The Low Down

Promoting QRP Since 1994

Club News...

2006 ARRL Field Day Results

W0CQC Colorado QRP CLUB was 1st place in 2A Battery class and 18th over all,

13,160 points in class 2AB 1,286 QSOs power multiplier 5 GOTA station call K0FEI Section CO

CQC Presentations "In the Light"

At the November 2006 monthly meeting of the Colroado QRP Club a motion was made to expend club funds for the purpose of purchasing a PC projector. At the January 2007 meeting our new Sharp DLP projector was used for the first time. We are looking forward to enhancing future presentations.

Low Down goes Interactive

Embedded in this issue of the Low you will find our first use of interactive video. This feature is available when you view this online pdf through your computer. The interactive files are from the January CQC meeting "Show and Tell". We hope to share our meetings with those of you that can not attend in perosn. These video clips are in the form of hyperlinks back to ourweb site -www.cqc.org.

Enjoy.

EN.



Rich High W0HEP CQC Founder and Member #1 SK

Rich High, WØHEP, became a silent key December 4th, 2006. He was 63.

Rich was originally licensed in 1956 in Telford, PA as WN3IIO, and later, W3IIO. He and his XYL Elaine, WØHEM (formerly K3JSP) moved to Denver in 1961. He was very active in many areas of ham radio over his half century in the hobby. In the early 1990s he discovered the challenge and the fun of QRP and became an early advocate for low power amateur radio. Rich co-founded the Colorado QRP Club in 1994 which has grown into a world-wide organization of over 800 members. Rich was CQC member #1. He was the editor of the club's award-winning newsletter, The Low Down, for many years.

Along with his interest in QRP he also enjoyed CW, contesting, DX, and Field Day. He actively participated in the Colorado QRP Club's competitive Field Day team and played a key operator role in the club's recordsetting Field Day performances in recent years.

Rich was a recipient of the ARRL's DXCC Millennium Award for working 100 or more of the entries on the ARRL DXCC list in one year. Issue 60 December/January 2006/2007

Picture credits to Vince Kumagai-KI0RB

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Our next Regular meeting will take place Saturday, November 11, 2006 at 10:00 am Meeting Location: Offices of Milestone Technologies 10691 East Bethany Drive, Suite 800 Aurora, Colorado



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

For more information, visit our website at www.cqc.org

The Low Down

Officers			
President:	Jim Inskepp NO2D	720-851-1316	pinskeep@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Steve Finch AI0W	303-816-2457	AI0W@laccess.net
Secretary:	Vince Kumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	KIORB@ARRL.NET
Treasurer:	Roger Wendell WBØJNR	206-202-2212	CQC@ROGERWENDELL.COM
Committees			
Awards Chm:	Marshall Emm N1FN	303-752-3382	n1fn@mtechnologies.com
Program Chm:	Steve Finch AIØW	303-816-2457	AIØW@laccess.net
Banquet Chm:		505 010 107	
QSO Party Chm:	Jim Pope KGØPP	303-366-7864	EJim@aol.com
Contest Coord:	Vince Kumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	
Elmer Coord:	VACANT		
Field Day Chm:	Paul Beckett KF7MD	303-670-5837	pbecket@qwest.com
(Rampart Site)	Al Dawkins KØFRP	303-361-0065	KØFRP@ARRL.NET
(Aloha Site)	John Hewitt KA3RDZ		KA3RDZ@ARRL.NET
Hospitality Chm:	VACANT		
WØCQC Trustee:	Marshall Emm N1FN	303-752-3382	n1fn@mtechnologies.com
_			
Webmaster:	Roger Wendell WBØJNR	303-285-3481	rogerwendell@rogerwendell.com
The Low Down			
Editor Emeritus:	Rich High WØHEP	303-366-3114	rhighaurora@comcast.net
Editor at Large:	Dick Schneider ABØCD	303-758-9519	SCHNEIDERDICK@QWEST.NET
Editor:	VinceKumagai KI0RB	303-341-5320	ki0rb@arrl.net
			<u> </u>

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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. Informal Monthly QRP Gatherings: Members meet informally at a local restaurant -- details on the web-site. Annual Dues: \$6.00. Join via the internet at WWW.CQC.ORG. Or, send dues and requests for membership applications to: CQC, POB 17174, Golden CO 80402-6019. Internet: 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 SO2390r BNC antenna sockets. Rates to 10W continuos power for at least 60 seconds, with a flat SWR accross the HF spectrum.

