# September 2001 VHF QSO Party Results 

## "The best tropo conditions for a September contest since about 1985!"-K1WHS

Going into every VHF contest, experienced operators wonder "Will this be the year?" Every so often, the contest weekend coincides with a great propagation event-aurora, spo-radic-E or tropo-and lucky souls in some part of the country get to work some terrific DX or new grids. For those operating from the northeastern US during the September 8-9 contest weekend, this was "the year" for extended tropo openings through the microwave bands. A quick scan of the boxes reveals some truly stunning scores and QSO/grid totals from entrants in all categories. Just to make things interesting, several West Coast stations reported contacts with KH6HME via the transpacific duct.

The comments included among the 553 logs received, representing over 850 participants, seemed to indicate a fun event even in the areas not blessed by this year's tropo openings. Individual challenges were met; first time contesters got their feet wet; old timers commented on how good it is to see "old friends" on the bands every year; and some folks tried new bands or modes, including the new WSJT meteor scatter mode. (See December 2001 QST and the Digital Dimension column in this issue for more information about WSJT. It offers a great way to increase your multiplier totals, particu-
larly during the slow overnight periods.)
The biggest contest scores come from those all-band beacons in the Multioperator Unlimited category. W2SZ (the RPI Radio Club), operating from Mt. Greylock in northwestern Massachusetts, has been entering this category for a long time, and they usually win. They won this year-no big surprise. The surprise is that they ended up with just over 3.2 megapoints- 3478 QSOs and 517 grids. That's 1.3 million points, 812 QSOs and 134 grids better than the category record they set just last year! This is the first time any station has scored more than 3 million points in any ARRL VHF contest.

Right on the heels of W 2 SZ is peren-

## Affiliated Club Competition

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                                    Score Entries
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## Medium Category

| Potomac Valley Radio Club | $4,290.914$ | 21 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| North East Weak Signal Group | $3,770,248$ | 18 |
| Northern Lights Radio Society | 457,337 | 27 |
| Mt Airy VHF Radio Club | 416,010 | 12 |
| South Jersey Radio Assn | 299,376 | 8 |
| Western States Weak Signal | 292,632 | 7 |
| Downey ARC | 216,405 | 3 |
| Society of Midwest Contesters | 214,181 | 9 |
| Badger Contesters | 168,153 | 19 |
| Rochester VHF Group | 164,026 | 7 |
| Mad River Radio Club | 99,196 | 4 |
| Yankee Clipper Contest Club | 26,589 | 3 |
|  |  |  |
| Local Category |  |  |
| Northern New York Contest Club | 6,692 | 5 |

nial rival K8GP (the Delmarva VHF and Microwave Society), operating from Spruce Knob in West Virginia. Since 1997, K8GP and W2SZ have battled for top Multiop Unlimited honors in this event. Usually K8GP ends up with the most grid multipliers, but not enough to overcome W2SZ's QSO advantage, particularly on the microwave bands. This year the K8GP crew also shattered the old record with 2.7 megapoints, 3094 QSOs and 545 grids. The tropo this year helped K8GP's QSO total considerably-879 more than last year-but only 90 more grids as they have consistently done a great job in that department even without unusual propagation. The intense competition between K8GP and W2SZ in this contest and in the June event has redefined our view of what can be done in a VHF contest. What's next?

The Limited Multioperator category (maximum of 4 bands) continues to see lots of participation and great scoring opportunities as groups of friends and club members pool resources and have fun. The winning team of NC1I in western Massachusetts rode the outstanding tropo duct to a new overall category record above 700k with 1978 QSOs and 278 grids. They faced stiff competition from K3YTL in eastern Pennsylvania, who at 621k also broke the old mark set by K3MQH last

