

# 2011 ARRL DX Phone - - -

“Now THAT’S what I’m talking about!” — N1UR

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During February’s ARRL DX CW contest on February 19, my band partner Doug, K1DG and I were sitting at the 15 meter position of the K3LR multi-multi station waiting for the band to pop open... and waiting...and waiting. It felt so close! Recent rumblings on the solar surface gave every indication that there would be a dramatic increase in activity...but when? The answer to my grumbles was not long in coming. On March 1, the solar flux suddenly jumped from 98 to 111 and kept rising right through the ARRL DX Phone contest on March 5 and 6, all the way to 155 — a level not seen since January 2005 and comparable to the contest weekend in 2003! Furthermore, the A index was only 5 and the average K index just over 1 making for a stable ionosphere and sustained DX openings with an average sunspot number of 116. Welcome back, ol’ Sol!

How did that play out on the bands? With word spreading rapidly the week before the contest, schedules were rearranged to operate in the contest and submitted log totals set another all-time mark at 3343 — 1812 logs were from W/VE stations and 1531 DX logs. This is a solid 5% increase from last year which was also a record. Club log submissions jumped by 10% as well, to a total of 76 with the increase in the Medium and Local categories — the heart and soul of the ARRL-Affiliated Club Competition.

The wide-open bands kept more butts in more chairs with the result being a 24% increase in QSOs reported by W and VE stations (a total of 676,546).

DX logs contained 812,262 QSOs, a 17% increase. (Those missing 135,716 QSOs are in un-submitted logs — it’s never been easier to submit a log so why not give it a try next year if you’re a non-submitter?)

Clearly, there were a lot more stations on the air. Three DX stations reported single-band QSO totals over 3000 QSOs: HK1K had 3022 QSOs on 20 meters and PJ4G reported 3459 on 15 meters and 3345 on 10 meters. From

the W-VE end, the team at K3LR logged 2480 DX stations on 20 meters and 2684 on 15 meters — the first year in quite a while that Tim’s 15 meter team surpassed 20 meter totals! Tim’s minions also found another four DXCC entities on the airwaves this year, pushing the single-band bar to 149.

The changing solar tides are reflected in the year-to-year changes in single-band log submissions shown in Figure 1. There were more single-band logs than ever (247) and the big increase this year was — no surprise — 10 meter logs which went from 13 in 2010 to 60 in 2011. Stations that may have stayed on 20 meters for the past few years are now venturing up to 15 and 10 meters. For those of you chasing your DXCC Challenge band-entities, the trends are good if you need higher totals on the higher bands!

*“Big News: 15 Meters Crosses the Rockies!”*  
— VE7XF

The big headline may have been 10 meters this year but the real news was on 15 meters as we learned last year. Even a middling opening on 15 changes the complexion of the contest dramatically. As operators at smaller stations know well (or quickly learn), it is a lot easier to make DX contacts on 15 and 10 meters because a multiband antenna can be more effective as wavelength falls (and electrical height rises).

With such good 15 meter conditions this year, operators were encouraged to participate for longer periods and that benefited all bands. The wide-open spaces (comparatively) of 15 meters — an extra 100 kHz of General

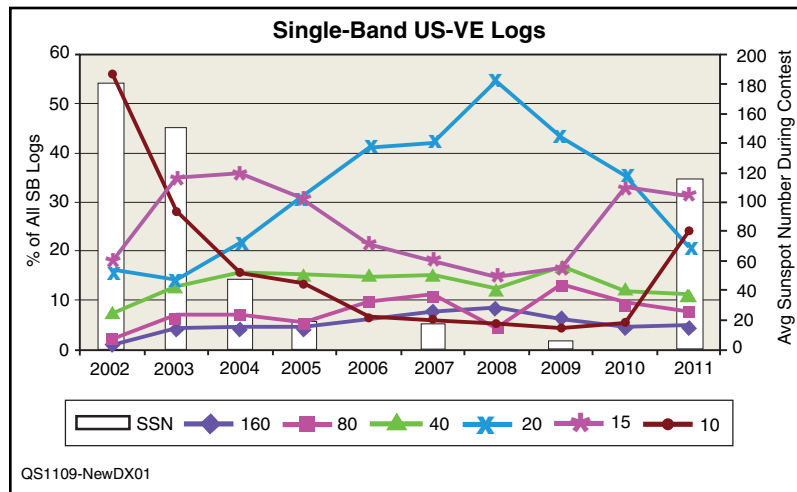


Figure 1 — Single-Band entries from W-VE stations from 2002 through 2011 illustrate the link between sunspots and high-band activity.

