2014 ARRL November Sweepstakes Phone Results

A year of record breaking, Clean Sweeps, and photo finishes.

Steve London, N2IC, n2ic@arrl.net

November 15 - 17 was the 81st running of the ARRL Sweepstakes, during the centennial year of the ARRL. It was a great opportunity to say hello to friends, and try to work all 83 ARRL sections in a single weekend.

University of Texas, Dallas, K5UTD

This classic college club is an on-campus, student-run station, in a location visible to the university community. Andrew, KE5GDB, provided this description:

Sweepstakes was operated by Landon, N5AET; Jens, AF5MI, and myself. The operation was a lot of fun and we made a Clean Sweep. This was the first contest that we were able to participate in with the Henry 3K-A (amplifier) and it sure did make a difference. There were several fun contacts, specifically the K9 station operating /KP2. Huge, huge pileup, and somehow we managed to get through on the first try. Our final section, ONN, came through with about 2 hours left in the contest while we were calling on 20 meters. Clean Sweep!

The Clean Sweep

This year, 321 participants made a Clean Sweep. 122 more operators came so close to a Clean Sweep, missing by just one section, and 29 more missed the Virgin Islands (VI). Only two logs were received from VI, with a total of 859 QSOs from almost identical call signs -WP2XX and KP2XX. Another VI station that did not submit a log made at least 300 more contacts. The next problem section was a real surprise — Mississippi (MS), which cost 12 competitors their Sweep, as only 6 MS logs with 1886 contacts were received. Number 3 on the sweep-breaker list is familiar — Newfoundland-Labrador (NL). Only two NL stations submitted a log, but a third made at least 900 QSOs, bringing the NL total to at least 1600 contacts.

Close Races

Every year there are a number of very close section races and this year there were five decided by five or fewer QSOs.

The rivalry of the South Texas Single Op,

High Power stations continued in 2014 with a new operator at K5TR — Larry, K5OT, who prevailed over NR5M by nine QSOs.

In the Single Op, Low Power category, John, WØYJT, beat Zack, WØZC, by a single contact in Kansas and Alan, W4ANT, took the crown over Bob, KG6MC, by two QSOs in South Carolina.

The Single Op, QRP battle in Virginia featured two contesters. When the dust settled, John, N2NQ, had a three-contact margin over John, W4IM, who left 2 hours of operating time on the table.

Teams N3OC and WA3EKL battled in Multioperator, High Power from Maryland. WA3EKL made 19 more OSOs than N3OC, but WA3EKL missed VI, the Clean Sweep, and the victory by just two QSOs.

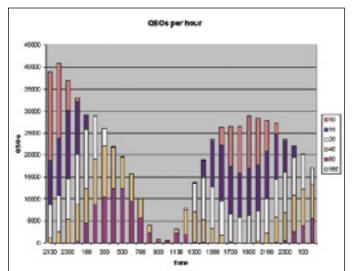
Single Op, High Power (SOHP)

An epic battle took place between Dan, W7WA, and George, K5TR, for the top spot in the Single Op, High Power category. Trying to beat Dan in his own backyard, George traveled to Montana to pilot the fine station of Pat, N9RV. For the first 7 hours, Dan and George were neck and neck. During the 04Z hour, Dan made 58 more contacts than George, even though both of them operated exclusively on 40 meters. Throughout Sunday, Dan held a 65 to a 110 QSO lead over George, finishing 105 QSOs ahead.

Single Op, Low Power (SOLP)

The Single Op, Low Power category continues to be the most popular for Sweepstakes participants, featuring a close race between Steve, N2IC (NM); Gary, VA7RR (BC); Otis, NP4G (PR), and Bill, K2PO (OR). The first few hours were neck and neck, but nighttime came early to Puerto Rico, causing Otis difficulties until the low bands opened. Otis came roaring back, taking the lead by 0600Z. Steve hit a brick wall on 40 and 80 meters, making very few QSOs.

With morning, the dynamic quickly changed. Steve started on 20 meters, but then set up shop on 28.435 kHz. He stayed there for the next 8 hours. The strategy for the far western stations of Gary and Bill was to spend the daylight hours almost exclusively on 15 meters. Otis used 10 meters to his advantage, but by 1600Z, Steve regained the lead and held it until the end.



It's easy to see where the action was during Sweepstakes on this graph of band-by-band activity. 10 meters was hot for the first 2 hours, but it was 40 meters on which QSOs were made during every hour of the contest.

