

2010 ARRL September VHF QSO Party

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Can the trend abide?

ARRL VHF+ contesting for 2010 is now in the history books. The January contest saw a nice uptick in log submissions while June was an all-time record breaker with 6 meters wide open for extended periods throughout much of North America. Amazing QSO and grid totals were worked indicating that when band conditions cooperate there is plenty of VHF+ contest activity.

Would the September contest keep the trend going? As it turned out it was not to be. Activity decreased in virtually all operating categories with 488 log submissions this year versus 595 in 2009. Most importantly, the number of Rover logs was down significantly and they have a major impact on the number of contacts and grids available to all operators. Scores were down accordingly. In general, band conditions were not all that great with the exception of some nice tropo for part of the contest in the Midwest. Despite this, those who persevered were rewarded with lots of competition, fun and some exciting moments.

“El Tropo”

Most operators indicated that band conditions throughout the country were average at best and in some cases below average. But sharp operators know how to find the brief enhancement periods often available on VHF bands even under average conditions. Record-setting QRP Portable op N6NB was frustrated for much of the contest as he was hearing northern California stations who could not hear his 10 watts. Late in the contest there was a little bit of lift that allowed him to work some of these stations, helping him achieve his high score. Likewise, Multioperator winner K1WHS found the briefest of enhancement periods to work some long-haul microwave contacts down to K1RZ in Maryland, helping them to just squeak by W2SZ.

The “main” tropo event of this contest appeared to take place late Saturday and early Sunday in the Midwest. Many contesters use the Hepburn Tropo Index (www.dxinfocentre.com) to predict tropo conditions during contests. The Hepburn prediction map (Figure) for Saturday showed some nice enhancement from Kansas and Oklahoma east to Illinois and as far as western Tennessee. Sunday morning’s map looked even better as the conditions were expected to drift even further to the east. Sure enough, the predicted enhancement came to fruition. N4QWZ in Tennessee noted working into Oklahoma and up to K2DRH in Illinois through 1296 MHz. Perhaps the biggest beneficiary of the enhancement was the well-equipped multi operator team at KBØHH in Oklahoma. They managed to work as far east as Alabama Sunday morning, as far west as central Colorado and up to K2DRH in Illinois. As they noted it was “delightful tropo”. QRP station NØJK found the opening and managed to work many contacts beyond normal coverage range. Jon noted that this was a “top down” type of opening with stronger signals on 432 MHz than on 6 and 2 meters. Jon built a new 432 antenna Saturday afternoon (cost: \$5) and figures that addition helped him triple his score after he managed 18 grids on the band with his QRP setup.

Even with the enhancement in the Midwest, the general level of activity kept the opening from having a greater effect on contest results. Bob, K2DRH noted that he worked “lots of new

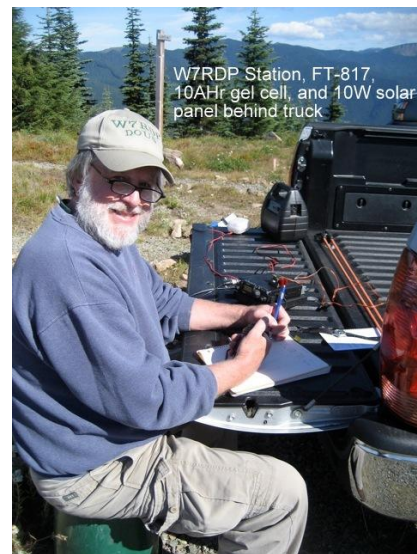
grids but had little volume”. For example Bob managed to work 60 grids on 2 meters while working 134 contacts and he worked 37 grids on 222 MHz with only 53 contacts. At his QTH the band was best in the early morning hours.

One challenge with VHF+ contesting is that many operators are fairly casual about their efforts. They often get on at the beginning to give out points and then either stop operating or only listen in from time to time. If the band is open at the start of a contest they may be tempted to stay on longer. That was certainly the case in June as these casual operators allowed some contesters to work over 1800 QSOs on 6 meters alone. An opening like the one in September may be over before the casual operators get on to check the band Sunday morning.

Fun, Fun, Fun

We all operate contests to have fun. There are many ways to have fun – some like to rove, some like to operate the entire contest, while others like to get on and hand out a few points. That’s part of the beauty of VHF+ contesting – there are so many ways to enjoy the event. September is often a time when the weather is great for heading outdoors.

An excellent way to have fun is to head to the nearest high point – either hiking to a good location or if you are lucky, driving to the top of a mountain. As is often the case quite a few participants had their fun combining a good hike with contesting. KD7WPJ hiked five hours up an 11,800-foot mountain carrying equipment for three bands. Five hours operating on the summit followed by a three-hour decent made for a great day. KC8KSK operating from Pilot Mountain park in North Carolina expected to hike to a good location but rain kept him at bay so he operated from



the car. He noted the fun of working others with a low power HT on 222 MHz. In Washington, W7RDP (above) headed up to a fire lookout to operate. With a fantastic view of Mt Rainier (left) it was hard to focus on the operating while enjoying the view . The ARRL’s Contest Manager, Sean, KX9X took a nice hike Saturday afternoon to a Connecticut high point to enjoy a few hours of QRP portable operation, too.