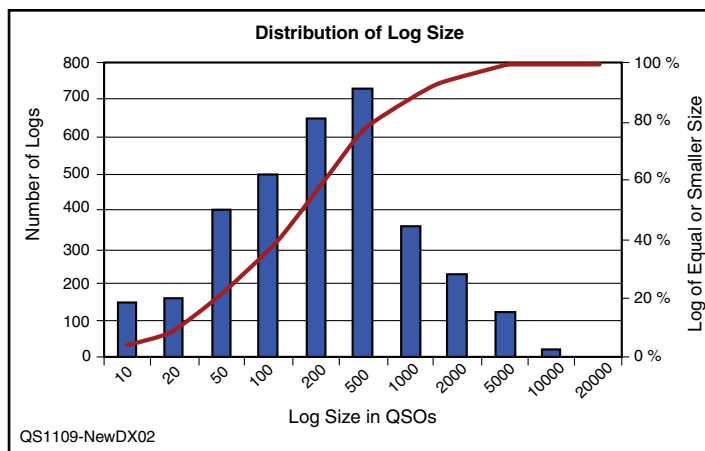


Figure 2 — The distribution of log sizes clearly shows the importance of smaller logs. 56% of all logs have 200 or fewer QSOs, making up the majority of contest QSOs.

## New Records for 2011

### W-VE Records

Category	Call	Call District	New Record	Old Record	Year Set
SOHP	W0JA	0	3,051,360	2,721,510	1991
SOLP	N1UR	1	2,665,065	1,717,380	2009
SOQRP	VA3DF	VE	556,842	294,120	2010
SOAHP	W2RE	2	5,128,875	4,846,485	2002
SO40	W6Y1	6	238,140	207,648	2010
SO40	N7DD	7	245,784	210,936	1998
M2	WE3C	3	10,543,338	9,557,757	2000
<b>MSHP</b>	<b>K1LZ</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6,780,420</b>	<b>6,730,380</b>	<b>2000</b>
MSHP	NK7U	7	2,878,722	2,537,115	1981

### DX

Category	Continent	Call	New Record	Old Record	Year Set
SOLP	EU	IR1Y	1,635,375	1,579,356	1992
<b>SOQRP</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>P40A (KK9A, op)</b>	<b>3,073,275</b>	<b>1,584,360</b>	<b>2004</b>
SO15	EU	CR2A (OH8NC, op)	604,083	495,432	1982
SO15	OC	KH7Y	501,120	433,608	1988
SO20	AF	EF8R (EA8CAC, op)	463,512	298,758	1999
SO40	NA	ZF2AH	458,607	431,100	2010
<b>SO40</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>HK1T</b>	<b>495,954</b>	<b>364,008</b>	<b>1986</b>
SO160	EU	CR2X (OH2BH, op)	76,797	62,034	2009

**Bold** indicates an all-time record for the category

## Active Winning Streaks

### W-VE

Call (@QTH)	Number	Category
WE3C	4	M2
N1UR	3	SOLP
W5PR	3	SO10
W2MF	3	SO160
W2RE	3	SOAHP
K1LZ	3	MSHP

### DX

Call (@QTH)	Number	Category
W2SC (@8P5A)	2	SOHP

## Affiliated Club Competition

Score Entries

Unlimited Category	Score	Entries
Frankford Radio Club	222,644,199	157
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	220,000,884	184
Potomac Valley Radio Club	148,744,419	167
Northern California Contest Club	47,472,297	105
Contest Club Ontario	47,102,589	85
Society of Midwest Contesters	42,565,110	98
Minnesota Wireless Assn	41,706,240	102
Florida Contest Group	39,551,604	109
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	27,078,405	76
Tennessee Contest Group	17,700,834	58