## Top Ten

| Single Oper Low Power | tor, | Single Operator, High Power |  | Single Operator Portable |  | Limited Multioperator NC1I 720,020 |  | Multioperator |  | Rover ND3F |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K1TR | 306,660 | K1TEO | 542,984 | K6MI | 37,665 |  |  | W2SZ | 3,221,427 |  | 294,063 |
| WB1GQR | 274,668 | KA1ZE | 452,387 | WG1Z | 24,786 | K3YTL | 621,426 | K8GP | 2,703,200 | W3IY | 188,895 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  | K1RZ | 329,156 | KFøQ | 16,240 | W4IY | 528,640 | K1WHS | 1,085,422 | N2JMH | 134,758 |
| AF1T | 139,564 | W4RX | 297,937 | N8XA | 12,922 | AA4ZZ | 401,555 | W2EA | 214,347 | K1DS | 109,480 |
| K2DRH | 101,088 | K1FO | 263,874 | N9MYK | 5,680 | N3EMF | 347,380 | W4NH | 199,808 | N6TEB | 103,872 |
| W1BQ | 88,704 | K1GX | 262,548 | W6AXX | 4,092 | W2ODH | 225,720 | WøZQ | 149,625 | NøDQS | 71,131 |
| W1PM | 76,874 | K1UHF | 251,049 | K4NGA | 3,096 | N2NK | 219,780 | N8KOL | 136,315 | N7CFO | 69,842 |
| KB8U | 75,168 | VE3AX | 213,010 | N7IR | 1,562 | K2BAR | 213,367 | K1ZE | 121,524 | VE3OIL | 60,455 |
| K1JT | 59,857 | K2SMN | 186,240 | KE4VCS | 1,484 | W3SO | 155,097 | W6TOI | 111,840 | AL1VE | 57,036 |
| W3KJ | 55,002 | K4QI | 159,424 | K2QO | 1,400 | W1QK | 152,278 | W1XM | 83,578 | W7DHC | 44,398 |
| K4ZOO | 54,522 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Regional Leaders |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections) |  |  | Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions) |  |  | Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section) |  |  | Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections) |  |  | West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT/Yukon Sections) |  |  |
| K1TR | 306,660 | A | K4ZOO | 54,522 | A | K2DRH | 101,088 | A | KøMHC | 50,228 |  | N6MU | 34,370 |  |
| WB1GQR | 274,668 |  | KU4R | 22,250 |  | KB8U | 75,168 | A | NøLL | 15,792 |  | (@N6NB) |  |  |
| (W1SJ, op) |  |  | AD4DG | 17,082 | A | K8MR | 48,688 | A | WA2HFI | 15,732 |  | KC6TEU | 28,652 | A |
| AF1T | 139,564 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | W7GHZ | 22,040 |  |
| K1TEO | 542,984 | B | W4RX | 297,937 | B | VE3AX | 213,010 | B | KMøT | 131,144 | B | K6TSK | 35,574 | B |
| KA1ZE | 452,387 |  | K4QI | 159,424 |  | N2BJ | 158,776 | B | NøLL | 15,792 | B | N7EPD | 30,646 |  |
| K1RZ | 329,156 |  | W4DEX | 36,630 | B | K8TQK | 153,216 | B | NøKQY | 13,160 | B | W6KBX | 23,030 |  |
| WG1Z | 24,786 | Q | K4NGA | 3,096 | Q | N8XA | 12,922 | Q | KFøQ | 16,240 | Q | K6MI | 37,665 | Q |
| W6AXX | 4,092 |  | KE4VCS | 1,484 |  | N9MYK | 5,680 | Q | KFøGX |  |  | N7IR | 1,562 |  |
| K2QO | 1,400 |  | W4SW | 1,305 |  | N9OU |  |  |  |  |  | KQ6EE |  |  |
| NC1I | 720,020 | L | W4IY | 528,640 | L | N8ZM | 59,704 | L | N5XU | 7,470 | L | W2ODH | 225,720 |  |
| K3YTL | 621,426 | L | AA4ZZ | 401,555 | L | W9ICE | 56,816 | L | WØJH | 4,096 | L | KF6YYV | 10,261 | L |
| N3EMF | 347,380 | L | W4EUH | 36,050 |  | K8CC | 50,000 | L | NEØP | 966 | L | K7JMH | 6,960 |  |
| W2Sz | 3,221,427 |  | K8GP 2, | 2,703,200 | M | N8KOL | 136,315 | M | WøZQ | 149,625 |  | W6TOI | 111,840 |  |
| K1WHS | 1,085,422 |  | W4NH | 199,808 |  |  |  |  | KAøMR | 16,640 | M | K6WLC | 11,682 |  |
| W2EA | 214,347 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WøKVA | 3,300 |  |  |  |  |
| ND3F | 294,063 | R | W3IY | 188,895 |  | VE3OIL | 60,455 |  | NØDQS | 71,131 |  | N6TEB | 103,872 |  |
| N2JMH | 134,758 | R | W4/ON1CFX | - 15,861 | R | N8KWX | 10,360 | R | KøPG | 30,294 | R | N7CFO | 69,842 | R |
| K1DS | 109,480 |  | K8DXN | 4,320 | R | N9RLA | 4,332 |  | K91LT | 29,467 | R | W7DHC | 44,398 |  |


| Division Leaders |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Single Operator Low Power |  |  | Multioperator Unlimited |  |  |
| Atlantic | K1JT | 59,857 | Atlantic | W2EA | 214,347 |
| Central | K2DRH | 101,088 | Dakota | WØZQ | 149,625 |
| Dakota | KøMHC | 50,228 | Great Lakes | N8KOL | 136,315 |
| Delta | KU4R | 22,250 | Hudson | N2UZQ | 20,740 |
| Great Lakes | KB8U | 75,168 | Midwest | KAØMR | 16,640 |
| Hudson | K2MLB | 41,700 | New England | W2SZ | 3,221,427 |
| Midwest | NØLL | 15,792 | Roanoke | K8GP | 2,703,200 |
| New England | K1TR | 306,660 | Rocky Mountain | WØKVA | 3,300 |
| Northwestern | W7GHZ | 22,040 | Southwestern | W6TOI | 111,840 |
| Pacific | N6MU (@ | 34,370 |  |  |  |
| Roanoke | K4ZOO | 54,522 | Single Operator | rtable |  |
| Rocky Mountain | NJ7A | 1,190 | Atlantic | W6AXX | 4,092 |
| Southeastern | W4OZK | 7,238 | Central | N9MYK | 5,680 |
| Southwestern | AC6TA | 9,324 | Dakota | KFøQ | 16,240 |
| West Gulf | W3XO | 11,946 | Delta | KD4NOQ | - 4 |
| Canada | VE3KZ | 24,682 | Great Lakes | N8XA | 12,922 |
| Single Operator High Power |  |  | New England | WG1Z | 24,786 |
|  |  |  | Pacific | K6MI | 37,665 1,484 |
| Central | N2BJ | 158,776 | Southeastern | K4NGA | 3,096 |
| Dakota | KøSQ | 13,110 | Southwestern | N7IR | 1,562 |
| Delta | K8WW | 19,170 |  |  |  |
| Great Lakes | K8TQK | 153,216 | Rover |  |  |
| Hudson | W2FCA | 51,816 | Atlantic | ND3F | 294,063 |
| Midwest | KMØT | 131,144 | Central | N8KWX | 10,360 |
| New England | K1TEO | 542,984 | Dakota | KøPG | 30,294 |
| Northwestern | N7EPD | 30,646 | Delta | WA4JA | 3,675 |
| Pacific | W6KBX | 23,030 | Great Lakes | NE8I/R | +816 |
| Roanoke | W4RX | 297,937 | Hudson | WA2IID | 34,342 |
| Rocky Mountain | W6OAL | 10,314 | Midwest | NØDQS | 71,131 |
| Southeastern | W4ZRZ | 24,140 | New England | AL1VE | 57,036 |
| Southwestern | K6TSK | 35,574 | Northwestern | N7CFO | 69,842 |
| Canada | VE3AX | 213,010 | Pacific | K7XC | 17,424 |
| Limited Multioperator |  |  | Roanoke | W3IY | 188,895 |
|  |  |  | Southeastern | AB4WL | 1,254 |
| Atlantic | K3YTL | 621,426 | Southwestern | N6TEB | 103,872 |
| Central | W9ICE | 56,816 | West Gulf | KI5DR | 4,879 |
| Dakota | WØJH | 4,096 | Canada | VE3OIL | 60,455 |
| Great Lakes | N8ZM | 59,704 |  |  |  |
| Hudson | N2NK | 219,780 |  |  |  |
| New England | NC1I | 720,020 |  |  |  |
| Northwestern | K7JMH | 6,960 |  |  |  |
| Pacific | KF6GFG | 4,992 |  |  |  |
| Roanoke | W4IY | 528,640 |  |  |  |
| Southeastern | W4EUH | 36,050 |  |  |  |
| Southwestern | W2ODH | 225,720 |  |  |  |
| West Gulf | N5XU | 7,470 |  |  |  |
| Canada | VE7NUT | 2,016 |  |  |  |