Top Ten by	y Categ	ory		
Single Operate	or,	Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power		
W7WA	369,018	W4AAA		
N9RV (K5TR, op) K5TA	351,256 332,332	(KK9A, op) K2DRH KE7X	249,000 242,858 185,156	
K6NA (N6ED, op) AA5B KDØS	325,028 308,594	N4LR (@K9XD) K8BL N7MZW	184,260 168,822	
(WDØT, op) W7RN	302,286	WA6KHK N2SQW	159,028 138,744 133,464	
(N7MH, op) WC6H	302,286 301,104	NT5V WT1A	132,966 128,740	
K5TR (K5OT, op) NR5M	298,634 297,804	Multioperator High Power	,	
Single Operate		W6YI W5RU K4OV	341,960 339,636	
N2IC	275,394	WØNO	305,606 290,998	
VA7RR NP4G	265,600	W6PZ K7IR	278,050 277 980	
K2PO	259,956 249,000	KBØHH	277,980 247,838	
W4LT	231,570	WA3EKL W7FSL	238,784 238,708	
VE4VT (VE4EAR, op)230 740	N3OC	238,708	
N4PN	219,286			
KUØG KU2M	215,800	Multioperator Low Power	,	
WN6K	214,472 209,990	WZ8P	207,832	
		W4MR	203,032	
Single Operate	or, QRP	WA7U N5DO	201,524 184,758	
KE3X (@N3HBX)	118,856	KØFVF	170,814	
NN7SS		KS5Z	153,882	
(K6UFO, op)	93,126	N2VA WN1G	153,384 150,728	
KØZL K3TW	78,408 77,024	W2TZ	140,104	
N5EE	61,828	NX6T	137,780	
KJ5RM N2NQ	56,056 55,680	School Club		
KT8K	55,594	KØHC		
W4IM	55,566	(WØBH, op)	256,470	
N3UR	54,826	K5UTD W1AF	162,182 127,920	
Single Operat	or	KF5CRF	77,996	
Unlimited, Hig		K5LBJ	67,624	
K6LL	317,724	W4AQL W1YK	58,368 48,984	
W1SJ VE6SV	306,768	W5YM	42,496	
(VE4GV, op)	303,614	ABØBX	37,808	
W1SRD N8OO	299,630	W4UAL	36,852	
N5ZC	290,832 282,864			
K5RT	270,580			
K9CT NØXR	270,082			
(@NØNI) KJ5T	265,268 260,454			

Single Op, QRP (SOQRP)

QRP in Phone Sweepstakes is always a challenge, but 87 operators were up to it, with three making a Clean Sweep. Congratulations to Ken, KE3X, on his victory and new Division record! Ken piloted the N3HBX superstation to 716 QSOs, 155 more than the runner-up.

Single Op Unlimited, High Power (SOUHP)

From his city lot with modest antennas, Dave, K6LL, was the winner. Mitch, W1SJ, came in 2nd. Rob, VE4GV, travelled to Alberta to warm up the VE6SV station, taking 3rd place and a new Canadian Division record. Steve, W1SRD, was 18 QSOs behind Rob, earning 4th place.

Rob got off to a great start, holding the lead for the first 7 hours, starting on 15 meters and



If you made a Clean Sweep this year, you might owe it to a QSO with Jim, KP2XX, who made 548 other contesters happy with a VI multiplier QSO. [Jim Latham, KP2XX, photo]

spending 4 hours there. He then took 30 minutes off and an hour later had slipped to 4th place, staying there until late Sunday afternoon. Meanwhile, Dave and Steve duked it out. From 0300Z until 1600Z, there were never more than 20 QSOs separating them. While the western 40 meter nighttime slugfest was in play, Mitch made the most of 80 meters back east.

Mitch started morning operation 90 minutes before the other three, propelling him into the lead. Meanwhile, Dave, Rob, and Steve made the most of 15 and 10 meters in the daytime. Dave had a formidable 100-QSO lead at midafternoon, but Rob wasn't done, and came within 29 contacts of catching Dave. Steve wasn't done either, with an excellent final 3 hours on 20 and 40 meters.

Mitch's strong lead started to evaporate, beginning at 0056Z. At 0056Z, he had used up his 24 hours of operating time and could only sit back and listen to Dave overtake him in the final 2 hours.

Single Op Unlimited, Low Power (SOULP)

The Single Op Unlimited, Low Power category continues to gain popularity. There were 33 new Section records and 5 new Division records and 1 tie for a Division record. John, KK9A, operating as W4AAA, returned to the winner's circle, after taking the #2 slot last year. VHF veteran Bob, K2DRH, surprised everyone by returning to HF contesting in style with a strong 2nd place finish.

