

Results, 1986 June VHF QSO Party

"This was my first VHF contest in 5 years. The activity is more now than ever before."—NB2T

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Contest Manager, ARRL HQ Assistant Contest Manager, ARRL HQ

"June is Busting Out All Over" was the title of a popular show tune during the era of "Gooneyboxes" and "Lunchboxes." This June, it should have been named "Six Meters is Busting Out All Over," in this year's version of the annual ARRL VHF summer shoot-out.

These selected comments tell the 6-meter story from all compass directions: "Six meters was absolutely wild! Love it!"—WB4NNY. "Six meters opened up and we got our best score from our mountaintop,"—N2WM. "Like old home week on 6,"—NW5E. "Conditions on 6 meters were simply great. My biggest surprise was to receive a reply to my CQ from OX3LX!"—W3EP/4. "The contest came to life on Sunday when 6 meters opened up to all call areas except 6 and 7. Best DX was W6JKV/J8 and N4HSM/J8 in St. Vincent."—W0ETT/7.

The Far West did not fare as well, as indicated by the N0KV/6 group operating from central California's renowned Mt Pinos: "Unfortunately, we weren't favored with very good 6-meter Es, as were many areas of the country." Sometimes poor conditions are man-made, however, as WB6WLE discovered: "I was sure wondering what happened to six, figuring the band can't be *that* dead, until we found the coax was not hooked up to the antenna on Sunday morning!"

The intense 6-meter activity brought about call for reform on the bottom end: "US stations covered up Caribbean DX by utilizing 50.110... there has got to be a better way."—KA3B op at AC3T. "50.1 to 50.110 should be limited during a contest for DX Watch."—WB4NMA. "With YV, XE and OX3 near 50.110, certain multi-op stations refused to QSY because they could not hear the DX stations. Please, keep the DX window open and spread activity higher in the band."—WA1OUB. Do we need a rules change?

That June is a 6-meter contest has been a long-standing axiom for VHF enthusiasts. That is not to say that the higher frequencies go neglected. The many mountaintop multiops typically dedicate a full-time operator on each band through 1296 MHz, some with capability all the way from smoke signals to light. Your serious single op knows he cannot neglect any band without serious degradation of score. Add in your single-banders, and you have quite a menu of signals to work on the band of your choice. Further, the activity hours are a big boon to concentrating the ether glow on bands like 220 and 1296 MHz.

The West Coast had some real 2-meter excitement. KH6HME, operating from the slopes of Mauna Loa, appeared in nine lucky California station logs.

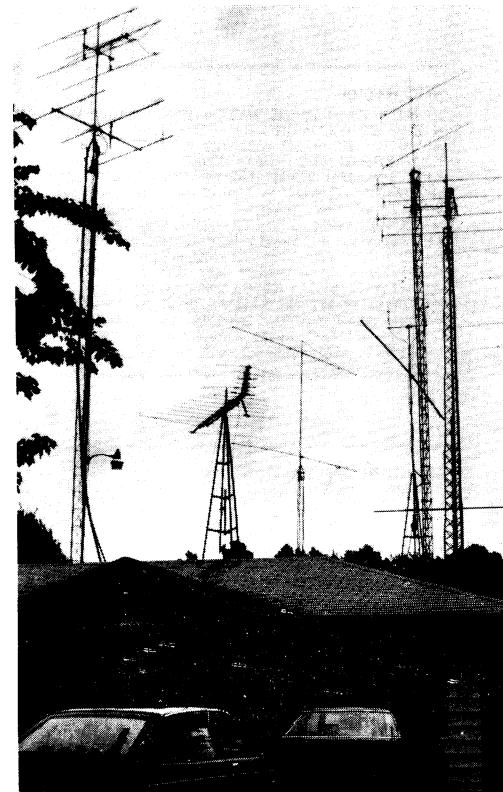
Division Leaders

Single Operator Call	Score	Division	Multioperator Call	Score
K2SMN	151,704	Atlantic	K3YTL	609,637
VE3ASO	64,125	Canadian	VE3LNX	152,862
WB9MSV	74,725	Central	K9HMB	394,689
W0XG	46,110	Dakota	KC0P	86,366
K5UR	113,022	Delta	N5DL	118,320
W8ULC	43,920	Great Lakes	WD8ISK	326,239
K2CBA	107,706	Hudson	W1XX/2	326,400
N0LL	102,060	Midwest	WB0DRL	328,520
W1VD	367,443	New England	W2SZ/1	750,046
W7HAH	24,080	Northwestern	K7ND	28,336
W6RXQ	16,218	Pacific	N6AMG	100,806
W3IY/4	145,754	Roanoke	W3CCX/8	415,200
KA0NNO	88,023	Rocky Mountain	W0KEA	101,568
W5HUQ	59,724	Southeastern	WA4NJP	122,584
K4CKS	41,595	Southwestern	N0KV/6	145,680
KE5EP	84,656	West Gulf	K5CM	294,640

