

Results of the 2017 CQ World Wide VHF Contest

BY STEVE BOLIA,* N8BJQ

What will the 2017 CQ World Wide VHF contest be remembered for? Certainly not stellar band conditions or a record number of entries (I wish). It will, however, be remembered as the first contest to use K1JT's FT8 software, which some believe (and some don't) will revolutionize VHF contesting.

The jury is still out on that, but it certainly made things much more interesting and generated lots of comments after the contest. I probably spent a couple more hours on the air making contacts with FT8 and MSK-144 than I normally would have. My Qs were almost evenly split between CW, SSB, and digital modes. Don't give up on the tradi-



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PY2CDR and PY2LCD did a QRP multi op from Pico do Olho D'água (GG66rq).



Here's PY2CDR operating. The station consists of: FT-817ND, MOXON 6 meter antenna, DK7ZB Light 6-element 2 meter antenna, 60-watt solar panel 12 volts, 18-watt solar panel 5 volts, and 18-Ah batteries.

tional modes yet; CW and SSB will be around for a long time. Hopefully, the new digital modes may attract some new blood into the game.

As most of you noticed, entries are down from the record we set in 2016 — 719 vs. 905 the prior year. U.S. and other North American entries were just a few less than last year. European and Asian entries, however, were down by almost 200. Hopefully, 2018 will bring much better conditions and more activity. There were another 100 or so who made multiple Qs but didn't submit a log. Please send in a log, even if it is a check log. While I'd like all submitted logs to be computer-generated, paper logs are accepted and, as long as I can decipher your handwriting, they will be converted to Cabrillo. If you have access to a computer, there is a link on the CQWW VHF website where you can use the form that WA7BNM has created to send your paper log as Cabrillo.

Speaking of the CQWW VHF website <www.cqww-vhf.com/>, a big thanks goes to Randy, K5ZD, for bringing the site into the current century and consistent with the other CQ Contest websites. If you haven't visited it yet, please do so. You can search the results from 2000 forward. Results

articles from 2005 are also available. If you are missing any certificates, those can also be downloaded.

USA

K2DRH wins, but without Bob. Bob had to be out of town for the contest and asked Wyatt, ACØRA, if he would like to operate the station. Wyatt was planning a major rover operation (maybe next year) and decided he couldn't pass up the opportunity. When it was all over, Wyatt had about 30 more Qs and a healthy 73-grid lead over 2016 winner Jeff, K1TEO. Both of their scores were up quite a bit from 2016. Bruce, KG6IYN, put in a good effort from Los Piños Mountain to finish third. You can read about Bruce's weekend in the Unofficial West Coast Report (see sidebar). There is also a link to a neat time-lapse video. John, N3HBX, finished fourth and John, K1OR, rounded out the top five.

On 6 meters, Jay, W9RM, dominated the field. Tom, WD5K, was second and Vince, KØSIX, finished third. Bill, W4GRW, turned in a great 2-meter score to take first place (and win a new plaque sponsored by Chuck, W5PR). Dick, K1HC, was second and AA2TT third. In the QRP Hilltopper category,

TOP SCORES WORLD

All Band	EM3U .....456		
EA8DBM .....56,615	E7ØAA .....399		
IT9XTP .....12,870			
OK1DC .....8,610		QRP	
VE3DS .....8,384	UT6EY .....2,924		
EA1ASC .....7,006	RK1AS .....2,720		
	UR8GZ .....1,875		
	UY5ON .....1,512		
	HA2MJ .....1,326		
6 Meters			
XE2X .....28,635			
9H1AE .....26,136			
VE3MMQ .....13,320			
XE2JS .....13,202		Rover	
AM625VQ .....12,512	VE3JAR/R .....11,218		
	HS3NJP/R .....7,040		
	E27DIX/R .....2,898		
	VA2NQ/R .....2,139		
	4S7JL/R .....660		
2 Meters			
S56P .....23,280			
E24QND .....21,510			
OK1GTH .....16,376			
SM4GGC .....16,000			
UXØFF .....10,560			
		Multi-Op	
	HA6W .....45,458		
	HG1Z .....24,888		
	J48KEF .....14,080		
	9AØV .....13,940		
	VE3SMA .....12,750		
Hilltopper			
HA1ZH/P .....5,863			
HA2VR/P .....4,420			
I2ZJNN/IN3 .....1,032			