year, and from W4IY in Virginia.
This is the second year for the Single Operator Low Power category, and lowpower entrants account for about $70 \%$ of single-op scores reported here. Congratulations go to Ed, K1TR, in New Hampshire; Mitch, W1SJ (operating as WB1GQR) in Vermont and Dale, AF1T
(also from New Hampshire) who each managed to top the old record of 137 k , set by K2DRH last year. In the end, Ed's score of just over 300k outdistanced the others and is now the overall category record.

Jeff, K1TEO, had another great contest from his home station in Connecti-
cut. Jeff took top honors in the Single Operator High Power category and became the first single operator to break the half-million point barrier in this contest at 542k. Stan, KA1ZE, took his traveling station to western New York this year, finished second, and at 452 k came within a whisker of also breaking the old record set by WA8WZG in 1998.

Though undergoing a name change from QRP Portable, the Single Operator Portable category continues to pose challenges to those gallant warriors who choose to leave the comforts of home and established antenna farms and take on the challenges of operating with 10 W output or less. The winner's laurel for the category in this first year of the new name goes to a station on the West Coast. John, K6MI, had the winning total of 37 k . The number 2 score came from the other coast - Joe, WG1Z, at 24 k .

These days when you think about rovers, Brian, ND3F, usually comes to mind. While not setting a category record this time, Brian and his partner (and son) Adam, N3SLN, put together the top rover entry. Their score of 294 k stood up against the challenge of 51 other rover entries, lead by Bill, W3IY, who took second place honors with a score of nearly 189 k.

In the Affiliated Club competition, the 21 entries of the Potomac Valley Radio Club took the Medium Category gavel by with 4.2 million points. Not far behind (and much closer than in the past several years) is the North East Weak Signal Group at 3.7 meg . The Northern New York Contest Club earned the gavel in the Local club category.

The skills contesters bring to the table are yet another reason Amateur Radio continues to grow in respect and service.

