

# 2006 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes Results

*Great improvement in weather from last year — scores are up!*

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**W**hat a contrast we have in 2006 (January 21-23) from last year's weather conditions in the central and north-eastern part of the country, which caused substantially lower than normal scores for the 2005 January VHF Sweepstakes competition. With only one exception, VE3LCA noting that a raging blizzard simulated emergency conditions very well in Ontario, good weather conditions were reported. Scores are up in all categories compared to the 2005 results.

Propagation on the VHF/UHF bands, however, was generally poor. Flat conditions prevailed in most areas of North America. Normal tropo range out to around 300 miles or so was generally the limit with a few exceptions, mostly for operators in elevated or coastal locations. I normally check the signal levels from the W3CCX beacons in downtown Philadelphia over the 283 mile, partial water path to my Cape Cod QTH prior to the VHF contests. This time, the bottom four beacons (50 through 432 MHz) were audible just above the noise level; that is the normal signal level I hear when there is no extended propagation taking place. These signal levels are very typical for the winter season.

N3NGE's summation of both weather and propagation is typical of many soapbox entries: "Band conditions were flat, activity was moderately low, and the weather was fabulous!" Some participants were quite disappointed, as noted by N8XP: "The worst propagation on 2m that I have ever seen."

These kinds of conditions are very typical of the winter season, and, with rare exceptions, the January VHF SS event requires stamina and perseverance to produce a competitive score. The increasingly popular digital modes now being used in the VHF/UHF/Microwave region provide contest entrants with tools to take advantage of meteor scatter and other less common propagation modes. Operators who are able to take advantage of the latest technology can significantly enhance their contest scores.

## 2006 Overall

The number of logs submitted for the 2006 January VHF SS competition was substantially higher than the total last year. Logs submitted this year totaled 793, compared to 718 in 2005. Participation in the 2005 event



The W8RU Limited Multiop: Ron, W8RU, getting some quality air time with future hams Julia (left) and Caroline.

was down substantially because of the heavy snow that made life difficult for everyone in the midwestern and northeastern states. As a consequence of the greatly improved weather conditions compared to last year, the number of rovers who participated this year was up by 27%. Participation in each of the six entry categories was up over last year.

There were 479 Single-Operator, Low-Power (SOLP) entries, up 8% from last year. The Single-Operator, High-Power category (SOHP) participation level was up in 2006 by 7% over last year to 149. Participation in both the Limited Multiop (LM) and QRP Portable categories was up by a whopping 45%, 14 participants and 43%, 6 participants respectively. This is likely a result of the huge snow event last year, when participation numbers were down substantially. Rover participation was up by 27%, 14 participants, over last year, while the Multioperator category was up by 12%, 3 participants.

## Propagation

Most of the Soapbox comments indicated that propagation was poor, flat and nonex-

## Top 10 Scores

Single Operator, Low Power	Limited Multioperator
K2DRH	174,894
WA3GFZ	106,470
N1DPM	106,268
AF1T	91,001
K1TR	87,859
K8GUN	80,357
W2MMD (N2NRD, op)	60,528
WB2SIH	49,551
K3EGE	48,868
K9MU	47,806
W3SO	276,210
K3YTL	98,084
K2AXX	71,412
N8ZM	49,206
W9RVG	45,582
KB1DFB	41,760
WN8R	36,192
W1QK	31,565
W3HZU	29,768
KG9BV	25,728
Single Operator, High Power	Multioperator
K1TEO	429,840
K1RZ	293,607
K3TUF	249,318
WA3NUF	174,240
W3SZ	172,840
K1JT	168,063
K3DNE	140,956
WA3DRC	105,462
K8TQK	102,466
WZ1V	97,440
K3EAR	804,357
N3NGE	504,597
W2FU	368,373
N2PA	245,632
K5QE	187,210
K8EB	155,354
K3EOD	102,580
WA3ZKR	71,796
KW1AM	58,800
K4LTX	50,350
QRP Portable	Rover
KA1LMR	45,504
K6MI	36,427
W9SZ	4,875
K17JA	3,040
W6DWI	2,106
WB2AMU	1,577
N8XA	1,156
KG6TGI	736
KQ6EE	728
K0NR	544
W6XD (+N6NB)	1,180,674
K6VCR (+KG6TOA)	1,096,647
N6MU	1,070,700
N3IQ	334,645
N6TEB (+KE6HPZ)	264,972
N6DN	232,170
K1DS	134,394
N1XKT	82,089
W3ZZ (+K8ISK)	78,960
N3FTI	68,839