USA

All Band	W9SZ .....779		
K2DRH .....144,534	W1QK .....420		
K1TEO .....101,084	AB1YK .....416		
KG6IYN .....62,640			
N3HBX .....41,132		QRP	
K1OR .....39,269	N4SVC .....10,366		
	WA2TMC .....6,435		
	K9AKS .....5,252		
	K2GMY .....938		
	AD7KI .....900		
6 Meters			
W9RM .....116,736			
WD5K .....65,037			
KØSIX .....43,952			
N5JR .....35,464			
K7CW .....34,410			
		Rover	
	WW7D/R .....43,710		
	N2SLN/R .....23,712		
	KK6MC/R .....22,425		
	W3DHJ/R .....20,585		
	AE5P/R .....14,760		
2 Meters			
W4GRW .....15,080			
K1HC .....3,444			
AA2TT .....2,318			
N4QWZ .....1,518			
W1XX .....1,482			
		Multi-Op	
	K5QE .....180,155		
	K2LIM .....119,024		
	K8GP .....107,484		
	W3SO .....85,760		
	NN7AZ .....76,024		
Hilltopper			
K1ZK .....3,168			
WA7JTM .....1,848			

2017 CQWW VHF TROPHY WINNERS AND DONORS

WORLD: Dr. Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ Memorial. Won by: **Aleksandr Maksimov, EA8DBM**
USA: Steve Bolia, N8BJQ Trophy. Won by: **K2DRH operated by Wyatt Dirks, ACØRA**

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

World 50 MHz: Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV Trophy. Won by: **Jorge Alvarado, XE2X**
USA 50 MHz: Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV Trophy. Won by: **Keith Morehouse, W9RM**
WORLD 144 MHz: Bostjan Sever, S56P Trophy. Won by: **Bostjan Sever, S56P**
USA 144 MHz: Chuck Dietz, W5PR Trophy. Won by: **Bill Fisher, W4GRW**

ROVER

USA: Northern Lights Radio Society Trophy. Won by: **Darryl Holman, WW7D/R**

MULTI-OPERATOR

World: Dr. Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ Memorial (Joe Devenyi, HAØLC donor). Won by: **Station HA6W operated by: HA6ZFA, HA6WX, HA5OKU, HAØMK, HAØLZ, HAØMP, HAØLO, HAØLC**
USA: Bob Striegl, K2DRH Trophy. Won by: **Station K5QE operated by: K5QE, N5NU, N1XS, N5YA, AE5VB, K5MQ, W4KXY, K7RSM**

