

2008 ARRL DX CW Results

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"Some folks trust to reason, others trust to might..." – Robert Hunter



Playin' On The Bands: Barry, W5GN, operated EI/W5GN from Ireland to a number 1 European finish in the Single Operator, Low Power category.

Every year in ARRL DX CW is different because every year the competitors are different, expeditions are different, band conditions are different ... motivation is different. Yes, if you've followed the results closely over the past decade or so, it seems like the same callsigns appear over and over. In some categories, that may be the case – W/VE Multi-Multi, without question. Others, not so much. One thing we can say about this year is, depressingly, as usual the band conditions were not very good. Work with me, I'm trying to be kind here. It pains me to say "as usual", but it's been that way for the last four runnings of the CW portion of the event. Some operators in the various categories reported not hearing Europeans even on 20 meters at the usual peak morning openings across the pond. European scores in particular are down on average over the 2006 and 2007 editions. The average score in the W/VE 10 and 15 meter single band categories is down by an astounding 90% and 75% over 2007! Nevertheless, important axioms of contesting are that everyone suffers the bad band conditions and a victory is a victory, regardless of the circumstances. It doesn't matter if you made 100 or 3000 QSO's in your category if you stuck out the time on the bands and no one else topped you. A win is a win!

One small bright spot: The year over year decline in raw QSO numbers that started in 2005 has stabilized and the total number of contacts made from both the W/VE and DX sides increased ever so incrementally in 2008 over 2007 – around the 1% range for both. The QSO totals peaked in 2002 – as sunspots abound, so does contest activity.

As noted, familiar call signs appear at the top of many races. Recognition up front is accorded to winners who repeated their 2007 wins in 2008: N1UR W/VE Low Power, W1MU W/VE 20 meters, W1MK W/VE 80 meters, W3LPL W/VE Multi-Multi, and LU1HF DX 10 meters.

This year was not without its surprises. The DX High Power top 10 is generally dominated by U.S. and Canadian operators who have gone offshore to the Caribbean; this year V47KP was the only Caribbean station to appear in the top 10 list and no less than 3 (!) KH6 stations made the box. To put this in perspective, the contest has been won from the Pacific only twice in the last 37 years. KH6 entries took both the #2 and #3 positions; quite an accomplishment from that far west.

We had a log checking battle in the W/VE High Power category with three stations finishing within 1% of each other for the top spot and the overall #1 entrant was a first-time ever winner. Expeditions to Belize (V3) captured the top spots in DX High Power and DX Multi-Single categories. The V31TP win in the DX

Multioperator Single Transmitter category proves that sometimes all it takes is determination, as they operated Field Day-style using a single tribander and wire antennas on the low bands. N4GG, W4OC, N5OT and W9RE returned to Bonaire to operate PJ4O for their third DX Multi-Two victory in the past 4 runnings of ARRL DX CW. The Caribbean Contesting Consortium station PJ2T on Curacao has notched another DX Multi-Multi win, their third overall, and their 5th consecutive win in either the Multi-Two or Multi-Multi categories for W0CG and crew.

Regional Coverage

It was a horse race in the West Coast region for the top 5 spots in the High Power category. Denis, K7GK (OR) held off Bob, N6TV (SCV) by a margin of only 29k points. Both had almost the same # of QSO's but K7GK's extra 7 multipliers were enough to take the top spot. Low Power was won by Tom, N6NF (SCV) topping James, W3CP (OR). West Coast top QRP finisher Gary, N7IR (OR) would have also topped the Low Power category with his fine 205k point effort and also finished #5 nationally. Coming in a close second (and almost beating the top Low Power entrant as well) was Frank, W6JTI (SF) at 191k.

Another close race in the Midwest Region was in place for the top High Power spot with two battle-seasoned contest operators finishing #1 and #2. Rich, K5NA (STX) squeaked by Jim, N3BB (STX) by a less than a 2% difference in scores, again with multipliers making the difference. N3BB led by more than 150 QSO's but K5NA's extra 37 multipliers was enough to overcome the lead. Top "Black Hole" High Power score, including the W9 Central Division as well, was had by #4 Midwest Region finisher Steve, KØSR (MN) at 1.039 million points. Low Power was led by repeat national top 10 finisher Marvin, N5AW (STX) who finished with a commanding lead over second place Jim, W0UO (NTX). Both N5AW and W0UO finished in the national top 10 at #6 and #8, respectively. Midwest Region QRP was won by Douglas, N4IJ (OK) ahead of Dale, KG5U (STX).