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

WOHEP SOAPBOX

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 Scheculde for 2006/2007:

Jan 6 - Regular Feb 10 - Chat 'N Chew Mar 10 - Regular Apr 14 - Chat 'N Chew May 12 - Regular Jun 23 - Field Day Jul 14 - Regular Aug 11 - Chat 'N Chew Sep 8 - Regular Oct 13 - Chat 'N Chew Nov 10 - Regular Dec 8 - Chat 'N Chew

Regular Meeting Location: Offices of Milestone Technologies 10691 East Bethany Drive, Suite 800 Aurora, Colorado ----- Original Message ----- From: "Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich" <inforhc@enet.cu>

To: "al dawkins" <alk0frp@comcast.net>; <arielcoro@yahoo.com> Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2007 16:05 PM Subject: Re: Al K0FRP

Dear amigo Al:

For some unkown reason, something I can not really explain, your e-mail is the one that carried the very sad news about the passing away of my beloved friend Rich High WOHEP, a very special person by all possible comparisons.

Rich and Elaine hosted me during my 2002 visit to the USA, and he did put a tremendous effort in making that trip possible, as well as my participation at the CQC Annual Banquet, where I arrived directly from the at that time very new Denver Airport.

I have just sent to Vince an e-mail asking him to convey my condolences to Elaine, to their daughter and the grandaughter.

Just in case the e-mail doesn't reach Vince, I would appreciate that you find for me the postal mailing address of the family, as I want to send Elaine a letter of condolence with some anecdotes about our friendship via amateur radio.

Rich was almost of my same age, I will be 65 hopefully in July of 2007, and we shared many common things about how amateur radio could help mankind to have a better world where to live...

Still fresh in my mind is the day in the middle of a tropical hurricane when we were on the Hurricane Watch Net, and Rich came in from Colorado

to offer his modest ham station to relay any messages, to which I must add that his skills as a QRP low power operator could do wonders when communications were difficult due to poor propagation, too long or too short skip etc.

Amigo Al, thank you very much for realizing that it was possible that I had not heard about the sad news of WOHEP becoming a SK...

Today, is a very, very sad day for me, but at the same time I remember so many good things that Rich and I shared that for sure, he will be always remembered among the QRP community...

Maybe someday I may again visit Denver, Aurora, Colorado Springs and other beautiful places that Rich made possible for me to see, and to meet there so many good people with whom we both shared the love and dedication for amateur radio...

Yours truly Arnaldo (Arnie) Coro CO2KK

Continued on page 12

Hammin' on the Go (1999) By Dick Schneider ABØCD CQC #155

WØCQC Proves the Experts Wrong! Wyoming Actually Exists!

SOMEWHERE, Wyoming - The road here, wherever "here" was, couldn't exactly be descried as a piece of cake. This was the day of QRP Afield, and WØCQC, the club station for the Colorado QRP Club was going to put one of the rarest governmental entities in the world on the air – Wyoming.

Be honest. How many Wyoming stations do you hear on the air during the course of a ham radio year? I hear more Alaska and Hawaii than Wyoming. Of course, it doesn't help to live next door to Wyoming. But that is Colorado's cross to bear. As the millenium closes, border wars between the two states are fairly minimal.

But QRP Afield Day began ominously. As Rich, WØHEP (CQC #1), rolled up in front of yours truly's house, he mentioned that the 27-foot RV doubling as the CQC Mobile Command Center was "running a little roughly."

Boy, was that an understatement.

Picture this ... any time you accelerate or run uphill the engine all but dies. Sometimes you pull over to the right as far as you can and blast down the highway at an astounding thirty miles per hour with the emergency blinkers flashing. Or the engine just dies and you coast while grinding the starter to get it going again. Or you never really know when the engine will die for good and strand you permanently. Or you look over at the driver's seat to see Rich pounding on the steering wheel and pleading with the vehicle to get going. As if the RV actually cared.

Needless to say, it was a pleasant relaxing ride up highway 287 as we headed toward certain death in Wyoming.