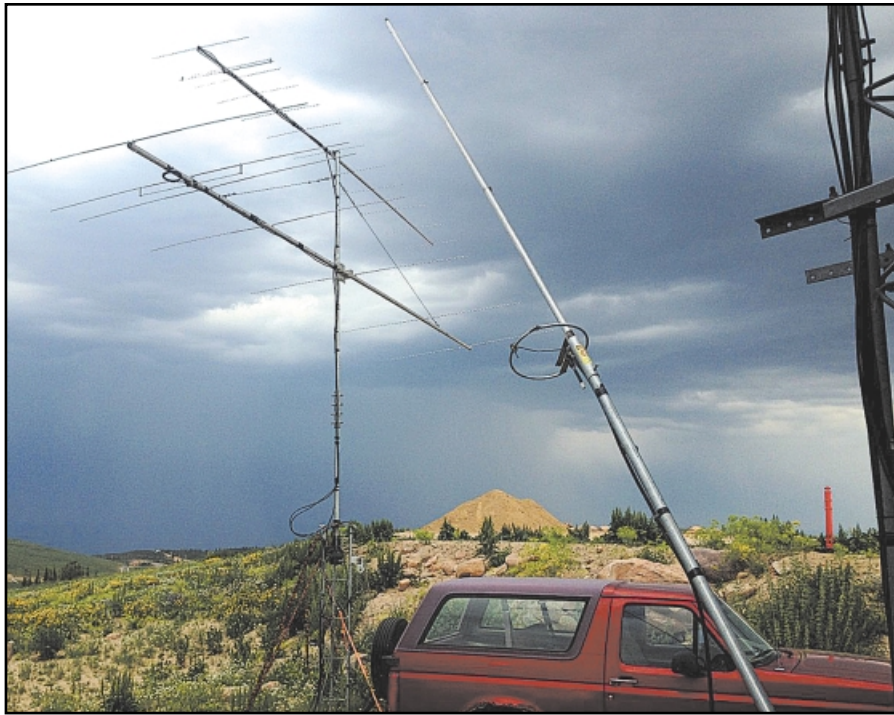
CLUB

USA: Won by: **Potomac Valley Radio Club**

**Denotes awarded to runner-up in category*

ROVERS & GRIDS OPERATED

4S7JL/R	.....MJ96, MJ97, NJ07, NJ06, NJ09
ABØYM/R	.....DM79, DM78, DM88, DM89, DN70, DN71
AC7MD/R	.....CN78, CN77, CN76, CN86, CN87
AE5P/R	.....EM21, EM22, EM32, EM31, EM20, EM30, EL29, EL39
E22EXA/R	.....OK03, OK04
E27DIX/R	.....OK02, OK03, OK04, OK05, OK06
HS3NJP/R & E23JMM	.....OK03, OK04, OK15, OK14
K2JB/R	.....EM96, EM85
K7ATN/R	.....CN85, CN95
K9JK/R	.....EN52, EN51, EN62, EN61
K9PW/R	.....EN62, EN52
KK6MC/R	.....DM65, DM64, DM74, DM75, DM63, DM73
KT5TE/R	.....EM21, EM22, EM32, EM31, EM20, EL29, EL39
N2DCH/R	.....FN22, FN12, FN21, FN11
N2SLN/R & KC2SFU	.....FN11, FN12, FN22
N6GP/R	.....DM13, DM03, DM14
N6JET/R	.....CM88, CM98, CM97, CM86, CM87,
N9GH/R	.....EN61, EN51, EN60, EN50
VA2NQ/R	.....FN04, FN13, FN14, FN03, EN93, FN02, EN92
VE3JAR/R & VE3CRU	.....FN04, FN13, FN14, FN03, EN93, FN02, EN92
W1RGA/R	.....FN42, FN33, FN43, FN32, FN41, FN31
W3DHJ/R	.....DM88, DM87, DM77, DM78
WA5GVQ/R	.....EM21, EM22, EM32, EM31, EM20, EM30, EL29, EL39
WB2SIH/R	.....FN33, FN32
WD5RAH/R	.....EM21, EM22, EM32, EM31, EM20, EM30, EL29, EL39
WW7D/R	.....CN98, CN88, CN87, CN97, CN86, CN96, CN76, CN77, CN85



Mike, K7ULS, operated from Powder Mountain (9,000-foot elevation) in DN41.

QSO & GRID LEADERS

6-Meter QSOs		2-Meter QSOs	
W9RM	608	E24QND	239
K2DRH	448	S56P	194
WD5K	399	OK1GTH	178
K1TEO	355	K1TEO	164
KØSIX	328	W4GRW	145
K7CW	310	KG6IYN	106
KG6IYN	310	9A9I	103
K1TO	300	K2DRH	103
N5JR	286	SM4GGC	100
NI\$G	279	OK1DC	98
N\$KE	275	K1OR	91
EA8DBM	271	K1HC	82
NR7T	270	UXØFF	80
W5PR	270	N3HBX	65
WA5DM	254	PY2NF	64

6-Meter Grids		2-Meter Grids	
W9RM	192	SM4GGC	80
K2DRH	169	UXØFF	66
WD5K	163	S56P	60
EA8DBM	140	W4GRW	52
KØSIX	134	K2DRH	52
WA5DM	129	OK1GTH	46
N5JR	124	E24QND	45
9H1AE	121	UR3EE	45
NØKE	116	K1OR	43
XE2X	115	K1TEO	42
WB2FKO	115	R6CS	40
KO9A	113	RD3FD	39
K7CW	111	RK1AS	34
K1TO	111	OK1DC	34
NR7T	111	R3CT	34

Zach, K1ZK, operated from the top of Mount Equinox in Vermont to take first, with Pete, WA7JTM, operating from W7A/MN-147 (Summits on the Air designator for Hedgepeth Hills, Minnesota) in second and Zack, W9SZ, third. N4SVC (operated by Steve, N2CEI) is the QRP champion with Bruce, WA2TMC, second and Curt, K9AKS, finishing third.

K5QE and teammates N5NU, N1XS, N5YA, AE5VB, K5MQ, W4KXY and K7RSM are the U.S. Multi-Op champions. They survived a failure of their rotatable 2-meter antenna and losing the 6-meter station for a couple of hours. The crew at K2LIM (ops: KA2LIM, W9KXI, and KB2YCC) were second, followed by K8GP (ops: W8ZN and K1RA), W3SO (ops: W3IDT, WA3TTS, W3BTX, W3XOX, W3BC, and W3YOZ) and NN7AZ (Ops: AA7A, KC1BB, KC7V, and WO7R).

WW7D tops the USA rovers with a fine 43,000 score. You can read about Darryl's rove at <<http://bit.ly/2zBgEAq>>. N2SLN

with KC2SFU finished second, KK6MC was third with Jonesy, W3DHJ, in fourth, which is his best finish since 2006; and Army, AE5P, finishing fifth. There were a total of 20 rovers active this year. I'd like to thank all those who provide many Qs and multipliers from grids that may not normally be active.

In the Club category, the Potomac Valley Radio Club submitted 33 entries to finish first with 378,734 points and win the first USA Club champion plaque. The North East Weak Signal Group was second with 235,883 points (10 entries) followed by the Society of Midwest Contesters with 228,523 points (20 entries) and the New Mexico VHF Society with 228,037 points (14 entries).

