Members Comments

**W1AO -** I was amazed at how many non-FOC members called.  I even heard a few non-members work each other and exchange names.  In any event it's great PR for FOC and lots of fun - not to mention a great distraction during this time.

**TF3DC** - Enjoyed QSO´s with old friends as well as new members.

**G3JUL** - Pleased to be QRV in these troubled times and at 90 with mobility problems and vulnerable, I am forbidden to venture outside of my plot. People nearby have been bringing essential foods for me so am not desperate, yet. We are living in troubled times!

**G4FAD** - Conditions were good here and it was very pleasant to meet so many old friends.

**WA1FCN** - I got involved with another event. As it turned out I should of stayed with the FOC gang.  I can assure you I will be back to my usual full time effort next year.

**G4RMV** - All started off to a disaster, every time I worked the keyboard, not really my MO, the computer locked and I had to re-boot the PC. I thought this was due to the last update so I downloaded and ran three or four versions of N1MM, a friend, Jack W8KR suggested it might be RF getting in. I was rather skeptical of this because Logger32 runs fine. Anyway, I put a Clip on Ferrite on the USB Cable making two, one on each end. In pulling the rig forward, the centre of a 1/4" to 3.5mm stereo adaptor parted company and I didn't have another. I robbed the standby rig and put that in the key socket. Still no key, the 3.5mm plug on the other end had parted which left the end in the socket. I did effect a temporary repair and ran for the last two hours. I now have all my hair pulled out and bold patches where once I had lovely long locks of hair (Anyone know of a roaming Barber?)

**W7GKF** - It was a good break from all the Virus news!

**K8ZH** - I had a lot of fun as we all did in the BWQP.

**OY1CT** - Conditions was not very good here, good activity.

**WL7E** - Bottom of the cycle here.

**KR3E** - I confirmed, during the BWQP, that I don’t like using a keyboard and PF keys.  Operating from our winter QTH in Florida, where an outside antenna is impossible, I chose to operate through a Remote Ham Radio pay-to-play station in Maine.  The station provided 100w into an OCF wire, so I was the same “little pistol” that I’ve always been.  This was better than not operating, but the interface provided by Remote Ham Radio isn’t user friendly, at least not to this user, making it difficult to use it to log and also chat, a bit, when S&Ping. It was even more difficult when running. So, apologies to those who I failed to call by name, or with whom I couldn’t exchange a few pleasantries, or who were subjected to some dropped or extra letters. I want my paddle back!

**K2SG** - Conditions didn’t seem all that good here in South Florida.  My Flagpole continues to radiate equally poor in all directions.

**N5AW** - Amazing to me some of the complaints about this event. Think the vast majority think it is fine the way it is though. I'm more concerned about things like lousy fists, key clicks, and poor operating practices of a few of our members!

**K0VBU** - Very pleasant, and I hope the format doesn't change.

**K5TF** - Enjoyed the BWQP as always, albeit very limited time to operate.

**W1FJ** - Nice activity, lots of folks hunkering down.

**F3OA** - One could notice much more activity from non-members. Good thing!

**WG4FOC (K3TW)** - Band conditions were impressive.  Hopefully this means more sunspots are on the way.

**OZ1LO** - As usual I was listening quite a lot and watching the DJ1YFK RBN looking for needed members for Augie rework and WAFOC pts.

**G3YLA** - Firstly, thanks for all the QSOs and points from many of my new friends in FOC. I hoped to have done more, but Ciara and Dennis (UK wind storms) took their toll on my antennas and cannot get a repair gang together until all this COVID19 business is over. Anyway, the activity was good at the times I was able to get on and there was some very nice CW on the bands to listen to.  Hope to get my activity levels up as soon as the antennas are fixed and, in the meantime, stay healthy.

**KC0VKN** - I had hoped to fight off the cabin fever with more QSO's, but, the thunderstorms kept rolling through! I did really enjoy those that I did have a QSO with!

**K5VR** - Little time in the chair this year.

**AC2K** - Really good conditions into EU on 20 meters.  Worked several members for the first time.  I was pleased to see an up-tick in participation from non-members this year.  It sure helped to have a hex beam at 62 feet and for the first time in 40 years a rotatable antenna for me!

**GM3YOR** - Activity was limited due to antennas being brought down I recent storms, managed to get a dipole up for 40m and some spare time to be active. Waiting on spares for beam from States to get rest of antennas back up, so hope to be fully operational soon.

**K7HP** - Kinda funny 28 on 80 and 28 on 20 - 38 on 40 and 12 on 15 - apparently I could

only hear the big sigs on 80 and 20 - and 10 more on 40 most of whom were non-FOC.

**K0XX** - 100w to 67' long inverted L fed via home-brew 49:1 transformer. I by-pass the transformer for 80m. Thanks to all with good ears and an abundance of patience.

