

2002 ARRL August UHF Contest Results

Ask anyone who participates in any UHF/SHF contest what things go into making it a success, and you will get a wide array of answers. However, there are a couple of common threads that will be mentioned by most respondents. When listening to many of the over 150 participants in the ARRL 2002 August UHF Contest—the 25th anniversary year of this contest—you will quickly get a sense that it takes a special breed of amateur to spend the time, money and effort to operate on these under-utilized amateur bands.

Regular ARRL VHF contests, such as the January VHF Sweepstakes or June and September VHF QSO Parties, hold a ready advantage. The fact is that with the availability of equipment these days, it is relatively easy to get on using at least the 50 MHz and 144 MHz VHF bands. And while technology and affordable handheld transceivers allow most every ham easy access to FM operation on the lowest of the UHF bands, it requires a commitment, and at times some resources, to venture into UHF/SHF contesting in any semi-meaningful way. Your 432 MHz handheld may whet your appetite for a few QSOs while operating from a mountaintop or other favorable locale. But in order to develop your skills and increase your fun, you learn quickly that SSB and CW are the bread and butter needed to survive and flourish while contesting in these frequency ranges.

As in real estate, a lot of UHF/SHF activity boils down to Location – Location – Location! The nature of operation on these frequencies places a premium on being near a pool of operators who are active on these bands. (Let's face it: you don't stumble across too many random QSOs on 10 GHz!) The good news is that there were entries received from operators in all 15 ARRL Divisions and from Canada. However, entries were received from only 49 ARRL/RAC sections—about 61%. So while there is interest in various parts of the country, there's room for lots of growth in these areas of our spectrum allocation. You will notice that



Gene, N0DQS, hit the road both days but encountered severe storms. Perhaps he has a future as a storm chaser as well as rover...

Top Ten

Single Operator

Low Power

KB8U	51,888
WA3GFZ	35,955
AF1T	35,226
W3KJ	27,219
W1PM	25,110
W1BQ	15,912
VE3SMA	13,923
W6TOI	11,340
(KE6HPZ, op)	
N0URW	10,716
AA1YN	9,894

Single Operator

High Power

WW8M	261,171
AA2UK	213,921
K1TEO	160,758
KM0T	54,288
W2FU	52,530
K1GX	52,428
AA3GN	48,861
K8MD	41,055
W3RJW	35,457
N2BJ	34,968

Multipoperator

W2SZ	906,153
N3EMF	293,880
N2PA	179,772
NU7Z	22,686
WA3UGP	11,712
WB4WEN	4,914
AG4V	4,257
N1LDY	3,180
KE6TDP	144

Rover

W7GHZ	407,484
N7MX	405,504
W3IY	119,616
K1DS	60,840
N1JEZ	47,436
WA2IID	29,988
(+KB2SSS)	
N0DQS	29,295
NE8I	21,924
N0IO	12,540
(+KC0DEF)	
N2JMH	9,999
(+KC2IDT)	

Need a Printout of the Complete Results?

For complete contest results online, please visit www.arrl.org/contests/results.

ARRL members without Internet access may obtain a printout of the complete line scores by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ARRL Contest Results, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111. Please be sure to include the contest name and year.

activity is higher in divisions or sections where there are strong VHF/UHF special interest clubs (such as the Mount Airy VHF Club in EPA, or the New England Weak Signal Group). Also areas with higher population densities tend to show greater interest (such as the Los Angeles section or the Chicago area of the Illinois section).

If your life-blood for contesting requires QSO rates of over a hundred an hour, then perhaps the ARRL August UHF contest isn't for you. Veteran VHF/UHF Rover Bill Seabreeze, W3IY, shared that "The beginning of the UHF contest was scary...didn't hear any signals for the first 12 minutes. Finally K4QI showed up, and broke the silence in FM15." Imagine starting the first quarter-hour of any major HF event without moving the rate meter! Such is the patience required to be a top-draw operator on these bands. You can rest assured that as activity picked up, Bill's apprehensive feelings abated. In the end, Bill took a solid third place finish in the overall Rover category. Bill summed up his overall experience quite well when he wrote "The QSOs are more challenging, and less frequent than in the VHF contests, but the satisfaction of working guys on 10 GHz is hard to describe. It's amazing how well things can work on this band with a little effort

