# 2004ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes Results 

For a change of pace...

Frozen bands and frozen rovers were the name of the game for the 2004 January VHF SS this year. Mother Nature often fools us in winter with some nice weather, leading us to believe that the January contest might be blessed with some reasonable conditions. Not this year! Wind, rain, ice and snow seemed to characterize this event for many operators across the country. Even the magic band ( 6 meters) was hard pressed to produce a few lazy strings of grid multipliers for many of the big stations.

Cold weather is known for its ability to squeeze any chance for extended propagation out of the troposphere. With layers of cold-dense air closer to the ground, there is much less refraction to bend our precious RF energy back toward the ground as it flies over the earth's curvature. This was painfully obvious to many of us this year. The microwave bands were greeted with many hopeful operators trying their luck, but many of the emitted signals just fell to the ground like a lead balloon.

At times it seemed that the equipment was broken, but then a few close-in stations would show up with weaker-thannormal signals to show that it was not the equipment that was to blame, but rather poor conditions. Nonetheless, the January VHF event is always a good time, as club competition and great activity levels always seem to come to the rescue to gener-

## Expanded Reports Available

For expanded results, participant soapbox and the complete scores in a user-searchable database, 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.
ate fun for these high-band enthusiasts.
Even 6 meters was hard-pressed to produce any fireworks for those seeking the elusive DX. With the sunspots on the decline, there was no F 2 propagation expected, and the $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$ propagation gods were apparently not particularly happy with us either. It was a change-of-pace kind of contest this year, where one could slug it out using operating skill and good equipment to seek the activity for which the January VHF SS is well known. When multipliers are in short supply, WSJT can be a welcome boost to your score.

## 2004 Overview

The number of logs submitted this year was 799 , pretty much on par with the past couple of years. The January

## Top Ten

| Single Operator Low Power |  | Limited Multioperator |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| K2DRH | 162,321 | W3SO | 217,888 |
| WA3GFZ | 124,236 | K8CC | 113,328 |
| W3KJ | 113,390 | N3JFM | 88,981 |
| KB8U | 102,564 | AA4ZZ | 81,000 |
| N1DPM | 95,700 | W1QK | 75,764 |
| W4SHG | 60,495 | N8ZM | 53,568 |
| NOKP | 52,437 | W2MMD | 42,903 |
| AF1T | 49,630 | K2AA | 41,616 |
| N9DG | 47,190 | W2EA | 37,312 |
| WB2SIH | 45,522 | KB1DFB | 30,300 |
| Single Operator High Power |  | Multioperator |  |
| K1TEO | 454,176 | K3EAR | 944,064 |
| AA2UK | 436,104 | N2PA | 394,487 |
| K1RZ | 337,824 | N3NGE | 300,048 |
| K2AXX | 316,487 | K1JT | 254,408 |
| WA3NUF | 227,666 | N2JMH | 130,689 |
| K2SMN | 128,397 | N2BJ | 109,200 |
| W3RJW | 126,224 | K3EOD | 107,910 |
| K1GX | 120,420 | N8KOL | 90,170 |
| AA3GN | 114,982 | W6TE | 52,050 |
| WøGHZ | 106,785 | WA3ZKR | 32,370 |
| Single Operator Portable |  | Rover |  |
| KF0Q | 22,920 | N6NB (+KG6TOA) |  |
| N8XA | 4,066 |  | 1,097,280 |
| W9GKA | 3,978 | N6MI | 1,067,377 |
| K0NR | 2,478 | N6MU | 1,053,582 |
| WD5AGO | 2,378 | K2TER (+K | KV2X) |
| KQ6EE | 1,674 |  | 400,189 |
| K9BIG | 1,210 | N2OPW | 371,195 |
| WB2AMU | 960 | N7WLO (+ | KL7BK) |
| N0JK | 345 |  | 370,804 |
| KT4GG | 165 | N6TEB ${ }^{\text {+ }}$ | KE6HPZ) |
|  |  |  | 269,598 |
|  |  | N6DN (+A | D6HT) |
|  |  |  | 252,636 |
|  |  | W3IY (+ON | N4IY) |
|  |  |  | 171,570 |
|  |  | KU7M | 164,488 |

VHF SS remains the best-attended VHF contest, judging by logs received. Perhaps the heated club competition, along with some fierce rover competition is the magic recipe for activity.

There were 468 SOLP entries, up about $10 \%$ from last year. The SOHP participants numbered 162 this time, down from 190 in 2003. Perhaps more stations want to compete in the low power category, and avoid the wrath of the big guns. The limited multioperator logs totaled 39 this year, up from 32 in 2003. There were 26 unlimited multioperator entries this time, along with some big scores from many of the 89 rover entries. The rover category is still growing, which is a testament to this exciting aspect of VHF contesting. How else could you get 89 lunatics to venture out