Top Ten

Single Operator Call	Score	Multioperator	Score
W1VD	367,443	W2SZ/1	750,046
WA1STO	153,642	K3YTL	609,637
K2SMN	151,704	W1TKZ	415,384
KB3QM	151,495	W3CCX/8	415,200
W3IY/4	145,754	K9HMB	394,689
AA2Z	128,535	AB4L	340,316
WA2OMY	122,244	WB0DRL	328,520
W9IP/2	113,661	W1XX/2	326,400
K5UR	113,022	WD8ISK	326,239
K2CBA	107,706	W8VP	307,835

The QRP portable category, now official for the September contest, attracted more than passing interest: "This was our first attempt at hilltopping and the first attempt by any group from this part of southeast Alabama. Our 10-watt station was plenty competitive and we surely did enjoy ourselves."—AA4LE. "No one ever told me I could have a 20-over-9 signal while running less than 10 watts! Next time I'll be on the tallest hill on the island (312') with 10 watts."—KB1QL, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts. "I ran a 2-meter transceiver and amp off a battery on a hilltop just north of my home QTH. In one hour, I heard more grid squares than I had heard in the past year. Will be back in September."—KC2KK. Meanwhile, KA2IVS makes this observant comparison of mountaintopping to the comforts of operating from the home QTH, as he did: "Love to hear the inquiries from mountaintoppers sweating in tents above the background noise of the 5000-BTU air conditioner in my shack. Ah, the



WD8ISK, dubbed "Radio Free Mainville" by his neighbors, placed number 9 in the multiop category.

Top Single Band Scores

50 MHz	144 MHz	220 MHz	432 MHz	902 MHz	1296 MHz
KA0NNO 88,023	K2TXB 27,775	W1VD 3,348	K1FO 17,600	W1JR 210	K2SMN 3,021
W1VD 74,382	W1VD 17,415	N2EOC 2,546	W1VD 8,432	AA2Z 180	K8WW 2,520
N0LL 60,160	K1RZ 17,108	WB2IEY 2,208	K2SMN 5,880	W1QXX 162	W2VC 2,160
N2CEI 59,345	K4MSK 16,491	KB3QM 2,100	NI8O 5,148	WA1JOF 84	W1RIL 1,617
WA1OUB 53,768	K2SMN 15,532	K2GK 1,722	W3IY/4 4,524	WB1FKF 54	WA1JOF 1,548
W0ETT/7 48,552	WB2QOQ 15,000	K4LHB 1,560	K8WW 4,410	W1RIL 54	K2TXB 1,521
W0OZL 44,980	WA1VTA 14,615	WA2OMY 1,520	WA2OMY 3,796	W3HQT/1 45	NI8O 1,296
WA7KYM 40,176	K2GAL 14,194	AA2Z 1,496	W2VC 3,650	WB5RFH 18	W3IY/4 1,218
KA0CSI 39,396	AA4KP 14,160	W3IY/4 1,404	K9WZB 3,584	NR6E/6 18	W1VD 1,152
WB4NMA 39,100	AF9Y 13,860	K1PXE 1,368	K2BJG 3,486	NR6E/6 3	WA2OMY 825
*K5CM 103,558	*W2SZ/1 35,250	*K3YTL 9,916	*W2SZ/1 18,312	(CN90) 3	*K3YTL 4,071
*WB0DRL 93,972	*AB4L 32,175	*W2SZ/1 7,688	*W3CX/8 17,150	*K3YTL 798	*W2SZ/1 3,477
*K5JL 88,688	*K3YTL 29,736	*N0KV/6 7,410	*W1TKZ 11,340	*WA7JTM 162	*W3CX/8 3,036
*denotes multioperator station					

