



# ARRL January VHF Contest 2019 Results

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*Despite poor weather across the upper United States and flat propagation, FT8 activity made this the most active January VHF contest of the millennium.*

The weather forecast did not look good prior to the weekend of the 2019 January VHF contest (held January 19-21, 2019) and the contest bore that out. Many in the NE spent the first part of the contest removing ice from antennas and rotators. It did not look good for rovers, and more than a few, after getting their rovers started in the cold, followed sanding trucks around on their routes to get access to good operating spots. Many of the usual operating sites were closed and adjustments had to be made.



This sad sight of iced antennas at WA3EOQ's QTH was repeated many times over in the upper US during the 2019 ARRL January VHF Contest. High VSWRs and stuck rotors caused by ice plagued many stations across the Northeast. [Howard Reynolds, WA3EOQ, photo]

Conditions were flat to nonexistent, as is often the case for January VHF contests, and it seemed like this January contest would be even worse than usual. Despite conditions, a surprising 918 logs were submitted, by far the most in this century! What made the difference? The digital modes, mostly FT8 on 6 meters, accounted for almost all of the increase in submitted logs. While the total number of QSOs reported in 2019 did not differ significantly from 2018 (61,532 in 2019, as opposed to 59,587 in 2018), the number of submitted logs was up.

Apparently the FT8 operators are more inclined to submit logs than the casual operator on SSB and CW.

Of significance is that almost half (49%) of the reported QSOs in 2019 were on 6 meters, and 60% of those 6 meter QSOs were made on one or more of the digital modes. More on what this may mean later on, but a pattern is surfacing that the January contest is becoming dominated by 6 meters (much like the June contest when E-skip is in and the higher bands, including 144 MHz, see less activity). As an example, 144 MHz activity, the lifeblood of January VHF contesting up to now, dropped from appearing in 31% of the total logs in 2018 submitted to just 25% of logs submitted in 2019.

Similar or worse drops occurred on the higher bands. Many operators expressed frustration at the lack of SSB and CW QSO opportunities, even when the band was open, but there appeared to be a gradual acceptance of the digital modes. There were a significant number of logs that were digital only, including a rover.

While the January VHF contest is always a dance with Lady Luck, there was little to no enhanced propagation this year; no E-skip, and no enhanced tropo. Gas prices were modest, which is good for rover activity, the NFL playoffs did not seem to cause the usual lull in activity often seen on Sunday afternoon, and avid testers who are active on both VHF and HF seem to have resolved the often conflicting contests issue. The presence of significant Summits on the Air (SOTA) activity in several regions, most notably southern Arizona, continued to bolster not only general VHF activity in the area, but also increased the often low January turnout in the Single Operator Portable category.

This running of the January VHF contest marked the fourth year that participants have been allowed to use assistance. The use of assistance has become the norm at this point. Most operators have developed routines that maximize the benefits of assistance while minimizing the time consumed by using assistance; a problem many of us faced during the first few contests where assistance was allowed. Regional and local chat rooms, such as those used by the New Mexico VHF Society, and real time activity/location spreadsheets such as used by the Northern Lights Radio Society, have been widely adopted and have proved very useful. Assistance is best

implemented at a local level before hunting for QSOs farther afield.



Above, Pete, N6ZE/R (joined by Woodie Woodward, WA6WDY at left), holds a 23cm “Easy Yagi” and Alinco FM handheld atop a ridge in the Santa Monica Mountains, grid DMØ4qb, on Saturday of the January VHF contest. Best DX was K6PFG at 130 miles. A temperature inversion, which produced the enhanced summer-like conditions, is clearly visible in the background. Below is Pete (behind the camera) with Woody and the N6ZE/R roverbobile. [Peter Heins, N6ZE, photo]

Log checking is a necessary, but often thankless job. The integrity and reputation of the contest is enhanced by thorough and fair log checking. You can use this log checking effort to enhance your own contest efforts, by reviewing your Log Checking Report (available at <http://contests.arrl.org/logcheckreports.php>) seeing where mistakes were made and identifying ways to correct them. The most common error is not including the /R when logging a rover. Not only is this necessary to

eliminate a logging error, but most logging programs will not flag a /R call as a dupe if you work it in a different grid.

## The Winners

CATEGORY	CALLSIGN	SCORE
Limited Multioperator (LM)	N2NT	111,105
Unlimited Multioperator (M)	N3NGE	213,498
Rover (R)	KF2MR/R	148,785
Limited Rover (RL)	WW7D/R	43,065
Rover Unlimited (RU)	K2DLT/R	69,745
Single Operator High Power (SOHP)	K1RZ	118,300
Single Operator Low Power (SOLP)	K2DRH	81,137
Single Operator, 3 Bands (SO3B)	KO9A	19,488
Single Operator FM (SOFM)	N2HJD	3,708
Single Operator, Portable (SOP)	WA7JTM	6,608

## Single Operator FM (SOFM)

The Single Operator FM category, originally intended to attract new operators to VHF contesting, continues to gain traction and attract serious competitors. Many contesters who are not weak signal VHF/UHF operators often use FM to give out a few local QSOs and to enhance their local club score. N2HJD improved on his last year third-place finish to handily win this category besting K2SI who finished second (K2SI improving on his fifth place finish last year). KM4KMU, an experienced competitor in this category, finished third, despite struggling with subzero temperatures, high winds, ice, and snow, all while operating! To show what FM can do with a serious contest setup, KM4KMU completed a 301-mile QSO on 222 MHz with K1TEO. NR2C finished fourth in this category, and K7IMA took fifth place. K7IMA set Northwestern Division and Oregon Section SOFM records with his efforts.

Even though it is often hard to convince competitors with only a few QSOs to submit a log, it is still possible to win and set records with small efforts. K4NRT demonstrated that submitting a log is very worthwhile, setting Tennessee Section and Delta Division records with his modest entry.

The SOFM category is excellent training for passing emergency traffic quickly and efficiently, and



John, KM4KMU/R, finished his setup just before the ice storm got bad. This photo was taken on, of all places, Freezeland Road, near the grid corner of FMØ9/19/Ø8/18 at an altitude of 2,500 ft. [John Young, KM4KMU, photo]

several ARES and RACES organizations encourage their members to get on during VHF contests. One of the keys to a competitive SOFM operation is operating on 222 MHz. There are lots of QSOs to be had with the weak signal operators who have FM capability on 222 MHz. Even a handie- talkie with a good whip can round up enough QSOs and multipliers to significantly increase one's score.

### Single Operator Three Band (SO3B)

The Single Operator 3 Band category provides good competition for those numerous hams who own the common "DC-to-daylight" rigs with three VHF/UHF bands 50/144/432 MHz) included. It also allows newcomers to VHF/UHF operation and contesting an easy way to dip their toes in the water. It has become one of the more popular categories.

KO9A, improving on his 2017 fourth place finish, won this category by just a narrow margin over AD5A. KO9A overcame early problems with antenna icing, and late problems with S9 noise on 6 meters, to take first place. In his first VHF contest, AD5A did a great job to finish only 504 points behind KO9A, while setting new SO3B records for both the South Texas Section and the West Gulf Division. Both ops relied on FT8 and MSK144 to make QSOs on otherwise dead bands, but emphasized the importance of moving off FT8 when conditions are good enough for SSB and CW. They also advocate moving off 6-meter FT8 to QSY to other bands. This strategy, of course, applies to all categories, not just SO3B.



The upper photo shows Barry, K7BWH, setting up his rover on Mt Octopus, CN77vr, at an altitude of 2,000'. In contrast to the Northeast, Barry had to contend with rain and mud, not snow and ice, at the start of the January VHF Contest. Below, the weather improved for set up at North Point Lookout, CN78xc. [Barry Hansen, K7BWH, photos]

K9FA, operating at the K5NA station, more than tripled his 2018 results for a competitive score in SO3B and a solid third place finish. K9FA had a few weak openings, which he used to good advantage. He also availed himself to FT8 and MSK144 to increase his score, lamenting the fact that it was hard to get people off FT8 when conditions warranted it. While K3SFX finished fourth and N7IR finished fifth respectively, N7IR made up for the flat conditions in Arizona by leveraging the SOTA activity and multiple rovers. Gary is happy that the VHF/UHF activity in Arizona is at a high level, something unheard of only a few years ago.