## Affiliated Club Competition

|  | Score | Entries |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Unlimited Category |  |  |
| Mt Airy VHF Radio Club | $2,856,837$ | 56 |
| Medium Category |  |  |
| Rochester VHF Group | $1,811,680$ | 25 |
| North East Weak Signal Group | $1,036,971$ | 28 |
| South Mountain Contest Club | 957,064 | 4 |
| Potomac Valley Radio Club | 919,775 | 21 |
| Northern Lights Radio Society | 706,824 | 51 |
| Society of Midwest Contesters | 542,740 | 21 |
| Pacific Northwest VHF Society | 280,109 | 21 |
| Western States Weak Signal | 228,949 | 10 |
| Badger Contesters | 223,046 | 23 |
| Yankee Clipper Contest Club | 164,148 | 9 |
| Florida Contest Group | 155,539 | 4 |
| Mad River Radio Club | 136,194 | 5 |
| Crawford County ARC | 112,484 | 9 |
| Contest Club Ontario | 110,983 | 11 |
| South Jersey DX Assn | 84,504 | 6 |
| Carolina DX Assn | 81,253 | 3 |
| Northern California Contest | 71,855 | 8 |
| Six Meter Club of Chicago | 34,738 | 18 |
| Bergen ARA | 29,224 | 8 |
| Tennessee Contest Group | 16,170 | 6 |
| Warminster ARC | 4,704 | 3 |
| Mobile Sixers Radio Club | 1,443 | 5 |
| Rochester (MN) ARC | 619 | 3 |
| Local Category |  |  |
| Delaware Valley VHF Society | 249,920 | 9 |
| Eastern Panhandle ARC | 136,280 | 10 |
| North Texas Microwave Society | 121,663 | 7 |
| Rappahannock Valley Amateur | 62,971 | 3 |
| Roadrunners Microwave Group | 55,926 | 3 |
| Dauberville DX Assn | 5,996 | 3 |
| Medina 2 Meter Group | 5,477 | 4 |
| Meriden ARC | 2,811 | 4 |
|  |  |  |



Jean, N1MJC, teamed with her OM Rick, N1RL, to learn some of the contesting ropes.
into the dead of winter and do battle with all that radio apparatus?

## Propagation

If you recall the 2003 ARRL September VHF QSO party, there were not any particularly enhanced conditions. From the perspective of many, however, the warm weather conditions were far better than what was in store for the unseasonably cold weather of January 2004. Tropo was virtually nonexistent, although many stations were fooled into thinking there was tropo when the bands would occasionally go from wintertime-poor to almost normal. It was amazing how difficult it was for many to work the usually easy microwave paths in sub-freezing temperatures.

DX signals just weren't there on the bands above 903, in general, on any extended paths. As for 6 meters, there was possibly F2, but a small amount of $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$ propagation, particularly in the South. It was enough to provide some excitement for the watchful operators, although many missed most of it. There seemed to be significant 6 meter propagation for the top DX station, VP9GE, operating in the SOLP category, using only 6 meters. Ed managed to rack up 78 grid multipliers extending from southern Alabama up into Canada, working much of the East Coast in-between. This is an amazing accomplishment, especially considering the 100 W and a single 5 element beam at 12 feet! Perhaps the Bermuda Triangle was unleashing some of its magic on the magic band in this region.

In the East, several big stations managed to add a dozen or so grids on some short-lived $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$ propagation, which seemed to produce mainly north-south paths. Ivars, KC4PX, in EL99 shared that "The Janu-


Marten, KC8HZM, and Jeff, KC8HZQ, freely admit they are starting at the bottom but are looking to climb the ladder of successful roving as far as they can.
ary VHF contest in Florida is usually slow with minimal 6 meter $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$. However this year, Florida was fortunate to have two significant $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$ openings and a quick F2 into Mexico. Saturday afternoon at 2100 to 0000 was excellent into the Northeast VHF corridor from VE9 to W3/W4's but concentrating on New England VHFers. Then on Sunday from 2300 to 0300 a pipeline into Texas built up our grid square count ( 70 total on 6 meters). This, however, never came close to the June 2003 grid count of 266 on 6 meters." Nice work, Ivars!

## The National Scene

How do you generate a big score when there's not much happening in the propagation department? The answer is to work everyone you hear, and find the rovers! Rovers made a huge difference to many stations in the top-10 this year. Living in a high-density heavily ham-populated region like the Northeast corridor helps, but you just can't work many available grids, unless some rovers decide to activate them.

## Single Operator

Bob, K9DRH, is no stranger to winning the SOLP category and again he takes the number one spot in this hot operating category, with a score slightly higher than last year of 162 k. Second place this year again goes to Paul, WA3GFZ, with a great showing of 124 k from Packrats country near Philadelphia. The third place position goes to another Packrat, Joe, W3KJ, with 113k. Joe has done a great job adding bands, and making nice improvements to his station in FN20. Also topping 100k points in the SOLP category is Russ, KB8U, with an excellent performance totaling 102 k .

In the SOHP sector, Jeff, K1TEO, continues to dominate the national scene with an incredible 454 k points. Being located
in a high-activity area doesn't hurt, but Jeff continues to show a keen sense of balancing operations on 10 bands, and making them all pay off! Posting a close second place effort was Bill, AA2UK. Bill continues to improve his station, and does a great job of inspiring a large number of Packrats within range of FM29. Bill's 436k represents a tightening of the race for SOHP honors in the East.

A very strong performance by third place finisher Dave, K1RZ, begins to show that FM19 is within striking distance of a SOHP contest win. Dave added a 1 W station on 3456 this year, and piled up a nice 15 QSOs on 7 grids on this growing microwave band. (The author even had a fun snow-scatter with Dave on 3.4 GHz as white-out conditions blanketed FM19 on the ride home.) Mark, K2AXX, finished in fourth place with an awesome score of 316 k with solid totals on 10 bands.