| Multiplier Leaders By Band |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Single Operator, |  |  | Multioperator |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 50 MHz |  |  | $\begin{array}{ll} 50 \mathrm{MHzz} \\ \mathrm{~K} 8 \mathrm{GP} & 101 \end{array}$ |  | 432 MHzK8GP | 79 |
| WB1GQR 47 | High Power 50 MHz |  | W2SZ | 86 |  |  |
| (W1SJ, op) ${ }^{47}$ | KA1ZE | 56 |  |  | W2SZ |  |
| N4GN 40 | N2BJ | 54 | AA4ZZ -L | 74 | NC11-L | 66 |
| K8MR 37 | K1TEO | 53 | K3YTL -L | 73 | K3YTL -L | 58 |
| KB8U 36 | W1VHF | 51 | W4NH | 71 | W4IY -L | 57 |
| K2DRH 36 | K4Q1 | 46 | K1WHS | 69 | K1WHS | 48 |
|  | VE3AX | 46 | N3EMF -L | 67 | AA4ZZ-L | 47 |
| 144 MHz | 144 MHz |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { W4IY -L } \\ & \text { W3SO -L } \end{aligned}$ | 62 | N3EMF -L 44 |  |
| WB1GQR 57 |  |  | N8KOL |  | 39 |  |
| (W1SJ, op) | K8TQK | 65 |  |  |  | N2NK -L | 37 |
| K1TR 49 | K1 ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | 64 | 144 MHz |  | W3SO-L | 37 |
| N4GN 47 | KA1ZE | 63 61 | W2SZ | +87 | W2SA | 37 |
| KB9NKM 46 | KA1TEO | 61 61 | NC11-L |  |  |  |
| K2DRH 43 | K4QI | 61 | AA4ZZ-L | 79 | 902 MHz | 41 |
| 222 MHzWB1GQR | 222 MHz |  | K3YTL -L | 76 | W2SZ | 40 |
|  |  |  | W4IY -L K1WHS | 76 | K1WHS | 30 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  | 44 |  | 71 | WøZQ | 13 |
| K8MR 31 |  |  | N3EMF -LN8KOL |  | K3EOD 11 |  |
| WA3EOQ 31 | KA1ZE K8TQK W4RX | 43 |  | 6765 | K1ZE |  |
| K1TR 31 |  | 3737 | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{NBKOL} \\ & \mathrm{~W} 4 \mathrm{NH} \end{aligned}$ |  | W6TOI |  |
| KB8U 28 |  |  |  | 69 | W4NH |  |
| KA3SSD 28 | 432 MHz |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | KAØMR |  |  |  |
| 432 MHz | VE3AX | 54 |  |  | 66 | W1XM |  |
| WB1GQR 44 | K1TEO | 50 | W41Y-L | 58 | N2UZQ |  |
| (W1SJ, op) | KA1ZE | 49 | NC1-L | 54 50 | K6WLC |  |
| K1TR 42 | K4QI | 47 |  |  |  |  |
| WA3EOQ 32 | K4Q | 47 |  | 45 | 1296 MHz |  |
| WA8RJF 32 | 902 MHz |  | N3EMF -L | 39 | K8GP | 51 |
| KB8U 32 |  |  | 39 | W2SZ | 44 |  |
|  | K1TEO | 24 |  | 39 | K1WHS | 31 |
| 902 MHz | K1RZ | 22 |  | N2NK -L |  | W2EA | 18 |
| K1TR 21 | W4RX | 20 | W6TOI |  |  | 13 |
| K2DRH 13 | KA1ZE | 20 | WøZQ |  |  | 13 |
| W1PM 12 | KMøт | 19 | K3EOD |  |  | 12 |
| AF1T 9 | 1296 MHz |  | K1ZE |  |  | 12 |
| K2HZN 9 |  |  | -L denotes Limited Multioperator |  | N8KOL | 10 |
|  | K1TEO | 29 |  |  | W4NH | 9 |
| 1296 MHz | KA1ZE | 28 | Multioperator |  |  |  |
| K1TR 24 | V1RZX | 26 |  |  |  |  |
| WA3EOQ 19 | K1FO | 26 |  |  |  |  |
| K2DRH 18 | KQ6EE | - |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{ll}\text { W1PM } & 15 \\ \text { KøMHC } & 13\end{array}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| KøMHC 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| QSO Leaders By Band |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Single Operator, Low Power |  | Single Operator, High Power |  | Multioperator |  |  |  |
| 50 MHz |  | 50 MHz |  | $50 \mathrm{MHz}$ | 957 | 432 MHz |  |
| WB1GQR | 348 | W1VHF | 350 | W2SZ | 873 | W2SZ | 590 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  | WA2WQZ | 249 | K3YTL -L | 677 | K8GP | 443 |
| K1TR | 252 | KA1ZE | 238 | NC1I-L | 628 | NC1I -L | 398 |
| N6MU | 166 | K1TEO | 224 | K1WHS | 507 | K3YTL -L | 335 |
| (@N6NB) |  | K1RZ | 193 | W4IY -L | 483 | W4IY -L | 305 |
| W1BQ | 146 |  |  | AA4ZZ -L | 469 | K1WHS | 236 |
| AF1T | 123 | 144 MHz |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { AA4LL -L } \\ & \text { N3EMF -L } \end{aligned}$ | 454 | W2ODH -L | 220 |
|  |  | K1UHF | 422 | K2BAR -L | 445 | N3EMF -L | 202 |
| 144 MHz |  | K3TV | 417 | W1QK -L | 404 | AA4ZZ -L | 181 |
| $\text { WB1GQR } 441$ |  | K1TEO | 399 |  | 404 | W2EA | 152 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  | K1FO | 352 | 144 MHz |  |  |  |
| K1TR | 244 | KA1ZE | 313 | K8GP |  | 902 MHz |  |
| KBØLYL | 194 |  |  | W2SZ | 963 953 | W2SZ | 144 |
| WB2CUT | 194 | 222 MHz |  | NC1I-L | 738 | K8GP | 103 |
| AF1T | 177 | K1TEO | 123 | K3YTL -LW4IY -L | 683 | K1WHS | 66 |
|  |  | K1FO | 106 |  | 610 | WØZQ | 20 |
| 222 MHz |  | K1UHF | 103 | AA4ZZ-L | 572 | K3EOD | 16 |
| WB1GQR | 135 | KA1ZE | 100 | K1WHS | 539 | K1ZE | 16 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  | VE3AX | 100 | N3EMF -L | 489 | W6TOI | 10 |
| K1TR | 87 |  |  | K2BAR -L | 436 | WA3ZKR | 9 |
| AF1T | 63 | 432 MHz |  | N2NK -L | 407 | W4NH | 4 |
| K1JT | 57 | K1FO | 210 | N2NK-L | 407 | N2UZQ | 3 |
| W3KJ | 57 | K1TEOKA1ZE | 188 | 222 MHz |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 143 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 432 MHz |  | K1RZ <br> VE3AX | 135 | K8GP | 351 | 1296 MHz W2SZ | 177 |
| $\text { WB1GQR } 201$ |  |  | 128 | NC1I-L | 214 | K8GP | 145 |
| (W1SJ, op) |  |  |  | K3YTL -L | 194 | K1WHS | 88 |
| K1TR 146 |  | 902 MHz |  | W4IY -LK1WHS | 181 | W2EA | 40 |
| KE6GFF | 143 | K1TEO 49 |  |  | 155 | W6TOI | 39 |
| N6MU | 88 | K1RZ 38 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { K1WHS } \\ & \text { W2ODH -L } \end{aligned}$ | 140 | W0ZQ | 34 |
| (@N6NB)W1BQ |  | K1GX 36 |  | AA4ZZ -L | 118 | K1ZE | 22 |
|  |  |  | KA1ZE W4RX | 31 | N3EMF -L | 116 | K3EOD | 20 |
|  |  | 30 |  | N2NK -L | 105 | WA3ZKR | 19 |
| 902 MHz |  |  |  |  |  | N2UZQ | 13 |
| K1TR | 45 | 1296 MHz |  |  |  |  |  |
| AF1T | 20 | K1TEO | 68 | -L denotes Limited Multioperator |  |  |  |
| W1PM | 20 | KA1ZE | 61 | L | , | 崖 |  |
| K2DRH | 15 | K1GX | 58 |  |  |  |  |
| W1BQ | 15 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { K1FO } \\ & \text { K1RZ } \end{aligned}$ | 56 55 |  |  |  |  |
| 1296 MHz |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1TR | 60 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| W3KJ | 33 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| W1PM | 32 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WA3EOQ | 28 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K2DRH | 27 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The 2002 ARRL September VHF QSO party will be held the weekend of September 14-15. Good luck as you plan your participation and find ways to challenge your personal talents. And if you weren't in on the big tropo openings of 2001, maybe 2002 will be "the year."