Multiplier and QSO Totals

Band Key: C = 222, D = 432, 9 = 902, E = 1296, F = 2304, G = 3456, H = 5760, I = 10 GHz, J = 24 GHz, K = 47 GHz, P = Light

Multiplier Totals

Single Operator Low Power

KB8U	CD9EF	92
W1PM	CD9E	62
AF1T	CD9EF1	57
VE3SMA	CD9EFG	51
WA3GFZ	CD9EFGHL	51

Single Operator High Power

WW8M	CD9EFGHIJK	153
AA2UK	CD9EFGI	139
K1TEO	CD9EFGI	117
K8MD	CD9EF	85
W2FU	CD9EFGHI	85

Multioperator

W2SZ	CD9EFGHIJ	229
N3EMF	CD9EFGHI	155
N2PA	CD9EFGHIJ	142
NU7Z	CD9EFGHIJ	38

Rover

N7MX	CD9EFGHI	128
W7GHZ	CD9EFGHI	126
N1JEZ	CD9EFGI	67
W3IY	CD9EFGHI	64
K1DS	CD9EFGHIL	60
WA2IID	CD9EFGHI	51
(+KB2SSS)		

QSO Totals

Single Operator Low Power

WA3GFZ	CD9EFGHL	138
AF1T	CD9EF1	124
KB8U	CD9EF	121
W3KJ	CDEFG	116
W1PM	CD9E	107

Single Operator High Power

WW8M	CD9EFGHIJK	298
K1TEO	CD9EFGI	262
AA2UK	CD9EFGI	262
K1GX	CD9EFGHI	149
AA3GN	CD9EFG	144

Multioperator

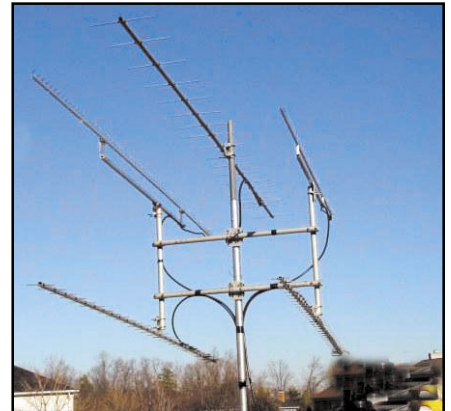
W2SZ	CD9EFGHIJ	597
N3EMF	CD9EFGHI	335
N2PA	CD9EFGHIJ	243
NU7Z	CD9EFGHIJ	105
WA3UGP	CD9EFGH	62

Rover

W7GHZ	CD9EFGHI	419
N7MX	CD9EFGHI	412
W3IY	CD9EFGHI	345
K1DS	CD9EFGHIL	163
NØDQS	CD9EFGHI	141

Entries by Section

AL	3	ME	1	QC	2
BC	1	MI	6	SB	1
CO	6	MN	6	SCV	2
CT	5	NC	3	SFL	2
EB	4	NFL	1	SNJ	1
EMA	4	NH	4	SV	3
ENY	4	NLI	1	TN	4
EPA	13	NM	1	VA	8
EWA	3	NNJ	2	VT	2
GA	1	NTX	2	WI	3
IA	4	NV	2	WMA	2
ID	1	OH	2	WNY	3
IL	9	OK	2	WPA	4
KS	1	ON	3	WTX	1
KY	1	OR	2	WW	1
LAX	8	ORG	2	WWA	7
MDC	2				



Ever wonder why Bill, W3IY, is able to light up the ether? Probably has a lot to do with his Wave Launcher for 432-3456 MHz.

tests. This started out as a casual participation for me, but soon turned into a serious effort." His enthusiasm was shared by another newcomer to the event, Dan Milder, NØURW, who offered, "This was my first time in this UHF contest. What a blast! I was flat out amazed how fantastic this contest could be. In the past not having any equipment for this contest left me out of the loop. I now have 222 and 432 MHz. Big thanks to all the rovers! You made it really, really fun and challenging!"

And it isn't just the newcomer who enjoys this event. We found these comments posted to the ARRL On-line Soapbox (www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox) by long-time enthusiast Bill Lentz, AA2UK: "What a contest. I don't know where to start! I more than doubled my highest score in 1998. After a long rest from contesting, the new station is really working well." Be sure to visit this site and read comments from other participants and view some of the interesting photographs they share.