### Medium Category

North Coast Contesters	55,761,960	20
South East Contest Club	41,091,723	36
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	29,904,333	24
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	26,781,951	42
Carolina DX Association	26,587,443	47
Mad River Radio Club	22,610,499	29
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	21,284,007	19
Alabama Contest Group	21,086,385	40
Southern California Contest Club	20,769,429	48
Willamette Valley DX Club	13,620,084	41
Maritime Contest Club	13,548,855	16
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	13,322,766	21
Western Washington DX Club	11,255,679	29
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	10,714,053	15
CTRI Contest Group	10,326,021	18
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	10,103,217	30
North Texas Contest Club	8,770,320	21
Louisiana Contest Club	7,705,062	10
Contest Group Du Quebec	6,959,382	14
BC DX Club	4,985,082	5
ORCA DX And Contest Club	4,689,927	20
Utah DX Assn	4,648,368	22
Western New York DX Assn	3,457,692	8
Eastern Iowa DX Assn	2,528,781	13
Spokane DX Association	2,299,668	19
Kentucky Contest Group	2,167,770	6
Allegheny Valley Radio	1,711,800	7
Missouri DX and Contest Club	1,157,106	4
Central Arizona DX Assn	943,650	3
Texas DX Society	845,952	8
Saskatchewan Contest Club	786,900	4
West Park Radiops	778,974	17
Alberta Clippers	672,552	3
Northern Rockies DX Association	308,445	5
Mississippi Valley DX/Contest Club	256,983	4
Nacogdoches ARC	190,251	3

### Local Category

Iowa DX and Contest Club	8,411,946	4
Southwest Ohio DX Assn	5,447,451	7
Central Virginia Contest Club	4,439,466	7
Blue Ridge ARC	2,154,801	8
Delaware-Lehigh ARC	1,977,900	6
Central Oregon DX Club	1,780,032	3
Hilltop Transmitting Assn	1,679,754	6
Delara Contest Team	1,616,862	7
Kansas City DX Club	1,331,142	9
Bergen ARA	1,310,979	8
Bristol (TN) ARC	872,265	9
Portage County Amateur Radio	593,886	7
Wireless Association of South Hills	572,778	3
Meriden ARC	548,004	7
Metro DX Club	530,250	8
Fort Wayne Radio Club	460,614	7
Northern Arizona DX Assn	459,918	4
Albuquerque DX Assn	408,231	4
New Mexico Big River Contesters	366,024	3
Salt City DX Assn	352,980	3
South Jersey DX Assn	310,530	6
Skyview Radio Society	256,965	8
Southeastern DX Club	240,543	3
Southern California DX Club	234,567	7
South Texas DX and Contest Club	137,430	5
Saginaw Valley ARA	122,568	5
Utah Contest Club	115,713	3
Granite State ARA	24,447	3
Great South Bay ARC	17,439	3
Hays-Caldwell ARC	3,294	3

phone band compared to 20 meters — made operating a *lot* more fun for the Little Pistol and casual operator just looking to put a few contacts in the log and hand out some points. I certainly hope the ARRL QSL Bureau staff has their calendars clear for some overtime!

Just how important are the logs from Little Pistols and part-time or casual operators? They are *very* important as Figure 2 shows. Nearly 56% of all logs received — W/VE and DX — contain 200 or fewer QSOs! Every QSO is important and we would like to have YOUR contacts in the database next year.

## Extended Results

Look to the online extended version of these results ([www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests)) for more commentary and the following features:

- Accuracy rankings and charts
- A PDF file of Top Ten call signs since 2002
- Changes in QSOs and multipliers as a percentage of the 2002 totals
- DX entries tracked by category from year to year

You'll also find a Regional Analysis write-up for your Division or Continent written by a volunteer author from the area. There's also a close look at the results from the Caribbean's annual festival of DXing frenzy.

The complete Soapbox comments of all stations from the popular 3830 score posting website and from submitted logs are included, as well. It is fun to browse through all the entries as each comment builds up a Seurat-like image of the contest, point by point.

## Records

*"Best. Score. Ever."* W2IRT (SOAHP)

Talk about going out with a bang. John, KK9A has been filling contest logs as P40A as an SOLP entry. In 2010 he had a string of six straight wins — the second-longest since 2002. All good things must come to an end and John has closed down his "Iguana Village" Aruba QTH. He decided to make one last go of it as a SOQRP entry. And what a go! John smashed the old 1993 all-time SOQRP record with a monster score of 3.073 Mpoints — a leap of around 50%. John,

## Category Abbreviations

Contest results are easier to read if you know the abbreviations for the different categories. You'll find the complete description for all of these in the contest rules:

- SO: Single Operator
- HP/LP/QRP: High Power, Low Power, QRP
- AB: All Band
- SB: Single Band
- A or U: Assisted or Unlimited (see note below)
- MO: Multioperator
- MS: Multioperator, Single-Transmitter
- M2: Multioperator, Two-Transmitter
- MM: Multioperator, Multiple Transmitters

These abbreviations are usually combined, such as SOAB-LP for a Single Operator, Low Power entry. (Usually the "AB" is omitted and you can assume that SO-LP is the same.) A band number will be added to a Single Operator, Single Band entry, such as SO-10 or SOSB-15.