## Affiliated Club Competition

	Score	Entries
<b>Unlimited Category</b>		
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	2,564,104	56
<b>Medium Category</b>		
South Mountain Contest Club	1,146,265	3
Potomac Valley Radio Club	1,057,447	31
North East Weak Signal Group	954,261	19
Rochester VHF Group	775,651	24
Downey ARC	274,365	3
Society of Midwest Contesters	247,853	10
Contest Club Ontario	223,984	15
Badger Contesters	208,348	19
Michigan VHF-UHF Society	203,697	8
Western States Weak Signal	182,577	16
Northern Lights Radio Society	178,616	26
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	156,060	22
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	147,786	8
Murgas ARC	123,180	3
Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters	103,833	12
Northern California Contest	62,122	11
Mad River Radio Club	53,149	4
Six Meter Club of Chicago	29,865	11
Tennessee Contest Group	22,911	7
Florida Contest Group	22,678	3
Carolina DX Assn	20,592	3
Bergen ARA	18,856	5
West Park Radiops	4,832	3
Bears of Manchester	3,513	4
Mobile Sixers Radio Club	2,608	4
Minnesota Wireless Assn	341	3
<b>Local Category</b>		
North Texas Microwave Society	163,531	10
Roadrunners Microwave Group	148,212	5
Eastern Panhandle ARC	131,475	5
Delaware Valley VHF Society	60,029	5
Eastern Connecticut ARA	44,201	3
Peconic Amateur Radio Club	13,703	3
Dauberville DX Assn	11,689	3
Medina 2 Meter Group	9,693	4
Raritan Bay Radio Amateurs	7,779	6
10-70 Repeater Assn	3,920	7
Meriden ARC	3,742	3
Ventura County Amateur Radio	2,320	3
East Coast DX Assn	898	3

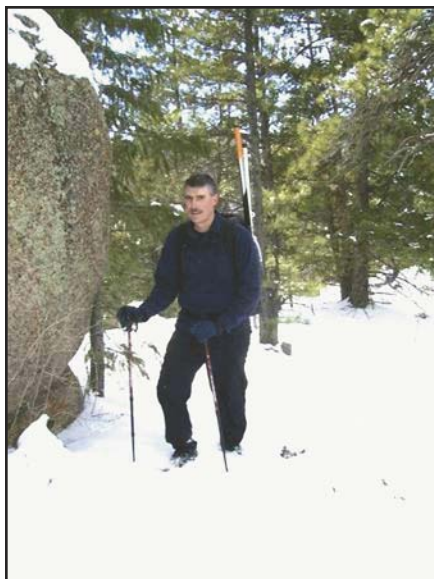
istent. AK4FL, for instance, indicated “no propagation...brute force only.” K2SZ said “very flat band conditions and not much activity heard at the Jersey shore.” In Texas, Ron, K5LLLL, noted that “conditions were worse than I have ever seen for a January contest.” KC4PX noted “worst propagation I have ever seen.” There were some good moments during the weekend as noted by K1RZ, “Lots of activity around the region...very warm weather, but no unusual conditions until Sunday night on microwaves with several rain scatter QSOs.” Propagation conditions summed up by Fred, WO2P, echoed the opinions of the great majority of Soapbox entries: “Beautiful weather; conditions were terrible on Saturday and only fair on Sunday. Activity/participation was generally down.”

## The National Scene

Scores in the North Central and Northeast regions were up significantly from last year because of the great improvement in weather conditions. Scores from the remainder of the country were up generally and helped substantially by rover participation.