Multiplier Leaders—Single Operator

50 MHz	144 MHz	220 MHz	432 MHz	902 MHz	1296 MHz
KA0NNO 183	N3EAX 84	W1VD 27	K1FO 44	W1JR 7	K8WW 24
W1VD 161	K4MSK 69	WB2IEY 24	K8WW 35	AA2Z 6	K2SMN 19
N0LL 160	AF9Y 63	K2GK 21	W1VD 34	W1QXX 6	NI8O 18
KA0CSI 147	PE1AHX/W4 60	W9IP/2 21	K5UR 34	WA1JOF 4	W2VC 16
KE5EP 144	K2TXB 55	VE3ASO 21	NI8O 33	WB1FKF 3	W3IY/4 14
N2CEI 143	K1RZ 52	KB3QM 21	W3IY/4 29	W3HQT/1 3	K2TXB 13
WA1OUB 143	K4CKS 52	WA2OMY 20	K2SMN 28	W1RIL 3	W1VD 12
W9IP/2 139	VE3DDW 52	K4LHB 20	K9WZB 28	K9MK/5 2	WA1JOF 12
W0ETT/7 136	K3LNZ/8 52	N2EOC 19	W0RAP 27	WB5RFH 2	K1RZ 12
W0XG 131	VE3FGU 49	K1PXE 19	K5YY 26	WA5VJB 1	WA2OMY 11
W0OZL 130	AA4FQ 49	W3IY/4 18	WA2OMY 26	NR6E/6	W1RIL 11
	K5UR 48	K2SMN 18	WB4NXY 25	(CM88) 1	K6CH 11
	AA4KP 48	WB3LJK 18	WB3LJK 25	NR6E/6	W3IP 11
	K2GAL 47	K2CBA 18	W2VC 25	(CM97) 1	K4QIF 9
	WB9MSV 46	AA2Z 17	WA4HHG 25	NR6E/6	AA2Z 9
		KB8ZW 16	WB9MSV 24	(CM87) 1	K1PXE 9
		WB2YEH 15	VE3ASO 24	NR6E/6	W3WFM 9
		AC3T 15	WD9IIIX 24	(CN90) 1	KE5EP 9
		W2EIF 15	W0VD 24	NR6E/6	K6UQH 9
		W3IP 15	KB3QM 24	(CM98) 1	WB2YEH 8
		N2BFJ 15		NR6E/6	
		WA1STO 14		(CM89) 1	
		WA3DJG 14		NR6E/6	
				(CM99) 1	
				VE3ASO 1	

Multiplier Leaders—Multiop

50 MHz	144 MHz	220 MHz	432 MHz	902 MHz	1296 MHz
WB0DRL 191	W8VP 82	W8VP 38	W8VP 50	K3YTL 14	K3YTL 23
K5JL 184	WB0DRL 79	K3YTL 37	AA9D 49	N6AMG 7	W3CXX/8 22
K5CM 182	AB4L 75	W3CXX/8 34	W3CXX/8 49	WA7JTM 6	W3KWH 20
K9HMB 173	WD8ISK 74	W2SZ/1 31	AB4L 45	W1TKZ 6	W2SZ/1 19
W9UD 170	W2DRZ 73	WD8ISK 29	K5JL 45	K1WHS 5	WB0DRL 17
WD8ISK 163	K9HMB 71	W1TKZ 27	W2SZ/1 42	W1XX/2 4	W1TKZ 15
W0UC/9 161	N8DKL 67	AF2K 26	W3KWH 41	VE3LNX 3	N0KV/6 15
WB0ZKG 161	W9UD 64	VE3LNX 26	K9HMB 41	W3CXX/8 3	N6AMG 15
AA9D 157	W3CXX/8 60	K9HMB 25	W9UD 40	K1DS 2	WB8BKC 15
W0KEA 155	AA9D 60	W3KWH 25	WB0DRL 38	K9HMB 2	W8VP 14
W2SZ/1 154	K3YTL 59	KF6AJ 22	K3YTL 38	W2RCX 2	K9HMB 13
		W1XX/2 22	W1TKZ 35	WD8ISK 1	K2BWR 12
		AB4L 21	VE3LNX 35		WD8ISK 12
		W9UD 21	WB8BKC 31		AA9D 11
			W2DRZ 30		K5JL 11
			WD8ISK 30		W1XX/2 11

joys of operating from the home QTH with steady line voltage, a stocked fridge, and indoor plumbing. The cost? Only 20 grid squares, thanks to the 'XYL building code' that keeps the beam up only 30 feet." Who wants to get him first, guys? W3CCX/8, K2AA, et al, line forms to the rear.

With 902 gaining in popularity, the W2SZ gang could have used a tape loop to indicate "no 902" to the many inquiries. The "Yellow Traffic Light," K3YTL, was loaded for bear on this band however, with 19 QSOs in 14 (count 'em!) squares. Nice going! Everyone at the KIDS station "got a charge out of the 902 rig, a true breadboard with a clip lead as keyer, and manual coax changeover to boot."