Another way to have fun is to make station improvements and give them a workout during a contest. The KA2LIM contest group in New York added omnidirectional antennas this time to better search for stations on the bands and had fun trying them out in the contest. KD5IKG/R added a new band before the contest (432 MHz) and another one during the contest (222 MHz). It seems he stopped by K5QE’s QTH during the contest and Marshall was able to help add the band. He did not find great activity overall but still had lots of fun handing out contacts and trying out the new bands. AB1GF/R decided to build a

bigger setup after his first-ever rove in the June contest. He added a 28-foot tower to his rover setup and met with some mixed results. Now on to what to do next to improve things

When the band conditions do not cooperate, there are other modes available to help the score and increase the fun. EME is one way to do that. In the past EME was a very difficult mode to operate requiring very large antenna arrays, the best in receivers, and maximum power. With the availability of WSJT, EME operation has become much easier for smaller stations. While the September contest is not meant to be an EME-focused contest, the mode is used by some. For example, without any real tropo enhancement the K5QE group managed to work 95 grids on 2 meters. Many of those were obtained by effective EME operation. Likewise K1WHS managed to work 69 grids on the band helped by this mode. Single-Op WA2FGK also made use of the Moon to help his score and have some fun when terrestrial activity was slow.

Single-Operator Categories

A total of 250 stations submitted logs in the Single-Operator, Low Power (SOLP) category, while 106 entered the High Power competition. SOLP has seen some great competitions between Ed, K1TR and Bob, K2DRH over the last several years. This year ‘TR narrowly edged out ‘DRH, with 178k to 169k points. Bob used a combination of the enhanced conditions in the Midwest on Sunday morning and a terrific station to work 91 more grids than Ed. Operating portable from Mount Wachussets in Massachussets, ‘TR countered with much higher QSO totals (681 versus 429) and benefited from having two bands - 5 and 10 GHz – that Bob does not have. Ed worked more stations than other Single-Operator, high or low power, on 6 meters and was near the top in QSOs on most other bands. Congratulations to both ops for some great results!

Moving up from 7th in 2009 to take third in the category was W3SZ. Roger made very effective use of the microwave bands to achieve his score of 119k. W3PAW and K1KG both moved up a place from the prior year to finish 4th and 5th. N4QWZ edged out AF1T by a few hundred points to for the next place on the list. ‘QWZ made the most of some of the enhancement he found on Saturday night and worked several new grids for the first time on the microwave bands. Rounding out the top overall scores were W3IP from his new QTH, N3RN who tried SO after many years as part of the K3YTL Multiop group and K2KIB.

Other top regional SOLP scores included NØLL and W6ZI in the Midwest, with NØLL breaking his own section record this time around. In the West, W6AQ edged out K6TSK for top SOLP honors. WZ8T and KC9BQA were 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Midwest after K2DRH.

In the Single-Operator, High Power (SOHP) category, the top three from 2009 repeated this year. Despite a slightly lower score in 2010, WA2FGK finished a good deal closer to the leader, K1TEO. Jeff saw a significant drop in his score directly attributable to a 50% reduction in rover contacts and his QSO and grid totals were down accordingly. We do love those rovers and miss them when they are not able to head out! Herb, ‘FGK, added to his excellent grid totals with

Top Ten	
Single-Operator, Low Power	
K1TR	178,715
K2DRH	169,740
W3SZ	119,301
W3PAW	102,810
K1KG	66,780
N4QWZ	60,941
AF1T	60,200
W3IP	47,047
N3RN	43,461
K2KIB	41,664
Single-Operator, High Power	
K1TEO	388,080
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	325,208
K1RZ	246,688
W8ZN	100,497
K8TQK	90,134
K3CB	77,674
N3HBX	61,476
VE3ZV	60,759
K3TUF	50,949
W2SJ	42,738
QRP Portable	
N6NB	266,192
KA1LMR	41,400
K9GY	12,740
NØJK	4,361
KB5WIA	900
W7RDP	896
KC8KSK	528
K6BSR	490
AB1MI	242
KX9X	200

effective use of WSJT for scatter contacts on 6 and 2 meters, and added some on EME as well. Dave, K1RZ was third with a very good score of 246k. Operating only the first half of the contest, Terry, W8ZN was the other SOHP station to crack the 100k level, finishing fourth.

Also repeating in the national Top 10 were K8TQK and K3TUF. 'TQK had been suffering with rotator problems for some time but was able to get things squared away to take 5th overall. Maryland stations K3CB and N3HBX ended up 6th and 7th with fine overall scores of 77k and 61k. From Canada, VE3ZV was next with 60k points. W2SJ rounded out the leader board with a fine 42k from Southern New Jersey.

SOHP regional results included three excellent scores from the Southeast; W4WA, KE2N, and K4QI with 40k, 36k and 30k respectively. K9EA and K8MD just missed the national Top 10 list with 42k and 41k from the Central region, while Midwest regional leaders for the category were WQØP and K5LLL. Out West there was a close competition for the top spot with N7EPD and KC6ZWT finishing first and second in the region.

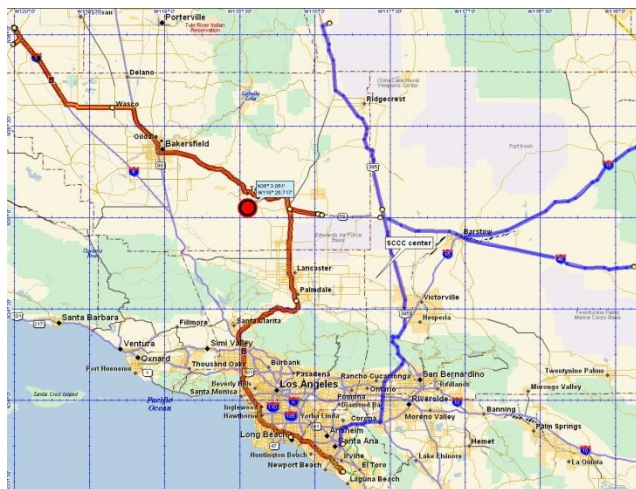
QRP Portable Operations

Fifteen operators went out and set up QRP Portable stations this time around. Wayne, N6NB lapped the field as he broke K9PW's long standing category record with 266k points. Wayne has been leading the pack roving group from Southern California for the last several years. This time he operated fixed from a mountaintop location at 6800 feet in DM05.