## Single Operator

Bob, K2DRH, operating from EN41 in Illinois, took the top spot in the SOLP competition for the sixth straight year. Bob's 174k score is up by 36% from his winning 2005 score. The greatly improved weather conditions this year certainly contributed not



Bob, K0NR, hiking the trail to the summit of Mt Herman (DM79mb) for a Single-Op portable effort.

only to Bob's score improvement, but acted to boost most scores. Second place in SOLP goes to Paul, WA3GFZ, operating from PA with 106k points, up 47% from his second place score last year. Fred, N1DPM, took the third spot this year with 106k points operating from Massachusetts, while Dale, AF1T, operating from New Hampshire took fourth place with 91k. Not far behind Dale was fifth place winner Ed, K1TR, with 87k points, also operating from New Hampshire.

In the SOHP category, Jeff, K1TEO, continues at the top position with 429k points, up 21% from his 2005 score. Jeff has now taken the top SOHP spot nine years in a row from his outstanding location in western Connecticut. Second place in SOHP was again taken by Dave, K1RZ, operating from FM19 in Maryland. Dave's 293k score is up a whopping 58% from his finish last year. Third place in the SOHP category goes to Phil, K3TUF, with 249k points. Phil managed to move up from his fourth place finish last year in this highly competitive category by more than doubling his score. Fourth place goes to Phil, WA3NUF, with 174k points, followed by Roger, W3SZ, in fifth place with 172k points.

In the QRP portable category, Chris, KAI1MR, took the top spot with 45,504 points from New Hampshire. He was followed closely by John, K6MI, with 36,427 points to take the second spot. W9SZ, KI7JA and W6DWI round out the top five QRP portable entrants.

## Multioperator

The top Multi-multi spot goes to the South Mountain Contest Club station, K3EAR, with 804k points. Running 12 bands, K3EAR outdistanced their nearest competi-



Since he lives in an antenna-restricted area of town, Ron, KL1PL, operated as a mobile from a hill above Anchorage — that's devotion for mid-winter in KL7-land.

tor, N3NGE, by 300k points. The Packrats station, N3NGE, turned in a 504k effort for second place Multiop station. Third place Multiop station W2FU, from the Rochester, New York area turned in a 368k point effort. Jeff's team beat their first place Multiop score from last year, but it wasn't enough to outdistance the two Multiop leaders this time around. N2PA took fourth place with 245k points, while K5QE in Texas took fifth place with 187k.

The limited Multioperator category winner is the Wopsononock Mountaintop Operators, W3SO, in western Pennsylvania with 276k points. This group was on the air for the full contest period except for the last hour when they were forced to leave their mountaintop location because of freezing rain. Second place limited multi goes to K3YTL with 98k points. K2AXX took third place with 71k points, while N8ZM took the fourth spot with 49k and W9RVG took fifth with 45k.

## Rover

The team of Art, W6XD, and Wayne, N6NB, took the top spot in the Rover competition with a score of 1,180,674 points. Second place went to the team of K6VCR and KG6TOA with 1,096,647 points, with third place going to N6MU with 1,070,700 points. Fourth place went to N3IQ with 334k points with fifth place awarded to the team of N6TEB and KE6HPZ at 264k points. Art, W6XD, comments: “Contesting while mobile in motion crossing grid boundaries is an interesting and fun challenge. A highlight was having six 10-band rovers together at the Mojave convergence at one time. There was a lot of commotion on the microwave bands as we all worked each other — and everyone else available.”



## Regional Scores

Table lists call signs, score and class (A = Single Op Low, B = Single Op High, Q = Single Op Portable, L = Limited Multi, M = Multi Multi, R = Rover).