In our regular "rare square" feature, we had several qualified entrants, so these three are the rarest of the rare: "I tried something different and operated from 10 different grid squares on six bands from Oregon to central California. Climate varied from snow and ice on mountaintops to 90 degree heat in the valley. Highlight was a 1296 contact from Oregon to San Francisco Bay area. "Lowlight" was a rattlesnake that added new meaning to the term QRT."—NR6E. "Sixteen states from a 30-foot boat on VHF from FM39. Please let everyone know that there are three squares in water which are three miles or less off the East Coast."—WA2GEZ/MM. "As far as we know, DM16 has never been put on the air.

Through the cooperation of the National Park Service at Death Valley, KF6NX operated from Dantes View at an elevation of 5700 feet above the valley floor which is 280 feet *below* sea level. Many amateurs in southern and northern California were happy with the results"—KF6NX.

In the regulations department, Rule 7I (no telephones) took a beating. All your comments have been bundled up in a crate and forwarded to the Contest Advisory Committee. Incidentally, some misread the rule, thinking that schedules before the contest were *verboten*. Not so. It's your contest, so let the CAC know how you feel. A single copy to the CAC via HQ will be forwarded to all members of the Committee.

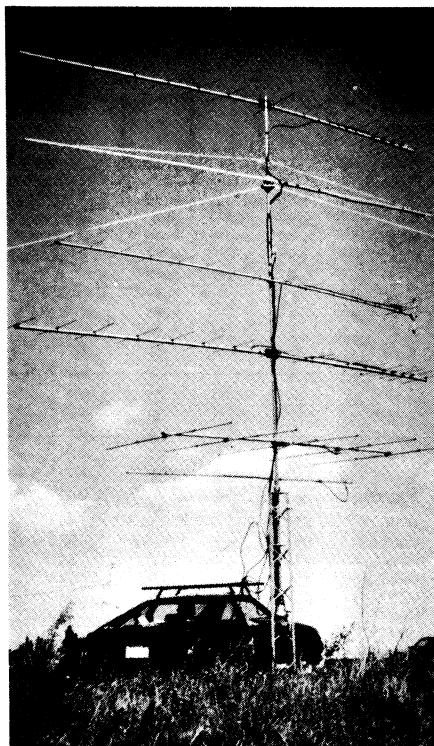
Space does not permit recounting all the neat experiences that you all had in this year's June VHF QSO Party. Competition is regional and section-wide, so that story is told best by the scores and boxes which follow.

The fun and games start all over again in the September Party, set for the 13th-15th. Before which, please find a solution for NJ0X who "needs some suggestions on how to get my wife and family to speak to me again after these contests."

Special thanks to the extra effort of Mark R. Burke, KAIMIS, for his work in the preparation of this report.—WIXX

SOAPBOX

We had to have one person man a sledge hammer and a portable radio to track down line noise (WD8ISK). The amp popped, the six-meter beam wouldn't turn all the way, the generator died for an hour on Saturday and the beer ran out too soon, otherwise things were fine (K1WHS). Never have we experienced mobile VHF operations as enjoyable as on this weekend (ND2X). VHF quite a diversion from chasing "rare DX" on 20/40 meters (KA0GGI). I worked enough grids in two days to qualify for VUCC (WB2DNE). A real barnburner, signals from all directions (K8TGC). Stations should spread out and use these spacious bands (KC2MI). Packet rekindled my interest in ham radio (WA1OBI). Hours of monitoring and CQs pulled little out of the air. Strange? (KB1WR). One can get a complex yelling to the backs of the beams that are pointed west looking for that rare grid square (WA1VCU). Sure wish more stations in Kilowatt Alley would point their antennas this way. Believe it or not there is life in FN55! (N1BUG). Hi Murphy, nice to see you take out three coax relays



The FN15 QTH used by VE3ASO netted him top score in the competitive Ontario Section.