## Multioperator

The top unlimited multioperator position this year was taken by K3EAR, setting a new record of 944 k from FM19hx. Despite the cold weather, this resourceful group succeeded in racking up points on bands through 76 GHz . N2PA was next in the ranks with a score of 394 k operating from FN12, adding QSOs on bands through 24 GHz , and lasers.

Big efforts from the Packrats sector of the country propelled N3NGE and K1JT into third and fourth place respectively nationwide in the MU category. It's great to see experienced operators get together, and put forth such nice multioperator efforts during this cold time of the year. (We rovers really appreciate it!) Inviting lots of friends over for a multioperator weekend, using lots of rigs and amplifiers can help keep the house warm!

The limited multioperator section was


It seems the operators at the W3SO limited multi may have taken the challenge to "dig through the pileups" and "sweep the bands for QSOs" a bit too literally. From left to right: W3PAW, W3YOZ, K4VV, KD3SA, W3TEF, W3BTX and WR3Z.


Curt, K9AKS, operated the University of Southern California station W6YV with this spectacular view toward downtown LA and the mountains beyond. The Library Tower in the center is the tallest building between Chicago and Taiwan.
led by W3SO in FN00 with a score of 217 k . This was a significant accomplishment, with temperatures down to $-10^{\circ}$, and 24 inches of snow on the ground, by contest end. The best way to keep your antennas from freezing up is to use them continuously! Second place in LM was captured by the K8CC group, with a total of 113 k points!

## Rover

The rover category this year saw huge scores and a big well-planned effort from N6NB/R, N6MU/R, and N6MI/R. Packroving and grid-circling was exploited to their finest to produce the top 3 rover scores of over 1 million points each. The nationwide winner, Wayne, N6NB/R, put in a fantastic effort to build 3 10-band stations, and carefully planned this big assault on the rover-record. The winning score of 1.097 M was dominating, but fell short of the all-time rover record (under the present rules) of 1.392 M , set in 1999 by N3IQ/R (ND3F, and K8ISK operators). Other big scores in the rover category were set by K2TER/R, N2OPW/R, N7WLO/R, N6TEB/R and N6DN/R.

Pack-roving and grid-circling powered these rover stations to huge winning scores in their respective regions. Although controversial, these techniques catapult rover scores into the stratosphere, as the QSOs and grids come rolling in, working other rovers rapidly over short distances. The top rover worked only 2 other rover stations for $97 \%$ of his QSOs!

## Regional Highlights

The regional scores always show interesting aspects of the January VHF SS. This year, with no big $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{s}}$ openings, the population centers, and areas with good rover
activity did well. Detailed division scores can be found on the web report, as usual at www.arrl.org/contests/results.

## Northeast

Even super-cold temperatures, high noise levels, and howling wind cannot stop the fun in this heavily populated area. In addition to the top scores already mentioned, Fred, N1DPM; Dale, AF1T, and Buff, WB2SIH put forth good efforts to claim the 3rd, 4th and 5th spots in the SOLP category from the Northeast. Veteran contesters Phil, WA3NUF; Roger, K2SMN, and Ron, W3RJW, worked their way into 5th, 6th and 7th place nationwide in SOHP from this division.

N3JFM, and W1QK slugged it out for second and third place in the LM section this year with scores of 89 k and 76 k . Jim, N2JMH (taking a break from roving), entered the MU category this year, and did well with 131k. Nice job, Jim! Rover extraordinaire Brian, ND3F/R (although not submitting a log), worked over 200k points in just one day of operating!

## Southeast

The SOLP leader here was Steve, W4SHG. Making great progress improving the station, Steve keeps adding bands and doing a great job from his less-thanoptimum QTH in FM18. K8GUN took second in SOLP, and is becoming a regular big signal in this region from FM09. Jeff, NJ2F; Richard, K4RTS, and Charles, KØVXM, added QSOs to many logs as well in this category. AA4ZZ led the LM efforts with a big 81k from NC. N4HB took the top MU spot, followed by AG4V.

Yours truly, W3IY/R, roved the Outer Banks of NC, VA and MD with copilot Christophe, ON4IY, and found 30 knot
winds and sub-freezing temperatures a bit obtuse (but much fun) in the rover category this year. It was amazing how many usual microwave QSOs were not possible with the cold weather this time. Matt, KC3WD/R, persevered against weather and vehicle problems, and turned in a strong rover effort from this region as well. Single operator portable entries included KT4GG and KQ6NO. Your efforts are appreciated by all of us.

## Central

Duane, N9DG, from this region, followed by Justin, K9MU, and Bob, KB9PJL, generated a strong SOLP effort. The LM category saw K8CC winning first place with 113 k . N8ZM took second place with 54 k . N2BJ captured top honors in the MU category with a big 109 k points. Not far behind was Keith, N8KOL, with 90k. Russ, VE3OIL/R, provided spirited rover activity in the Central region taking the top spot. The second and third place rover honors were won by Pat, K9ILT/R, and Tim, KøPG/R.