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 Sections)		
WA3GFZ	106,470	A	K8GUN	80,357	A	K2DRH	174,894	A	N0KP	42,032	A	KC6ZWT	21,816	A
N1DPM	106,268	A	W4SHG	45,045	A	K9MU	47,806	A	N0VZJ	24,375	A	W7GLF	12,628	A
AF1T	91,001	A	W0AH	25,272	A	N9DG	43,279	A	WB5ZDP	15,336	A	KG6DHQ	9,331	A
K1TR	87,859	A	W3IP	19,000	A	K4TO	41,418	A	NM5M	12,578	A	NU6S	6,300	A
W2MMD (N2NRD, op)	60,528	A	K4FJW	13,452	A	WA1MKE	26,404	A	W6ZI	8,370	A	KN6VR	6,142	A
K1TEO	429,840	B	K4QI	78,657	B	K8TQK	102,466	B	K9MK	49,113	B	KG6IYN	39,760	B
K1RZ	293,607	B	W4WA	77,965	B	VE3AX	91,959	B	W5LUA	33,361	B	N7EPD	30,743	B
K3TUF	249,318	B	W4ZRZ	68,320	B	K8MD	77,694	B	W3XO	28,645	B	K6TSK	19,380	B
WA3NUF	174,240	B	K4XR	51,181	B	WA8RJF	56,880	B	K5VH	27,132	B	K7YO	19,195	B
W3SZ	172,840	B	KE2N	45,298	B	KB8U	56,826	B	K5LLL	25,670	B	WA6KLLK	14,280	B
KA1LMR	45,504	Q	KZ1AMY	1	Q	W9SZ	4,875	Q	K0NR	544	Q	K6MI	36,427	Q
WB2AMU	1,577	Q				N8XA	1,156	Q	NU0C	36	Q	K17JA	3,040	Q
N3TEP	160	Q				KC9FVW	15	Q				W6DWI	2,106	Q
KC2JRQ	108	Q										KG6TGI	736	Q
N1ZGY	45	Q										KQ6EE	728	Q
W3SO	276,210	L	KG4LEV	14,535	L	N8ZM	49,206	L	K5ETX	3,795	L	W6SN	8,439	L
K3YTL	98,084	L	N4DXY	8,344	L	W9RVG	45,582	L	W0ETV	1,595	L	K6UCI	6,375	L
K2AXX	71,412	L	K4NGA	7,854	L	WN8R	36,192	L	N0UNL	1,098	L	K7XC	2,697	L
KB1DFB	41,760	L	N4ARR	2,886	L	KG9BV	25,728	L	N1SZ	4	L	VE7HPS	217	L
W1QK	31,565	L	K0XXX	1,470	L	N9TF	13,986	L						
K3EAR	804,357	M	K4LTX	50,350	M	K8EB	155,354	M	K5QE	187,210	M	N6KN	26,509	M
N3NGE	504,597	M	AG4V	21,988	M	N8KOL	44,304	M	KB0HH	25,192	M	W6YX	7,260	M
W2FU	368,373	M	N4JQQ	11,960	M	N2BJ	27,141	M	W5LCC	3,132	M	KG6ONE	3,600	M
N2PA	245,632	M				WC8VOA	3,105	M				KQ6NO	1,984	M
K3EOD	102,580	M				AB8LB	189	M						
N3IQ	334,645	R	AF4OD	44,840	R	VE3OIL	34,272	R	N5AC (+W5TX)	45,804	R	W6XD (+N6NB)	1,180,674	R
K1DS	134,394	R	N4FLM	22,320	R	WB8BZK	19,796	R	WD0ACD (+K5FOG)		R	K6VCR (+KG6TOA)		R
N1XKT	82,089	R	W4TXS	14,357	R	K9JK	10,582	R		34,293	R		1,096,647	R
W3ZZ (+K8ISK)	78,960	R	K4AL	8,477	R	VE3VZ	7,163	R	ND2X (+NX1N)	32,472	R	N6MU	1,070,700	R
N3FTI	68,839	R	WC4J	5,481	R	VE3WCC (VA3NFA, op)	2,320	R	KD5SHM	26,334	R	N6TEB (+KE6HPZ)		R
									W5TV (+AE5P)	22,100	R		264,972	R
												N6DN	232,170	R

## Regional Highlights

Weather was not generally an issue this year as it has been in past years, notably 2005 when the north central and northeastern states and most of southeastern Canada were blanketed with heavy snowfall. Scores are higher this year than last for the most part, except for the three Rover records set last year by N6NB, N6ZZ and N6MU. Detailed ARRL Division scores can be found on the Web report at [www.arrl.org/contests/results](http://www.arrl.org/contests/results).