A or U indicates that the operator made use of information from the call sign spotting networks — it doesn't refer to "assistance," meaning physical help with operating, for example.

we'll miss you on the bands!

The New Record for 2011 table contains another pair of all-time records set this year — the MSHP title is now held by the K1LZ team who inched by the 2000 record set from W3BGN. (I am assuming MS records from before this year were set using High Power.) The HK1T record on SO40 is also a new all-time record, eclipsing N6TJ's mark set at 9Y4AA in 1986.

Excluding the flood of new records from 2011's new LP categories, the mother lode of 2002 still remains the biggest year for records. That could change if we get a sustained period of solar flux in the 150-180 range and quiet ionospheric conditions!

The oldest record broken this year is the 7<sup>th</sup> district MS 1981 record now held by MSHP entry NK7U from Joe's Baker City, OR QTH. Several other old-timers are under new ownership as well: OH8NC operated CR2A to a new European SO15 record last set in 1982, the 1998 SO40 record is now held by N7DD, and IR1Y took the 1992 SOLP record for EU.

The oldest surviving record is still the KØRF MM record set from Colorado in 1979. At 4.03 Mpoints, it is the smallest of the US district MM records and should be reachable with the great new technology available to station builders. Nevertheless, that it has stood so long is a tribute to the KØRF station that set the record — and continues to set records such as the new SOHP 10<sup>th</sup>-district record set by WØUA at the station this year, another that had lasted twenty years.

What would a table of records be without some close calls, too? Some records may not have been broken but they were seriously challenged. These are shown in the online version of the article's Record table. Do you think you are record-breaking material? If so, have a look at the K5TR Contest database ([www.kkn.net/~k5tr/scoredb](http://www.kkn.net/~k5tr/scoredb)) where more than 400,000 published scores have been entered by volunteers for you to pick out a target.

## New Categories

Two old categories, Single-Op, Assisted (SOA) and Multioperator, Single Transmitter (MS), each split into a pair of High Power and Low Power categories this year — certainly an opportunity to set a record! Seriously, the

## Propagation Indices for ARRL DX Phone

Year	Flux		Planetary Ap		Estimated K	
	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun
2002	191	183	5	10	1.6	2.5
2003	138	147	14.5	11	2.8	2.6
2004	105	106	5	6	1.8	1.8
2005	81	84	10	36	2.5	4.3
2006	75	74	2	1	0.9	0.5
2007	73	73	2	3	0.5	0.8
2008	69	69	19	8	3.3	2.0
2009	69	69	1	8	0.3	2.6
2010	78	77	3	4	0.8	1.0
2011	135	143	5	5	1.1	1.2

## Accuracy Leaders

### W-VE

#### Single-Op (Non-assisted)

Call	Category	QSOs	Error %	Index
VY2ZM (K6AAX, op)	SOHP	3766	0.9	13.486
VC3E (VE3AT, op)	SOHP	3274	0.6	13.455
KC1XX (WA1Z, op)	SOHP	3228	0.7	13.439
K5ZD (KM3T, op)	SOHP	3501	1.1	13.434
W9RE	SOHP	2752	0.5	13.390

#### Single-Op (Assisted)

W2RE	SOAHP	3541	0.7	13.479
AA3B	SOAHP	2623	0.5	13.369
K3WW	SOAHP	3097	1.5	13.341
N3RS	SOAHP	2078	0.5	13.268
K1KI (KM1P, op)	SOAHP	2083	0.7	13.249

#### Multiop

K3LR	MM	7894	0.6	13.837
W3LPL	MM	6994	0.9	13.755
WE3C	M2	5889	0.4	13.730
K1TTT	MM	4672	0.8	13.590
K1LZ	MSHP	4086	0.9	13.521

### DX

#### Single-Op (Non-assisted)

8P5A (W2SC, op)	SOHP	9292	0.5	13.918
P49Y (AE6Y, op)	SOHP	7816	0.3	13.863
PJ2T (K6AM, op)	SOHP	8230	1	13.815
KP2M (N2TK, op)	SOHP	7004	0.4	13.805
TO7A (UT5UGR, op)	SOHP	9100	1.7	13.789