## Midwest

Dave, NØKP, captured the winning position in SOLP with a 52k effort. Second place was won by John, WØJT, with 36 k points. Multi-Unlimited was dominated by WØEAA with a 25 k score. A nice single operator portable effort was made by Larry, KFØQ, winning with a 23 k tally. LM was grabbed by WØJH. The biggest score in the region was generated by rover station W9FZ/R (Bruce) with just shy of 94 k ! Jonathan, WØAMT/R, took second place with John, KCØLBT, assisting. Mike, KMØT, took a break from his usual base station operations and decided to join the rover deep-freeze. It's nice to see how the

## Regional Results

 and Quebec Sections)

| WA3GFZ | 124,236 | A |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| W3KJ | 113,390 | A |
| N1DPM | 95,700 | A |
| AF1T | 49,630 | A |
| WB2SIH | 45,522 | A |
|  |  |  |
| K1TEO | 454,176 | B |
| AA2UK | 436,104 | B |
| K1RZ | 337,824 | B |
| K2AXX | 316,487 | B |
| WA3NUF | 227,666 | B |
|  |  | 960 |
| WB2AMU | 144 | Q |
| N2IM | 72 | Q |


| W3SO | 217,888 | L | AA4ZZ | 81,000 | L | K8CC | 113,328 | L |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N3JFM | 88,981 | L | K4ATM | 5,664 | L | N8ZM | 53,568 | L |
| W1QK | 75,764 | L | KU4JZ | 1,110 | L | KC9ETU | 12,040 | L |
| W2MMD | 42,903 | L | WX4MC | 90 | L | K8RO | 6,342 | L |
| K2AA | 41,616 | L |  |  |  | N9FH | 6,028 | L |
| K3EAR | 944,064 | M | N4HB | 19,176 | M | N2BJ | 109,200 | M |
| N2PA | 394,487 | M | AG4V | 11,316 | M | N8KOL | 90,170 | M |
| N3NGE | 300,048 | M | K4NGA | 3,360 | M | W9RVG | 14,823 | M |
| K1JT | 254,408 | M | N4JQQ | 2,856 | M |  |  |  |
| N2JMH | 130,689 | M |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K2TER (+KV2X) | 400,189 | R | W3IY (+ON4IY) | 171,570 | R | VE3OIL | 50,320 | R |
| N2OPW | 371,195 | R | KC3WD (+logger) | 74,734 | R | K9ILT/R | 33,865 | R |
| N1XKT | 91,872 | R | K1KC (+WA4UJY) | 13,504 | R | KøPG/R | 33,800 | R |
| K1DS | 86,255 | R | N4OFA (+N4FLM) | 13,200 | R | NE8I | 18,306 | R |
| K2QO/R | 35,206 | R | WD4MGB | 6,954 | R | K9JK/R | 15,688 | R |

Southeast Region
(Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)
W4SH
K8G
NJ2
K4R

K4R
$\mathrm{K} \emptyset \mathrm{V}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { K4Q } \\
& \text { NW5 }
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { KC4 } \\
& \text { WA8 }
\end{aligned}
$$

WA
KT
KQ


N2IM
K3M

WD4MGB 6,954 R

|  | 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 Regio (Pacific, Northwe Southwestern Div Alberta, British C NWT Sections) | on estern and ivisions; Columbia |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | K2DRH | 162,321 | A | NØKP | 52,437 | A | W6YV(K9AKS, op) | ) 23,994 | A |
| A | KB8U | 102,564 | A | WØJT | 36,314 | A | KC6ZWT | 21,448 | A |
| A | N9DG | 47,190 | A | K0SHF | 14,484 | A | W6AQ | 19,266 | A |
| A | K9MU | 29,382 | A | W6OAL | 11,184 | A | KF6YYV | 15,336 | A |
| A | KB9PJL | 25,920 | A | NØLL | 10,804 | A | K7YO | 11,685 | A |
| B | WB9Z | 91,307 | B | WøGHZ | 106,785 | B | N7EPD | 48,184 | B |
| B | W9GA | 70,800 | B | W6ZQ | 85,734 | B | W6KBX | 24,640 | B |
| B | K8MD | 62,920 | B | KT8O | 54,145 | B | N6KN | 24,327 | B |
| B | WA8RJF | 62,694 | B | W5LUA | 52,546 | B | K6TSK | 22,842 | B |
| B | K8TQK | 55,896 | B | WW2R | 50,285 | B | WA6KLK | 12,788 | B |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{Q} \\ & \mathrm{Q} \end{aligned}$ | N8XA | 4,066 | Q | KFOQ | 22,920 | Q | KQ6EE | 1,674 | Q |
|  | W9GKA | 3,978 | Q | KONR | 2,478 | Q | KG6HSQ | 145 | Q |
|  | K9BIG | 1,210 | Q | WD5AGO | 2,378 | Q |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | NØJK | 345 | Q |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | KAØJWC | 6 | Q |  |  |  |
| L | K8CC | 113,328 | L | WØJH | 2,838 | L | VE7DXG | 17,184 | L |
| L | N8ZM | 53,568 | L | NOKIS | 1,620 | L | K6MJU | 6,650 | L |
| L | KC9ETU | 12,040 | L | KD5JGA | 1,175 | L | W6SN | 3,872 | L |
| L | K8RO | 6,342 | L |  |  |  | KO6JF | 3,380 | L |
|  | N9FH | 6,028 | L |  |  |  | W7DHC | 2,470 | L |
| M | N2BJ | 109,200 | M | WØEEA | 24,966 | M | W6TE | 52,050 | M |
| M | N8KOL | 90,170 | M | KA0MR | 3,705 | M | K7MDL | 11,060 | M |
| M | W9RVG | 14,823 | M | W5LCC | 2,268 | M | K6WLC | 9,386 | M |
| M |  |  |  | K7RJ | 780 | M |  |  |  |
| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R} \\ & \mathrm{R} \\ & \mathrm{R} \\ & \mathrm{R} \\ & \mathrm{R} \end{aligned}$ | VE3OIL | 50,320 | R | W9FZ | 93,824 | R | N6NB (+KG6TOA) |  |  |
|  | K91LT/R | 33,865 | R | WØAMT(+KCØLBT) | 31,430 | R |  | 1,097,280 | R |
|  | KøPG/R | 33,800 | R | KC0P | 12,144 | R | N6MI 1,067 | 1,067,377 | R |
|  | NE8I | 18,306 | R | KM0T | 6,929 | R | N6MU 1,0 | 1,053,582 | R |
|  | K9JK/R | 15,688 | R | KIØSk (+NØBAF) | 4,725 | R | N7WLO (+KL7BK) |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 370,804 | R |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | N6TEB (+KE6HPZ) | Z) |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 269,598 | R |