The N6NB rover on the mountaintop in DM05. (Photo by N6NB)

While he was not with the group this time, the pack rovers provided the majority of his QSO's and grids as they worked him on as many as ten bands each from each grid.



The routes of the pack rovers with N6NB's location at the red dot.

Wayne also enjoyed the support of Carrie, W6TAI who roved by herself in several remote desert grids in California. After winning the Rover category in June she skipped the group roving to provide Wayne with otherwise hard-to-work grids. Clearly this was a very effective strategy as even with QRP power Wayne's score was higher than all but two Single-Operator scores in any category for this contest.



Placing second was KA1LMR with a fine 41k, followed by K9GY with 12k. Scott showed that even a simple setup in a good location can do quite well as he ran an FT-817 into 4 elements on 2 meters, 3 elements on 432, and a Hamstick on 6 meters. Of course it helps to be on Skyline Drive in Virginia at 3550 feet!

Jon, NØJK repeated in the Top 10, increasing his score nine-fold this time by taking advantage of enhancement in the Midwest Sunday morning to work some nice DX contacts. Rounding out the top finishers were KB5WIA, W7RDP, KC8KSK, K6BSR, AB1MI and KX9X.

K9GY operated along high points on the opposite side of the continent from N6NB. (Photo by K9GY)

Multioperator Categories

There were 23 entries in the Limited Multioperator (LM) category in the contest. Despite a drop in score, the W3SO team repeated as top dog for September. They had excellent grid totals on all four bands, including tying for top results with 44 grids on 432 MHz. This category has often seen some close competition, but ‘SO was a good deal ahead of 2nd and 3rd place groups, W4NH and W4IY. Those Southeast region teams were separated by less than 2000 points in a tight finish. ‘NH moved up from 6th a year earlier while ‘IY moved down a notch. The Western New York crew at KA2LIM repeated their overall 4th place finish with 91k this time. They made antenna improvements this time around adding omnidirectional capability which seemed to help overcome some rig problems.

Rounding out the overall Top 10 results were returnees W2LV, AA4ZZ, W1QK and WO9S. Returning to the list after an absence was the K2BAR team. Also joining the top teams this time was the VA7ISL group which did an outstanding job from the Pacific Northwest to earn 16k



The winning K1WHS Multioperator team included (back to front) Steve, N2CEI on 222 MHz, Sandra, K4SME on 432 with HOUND in her lap. Joel, W5ZN is on 903 thru 3456, and Al, WA1T is at the 5 and 10 GHz position. (Photo by Dave Olean, K1WHS]

Year after year they do an amazing amount of work before and after the contest to set up a huge station for the weekend. K1WHS is located in Southwestern Maine in a good location, though further from the higher density operating areas than the ‘SZ location. The team does have the advantage of operating from a fixed station and Dave, the station owner, has built an impressive array of antennas to maximize the team’s capabilities. This time around both groups scored over 1.1 million points with the ‘WHS team finishing 19k ahead of ‘SZ. While ‘SZ had about 250 more contacts, the ‘WHS team had 67 more grids worked. Most of those extra grids came on two bands – 6 meters where ‘WHS was ahead by 30 grids and on 10 GHz where they led by 18 grids. Congratulations to both groups on their great scores and terrific efforts.

In the Midwest, the KBØHH group enjoyed some good propagation and made use of their outstanding setup to place third, up from 6th in 2009. K5QE continued their run of Top 10 results

Top Ten	
Limited Multioperator	
W3SO	188,232
W4NH	112,504
W4IY	110,600
KA2LIM	91,256
W2LV	81,812
AA4ZZ	75,504
K2BAR	57,672
W1QK	21,830
WO9S	20,175
VA7ISL	16,422
Multioperator	
K1WHS	1,159,924
W2SZ	1,141,254
KBØHH	140,430
K5QE	124,320
W2EA	81,548
N9UHF	27,825
K4EJQ	25,912
K3EOD	25,359
W4MYA	21,804
WY3P	18,900

points. While they did not make the national list, the top score in the Midwest region was from the group at KØSIX with over 10k points.

The tightest competition in the contest this time around was in the Multioperator category which pitted perennial leaders W2SZ against the team from “Down East”, K1WHS. Winners of many June and September contests, the “Sugar Zebra” team features great ops using terrific setups from one of the best operating locations in the Northeast, Mt Greylock in Massachusetts.

repeating in the 4th position. They were followed by W2EA, N9UHF, K4EJQ, K3EOD and W4MYA. Rounding out the Top 10 stations was WY3P who made a lot of other contesters happy handing out relatively rare grid FM27.



The new K1WHS 222 MHz quad-Yagi array consisting of four 28-ft long 22-element Yagis in an H-frame at 100 ft. (Photo by K1WHS)

Rovers

A total of 64 rovers submitted logs this contest. The traditional Rovers numbered 34, the Limited Rover (RL) 21, and the Unlimited Rover (RU) category had 9 submissions. Rover submissions were down almost 25% which of course has an impact on all stations operating the contest. As usual, many operators noted “Thank goodness for the rovers” since they make a huge difference in overall activity and results. Hopefully 2011 will reverse the results and have more rovers head out.

In the Traditional category, as has been the case the last several years, the pack rovers from Southern California worked together to achieve some very high scores. This time around there were eight operating together also working QRP leader N6NB to add club points for the Southern California Contest Club. They swept the top eight places, scoring between 202k and 252k in order of finish KK6K, W6XD, N6HC, W6TE, WB6BFG, N6HD, N6VI, and KJ6CNO. All of these stations had at least 10 bands and visited either 9 or 10 grids. VE3SMA and VE3OIL finished 9th and 10th in the category, with ‘OIL repeating their 2009 place. ‘SMA roved in seven grids while ‘OIL made it to nine.