The 2003 ARRL August UHF Contest is scheduled for the weekend of August 2-3. You don't have to be the ultimate technical whiz to participate and have fun. There is *lots* of room in the UHF/SHF spectrum on which you can participate. Start planning now to join in the fun. **QST**

and perseverance."

Roving is always a challenge, and one made more difficult when there are fewer operators on the air. An interesting story emerged from the Northwestern Division where Mike Pinault, W7GHZ, and Martin Hibbs, N7MX, worked each other across 14 grids to finish 1-2 in the overall Rover competition. Both managed to work numerous QSOs with other operators along their route to help get those grids in additional logs. In all, eight of the top ten rover operators from the 2001 contest managed to reappear in the 2002 rover standings. This underscores the commitment and consistency that these talented operators demonstrate. Rovers from eight ARRL divisions managed to make the Top Ten box.

What a difference a year makes, well, at least to Russ Dwarshuis, KB8U. In 2001, his score of 51,798 was a good enough effort to take home second place overall. In 2002, he added 90 points and took home top honors in the Single Operator Low Power category. Russ worked five bands from his QTH (222, 432, 902, 128 and 2304) and had a total of 121 QSOs and 92 multipliers. His multiplier advantage was able to offset the great effort of Paul Sokoloff, WA3GFZ, who had three more bands and 17 more QSOs, but trailed in the multiplier department. Operators from five ARRL Divisions and Canada were found among the category top ten stations.

After having piloted his station to a second place finish in the Multioperator category in 2001, Donald Wilke, WW8M, jumped to the Single Operator High Power category in 2002 with even better

results. Using ten bands, Donald took top honors in the category with an outstanding score of 261,171. Bill Lentz, AA2UK, finished with a strong second place score of over 200k while using seven bands. Also bettering the top 2001 category score was Jeff Klein, who utilized seven bands on his way to 160k points. Stations from five ARRL Divisions made appearances in the category top ten box.

Traditionally there has been a minimal amount of activity in the Multioperator category in the August UHF Contest. In the past eight years, the number of Multioperator entries has ranged from five (2001) to eighteen (1999). In 2002, nine entries were received in the category. But among all aspects in any area of this contest, there is pretty well one tradition that stands alone: the dominance of the W2SZ Mount Greylock Multioperator team. In the 25 years that this contest has been held, the operators at W2SZ have won 23 times, including the previous four years. In fact in 1993 and 1998, the only two years that they did not win the category, they finished in second place. It would be pretty much impossible for anyone to lay claim to any stretch of domination in amateur radio contesting that would top the Mount Greylock efforts in this event.

The real feel for this contest is expressed in the comments of the participants. A newcomer to the event, Paul, WA3GFZ, commented that "This was my first August UHF contest and I really enjoyed it. The lack of intense activity made it possible to hear the 'weak ones,' which are trampled during the big con-

Scores

Each line score lists call sign, score, stations worked, multipliers, entry category (A = Single Operator Low Power, B = Single Operator High Power, M = Multioperator, R = Rover), ARRL/RAC section, and bands (C = 222 MHz, D = 432 MHz, 9 = 902 MHz, E = 1296 MHz, F = 2304 MHz, G = 3456 MHz, H = 5760 MHz, I = 10 GHz, J = 24 GHz, K = 47 GHz, L = 75 GHz, M = 119 GHz, N = 142 GHz, O = 241 GHz, P = 300+ GHz).