### Northeast

Participation was definitely up in the Northeast this year compared to last year. The weather conditions were generally excellent, which encouraged rover activity. In addition to the top scores already mentioned, Jim, N2NRD, operating W2MMD took the seventh position, followed by Bill, WB2SIH, and Bill, K3EGE, at the eighth and ninth positions nationally in the SOLP category. High Power participants Joe, K1JT; Ed, K3DNE; Ed, WA3DRC, and Ron, WZ1V, took the sixth, seventh, eighth and tenth positions nationally.

In the Limited Multioperator section, the top three stations are in the Northeast region. Kim, KB1DFB, took the sixth spot with 41k points. Dan, W1QK, and W3HZU, the Keystone VHF Club from Pennsylvania, took the eighth and ninth positions with 31k and 29k points, respectively. Multioperator entrants K3EOD, WA3ZKR and KW1AM

took the seventh, eighth and ninth positions nationally. While four of the top five national Rover scores were all produced in California, the seventh through tenth positions were produced by stations in Pennsylvania and Maryland: K1DS, Richard in the seventh spot with 134k; Leon, N1XKT, from PA in the eighth position with 82k; W3ZZ in Maryland operating with Terrence, K8ISK, with 78k in ninth position, and Steven, N3FTI, from Pennsylvania in tenth position with 68k points.

### Southeast

Almost doubling his score from last year, SOLP leader Dan, K8GUN, tops the list with 80k points from his 6-band effort in FM09. Second place goes to Steve, W4SHG, with 45k from seven bands. Rounding out the top five SOLP scores are W0AH with 25k, W3IP with 19k and K4FJW with 13k points. The top five SOHP scores cover a relatively narrow scoring range beginning with Howard, K4QI, at the top with 78k points from his five-band effort. Following closely behind is Charles, W4WA, at 77k; Jim, W4ZRZ at 68k; Zolie, K4XR, at 51k, and Ken, KE2N, at 45k. The Limited Multioperator category was led by KG4LEV with 14k points, while the top Multioperator station was K4LTX at 50k. The top five Rover entries included Bill, AF4OD, at 44k; Charles, N4FLM, at 22k; David, W4TXS, at 14k, and finishing with Mike, K4AL, 8k, and Jack, WC4J, 5k.

### Central

Once again, Bob, K2DRH, topped the Low-Power list nationally with 174k points from his centrally located Illinois QTH. Rounding out the top five Low-Power Central region entries are Justin, K9MU at 47k; Duane, N9DG, 43k; John, K4TO, 41k, and David, WA1MKE, 26k. The top High-Power score was made by Glenn, K8TQK, with 102k points, followed by Peter, VE3AX, at 91k; Mark, K8MD, with 77k; Anthony, WA8RJF, with 56k, and Russ, KB8U, at 56k. The top Limited Multi effort was turned in by N8ZM with 49k, followed by W9RVG at 45k points. The top Multiop score was produced by the K8EB team with 155k points, followed by N8KOL at 44k. Because of favorable weather, Rover activity was substantially better this year than last. Russ, VE3OIL, took the top spot with 34k, followed by Mike, WB8BZK, at 19k and John, K9JK, at 10k.

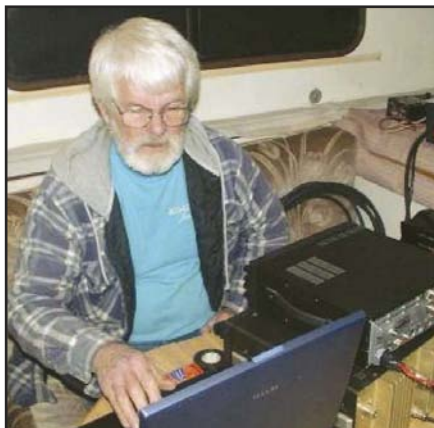
### Midwest

Repeating his first place, Low-Power position is Dave, N0XP, with 42k points, his third first place win in a row. Vince, N0VZJ, placed second with 24k points, followed by WB5ZDP at 15k, NM5M with 12k and W6ZI at 8k. In the High-Power category, Mike, K9MK, took the top spot with a 49k score, followed by Al, W5LUA, at 33k, Bill, W3XO, with 28k, Tom, K5VH, 27k and Ron, K5LLL, at 25k. The top LM score was posted by John, K5ETX, with 3.7k points. K5QE led