other half lives from time to time. Mike reports it was a great learning experience.

## West Coast

West Coast contesters W6YV (Curtis, K9AKS op); Norman, KC6ZWT, and Dave, W6AQ, captured 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the SOLP madness. VE7DXG won the LM category, while W6TE took the top MU spot here with 52 k . The rover brigade saw big action from the top nationwide finishers previously mentioned. Roving in 6 land is a unique game, with lots of inaccessible mountain ranges blocking many of the suspected radio paths between population centers. It's great to see the big efforts from rovers in the West Coast region.

## Affiliated Club Competition

The January VHF SS continues to be the big draw for club competition in the VHF world. The top club effort this year goes (yet, again) to the Mount Airy VHF Club with 56 entries, and a huge score exceeding 2.8 M points! These guys have always made a big effort to encourage and help each other. This year the efforts paid big dividends. It's great to see such camaraderie and expertise in action. I can tell you that it's really fun to be within radio range of such an energetic group of

VHF nuts. This club was the only entrant in the unlimited category.

In the medium category, the Rochester VHF Group led the pack with about 1.8 M points, and 25 entries. Lots of microwave QSOs and rovers seem to thrive up here, despite the even colder weather than most of us have to deal with. The Northeast Weak Signal Group took a strong second place finish with over 1 million points and 28 participants. Third place in the Medium category goes to the South Mountain Contest Club, led by the record-setting performance of K3EAR. It's hard to compete with a club hosting the top MU effort of any contest.

In the local club category, the Delaware Valley VHF Society captured first place with 250 k and 9 participating stations. The Eastern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club took the next spot with 136k and 10 entries. The North Texas Microwave Society took third place in the local club competition with nearly 122 k points and 7 entries.

It's nice to see these clubs and organizations working to get their members on the air, contributing to this great operating event. It's important, especially in the dead of winter, to keep our fellow VHF and above amateurs stimulated, and operating. Clubs are a great venue for
finding other interested VHFers to share ideas with, and find out what you may be missing on the bands.

## The Allure of the January VHF Sweepstakes

We always enjoy seeing the bands come alive, especially when the propagation is less than normal. Working stations on VHF bands is always fun, but a contest in January is an especially welcome opportunity to see what your equipment can do. It's a unique challenge to work the usual DX stations that were so plentiful in warmer weather. Often, it just takes trying several times, as conditions are always changing.

Listen for the weak ones, and see what you can find. Working under adverse conditions make us all grow a little, and helps us to prepare for emergency communications, should the need arise in your area. Tune in next year, and join the excitement. Find out who has new equipment or better antennas, or maybe find a new rover in your area and show him what is possible on this exciting part of the Amateur Radio spectrum. Each QSO has a little more meaning in the January VHF Sweepstakes. Try it for yourself in 2005. Bet you will find a pace that suits you.

प5\%

## Scores

Each line score lists call sign, score, stations worked, multipliers, and band $(A=50 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{B}=144 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}=222 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}=432 \mathrm{MHz}, 9=$ $902 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{E}=1296 \mathrm{MHz}, F=2304 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{I}=10 \mathrm{GHz}$ ).