Atlantic										WA8RJF	32,292	88	78	B	OH	CD9EFG	KO6FR	120	10	4	A	EB	CD	
WA3GFZ	35,955	138	51	A	EPA	CD9EFGHL	K4TO	24,375	95	65	B	KY	CD9E	KE6QR	72	8	3	A	EB	D				
W3KJ	27,219	116	43	A	EPA	CDEFG	K2YAZ	20,700	82	60	B	MI	CD9EFGHI	WB6NTL	10,908	83	36	B	SV	CDE				
AI3Z	5,913	60	27	A	MDC	CDE	NE8I	21,924	90	42	R	MI	CD9EFGHIJK	KE6FI	528	22	8	R	SCV	D				
N3JFM	3,933	57	23	A	EPA	CD	Hudson																	
N3RN	1,890	21	14	A	EPA	CD9EFGI	WB2SIH	8,178	73	29	A	ENY	CD9E	Roanoke										
KA3SDP	1,134	21	18	A	WPA	CD	W3HHN	5,940	51	33	A	ENY	CD9E	WF4R	1,944	36	18	A	VA	D				
K3MJW (N3APZ, op)							K2OVS	357	17	7	A	NLI	D	W4SW	1,200	10	10	A	VA	FGHI				
AA3GM	243	9	9	A	WPA	D	K2RI	150	10	5	A	ENY	CD	K4FJW	693	21	11	A	VA	CD				
AA2UK	213,921	262	139	B	SNJ	CD9EFGI	WA2NXX	81	9	3	A	NNJ	D	W4SHG	450	15	10	A	VA	D				
W2FU	52,530	96	85	B	WNY	CD9EFGHI	WB2IDV	24	4	2	A	NNJ	D	W4FAL	405	15	9	A	NC	D				
AA3GN	48,861	144	61	B	EPA	CD9EFG	WA2IID (+KB2SSS)	29,988	110	51	R	ENY	CD9EFGHI	K4FTO	189	9	7	A	VA	CD				
W3RJW	35,457	111	53	B	EPA	CD9EFGI	Midwest																	
K3DNE	32,010	124	55	B	MDC	CD9EF	N0URW	10,716	76	47	A	IA	CD	KF4IP	180	10	6	A	NC	D				
WA3DRC	17,028	94	33	B	EPA	CD9EFG	N0LL	75	5	5	A	KS	CD	AD4TJ	72	6	4	A	VA	D				
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)							KM0T	54,288	104	78	B	IA	CD9EFGHI	K4QI	31,317	119	73	B	NC	CDE				
N3EMF (+K3MKZ, N3PBH, KA3ZHT)	293,880	335	155	M	EPA	CD9EFGHI	KA0Y	5,670	48	35	B	IA	CDE	KN4SM	2,736	48	19	B	VA	D				
N2PA (N2JDQ, N2KG, N2YB, ops)	179,772	243	142	M	WNY	CD9EFGHIJ	N0DQS	29,295	141	35	R	IA	CD9EFGHI	K2PQI	270	10	9	B	WV	D				
WA3UGP (+K3YWY, N3LJK)							New England																	
K1DS	60,840	163	60	R	EPA	CD9EFGH	AF1T	35,226	124	57	A	NH	CD9EFI	N0POH	1,023	31	11	A	CO	CD				
N2JMH (+K2IDT)							W1PM	25,110	107	62	A	EMA	CD9E	K5RHR	456	18	8	A	NM	CD9				
W3HMS	9,999	48	33	R	WNY	CD9EFGHI	W1BQ	15,912	91	39	A	ME	CD9EF	K0RZ	11,907	68	27	B	CO	CD9EFGI				
KE3HT	3,888	28	18	R	WPA	CDEFGHI	AA1YN	9,894	63	34	A	NH	CD9EI	W6OAL	10,890	65	30	B	CO	CD9EFGHI				
N2GKM	1,848	24	11	R	EPA	CD9EFGI	N1GJ	7,470	55	30	A	EMA	CD9EF	N0UGY	2,130	23	10	B	CO	DFGI				
Central										AC1J	4,752	61	22	A	NH	CDE	N0IO (+KC0DEF)							
N9DG	3,456	48	24	A	WI	CD	WB1GCM	900	21	10	A	CT	DI	N0BAF (+K10SK)	12,540	100	22	R	CO	CD9EFI				
W9SZ	2,835	27	27	A	IL	CD9E	KA1RWY	63	4	3	A	CT	DI		252	12	7	R	CO	D				
K9YR	1,881	30	19	A	IL	CD9E	K1TEO	160,758	262	117	B	CT	CD9EFGI	Southeastern										