**G4BYG** - Was not able to contribute as much as I wanted due to heavy local noise

on 80/40 and 21mhz. I know where the noise is coming from but due to the Coronavirus

outbreak and subsequent shut down of our country. It will be a while until our authorities are able to investigate.

**K2KRG** - I was only able to operate for a short time, but it was great fun to participate in a very relaxed event.

**K5AX** - It was my intention to have short QSOs, rather than contest-type contacts, and was up to 48, mostly nice chats, when the alarm sounded, and I realized I was missing an urgent appointment I was given just a few days ago. Sorry!  I had to scramble, and never got back into the FOCQP.

**VU2PTT** - Just operated for limited time and it was nice to exchange short messages like stay safe, take car etc. Quite a good number of non-members turned out - interesting.

**G3NKS** - Hard going in the poor conditions with 100W to a G5RV antenna at 15ft.  But much enjoyed.

**GM3JKS** - Some impressive signals from USA stations on 80M at the end of the day.

No ant for 160m and no signals heard on 15M/10M.

**HB9BFQ** - All QSOs with 100W to my Magnetic Loop in the garden at an height of 5ft above ground.

**DK9PY** - Operating time was 15:13. Conditions were pretty good, especially the low bands although 25 QSO state side on 15m. Nothing on 10m.

**G4BUE** - Enjoyed the BWQP as usual, despite the poor HF conditions and not having an antenna for 160m.

**WB4FSF** - It was a great time.  Conditions could have been better but we have to make do with what there is.  I will say at least 80 percent of the folks in the QSOs wishes each other to "stay well" in reference to this awful disease that we are all kind of nervous about.

**N5RZ** - A lot of fun!

**N3BB** - Put in 7 hours and 23 minutes, with many interruptions to assist my XYL and

attend to the other things during out COVID-19 pandemic. Lots of

activity, and certainly it was unusual to have so many non-FOC ops calling

CQ BW. As usual, I alternated between S&Ping and then CQing myself when no

one else CQing was a new contact.

**G3PJT** - Not much time to operate this year.

**N2KW** - The Contest station was busy with WPX, so I had to operate from home.

20 w to an indoor Magloop (see QRZ.com for photos) and casual S/P (mostly)

Nice to hear old friends, as well as new ones.  Social isolation since 1961!

**K6ZB** - Judging from the level of activity and the spirit of contacts, I’d say this has got to be one of the best operating events of the year. I always indicated interest in brief conversation and some of the contacts were wonderful opportunities to catch up with old friends. Obviously, the stay at home policies have contributed. That’s just another benefit of being a radio amateur.

**W1UU** - I used a Flex-6600 at 75 watts to a 43' vertical with a lot of radials. Most exchanges offered a comment or two wishing us to "stay safe" in these times of the COVID-19.

**VA3FOC (VE3USP)** - I am glad we had a QSO, albeit on two bands only. I find the propagation even more frustrating than at other parts of the world. It seems to me that HAM-s at the east  south-east side of US enjoy better CONDX than people at central or central-north area. As for contesting, my opinion depends on mood , which is greatly affected by CONDX. I find it disappointing when you pound the brass and get no result. I like contesting when I have a reasonable chance of getting an acceptable result. The chances are much greater with a good antenna, amp and propagation. The latter two is missing and the CONDX is mostly not good here.

**K5DU** - The high point of the BWQP was all the folks who took the time to say "Welcome to the FOC club" and "Congratulations on becoming a member." Almost everyone gave me a personal note. Some remarked on working the whole family. Some took the time to chat.

**K2QMF** - Nice to have the BWQP while we are sequestered at home!  Great to work so many members! Sorry I missed our own Mort!!  My New Amp worked well.

**WB2YQH** - It was the usual challenging conditions as expected, but a good time.  Nice to see the newest members dive right in.  Here it was the first extended use of my new IC-7610.  It played like a well tuned violin. It's one very well designed radio.

**IK0YVV** - It has been a great BW QP this year. Spent 16 hours on the air. Conditions has been good on 20 and 80 while ... while 40m has been quite poor here despite some good opens to the west coast . Nice surprise find 15m open, but most of the guys were on 20m .

**N4AF** - Another great BW. Tragedy of CVD19 had upside of very high activity.

**G0ORH** - Nice activity, not worked this many non-members ever!

Plenty of activity to keep everyone happy....except the usual anti brigade!

A mix of chatting to old friends, welcoming our new members to FOC family, and running. Leave BWQP alone... please, it's ok as it is.

**K3WW** - 15 was pretty tough going most of the time, 10 just locals for me.

The other bands seemed to all have fairly good openings.  Lots of FOC members worked, including the newest.

**ON4IZ** - My activity was low this time.

**IK0YGJ** - Took some time to talk with friends, eventually switching to QRQ. It was a great fun, but this time I found extremely tiring sitting in front of the radio, during the third week of isolation it proved me, to be honest. However, the fun was great, appreciated a lot the “STAY SAFE”, in my heart this will be the motto of this edition.