the Multiop category with a 187k point effort followed by KBØHH at 25k. Rover activity was substantial with N5AC leading the pack at 45k points, followed by WDØACD at 34k and ND2X at 32k.

### West Coast

The top SOLP score this year was turned in by last year's second place winner,



**The Western Piedmont Amateur Radio Club (Morganton, North Carolina) and the Marion (NC) Amateur Radio Association joined forces to enter as KG4LEV from Walker Top Mountain.**

from the number 3 position last year. Third place was taken once again by the Northeast Weak Signal Group with a score of 954k from 19 members. The Rochester VHF Group fell to fourth position this year with a score of 775k from 24 members, down from their 40 member, first place position last year. Fifth place in the medium category goes to the Downey ARC with 274k points from only three members.

First place in the local category went to the North Texas Microwave Society with 163k points from 10 members, while second place went to the Roadrunners Microwave Group with 148k points from 5 members. The Eastern Panhandle ARC topped the 100k mark to take third place in the category.

### Clubs are Critical to Success

A total of 40 clubs reported scores this year compared to only 30 clubs last year. The improved weather conditions across most of North America certainly played a role in the increased activity level. Club activity is critical to building interest in VHF/UHF/Microwave radio activities. It is primarily through contacts with club members that enthusiasm and technical expertise is promoted and improved so that higher competitive score performance can be achieved. If you are not presently a member of your local VHF/UHF oriented radio club, visit the club and become a member. Another excellent activity that helps to promote interest and build technical expertise in the VHF/UHF/Microwave world is the various club sponsored meetings and hamfests that occur throughout the year. These events provide excellent forums for gaining technical expertise and learning about new technologies and techniques for building and operating high frequency radio equipment. QST

## Strays

### ECHOLINK RESOURCE

◇ A Web page, at [www.wx1der.com/elk.htm](http://www.wx1der.com/elk.htm), gives a quick overview of EchoLink, what's required to use it, a guide to checking into the nets, what's required for a net to be listed on the page, a note about third party traffic agreements and the Echolink nets by day of the week. — *Daryl Stout, N5VLZ*

### I would like to get in touch with...

◇ those who studied Amateur Radio with Ted Ryan, WB6JXY, who became a Silent Key in December. As a teacher at John Burroughs junior high school, the Red Cross and San Fernando Valley ARC in Los Angeles, he licensed thousands of hams from the 1960s into the '90s. If you studied with Ted, please visit [www.webspawner.com/users/tedryan/index.html](http://www.webspawner.com/users/tedryan/index.html). — *Cliff Cheng, KI6CM*