Regionally, there were many fine efforts worth noting in the traditional Rover category including NN3Q who led the Northeast ahead of K2QO, KB1EKZ, WA2IID and W1AUV. In the Southeast AG4V and N4OFA



The well-equipped K9JK rover (Photo by K9JK)

livened the contest up for many others handing out lots of QSO’s on their roves. In the Central region W9SNR was third after ‘SMA and OIL while in the Midwest W9FZ just missed a Top 10 finish by 1k points while leading the region with K5GJ, KAØKCI and WRØI submitting other top scores.

The RL category saw a very close finish with K9JK just getting by AF6AV, 11k to 10k. AF6AV had nearly twice as many QSO’s as K9JK who worked more grids and was helped by activating a total of 16 grids. Total driving was over 1000 miles to achieve the victory! The rest of the top scorers had a very tight contest with N6ZE who went roving in the Pacific Northwest and placed 3rd. He was followed by K4AMK, N6ORB, K8MAD, WR8W, AB1GF, K7TM and ABØYM all with 2k – 4k points.

The number of RU entries tripled to nine this contest. Last year’s 9th place traditional Rover, W1RT, moved to the Unlimited Rover category this time and finished in first with 85k. John operated 10 bands from 6 grids with his partner Andy, K1RA to edge out WA3PTV’s second-place effort. Joe ended up with 67k operating from 4 grids, also with 10 bands. Finishing behind the top two were NV6C in third, last year’s second-high scorer KRØVER, KCØP, N4GER, AA5JG, K1MAP and NØHZO.

Top Ten Rover	
KK6KK/R	252,195
W6XD/R	248,178
N6HC/R	244,608
W6TE/R	238,260
WB6BFG/R	236,640
N6HD/R	228,900
N6VI/R	221,367
KJ6CNO/R	202,950
VE3SMA/R	109,440
VE3OIL/R	98,736
Limited Rover	
K9JK/R	11,592
AF6AV/R	10,368
N6ZE/R	4,968
K4AMK/R	4,485
N6ORB/R	4,230
K8MAD/R	3,630
WR8W/R	3,450
AB1GF/R	2,640
K7TM/R	2,047
ABØYM/R	1,975
Unlimited Rover	
W1RT/R	85,028
WA3PTV/R	67,609
NV6C/R	4,158
KRØVER/R	4,154
KCØP/R	2,640
N4GER/R	2,016
AA5JG/R	836
K1MAP/R	578
NØHZO/R	510

Division Winners								
Single-Operator, Low Power			Limited Multioperator			Rover		
Atlantic	W3SZ	119,301	Atlantic	W3SO	188,232	Atlantic	NN3Q/R	62,522
Central	K2DRH	169,740	Central	WO9S	20,175	Central	W9SNR/R	48,594
Dakota	WBØHHM	1,428	Dakota	KØSIX	10,780	Dakota	WBØLJC/R	294
Delta	N4QWZ	60,941	Great Lakes	KA9RSL	143	Delta	AG4V/R	23,236
Great Lakes	WZ8T	15,714	Hudson	W2LV	81,812	Great Lakes	W3USA/R (K8MR, op)	924
Hudson	K2KIB	41,664	Midwest	NØLD	4,094	Hudson	WA2IID/R	31,348
Midwest	NØLL	38,090	New England	W1QK	21,830	Midwest	W9FZ/R	97,519
New England	K1TR	178,715	Northwestern	N7CKJ	2,100	New England	KB1EKZ/R	45,780
Northwestern	KC7I	2,884	Pacific	WB6CZG	312	Northwestern	K7HPT/R	6,762
Pacific	AF6RR	6,697	Roanoke	W4NH	112,504	Pacific	KK6KK/R	252,195
Roanoke	W3IP	47,047	Southeastern	K1KC	3,367	Roanoke	W4WNT/R	78
Rocky Mountain	KDØEXV	992	Southwestern	KE6GFF	715	Rocky Mountain	W9BNO/R	160
Southeastern	N3LL	2,448	West Gulf	WD5IYF	3,219	West Gulf	K5GJ/R	22,880
Southwestern	W6AQ	10,745	Canada	VA7ISL	16,422	Canada	VE3SMA/R	109,440
West Gulf	W6ZI	29,606						
Canada	VE3VZ	2,520						
Single-Operator, High Power			Multioperator			Limited Rover		
Atlantic	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	325,208	Atlantic	W2EA	81,548	Atlantic	K9JK/R	11,592
Central	K9EA	42,237	Central	N9UHF	27,825	Dakota	KK6MC/R	1,550
Dakota	KØAWU	6,966	Delta	N4JQQ	13,050	Great Lakes	K8MAD/R	3,630
Delta	KG5MD	12,720	Great Lakes	KB8O	17,940	Midwest	WAØCNS/R	170
Great Lakes	K8TQK	90,134	Hudson	N2GCZ	9,912	New England	AB1GF/R	2,640
Hudson	WB2SNN	9,800	New England	K1WHS	1,159,924	Northwestern	N6ZE/R	4,968
Midwest	WQØP	37,932	Northwestern	WA1PMA	126	Pacific	N6ORB/R	4,230
New England	K1TEO	388,080	Pacific	WB6W	10,824	Roanoke	AD4IE/R	864
Northwestern	N7EPD	17,280	Roanoke	K4EJQ	25,912	Rocky Mountain	ABØYM/R	1,975
Pacific	KC6ZWT	13,988	Southeastern	AG4F	627	Southeastern	K4AMK/R	4,485
Roanoke	W8ZN	100,497	West Gulf	KBØHH	140,430	Southwestern	AF6AV/R	10,368
Rocky Mountain	WØEEA	7,810	Canada	VA3WLD	4,608	West Gulf	KD5IKG/R	1,850
Southeastern	W4WA	40,656				Canada	VE3RKS/R	648
Southwestern	KE7NR	3,780						
West Gulf	K5LLL	26,572						
Canada	VE3ZV	60,759						
			QRP Portable			Unlimited Rover		
			Central	K9PLS	78	Atlantic	WA3PTV/R	67,609
			Hudson	KC2JRQ	55	Dakota	KCØP/R	2,640
			Midwest	NØJK	4,361	Great Lakes	N4GER/R	2,016
			New England	KA1LMR	41,400	New England	W1RT/R	85,028
			Northwestern	W7RDP	896	Rocky Mountain	KRØVER/R	4,154
			Pacific	N6NB	266,192	Southwestern	NV6C/R	4,158
			Roanoke	K9GY	12,740	West Gulf	AA5JG/R	836
			Rocky Mountain	N7QF/7	117			