In addition to the SO3B records set by AD5A, W1QK set new SO3B records for the Connecticut Section and New England Division. N7QQZ also set new records for the Western Washington Section and Northwest Division, and KK4MA set new South Carolina Section and Roanoke Division records.

### Single Operator Low Power (SOLP)

The Single Operator Low Power category is not just the bread and butter category of the VHF contests, it is also the most popular category in VHF contesting - and this contest was no exception. K2DRH returned from a second place finish last year to reclaim the top SOLP spot this year. Bob overcame late problems with his 6-meter and 2304 MHz antennas only to face flat conditions in the contest - and no 2304 MHz activity, despite going to great lengths to get 2304 MHz back up and running prior to the contest. Bob also used FT8 to his advantage in obtaining new multipliers (he noted that it is becoming somewhat easier, than it was last year, to move local stations off FT8 to other bands).

N3RG finished second while suffering a few setbacks in getting his new rig and transverters up and running. Perennial SOLP competitor AF1T finished in third place, and WA3NUF took fourth. VE3DS finished fifth in his 48th January VHF contest, fighting bitter cold, poor conditions and sporadic line noise. Dana put some 10 GHz gear on the air from his driveway to make a few contacts and earn a few more multipliers. Those microwave band QSO points really help!

### Single Operator High Power (SOHP)

Many people consider the Single Operator High Power category the king of the contesting categories. These are usually the stations that everyone can rely on for QSOs and relatively far away grids. K1RZ took the SOHP category for the second year in a row. In his comments, K1RZ complimented the rovers that were able to get out on usually abbreviated routes due to the ice and snow. He states he uses a combination of modes to operate, cycling through CW, FT8, MSK144, and SSB to avoid being stuck on one mode and missing

opportunities on other bands (finding this procedure maximizes both QSO points and grid multipliers). Despite the poor weather, Northeast stations took the top three spots in SOHP. W3SZ finished second, despite being affected by the poor weather causing abbreviated rover routes. WA3DRC finished third and WØUC finished fourth. Finding average to poor conditions, and low rover turnout, Paul turned to the digital modes, FT8 and MSK144 to make up for it. VA3ELE finished fifth, finding city noise, poor conditions, and rig problems on 902 and 222 MHz building upon each other. He still had a blast though!

### Single Operator Portable (SOP)

The Single Operator Portable category, bolstered by widening Summits On The Air (SOTA) activity, continued to be a popular category with 34 logs submitted this year. It is good to see this increase in activity in January in this potentially brutal category in the winter, and it is especially good to see the synergy between SOTA activities and VHF/UHF Contesting.

Long time and experienced June VHF contester WA7JTM finished a very strong first place in this category. Peter's efforts in organizing the Arizona SOTA ops to get on the air during the contest paid off not only for him but for all of the Arizona VHF/UHF ops. Peter leverages rigs on all bands through 1296 MHz, even though they are QRP. He works hard to get the most out of what he has. Peter's SOTA expedition gave family member N7TXT a chance to use the home station and put yet another Arizona station on the air.

In Northern California, AA6XA finished second in this category from the Loma Alta Summit in CM88. K7TAB narrowly beat out KF7NP for third with a margin of only five points! This shows the competitiveness in this category, but that is to be expected from those who haul their entire station up a long trail to a mountaintop. Both stations used rigs on multiple bands to good effect aided by the altitude and clear horizon a mountain top gives one. WX3P rounded out the top five.



Most of the SOP stations, and especially those who are also SOTA activators, haul all station equipment and antennas up to the operating point on their backs. This makes them amongst the hardest working physical contestants in the contest.



Long time VHFer Peter, WA7JTM, is shown participating in a combined Single Op Portable (in the ARRL January VHF Contest) and Summits On The Air (SOTA) expedition. Most people are used to working Peter as a Single Operator or Multioperator station in the June contests, but he is a very much accomplished SOTA op and has encouraged and organized other SOTA ops to get active on the VHF contests. Yes, all that stuff goes up the mountain on his back. Below, Peter's portable station rivals the scores of some Single Operator Low Power home stations. [Peter Scola, WA7JTM, photo.]

### Limited Multioperator (LM)

In the Limited Multioperator category, N2NT (with N2NC and WW2Y as additional ops) repeated their 2018 first place finish. They used FT8 to fill in dead times on CW and SSB, and (like many stations) are

working on ways to pass people from FT8 to other bands. K5QE moved up from fourth place last year to second place this year, despite what Marshall termed "terrible conditions". The K5QE station uses two independent 6-meter positions, one for FT8 and one for everything else. K5QE noted that for the first time (in a long time of January VHF Contesting) 6 meter QSOs and mults, despite no E-skip, exceeded his 2 meter bread and butter band. N9HF finished third, and W9RVG finished fourth in this category, while W5ROK finished fifth.



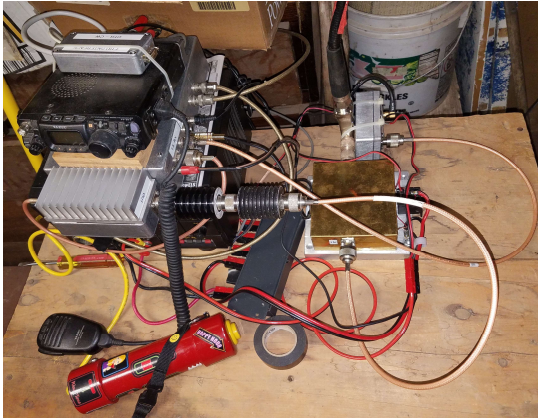
It doesn't get much simpler than the KB2BKD/R rover antenna stack. It's a 6-meter halo above a log periodic for 144 and 432 MHz. Bob parlayed this stack and a visit to a grid corner into an 1,100 point score. [Sebastian R Galletti, KB2BKD, photo]

### Unlimited Multioperator (UM)

The Unlimited Multioperator stations consistently provide signals on the bands, as well as QSOs in those often hard to find bands above 1296 MHz. This is very significant in the January contest. While it is a labor of love to setup and maintain a competitive Unlimited Multioperator station, their efforts benefit many of the other competitors, particularly those just starting out on the microwaves.

This year N3NGE repeated as Unlimited Multioperator champions by a large margin. They are truly a DC-to-daylight operation, with RF operations up to 47 GHz and Laser as well, and the epitome of the philosophy that "if there is no one on the band, be the one on the band." With W4NH finishing second, and WA3EHD finishing third, KE1LI took fourth while fighting the New England winter weather until he finally had to pull the plug when icing caused the SWR to make his antennas unusable. W1XM (the MIT Club) finished fifth,

reporting the worst conditions they have ever seen. They noted that the digital modes saved the day, but again shared that it was hard to pass digital ops to other bands. This is a recurring theme.



The 1296 position at the KE1LI Unlimited Multiop station shows what one can do by using what one has. Paul gets 55 Watts out of this setup. Note the plunger key, which was pressed into service when all of the other keys were used in other operating positions. There is also a screwdriver and roll of electrical tape at the ready for in-contest repairs. Paul says it is OK to laugh at this photo. [Paul Rollinson, KE1LI, photo]



Above, Jim, K5ND/R, looks pretty happy after completing his rover antenna assembly prior to the start of his rove in Texas. Below, a K5ND/R Texas sunset. [James Wilson Jr, K5ND, photos]



Jarred, KF2MR/R, operated from FN02 as part of his multi-grid rove in the 2019 January VHF Contest. Being stuck in a snow bank was not atypical of what rovers in the Northeast faced in the contest. Fortunately, a local farmer showed up with a Bobcat to dig out a parking spot in the otherwise snow-covered pull-off on the main road. This photo conveys the tone of the contest for many of those across the upper US. [Jarred Jackson, KF2MR, photo]



Ice-coated antennas were the norm for the Northeast rovers. Here is the frozen loop Yagi of K2EZ/R. [Andrea Slack, K2EZ, photo]

## Classic Rover (R)

Rovers are the mother's milk of VHF/UHF contesting and often the biggest resource for local activity. This is especially true for the well-equipped Classic Rovers, where many contacts can often be made from a single grid stop.