Multioperator, High Power (MH)

Seventy-two teams competed in the Multioperator, High Power category. Thirteen new Section records and four new Division

Affiliated Club Competi	tion	
Unlimited Category		Entries
Potomac Valley Radio Club Northern California Contest Club Society of Midwest Contesters Yankee Clipper Contest Club Minnesola Wireless Assn Florida Contest Group	18,828,792 13,457,554 8,515,332 7,051,322 6,768,372 3,923,574	276 178 169 111 109 57
Medium Category		
Southern California Contest Club DFW Contest Group Frankford Radio Club Contest Club Ontario Arizona Outlaws Contest Club Mad River Radio Club Tennessee Contest Group Western Washington DX Club Central Texas DX and Contest Club Alabama Contest Group Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers Willamette Valley DX Club North Coast Contesters Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado South East Contest Club ORCA DX And Contest Club Georgia Contest Group Louisiana Contest Club North Texas Contest Club Maritime Contest Club Maritime Contest Club Maritime Contest Club Northern Rockies DX Association Saskatchewan Contest Club Northern Rockies DX Association Crder of Boiled Owls of New York Contest Group Du Cuebec Allegheny Valley Radio Association Carolina DX Association Swamp Fox Contest Group South Jersey Radio Assn Badger Contesters Motor Club	4,600,526 4,403,176 3,863,200 3,304,110 3,271,798 2,909,106 2,493,612 2,358,698 1,808,692 1,648,398 1,581,834 1,533,170 1,529,798 1,360,890 1,335,922 1,126,324 1,088,036 1,076,788 755,662 730,066 668,530 659,754 471,968 465,860 443,494 411,684 298,740 227,952 210,854 156,642 149,926	45 50 48 48 43 36 30 16 22 24 13 18 10 10 10 7 16 11 5 4 8 10 7 11 5 4 8 10 7 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11
Local Category		
Pizza Lovers 259 New Mexico Big River Contesters Iowa DX and Contest Club Midland ARC Radiosport Manitoba Kansas City Contest Club Spokane DX Association Bristol (TN) ARC Contoocook Valley Radio Club	1,483,322 1,287,604 1,061,954 732,874 712,104 698,166 485,518 446,304 413,668	10 8 9 6 7 6 6 10
Northeast Maryland Amateur Radio Contest Society Sussex County ARC Lincoln ARC Delara Contest Team Kansas City DX Club Metro DX Club Skyview Radio Society	393,768 379,206 377,764 369,716 318,422 317,088 281,318	8 6 4 8 4 10 5
Laird Campbell Memorial HQ Operators Club Peterborough Amateur Radio Club L'Anse Creuse ARC Hilltop Transmitting Assn Portage County Amateur Radio	278,084 236,268 197,884 193,856	3 7 5 6
Service 599 DX Association West Park Radiops Southern Berkshire ARC Hazel Park ARC Murgas ARC Ventura County Amateur Radio Socie Michigan State University ARC Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub Great South Bay ARC Rappahannock Valley Amateur	150,130 150,096 140,506 111,426 108,016 103,806 ety 103,322 100,232 91,292 85,916	5 3 5 8 5 3 4 3 3 6
Rappahannock Valley Amateur Radio Club Sterling Park ARC Granite State ARA Bergen ARA Stoned Monkey VHF ARC Alexandria Radio Club Clark County Amateur Radio Club New Providence ARC Nanaimo Amateur Radio Association	82,414 59,814 56,526 51,308 48,560 37,066 24,422 21,168 19,230	5 5 3 3 3 5 5 3 4 5

2014 Sponsored Phone Sweepstakes Plaque Winners



ARRL is pleased to award a Sweepstakes plaque to the Overall and Division Leaders in each entry category, thanks to Icom America and numerous clubs and individuals who sponsor these awards. For more information on plaque sponsorship or to order a duplicate plaque, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW, at (860) 594-0232 or w1msw@arrl.org. Plaques cost \$75, which includes shipping charges.