#### Single-Op (Assisted)

ZX2B (PY2MNL, op)	SOAHP	3857	0.4	13.546
LU4DX	SOAHP	3707	0.6	13.509
EC2DX	SOAHP	3195	0.7	13.434
PY1NX	SOALP	2934	0.6	13.407
GW9T (MW0ZZK, op)	SOAHP	3296	1.2	13.398

#### Multiop

PJ4G	M2	12197	0.6	14.026
T15N	MM	10992	0.7	13.971
CE4CT	M2	7515	0.6	13.816
VP5H	MSHP	7512	0.6	13.816
LP1H	M2	7820	0.8	13.813

concern when creating Low Power categories is that the High Power leaders, sensing a new competitive opportunity, will enter and dominate the new category, squeezing out the stations the new category was intended to feature. I'm pleased to report that this was not case — not one of the Top Ten in the new Low Power categories can be found in last year's High Power Top Ten. That's not to say no High Power station "dialed it down" and entered as Low Power this year — you'll surely recognize the call signs of the category winners — but my point is that stations that usually operated with low power were indeed the ones competing for top honors in general. Let's meet the winners, shall we?

On the W-VE side of things, our first overall SOALP winner is Alexey Yushin, VE2XAA (also UX3UA) a member of the Contest Groupe du Quebec. Alexey is active in many contests and makes a lot of people happy with the Quebec multiplier. His efforts paid off this year! His antenna farm consists of a single tribander and rotatable dipole at about 15 meters in height plus wires.

In the MSLP category, Jim WØUO decided to change his usual CW-only contest style and put together a five-operator team effort, including three who were new to DX contesting. I'd say they learned pretty quickly! The team (WØUO, W5AO, K5ANR, KE5SCG, and KF5BHG) put together a very good score of 943 kpoints that would have placed within the top twenty scores in MSHP.

Outside the US and Canada, the SOALP category attracted a lot of attention, too. Our initial winner comes from South America — Soni, PY1NX. Soni's 2.09 Mpoints would have finished #6 in the SOAHP listings so this was quite a good score from his home station. Soni had big numbers on 15 and 40 meters plus a handful of 80 meter QSOs and multipliers that kept him in the first spot.

You'll recognize the call signs of both team members in the MSLP top spot — veteran contesters Carl AI6V and Robert W5AJ shared the operating duties at P4ØV to just squeak by the WP3C and KP4WW team with nearly 5.5 Mpoints. What made the difference — aside from contesting savvy — was "10 meters as good as it was in the old days down here," according to Carl. That one band and 2240 QSOs was the key to their being able to out-score a team far closer to North America and whose QSO totals were higher on every other band!

## Staying Power

There is no FCC limit on "staying power" — the ability to produce year after year, contest after contest. The Active Winning Streaks table shows only one DX streak remains. The WE3C crew is establishing their hold on the Multi-Two category with another convincing win. Ed, N1UR once again submitted the top SOLP score and has 5 of the last 6 wins in the category.

Several notable runs have come to an end, as well. While the VY2ZM call sign

## Accuracy Records

### Top Index by Year

#### Max W-VE Index 13.837

W-VE	Call	Category	QSOs	Error %	Index	Year Set
SO	VY2ZM	SOHP	4084	0.5	13.561	2010
SOA	W2RE	SOAHP	3541	0.7	13.479	2011
MO	K3LR	MM	7894	0.6	13.837	2011

#### Max DX Index 14.026

DX	Call	Category	QSOs	Error %	Index	Year Set
SO	8P5A (W2SC, op)	SOHP	9292	0.5	13.918	2011
SOA	J7N (K3TEJ, op)	SOA	4684	0.8	13.591	2010
MO	PJ4G	M2	12,197	0.6	14.026	2011





## WVE Regional Leaders

Table lists Class, Call and Score (C= Single Op, High Power, B = Single Op, Low Power, A = Single Op, QRP)