A rover blitz Rochester VHF Group style. There is a lot of VHF/UHF/microwave expertise and experience compiled in that photo. Shown are (front to rear) N2MKT/R, K2TER/R + KV2X, K2LDU/R, W2EV/R and KF2MR/R. [Jeff Jensen, N2MKT, photo]

This year KF2MR/R won the Classic Rover category. The great plans for an extensive rove to support the Rochester VHF Group's 70th anniversary did not fully materialize due to weather. There was a big turnout in the Rochester area nonetheless, consisting of significant local activity that was recruited from other clubs for the 70th anniversary celebration. Other than the local activity, conditions were bad. K2TER/R, also of the Rochester VHF Group, finished second with strong local support. K2TER reported several FM pileups during the contest due to the large turnout of casual operators who don't normally contest. That is a nice problem to have.

N7GP/R finished third, a very high finish from the western states. Tom accomplished this feat by being agile and relocating to better positions within the same grid, actively pursuing QSOs with fixed stations, having a full complement of bands, getting members of the local contesting club enthused and on the air, as well as leveraging the SOTA activity in Arizona. N7GP noted that the level of activity in this contest rivaled that which he saw in the Midwest as WA8WZG.

W2EV/R took time out from organizing the Rochester VHF Group's 70th anniversary contest to finish fourth in the Classic Rover category. VE3OIL finished fifth while doing battle with poor roads, sub-zero temperatures and poor conditions. Again, a common theme among rovers in the northeast.



This shows the NC5AX/R operating position in Arkansas, remembering last year's contest when temperatures were in the 50s and 60s. [NC5AX, photo]

### Limited Rover (RL)

With only the four specified bands and limited to low power, antennas, strategy and tactics are of paramount importance to Limited Rovers. Among those who have honed those principles to a fine point is WW7D/R, who repeated his first place dominance of the Limited Rover category with a Western Washington Section and Northwestern Division record setting performance. Darryl visited 10 grids in his roving effort. K7BDB/R finished second as part of intense Pacific Northwest VHF Society activity. K5ND/R finished third by visiting 10 grids. This shows what can be done with a modest equipment and a dedicated effort. N6GP/R finished fourth by visiting 6 grids in and around the LA basin. Tim was one of the few contest stations, rover or otherwise, that had E-skip openings. Tim used FT8 in his rover to advantage, but his slow results on Sunday afternoon may have been due to competing with the Rams game. There apparently was a blip in activity during half time. N5BNO/R did a good job finishing fifth in his first rove with a balanced effort over all the bands.





Here K5ND/R, KA5D/R, and KD5IKG/R meet for a bite to eat and a few eyeball QSOs. [James Wilson Jr., K5ND, photo]

## Unlimited Rover (RU)

The Unlimited Rover category originally was envisioned as an “anything goes” category; a response in large part prompted by the practice of unlimited grid squaring. The category has seldom been used in recent years for that by entrants in the category though. That changed this year.

K2LDT/R won the category with a 10-band effort. The higher QSO points for the microwave bands brought great rewards to Greg as he finished ahead of the second and third place entrants, both of which had more QSOs and multipliers. Those higher bands pay off!

Those second and third place entrants, NØLD/R and KG9DUK/R focused around grids EMØ5/Ø6/15/16 on Saturday, and around grids EMØ4/Ø5/14/15 on Sunday, working each other on each unique band/grid combination. They also each worked a number of other stations in the contest.

K7ATN/R finished fourth by traveling 600 miles, and activating 9 grids. During his rove he had to overcome a dead battery and antenna-eating trees.



Steve, K7ATN/R, used a good combination of gain and omnidirectional antennas on his rover. [Steven Scott, K7ATN, photo]

ACØRA/R finished fifth, close behind K7ATN/R with an effort from four grids. Wyatt ran what was essentially his Limited Rover setup with a 6-meter amplifier. Wyatt found that beyond 300 miles MSK144 was more productive than FT8, and that knowing which mode to use and when was key to his success. Wyatt set new January Iowa Section and Midwest Division records with his effort. WB2SIH/R put in a 1,050 mile rove through 16 grids to finish sixth.



Buff, WB2SIH/R, during his 16-grid rove, made a quick stop at the beach in shirtsleeves, an unusual occurrence in this contest! [William “Buff” Fisher, WB2SIH, photo]



KCØP/r in EM34 lowering his rover antennas in preparation to move. (Photo from KCØP)



Tired of snow pictures? Here is the well-appointed K9YR shack with 6 bands. Jeff Berman, K9YR, photo]

## Club Competition

The club competition drives much of the activity in VHF contests, particularly when conditions are down.

The Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club (Packrats) took first place in the Unlimited Club category with an impressive 70 members submitting logs totaling 1,083,551 points. This high level of activity is the result of decades of work promoting VHF weak signal operations by dedicated and conscientious club members.

The largest club competition category is the Medium club competition, won this year by the Rochester VHF Group. This is the Rochester group's first gavel win since 2005. 2019 is the 70th anniversary of the Rochester VHF group and there is a big push to get as many members as possible out for contest efforts, and to increase activity. Although not targeting their club score, their goal was to get as many members of the local club out to participate in the contest as possible. W2EV is honchoing this effort, in addition to being an active contest participant.

In second place was the Pacific Northwest VHF Society, that traditionally has a big push to get members active in contests - and this year was no different with numerous rovers and fixed stations active. The rest of the top five clubs were: Northeast Weak Signal Group, Society of Midwest Contesters, and the Arizona Outlaws Contest Club. The rise of the Arizona Outlaws from 10th place last year in the club competition to fifth this year is significant and due to the rise in SOTA activity, increased number of rovers and recognition by many members that working the higher bands pays off.

The Local Club competition was again won by the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association, followed by the Ventura County Amateur Society, Bristol (TN) Amateur Radio Club, Bergen ARA and the Gloucester County ARC.

Club	Score	Entries
<b>Unlimited</b>		
Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club	1,083,551	70
<b>Medium</b>		
Rochester VHF Group	497,654	45
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	184,852	37
North East Weak Signal Group	151,799	15
Society of Midwest Contesters	123,536	22
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	104,253	17
Northern Lights Radio Society	94,982	16
Florida Weak Signal Society	87,082	10
Potomac Valley Radio Club	70,408	34
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	51,370	13



Contest Club Ontario	48,926	9
Roadrunners Microwave Group	37,491	4
Florida Contest Group	35,795	8
Badger Contesters	31,878	11
Michigan VHF-UHF Society	25,352	6
New Mexico VHF Society	17,009	10
Frankford Radio Club	15,951	11
Southern California Contest Club	13,310	11
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	9,444	3
Six Meter Club of Chicago	7,556	9
South Jersey Radio Assn	4,167	5
Carolina DX Association	3,044	4
Alabama Contest Group	1,898	3
Willamette Valley DX Club	1,057	3
Minnesota Wireless Assn	369	3
<b>Local</b>		
Eastern Connecticut ARA	21,231	9
Ventura County Amateur Radio Society	5,812	3
Bristol (TN) ARC	2,797	5
Bergen ARA	1,633	3
Gloucester Co ARC	804	3

Clubs looking to increase participation in their area are encouraged to coordinate with other VHF (including FM), microwave, contest clubs, DX associations, emergency communications organizations, and SOTA participants in their area. Often we only look to our own circle when trying to increase contest activity, but there are significant dividends to be had by looking into other local groups to increase activity. This has been effective in Arizona, and the Rochester VHF Group has used this philosophy in their 70th Anniversary contest approach. All that is really required for this coordination is for individuals to step up, and to organize and promote the activity as advantageous for each group. Plan this coordination now for increased future contest activity rewards!

It is important to note that clubs must submit an eligible list of members prior to the start of the contest. Members on that list must be members in good standing, they must reside in the club territory, and they must operate from the club territory

(Classic and Limited Rover entrants who reside in the territory may contribute that portion of QSOs made within the club territory to the club competition {see rule 3.7.1}). Several contestants credited scores to clubs that did not have an eligibility list on file at the beginning of the contest, while others who submitted logs for a club were not on the eligibility list or operated from outside the club territory. There is also a minimum of three submitted logs required for a club to be eligible for the club competition, which was not met in a couple of instances. The club competition is an important factor in contest activity. Please assign a responsible person from your club to submit an eligibility list to ARRL prior to the contest, and to supply timely updates when members are added, removed, or have callsign changes. Updates are only necessary when you have changes to report; annual updates are suggested to ensure no changes are missed. Also, take time to inform your club members about the rules for submitting a log to count towards a club score.