| DX |  |  |  |  |  | Vermont |  |  |  |  |  | WR3P | 330 | 23 | 6 | A | BCDP |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VP9GE | 31,434 | 403 | 78 | A | A | KA1BSZ | 25 |  |  | A | A | W5KI | 112 | 16 | 7 | A | $A B$ |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  | W1FN (AA | A1KL, WB | 1BRE |  |  | A1ZCN, | K2QPN | 112 | 28 | 4 | A | $A B$ |
| Connecticut |  |  |  |  |  | W1AIM, | KU1R, op |  |  |  |  | W2ORA | 76 | 19 | 4 | A | $A B$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 12,702 | 193 | 58 | L | ABCD | K1JT (+K2TXB, KC2DLA, K2BMI, KU3A, N3EVV) |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1TEO | 454,176 | 1041 | 228 | B | ABCD9EFGHI | Western Massachusetts |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1GX 1 | 120,420 | 573 | 108 | B | ABCD9EFGHI | W1RZF | 15,756 | 269 |  |  |  | K3EOD (+K3EGE, WA3WUL, WR3P) |  |  |  |  |  |
| WZ1V | 22,491 | 148 | 63 | B | ABCD9EFG | W1RZF NC1I | $\begin{aligned} & 15,756 \\ & 13,950 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 269 \\ & 234 \end{aligned}$ | 52 | B | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ABCD } \\ & \text { ABCDE } \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| KF6AJ | 21,204 | 277 | 57 | B | ABCD | NC1I N1MUW | $\begin{array}{r} 13,950 \\ 4.650 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 234 \\ 87 \end{array}$ | 50 | B | ABCDE <br> ABCD9EFG | W2MMD (N2NRD, KB2AYU, KC2KGM, WB2LNR, |  |  |  |  |  |
| K7BV | 17,856 | 279 | 64 | B | A | N1MUW | 4,650 95 | 87 386 | 30 | B | ABCD9EFG |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1EM | 27,872 | 337 | 67 | A | ABCDE | N1DPM | 95,700 | 386 | 110 | A | ABCD9EFGI |  | 42,903 | 574 | 63 | L | ABCD |
| K1IM | 20,829 | 283 | 53 | A | ABCD9E | K1SND | 2,712 | 113 | 24 | A | AB | K2AA (K2SMD, N3RG, W2RDS, W2MC, KC2JJT, |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1ZZ | 13,668 | 227 | 51 | A | ABDI | KK1W | 2,071 | 109 | 19 | A | AB | N2EAC, ops) |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1CPJ | 9,879 | 159 | 37 | A | ABCD9EFG | KB1MU | 112 | 24 | 4 | A | BD | 41,616 |  | 480 | 68 |  | ABCD <br> K2SCO, K2WB, |
| K1WVX | 5,005 | 106 | 35 | A | ABCDE | $\begin{aligned} & \text { N1CCF } 60 \\ & \text { K1TTT (+packet) } \end{aligned}$ |  | 10 | 5 | A | BC | W2EA (KF | F2Y, KV2 | , KV | R, N | K |  |
| N1OFZ | 2,231 | 96 | 23 | A | ABD |  |  |  |  |  |  | ops |  | ,312 | 474 | 64 |  |
| WY1U | 2,185 | 92 | 23 | A | ABD |  | 3,540 | 118 | 30 | L | AB | Western New York |  |  |  |  |  |
| WB1GCM | 2,109 | 96 | 19 | A | ABD | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | K2AXX <br> W2FU <br> K2AN | 316,487 | 642 | 191 | B | ABCD9EFGHI |
| K1DJW | 1,360 | 68 | 20 | A | $A B$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | 36,550 | 165 | 85 | B | ABCD9EFGHI |  |
| WA1GTP | 1,029 | 40 | 21 | A | ABCD | Eastern New York |  |  |  |  |  |  | 22,450 | 200 | 50 | B | ABCD9EFGHL |
| W1NRG (KB1CIW,op) |  |  |  |  |  | W3HHN | 10,017 | 124 | 53 | B | ABCD9E |  | K8ZES (VA3IKE,op) |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | W2GKR | 7,399 | 127 | 49 | B | ABCD |  | 11,102 | 140 | 61 | B | ABCD |
|  | 231 | 21 | 11 | A | AB | WB2SIH | 45,522 | 372 | 81 | A | ABCD9E | W2EV | 6,594 | 99 | 42 | B | ABCDE |
| KB1EMJ | 216 | 21 | 9 | A | ABD | N2GCZ | 5,394 | 122 | 29 | A | ABCDE | N2EZS | 19,680 | 243 | 48 | A | ABCD9E |
| N1ZN | 210 | 30 | 7 | A | $A B$ | KC2GDG | 4,356 | 85 | 44 | A | ABCD | K2EY | 11,109 | 115 | 69 | A | ABCD |
| KB1JDX | 189 | 27 | 7 | A | B | WA1RKS | 2,016 | 70 | 24 | A | ABCD | KA2ENE | 8,062 | 219 | 29 | A | ABD |
| W1DMM | 185 | 37 | 5 | A | AB | N2UD | 540 | 37 | 12 | A | $A B C D$ | N2WVK | 7,956 | 119 | 39 | A | ABCDEP |