-0-0-0-

Up on a high pine-covered ridge, we spotted a potential operating site. It was a rest stop, and if we could park at the very end we would have a perfect spot, especially if we could remain overnight. We spotted a maintenance worker so Rich parked the RV. The RV, by the way, "parked" flawlessly. It was when we actually needed it to get us somewhere that the terror set in. Rich ran jumped out to ask the maintenance guy if we'd be able to stay overnight. By the time I caught up to the two of them, all the details had been worked out, including an overnight stay. That was when I spotted the "CDOT" emblem on the guy's tee-shirt.

"Are we in Wyoming?" I asked.

"No," came the reply, "this is Colorado."

So much for our plans to put Wyoming on the air – from Colorado.

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Back on the road TO Wyoming, roaring uphill at about thirty, we kept our eyes peeled for that telltale roadsign. "Welcome to Wyoming. Home of the Jackalope."

The word was that we were going to be repelled at the border by Wyoming's three licensed ham operators, still seeth-ing over Colorado's robbery and desecration of Buffalo Bill Cody's grave. But the border was clear, and we rolled into the state unchallenged, in broad daylight. And I mean "rolled" because I think we were coasting at the time, the engine having died once again. However, our luck wouldn't hold out for long.

Somehow we managed to coax the RV to a high rounded ridge, which, although it lacked a single tree, seemed to be an ideal operating position. We pulled off the main road, drove about an eighth of a mile down a side road and just pulled a few feet off the pavement to set up the CQC Mobile Command Center. We had checked with a fellow driving by to see if it might be okay to set up and operate. The guy didn't think it would be a problem, although he added that this

wasn't his ranch. Then he drove off and vanished in a cloud of dust.

What the heck. We sited the RV and broke out the antennas.

We had two HF antennas, a trusty G5RV and a 20-meter dipole, which we planned to use as a sloper favoring the northeast. I attached the center insulator of the G5RV and one end (the wrong one, as it turned out) of the 20-meter dipole to the top of 24-feet of surplus fiberglass rods. The mast was hoisted up to Rich, now atop the RV and fighting the relentless Wyoming wind, and he dropped it into a 4-foot section that he had clamped to the RV ladder. More fiberglass poles were used to support each end of the G5RV, so we wound up with a north-south oriented inverted "V". The 20-meter sloper was just anchored to the ground with a piece of nylon cord.

The antenna farm was finished off with a 6-meter dipole fashioned from a pair of hamsticks, perched atop a 16-foot collapsible paint pole tied off to the front bumper of the RV. We monitored six with my IC-706, the backup rig. Six remained dead the whole weekend.

The main station rig was my TS-570. Rich set that up in a fairly comfy arrangement using the RV table and a small set of shelves. Also part of the station was Rich's little regen receiver, which we set up to have a little SWL fun and monitor Arnie Coro's DX program from Radio Havana. The fix was in, and Arnie announced to the world the presence of a Colorado QRP Club insertion team secreted somewhere in southern Wyoming.

We were just about ready to go, so it was time to test the station and antennas before the QRP Afield gun went off, or whatever went off when the contest began. After working a few stations, we convinced ourselves that we had found a choice location.

Rich was in the midst of a QRP sideband QSO with a station in Los Angeles, which had given us a solid 59 report, when a loud "whump" rocked the RV, followed by the clattering sounds of the main antenna going down. I looked out the window and saw the G5RV lying on the ground.

"We just lost our antenna," Rich told the guy in LA.

"Well, you're still a solid 57 here, old man," came the response.

So that would be 5-watts SSB Wyoming to LA, a 57 signal, on a G5RV lying flat on the ground. Any QRO station would be proud of that report, let alone a couple of QRP nut cases.

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With the G5RV and the sloper back up, but four feet lower since the wind shattered one of the fiberglass mast sections, we were back on the air. Rich was running stations in the contest, and handing out that rarely heard WYO section in QRP contests. I was concerned with more pressing matters -- food.

Then the pickup pulled up.

The front seat was occupied by a stern-looking Wyoming ranch couple and a mangy dog. There were two bales of hay in the pickup bed and a rifle perched on a rack in the back window of the cab.

Rich, the inveterate salesman, hopped out of the RV and gave them the ham radio sales pitch, explaining that the hobby was the greatest thing since sliced bread, and, possibly, ranching. The stone-faced couple listened attentively.

"I want ya off ma land, now!" the woman ordered. The man, hidden behind a beard, sunglasses and a severe Wyoming cowboy hat, just glared at Rich. The dog barked a few times.