Here is well-known VHF contester, Larry, NØLL, at his Kansas station. Larry feels that the contests are now more interesting and challenging as the digital modes are a bit of an equalizer for the Midwest, as compared with the more populated areas of our country. This was Larry's 132nd VHF contest in a row dating back to 1975! [Larry Lambert, NØLL, photo]

## The use of the digital modes, including FT8, MSK144, and others to come?

This contest was the second January VHF Contest with FT8 available, and the newest software release



seemed to address some, but not all of the concerns we heard after last year's contest. It seemed like MSK144 activity was also up, so perhaps people who are operating FT8 are learning to also operate MSK144 as just another digital mode? Meteor scatter using MSK144 is no longer hard work, it just takes dedication and allocation of time.

But several larger issues remain. The relative ease with which score-enhancing FT8 QSOs can be made, and the fact that most of these QSOs are made on 6 meters, means that the January VHF Contest is becoming much like the June VHF Contest in that when there is E-skip 6 meters dominates – at the expense of the higher bands that suffer.

While there were only slightly more QSOs made during the 2019 contest (61,532 as opposed to the 2018 contest with 59,587), nearly half of the 2019 QSOs were made on 6 meters, despite nearly no enhanced propagation. Nearly 62% of the 6-meter QSOs were made on one of the digital modes. This is in contrast with the 2018 contest where only 33% of the QSOs were made on 6 meters, and only 28% of those were digital.

As the bulk of the new QSOs were on 6 meters and the total number of QSOs made remained roughly constant, it appears the increase in 6-meter QSOs comes at the expense of QSOs on the higher bands. The number of 2-meter QSOs made in 2019 decreased to 16,174 from 18,745 in 2018. That is a decrease of nearly 15% in what has traditionally been the bread and butter band in January VHF Contesting.

The decrease in activity on the higher bands is even more severe than on 2 meters, with 222 MHz QSOs down 29%, 432 MHz QSOs down 20%, 902 MHz QSOs down 26%, and 1296 MHz down 25%. The microwave bands are similarly affected, if not worse.

This effect was noted, at least notionally, in the soapbox comments of many ops, many lamenting the lack of activity on the higher bands.

What does this mean? As more operators adopt the digital modes, whether FT8, or its successor FT4,

this trend may continue. As it continues, the higher bands will suffer from less and less activity. That should be alarming to those who think that activity on all bands and modes is essential to VHF+ contesting. Just as activity on the bands breeds activity, lack of activity on the bands breeds inactivity. We need to think of ways to mitigate this impact that FT8 is having on activity on the higher bands.

A second issue is that many FT8 operators, and nearly all the casual ones, stay glued to the mode on 6 meters, even when conditions are good enough for a CW or SSB QSO and when there are stations to work on other bands. The run rates are much higher on CW and SSB than on FT8, so competitive scores suffer; and if there is no easy way to QSY to other bands, multipliers and QSO points suffer. FT4 may go a bit along the road to answering the rate problem, but how do I run the bands with someone who is stuck on 6 meter FT8?

A third issue is that the band allocated to FT8 is too small when there are strong local stations on or with reasonable band openings. On CW or SSB you can QSY a bit to avoid the problem, but on FT8 you need to shift to the same sequence as other locals are on but this can limit opportunities.

How do we address this problem? Are FT8 and the traditional CW and SSB modes incompatible as some have suggested? Can a “please QSY to other bands” feature be incorporated into FT8?

After only two years, the use of FT8 is firmly entrenched in VHF/UHF contesting, and for good reason; it is an effective way of increasing one's DX capability with only a modest investment in time and little investment in equipment. The January contest is primarily a scatter mode contest and FT8 excels at making scatter mode contacts. 57% of the logs submitted contained some digital QSOs. 21% of the logs submitted consisted entirely of digital contacts!

Good operators recognize the importance of not relying on a single mode and rotate through FT8, CW, SSB, and FM. The increased use of panadapter spectrum displays makes spotting activity on other modes and bands straightforward and should prompt

a savvy op to change modes or bands to capture a new one. But this does not address the casual FT8 users, which make up the bulk of the new activity.

Some have suggested that FT8 is incompatible with CW and SSB and that separate contests should be held for the digital modes. This, I think, is a poor solution as it would negate the gains that the digital modes (FT8 in particular) have brought to VHF/UHF contesting, namely increased activity.

Another proposal would allow multiple contacts with the same station on different modes, much as is done for Field Day and the ARRL 10-Meter Contest. The multiple QSOs would have to be made on different mode frequencies (frequencies that are “normally” used for that mode). This would offer some incentive for stations to get off FT8 and onto CW or SSB, although again it is not clear that the casual operator would respond to the incentive, particularly if the operator does not know CW or proper SSB operating procedures.

I don’t think either of these proposals would effectively address how to move the casual contester from the digital modes and onto the analog modes.

I am not sure what the developers of WSJT have in store for the future, but a simple way to QSY to other bands would go a long way to solving some of the current problems, as would an alert and easy method to go to the analog modes when signal-to-noise ratios are sufficient.

The trend of the past two years, since the introduction of FT8, indicates to me that if nothing is done we will end up with all of the VHF/UHF contests being predominately 6-meter digital contests. Coupled with the increased move to the Limited and 3-Band categories, this does not bode well for the microwave enthusiasts. When there is no E-skip or tropo, the dominant modes of propagation have always been the various scatter modes. With the digital modes, it is easier now than ever before to complete scatter contacts on 6 meters. We need to leverage that capability to increase activity on the higher bands, where scatter is even more important, and not let the digital modes consume the activity on the higher bands.

I think the digital modes offer great contesting opportunities for the entry-level operator and modestly equipped stations. We need to figure out how best to utilize them to derive the best benefit. Education is a good place to start, but given the rapid rise of digital mode contesting, the time may be short to save the higher band component of VHF+ contesting.

## Logging

One hundred percent log checking is an important part of the compiling and reporting the contest results. It enhances the integrity and reputation of the contest. It instills confidence in participants by those who run the contest. By checking every log, there is significantly greater confidence in the accuracy of the outcome, particularly in close categories.

There are common errors in logging, some of which the log checkers can fix and others that they cannot. The best way to address these errors is to not make them in the first place, by paying close attention to entering QSO information into your logging program or on to your piece of paper, especially QSO date and time). Watch how your exchanges are copied and logged. For example, there is a fair amount of confusion or miscopying of M’s and N’s in the second character of the exchange. Also “fifty” gets confused with “sixty” as well as “fifteen” and “sixteen”. The extensive or exclusive use of phonetics is a straightforward way to solve these problems.

A surprising number of digits in the callsign are mis-copied/mis-logged, mix-ups between adjacent numbers on the keyboard, 2s and 3s for example, are common, as are the incorrect prefix letters (Ks, Ns, Ws). Typos can be minimized by looking closely at the screen as you type, and errors of all types can be avoided by paying careful attention to what was sent.

A good strategy is to review your log checking report from the last contest, and to formulate a strategy to avoid these mistakes.

While it is dismaying to see your score reduced by the log checking process, it can be used as a learning

process to improve your operating skills in the future. An error-free log, although difficult, is worth striving for and pays dividends. And keep in mind that everyone is held to the same standards during log checking – with maintaining a level playing field always being the end goal.

Submitting an electronic log, while helpful to the log checkers, is not mandatory and non-electronic logs are welcome. They constitute about 5% of the total logs submitted. These must be entered by hand into a Cabrillo format. A special thanks to the volunteers who do this.

## Logs Submitted

There were 918 logs submitted, 2 of which were check logs. This is an increase of 24% from the 742 logs submitted in 2018; and one needs to go back to the last century, 1999, to find a higher number of entrants in the January VHF Contest. While the January VHF Contest is healthy activity wise, due in large part to the digital modes, the complexion of the contest has changed and is changing.

