

2011 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest Results

Microwavers get their annual dose of RF on two weekends.

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The ARRL 10 GHz and Up contest, held August 20-21 and September 17-18, 2011, again yielded fun and adventure for those who participated. Even though the low number of operators active on the microwave bands makes every contact an accomplishment, clubs and groups across the country are promoting microwave activity and welcoming new interested operators.

2011 Contest Highlights

Groups across North America got on the air again in the ways they know how to have fun. For instance in California, that means groups on mountaintops and rovers moving in the flat valleys.

During the August weekend, Lloyd, NE8I and Neil, W9NU operated from several locations on the lower peninsula of northern Michigan. They worked a fair amount of rain scatter leading to a nice 450 km DX shot to Mike, WA3TTS, located on the south shore of Lake Erie.

Just as they were about to move on, the artist Laurel Prafke from Ludington, Michigan



Jeff, KN6VR, awaits the next QSOs on top of Mt Frazier.

[Tony Long, KC6QHP]

Top 10 Scores			
10 GHz Only	Score	10 GHz and Up	Score
WB0LJC	74,981	AA6IW	64,896
W0ZQ	49,094	N6RMJ	51,230
WA2VOI	46,885	W6BY	50,303
KK6MK	43,483	K6GZA	47,552
N0UK	42,653	N6TEB	38,985
K0HAC	40,958	W6QIW	33,858
AF6NA	40,674	N1JEZ	26,339
WA6JBD	39,829	KA1OJ	23,484
N0KP	38,114	W1GHZ	22,075
W7XU	37,450	W1FKF	21,849

Top 10 QSOs Completed			
10 GHz Only	QSOs	10 GHz and Up	QSOs
WB0LJC	360	N6RMJ	278
W0ZQ	236	AA6IW	274
WA2VOI	220	W6BY	267
N0UK	198	K6GZA	200
K0HAC	192	N6TEB	180
N0KP	187	W6QIW	161
KK6MK	177	KA1OJ	125
KC0P	176	N1JEZ	104
W7XU	169	W1GHZ	93
N9RIN	169	W1FKF	92

came up to them and presented them with an artistic painting she made that day that includes them and their equipment in the scene! (The painting can be viewed in the online version of this article at www.arrl.org/contests.)

Mel, WA6JBD made his long 840 km QSO with Chip, N6CA. Mel was on Mt Potosi near Las Vegas. Chip was at the base of Mt Shasta in far northern California. To complete their contact they used airplane scatter requiring coordination through a wide-area repeater system. The contact took over an hour to complete and there was no other enhancement at all.

Tony, KC6QHP tried to focus on 24, 47 and 79 GHz this year. Tony traveled northward to Long Beach to meet up with Doug, K6JEY and over a 2 km path, he was able to work K6JEY and Helen, KI6LQV, on 79 GHz with strong signals and plenty of margin.

10 GHz Only Category

In the 10 GHz Only category, Gary, WB0LJC led all 87 operators in this class with a score of 74,981. Gary traveled on all days of the contest and operated from 41 different locations. In second and third place are Jon, W0ZQ, and Donn, WA2VOI.

The highest number of unique calls worked in the 10 GHz Only category goes to Brian, AF6NA with 60. Close behind were Chris, N9RIN and Ben, KD0EJT with 50. California operators are doing a good job of getting participants on the air and having fun during this event. Longest DX in the 10 GHz Only category goes to Mel, WA6JBD with an 840 km QSO.

Participation by Call Area			
Call Area	Entries	Call Area	Entries
6	29	5	5
0	23	2	3
1	17	3	3
8	12	9	3
VE	12	7	1
4	8	DX	0

10 GHz and Up Category

Entries in the "And Up" category fell slightly to 29 this year. Repeating this year at the top of this

category is Lars, AA6IW with 64,896 points. Second and third were Pat, N6RMJ with 51,230 and Brian, W6BY with 50,303. Those scores were generated by working the most unique call signs; Lars with 75, Brian with 69, and Pat with 66.

All logs in this category included contacts on 10 GHz and 24 GHz. Five operators submitted contacts on the 47 GHz band. Two operators reported contacts on the 78 GHz band. Notable 10 GHz DX distances in this category were 652 km by Ronald, K6GZA and 639 km by John, W3HMS. Lars, AA6IW and Brian, W6BY each worked 343 km on 24 GHz — impressive! Equally impressive was Gary, AD6FP working 257 km on 47 GHz and KC6QHP's 2 km contact on 78 GHz with K6JEY and KI6LQV.

Looking Ahead

For 2012, make a point to get on the air on August 18-19 and September 15-16. Plan a new adventure different from past years. Also include new operators in your plans to expand the fun! What will you plan in your part of the country?

Expanded Report on our Website

You can find more details online at www.arrl.org/contests.