Now Colorado QRP Clubbers are a tough breed. We're willing to take on any \$800 final anywhere, anytime. I mean who wouldn't with a 57 report on a 5-watt PEP SSB signal with the antenna on the ground?

But a 30-30?

Now, that's a little different.

We broke camp fast, and limped the gasping RV back to the safety of the public highway.

The pickup returned. Not to wave goodbye with fond 73s and 88s, but to make sure we vamoosed. What is the Q-signal for "You'd better be out of town by sundown, varmint" anyway? Q-R-GONE, maybe.

Back on the road once again, now in the midst of the contest (our unofficial three hour break), Rich nursed his RV into Laramie, a dusty western town known for its college kids who chase down jackalopes on the open plain and eat them raw. We headed east out of Laramie, toward Curt Goudy State Park and a few sections of the Medicine Bow National Forest. The RV managed to creep up one long hill and then we turned off onto an inviting highway that wound through the hilly pine-covered reaches of Medicine Bow country. We headed into the forest on a dirt access road. I waslooking forward to being stranded not only in rural Wyoming (somewhat of a redundancy), but also miles from any real road. How exciting.

We spotted a nice landing spot in the center of a broad meadow. And since we were on public land, the odds that some gap-toothed rancher would run us off tilted back in our favor.

As we stepped out into the fresh air, the rural silence was pierced by gunshots. Many gunshots. Apparently, we had found the one valley where all the southern Wyomingites went to blast objects to smithereens with their Smith & Westons and Colt .45s. All the gunplay, however, seemed to be on the other side of a small ridge, but the silence of nature was punctuated with with blam-blam-blams, rat-a-tat-tats and the occasional explosion throughout the day. Either it was harmless guy-stuff, or Wyoming regulars were fighting off Colorado militia efforts to take back some southern Wyoming ground. One fellow stopped by to give us a description of his dog, Rose, who ran off in fear of the gunfire. Never did find out how old Rose fared.

In spite of the explosions and gunfire, Rich and I had a mission to complete. There were anxious QRPers out their just aching to slip Wyoming into their logbooks.

We were on a mission from God. Or at least the ghost of Hiram Percy.

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Antennas back up, WØCQC/7 returned to the air.

Then it was solid CW until things shut down at 2400 Zulu on September 18. We cranked up again Sunday morning for the "bonus" round and handed out more points.

In all, we worked 92 QSO's during both contest periods, 59 during the main contest and another 33 during the bonus period for the portable stations.

We managed to log 30 states, all from the Lower 48.

While we logged stations on 15-20-40-80 meters, 20 meters proved to be the workhorse band, which often is the case during QRP contests.

During the main contest, WØCQC worked 8 stations on 15M, 41 on 20M, and 10 on 40M. During the Sunday bonus round, we worked 1 on 15M, 24 on 20M, 7 on 40M and 1 on 80M.

Of all the QSO's, the most exciting were the 9 QRPp reports: SATURDAY: W4DEC AL 900mW, K5KW OK 750mW, KJ5TF AR 40mW, W4EEX KY 500mW, NQ5RP AR 25mW. SUNDAY: W4EEX KY 500mW, K5KW OK 750mW, N8NRG MI 70mW, and KJ7AN OR 100mW.

KJ5TF was so excited with his 40mW on 20M that he activated his club station call, NQ5RP and QSOed with us again at 25mW.

The lone 80M QRP QSO was with KIØII from his place in the southwestern part of the Denver Megapolitan Area, a reach of about a hundred miles.

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You know what they say ... getting there is "half" the fun. Now it was time to leave, so the fun of getting home – the other "half" – was about to begin.

Fresh snow on Sunday made the task of dropping the antennas and breaking camp a bit bone chilling. But then we were QRPers. Bone chilling was our middle name – names?

The wet snow also transformed the dirt road into slithery mud. So, facing a muddy road, little traction, and an RV engine that would rather sleep than run, I figured we'd all be killed.

Not Rich, though, the intrepid roadie.

He gunned, coaxed, pounded, begged and pleaded, and, after three runs at the hill, managed to get that RV beast over the crest and onto a downhill slope toward the highway.

Escape from Wyoming was imminent.

But we still had to make it through Cheyenne, where many a Colorado QRPer had met his fate.

