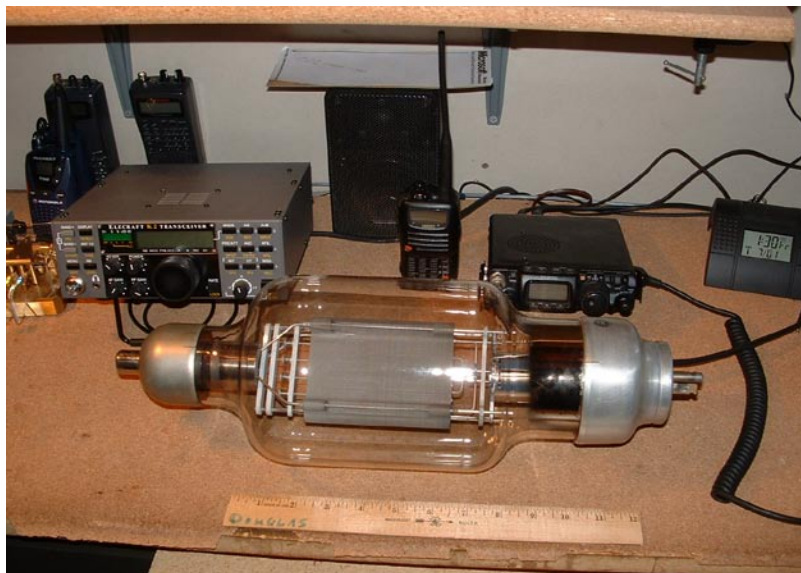


## *Life's Too Short for \$800 Finals...*

The Colorado QRP Club has a new artifact..an \$800 Final!

A generous donation from Dick Knox, N0JW, at the Pikes Peak hamfest has added the proverbial \$800 Final to the club collection.

I suspect that this thing would even work on the club's Wooden Radio!



Dated "1944" , The "Man Luggable" QRP Dummy Load.  
K2, FT-817 and FT-50 used for scale.

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## Summer Hamfest Schedule

Swapfest at Young Ladies' Radio League (YLRL) Convention  
Sunday, August 14, 2005

The Hotel Denver Tech Center (Formaly the Hilton DTC)

Info: Mary Cox, KC0MEZ

11971 E. Ohio Ave.

Aurora, Co 80012

303-364-8838

## Denver Radio Club Hamfest

Sunday, August 21, 2005 8:30a-2:00m

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Info: [www.qsl.net/w0tx](http://www.qsl.net/w0tx)

## Mountain Amature Radio Club Campfest

Friday August 26 to Sunday August 28, 2005

8649 Main Street

Lake George, Co 80827

Info: [nx0g.org](http://nx0g.org)

Melinda Wright - [melwright@ccvnet.net](mailto:melwright@ccvnet.net)

719-748-0165

## Boulder Amateur Radio Club BARCfest

Sunday, September 25, 2005 8:00am - 12:00pm

Boulder County Fair Grounds

9595 Nelson Road, Longmont, Co

Info: [www.qsl.net/w0dk](http://www.qsl.net/w0dk) [BARC70@arrl.net](mailto:BARC70@arrl.net)



## HUNTING SEASON IS OPEN

Come Join the  
Colorado QRP Club for a Summer of Fun

### Hunt the Foxes in the CQC Summer Fox Hunt

The QRP Fox Hunt is a series of 1.5 and two-hour amateur radio events during which QRP stations (“Hounds”) attempt to work specific QRP stations designated as “The Fox.” Throughout any particular season there may be a “dual hunt” with two foxes on the air at a time.

These hunts are usually conducted in CW (Morse code) but can be in any other mode the committee authorizes for a particular season. Our Summer and Winter rules pages provide all the legal details you’ll ever need...

For complete details visit the Fox Hunt page at:

[http://www.cqc.org/fox/summer\\_fox\\_hunt\\_2005/index.htm](http://www.cqc.org/fox/summer_fox_hunt_2005/index.htm)