## SOAPBOX

We worked Europe on 50 MHz in June and 144 MHz in September (DL5MAE on EME). I guess we need to try 432 next (AA4ZZ)... Super conditions, and I'm stuck with small antennas again. What a bummer! (AD4TJ)... First time rover on the East Coast, way different from the West! (AL1VE)...Very nice opening to KH6 on 2 and 432 on Sunday-especially strong signals on 2 meters. Thanks also to W1LP for activating several maritime grids (KØDI/6)... This was the best rover score ever for me-cooperative conditions and equipment, despite no QSOs on 5 or 10 GHz or LASER (K1DS)... Best September Contest Tropo Conditions in many years. This caused bump in my score from past operations (K1RZ)... Great tropo up to the Canadian maritimes and down to Tennessee made it a fun contest (K1UHF)... The best tropo conditions for a September contest since about 1985! I am glad we had all our microwave bands working to take advantage of it! (K1WHS)... Very good band conditions, except 6 meters (K2SMN)... Great Conditions (for a change) all the way up and down the East Coast (K3TV)... Not my best Rover effort but the best we have ever done north of Sacramento. Our treatment by the folks in Williams, CA was excellent, Thank you! (K7XC)... Saturday fair, Sunday dismal pickings (K8AB)... Fantastic conditions Saturday really helped the score, not to mention the outstanding contribution by ALL the Rovers; GREAT job to them all! (K8GP)...The CW mode is still conspicuously missing... why? (K8KFJ)... Conditions were poor to ugly. No openings and very little scatter in Florida (K9HUY)... Propagation conditions were quite flat, so I had to work hard for the contacts I managed to get. But I enjoyed the challenge anyway. Thank goodness for the rovers out here in the Midwest! (KBØZEV)... We had a great time working this contest. We used 2 and 6 meters (KB1HAR)... This is my firstever contest! I hope I do well!!! I am 11 years old, and I just got my license on July 1, 2001 (KB3GWB)... My first contest as a new ham, thanks to all the operators who were patient with my inexperience (KC2IDT)... I heard what I thought was a local station in DM06, so I skipped by. Hours later I realized that it was a long DX station in Hawaii. KH6HME had a wonderful signal into CM98. It was one of the most fun contacts I had. My two 400 mile 432 contacts were awesome! Thanks, KI6FF and K6TSK. (KC6TEU)... The contest bug has bit again and this has been my first serious effort in 7 years! (KF6AJ)... What a fun weekend! First full Rover effort. Lots of things to improve on-bigger antennas, more powerbetter locations to select. It was great to hear everyone on! Looking forward to the next contest! (KI5DR)... Bad propagation for tropo 6M was dead, worse than a January Contest Still had lots of fun however! Oh-had a surprise opening on 2 M to Colorado, did not last long, however. Lots of mults on 2.4 and 3.4!
(KMØT)... Enjoyable weekend, picked up a couple new states on 2 M . The band could have cooperated a little more, though (KV4EB)... Mr. Murphy was in full attendance this Contest (N2GKM/R)... My first try at contesting (N2TEE)... Good time had by all. Exciting results on 1296 (N2UZQ)... Was interesting to work contest mobile while on vacation! (N3GWZ)... Storms in the area seemed to dampen activity (N4GN)... Worst Contest I have ever worked (N4JZH)... Did better than last year primarily due to the addition of another band (N7IR)... Conditions were poor here, but I made my first WSJT QSO, which made up for that. Also was first VHF contest from my new QTH (NEØP)... Despite completely flat conditions, I made a personal best score. I was very pleased to work several stations on all four of the bands for which I am equipped. Thanks to those who turned their beams north once in a while (VE2ZP)...Best


Christophe, ON1CFX/W4, demonstrates his beams at the Virginia Arboretum near Winchester in grid FM09.

Ever September Contest! Beat both my old Grid and Contact numbers! No real openings, but everything came together Sunday (W1DYJ).