## Logs Received by Category

Limited Multioperator	25
Unlimited Multioperator	11
Rover	33
Limited Rover	32
Rover Unlimited	12
Single Operator, 3 Band	180
Single Operator, FM	42
Single Operator, High Power	202
Single Operator, Low Power	345
Single Operator, Portable	34
<b>Total Logs</b>	<b>916</b>
Check logs	2

Thanks to all who submitted logs.

## Summary

Despite challenging weather in parts of the country, the 2019 running of the January VHF Contest was very successful. Participation, and log submissions, were high. Let's try to keep this momentum through the year to next year's contest.

To do so, start planning now for next year's January VHF Contest. Put the dates for next year's contest on your calendar now - January 20, 21 and 22, 2020.

As the digital modes have well established themselves in VHF contests, make provisions for them if you don't already have them. If you already have them, consider how to develop habits to use other modes and bands. If you only do FT8, it is not that much more trouble to go to MSK144 for meteor scatter, and the rewards are great in the additional grids you can pick up. Similarly, if you only do the digital modes on 6 meters, think about moving up and operating digital modes on higher bands, particularly 2 meters. Also, if you have just 6 meters, or just 6 and 2 meters, think about adding higher bands if you do not already have them. Low cost transverters are available to easily get on bands your main rig does not cover. If you need help, just ask your local VHF+ participants what they use or where to easily source transverters and antennas. Both can be inexpensive when getting started on higher VHF, UHF and even lower SHF bands.

More importantly, think about the changes that the digital modes have made in VHF contesting. Think about the positives and negatives, and try to come up with reasonable solutions to the issues raised. As always, if you feel adjustments should be made to any ARRL Contest rules to increase participation or your enjoyment, let your ARRL Division Director know about your concerns or interests, and explain what changes would increase your fun factor.

Listen for the weak ones!



## Top Ten Scores by Category

Classic Rover		Single Operator High Power		Single Operator Portable		Limited Multioperator	
Station	Score	Station	Score	Station	Score	Station	Score
KF2MR/R	148,785	K1RZ	118,300	WA7JTM	6,608	N2NT	111,105
K2TER/R	71,544	W3SZ	76,500	AA6XA	2,268	K5QE	80,784
N7GP/R	41,407	WA3DRC	56,210	K7TAB	1,989	N9HF	15,708
W2EV/R	31,200	WØUC	51,221	KF7NP	1,984	W9RVG	8,806
VE3OIL/R	25,193	VA3ELE	44,448	WX3P	1,470	W5ROK	6,760
KE7MSU/R	23,556	K1TEO	42,238	W7JET	864	K2BAR	6,460
K2ET/R	22,800	N4QWZ	41,470	KD7WPJ	832	N3DPB	4,884
K2EZ/R	21,000	N1RWY	38,976	KØNR	792	WS9V	3,478
KK6MC/R	16,473	WZ1V	38,675	WB7ENX	660	N2JQR	3,427
K4SME/R	15,447	VE3ZV	36,127	VE7JH	630	N9XKH	3,096
Limited Rover		Single Operator Low Power		Single Operator FM Only		Unlimited Multioperator	
Station	Score	Station	Score	Station	Score	Station	Score
WW7D/R	43,065	K2DRH	81,137	N2HJD	3,708	N3NGE	213,498
K7BDB/R	10,982	N3RG	73,801	K2SI	1,770	W4NH	28,634
K5ND/R	8,232	AF1T	59,363	KM4KMU	1,365	WA3EHD	18,585
N6GP/R	6,580	WA3NUF	46,735	NR2C	1,053	KE1LI	13,780
K7BWH/R	5,148	VE3DS	24,486	K7IMA	891	W1XM	13,350
N5BNO/R	5,040	WA3GFZ	22,325	K6KQV	448	W5UHF	12,561
WB2SIH/R	5,016	K9MU	18,480	KG6IYN	429	W3RFC	6,201
K7JSG/R	3,800	N8RA	16,683	AD4TJ	402	NY2NY	4,392
NR2C/R	3,600	KA3FQS	16,585	WB9WOZ	320	KA1SU	910
KJ2G/R	3,330	W2UTH (N2WK, op)	14,444	W2BSN	273	XE2N	54
Unlimited Rover		Single Operator 3 Band					
Station	Score	Station	Score				
K2LDT/R	69,745	KO9A	19,488				
NØLD/R	58,575	AD5A	18,984				
KG9DUK/R	53,874	K9FA	15,996				
K7ATN/R	39,707	K3SFX	6,816				
ACØRA/R	39,058	N7IR	6,603				
KD5IKG/R	19,584	KR1ST	5,775				
KA5D/R	17,542	K2UA	5,680				
N6JET/R	10,481	N4QV	5,049				
KG6CIH/R	3,249	W8JH	4,830				
WA1TE/R	3,002	W1PV	4,779				

# Regional Leaders

West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NT Sections)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario East, Ontario North, Ontario South, and Greater Toronto Area Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)	
Classic Rover													
N7GP/R	41,407		KCØP/R	6,475		VE3OIL/R	25,193		K4SME/R	15,447		KF2MR/R	148,785
KE7MSU/R	23,556		NØHZO/R	6,475		K9TMS/R	1,980		AG4V/R	13,338		K2TER/R	71,544
KK6MC/R	16,473		K5WO/R	48		AA9IL/R	972		N2CEI/R	7,956		W2EV/R	31,200
N6ZE/R	5,790					VA3TO/R	184		W5VY/R	4,747		K2ET/R	22,800
AC7FF/R	2,304								WA3RGQ/R	2,688		K2EZ/R	21,000
Limited Rover													
WW7D/R	43,065		K5ND/R	8,232		K9JK/R	1,264		NC5AX/R	816		N5BNO/R	5,040
K7BDB/R	10,982		ABØYM/R	420		N9GH/R	782		KM4OZH/R	700		WB2SIH/R	5,016
N6GP/R	6,580		AA5PR/R	323								NR2C/R	3,600
K7BWH/R	5,148											KJ2G/R	3,330
K7JSG/R	3,800											KD2BKD/R	1,095
Unlimited Rover													
K7ATN/R	39,707		NØLD/R	58,575								K2LDT/R	69,745
N6JET/R	10,481		KG9DUK/R	53,874								KG6CIH/R	3,249
VE7AFZ/R	1,260		ACØRA/R	39,058								WA1TE/R	3,002
			KD5IKG/R	19,584									
			KA5D/R	17,542									
Single Operator High Power													
N1RWY	38,976		K5LLL	25,578		WØUC	51,221		N4QWZ	41,470		K1RZ	118,300
KE7SW	19,250		N5RZ	22,700		VA3ELE	44,448		K1TO	22,752		W3SZ	76,500
N7EPD	15,402		KØTPP	14,933		VE3ZV	36,127		KC4PX	19,964		WA3DRC	56,210
KD7UO	13,550		KØSIX	12,960		W7JW	17,205		W3IP	15,813		K1TEO	42,238
WA7XX	11,950		K5VH	12,654		NØAKC	10,720		KE8FD	13,167		WZ1V	38,675
Single Operator Low Power													
WZ8T	9,802		KC5WX	11,840		K2DRH	81,137		W4RAA	9,270		N3RG	73,801
K2GMY	5,270		NØLL	11,004		VE3DS	24,486		W6BXQ	3,784		AF1T	59,363
K6MI	4,914		K5TRA	10,669		K9MU	18,480		KM4HI	3,640		WA3NUF	46,735
KC6ZWT	4,448		WBØNRV	7,830		W9GA	11,655		K4PPK	2,160		WA3GFZ	22,325
W7KKE	3,536		N5ITO	6,222		VE3SMA	5,304		K4FJW	1,830		N8RA	16,683
Single Operator Portable													
WA7JTM	6,608		KØNR	792		WK9U	64					WX3P	1,470
AA6XA	2,268		KØJJW	42		AK9Y	12					K9PW	72
K7TAB	1,989		KG5FHU	36								K3YDX	52
KF7NP	1,984		NØJK	9								K3DMA	24
W7JET	864		ABØCD	2								KB3SIG	16