DX

Aleksandr, EA8DBM, remains at the top of the DX Single-Operator, All-Band category with 56,615 points. Salvatore,

CLUB COMPETITION

(Minimum of 3 entries required for listing)

UNITED STATES

Club Name	# Entries	Score
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	33	378,734
NORTH EAST WEAK SIGNAL GROUP	10	235,883
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	20	228,523
NEW MEXICO VHF SOCIETY	14	228,037
PACIFIC NORTHWEST VHF SOCIETY	22	144,077
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	18	134,651
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	9	114,770
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	5	82,533
DFW CONTEST GROUP	5	58,564
NORTHERN LIGHTS RADIO SOCIETY	7	51,827
NACOGDOCHES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	5	50,170
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	11	49,558
MT AIRY VHF RADIO CLUB	6	28,870
GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP	3	26,396
SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	4	21,952
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION	7	19,966
BADGER CONTESTERS	4	16,093
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	6	15,030

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP	4	12,319
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	8	9,489
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	7	7,676
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB	3	5,828
PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE	4	4,633
NORTH COAST CONTESTERS	3	1,979
CTRI CONTEST GROUP	3	1,827

DX

CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	11	53,935
HA-DX-CLUB	3	17,357
UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	5	14,743
EA CONTEST CLUB	4	10,809
CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB	3	8,166
CDR GROUP	11	2,690
BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB	3	2,463
YO DX CLUB	3	1,112
ASOCIACION DE RADIOEXPERIMENTADORES-DE NUEVO LEON AC (Mexico)	3	1,106
CSM CRAIOVA (Romania)	3	402

IT9XTX, was second with 12,800 points; followed by Dusan, OK1DC, with 8,600 points; Dana, VE3DS, with 8,300 points; and Anibal, EA1ASC, with 7,000 points. Jorge, XE2X, is number one on 6 meters, with Savvas, 9H1AE, in second; William, VE3MMQ, third; Emilio, XE2JS, fourth; and Gabriel, AM625VQ, operated by EA6VA, in fifth.

Boštjan, S56P, is the 2-meter champion. Nanon, E24QND, is a close second; followed by Tomas, OK1GTH; Stig-Ake, SM4GGC; and Nikolaym, UXØFF. Zoltan, HA1ZH/P, tops the Hilltopper category followed by Gyula, HA2VR/P; Stefano, IZ2JNN/IN3; Valeriy, EM3U; and Zoran, E7ØAA. UT6EY edged RK1AS for the top spot in the QRP category followed closely by UR8GZ, UY5ON and HA2MJ.

HA6W (ops: HA6ZFA, HA6WX, HA5OKU, HAØMK, HAØLZ, HAØMP, HAØLO, HAØLC) repeats as the Multi-op champion, followed by HG1Z (ops: HG1ZE, HA1XY, HG1DRD, HA2QW, HA1CC, HA2MM, HAØXX, Torma, Judit, and Nora), J48KEF (SVØFM and SV8CKJ), 9AØV (9A2YO, 9A2KK, 9A6IAB, 9A7JRV, and 9A6IAB), and VE3SMA (VA3ELE and VE3AXC).

VE3JAR/R with VE3CRU is the Rover champion (you can read about therove in the random comments or on 3830.com). HS3NJP/R came in second followed by E27DIX/R, VA2NQ/R and 4S7JL/R.

The Contest Club Ontario with 11 entries has the top non-U.S. club score with 53,935 points. The HA-DX-Club is second with 17,357 points (3 entries) and the Ukrainian Contest Club came in third with 14,743 points (5 entries).

The Rest of the Story

The 2018 CQWW VHF Contest will be run on July 21st and 22nd. Mark your calendar. Who knows? By then, there could be more new modes to use. You will find the rules in the 2018 May issue of CQ and on the CQWW VHF website <www.cqww-vhf.com>.

If you operate, please send in a log. Any size log is appreciated. If you need help, please ask. More logs make cross-checking logs more accurate.

Thanks to JK, K9JK, and Curt, K9AKS, for their assistance. They are quite good at finding things I screwed up. Also thanks to Champ, E21EIC, who collects all of the logs from Thailand, puts them in the right format, and gets them submitted between his travels.

Don't forget to check out the CQWW VHF website <www.cqww-vhf.com>. Comments, suggestions and corrections are always welcome. Quite a bit of the data was entered manually. If you find an error, please let me know.

Number/letter groups after call letters denote the following: Class (A = all band, 6 = 6 meters, 2 = 2 meters, Q = QRP, Q* = QRP portable hilltopper, R = rover, M = multiplier-operator), Final Score, Number of QSOs, Number of grid locators, State/Province (USA/Canada only), Grid Locator or Number of grids activated (rover only). Rover scores for USA are listed separately. Scores in bold indicate certificate winners. Score in *italic* are disqualified.