Regional Leaders

A - Single-Op Low Power, B - Single-Op High Power, Q - Single-Op QRP Portable, M - Multioperator, R - Rover, RL - Limited Rover, RU - Unlimited Rover

Northeast Region			Southeast Region			Central Region			Great Plains Region			West Coast Region		
New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections			Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions			Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section			Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections			Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections		
Call	Score	Cat	Call	Score	Cat	Call	Score	Cat	Call	Score	Cat	Call	Score	Cat
K1TR	178,715	A	N4QWZ	60,941	A	K2DRH	169,740	A	NØLL	38,090	A	W6AQ	10,745	A
W3SZ	119,301	A	W3IP	47,047	A	WZ8T	15,714	A	W6ZI	29,606	A	K6TSK	8,865	A
W3PAW	102,810	A	WB8TFV	13,130	A	KC9BQA	14,076	A	ABØRX	7,936	A	AF6RR	6,697	A
K1KG	66,780	A	K4FJW	8,008	A	K8MR	10,850	A	WAØARM	4,794	A	K6XN	6,660	A
AF1T	60,200	A	W4XP	4,720	A	N9LB	9,333	A	K5YM	3,325	A	W6YLZ	3,116	A
K1TEO	388,080	B	W8ZN	100,497	B	K8TQK	90,134	B	WQØP	37,932	B	N7EPD	17,280	B
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	325,208	B	W4WA	40,656	B	VE3ZV	60,759	B	K5LLL	26,572	B	KC6ZWT	13,988	B
K1RZ	246,688	B	KE2N	36,696	B	K9EA	42,237	B	WØLGQ	13,275	B	W7MEM	5,408	B
K3CB	77,674	B	K4QI	30,302	B	K8MD	41,418	B	WØRT	10,640	B	W7FI	5,304	B
N3HBX	61,476	B	KG5MD	12,720	B	WØUC	32,118	B	WØEEA	7,810	B	KB7ME	5,000	B
KA1LMR	41,400	Q	K9GY	12,740	Q	K9PLS	78	Q	NØJK	4,361	Q	N6NB	266,192	Q
AB1MI	242	Q	KC8KSK	528	Q	W9LGP	50	Q	N7QF/7	117	Q	KB5WIA	900	Q
KX9X	200	Q							KD7WPJ	77	Q	W7RDP	896	Q
KC2JRQ	55	Q										K6BSR	490	Q
W3SO	188,232	L	W4NH	112,504	L	WO9S	20,175	L	KØSIX	10,780	L	VA7ISL	16,422	L
KA2LIM	91,256	L	W4IY	110,600	L	N2BJ	3,810	L	NØLD	4,094	L	N7CKJ	2,100	L
W2LV	81,812	L	AA4ZZ	75,504	L	N9TF	3,094	L	WD5IYF	3,219	L	KE6GFF	715	L
K2BAR	57,672	L	K1KC	3,367	L	KA9RSL	143	L				WB6CZG	312	L
W1QK	21,830	L				KI4OIP	16	L						
K1WHS	1,159,924	M	K4EJQ	25,912	M	N9UHF	27,825	M	KBØHH	140,430	M	WB6W	10,824	M
W2SZ	1,141,254	M	W4MYA	21,804	M	KB8O	17,940	M	K5QE	124,320	M	WA6KLK	6,552	M
W2EA	81,548	M	WY3P	18,900	M	VA3WLD	4,608	M	NR5M	6,780	M	WA1PMA	126	M
K3EOD	25,359	M	N4JQQ	13,050	M	W8RU	2,856	M						
NE1B	10,374	M	W4YCC	3,300	M									
NN3Q/R	62,522	R	AG4V/R	23,236	R	VE3SMA/R	109,440	R	W9FZ/R	97,519	R	KK6KK/R	252,195	R
K2QO/R	62,127	R	N4OFA/R	20,679	R	VE3OIL/R	98,736	R	K5GJ/R	22,880	R	W6XD/R	248,178	R
KB1EKZ/R	45,780	R	W4WNT/R	78	R	W9SNR/R	48,594	R	KAØKCI/R	14,352	R	N6HC/R	244,608	R
WA2IID/R	31,348	R				W3USA/R (K8MR, op)	924	R	WRØI/R	13,970	R	W6TE/R	238,260	R
W1AUV/R	29,946	R							WBØLJC/R	294	R	WB6BFG/R	236,640	R
K9JK/R	11,592	RL	K4AMK/R	4,485	RL	K8MAD/R	3,630	RL	ABØYM/R	1,975	RL	AF6AV/R	10,368	RL
AB1GF/R	2,640	RL	AD4IE/R	864	RL	WR8W/R	3,450	RL	KD5IKG/R	1,850	RL	N6ZE/R	4,968	RL
						K8DOG/R	1,280	RL	KK6MC/R	1,550	RL	N6ORB/R	4,230	RL
						VE3RKS/R	648	RL	AF5Q/R	1,197	RL	K7TM	2,047	RL
									K5MRA/R	1,166	RL	K6JRA/R	1,083	RL
									KRØVER/R	4,154	RU	NV6C/R	4,158	RU
W1RT/R	85,028	RU				N4GER/R	2,016	RU	KCØP/R	2,640	RU			
WA3PTV/R	67,609	RU							AA5JG/R	836	RU			
K1MAP/R	578	RU							NØHZO/R	510	RU			

Club Competition

A total of 28 clubs submitted scores for the September contest. 21 of those were in the Medium category while the other 7 were in the Limited category. Roughly half of the participants had their score included with a club.

