

RENO QRO SLOW SPEED CW NETANNUAL REPORT

2020 has been a very different year for us all, amongst other things the COVID has required canceling our monthly Reno QRP Group meetings.

The good news is that the members of the Reno QRP Group could still meet on the air. The Slow Speed CW NET started with these objectives.

1. Get OP's on the air using CW.
2. Install confidence in OP's that were rusty or never operated CW, the NET would be a safe place to begin.
3. Encourage OP's to operate in the field using low power, by doing this a person could provide emergency communication if the grid was down. Also they may find it a lot of fun setting up a station and operating in the field.

The NET was started June 14, 2018 after the devastating hurricane hit and wiped out communications on Port Rico.

We get too comfortable thinking that the grid won't go down here. Just to remind you Christmas day in Nashville TN. A bomb exploded outside the AT&T building causing Internet, CELL, TV service outage, that can happen here as well. I want to encourage OP's to get out in the field, even if it is only on your patio and set up a station.

As NET Controller I have been operating from my home, until March 11, 2020 I began to operate in Hidden Valley Park maybe 400 ft above Reno.

I find getting out on a nice day and operating CW is very enjoyable. Operating in the field draws attention and usually I have some questions to answer, this is a great way to promote HAM radio. Another thing the noise floor is only S2 to S3 much easier for me to copy signals that I can't at home.

Beginning this year the first session was held on January second, there were a total of 27 sessions, I operated in the field 19 times. Below is the list of OP's that have checked in.

Rob KA6JLT Operated from home with indoor antenna for a total of 19 QNI.
Mike WA6ARA Operated from home 14 times and 3 times from his cabin in Kennedy Meadows. A total of 17 QNI.

Greg WA7IRW Operated form home 13 times also he operated 2 times from Whitaker Park and once from Lake Park Once a total of 16 QNI.

Phil AB7WE Phil checked in from home a total of 14 QNI.

Van W7IEX Checked in form home 9 times and operated one time from Galena Park, once form Mogal Park Once, from his patio and another time from his driveway a total of 13 QNI.

Woody K1LB operated 6 times from home 3 times from Steamboat Hill 2 times from Peavine Mt. and 2 times from Huffaker Hill trail a total of 13 QNI.

Gordon WB6JAD Checked in from home a total of 6 QNI. Fred K7FME Checked in from home a total of 5 QNI.

Don AA6W Operated from home with a total of 4 QNI. Rick WB0USI Operated from home a total of 1 QNI.

Roy W7HJL Operated from home a total of 1 QNI. Terry WB6N Operated from home a total of 1 QNI. Ken K7KM Checked in but did not report.

Joe KB7UMO also checked in but no report.

Most QNI's were form the Reno and Sparks area. We also have had QNI's from Donnelly ID. Ridgecrest CA. San Juan Bautista CA. Wala Wala WA. Kennedy Meadows CA. Mesquite NV. Cedar City UT. Roseburg OR.

All and all 2020 was a good year for the NET except for the loss of two of our beloved friends, club members, and NET participants. Gordon WB7JAD and Fred K7FME have become SK's I miss their friendly personalities and their fist.

Thanks to all who have QNI on the NET, I am looking forward to next NET session.

73/72 Ed/WD7Y

Attached are two photos.

One of Greg WA7IRW at Whitaker Park using his 20 meter vertical dipole.

The other is my set up in Hidden Valley using the EFHW.