West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NT Sections)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario East, Ontario North, Ontario South, and Greater Toronto Area Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)		
Single Operator 3 Band														
N7IR	6,603		AD5A	18,984		KO9A	19,488		N4QV	5,049		K3SFX	6,816	
W8JH	4,830		K9FA	15,996		KA9VDU	3,636		KK4MA	3,402		KR1ST	5,775	
N7QOZ	3,408		NN5T	660		KA8CNI	2,414		KA1AF	3,276		K2UA	5,680	
N7RK	3,120		KØJQA	280		K8SD	1,334		AJ6T	1,407		W1PV	4,779	
WB7FJG	2,040		NØAT	234		VE3SST	1,020		KG5MD	1,333		W1QK	4,356	
Single Operator FM only														
K7IMA	891		NØHDR	205		WB9WOZ	320		KM4KMU	1,365		N2HJD	3,708	
K6KQV	448		WAØKXO	64		K9LAE	24		AD4TJ	402		K2SI	1,770	
KG6IYN	429		WD9IGX	14		KG9R	15		K3TW	36		NR2C	1,053	
N9VM (N1VM, p)	252		AEØQ	3		WD9GDB	14		K4NRT	24		W2BSN	273	
KI7LTT	207		ABØMV	3								N2ZN	252	
Limited Multioperator														
W6RDF	1,488		K5QE	80,784		W9RVG	8,806		N9HF	15,708		N2NT	111,105	
VE6AO	153		W5ROK	6,760		WS9V	3,478		K2JB	1,040		K2BAR	6,460	
W7TZ	143		WØVB	2,112		N9XKH	3,096		W4GZX	836		N3DPB	4,884	
			WCØAAA	20					WB4WXE	722		N2JQR	3,427	
												W2CCC	2,170	
Unlimited Multioperator														
			W5UHF	12,561					W4NH	28,634		N3NGE	213,498	
												WA3EHD	18,585	
												KE1LI	13,780	
												W1XM	13,350	
												W3RFC	6,201	

Division Winners										
	Classic Rover	Limited Rover	Unlimited Rover	Single Op High Power	Single Op Low Power	Single Op Portable	Single Op 3 Band	Single Op FM Only	Limited Multiop	Unlimited Multiop
Atlantic	KF2MR/R	N5BNO/R	K2LDT/R	K1RZ	N3RG	WX3P	K3SFX	N2HJD	N3DPB	N3NGE
Central	K9TMS/R	K9JK/R		WØUC	K2DRH	WK9U	KO9A	WB9WOZ	W9RVG	
Dakota	KCØP/R NØHZO/R (tie)			KØSIX	WØZQ		NØAT	NØHDR	WØVB	
Delta	AG4V/R	NC5AX/R		N4QWZ	AA4DD		KG5MD	K4NRT	W4GZX	
Great Lakes				W7JW	KEØJMK		KA8CNI			
Hudson	K2EZ/R	WB2SIH/R		W2KV	WB2JAY	KQ2RP	W2DPT		N2NT	NY2NY
Midwest			ACØRA/R	KØTPP	NØLL	NØJK	KØJQA			
New England	KJ1K/R	KJ2G/R	KG6CIH/R	K1TEO	AF1T		W1QK	KB1YSK	NE1C	KE1LI
Northwestern	KE7MSU/R	WW7D/R	K7ATN/R	KE7SW	WZ8T	AE7EL	N7QOZ	K7IMA	W7TZ	
Pacific		WB6HUM/R	N6JET/R	K6WIS	K2GMY	AA6XA	AE6GE	K6KQV		
Roanoke		KM4OZH/R		W3IP	K4FJW		KK4MA	KM4KMU	K2JB	
Rocky Mountain	K5WO/R	ABØYM/R		W9RM	NJ7A	KØNR	N5SJ	WAØKXO		W5UHF
Southeastern	K4SME/R			K1TO	W4RAA		N4QV	K3TW	N9HF	W4NH
Southwestern	N7GP/R	N6GP/R		N1RWY		WA7JTM		KG6IYN	W6RDF	
West Gulf		K5ND/R	NØLD/R	K5LLL	KC5WX		AD5A		K5QE	
Canada	VE3OIL/R		VE7AFZ/R	VA3ELE	VE3DS	VE7JH	VE3SST	VA2DG	VE6AO	



## QSO/Multiplier Band Leaders by Category

<b>Classic Rover</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
N7GP/R	101
K2EZ/R	84
KF2MR/R	78
K4SME/R	64
W3ICC/R	58
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K4SME/R	20
KA2LIM/R	13
K2EZ/R	11
AG4V/R	10
KE7MSU/R	9
KF2MR/R	9
VE3OIL/R	9
W5VY/R	9
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
N7GP/R	110
KF2MR/R	93
KE7MSU/R	82
W5DMB/R	77
W3ICC/R	67
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
W5VY/R	14
AG4V/R	13
KE7MSU/R	13
W5DMB/R	13
KA2LIM/R	11
KK6MC/R	11
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	73
N7GP/R	55
W2EV/R	52
K2TER/R	45

K2ET/R	43
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
AG4V/R	10
KF2MR/R	9
VE3OIL/R	8
W5VY/R	8
K2EZ/R	7
KE7MSU/R	7
KK6MC/R	7
N7GP/R	7
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
N7GP/R	114
KF2MR/R	87
W2EV/R	58
KK6MC/R	48
K2ET/R	47
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
AG4V/R	10
KF2MR/R	10
KK6MC/R	10
N7GP/R	8
W5VY/R	8
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	47
N7GP/R	34
W2EV/R	32
K2TER/R	30
K2ET/R	22
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
KF2MR/R	10
K2TER/R	6
W2EV/R	6
N7GP/R	5
K2ET/R	4

K2EZ/R	4
KE7MSU/R	4
VE3OIL/R	4
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	51
N7GP/R	49
K2TER/R	30
W2EV/R	30
K2ET/R	22
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
KF2MR/R	9
K2EZ/R	6
K2TER/R	6
N7GP/R	6
W2EV/R	6
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	32
K2TER/R	19
N2MKT/R	12
WB2GFZ/R	12
VE3OIL/R	10
<b>2.3 GHz Mults</b>	
KF2MR/R	9
K2TER/R	6
KE7MSU/R	4
W2EV/R	4
K2ET/R	3
VE3OIL/R	3
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	24
K2TER/R	18
N2MKT/R	9
KØBAK/R	6
K2ET/R	5
<b>3.4 GHz Mults</b>	

KF2MR/R	7
K2TER/R	6
K2ET/R	3
K4SME/R	2
KØBAK/R	2
N2CEI/R	2
N2MKT/R	2
VE3OIL/R	2
<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
K2TER/R	18
KF2MR/R	18
KØBAK/R	3
N2MKT/R	3
K2ET/R	2
K4SME/R	2
N2CEI/R	2
NN3Q/R	2
<b>5.7 GHz Mults</b>	
K2TER/R	6
KF2MR/R	6
KØBAK/R	2
K2ET/R	1
K4SME/R	1
N2CEI/R	1
N2MKT/R	1
NN3Q/R	1
VE3OIL/R	1
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
KF2MR/R	20
K2TER/R	17
N2MKT/R	8
K2ET/R	5
N2CEI/R	3
<b>10 GHz Mults</b>	
K2TER/R	6
KF2MR/R	6
K2ET/R	3
N2CEI/R	2

N2MKT/R	2
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
KØBAK/R	7
VE3OIL/R	1
<b>Light Mults</b>	
KØBAK/R	2
VE3OIL/R	1
<b>Limited Rover</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
WW7D/R	151
K7BWH/R	77
K7BDB/R	76
K5ND/R	73
N6GP/R	54
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K5ND/R	30
N6GP/R	26
K7BWH/R	18
KJ2G/R	15
AA5PR/R	14
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
WW7D/R	224
K7BDB/R	85
WB2SIH/R	60
N5BNO/R	55
K7BWH/R	50
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
WB2SIH/R	18
WW7D/R	14
K7BWH/R	11
K7BDB/R	10
K5ND/R	8
K7JSG/R	8
N6GP/R	8
W2LYN/R	8

<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
WW7D/R	83
N5BNO/R	33
NR2C/R	28
K7BDB/R	27
N6GP/R	17
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
WW7D/R	10
K6LMN/R	4
N5BNO/R	4
N6GP/R	4
NR2C/R	4
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
WW7D/R	121
K7BDB/R	54
N5BNO/R	40
NR2C/R	32
K5ND/R	22
K7JSG/R	22
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
WW7D/R	9
K5ND/R	8
WB2SIH/R	8
K7BDB/R	6
N6VHF/R	6
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
N6GP/R	3
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
N6GP/R	3
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
N6GP/R	3
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	