Northeast Region (New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections)			Southeast Region (Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions)			Central Region (Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section)			Midwest Region (Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections)			West Coast Region (Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections)						
A	N1TM	253,440	A	NT4TS	184,008	A	VA3DF	556,842	A	N5DO	294,600	A	W6QU	(WQOZA, op)	140,580			
A	KA1LMR	214,866	A	KS4X	109,350	A	KT8K	85,977	A	ND0C	153,624	A	NN7SS	(K6UFO, op)	109,890			
A	WB7OCV	53,424	A	K4WY	52,170	A	W9AQ	10,584	A	KK0Q	43,056	A	N6MI		16,611			
A	N8HM	10,950	A	WX4RM	29,670	A	VA3RKM	6,396	A	N0UR	20,196	A	N6LB		2,967			
A	WB0IWG	9,936	A	K7SZ	13,359	A	K9WIS	3,276				A	KJ6AGX		75			
B	N1UR	2,665,065	B	N4XL	993,114	B	N4TZ	1,094,700	B	N5AW	1,249,620	B	N7ZG		634,368			
B	N1PGA	1,497,999	B	NA4K	817,848	B	VA3SWG	585,552	B	K0BJ	340,095	B	N6RV		497,016			
B	W6AAN	1,202,385	B	W4PFM	388,620	B	KD9MS	452,790	B	VE5ZX	300,000	B	K7ACZ		263,886			
B	N2RJ	1,021,500	B	W6DVS	331,200	B	K9JE	287,646	B	WB0SOK	263,562	B	K7JE		233,625			
B	W2TF	586,704	B	N2WN	303,456	B	N4NTQ	209,745	B	KY0K	247,050	B	AA6K		217,728			
C	VY2ZM	(K6AAX, op)	5,142,882	C	K4AB	2,350,926	C	VC3E	(VE3AT, op)	4,199,481	C	N2IC		3,408,000	C	K6NA		1,920,996
C	K5ZD	(KM3T, op)	4,665,339	C	K1TO	2,279,070	C	W9RE	3,692,127	C	W0UA		3,051,360	C	WC6H			
C	KC1XX	(WA1Z, op)	4,245,120	C	N4NW	1,461,600	C	K8GL	1,571,388	C	NR5M		2,414,313	C	(NU6S, op)		1,885,290	
C	K8PO		3,279,780	C	KZ2I	1,241,136	C	N8BJQ	1,421,970	C	K0SR		1,318,740	C	VE7CC		1,714,911	
C	AA1K		3,179,655	C	WX4G	976,626	C	K9CT	1,398,441	C	VE4EAR		1,093,935	C	K6XX		1,548,000	
											C	K7RL		1,132,461				

you'd have to go back to 2005 before a 9<sup>th</sup>-district call sign made the 10 meter Top Ten. *Zut alors!* Not content to leave the sweet stuff to somebody else, K7BG is in the 10<sup>th</sup> position from Montana! No sneaking in through lack of interest, either — the Ten Top Ten and beyond were full of competitive scores this year.

One band down, the competition heated up “considerable” with K5GO taking the number one position from his NW Arkansas QTH. 15 meters was *my caliente* this year with nine stations in the Top Ten completing a single-band DXCC. On 20 meters, the competition was just crazy — the Top Ten very nearly represents a clean sweep of all districts and Canada: 2, VE, 2, 9, 6, 7, 1, 8, 6, 1. It's up for grabs, boys and girls — go for it! In another sign of the improving solar times, the MM team at WØAIH continue their relentless march to the top, moving up another place to 5<sup>th</sup> due to — you guessed it — big scores on 15 and 10 meters.

### Club Competition

What a difference a year makes! Last year, the Yankee Clipper Contest Club dominated the Unlimited category with 203 logs and 234 Mpoints. That obviously caught the attention of the Frankford Radio Club who pumped up their score with another 17 logs and grabbed the gavel from the grasp of YCCC by just 1% of the total score, 222 to 220 Mpoints. The Northern California Contest Club traded places with Contest Club Ontario and another paper-logs-sheet-thin margin, 47.4 to 44.1 Mpoints.

In the Medium category, the North Coast Contesters seemingly have a lock on the top spot...or do they? The South

East Contest Club made a big-time run at the top spot this year moving from tenth to second place and nearly quadrupling their total score. Watch out NCC! The Local category gavel will go to a gregarious new group — the Iowa DX and Contest Club — and welcome to the new

Blue Ridge ARC, too, placing 4<sup>th</sup> in this first ARRL Club Competition appearance.

### By a Nose

Who says log checking doesn't matter? Send in your log, no matter how small! Here are just two of the top-placing races that were close enough for the log checking razor's slice to make the difference. In one of our new categories, SOALP competitors KS1J (1,009,785) and KT4ZB (1,009,014) were only 771 points apart — a minuscule separation of 0.07%. Over in the other new category of MSLP, P4ØV lost 59,109 of 5,557,215 claimed points while being pursued by WP3C who lost 57,846 of 5,525,226 points, leaving only 30,726 points between them — a nasal whisker of only 0.56%!