It wasn't easy, either, since not one, but two major truck stops couldn't sell us fuel because their computers were down. One was Conoco, the other Texaco. Now you tell me, what are the odds that computers go belly up at two major truck stops, with "competing" brands of gasoline, at the same time? Who says these oil companies aren't linked up at some central location? There's also talk about Wyoming QRPers being in on this scam as well.

Either that, or some Jackalope chewed through a power line. It happens a lot in Wyoming.

Fortunately for us, there was enough fuel to coast into Colorado. We slipped through an unguarded section of I-25.

And guess what? As soon as we hit the Centennial State, the engine problems cleared up and the RV zoomed on home as though it had just rolled off the showroom floor.

Coincidence, you say? I think not. You'll definitely see this case on a future episode of The X-Files.

© Dick Schneider

CQC Media Corner

Click on the clip to view scenes from the Jan 2007 CQC "Show and Tell"





Editorial by Rich High W0HEP reprinted from Low Down Issue 0 (The Milliwatt News) January 1994

The time seems right for the formation of a new club in Colorado. QRP is on a roll right now with more interest than ever thanks to the help of number of new suppliers of kits and QRP accessories. I've been a ham for over 37 years, something has been missing in the hobby for the past few years. I think it is the lack of a challenge on HF. At this time I am not involved in any of the digital mode, but I have been looking for something new in HF. QRP is not new. In fact I have worked QRP off and on since the late 70's. The bug finally bit this year. I cranked the Icom down to 5 watts or less and have been having more fun than I have had for years. Life is too short to spend \$800 on finals (to quote NFOZ).

The idea of a club came up several months ago after attending a regular monthly meeting of the Denver Radio Club. The DRC is one of the few 'general interest' clubs in the area. The problem is that most of the members of the DRC are interested in repeaters and there is very little interest in HF. Field day, contests and other typical HF activities have very low participation by the members.

One night I heard a QRP net on 2 meters. I was surprised at the number of amateurs who checked in with interest in QRP. The logical sequence of events led to talk of starting a QRP club in Colorado.

I would hope that the Colorado QRP Club would be a source of information to all amateurs interested in low power communications. There appears to be a very good pool of QRP operators highly qualified in the technical aspects of the hobby as well as the operational aspects of the hobby. With all of the talented individuals interested in the CQC, I am sure the club will be a valuable addition to the amateur radio community in Colorado.

Thanks for your interest and I hope you will find a way to contribute to the club and help build interest in low power amateur radio communications in Colorado and the U.S. Your contributions to the club and the newsletter will be greatly appreciated. I would like to hear from you about columns and articles you would like to see. I will also reprint key articles from other QRP organizations. Please keep me posted regarding activities to be included in future calendars. Each calendar will include two months. The newsletter will be as good as the articles in it. I will need your help.

Stories and pictures for the CQC Low Down are provided by CQC Club Members. Please consider sharing your QRP experience wth other members and friends. All stories are welcome and appreciated. They can be submitted to KI0RB@arrl.net

Yaesu FT-301(S) A Commercial QRP Rig

By Vince Kumagai KI0RB

The Yaesu FT-301 started life as an economy minded rig in 1979. It was designed at time when a shift was occurring from rigs with tube finals to all solid state design. For the QRPer this was a breakthrough in that a second version, the FT-301S, was also introduced at the same time. The FT301S was offered up as a rig for the Japanese Novice class operator and was limited to 10 watts maximum output. In subsequent years the rig went from an analog tuning display to a digital display and is identified by the "D" suffix. The FT-301 in its high power form has a rated output of 100 watts and is capable on all ham bands from 160 meters to 10 meters WARC bands excluded. Up to this time the main Yaesu line consisted mainly of the FT-101 in various forms from economy to full featured. The FT-101 sold a ton. At anytime at least a half dozen can be found for sale on Ebay. While the FT-301 was a new direction in rig designs it also featured plug in design for its components. All of the major components, IF, AF, Filters, PA etc, are built on PCBs that can be plugged in



A late model FT-301SD (10 Watt) with digital VFO



A early model FT-301 High Power (100 watt) with analog VFO

to the main chassis. This is a very handy feature which makes for easy servicing.