Flat conditions except for tropo to Hawaii (W1LP/MM)... First time in VHF contest. Borrowed 2M beam, amp and used my $20-$ year-old multi-mode 2 M rig. Didn't do great but survived. Heard several weak ones but couldn't get them to hear me (W3CB)... Most memorable contacts: W2SZ/1 1030 KM on 8 bands 50 through $2304+10 \mathrm{GHz}$. (W4DEX) ... Always nice to see old friends during the contest (W9GM)... It just doesn't get any better than this! Best conditions in a lifetime! Trying to keep up with 4 SSB and 3 FM radios simultaneously during wide open conditions is the definition of insanity. When K8GP keeps the S-meter pinned all night from 455 miles away, that is the essence of great conditions (WB1GQR).

## Scores

Each line score lists call sign, score, stations worked, multipliers, and bands ( $\mathrm{A}=50 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{B}=144 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}=222 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}=432 \mathrm{MHz}, 9=902 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{E}=1296 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{F}=2304$ $\mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{I}=10 \mathrm{GHz}$ ). $\mathrm{A}=$ Single Operator Low Power, $\mathrm{B}=$ Single Operator High Power, $\mathrm{Q}=$ Single Operator Portable, $\mathrm{L}=$ Limited Multioperator, $\mathrm{M}=$ Multioperator Unlimited, R = Rover.

| Connecticut |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KF6AJ | 42,816 | 342 | 96 | A ABCD |
| K1WVX | 6,811 | 96 | 49 | A ABCDE |
| W1QJL | 5,104 | 84 | 44 | A ABCDE |
| WA1GTP | 1,980 | 55 | 33 | A ABC |
| KA1KOJ | 1,152 | 48 | 24 | A B |
| K1JN | 966 | 42 | 23 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| W1DMM | 945 | 44 | 21 | A ABD |
| N1PNR | 12 | 4 | 3 | A B |
| K1TEO | 542,984 | 1106 | 299 | B ABCD9EFGI |
| K1FO | 263,874 | 898 | 199 | B ABCDE |
| K1GX | 262,548 | 670 | 221 | B ABCD9EFGHI |
| K1UHF | 251,049 | 852 | 201 | B ABCDEFI |
| W3EP | 63,612 | 410 | 124 | B ABDE |
| W1AN | 21,040 | 209 | 80 | B ABD |
| WA1FVJ | 980 | 44 | 20 | B ABD |
| K1MAP | 756 | 27 | 18 | Q ABDEF |
| N1QVQ | 65 | 11 | 5 | Q BD |
| W1QK (+K1PHG, K2ZZ, N1ABY) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 152,278 |  |  | L ABCD |
| KB1DFB (+KB1H, N1XS) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 22,464 | 268 | 72 | L ABD |
| N1NW (+W1AMF, KE1IU, KB1FMM, KA1KOJ, KB1FUO, KB1FKL, ops) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3,094 | 86 | 34 | L ABD |
| K1ZE (+N1DGF) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 121,524 | 520 | 156 | M ABCD9E |
| Eastern Massachusetts |  |  |  |  |
| W1PM | 76,874 | 357 | 133 | A ABCD9E |
| WB1FKF | 28,712 | 151 | 97 | A ABCD9EFGHI |
| KA1EKR | 20,951 | 174 | 73 | A BCDE |
| W1LP/MM | 13,448 | 245 | 41 | A ABDEI |
| N1EKV | 7,296 | 92 | 57 | A ABCDI |
| WA1ENO | 6,534 | 112 | 54 | A ABD |
| W1DYJ | 4,788 | 114 | 42 | A AB |
| N1VQR | 1,836 | 59 | 27 | A ABD |
| KC1MA | 1,180 | 59 | 20 | A B |
| N1GJ | 36,300 | 231 | 100 | B ABCD9EF |
| W1GHZ | 19,422 | 159 | 78 | B ABCD9E |
| N1FDX | 3,240 | 81 | 40 | $B A B$ |
| K1EJ | 180 | 18 | 10 | B A |
| N3GWZ | 48 | 8 |  | Q AB |
| N1MPT (+KA1EZH,KB5TBB) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 629 | 37 |  |  |
| W1XM (KB1CGZ, KB1FMS, KB1GRS, KB91JB, |  |  |  |  |
| KB1EUQ, ops) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 83,578 | 498 | 131 | M ABCD9EI |
| Maine |  |  |  |  |
| W1BQ | 88,704 | 470 | 128 | A ABCD9EF |
| AA1UT | 3,528 | 77 | 42 | A ABD |
| N 1 HL | 2,080 | 65 | 26 | A ABI |
| K10YB | 1,508 | 48 | 26 | A ABCD |
| W1xX | 74,812 | 480 | 118 | B ABCD |
| WG1Z | 24,786 | 205 | 81 | Q ABCDE |
| K1WHS (+W1MRQ, W2PED, K1BX, K1DY, K1TOL K7KX, WA8WZG, N1LBI, N2CEI, logger) |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | ,085,422 | 1727 | 383 | M ABCD9EFGHIJ |
| New Hampshire |  |  |  |  |
| K1TR | 306,660 | 851 | 228 | A ABCD9EFI |
| AF1T | 139,564 | 518 | 164 | A ABCD9EFGHIP |
| K2HZN | 54,516 | 297 | 118 | A ABCD9E |
| KU2A | 38,250 | 226 | 102 | A ABCD9EFG |
| AC1J | 24,716 | 240 | 74 | A ABCDE |
| AA1YN | 10,860 | 151 | 60 | A ABD |
| N1JHJ | 2,356 | 60 | 31 | A ABCD |
| W1DAD | 70 | 10 | 7 | A A |
| K1MOM | 30 | 6 | 5 | A A |
| W1ZC | 11,232 | 125 | 54 | B BD |
| K1SIX | 100 | 10 | 10 | L A |
| Rhode Island |  |  |  |  |
| W1CPC | 1,323 | 41 | 27 | A ABD |
| KB1LN | 525 | 35 | 15 | A A |
| WB2VVV | 23,288 | 190 | 82 | B ABCD9EF |
| W1VHF | 17,850 | 350 | 51 | B A |
| KB1HAR (+ N1YKH) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 1,508 | 58 | 26 | $L \mathrm{AB}$ |