N6GP/R	2
<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
N6GP/R	3
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
N6GP/R	3
<b>Unlimited Rover</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
ACØRA/R	152
NØLD/R	79
KG9DUK/R	74
KA5D/R	70
K7ATN/R	67
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
ACØRA/R	76
KG9DUK/R	17
KA5D/R	15
NØLD/R	13
AF5CC/R	11
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
K7ATN/R	128
NØLD/R	94
KA5D/R	90
KD5IKG/R	83
KG9DUK/R	64
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
ACØRA/R	24
K7ATN/R	11
NØLD/R	11
KA5D/R	10
KG9DUK/R	10
N6JET/R	10
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
K7ATN/R	60

NØLD/R	54
KG9DUK/R	49
KA5D/R	45
K2LDT/R	43
KD5IKG/R	43
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
K7ATN/R	10
NØLD/R	10
KD5IKG/R	9
KG9DUK/R	9
KA5D/R	8
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
K7ATN/R	81
NØLD/R	76
KG9DUK/R	55
KA5D/R	54
KD5IKG/R	53
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
KG9DUK/R	10
NØLD/R	10
K7ATN/R	9
KD5IKG/R	9
ACØRA/R	8
KA5D/R	8
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
KG9DUK/R	49
NØLD/R	49
K2LDT/R	31
K7ATN/R	16
KD5IKG/R	9
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
KG9DUK/R	9
NØLD/R	9
K2LDT/R	6

K7ATN/R	4
N6JET/R	3
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
KG9DUK/R	49
NØLD/R	49
K2LDT/R	30
K7ATN/R	19
KD5IKG/R	12
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
KG9DUK/R	9
NØLD/R	9
K2LDT/R	5
N6JET/R	5
K7ATN/R	4
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
K2LDT/R	23
K7ATN/R	7
KG6CIH/R	2
N6JET/R	1
WA1TE/R	1
<b>2.3 GHz Mults</b>	
K2LDT/R	6
K7ATN/R	3
KG6CIH/R	1
N6JET/R	1
WA1TE/R	1
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	
K2LDT/R	18
WA1TE/R	2
N6JET/R	1
<b>3.4 GHz Mults</b>	
K2LDT/R	6
N6JET/R	1
WA1TE/R	1

<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
K2LDT/R	15
KG6CIH/R	2
<b>5.7 GHz Mults</b>	
K2LDT/R	6
KG6CIH/R	1
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
K2LDT/R	16
KG6CIH/R	3
WA1TE/R	3
N6JET/R	2
<b>10 GHz Mults</b>	
K2LDT/R	6
N6JET/R	2
KG6CIH/R	1
WA1TE/R	1
<b>24 GHz QSOs</b>	
N6JET/R	2
<b>24 GHz Mults</b>	
N6JET/R	2
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
KG6CIH/R	4
WA1TE/R	4
<b>Light Mults</b>	
KG6CIH/R	2
WA1TE/R	2
<b>Single Operator, High Power</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
K1JT	238
K1TO	237
W7JW	185
K1HTV	172
K7CW	155

<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K1TO	96
W7JW	93
KC4PX	73
N4QWZ	73
KØTPP	66
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
W2KV	166
K2TXB	142
K1RZ	131
K1TEO	109
WZ1V	94
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
K2TXB	50
KØTPP	43
NØAKC	41
N1RWY	38
K1RZ	35
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
K1RZ	52
W3SZ	44
WA3DRC	42
N7EPD	33
KE7SW	32
N1RWY	32
W3GAD	32
WZ1V	32
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
N5RZ	20
KE8FD	16
WØUC	16
N4QWZ	15
VE3ZV	15
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
K1RZ	73
W2KV	69
WA3DRC	53
N1RWY	51

KE7SW	47
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
K1RZ	21
VE3ZV	20
N4QWZ	19
VA3ELE	19
K1TEO	17
WØUC	17
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
K1RZ	28
W3SZ	20
W2SJ	17
WA3DRC	17
N1RWY	15
WA2OMY	15
WB2RVX	15
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
K1RZ	8
VE3ZV	7
N1RWY	6
WØGHZ	6
K1TEO	5
W3SZ	5
WA3DRC	5
WØUC	5
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
K1RZ	35
W3SZ	24
WA3DRC	24
N1RWY	20
VA3ELE	19
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
K1RZ	11
VA3ELE	11
WA7XX	8
N1RWY	7
VA3HD	6
VE3ZV	6

W3SZ	6
WØUC	6
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
WA3DRC	16
W3SZ	11
W2SJ	10
WA2OMY	9
K1RZ	8
<b>2.3 GHz Mults</b>	
K1RZ	4
N4JQQ	4
VE3ZV	4
W2SJ	4
W3SZ	4
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	
W3SZ	8
WA3DRC	8
WA2OMY	6
K3GNC	5
K1RZ	3
VA3ELE	3
VE3ZV	3
WB2BYP	3
<b>3.4 GHz Mults</b>	
W3SZ	4
K1RZ	3
VE3ZV	3
WB2BYP	3
K3GNC	2
VA3ELE	2
W2SJ	2
WA2OMY	2
WA3DRC	2
<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
W3SZ	8
WA2OMY	5
WA3DRC	5
WB2RVX	5

KØVXM	4
<b>5.7 GHz Mults</b>	
W3SZ	3
K1RZ	2
KØVXM	2
VA3ELE	2
WA2OMY	2
WA3DRC	2
WB2BYP	2
WB2RVX	2
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
VA3ELE	9
W3SZ	8
K1RZ	7
KØVXM	5
K5LLL	4
WB2RVX	4
<b>10 GHz Mults</b>	
VA3ELE	4
W3SZ	4
K1RZ	3
K5LLL	3
KØVXM	3
WB2RVX	3
<b>24 GHz QSOs</b>	
W1FKF	1
<b>24 GHz Mults</b>	
W1FKF	1
<b>47 GHz QSOs</b>	
W1FKF	1
<b>47 GHz Mults</b>	
W1FKF	1
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
K3JJZ	1
W2SJ	1

W3GAD	1
WA3DRC	1
WB2RVX	1
<b>Light Mults</b>	
K3JJZ	1
W2SJ	1
W3GAD	1
WA3DRC	1
WB2RVX	1
<b>Single Operator, Low Power</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
K2DRH	137
N8RA	137
WA3NUF	129
XE2YWH	112
KC5WX	110
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	73
XE2YWH	62
N5ITO	61
KC5WX	57
XE1MEX	57
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
WA3NUF	100
WZ8T	99
K2DRH	84
N3RG	84
KA2ENE	81
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	40
N3BBI	22
N8RA	20
NF3R	19
K9MU	18
N3RG	18
WØJT	18

<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
AF1T	40
N3RG	39
WA3NUF	39
KA3FQS	36
KB3MTW	32
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	20
AF1T	14
VE3DS	13
K9MU	11
NØLL	10
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
WZ8T	58
AF1T	57
N3RG	55
KA3FQS	49
K2DRH	44
WA3NUF	44
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	21
AF1T	15
N3RG	13
K9MU	12
VE3DS	12
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
WA3NUF	14
AF1T	12
KA3FQS	12
N3RG	12
W4RAA	12
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	8
AF1T	5
VE3DS	5
K5TRA	4
W9GA	4
WA3GFZ	4



<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3RG	25
WA3NUF	21
AF1T	19
KA3FQS	18
K2DRH	15
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
K2DRH	10
N3RG	6
W2UTH (N2WK, op)	5
W9GA	5
WA3NUF	5
WB2JAY	5
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3RG	13
WA3NUF	11
WA3GFZ	10
KA3FQS	8
AF1T	5
<b>2.3 GHz Mults</b>	
AF1T	3
N3RG	3
W3EKT	3
WA3NUF	3
K5TRA	2
KA3FQS	2
VE3DS	2
W6IT	2
WA3GFZ	2
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3RG	8
WA3GFZ	6
WA3NUF	6
AF1T	4
KA3FQS	4
<b>3.4 GHz Mults</b>	

