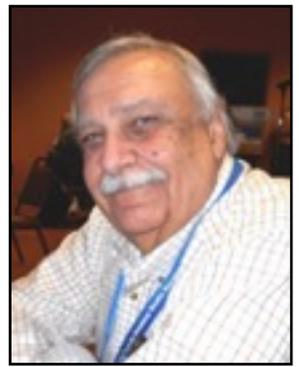


Freeze Your Acorns Off 2026 Results

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On Saturday, Feb. 21, we held our 21st Annual QRP Event – Freeze Your Acorns Off at the Roy Smith Shelter House in Kent. The turnout was very good with about 30 attendees and 7 stations set up either out in the cold or in the shelter house itself.

Before we get the main event, I want to list the winners of the Best Recipe Cookoff Contest that we have as part of our day's activities.

We had a 3 way tie for First Place, but I really need to say that all of the offerings were so good, that we could have a 6 way tie for First. I usually have only 3 judges so that we don't have ties. This time I reached out for 4 judges and that's where we ended up with ties for two spots – First and Third.

1st Place – Pozole – Gene W8NET

For those who don't know what this is, Pozole is a traditional, hearty Mexican soup or stew made from hominy (treated corn kernels) and meat, typically pork or chicken, seasoned with chiles and spices.

1st Place – Sloppy Joe – W8NP

(N3JJT, N8IVJ, KE8IDH, KD8ENV, KF8CKY, W8CRO) Frankly, I never knew which individual made the Sloppy Joe, but it was a great hit.

1st Place – Corn Bread Muffins – Bob KD8CGH

This is where things got interesting. These muffins were so good and so sweet, that Bob, N8QE and I took muffins and then poured the Sloppy Joe on top. FANTASTIC!!

2nd Place – Ham & Bean Soup – Ken KD8OBA

3rd Place – Perogies – Agnes AD8IR

3rd Place – Scalloped Potatoes – Kyle W7KFR

If this were being graded on sheer effort, Kyle would have the First Place position. He brought all the ingredients and prepared the dish at the site. Washed and peeled the potatoes. Made the sauce. Used a cast iron Dutch Oven outside on hot coals to cook the dish and it was very, very good.



And now the main event. Who won the QRP Event.

1st Place – 7870 Pts – Bob N8QE

2nd Place – 5296 Pts – Agnes AD8IR & Ben AD8FQ

3rd Place – 2622 Pts – Ken KD8OBA

4th Place – 2020 Pts – W8NP Massillon Amateur Radio Club

(N3JJT, N8IVJ, KE8IDH, KD8ENV, KF8CKY, W8CRO)

5th Place – 464 Pts – Bob KD8CGH

6th Place – 127 Pts – Joe KF8ADQ

7th Place – 111 Pts – Mark W8GU

Congratulations to all who set up stations and made the effort to make as many contacts as they could. Certificates will be presented for both contests at the next PCARS meeting. If not present, they will be mailed to the participants.

The 2026 FYAO is now in the books. From the comments, everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year's event.

I want to thank all those who came out to support their fellow Amateur operators. I also want to thank all those who braved the WX to set up stations out in the cold. And I don't want to forget all the great cooks who offered up the delicious meals we were able to enjoy.

Until next February, stay warm.

Chuck W8PT