| K3IXD | 18,034 | 192 | 71 | A ABCDE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N311 | 13,504 | 211 | 64 | A AB |
| K3GEG | 7,446 | 145 | 51 | A ABD |
| N2RF | 6,272 | 104 | 49 | A ABCD |
| WN3C | 4,446 | 101 | 38 | A ABD |
| N3UM | 2,697 | 87 | 31 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| K3DSP | 1,650 | 55 | 30 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| WA4PRR | 1,458 | 48 | 27 | A ABD |
| K3TW | 882 | 42 | 21 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| WA3GYW | 510 | 30 | 17 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| N2TDT | 240 | 30 | 8 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| W2GG | 200 | 18 | 10 | A ABD |
| K1RZ | 329,156 | 844 | 244 | B ABCD9EFI |
| K3DNE | 155,660 | 592 | 172 | B ABCD9E |
| AK3E | 74,458 | 524 | 118 | B ABD |
| K3ZO | 30,498 | 391 | 78 | $B A B$ |
| W3CB | 1,656 | 72 | 23 | B |
| W3GN | 688 | 43 | 16 | B AB |
| W6AXX | 4,092 | 124 | 33 | Q B |
| W3IP (+K3FFT, K3MLA, WG3R, W3NLB, N6OBP |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 7,920 | 150 |  | L ABD |
| WA3ZKR (+KA3EJJ) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 44,086 |  |  | M ABCD9EFGI |
| Western Pennsylvania |  |  |  |  |
| KA3SDD | 28,016 | 189 | 103 | A ABCD |
| W8IJ | 48 | 6 |  | Q ABD |
| WBøIWG | 45 | 9 |  | Q AB |
| W3SO (K4VV,WR3Z,W3TEF,AI3M,K3RUQ, W9NET,W3YOZ,ops) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 155,097 |  |  |  |
| K3MJW (N3GJ, KA3WSW, N3MRU, N3NOS, N3OEX, N3WAV, N3WMC, N3APZ, ops) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 30,470 |  |  | L ABCD |
| W3KWH (W3SVJ,WA3VXJ,W3IOH,WA3TTS,ops |  |  |  |  |
|  | 8,294 |  |  | M ABD |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
| Alabama |  |  |  |  |
| W4OZK | 7,238 | 128 | 47 | A ABDE |
| W4ZRZ | 24,140 | 215 | 85 | B ABCDE |
| KU4IU | 8,586 | 136 | 53 | B ABCD |
| AJ4W | 1,175 | 43 | 25 | B ABD |
| KF4INA | 80 | 8 | 8 | Q ABD |
| N4ION (+N4JDB,N8MHC) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5,043 | 109 | 41 | L ABD |
| WA4DYD (+KB4BKV) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4,141 | 85 | 41 | L ABDE |
| Georgia |  |  |  |  |
| K4KAZ | 5,424 | 78 | 48 | A ABCDE |
| NY4F | 300 | 21 | 12 | A ABD |
| W4WDH | 12,236 | 123 | 76 | B ABCD |
| KD4K | 176 | 12 | 11 | B ABCD |
| K4NGA | 3,096 | 77 | 36 | Q ABD |
| W4EUH (+W3EUH) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 36,050 | 290 | 103 | L ABCD |
| Kentucky |  |  |  |  |
| N4GN | 14,355 | 165 | 87 | A AB |
| W4FVQ | 7,680 | 86 | 60 | A ABCD9E |
| KD4EVB | 1,196 | 46 | 26 | $A \mathrm{AB}$ |
| KE4KWR | 432 | 27 | 16 | B B |
| K4SJA (+K | K4ITF,K4 | DO,A | K4U, | KS4XL,KN4M) |
|  | 14,350 | 146 | 82 | $L$ ABCD |
| North Carolina |  |  |  |  |
| NX9T | 975 | 39 | 25 | A AB |
| W4FAL | 112 | 15 | 7 | A ABD |
| K4QI | 159,424 | 514 | 212 | B ABCDE |
| W4DEX | 36,630 | 208 | 110 | B ABCD9EFGI |
| W4VHH | 20,655 | 147 | 81 | B BDEFG |
| AA4ZZ (+AA4S, K2SD, K4DXA, K4MQG, W4MW W4VHF)401,555 1340245 L ABCD |  |  |  |  |
| W4NH (K4EA, K4RF, K4SZ, K4TW, KB4IDC, KD4HLG, KE8FD, NX9O, W4EGT, W4KXY, W4SKI,ops) 199,808 693224 M ABCD9EFHI |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Northern Florida |  |  |  |  |
| KE4YYD | 800 | 40 | 20 | A B |