| KA1RWY | 12 | 3 | 3 | A | ABD | WA2BAH | 84 | 12 | 6 | A | BD | N2HJD | 7,250 | 197 | 25 | A | ABCD9EI |
| W1QK (+ | W1NG, | 1QJ, | N1JM | A, W | ØBR, N1GS, | KC2KIS | 70 | 11 | 5 | A | BD | K2OEQ | 5,940 | 132 | 36 | A | ABD9 |
| N1ABY, | K1XS, K | PHG, | KA1S | YG) |  | KA2MCU | 15 | 4 | 3 | A | BD | N2MKT | 5,092 | 108 | 38 | A | ABCDE |
|  | 75,764 | 671 | 94 | L | $A B C D$ | N2FMC | 8 | 4 | 2 | A | B | W2CXM (WO9S, op) 38 A ABCDE |  |  |  |  |  |
| KB1DFB ( | (+N1XS, | KB1H) |  |  |  | KC2KLF | 2 | 2 | 1 | A | B | W2CXM | 3,441 | 94 | 31 | A | ABD |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 30,300 \\ + \text { +N1SAX) } \end{gathered}$ | 405 | 60 | L | ABCD | NYC-Long Island |  |  |  |  |  | W2ONP | 2,430 | 107 | 18 | A | ABCD |
| KW1AM ( | $\begin{gathered} (+N 1 S A X) \\ 10,222 \end{gathered}$ | 21 | 38 | L | ABCD |  |  |  |  |  |  | WB2YJH | 2,394 | 140 | 14 | A | ABD |
| Eastern Massachusetts |  |  |  |  |  | W2RKI | 8,756 | 168 | 44 | A | ABCD | KB2NFS | 1,170 | 67 | 13 | A | ABCD |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | N2RRA | 4,884 | 223 | 22 | A | B | W9KXI | 448 | 27 | 14 | A | BD |
| W1GHZ | 56,170 | 430 | 82 | B | ABCD9EI | AG2A | 2,533 | 149 | 17 | A | B | W2LC | 350 | 23 | 14 | A | ABD |
| N1GJ | 16,038 | 168 | 54 | B | ABCD9EF | KB2NOW | 2,058 | 74 | 21 | A | ABCDE | W2DYY | 189 | 16 | 9 | A | ABD |
| KO1I | 11,000 | 242 | 40 | B | ABD9 | N2XDR | 1,848 | 130 | 12 | A | ABD | K2DH | 72 | 3 | 3 | A | IJP |
| W1FKF | 10,152 | 113 | 36 | B | ABCD9EFGI | KF2XF | 1,649 | 97 | 17 | A | B | KC2MHU | 60 | 10 | 6 | A | AB |
| WG1Z | 16,830 | 245 | 45 | A | ABCDE | KC2IQF | 1,331 | 121 | 11 | A | A | N2IM | 144 |  |  |  | ABDP |
| K5MA | 11,424 | 163 | 56 | A | ABCD | WM2Z | 770 | 53 | 14 | A | ABD | N2PA (N2VSZ, W2JSG, W3OAB, N2JQR, N2KG, |  |  |  |  |  |
| KA1EKR | 10,220 | 213 | 35 | A | ABCD9 | K2OVS | 704 | 36 | 16 | A | ABD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AA1VL | 6,262 | 173 | 31 | A | ABD | KB2JKW | 440 | 30 | 11 | A | $A B C D$ | N2YB, ops) 394,487954 223 M ABCD9EFGHIJL |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1UR | 4,800 | 161 | 24 | A | ABCD | N2KIN | 75 | 14 | 5 | A | ABD | N2JMH (+KC2IDT, N2WK, K2DH) |  |  |  |  |  |
| N1FDX | 1,975 | 77 | 25 | A | ABD | W2NSF | 16 | 4 | 4 | A | $A B$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1EP | 1,728 | 87 | 18 | A | $A B C D$ | WB2AMU | 960 | 53 | 16 | Q | $A B C D$ |  | +WO2P) | 461 |  | M | ABCD9EFGHIJP |
| W1DYJ | 1,155 | 77 | 15 | A | AB | Northern New Jersey |  |  |  |  |  | N2KXS (+WO2P) |  | 184 | 55 | M | ABCD9EFGHIJL |
| K1HC | 726 | 60 | 11 | A | ABC |  |  |  |  |  |  | $\underset{14,335}{\text { N2UIO (+KC2GMG }}$ |  | 184 | 55 | M | ABCD9EFGHIJL |
| N1BC | 649 | 51 | 11 | A | ABD | W2KV | 12,390 | 231 | 42 | B | ABDI |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| K1VU | 420 | 37 | 10 | A | ABD | WB2TT | 2,875 | 104 | 25 | B | AD |  |  | 204 | 47 | M | ABCD |
| N1EKV | 396 | 31 | 9 | A | ABCD | KC2KZR | 351 | 39 | 9 | B | AB |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| KB1KGP | 216 | 36 | 6 | A | B | W2JEK | 306 | 34 | 9 | B | AB |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WB2PID | 148 | 28 | 4 | A | ABCD | KA2SSX | 150 | 30 | 5 | B | B | Delaware |  |  |  |  |  |
| W1CRK | 144 | 16 | 9 | A | AB | W2DTA | 19,690 | 249 | 55 | A | ABCDE | W3OR | 36,456 | 260 | 93 | B | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ABCDE } \\ & \text { AB } \\ & \text { B } \end{aligned}$ |
| W1XM (KB1CGZ, N1UEJ, KB1FMP, KC6F, KT1D, KD1KY, N1VDU, W1GSL, KB1GRS, KB9IJB, |  |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { K2AMI } \\ & \text { WB2CUT } \end{aligned}$ | 6,262 | 156 | 31 | A | ABCD | WA3BZT | 2,675 | 107 | 25 | A |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 5,425 | 217 | 25 | A | B | KB1KCY | 130 | 26 | 5 | A |  |