					SPONSOR
Division/Category Overall Multioperator High Power Phone	Plaque Sponsor Icom America	Winner W6YI	Division/Category Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Plaque Sponsor QRP Club of New England Icom America	Winner W1WBB W1SJ
Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America David Brandenburg, K5RQ	WZ8P KØHC (WØBH, op)	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone Northwestern Division	Icom America	WT1A
Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Dan Henderson, N1ND ARRL Contest Branch —	W7WA	Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	K7IR WA7U
Single Operator QRP Phone	Ken Adams, K5KA, Memorial QRP Amateur Radio Club International	N2IC KE3X (@N3HBX)	School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America Barbara Yasson, AC7UH	KL7DG W7WA K2PO NN7SS
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	K6LL W4AAA (KK9A, op)	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	(K6UFO, op) K7RL KE7X
Atlantic Division	Mark Cialmana KROCI		Pacific Division		W0D7
Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Mark Sickmeyer, KB3GJ, Memorial Icom America	WA3EKL W2TZ	Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	W6PZ KH7C No Entrant
School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	No Entrant KD4D	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	W7RN (N7MH, op)
Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Potomac Valley Radio Club Icom America	K3UA KE3X (@N3HBX)	Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America Icom America The Carroll Dean Jensen	N6ZFO K2GMY
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	N2MM KC2YEA	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Memorial (K6CDJ) Icom America	W1SRD W1RH
Central Division	Jaam Amarica	WDoCID	Roanoke Division	B : B	
Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	WD9CIR W9FZ W9JWC	Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL Icom America	K4OV W4MR
Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Society Of Midwest Contesters Society Of Midwest Contesters	AA9A K9MU	School Club Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	WD4EOG
Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Sean Kutzko, KX9X Icom America Icom America	K9ARF K9CT K2DRH	Single Operator High Power Phone	(KC2ŤGD, op) Icom America	W4RM
Dakota Division	Icom America	REDITIT	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Raleigh Amateur Radio Society — W4DW	(N3AHA, op) N8OQ
Multioperator High Power Phone	In Memory of Jim Dokmo, KØFVF Minnesota Wireless	K9DIG	Single Operator QRP Phone	Society — W4DW Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	N2NQ
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Association Icom America	KØFVF	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL Icom America	N1LN W4AAA
School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Tod Olson, KØTO Minnesota Wireless Association	KØVVY KDØS (WDØT, op)		icom America	(KK9A, op)
Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Minnesota Wireless Association Tod Olson, KØTO Minnesota Wireless Association Tod Olson, KØTO	ACØW KØPC WØERP KTØR	Rocky Mountain Division Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	KO7X WØFRC ABØBX
Delta Division		(KØOB, op)	Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America Icom America Colorado QRP Club	K5TA N2IC KQØC
Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	W5RU WV5D	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	AF7Z N7MZW
School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	W5YM KØEJ	Southeastern Division		
Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	NA4K N5EE N8OO	Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	David Higdon Jr KD4ICT — with thanks to W4QO Icom America	KF4MMF WN1G
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	WBØRUR	School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	W4AQL K4BAI
Great Lakes Division Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W8PR	Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America Icom America	NP4G K3TW
Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America Mad River Radio Club	WZ8P No Entrant ND4Y	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Charlie Wooten, NF4A Icom America	N4KH WB4OMM
Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Mad River Radio Club Mad River Radio Club	WZ8T KT8K	Southwestern Division Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W6YI
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	N8ZFM K8BL	Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America	NX6T W6RFU
Hudson Division Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W2LV	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	(W6AAF, op) K6NA (N6ED, op)
Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	KC2RA No Entrant	Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America N6HE and W6DLD	WN6K KK7EL
Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	W2RQ KU2M	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	K6LL WA6KHK
Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America Icom America	W2IX W2VQ N2SQW	West Gulf Division Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	KBØHH
Midwest Division			Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone	Icom America Icom America	N5DO K5UTD
Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	WØNO KØRH	Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	K5TR (K5OT, op) WD5K
School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	KØHC (WØBH, op) NØHR	Single Operator QRP Phone Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	KJ5RM N5ZC
Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Society Of Midwest Contesters Icom America	KUØG KØZL	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	NT5V
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone		NØXR (@NØNI) NWØM	Canada Division Multioperator High Power Phone Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	VA3ZV
New England Division	iooni America	14440141	Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	VE3UZ VE9UNB VE4EA
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	NJ1F (@K1TTT)	Single Operator Low Power Phone Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America Frank Merceret, NA4CW	VA7RR VE6EX
Multioperator Low Power Phone School Club Phone Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America Michael McKaughan, K1DM	N2GZ W1AF	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	(VE4GV, op) VE3KI
Single Operator High Power Phone Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America Icom America	NC1I (K9PW, op) AE1P	Sg.o Operator Chamilled Low 1 Ower Phone		V LOIN
.g					

Regional Leaders

Boxes list call sign, score, and class (Q = QRP, A = Low Power, B = High Power, U = Single Operator Unlimited, High Power; UL = Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power; MH = Multioperator, High Power; ML = Multioperator, Low Power; S = School Club)