| Illinois |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K2DRH | 101,088 | 420 | 162 | A ABCD9E |
| N9TF | 27,156 | 246 | 73 | A ABCDE |
| K9YR | 20,276 | 194 | 74 | A ABCD |
| NV8V | 12,190 | 191 | 53 | A ABD |
| WO9LF | 4,148 | 100 | 34 | A ABD |
| KG91L | 3,844 | 106 | 31 | A ABCD |
| N9RK | 2,760 | 76 | 30 | A ABD |
| KC9IL | 2,125 | 72 | 25 | A ABD |
| N90BB | 1,128 | 44 | 24 | A ABD |
| W9SZ | 154 | 14 | 11 | A B |
| W9LYA | 91 | 10 | 7 | A ABD |
| N2BJ | 158,776 | 495 | 223 | B ABCD9EF |
| WB9SNR | 23,408 | 186 | 77 | B BCD9E |
| AA9D | 3,978 | 102 | 39 | B AB |
| N9OU | 372 | 24 | 12 | Q BCD |
| KG9PF (+K91J, KB9WUU) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 17,220 | 211 | 60 | L ABCD |



| Wisconsin |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| W9LLT | 11,966 | 143 | 62 | A ABCD |
| N |  |  |  |  |
| KB9PJL | 9,744 | 171 | 48 | A ABD |
| N9REP | 6,327 | 126 | 37 | A ABCDE |
| N9FH | 5,670 | 102 | 42 | A ABCD |
| WA1UJU | 3,672 | 108 | 34 | A AB |
| K9DQ | 2,800 | 83 | 28 | A BCD |
| K9VS | 2,210 | 85 | 26 | A AB |
| N9NDP | 2,175 | 85 | 25 | A ABC |
| KB9TLV | 1,976 | 76 | 26 | A AB |
| W9JOT | 1,764 | 50 | 28 | A ABD |
| KB9Q | 1,584 | 47 | 24 | A ABCD |
| W9GM | 1,125 | 45 | 25 | A AB |
| KB9VUG | 555 | 37 | 15 | A AB |
| W9KHH | 364 | 22 | 13 | A ABD |
| W9PHJ | 363 | 33 | 11 | A B |
| W9GA | 41,004 | 282 | 102 | B ABCD9E |
| N9DGG | 5,632 | 113 | 44 | B ABCD |
| WA9LZM | 4,935 | 86 | 47 | B ABD |
| ND9Z | 4,173 | 75 | 39 | B ABCDE |
| N9MYK | 5,680 | 105 | 40 | Q ABCDE |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Colorad

W6OAL 10,31412554 B ABCD9EFGH
WøKVA (+WØKU,NØWBW)
$\mathrm{KB} \oslash \mathrm{HH}(+\mathrm{K} \emptyset \mathrm{UO})$$\quad 84$ M ABCDE
lowa $1,768 \quad 47 \quad 26 \mathrm{M} \mathrm{ABCDE}$


| Minnesota |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| KøMHC | 50,228 | 251 | 116 | A ABCD9EFG |
| WA2HFI | 15,732 | 173 | 57 | A ABCD9E |
| KøSHF | 13,376 | 203 | 44 | A ABCD9EFI |
| KBøZEV | 11,925 | 198 | 45 | A ABCD |
| KøCJ | 7,995 | 131 | 41 | A ABDE |
| WøOHU | 5,130 | 86 | 38 | A ABDE |
| WBØLJC | 3,234 | 93 | 21 | A ABCD9EFI |
| KBøLYL | 2,910 | 194 | 15 | A B |
| KC0HTB | 2,530 | 75 | 23 | A ABCDE |
| KøKFC | 2,068 | 77 | 22 | A ABD |
| WØPHD | 630 | 23 | 18 | A ABDE |
| KBøDCO | 429 | 30 | 11 | A ABD |
| KBøN | 387 | 35 | 9 | A ABCD |
| KC0HEW | 270 | 27 | 10 | A AB |
| NFØG | 216 | 24 | 8 | A ABD |
| WA2MNO | 168 | 21 | 7 | A ABD |
| NØQHP | 90 | 12 | 6 | A ABD |
| N6NAS | 84 | 16 | 4 | A ABD |
| KBøOBT | 4 | 2 | 2 | A AB |
| KøSQ | 13,110 | 161 | 57 | B ABDE |
| WøGHZ | 9,702 | 105 | 49 | B ABCD9EFG |
| KøAWU | 1,420 | 54 | 20 | B ABDE |
| NØUK | 1,245 | 48 | 15 | B BC9E |
| WA2VOI | 385 | 23 | 11 | B ABCD |
| KFOQ | 16,240 | 135 | 70 | Q ABCD9EFG |
| KFøGX | 560 | 29 | 14 | Q BD |
| WØJH (+WBØVHF, NøMR, WØSEI, WAØRKE) |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4,096 | 103 |  | L ABD |
| WØZQ (+W9FZ, WA2PHW, WBØGGM, NØHJZ, KCøFXY) |  |  |  |  |
| North Dakota |  |  |  |  |
| NTøV | 780 | 25 | 20 | B ABCDE |
| South Dakota |  |  |  |  |
| WBØHHM | 4,366 | 86 | 37 | A ABCD |
| WBØULX | 3,344 | 60 | 38 | A ABCD |
| WAøTDK | 1,224 | 41 | 24 | A ABD |
| Quebec |  |  |  |  |
| VE2ZP | 11,760 | 133 | 70 | A ABCD |
| VE2SMG | 3,135 | 60 | 33 | A BCDE |
| VE2UG | 1,250 | 38 | 25 | A ABD |
| VA2OOI | 10,270 | 116 | 65 | B ABCD |
| VE2JWH | 5,220 | 75 | 45 | B ABCD9E |
| VA2TU | 12 | 4 | 3 |  |