| N1XUO, | KA2ZLZ | , KB1F | MP, o | s) |  |  | W2VTV | 4,108 | 142 | 26 | A | ABD | Eastern Pennsylvania |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 30,580 | 373 | 55 | M | ABCD9EF | N2CSF | 3,498 | 106 | 33 | A | $A B$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| W1MAT (+ | +KV1J) |  |  |  |  | W2MSK | 1,292 | 65 | 17 | A | $A B C D$ | WA3NUF | 227,666 | 780 | 134 | B | ABCD9EFGHIJP |
|  | 4,675 | 154 | 25 | L | ABCD | K3GNZ | 938 | 58 | 14 | A | BD | W3RJW 1 | 126,224 | 565 | 98 | B | ABCD9EFGHI |
| W1XX (+K | KB1KGP, | NC1C |  |  |  | N2CG | 885 | 59 | 15 | A | $A B$ | AA3GN 1 | 114,982 | 569 | 86 | B | ABCD9EFGHI |
|  | 1,975 | 78 | 25 | L | ABD | KE3PL | 812 | 58 | 14 | A | A | WA3DRC 10 | 104,550 | 491 | 82 | B | ABCD9EFGHI |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | W2WJO | 689 | 51 | 13 | A | ABD | N3EXA | 93,984 | 514 | 89 | B | ABCD9EF |
| Ma |  |  |  |  |  | K2ESE | 630 | 36 | 14 | A | ABD | WORSJ | 88,027 | 545 | 113 | B | ABCD9 |
| N1CJS | 28 | 7 | 4 | A | AB | KC2LSU | 616 | 54 | 11 | A | ABD | K3IPM | 73,062 | 584 | 82 | B | ABCD9EF |
| New Ham | mpshire |  |  |  |  | WA2NXK | 528 | 41 | 12 | A | ABD | K3TUF | 62,556 | 406 | 78 | B | ABCD9EF |
| K1TR | 77,832 | 503 | 94 | B | ABCDEFG | Northern New York |  |  |  |  |  | W3GAD | 58,765 42845 | 498 | 73 55 | B | ABCD9E |
| W1ZC | 6,912 | 156 | 32 | B | BD | NS2P | New 4 | 2 | 2 | A | A | WA4GPM | 39,675 | 253 | 115 | B | ABCDE |
| AF1T | 49,630 | 363 | 70 | A | ABCD9EFGHIP | Southern New Jersey |  |  |  |  |  | K3YI | 35,154 | 393 | 63 | B | ABCDE |
| AC1J | 12,470 | 199 | 43 | A | ABCDE |  |  |  |  |  |  | K 3 Cl | 30,855 | 299 | 55 | B | ABCD9E |
| KU2A | 10,101 | 136 | 39 | A | ABCD9EFG | K2SMN | 436,104 | 810 | 216 | B | ABCD9EFGHI | WA3EHD | 30,324 | 347 | 42 | B | ABCD9EF |
| AA1YN | 9,805 | 155 | 37 | A | ABCD9E |  | 128,397 | 556 | 127 | B | ABCD9EF |  | 29,848 | 382 | 52 | B | ABCDE |
| W1SD | 6,280 | 145 | 40 | A | ABCD | W2SJ <br> WA2ONK | 11,540 | 177 | 20 | B | ABCD9EFGHI | KF3DT | 29,036 | 336 | 61 | B | ABCD9 |
| WB1CMG | 5,346 | 117 | 22 | A | ABCD9EJ |  | 3,060 | 70 | 17 | B | C9 | WA3RLT | 20,787 | 289 | 41 | B | ABCDEFP |
| WW1Z | 5,104 | 125 | 29 | A | ABCD9 | WA2ONK K2TXB/M | 27 | 9 | 3 | B | B | WA3YUE | 20,163 | 237 | 39 | B | ABCD9EF |
| N1JHJ | 4,472 | 101 | 26 | A | ABCDEIP | K2TXB/R | 27 | 9 | 3 | B | B | WA2OMY | 12,845 | 234 | 35 | B | ABCD9EF |
| WA1Z | 3,125 | 117 | 25 | A | ABD | K3MWV W2PAU | 5,302 | 184 | 22 | A | ABCD | K3IUV | 11,778 | 285 | 26 | B | ABCDE |
| N1YHW | 2,145 | 141 | 13 | A | ABD |  | 3,692 | 126 | 26 | A | ABD | K3ISH | 10,659 | 187 | 57 | B | AB |
| N1FOJ | 1,536 | 96 | 16 | A | $A B$ | W2PAU KC2KGZ | 2,783 | 110 | 23 | A | ABD | K3TV | 9,420 | 314 | 30 | B | AB |
| K1PDY | 741 | 42 | 13 | A | $A B C D$ | N2DEQ | 2,235 | 121 | 15 | A | BCD | K3MFI | 9,320 | 250 | 20 | B | ABCD9EF |
| WA1VKO | 279 | 31 | 9 | A | $A B$ | N2RF <br> WB2VLA <br> N2UO <br> WA4FRA <br> W2MC | 1,770 | 99 | 15 | A | ABCD | KB3BBR | 9,128 | 187 | 28 | B | ABCDEFP |
| KB1JCL | 261 | 29 | 9 | A | $A B$ |  | 1,332 | 79 | 12 | A | $A B C D$ | KB3HCL | 4,471 | 173 | 17 | B | ABCDE |
| Rhode Island |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,036 | 74 | 14 | A | B | W3KM | 4,242 | 108 | 21 | B | ABCDEF |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 528 | 61 | 8 | A | ABD | N3XJX | 3,927 | 119 | 33 | B | AB |  |
| KB1LN | +189 | 27 | 7 | A | A |  | 495 | 49 | 9 | A | ABD | W3KKN | 3,192 | 124 | 14 | B | ABC9E |

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