AF1T	3
N3RG	3
WA3NUF	3
W3EKT	2
W6IT	2
WA3GFZ	2
<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3RG	8
W6IT	3
WA3GFZ	3
WA3NUF	3
AF1T	2
W1MKY	2
W3EKT	2
<b>5.7 GHz Mults</b>	
N3RG	3
W3EKT	2
W6IT	2
WA3NUF	2
AF1T	1
VE3DS	1
W1MKY	1
WA3GFZ	1
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
AF1T	7
N3RG	7
W1MKY	6
K5TRA	3
VE3DS	3
VE3SMA	3
W3EKT	3
WA3NUF	3
<b>10 GHz Mults</b>	
AF1T	3
N3RG	3
K5TRA	2
W1MKY	2
W3EKT	2
WA3NUF	2

WØJT	2
<b>24 GHz QSOs</b>	
AF1T	1
W1MKY	1
<b>24 GHz Mults</b>	
AF1T	1
W1MKY	1
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
AF1T	4
W1MKY	4
WB3IGR	3
K3EGE	1
KA3FQS	1
WA3GFZ	1
<b>Light Mults</b>	
AF1T	1
K3EGE	1
KA3FQS	1
W1MKY	1
WA3GFZ	1
WB3IGR	1
<b>Single Operator, Portable</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
WX3P	35
WA7JTM	32
KD7WPJ	26
KF7NP	20
WX7MB	19
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
WX3P	11
WK9U	8
AA6XA	6
WA7JTM	6
KD7WPJ	4
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	

WA7JTM	48
AA6XA	41
KF7NP	34
K7TAB	27
KØNR	27
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
KF7NP	8
VE7JH	8
WA7JTM	8
AA6XA	6
AE7EL	6
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
WA7JTM	22
K7TAB	14
KF7NP	12
AA6XA	9
W7JET	7
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
AA6XA	5
WA7JTM	4
K7TAB	3
W7JET	3
AA4Q	2
K7JFD	2
KF7NP	2
VE7JH	2
W7USA	2
WX3P	2
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
WA7JTM	34
KF7NP	23
AA6XA	18
KØNR	17
WB7ENX	15
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
WA7JTM	6
AA6XA	4
K7TAB	4

KD7WPJ	4
VE7JH	4
WB7ENX	4
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
KG5FHU	1
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
KG5FHU	1
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
WA7JTM	11
K7TAB	6
K7TEJ	2
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
WA7JTM	4
K7TAB	2
K7TEJ	2
<b>24 GHz QSOs</b>	
K9PW	1
<b>24 GHz Mults</b>	
K9PW	1
<b>47 GHz QSOs</b>	
K9PW	1
<b>47 GHz Mults</b>	
K9PW	1
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
K3DMA	3
KB3SIG	2
K9PW	1
WA3WUL	1
<b>Light Mults</b>	
K3DMA	1
K9PW	1
KB3SIG	1
WA3WUL	1

<b>Single Operator, 3 Band</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
AD5A	148
KO9A	138
K9FA	124
W1QK	104
KR1ST	94
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K9FA	70
AD5A	65
KO9A	53
N4QV	49
KK4MA	39
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
K3SFX	63
N7QOZ	61
N7IR	54
N2SCJ	52
AC2VE	50
K3VEQ	50
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
KO9A	21
K3SFX	14
KA9VDU	13
AD5A	12
K3TEF	12
KG5MD	12
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
N7QOZ	13
AE6GE	5
VE2NCG	5
WB2RYH	3
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
N7IR	48
K3SFX	40
N2SCJ	33

N7RK	30
KC2THQ	27
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
KO9A	10
N7IR	10
KA9VDU	9
K3SFX	8
KG5MD	8
N7RK	8
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
VE2NCG	1
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
KA9VDU	2
VE2NCG	2
AE6GE	1
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
AA3JH	2
KD2NNM	2
<b>Light Mults</b>	
AA3JH	2
KD2NNM	2
<b>Single Operator, FM Only</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2HJD	23
NR2C	21
K2SI	20
KG6IYN	12
AD4TJ	11
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K2SI	5
N2HJD	4
NR2C	4
KM4KMU	3
N9VM (N1VM, op)	3

<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2HJD	71
K2SI	60
KM4KMU	43
K7IMA	37
NR2C	28
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
K2SI	5
N2HJD	5
K6KQV	4
KG6IYN	4
KK6ZLE	4
KM4KMU	4
N7KN	4
NR2C	4
WB9WOZ	4
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2HJD	19
K7IMA	11
KG6IYN	7
W2BSN	7
N2ZN	6
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
KM4KMU	4
N2HJD	4
W7AIT	3
K7IMA	2
KG6IYN	2
N2ZN	2
N9VM (N1VM, op)	2
W2BSN	2
WB9WOZ	2
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2HJD	37
KI7LTT	21
KM4KMU	21
K2SI	19
K7IMA	16

<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
K2SI	5
N2HJD	5
KM4KMU	4
NR2C	4
KG6IYN	3
N7KN	3
VA6PRC	3
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
VA2DG	2
<b>Limited Multioperator</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2NT	290
K5QE	146
N9HF	113
K2BAR	96
N3DPB	78
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
K5QE	95
N2NT	56
N9HF	48
WS9V	47
W5ROK	33
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2NT	237
K5QE	154
N3DPB	54
N2JQR	46
W6RDF	39
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
K5QE	96
N2NT	41
N9HF	26
W9RVG	23
N3DPB	21

<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2NT	67
W9RVG	14
K2BAR	13
N2JQR	11
K5QE	10
N9HF	10
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
N2NT	19
W9RVG	12
K5QE	9
N9HF	5
K2BAR	4
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
N2NT	81
K5QE	27
N2JQR	20
W6RDF	18
K2BAR	15
W9RVG	15
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
N2NT	19
K5QE	16
W9RVG	13
N9XKH	6
W5ROK	6
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
W5ROK	1
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
W5ROK	1
<b>Unlimited Multioperator</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	254
W4NH	134
W1XM	100
KE1LI	93

WA3EHD	89
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	61
W4NH	57
W5UHF	53
KE1LI	19
NY2NY	19
<b>144 MHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	199
W1XM	81
KE1LI	80
WA3EHD	68
W4NH	46
<b>144 MHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	41
W4NH	30
KE1LI	19
W3RFC	16
W1XM	15
<b>222 MHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	80
WA3EHD	34
KE1LI	21
W1XM	8
W3RFC	8
W4NH	8
W5UHF	8
<b>222 MHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	19
KE1LI	7
W1XM	6
W4NH	5
W5UHF	5
<b>432 MHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	121
WA3EHD	41
KE1LI	21

W4NH	15
W1XM	13
<b>432 MHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	25
W4NH	8
KE1LI	5
W1XM	5
WA3EHD	4
<b>902 MHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	27
WA3EHD	17
W3RFC	4
W5UHF	1
<b>902 MHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	9
WA3EHD	3
W3RFC	2
W5UHF	1
<b>1.2 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	28
WA3EHD	15
VA7MM	11
W1XM	11
NY2NY	4
<b>1.2 GHz Mults</b>	
VA7MM	10
N3NGE	9
W1XM	6
WA3EHD	3
KA1SU	2
KE1LI	2
NY2NY	2
<b>2.3 GHz QSOs</b>	
WA3EHD	8
N3NGE	7
W4NH	4

<b>2.3 GHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	3
WA3EHD	3
W4NH	1
<b>3.4 GHz QSOs</b>	
WA3EHD	1
<b>3.4 GHz Mults</b>	
WA3EHD	1
<b>5.7 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	4
W4NH	2
<b>5.7 GHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	2
W4NH	1
<b>10 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	2
W5UHF	2
<b>10 GHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	2
W5UHF	2
<b>24 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	1
<b>24 GHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	1
<b>47 GHz QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	1
<b>47 GHz Mults</b>	
N3NGE	1
<b>Light QSOs</b>	
N3NGE	4
WA3EHD	3

<b>Light Mults</b>	
N3NGE	1
WA3EHD	1
<b>Checklog</b>	
<b>50 MHz QSOs</b>	
WB2GFZ	4
KM4IAJ	2
<b>50 MHz Mults</b>	
WB2GFZ	4
KM4IAJ	2