2017 VHF RESULTS NORTH AMERICA UNITED STATES

K1TE0	A	101,084	519	148	CT	FN31	N2NT	M	69,000	365	138	NJ	FN20	K4PI	6	17,184	179	96	GA	EM73	WN2E	6	3,744	72	52	MS	EM50
K1OR	A	39,269	276	107	NH	FN42	N3HBX	A	41,132	299	113	MD	FM19	K1HTV	6	6,741	107	63	VA	FM18	WA2VYA	6	3,080	77	40	TX	EM10
WA1T	A	24,920	241	89	NH	FN43	K3ZO	A	22,172	211	92	MD	FM18	K4BAI	6	6,696	108	62	GA	EM72	NN5T	6	2,646	63	42	TX	EM12
N1JEZ	A	19,572	180	84	VT	FN44	K3MD	A	12,950	143	74	PA	FN10	N4MJ	6	4,806	89	54	TN	EM56	KG5IEE	6	2,052	54	38	TX	EM12
AF1T	A	7,476	119	42	NH	FN43	W3EKT	A	6,268	109	54	MD	FM19	W0PV	6	4,240	80	53	FL	EL87	K5LH	6	2,035	55	37	TX	EM11
N1JD	A	4,173	84	39	ME	FN44	K3DNE	A	7,624	101	54	MD	FM19	KU8E	6	3,978	78	51	GA	EM72	K5XU	6	1,813	49	37	MS	EM42
K1ZE	A	3,402	81	42	CT	FN31	K3ZU	A	6,136	112	52	MD	FM19	KM4HI	6	3,600	80	45	FL	EL89	WV5O	6	1,364	44	31	TX	EM13
W1BS	A	2,800	56	40	MA	FN32	WA2FGK	A	4,860	76	45	PA	FN21	NJ2F	6	2,560	64	40	FL	EL96	W8SJJJ	6	1,287	39	33	AR	EM35
N1API	A	1,736	52	28	CT	FN31	Op: K2LNS						N4PN	6	2,516	68	37	GA	EM82	KE5TC	6	864	32	27	OK	EM25	
K1GX	A	900	29	20	CT	FN31	N3ALN	A	4,704	100	42	MD	FM19	KM4Y	6	2,106	54	39	FL	EM70	KD5J	6	806	31	26	AR	EM45
N1YKH	A	616	31	14	CT	FN41	K3ISH	A	3,612	81	43	PA	FN21	WX4US	6	1,950	50	39	FL	EM60	W87PVL	6	616	28	22	TX	EM13
K1VMG	A	273	20	13	CT	FN41	N3XF	A	2,312	51	34	PA	FN00	N4MM	6	1,885	65	29	VA	DM09	NM5VB	6	546	26	21	NM	DM64
W1HBR	A	180	18	10	CT	FN31	KC3FDF	A	1,518	50	22	PA	FM29	N4DKF	6	1,872	52	36	NC	EM96	AA5AU	6	374	22	17	LA	EL49
W3EP	6	25,824	258	96	CT	FN31	KR1ST	A	1,248	37	24	PA	FN21	N4GG	6	1,848	56	33	GA	EM74	W5ZF	6	340	20	17	NM	DM65
K1TR	6	4,368	104	42	NH	FN32	K3UA	A	1,131	39	29	PA	EN90	N4WW	6	1,248	48	26	FL	EL98	KA5EFL	6	288	18	16	NM	DM84
N8RA	6	1,344	42	32	CT	FN31	K3AJ	A	816	32	17	MD	FM19	ADBJ	6	1,075	43	25	NC	EM85	KC5RGO	6	9	3	3	NM	DM72
W1FV	6	1,242	54	23	MA	FN42	AA3S	A	799	40	17	MD	FM19	AC4G	6	696	29	24	TN	EM65	AD7KI	Q	900	36	25	OK	EL16
N1WRK	6	352	22	16	MA	FN41	W3LL	A	735	39	15	MD	FM19	W6UB	6	520	26	20	TN	EM75	WE5EE	Q	210	15	14	LA	EL49
AG1A	6	187	17	11	MA	FN42	K3SX	A	576	29	18	MD	FM19	K2SX	6	504	28	18	SC	FM03	WASBUC	Q	182	14	13	TX	EL29
W1BJ	6	84	12	7	ME	FN43	N63W	A	325	13	13	PA	FN01	K8EAB	6	494	26	19	GA	EM74	WASWWD	Q	1	1	1	TX	EM12
W1WBB	6	72	9	8	RI	FN41	4U1WB	A	276	23	12	MD	FM18	N4BP	6	408	24	17	FL	EL96	K5QE	M	180,155	585	263	TX	EM31
K4IR	6	40	10	4	MA	FN42	WA3PTV	A	250	21	10	PA	FM19	NC4M	6	357	21	17	GA	EM74	K6GIYN	A	62,640	416	120	CA	DM12
K1HC	2	3,444	82	21	ME	FN53	N3MWO	A	171	14	9	DE	FM29	WV4V	6	315	21	15	FL	EL88	K6EU	A	4,182	78	51	CA	CM97
W1XX	2	1,482	39	19	RI	FN41	W3RGA/M	A	117	10	9	PA	FN10	A14WL	6	195	15	13	NC	FM15	W6GHYH	A	3,293	74	37	CA	DM14
K1ZX	H	3,168	64	32	VT	FN33	AF3I	A	70	7	7	PA	FN10	KM4NY	6	154	14	11	TN	EM85	W6ZAR	A	2,046	65	31	CA	DM13
W1QK	H	420	30	14	CT	FN31	N8HM	A	9	3	3	MD	FM18	K44ND	6	96	12	8	FL	EL87	WA6ZTY	A	1,638	61	21	CA	CM98