**G0EFO** - The QSO total, all S & P,  was almost equally divided between  20, 40 and 80m, with 1 QSO each on 10 and 15m, and 2 on 160m.  5 hours QRV, scratching around mostly on noisy bands!  Lots of encouraging messages at this difficult time.

**DJ1YFK** - Being confined to home does not automatically mean there's unlimited time to play on the radio, because it also means that I have to keep my dear wife entertained  :-) As for the criticism by Georg, DK7LX, I have a split opinion. Yes, the BWQP has turned into something that was not intended originally. But then again, for a little pistol like me, this event (like the Marathon) is one of the rare opportunities to work some members who are not QRV at all outside these events, or don't particularly care for working Europe. I admit that chasing Windles and even Augies is a high priority for me. I am QRV every day for "rag chew" QSOs, so I am fine with the way the BW QSO Party evolved. I understand there are completely valid counterpoints.

**SM6CUK** - Always nice with the QSO-Party. 10 and 15 meters totally dead here.

**G4BWP** - Nice day here as the WX was cold and windy and a wonderful 19 Augies.

**F6HKA** - Conditions were not too bad.

**G4DJX** - Limited BW entry from me due to work commitments.

**M3X (M0IHT**) - As usual contesting time restricted by plenty of other unavoidable obligations.

**DL6KVA** - Had a lot of fun especially with condx on 20m although the west coast opening didn't last long enough :)

**N6XI** - Remote operation of mountain station (Truckee, CA) from Silicon Valley (Saratoga, CA)

**K4BAI** - Had some QSOs on each of the six bands.  I had a six bander with K5KG

who is in Florida several hundred miles south of us.  15M was very disappointing, but did open to South America and the Pacific Sunday afternoon. At the same time, backscatter QSOs were possible on 15 and on 10M with other east coast USA stations.  Many probably missed this opening. Thanks to K5KG who moved me and others to the high bands when they were open.  Worked at least one station in every Continent except South America.  I did hear PR7PO just as the contest started on 20M,

but don't know if he made any QSOs in the BWQP.  Thanks for all QSOs. Put in about 14 hours and 17 minutes.

**W4YE** - Lots of fun and several "rag chews" with members. No QSO's on 10 this year.

**LB2TB** - Spent about 2 hours only. Condx were quite good. Seems like more and more of the members sees the BW as just another contest, using only the keyboard/F-keys. Luckily, I had a few decent QSOs.

**W1RM** - Nice to see such a great turnout. Managed 9 hours of fun.

**K2NV** - Results of 8 1/2 hours. Great fun & nice to see so much activity! Many Non-Members participating too.

**G0PNM** - Only 6 hrs on the key today.

**FG8NY** - I had a lot of fun participating and meeting up with friends whom I did not have the opportunity to contact during my stay in mainland France.

**VK2BJ** - I got up a little late this morning and switched on the rig on 80m to find G3XTT exactly on my switch on frequency, After working Don, I found that there had obviously been a good opening to Europe and I managed another 5 EU QSOs before the band faded out. My contacts were a mix of 599 type and chats of a few words or even sentences. I was also pleased to work some of our newest members. I see that there are complaints that there were too many non-members calling so that it was difficult to work members. I am a little mystified by that complaint as the BWQP is open to all comers with the intention of attracting participation by non-members. I enjoyed it and have no complaints other than conditions.

**G0IBN** - Lovely blue clear sky on the east coast of the UK, wife is already on the sun-bed !! We have already been for permitted daily exercise for an hour, these are really difficult times as we cannot hug our grandchildren.

**W4TJE** - Here, just paper logging and doing my best to try to engage for 2 or 3 exchanges. More contest style on 20 and 40, but 80 and 15 were more relaxed, which fits my operating style better.15m was open -qso's to N America, S America, Europe, Africa (tnx to 9J2B0), and ZL and VK on 15m.

**OK1RR** - Single band only (80 m), HF antenna down.

**G4HMC** - A minuscule number with time available, limited power and a doublet, but good fun as always. Twelve of those contacts were with the US on 20m.

**G3ZYV** - With only a single Doublet antenna and manual matching for each individual band takes a minute or two to change, consequently missed a couple of stations on 15M KF3B For one but managed  a couple of others I heard briefly. Plenty of adverse comments from stations whining about the EU 599'ers spoiling their QSO's . Several were heard to say they were closing because of the racket. I don't know the answer but from comments I have seen (post activity) from members maybe the committee can provide a solution. We do not need to Refrain from Honouring Our past mentor Bill Windle.

**G4ILW** - Very limited time on bands but enjoyable.

**K4XU** - I worked 8.5 hours and mode zero contacts on 15 and 10m. I called CQ there several times and never even got a report from the RBN.