### Accuracy

We've listed the top five Accuracy Indexes achieved by SOAHP/LP, SOHP/LP and MO stations. (See the sidebar for an explanation of the index.) While the order generally tracks number of QSOs, some entries with a smaller, but slightly more accurate, log are rated higher than a larger one. Since starting to track the index last year as shown in the Accuracy Index, we have our first-ever index greater than 14 (14.026 by the PJ4G M2 team)! Tracking your own Accuracy Index from year to year is a great way of improving your operating skills.

### DXing

The top DX count band bonanzas for multi-op and single-op are really starting to heat up on the high bands. This is quite a change from last year when the top W-VE multiplier total on 10 meters was 30! It's an open



**CW specialist Jim, WØUO, decided to enter a phone contest as a team and snagged the first ever W-VE MSLP title. Team member John, KF5BFG, is shown here handling the operating duties.**

## Error Rate and Accuracy Index

Error rate is calculated in percent as the number of “bad” QSOs — those listed in your Log Checking Report with a busted call (B), a miscopied exchange (X), or “Not In Logs” that can't be found in the other station's log (N) — divided by the total number of verified-good QSOs after duplicates have been removed from that log.

$$\text{Error Rate (\%)} = 100\% \times (B+X+N) / \text{QSOs}$$

The Accuracy Index is a measure calculated so as to reward lower error rates for large logs. That is, for two logs with equal error rates, the log with more verified contacts has a higher accuracy index. The higher the index, the more accurate the operator(s).

$$\text{Accuracy Index} = \log(\text{QSOs}) + 10 \times (1 - \text{Error Rate in \%} / 100)$$



question whether there will be good enough 80 meter conditions deep enough into the new solar cycle for one of the top stations to bag a 5-Band DXCC — top-mult-sweeping-K3LR is only four DXCC entities away from “hitting for the cycle” and I know Tim is already furrowing his brow trying to figure out from where those QSOs will come!

- 160: K3LR (MM) 59, W2MF (SO-160) 49  
 80: K3LR (MM) 96, AA1BU (SO-80) 89  
 40: K3LR (MM) 119, W5WMU (SO-40) 101,  
 6 stations made DXCC  
 20: K3LR (MM) 149, K2TR (SO-20) 123, 37  
 stations made DXCC  
 15: K3LR (MM) 140, N2IC (SOHP) 118, 78  
 stations made DXCC  
 10: K3LR (MM) 108, W5PR (SO-10) 92, 2  
 stations made DXCC

On the DX side, which stations had the highest overall multiplier total? Not surprisingly, the station had to be close enough to North America for the low bands to be productive while not so close that 10 and 15 meters skipped over large areas. Thus, all of the top multiplier magicians are found in the Caribbean or near the north shore of South America.

- TO7A (UT5UGR, op) - 349 (SOHP)  
 PJ2T (K6AM, op) - 348 (SOHP)  
 P49Y (AE6Y, op) - 344 (SOHP)  
 PJ4G - 343 (M2)  
 8P5A (W2SC, op) - 340 (SOHP)

### Some Simple Requests

After the statistics and stories, I'd like to relay a simple request: Make sure your station information is correct before sending in your Cabrillo-formatted log! The log checkers have a big enough job to do, so make it easy for them to get your score in the right category and location by double-checking the information in the header and in the exchange for each contact. This information should be updated by using your logging software's configuration options so that the information is correct every time. You can also use a plain-text editor (such as *Notepad* — free with the Windows operating system) to change and save the Cabrillo log file before emailing. The ARRL contest email-handling robot will respond with the QTH (and category) you sent with the log — be sure it's correct! If not, edit and resubmit your log with the correct information.

“DX Stations — *QRZ* is not your call sign!” — KM3T, op at K5ZD

Stations running a pileup, we encourage you to give your call signs frequently — and those of you who don't know who you are. The seconds ticking by while you “assume” everyone is logging your call correctly are incredibly frustrating from the other end. You are losing QSOs and you are wasting time logging unnecessary QSOs from duplicate contacts and from busted spotting network calls. Don't depend on the spotting network to do your CQing for you! It is no coincidence

### Sponsored Plaque Winners

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of numerous clubs and individuals, we are pleased to announce the winners of a sponsored ARRL DX SSB plaque. The ARRL wishes to thank the plaque sponsors for their continued commitment to the ARRL Plaque Program. Without their support and dedication, the Plaque Program would not be possible.