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 East, Ontario North, Ontario South, and Greater Toronto A)	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)
NC11 (K9PW, op) 295,812 B KD4D 267,924 B AF1T 210,820 B W1WMU 205,820 B W2RQ 202,188 B KU2M 214,472 A K3UA 181,272 A NM2O 145,600 A AE1P 145,084 A KE3X (@N3HBX) 118,856 Q N3UR 54,826 Q NK8Q 52,002 Q W1WBB 32,850 Q N1QV 15,222 Q W1SJ 306,768 UH N2MM 236,218 UH K2XR 219,784 UH AB3CX 210,322 UH N3RR 204,014 UH N2SQW 133,464 UL W1UJ 114,374 UL K2DFC 106,738 UL W32GD 76,626 MH W31DT 230,242 MH K1KP 215,634 MH W2TZ 140,104 ML N2GZ 105,576 ML N3FJP 97,608 ML WN3N 79,474 ML W3ZGD 76,626 ML W1AF 127,920 S W1YK 48,984 S W1KBN 17,112 S VE9UNB 14,732 S	K4BAI 296,476 B K4JPD (N4OO, op) 286,848 B N4OX 280,374 B W4RM (N3AHA, op) 263,774 B N4BP 246,676 B NP4G 259,956 A W4LT 231,570 A N4PN 219,286 A K4UB 112,382 A NA4K 100,014 A K3TW 77,024 Q N5EE 61,828 Q N2NQ 55,680 Q W4IM 55,566 Q N4ZAK 16,390 Q N8OO 290,832 UH N1LN 197,374 UH K1GG 190,896 UH N4KH 179,446 UH N4ZZ 151,558 UH W4AAA (KK9A, op) 249,000 UL WB4OMM 122,010 UL WS7BU 339,636 MH K4OV 305,606 MH NW8U 159,194 MH AB5GG 100,098 MH KF4MMF 52,772 MH W4MR 203,032 ML NW8U 159,194 MH KF4MMF 52,772 MH W4MR 203,032 ML NYM 153,384 ML WN11G 150,728 ML KF3N 110,058 ML N4KIT 79,348 ML W4AQL 58,368 S W5YM 42,496 S WUALAU 36,852 S WDV4EOG (KC2TGD, op) 10,296 S			
			K5LBJ 67,624 S ABØBX 37,808 S	

records were set. This year, there was a close battle between the W6YI team in San Diego and the W5RU team in Louisiana. When the dust settled, team W6YI emerged victorious by a mere 14 QSOs.

Multioperator Low Power Category (ML)

The number of Multioperator, Low Power category competitors exceeded the Multioperator, High Power entries. This year, the Ohio team spearheaded by WZ8P changed call signs, but the result was the same — a win! However, the W4MR and WA7U teams were right on their heels with the lead changing several times.

Following an unusual strategy, WZ8P sat out the first 90 minutes of the contest. This allowed the WA7U and W4MR teams to rocket ahead. In another unconventional strategy, the W4MR team focused primarily on 40 meters in the first few hours, staying close to team WA7U despite their high band "advantage."

School Club Category

Twenty-one schools competed in the School Club Category in 2014, down slightly from 2013. Hesston College, KØHC, was again the winner, a title they frequently take. They had a decisive win this year with no other school closer than 500 QSOs. Their error rate was also excellent. Congratulations! In 2nd place was a new entrant — K5UTD, the University of Texas at Dallas, making over 1000 contacts from their on-campus station. Perhaps next year they will be challenging KØHC.

Congratulations to the Eisenhower Middle School, KF5CRF, taking 4th place with 521 contacts, the best score of any high school club. Superb!

Club Competition

In the Unlimited Club category, the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) again ran away with a big victory over the rival Northern California Contest Club (NCCC).

The Medium Club category featured a very close race. The Southern California Contest

Club took the #1 spot over the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) Contest Club. Each club scored around 4.5 million points with a margin between these two clubs of only 197,350 points.

The real surprise was in the Local Club category. A northern California group, Pizza Lovers 259, came out of nowhere to take the gavel by an impressive 195,718 points!

See You in November!

The year-long ARRL Centennial QSO Party surely added to the participation and excitement of Sweepstakes this year. We hope you had enough fun to come back on November 21–23 and join the crowds. CQ Sweepstakes!

Dive Deeper Online

Read the full results online at arrl.org/contest-results-articles for more winning strategies and playby-play reporting.