IN THE SHACK

I have owned 3 different FT-301rigs including high power and "S" units and both analog and digital models. I still own 2. One is an early high power analog and the other an "SD" QRP digital model. I use both regularly. One unit has the two optional CW and AM filters installed. Recently I was using this unit to work the 80m QRP Fox and compared the unit with my Elecraft K2. On receive the FT-301SD was not as sensitive as the K2 but with the optional CW filter (XF-90C) was able to isolated the faint 80M fox signal enough to work him. The FT-301 features all mode operation including CW, USB, LSB, AM, and RTTY. On the high power units the FT-301 uses a detachable power amp brick to boost power to the full 100 watts. The brick can be detached by unscrewing 4 screws and unplugging the BNC connectors. You must then bridge the two BNC connectors with a jumper. Plugging your antenna in to the SO-239 output terminal You can now use a high power FT-301 as a QRP rig by dialing down the DRIVE to 5 watts. While the FT-301 can be reduced to operate at the 10 watt level the FT-301S can not be converted to high power by adding the power brick back on. The "S" model lacks the power circuit to power the brick and they have also left off the preamp in and out BNC connections for the booster amp.



Inside look at a FT-301. All major block components are mounted on plug-in PCB boards. This allows for ease of service and replacement.



An FT-301SD, similar to the high power unit. Major difference is the lack of the final power amp replaced by the 2 final transistors on the back of the chassis. S units are not equiped with a full compliment of band crystals. 160 ,upper 10M and WWV/JJV 5mhz crystals and not installed. Also speech processor is not enabled.

If you are shopping for an FT-301S be aware that while it is all band capable it may not be all band functional. The "S" models were delivered without the oscillator crystals for 160, the 1.5 Mhz upper parts of 10 meters and a single channel for WWV/JJV. The upper part of the 10 meter band on the FT-301 is broken up into 4 parts 10A, 10B,10C and 10D. Each section is 500Khz. The "S" model also does not have a functional speech processor. This is because on the "S" model there is an optional filter that needs to be installed on the NB board. This filter can be retrofitted and is the same one as the standard SSB filter (XF-92C). While the "S" model is of interest to a QRPer from a collector's pont of view from a QRP operational point of view a high power 301 stripped of it's power brick is more practical.

On the digital display models the display digits have a tendency to run hot. If they have elements burned out there are no replacement parts available. There are articles on the internet for modifying the display to run cooler if it is still functional.

Matching accessory items for the FT301 include the FP-301(D) 20W power supply/speaker. This power supply comes in two flavors. The deluxe unit , suffix(D), has a built in digital clock. Another popular option is the FC-301 matching antenna tuner and a rare option is the FV-301 matching remote VFO.



The FP-301 matching 20 watt power supply. An FP-301D is also available with a built-in digital clock.



Back view of an FT-301SD. Notice the lack of the power brick and the BNC connections. This unit can not be made into a high power unit. When purchasing one of these don't forget the power connector. It's quite unique.



Same view of an FT-301 high power unit. This unit can be run QRP by removing the power brick and jumping the BNC connectors. Antenna connects to the SO-239 connector for use by the transmit/receive relay.

I am so glad that Joy (NQ5R) and I got a chance to talk to Rich in St. Louis when he was doing a presentation for our QRP club (his Russian trip) and also when you guys got Arnie CO2KK to the CQC bandquet several years ago. That was a long trip, but worth every mile. Thanks CQC. My guess is that Rich W0HEP would want us all to just keep QRPing. Maybe at the next field outing there could be a missing operator station set up in honor of Rich. 72 - W0HEP de, Walter - K0TWO (cqc337) and Joy - NQ5R (cqc338)Wright City, Missouri.....

Pete,

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Rich High, W0HEP, CQC #1 passed away in his sleep Sunday night after a lengthy illness.

I will let you know the funeral arrangments as I know them.

Ben Baker, KB0UBZ Colorado Section Emergency Coordinator CQC # 249

I was first licensed in 1995. Shortly thereafter, I met Rich High, W0HEP, at a meeting of the Colorado QRP Club. During the way too short decade that followed, I learned to appreciate low power amateur radio, picked up many operating tips, and just plain had a hell of a lot of fun playing radio with Rich. We worked together on CQC activities, publishing The Low Down, teaching QRP 101 classes, running the club table at hamfests, organizing the club's annual dinner, getting Arnie Coro into the country, hitting the road to operate in the field, and working Field Day – by far Rich's favorite operating event. I wrote the following "Hammin' on the Go" column for The Low Down after Rich and I set up shop in Wyoming for the 1999 QRP Afield contest. It was a ham radio adventure to remember.

-ABØCD