AB1YK	H	416	25	13	NH	FN32	K2PLF	6	18,676	203	92	MD	FM19	K4YVL	6	54	9	6	SC	EM84	N4DLA	A	902	35	22	CA	CM87
NG1R	H	306	17	9	CT	FN31	N3RD	6	10,152	141	72	PA	FN20	W4KY	6	49	7	7	VA	FM17	K6VCR	A	792	32	24	CA	DM12
N1PRW	H	52	9	4	MA	FN42	K3UL	6	2,856	68	42	PA	FN11	K4BSK	6	42	7	6	NC	EM95	N0KO	A	204	15	12	CA	DM88
K1SX	Q	180	15	12	MA	FN41	WA3FET	6	210	15	14	PA	FN00	K4FE	6	25	5	5	TN	EM55	N6QQ	6	3,285	73	45	CA	DM03
N1SOH	M	1,188	54	22	MA	FN42	K6PFA	6	207	23	9	MD	FM19	N4WHW	6	20	5	4	NC	FM18	W6VBV	6	1,176	42	28	CA	DM13
N2SLO	A	7,700	116	44	NY	FN30	K3HX	6	154	14	11	PA	FN00	KM4IAJ	6	14	7	2	VA	FM13	K6XV	6	1,007	53	19	CA	CM97
WB2JAY	A	7,140	118	42	NY	FN30	N3DUE	6	52	13	4	MD	FM19	N8AID	6	4	2	2	VA	FM07	K6NA	6	630	30	21	CA	DM13
N3RG	A	6,916	98	52	NJ	FM29	N3OE	6	14	7	2	MD	FM19	N4SVC	Q	10,366	133	73	FL	EM80	K6KY	6	621	27	23	CA	DM04
WA2NVV	A	6,174	101	42	NY	FN30	N3AFT	6	6	3	2	MD	FM19	K3TW	Q	204	17	12	FL	EL15	N6ORB	6	496	31	16	CA	CM87
K2QO	A	3,239	71	41	NY	FN03	W3SO	M	85,760	387	160	PA	FN00	K8K8S	Q	6	2	2	SC	FM03	K6CSL	6	72	9	8	CA	CM97
N2WJ	A	2,730	62	39	NY	FN03	K3CCR	M	6,832	108	56	MD	FM18	W4GRW	2	15,080	145	52	NC	EM96	W6IFN	6	54	9	6	CA	CM97
N2WSJ	A	2,624	63	32	NJ	FM29	W3RFC	M	5,198	93	46	MD	FM19	N4QWZ	2	1,518	33	23	TN	EM66	K6MCS	6	40	8	5	CA	CM98
N2BEG	A	2,304	52	36	NY	FN12	WA3EKL	M	144	16	9	MD	FM19	K8GP	M	107,484	460	169	VA	FM19	K6NWWJ	6	1	1	1	CA	DM12
K2AMI	A	1,342	45	22	NJ	FN20	W3JP	A	18,387	184	81	VA	FM19	WB2FKO	A	32,240	245	124	NM	DM65	KD7WPFJ	H	60	7	5	CA	DM07
W2BHV	A	1,064	34	19	NJ	FN20	KC4PX	A	15,648	158	96	FL	EL98	W7QO	A	17,298	163	93	NM	DM75	K89FKO	H	24	7	3	CA	DM13
N2OA	A	850	32	17	NY	FN03	K4EA	A	15,051	162	87	GA	EM74	A15I	A	12,816	143	89	NM	DM65	K2GMV	Q	938	47	14	CA	CM88
W2UDT	A	455	22	13	NJ	FN20	KC4NX	A	13,188	151	84	TN	EM75	WA8ZBT	A	11,200	139	80	TX	EM12	WB2TVB	Q	28	7	4	CA	DM04
N2SO	A	112	14	8	NY	FN31	K9IL	A	8,066	109	74	TN	EM56	WASLFD	A	5,355	89	51	TX	EM12	N6RPM	M	966	35	23	CA	DM04
WB2JAS	6	2,310	70	33	NY	FN30	WB4WXE	A	7,744	109	64	AL	EM74	N5EPA	A	5,049	87	51	NM	DM64	W7FI	A	18,954	200	81	WA	CM87
K2XA	6	900	45	20	NY	FN32	W44GPM	A	5,000	90	50	FL	EM90	K5AM	A	4,717	87	53	NM	DM62	K7ULS	A	11,484	130	87	UT	DM41
K2SSS	6	442	26	17	NY	FN13	NG4C	A	4,680	74	52	NC	FM16	KB7LJ	A	3,450	61	40	TX	EM12	KE7SW	A	9,212	147	49	WA	CM87
WA2ACV	6	48	8	6	NJ	FM29	K4ZW	A	4,320	96	45	VA	EL87	KC7OY	A	3,010	62	53	NM	DM64	WZ8T	A	8,016	132	48	WA	CM85
AA2TT	2	2,318	61	19	NY	FN30	K4MM	A	1,750	40	35	VA	EM86	AJ4F	A	2,622	69	38	TX	EL29	N7EPD	A	7,832	137	44	WA	CM87
W2KV/2	2	456	19	12	NJ	FM29	W4ALDU	A	1,944	52	36	SC	EM93	K5GUSCAR	A	1,462	40	34	TX	EM01	KD7UO	A	6,380	115	44	WA	CM97
N2DCH	2	2	1	1	NY	FN22	W8KHP	A	1,872	45	36	KY	EM79	W5TV	A	1,290	42	30	TX	EM21	WY7KY	A	6,322	102	58	WY	DN71
WA2TMC	Q	6,435	102	45	NY	FN02	K5EK	A	1,820	51	35	NC	FM03	NH7RO/W5	A	1,140	37	30	TX	EL18	W7LFL	A	4,964	104	34	WA	CM87
W2JEK																											