Finishing on top in the Medium category was the Southern California Contest Club. The bulk of their score came from the eight pack roving stations that finished 1 – 8 in their category plus the top QRP Portable scorer, N6NB. Total score was over 2.1 million, down a bit from their winning 2009 score. Swapping places from the prior year were the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) in second and the Northeast Weak Signal Group (NEWS) in third. PVRC scored slightly higher than 2009 with an identical 23 log submissions, while the NEWS Group was down significantly. The Mt Airey VHF Radio Club repeated its fourth-place finish, followed by the Yankee Clipper Contest Club and the Society of Midwest Contesters.

Repeating as Limited Club winner was the Murgas Amateur Radio Club from Pennsylvania. With four log submissions they managed 375k points in a significant jump from 2009. The Badger Contesters moved from the Medium category to Limited and took 2nd with over 100k points. Next in line were the Bristol Amateur Radio Club out of Tennessee and the Stoned Monkey VHF Amateur Radio Club.

Club Name	Logs	Total
Medium		
Southern California Contest Club	17	2,172,895
Potomac Valley Radio Club	23	899,786
North East Weak Signal Group	18	640,712
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	15	407,084
Contest Club Ontario	11	305,021
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	10	234,431
Society of Midwest Contesters	15	231,629
Nacogdoches ARC	3	126,702
Rochester VHF Group	3	93,977
Carolina DX Association	5	81,018
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	22	64,636
Tennessee Contest Group	3	60,977
Roadrunners Microwave Group	3	52,138
Northern Lights Radio Society	7	50,639
Mad River Radio Club	7	22,899
Northern California Contest Club	8	21,606
Frankford Radio Club	3	18,904
North Texas Microwave Society	4	4,147
CTRI Contest Group	3	3,146
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	5	1,436
Alaska VHF-UP Group	5	413
Limited		
Murgas ARC	4	375,949
Badger Contesters	9	116,651
Bristol (TN) ARC	5	38,558
Stoned Monkey VHF ARC	3	27,953
Florida Weak Signal Society	7	17,667
Eastern Connecticut ARA	3	15,934
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	4	558

In Closing

The 2010 September contest is in the books as we head toward a new year for VHF+ contesting. We hope that conditions will be great to enhance the fun. But if not, there is still a lot of fun to be had. Find out what makes it fun for you – try a different operating category, set a goal for yourself and figure out how to achieve it, build something new you can try out in the contest, or just enjoy getting on to say hello to old friends. But most importantly, get on for whatever amount of time you can. One truism about VHF+ contesting remains the same year after year – activity breeds activity. Let's all get on the air and have some fun in 2011.

QSO Leaders By Band		Multiplier Leaders By Band	
Single-Operator, Low Power		Single-Operator, Low Power	
50 MHz		50 MHz	
K1TR	208	K2DRH	52
W3PAW	115	W3PAW	30
K1IM	111	K1TR	28
K2DRH	103	K8WFN	27
AF1T	101	NØLL	26
W3IP	90	N4QWZ	25
N3RN	87	N3RN	23
W3SZ	82	W3SZ	20
K1KG	72	W6ZI	19
N3ALN	65	W3IP	18
KK1X	65	K1KG	18
W1TR	64	KC9BQA	17
WA2VNV	64	K8MR	17
NJ1H	63	W2TDZ	17
K8WFN	61	K1IM	16
144 MHz		K2KIB	16
K1TR	176	N9LB	16
K2DRH	134	144 MHz	
W3IP	125	K2DRH	60
WB2CUT	122	W6ZI	47
AF1T	115	N4QWZ	41
W6ZI	105	NØLL	33
WB2SIH	101	ABØRX	30
K1KG	99	W3PAW	29
W2TDZ	98	K1TR	27
W3SZ	92	N3RN	25
N4QWZ	90	W2TDZ	24
W3PAW	88	WZ8T	24
K2KIB	83	WB8TFV	24
K1IM	79	KC9BQA	24
N3RN	78	W3IP	23
222 MHz		K5YM	23
K1TR	67	WB2CUT	23
W3SZ	55	222 MHz	
K2DRH	53	K2DRH	37
WB2SIH	51	N4QWZ	28
N3RN	46	W6ZI	25
AF1T	45	NØLL	24
W3PAW	44	K1TR	21
N4QWZ	40	W3PAW	21
K1KG	38	N3RN	20
WA2VNV	36	ABØRX	19
W6ZI	33	WB2SIH	17
W3IP	32	W3SZ	17
K1IM	32	K1KG	15
WB3IGR	29	WZ8T	15
K2KIB	28	WB8TFV	15
WB8TFV	28	WB3IGR	15
432 MHz		WA2VNV	14
K1TR	104	W3IP	14
K2DRH	80	432 MHz	
W3SZ	69	K2DRH	44
W3IP	62	N4QWZ	31
WB2SIH	60	NØLL	29
AF1T	56	W3PAW	23
N4QWZ	54	W6ZI	22
W3PAW	52	K1TR	22
N3RN	52	W3IP	21
K1KG	51	N3RN	20
W6AQ	46	W3SZ	19