Division Leaders		
<b>Single Operator Low Power</b>		
Atlantic	WA3GFZ	106,470
Central	K2DRH	174,894
Dakota	NØPK	42,032
Delta	KD4HIK	11,895
Great Lakes	K4TO	41,418
Hudson	WB2SIH	49,551
Midwest	NØLL	6,820
New England	N1DPM	106,268
Northwestern	W7GLF	12,628
Pacific	KC6ZWT	21,816
Roanoke	K8GUN	80,357
Rocky Mountain	WVØH	4,836
Southeastern	W4LIA	9,802
Southwestern	KG6DHQ	9,331
West Gulf	WB5ZDP	15,336
Canada	VA3KA	15,840
<b>Single Operator High Power</b>		
Atlantic	K1RZ	293,607
Central	K9EA	55,836
Dakota	WØGHZ	19,432
Delta	K5WBX	3,784
Great Lakes	K8TQK	102,466
Hudson	N2GHR	43,344
Midwest	KMØT	5,265
New England	K1TEO	429,840
Northwestern	N7EPD	30,743
Pacific	WA6KLK	14,280
Roanoke	K4QI	78,657
Southeastern	W4WA	77,965
Southwestern	KG6IYN	39,760
West Gulf	K9MK	49,113
Canada	VE3AX	91,959
<b>Limited Multioperator</b>		
Atlantic	W3SO	276,210
Central	W9RVG	45,582
Delta	KØXXX	1,470
Great Lakes	N8ZM	49,206
Hudson	K2BAR	16,698
Midwest	WØETV	1,595
New England	KB1DFB	41,760
Pacific	W6SN	8,439
Roanoke	KG4LEV	14,535
Rocky Mountain	N1SZ	4
Southeastern	N4DXY	8,344
Southwestern	K6UCI	6,375
West Gulf	K5ETX	3,795
Canada	VE2DC	1,952
<b>Multi-multi</b>		
Atlantic	K3EAR	804,357
Central	N2BJ	27,141
Delta	AG4V	21,988
Great Lakes	K8EB	155,354
Hudson	N2GCZ	16,170
New England	KW1AM	58,800
Pacific	W6YX	7,260
Roanoke	K4LTX	50,350
Southwestern	N6KN	26,509
West Gulf	K5QE	187,210
<b>Single Operator Portable</b>		
Atlantic	N3TEP	160
Central	W9SZ	4,875
Great Lakes	N8XA	1,156
Hudson	WB2AMU	1,577
Midwest	NUØC	36
New England	KA1LMR	45,504
Northwestern	KI7JA	3,040
Pacific	K6MI	36,427
Roanoke	KZ1AMY	1
Rocky Mountain	KØNR	544
Southwestern	W6DWI	2,106
Canada	VE7VIE	18
<b>Rover</b>		
Atlantic	N3IQ	334,645
Central	WB8BZK	19,796
Dakota	KCØIYT	10,080
Delta	N4FLM	22,320
Hudson	KJ1K	2,162
New England	W1AUJ	13,630
Northwestern	K3UHF	43,152
Pacific	W6XD (+N6NB)	1,180,674
Roanoke	W4TXS	14,357
Southeastern	AF4OD	44,840
Southwestern	N6TEB (+KE6HPZ)	264,972
West Gulf	N5AC (+W5TX)	45,804
Canada	VE3OIL	34,272

Norman, KC6ZWT, with 21k points. Ed, W7GLF, from Washington placed second with 12k, followed by Robert, KG6DHQ, with 9k. Bruce, KG6IYN, was the top SOHP winner with 39k, followed by Eric, N7EPD, at 30k; Ralph, K6TSK, with 19.3k, and Jim, K7YO, at 19.1k. In the QRP category, John, K6ML, with 36k points was the second highest scorer nationally. The Limited Multi-operator category was won by W6SN with 8.4k points. N6KN led the Multiop category with 26k. The Rover category, once again, is where the scoring action is at its peak with two teams plus one single operator posting very large, nearly equal scores. The top score producing team was Art, W6XD, and Wayne, N6NB, with 1.180 million points followed closely by the second highest score producing team of Tom, K6VCR, and Bob, KG6TOA, with 1.096 million points. The third team was single operator John, N6MU, with 1.070 million points. Fourth and fifth place finishers were N6TEB (plus KE6HPZ) with 264k and N6DN with 232k.

### Affiliated Club Competition

As the only club that consistently fields over 50 member entries for the January VHF SS competition, the Mount Airy VHF Radio Club produced the highest score, exceeding 2.5 million points from 56 members in the Unlimited category. This score is more than twice the score they posted last year, the year of the huge snowstorm in the central and northeastern parts of the country; however, their total score in 2004 from 56 members exceeded 2.8 million points, so 2006 was not their best year!

In the medium category, the South Mountain Contest Club took the top spot in the local club category with 1.146 million points produced by only 3 entries. The Potomac Valley Radio Club took the next spot with a score of 1.05 million points from 31 members, up