S56P	2	23,280	194	60	JN76
S59GS	Q	1,058	31	23	JN75
SPAIN					
EA1ASC	A	7,006	104	62	IN70
EB1DJ	A	4,459	88	49	IN52
EA1HRR	A	2,914	56	47	IN83
EA3HJO	A	962	37	26	JN11
EA4DE	6	6,528	102	64	IN80
EA5IDD	6	4,674	82	57	IN98
EA1DHB	6	2,948	67	44	IN82
EA4AA	6	2,820	60	47	IN80
EA3AYQ	6	1,666	49	34	JN11
EA3KN	6	64	8	8	JN01
EA4CU	Q	180	14	12	IN80
SWEDEN					
SM6WET	6	49	7	7	JO68
SM4GGC	2	16,000	100	80	JO69
UKRAINE					
US1Q	A	6,751	99	43	KN86
Op: UT11C					
UY1HY	A	4,230	61	47	KO60
UT7OF	A	2,204	50	29	KN77
UY7QN	A	1,632	40	24	KN77
UT8LE	A	1,232	31	22	KN79
UT7OB	A	765	31	17	KN77
UT3UA	A	648	27	24	KO50
UZ5Q	A	319	20	11	KN77
UX2QL	A	208	13	8	KN87
UY500	A	104	9	8	KN77
UT20Q	A	99	11	9	KN77
UY5YA	A	28	7	4	KN87
UT5EL/A	A	18	3	3	KO31
UR5LEH	A	8	2	2	KN89
UR7LL	6	1,656	46	36	KN79
UR1HM	6	1,400	40	35	KN69
UR8IO	6	1,140	38	30	KN87
US8ZAL	6	660	30	22	KN66
UX4UA	6	285	19	15	KO50
UY9VY	6	121	11	11	KN68
UT6J	6	108	11	9	KO50
UT4XU	6	99	11	9	KO40
UZ5U	6	72	9	8	KO71
UT5CB	6	16	4	4	KN59
UR50W	6	6	3	2	KN77
UX0FF	2	10,560	80	66	KN45
UR3EE	2	5,220	58	45	KN88
UT7EL	2	1,560	39	20	KN77
UX00Q	2	990	33	15	KN87
UY7L0	2	900	25	18	KO80
UR8LN	2	736	23	16	KN89
UR3GS	2	420	21	10	KN66

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UT2UB	2	408	17	12	KO50
UR8OE	2	252	18	7	KN77
UR7DDO	2	160	16	5	KN77
UR0QA/P	2	150	15	5	KN77
UR7ODU	2	14	7	1	KN77
EM3U	H	456	19	12	KN59
UT1ZZ/A	H	4	2	1	KN48
UT6EY	Q	2,924	48	34	KN77
UR8GZ	Q	1,875	40	25	KN66
UY50N	Q	1,512	37	24	KN89
UX4J	Q	1,218	29	21	KN88
UT3G/P	Q	1,088	32	17	KN76
Op: US0GB					
UR6QW	Q	256	16	8	KN77
UZ7W	M	3,108	60	42	KN18
UT7E	M	2,346	44	34	KN78