WA2VNV	43	WZ8T	17
K1IM	41	WB3IGR	17
NØLL	40	WB2SIH	16
AC1J	36	WB8TFV	15
9Ø2 MHz		K2KIB	15
K1TR	32	WA2VNV	15
W3SZ	26	9Ø2 MHz	
W3PAW	23	K2DRH	21
K2DRH	22	K1TR	14
AF1T	20	W3PAW	12
K1KG	19	N4QWZ	12
W3IP	18	W3SZ	11
WB2SIH	15	K1KG	9
WA2VNV	15	WA2VNV	8
K1IM	13	WB2SIH	8
WB3IGR	12	WB3IGR	7
K2KIB	12	W3IP	7
N4QWZ	11	K1IM	7
WA4QYK	8	AF1T	7
KC9BQA	8	WZ8T	6
K4FJW	8	KC9BQA	6
1296 MHz		K2KIB	6
K1TR	45	1296 MHz	
W3SZ	31	K2DRH	22
K1KG	28	NØLL	18
K2DRH	27	K1TR	13
N3RN	26	N4QWZ	12
AF1T	26	W3PAW	12
W3PAW	22	N3RN	11
W3IP	20	W3SZ	10
NØLL	20	WA2VNV	9
WA2VNV	20	K2KIB	9
K1IM	20	WB2SIH	8
K2KIB	20	W3IP	8
AC1J	19	K1KG	8
WB2SIH	16	KC9BQA	7
K6TSK	15	K1IM	7
Single-Operator, High Power		AF1T	7
50 MHz		Single-Operator, High Power	
K1RZ	175	50 MHz	
K1TEO	171	K1RZ	44
N3HBX	165	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	43
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	150	K1TEO	40
W3EP	111	K8TQK	38
W2VQ	100	WØUC	29
KE2N	85	N3HBX	29
K3ZO	83	K8MD	27
W1RZF	72	K3ZO	26
W1ZC	65	K3CB	25
K3ISH	65	K4QI	25
W8ZN	65	W3EP	24
W1OUN	61	K9EA	23
K8TQK	60	W4WA	22
W4WA	59	K3ISH	22
KA1R	59	W8ZN	21
144 MHz		KN4SM	21
K1TEO	290	144 MHz	
K1RZ	164	K1TEO	51
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	157	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	51
N3HBX	139	K8TQK	51
KA1ZE	128	KA1ZE	46
W8ZN	123	K1RZ	40
K8TQK	108	K4QI	34

W1RZF	98	VE3ZV	33
W3EP	97	W8ZN	32
KE2N	94	K9EA	31
K4QI	79	VA3ST	31
VA3ST	77	N3HBX	30
K9EA	76	K8MD	30
K3TUF	72	WØUC	30
WØUC	71	KG5MD	28
222 MHz		WQØP	28
K1TEO	99	W4WA	28
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	85	222 MHz	
K1RZ	62	K1TEO	35
K8TQK	49	K8TQK	32
N3HBX	45	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	31
W8ZN	45	K1RZ	26
VE3ZV	42	VE3ZV	25
K3TUF	41	VA3ST	25
VA3ST	41	W8ZN	22
WB2RVX	41	K3CB	21
K3CB	35	N3HBX	20
W3ZZ	34	K9EA	19
K8MD	34	KN4SM	19
K9EA	34	WB2RVX	19
W2SJ	31	K8MD	19
432 MHz		WQØP	19
K1TEO	126	K3TUF	18
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	89	432 MHz	
K1RZ	82	K1TEO	37
W8ZN	67	K8TQK	32
N3HBX	64	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	31
VE3ZV	50	K1RZ	29
K3TUF	48	VA3ST	25
VA3ST	48	N3HBX	24
W4WA	47	K4QI	24
KE2N	46	VE3ZV	24
K8TQK	46	K3CB	24
K3CB	46	K9EA	23
W1ZC	45	W4WA	23
K9EA	42	W8ZN	22
WB2RVX	42	WQØP	21
9Ø2 MHz		WB2RVX	21
K1TEO	49	KG5MD	20
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	48	KE2N	20
K1RZ	34	K3TUF	20
K3CB	22	9Ø2 MHz	
W2SJ	18	K1TEO	18
WQØP	18	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	17
VE3ZV	18	K1RZ	14
W8ZN	17	WQØP	14
KC6ZWT	15	VE3ZV	13
K8TQK	15	K8TQK	13
K9EA	15	K3CB	13
W3ZZ	15	K9EA	12
W9GA	13	W2SJ	10
WB2RVX	13	W9GA	10
KE2N	11	K2YAZ	9
1296 MHz		W4WA	8
K1TEO	62	K8MD	8
WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	49	WB2RVX	7
K1RZ	43	W8ZN	7
K3TUF	26	K3TUF	7
W8ZN	24	K5LLL	7
W1ZC	24	1296 MHz	

W2SJ	22	K1TEO	19
K3CB	22	K8TQK	17
K8TQK	21	K1RZ	16
WB2RVX	21	WQØP	15
WQØP	20	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op)	15
K8MD	16	K3CB	15
K5LLL	15	K3TUF	13
N3HBX	14	W2SJ	12
KU2A	14	W8ZN	11
Multioperator		W4WA	10
50 MHz		K4QI	10
W2SZ	456	K8MD	9
K1WHS	390	K9EA	9
W3SO -L	246	WB2RVX	9
W4IY -L	240	WØRT	9
K2BAR -L	229	K5LLL	9
W2LV -L	226	Single Operator Portable	
W4NH -L	222	50 MHz	
W2EA	211	K9GY	19
KA2LIM -L	174	KA1LMR	16
W1QK -L	162	N6NB	16
W4MYA	137	NØJK	9
NE1B	115	KB5WIA	6
KB1DFB -L	113	AB1MI	6
AA4ZZ -L	110	K6BSR	5
WY3P	95	N7QF/7	5
144 MHz		KX9X	5
W2SZ	395	W7RDP	4
K1WHS	360	KC8KSK	3
W3SO -L	306	KD7WPJ	3
KA2LIM -L	221	K9PLS	1
K2BAR -L	215	KC2JRW	1
W2EA	202	W9LGP	1
W2LV -L	200	144 MHz	
W4IY -L	190	NØJK	20
K5QE	187	N6NB	19
AA4ZZ -L	178	KA1LMR	18
W4NH -L	171	K9GY	18
KBØHH	168	KB5WIA	8
W1QK -L	110	W7RDP	7
W4MYA	87	KX9X	5
VA7ISL -L	86	K6BSR	5
222 MHz		KC8KSK	5
W2SZ	173	AB1MI	4
K1WHS	139	KC2JRW	4
W3SO -L	85	N7QF/7	3
KBØHH	78	KD7WPJ	3
KA2LIM -L	66	K9PLS	1
W2LV -L	63	W9LGP	1
W4NH -L	60	222 MHz	
W4IY -L	57	N6NB	13
AA4ZZ -L	51	KA1LMR	12
K5QE	46	KC8KSK	2
W2EA	45	K9PLS	1
K2BAR -L	38	W9LGP	1
VA7ISL -L	32	432 MHz	
N9UHF	29	NØJK	20
W1QK -L	28	N6NB	16
432 MHz		KA1LMR	15
W2SZ	266	K9GY	15
K1WHS	200	KB5WIA	6
W3SO -L	145	K6BSR	4
KBØHH	105	W7RDP	3

