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1997 ARRL August UHF Contest Results

August is a prime time for vacations, picnics, running along the beach, sunbathing, and other enjoyable pursuits. Falling right smack in the middle of all of these leisure activities, you'll find the August UHF Contest—always the first full weekend in August. In most corners of the world, you'll find folks resting and relaxing—but not UHF fanatics. They spend their weekends heading to their favorite mountaintop or sitting in a hot radio shack breathing stale air. Their blood really gets pumping when a band opening occurs. In fact, there is nothing more exciting than a contest band opening. Everyone goes crazy—people you never heard before are calling you, new multipliers are rolling in at a rapid rate, and you can hardly keep up with the logging!

During the UHF Contest, we did have some pretty good band openings. Even though some folks didn't notice them, they were there. The best place to be was on 432 MHz. When the band opened, people were making contacts with stations 400 miles or so away. Don't overlook 222 MHz. That's another band that can really pay off in the UHF Contest.

Participation in the UHF Contest has been holding pretty steady over the last few years. This is largely thanks to the participation pin program. We awarded 100 participation pins in the 1997 contest. But pins can't do it alone. If you participate in the

UHF Contest be sure to send your entry to Headquarters to show your support. The total number of entries in this year's contest was down only slightly from last year's total. That's not bad for the UHF Contest. Also, while looking through the entries, we noticed a very interesting and encouraging item—activity on the higher bands is increasing. More people are getting equipment and trying out the microwave bands. Thirty seven stations (26 single operators, 7 rovers, and 4 multioperators) sent in entries for 2304 MHz and higher: 2304 MHz, 37; 3456 MHz, 22; 5760 MHz, 16; 10 GHz, 19; 24 GHz, 5; and 300+ GHz, 1.

This was a "first contest" for many of the participants and most first-timers weren't concentrating on amassing huge point totals; they just wanted to have fun. "I'll be back next year" was a very common quote.

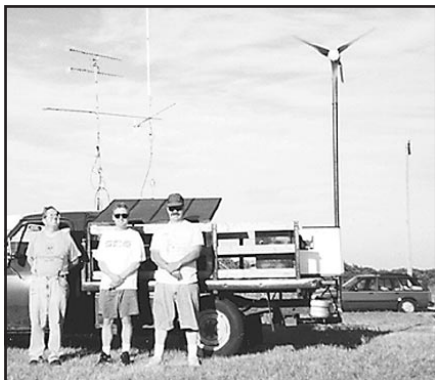
Top Five

Single Operator	Multioperator	Rover
WA8WZG 237,930	W2SZ/1 382,752	WB9SNR 112,407
WW8M 132,549	N2ODK 74,670	K9PW 102,480
K3SIW/9 132,006	WA3UGP 25,200	VE3SMA 49,140
WA2FGK 108,225 (K2LNS.op)	NU7Z 15,621	K9JK 26,268
AA2UK 106,215	AA4ZZ 12,300	VE3OIL 17,820

Yes, the band openings could have been longer, but we still had some impressive scores. The single operator and rover categories had overall record-breaking scores. New division records were set in 15 divisions (4 single operators, and 11 rovers). The winner in the single operator category, Tom, WA8WZG, set the overall score record at 237,930. Great going Tom! In the rover category, we also had some record breaking scores. Jim, WB9SNR, set a new overall rover record with a score of 112,407 points, 40 thousand more than last year. The crew at W2SZ/1 easily won the multi-operator category from their Mt. Greylock location, scoring 382,752 points. There were some impressive scores in all the categories. Check out the score boxes.

You don't have to have a winning score to submit an entry. Get out there, get on the air, and have a great time. The UHF Contest is an ideal opportunity to get the family together and go camping, or hiking, or whatever. (Just don't tell your spouse you brought your radio along!) It's also a good opportunity to get the kids interested in ham radio. Even if you only make a few contacts, send in your entry. If you don't want to turn in a score, we can use it as a check log.

Find yourself a good location, and make a special effort to get on a "new" band. We need to populate the microwave bands. See you next summer—August 1-2, 1998—for the next ARRL UHF Contest.



Joe, N8HNS, with his team at Fisk Knob Park in Kent County, Michigan. Their solar-powered vehicle is ready to go! They worked 16 grids for a total score of 9120.



Stephanie, KC8ALA, at her portable location overlooking Lake Michigan, found it very hard to keep her mind on the contest. Who wouldn't be distracted with a view like that?



Larry, KB8JUI, has a comfortable seat and is hard at work making contacts. He finished second place in the Roanoke division.

Scores

Each line score lists call sign, score, stations worked, multipliers, and band (C = 222 MHz, D = 432 MHz, 9 = 902 MHz, E = 1296 MHz, F = 2304 MHz, I = 10 GHz, J = 24 GHz, K = 47 GHz, L = 75 GHz, M = 119 GHz, N = 142 GHz, O = 241 GHz, P = 300+ GHz), hours, and ARRL/RAC Section. Call signs of division leaders and band indicators are listed in boldface type.

Table with columns for Region (Atlantic, Central, Dakota, West Gulf, Midwest, Pacific, Roanoke, Rocky Mountain, Southeastern, Southwestern, Northwestern), Call Sign, Score, Stations Worked, Multipliers, Band, and Call Sign. Includes sub-sections like 'Delta W5ZN', 'Great Lakes WA8WZG', 'Midwest WD8BQM', 'Pacific WB5OMF', 'Roanoke K4QI', 'Rocky Mountain KB5ZSK', 'Southeastern WD4MBK', 'Southwestern N6HKF', 'Northwestern KE7SW'.