SOUTH AMERICA					
BRAZIL					
PU2TRX	A	220	30	4	GG66
PY2ZZ	A	168	28	3	GG66
PY2AXH	A	51	9	3	GG66
PU1XZU	A	32	4	4	GG77
PP5EK	A	2	1	1	GG43
PV8DX	6	63	9	7	FJ92
PV8AZ	6	15	5	3	FJ92
PY2NF	2	768	64	6	GG66
PU2TYA	2	30	15	1	GG66
PY2KS	2	30	15	1	GG66
PU2NAX	2	28	14	1	GG66
PY2TTE	2	20	5	2	GG76
PU2MVE	2	16	8	1	GG66
PY2RBN	2	10	5	1	GG66
PU2PSP	Q	111	21	3	GG66

PY2BI	Q	16	4	2	GG67
PU2MMP	M	1,192	77	8	GG66
PY2LCD	M	200	27	4	GG66
VENEZUELA					
YV6CR	A	168	14	8	FJ78
CHECK LOGS					
These logs were used for cross-checking. Checklogs are always appreciated. AB3AI, CT1AVR, E72U, EA8BPX, FP/KV1J, GW6KLO, IK7LMX, K0GU, K3MEC, LY2X, LZ1VQ, N1FD, PY2SHF, RN6MA, SP2HHX, UR11, UR4LIN, UR5WMM, UT4UFZ, Y050HO.					
DISQUALIFIED					
E24QND – Excessive unverified QSOs and grids.					

able on 6 meters. So, for that event, there were more folks on digital than I have ever seen ... either on the radio by listening, or on the computer via the waterfall. The humorous note for me was seeing 20 to 30+ traces (or more) going by on the computer screen, all of them more than strong enough (many were S-9+) to have easily been worked by phone. So, for those of us on the Left Coast, we were taking advantage of slow, but solid runs, as well as search-and-pounce operations, without contention on phone and CW (analog), while others were fighting it out on digital with lots of other folks and making a digital Q every three to four minutes at best.

Jumping back to the current CQWW VHF Contest, the previous week saw the release of WSJT X and its improved FT8 mode. Now clearly there's an advantage that FT8 can potentially make a valid contact and exchange in about 30 seconds, instead of three to four minutes with JT65, but we observed the same challenges noted in the June ARRL VHF Contest. Twenty to 40 signals at a time on the waterfall, most signals over S-9, and many stations running more power than needed while causing interference to other stations also trying to make contacts. The folks out here on the Left Coast once again leveraged phone and CW to work the spotty Es conditions that prevailed for the duration of the contest, where often there was only a short window for a full exchange of information to make a valid contact entry. For much of the contest, the propagation did not support second chances.

The other interesting aspect was that so many participants were playing with digital, the calling frequencies and spots adjacent to them on CW and phone were often dead quiet. No one calling CQ, no local chatter, etc. So while all was quiet here, there were huge pileups in the central states and eastern seaboard on phone, CW, and digital. If you weren't calling CQ from the Left Coast, you weren't making contacts, despite

reports several of us were in "solid" to Texas for several hours, we heard no traffic on our side — just CQ replies from random grid squares that the Es was kind enough to "light up" for us.

Lessons Learned

We observed and "eavesdropped" on many PSK-31 and WSJT-X based QSOs. It was interesting, but it was clearly a detractor that so many were learning the ropes in a contest venue. It was also interesting to "see" a signal jump from a mid-S "something" to S9+20 or more when the operator got frustrated and didn't think he was getting out. The point again was that there was a lack of folks using more conventional modes (CW, phone) when the propagation supported it. For those on the Left Coast, jumping on the radio and listening to the calling frequencies for a few moments, hearing nothing and turning off the radio was an opportunity lost. Call CQ for at least several minutes, spin the dial up beyond 50.200, and at least to 50.350, to see if you can "hear" any digital activity, which could be an additional indicator the band is open to somewhere.

For the folks doing digital — if you're getting chewed up in the dogpile or pileup and the propagation is good, go back to CW or phone where you'll likely make loads of contacts with those who do not have digital capabilities, then fall back to digital modes when the propagation enhancement starts to fade.

As always, I want to thank to folks at CQ Magazine for sponsoring and supporting this event each year as well as the operators who also played on the airwaves over the weekend. To date, and having enjoyed this contest for over 10 years, from here on the Left Coast, this was a new high-water mark for new and longtime operators participating in the contest — a trend I hope will continue to grow.

Comments and feedback are always welcome, you can email here: <kg6iyn@arrl.net>.
— 73, Bruce, KG6IYN