AA4ZZ -L	91	KC8KSK	2
W2LV -L	86	KD7WPJ	1
W4NH -L	85	K9PLS	1
W4IY -L	78	AB1MI	1
KA2LIM -L	72	N7QF/7	1
K5QE	68	W9LGP	1
K2BAR -L	64	9Ø2 MHz	
W2EA	55	N6NB	11
VA7ISL -L	53	KA1LMR	7
KB8O	42	1296 MHz	
WO9S -L	37	N6NB	13
N9UHF	37	KA1LMR	7
9Ø2 MHz		K9PLS	1
W2SZ	87	Multioperator	
K1WHS	71	50 MHz	
W2EA	12	K1WHS	75
KBØHH	12	W4NH -L	52
K3EOD	12	W4IY -L	50
N9UHF	9	K5QE	48
K4EJQ	8	W3SO -L	46
N4JQQ	7	W2SZ	45
K5QE	7	W2LV -L	36
WA6KLK	6	KA2LIM -L	36
WY3P	4	W4MYA	35
N2GCZ	3	W2EA	30
1296 MHz		AA4ZZ -L	29
W2SZ	101	K2BAR -L	28
K1WHS	89	KBØHH	27
KBØHH	21	WY3P	24
K4EJQ	15	WO9S -L	24
W2EA	14	144 MHz	
N9UHF	13	K5QE	95
K3EOD	13	K1WHS	69
WB6W	11	W3SO -L	58
K5QE	9	W2SZ	55
WA6KLK	9	AA4ZZ -L	53
KB8O	6	W4NH -L	49
N2BJ -L	6	W4IY -L	48
N4JQQ	5	KBØHH	48
N2GCZ	4	KA2LIM -L	43
W2SN	3	W2EA	35
N9TF -L	3	NR5M	32
W4YCC	3	W2LV -L	31
NR5M	3	W4MYA	30
W8RU	3	K2BAR -L	28
Single-Operator, Portable		WO9S -L	23
50 MHz		222 MHz	
KA1LMR	115	K1WHS	42
N6NB	90	W2SZ	42
K9GY	79	W3SO -L	38
W7RDP	20	KBØHH	33
KX9X	10	W4NH -L	30
AB1MI	10	W4IY -L	30
K6BSR	10	K5QE	30
NØJK	9	KA2LIM -L	27
KC8KSK	8	W2LV -L	23
KB5WIA	8	AA4ZZ -L	21
N7QF/7	6	K2BAR -L	16
KD7WPJ	4	W2EA	16
KC2JRQ	1	N4JQQ	15
K9PLS	1	KB8O	14
W9LGP	1	WO9S -L	14
144 MHz		K4EJQ	14

N6NB	123	432 MHz	
KA1LMR	109	W3SO -L	44
K9GY	76	K1WHS	44
NØJK	32	W2SZ	43
W7RDP	22	KBØHH	38
KB5WIA	17	K5QE	33
KC8KSK	14	W4NH -L	32
KX9X	10	W4IY -L	30
KC2JRQ	10	KA2LIM -L	30
K6BSR	9	AA4ZZ -L	29
AB1MI	8	W2LV -L	23
N7QF/7	5	W2EA	18
KD7WPJ	5	N4JQQ	17
W9LGP	1	K2BAR -L	17
K9PLS	1	K4EJQ	17
222 MHz		KB8O	15
N6NB	86	N1IBM	15
KA1LMR	43	9Ø2 MHz	
KC8KSK	3	K1WHS	35
K9PLS	1	W2SZ	35
W9LGP	1	KBØHH	12
432 MHz		N9UHF	7
N6NB	95	K5QE	7
KA1LMR	64	N4JQQ	7
K9GY	45	W2EA	6
NØJK	24	K4EJQ	6
W7RDP	11	K3EOD	6
KB5WIA	10	WA6KLK	4
K6BSR	8	WY3P	3
KC8KSK	8	N2GCZ	2
AB1MI	2	1296 MHz	
N7QF/7	1	K1WHS	35
K9PLS	1	W2SZ	34
KD7WPJ	1	KBØHH	17
W9LGP	1	W2EA	9
9Ø2 MHz		K4EJQ	9
N6NB	64	K5QE	8
KA1LMR	18	N9UHF	8
1296 MHz		K3EOD	7
N6NB	83	WA6KLK	7
KA1LMR	20	WB6W	6
K9PLS	1	N4JQQ	4
-L denotes Limited Multioperator		KB8O	4
		N2GCZ	3
		NR5M	3
		N2BJ -L	2
		W4YCC	2
		N9TF -L	2
		W2SN	2
		W8RU	2
		-L denotes Limited Multioperator	