and two front ends on 220! (K1DS). Two-meter activity took a backburner, as I knew that 6 meters would be the equalizing force (WB2ELB). This was more fun than chasing DX on 20! (NR2E). Poor propagation prevailed on two meters this year, that tropo opening just never happened (AA4FQ). I couldn't find many stations on two meters and up because they were all on six (W4ODW). It's good the contest was on Father's Day or my wife would have killed me! (AA4FL). All the band openings seem to occur while I'm taking a break (KB4GBS). Conditions on 144 were rotten for most of the contest. Next year please arrange to have a wild E opening on two! (K5MAT). We are just back on six meters after almost 35 years and the same fine operators are on as before. Gentlemen, all of them! (W5OZI). From now on out I'll only operate two meters as I can't operate six living 90 miles from channel 2 (KS6A). Six meters dead, next time I'll use 144 and 432 (KB6QC). Sure thought a contest would bring out all sorts of people on 220. Just the opposite (K6BPC). One of the worst contests I've been in for six-meter propagation. Too bad since we were in a rare grid square: DN05 (N7DB). Location is all important! (N7CWU). Saturday I thought six would never open, Sunday I thought it would never close! I wish two was better (WA7KYM). Good grief, am I bushed! What a contest!! (KB8JI). What took 12 hours on Saturday to set up, check out and debug took only 2 hours to remove. Including the temporary 30-foot tower. (WB8KAY). Biggest thrill of the contest was breaking the pile up to J8 and WP4 on six with 10 watts on CW. My hat is off to those ops! (KA9LDS). Couldn't think of a better way to spend Father's Day weekend—participating in my favorite hobby (N9EOM). My first VHF contest in five years. Enjoyed operating from a picnic table at 9000 feet (KD8SU). N8FCV was watching "60 Minutes" when a Canadian TV station overwhelmed our local CBS affiliate. We decided to check out two meters and stumbled onto the contest (KA0UBF).

Scores

Scores are listed by ARRL Section. Within each Section, single-operator scores are listed first, followed by multioperator scores. From left to right, each line score lists: call, score, QSOs, multipliers, bands operated (A—50 MHz; B—144 MHz; C—220 MHz; D—432 MHz; 9—902 MHz; E—1296 MHz; F—2.3 GHz; G—3.4 GHz; H—5.7 GHz; I—10 GHz; J—24 GHz; K—48 GHz; L—light). Among the single-operator stations, the single-band winner is indicated by boldface type for the letter(s) denoting the band won. For example, in Connecticut, W1VD is the single-operator Section award winner, and he also had the highest scores on 50 MHz, 144 MHz, 220 MHz, and 1296 MHz. K1FO had the highest score on 432 MHz, while AA2Z had the highest score on 902 MHz. KF6AJ is the highest-scoring Connecticut multiop. *Denotes QRP portable entry.