KB9Q	504	14	12	A	WI	CD	K1GX	52,428	149	68	B	CT	CD9EFGHI	K0VXM	3,264	42	16	A	SFL	CD9EFI				
K9J	297	11	9	A	IL	C	W21V	18,216	73	44	B	CT	CD9EFG	KC4PX	2,520	41	15	A	SFL	CDEF				
N2BJ	34,968	141	62	B	IL	CD9EF	N1UQT	1,881	25	19	B	VT	CD9EFG	W4OZK	1,479	27	17	A	AL	CDE				
W9UD	10,692	78	44	B	IL	CD9	W1ZC	1,092	26	14	B	NH	CD9E	KB4TCU	1,224	24	17	A	GA	CD				
KA9UVY	5,700	44	38	B	IL	CDE	W2SZ (WA8USA, +ops)	906,153	597	229	M	WMA	CD9EFGHIJ	KU4WW	969	19	17	A	AL	CD				
W9RVG	4,182	38	34	B	IL	CDE	N1LDY (+KE1AK)						KU4WD	135	9	5	A	NFL	CD					
W9JN	663	17	13	B	WI	CD	N1JEZ	47,436	44	20	M	EMA	DE	AJ4W	264	11	8	R	AL	D				
K0PG	8,649	80	31	R	IL	CDE	KJ1K	9,660	64	23	R	WMA	CD9EFGI	Southwestern										
K9ILT	8,100	78	30	R	IL	CDE	KA1OJ	2,925	23	15	R	EMA	DGHIJ	W6TOI (KE6HPZ, op)										
Dakota										Northwestern														
WB0GGM	8,769	68	37	A	MN	CD9E	N7MWV	4,224	51	16	A	WWA	CD9EFGHI	W6TOI (KE6HPZ, op)	11,340	70	35	A	LAX	CD9EFGI				
K0SHF	7,200	59	30	A	MN	CD9EFI	K7HSJ	120	6	5	A	OR	CD9E	K6JEY	1,584	25	12	A	LAX	DEI				
N0KP	648	24	9	A	MN	CD	N7DB	24	4	2	A	OR	CD	KA6AMD	1,536	24	16	A	LAX	CD9E				
W0ZQ	18,450	86	50	B	MN	CD9EF	K7AWB	6	2	1	A	EWA	D	W9EC	510	13	10	A	SB	CDE				
WB0LJC	252	12	4	B	MN	CDEF	N7EPD	23,328	137	36	B	WWA	CD9EFG	KF6ZYY	96	8	4	A	LAX	D				
W0AMT	3,348	62	18	R	MN	CD	KE7SW	9,396	65	27	B	WWA	CD9EFGH	KA6TTV	72	6	4	A	LAX	C				
Delta										KD7TS	1,683	31	11	B	WWA	CD9EFGH	K6TSK	10,125	108	27	B	ORG	CDE	
AD4F	420	14	10	A	TN	CD	W7USB	108	8	4	B	ID	DE	K6IBY	1,581	31	17	B	ORG	CD				
AA4H	3,666	38	26	B	TN	CD9E	NU7Z (+K7ND)	22,686	105	38	M	WWA	CD9EFGHIJ	K6HLH	528	16	8	B	LAX	DFG				
WB4WEN (+K4EJQ)	4,914	44	26	M	TN	CD9EGHI	W7GHZ	407,484	419	126	R	EWA	CD9EFGHI	KE6TDP (+KE6TDQ)	144	12	4	M	LAX	D				
AG4V (+packet)	4,257	36	33	M	TN	CDE	N7MX	405,504	412	128	R	EWA	CD9EFGHI	AD6AF	456	19	8	R	LAX	D				
Great Lakes										N7CFO	6,375	78	17	R	WWA	CD9EFG	West Gulf							
KB8U	51,888	121	92	A	MI	CD9EF	K7MDL	837	31	9	R	WWA	D	KM5OL	1,350	28	10	A	NTX	CD9EFG				
KB8VAO	768	10	8	A	OH	DEHI	Pacific																	
W8RU	27	3	3	A	MI	D	W6OMF	8,184	72	31	A	EB	CDE	VE22P	1,080	20	18	A	QC	CD				
WW8M	261,171	298	153	B	MI	CD9EFGHIJK	KC6ZWT	3,780	60	21	A	SV	CD	VA7MM	72	7	3	A	BC	DE				
K8MD	41,055	112	85	B	MI	CD9EF	K6HEW	696	24	8	A	EB	CDE	VE3TFU	28,182	96	77	B	ON	CD9E				
										K7ICW	693	20	11	A	NV	CDE	VE3BFM	12,852	64	51	B	ON	CD9E	
										KF6VBJ	546	20	7	A	SV	DE	VE2PIJ	1,224	24	17	B	QC	CD	
										KF6MXX	405	15	9	A	SCV	CD								
										W6ABW	180	20	3	A	NV	CD								