<i>Plaque Category</i>	<i>Plaque Sponsor</i>	<i>Winner</i>
W/VE Single Operator High Power Phone	Frankford Radio Club	VY2ZM (K6AAX, op)
W/VE 1.8 MHz Phone	Butch Greve, W9EWC Memorial	W2MF
W/VE 3.5 MHz Phone	Jeffrey Briggs, VY2ZM	AA1BU
W/VE 21 MHz Phone	Northern Illinois DX Association	K5GO
W/VE 28 MHz Phone	Ralph Fontaine AF7DX	W5PR
W/VE Single Operator Low Power Phone	Dauberville DX Association	N1UR
W/VE Single Operator QRP Phone	Jeffrey Briggs, K1ZM	VA3DF
W/VE Single Operator Assisted, High Power Phone	Pete Carter, K3VW Memorial	W2RE
World Single Operator High Power Phone	North Jersey DX Association	8P5A (W2SC, op)
World 1.8 MHz Phone	Fred Race, W8FR, In Memory of ZL2BT	KV4FZ
World 7 MHz Phone	Jim Rafferty, N6RJ Memorial - Cayman ARS	HK1T
World 28 MHz Phone	North Shenandoah DX Association NS4DX	PW5G
World Single Operator Assisted, High Power Phone	Southern California DX Club	ZX2B (PY2MNL, op)
Asia Multioperator Single Transmitter, High Power Phone	Yankee Clipper Contest Club	RW0CWA
North America Multioperator Single Transmitter, High Power Phone	Nick Lash, K9KLR	VP5H
World Multioperator Two Transmitters Phone	W6NL and K6BL	PJ4G
W/VE Single Operator High Power Combined Score	National Contest Journal	K5ZD (KM3T, op)
W/VE Single Operator Low Power Combined Score	In Memory of Fred Gern, K2FR - Rochester DX Association, Inc	N1UR
Japan Single Operator Low Power Phone	Western Washington DX Club	JH4UYB
Seventh Call Area Single Operator High Power Phone	Willamette Valley DX Club	K5RR
World Multioperator Unlimited Combined Score	Jim Lawson - W2PV Memorial - Schenectady ARA	9A1A
World Multioperator Unlimited Phone	Stanley Cohen, W8QDQ	T15N
World Single Operator Low Power Combined Score	C. Sharp, K5DX Memorial by the Texas DX Society	J88DR (G3TBK, op)
Canada Single Operator Low Power Phone	Contest Club Ontario	VA3SWG
New England Division Single Operator Low Power Phone	CTRI Contest Group	N1UR
Great Lakes Division Single Operator Unlimited, High Power Phone	Northern Ohio DX Association	N8TR

Un-sponsored plaques may be purchased by the plaque winner. If you wish to purchase an un-sponsored plaque or order a duplicate plaque, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, at 860-594-0232 or by e-mail at [kx9x@arrl.org](mailto:kx9x@arrl.org). The cost for plaques is \$75 (includes shipping).

COURTESY JOHN BAYNE, KK9A



Enjoying the traditional All-Aruba post-contest dinner are (left to right) Carl, P49V; John, P40A; Robert, P40P; Sue, P40YL; Cristina, P43C; Jean-Pierre, P43A, and Andy, P49Y.

that the top scoring stations give their calls every time or go no more than two or three QSOs without identifying.

Audio quality is also something many stations can improve. Turn down the compression and the microphone gain — watch that ALC meter! I was operating at W1AW on Sunday afternoon during a 10 meter opening and it was hard to make out many call signs because of poor audio. One particular instance was notable: I was struggling to understand phonetics from the several stations calling when one station with beautiful clear audio dropped in his call. The difference was stunning. No repeats or requests for confirmation were needed — he was in and out of the pileup in seconds while others were still trying to get through. That's the way it

should be done — it doesn't matter how loud you are if the station on the other end can't understand you!

### Concluding Remarks

“Just a girl and her radio.” N7RQ (SO15)

After the DX Phone weekend was over, I sent an email about conditions to Doug K1DG and suggested we'd been just a little early. “No,” he replied, “the band was late!” Maybe so — whatever the reason, we all enjoyed having such good conditions on 15 and 10 meters during the phone weekend. Next year — even with a slowing solar cycle predicted — should be even better. Get the ARRL DX contests (18/19 Feb and 3/4 Mar) on your calendar now, polish up those high-band antennas, and get ready for a healthy dose of radiosport!