W	WA1VCU	3,498- 132- 22-BD	WA1ZQJ	1,072- 67- 16-B	KC2KK (+ KW2D)	
1	WA1STO	3,375- 75- 45-A	WA1TBV	704- 32- 22-A	384- 24- 16-B	
Connecticut	W1JOT	1,776- 70- 16-B-CDE	W1TKZ (W1GCI,ND1Z,G3VWH,N2BJ, W1BBM,W2a TIF,TEO,N1CPE, K1TK,ops)	415,384-1189-274-ABCD9E1	NYC & Long Island	
W1VD	367,443-1067-279-ABCDE	W1XNM (N1s CPK,DAM,DFM,DMM,DPU, W1GSL,N0GSZ,ops)	W1RIL	42,496- 436- 64-BCD9E	N2BFJ 66,555- 383-135-ABCD	
WA1STO	153,642- 752-174-ABCDE	W1HNZ	276- 39- 7-B	WB2CMI 32,340- 291- 98-ABD		
A2AZ	128,535- 583-185-ABC9E	W1XW (N1s CPK,DAM,DFM,DMM,DPU, W1GSL,N0GSZ,ops)	K1ISW	22,287- 264- 69-ABCD	K2JL 13,288- 233- 44-BD	
K1PXE	54,035- 347-107-ABCDE	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B	WA2SLY 9,894- 194- 51-AB		
AB1U	37,558- 286- 59-ABCFDE	W1PLX	700- 50- 14-B	N8ZT 6,075- 225- 27-B		
KA1AXB	37,080- 329- 90-ABCFDE	WA1TR	16,808- 174- 88-ABCD	K2CVS 6,000- 100- 50-ABD		
W1GRW	25,714- 228- 66-ABCDFE	K1TOL	34,320- 286-120-A	KA2VKD 5,282- 139- 38-AB		
W1VRH	21,238- 258- 82-AB	WA1VTA	14,615- 395- 37-B	WB2ALW 504- 29- 14-ABCD		
K1FO	17,600- 200- 44-D	K1RSA	8,775- 135- 65-AB	WA2EUS 150- 10- 5-E		
NE1A	8,694- 207- 42-AB	W1PLX	700- 50- 14-B			
W1WHL	5,676- 129- 44-A	WA1YXL	480- 60- 8-B			
WA1GTP	5,488- 112- 49-AB	N1BUG	440- 40- 11-B			
W1AW (KJ4KB,ops)	4,992- 98- 52-A	K1WHS (+ K1MNS,AF1T,WA1s NIE, OAQ, KA1LMR)	165,796- 729-181-ABCD9E1			
K1OQG	885- 58- 15-B	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
WA1OBI	208- 26- 8-B	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
KB1WR	45- 15- 3-B	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
KA1KJU	24- 6- 4-B	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
KF6AJ (+ W1OK,WA1WVX,K1EFI, N1ABY,KA1ECL,WB1CWV)	150,388- 747-184-ABCFDE	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
K1GX (+ WA1NLD)	28,080- 278- 90-ABCFDE	W1HZN	276- 39- 7-B			
WA1KGR (KA1AHR,KA1MDA,KB1TH, KB1XD,N3BAO,N1EAU,ops)	18,480- 314- 55-ABCD	VE3BFM/W1	490- 27- 14-ABE			
Eastern Massachusetts		N1DNC	306- 31- 9-BD			
W1QXX	59,024- 409-112-ABCD9EF	KA1YQ (+ K1IO,N1s DJB,DVC,CGF,KA1KN, WA1HQ,VE3BFM)	KA1YQ	103,666- 717-158-ABCDEFJ	Eastern New York	
K1KG	49,028- 371-119-ABCFDE	WA1YQ	30,184- 305- 88-ABD	K2CB (WB2DNE,ops)		
WA4PFN/I	48,204- 403-103-ABCD	KA1BLF (+ KA1M PPT,MTM,MXH,N1BAC, WA1YZN,WB8BTH)	WA1YQ	107,708- 545-174-ABCDFE	WA2ZPK 16,478- 214- 77-AB	
WA1JOF	43,320- 287- 95-ABCD9E	KA1BLF (+ KA1M PPT,MTM,MXH,N1BAC, WA1YZN,WB8BTH)	WA2BAH	12,768- 156- 76-ABCD	WA2BAH 12,768- 156- 76-ABCD	
W1JR	27,200- 192- 85-ABCD9EF	30,184- 305- 88-ABD	N2FB	4,316- 83- 52-A	N2FB 4,316- 83- 52-A	
KA1DHO	21,780- 220- 85-ABCFDE	KA1YQ	130,666- 717-158-ABCDEFJ	KA3NQD	2,170- 62- 35-A	KA3NQD 2,170- 62- 35-A
K1SRZ	20,922- 255- 66-ABCD	WA1YQ	30,184- 305- 88-ABD	KD2IX	1,740- 116- 15-B	KD2IX 1,740- 116- 15-B
W1GXT	19,951- 197- 71-ABCFDE	KA1YQ	130,666- 717-158-ABCDEFJ	KA2JUV	1,722- 82- 21-B	KA2JUV 1,722- 82- 21-B
WB1FKF	19,389- 173- 69-ABCD9EF	WA1YQ	30,184- 305- 88-ABD	KG2H	1,216- 84- 19-B	KG2H 1,216- 84- 19-B
K1DAT	19,125- 225- 85-AB	KA1KWE,KA1KIL,WA1TAQ,W1EYH,N1BBM)	W2KHQ	1,104- 69- 16-B	W2KHQ 1,104- 69- 16-B	
K1TQ	16,692- 179- 78-ABCD	86,043- 533-129-ABCD9E1	KA2Q	830- 40- 14-BD	WA2RUW 552- 23- 12-C	
KA1SU	14,552- 204- 68-ABD	W1YQ	86,043- 533-129-ABCD9E1	WA2RUW 552- 23- 12-C		
K5MAV	10,848- 339- 32-B	W1AIM	19,260- 195- 90-ABCD	W1XXV/2 (+ KB9WNN,W1OD)	WA2RUW 552- 23- 12-C	
K1VZI	9,548- 139- 44-ABCFDE	WB1GQR	11,760- 200- 49-ABD	326,400-1058-256-ABCD9E	AB2I (+ WB2DVV)	
WA1AYS	6,604- 127- 52-AB	K1IK	8,260- 140- 59-AB	540- 45- 12-B	K2JF 1,611- 118- 25-BCD	
WA1NQV	5,472- 98- 57-A	KB7IX	1,800- 90- 20-B			
W1YN	4,669- 113- 28-BD					