The Central Region featured wins by large margins in all three power categories in 2008. Ron, VE3AT operating as VC3E (ON) came in at 7th place nationally to also take the top Region spot with a score of just over 2.8 million points. Second place went to Greg, K8GL (MI). Low Power winner also finishing #5 national was Terry, N4TZ (IN) with a substantial lead over second place entrant Charles, N9CO (IL). Dan, N8IE (OH) took QRP top honors over Jim, WB8RTJ (OH).

Down south, the Southeast Region High Power category was topped by Peter, K3ZM (VA) at 1.9 million points, followed by Pete, N4ZR (WV) at 1.45 million. Low Power top honors went to Mel, WK2G (WCF) followed closely by Julius, N2WN (TN), both topping the 600k mark. Two national top 10 finishers, Bill, K4CIA (NC) and Doug, W9WI (TN) were the #1 and #2 Region leaders for QRP.

The Northeast Region was a duplicate of the national top finishes, with Tom, K1KI (CT) and Alex, LZ4AX operating from K3CR (WPA) finishing #1 and #2 High Power, Ed, N1UR (VT) and Art, K1BX (NH) Low Power, George, K2DM (NNJ) and Doug, KR2Q (NNJ) QRP.

Overall W/VE Single Op Categories

Often the most geographically diverse of the single op categories, we saw no less than 6 U.S. call areas represented in this year's top 10. 2008's winner is current 2nd call area record holder George, K2DM (NNJ) who squeezed to the top of the pile with 658 QSO's for a score of 426,384. Right on George's heels were 2007 winner Doug, KR2Q (NNJ) and 2006 winner Bob, K3PH (EPA). W9WI (TN) continued the longest running streak of top 10 finishes with his 7th consecutive box appearance. Top score from west of the Mississippi was Gary, N7IR who finished #5.

A hat trick in the W/VE Low Power category goes to Ed, N1UR (VT) who barely held off a strong challenge from Art, K1BX (NH) to take his 3rd consecutive win. K1BX led the QSO total column by 59, 1876 to 1817, but 'UR came up with 12 extra multipliers to take home a plaque. Third place went to Maryland's Maury, W3EF and top scorers from west of the Mississippi were Marvin, N5AW (STX) and #6 and Jim, W0UO (NTX) at #8.

After years of entering the multi-op categories, Tom, K1KI (CT) kept it all to himself this time to finish #1 in the W/VE High Power category, narrowly edging out strong challenges from Alex, LZ4AX operating at

K3CR (EPA) and K1ZM (ENY). Only 1% of score separated the top 3 positions. This is Tom's first High Power CW win – congratulations.

Outside the U.S east coast, VE3AT operating VC3E (ON) had the high score at #7. Perennial Texas contest entrants Richard, K5NA (STX) and Jim, N3BB (STX) led from the western states finishing at #13 and #14 respectively.

Chas, K3WW (EPA) has rocketed back to the top of the pack to win his 6th Assisted title, ahead of Rich, NN3W who was operating from the big N3HBX station in Maryland. Bud, AA3B (EPA) was a close 3rd. Top score from outside the northeast was Dennis, K5YA (STX) coming in at position #7.

In the single band categories, longtime 160 meter DX contest entrant Bill, W4ZV (NC) coasted to a comfortable win on Top Band. Repeating his 80 meter 2007 win was Robye, W1MK (EMA) in a close finish with Ted, KT1V (NH) coming in second. Georgia's Ralph, K1ZZI, took top honors on 40 meters with another close finish over 2007 40 meter winner Brian, N2MF (WNY).

Mike, W1MU (ME) repeated his 2007 20 meter single band win over second place Dan, W7WA (WWA). Even with band conditions as miserable as they were, Dan was able to pull out more than 1000 QSO's on 20 from very far west – a great effort. 15 meter and 10 meter scores were down considerably from 2007, with NR5M (Eric, NM5M, op) and Cort, K4WI taking first place on each band respectively.

Overall W/VE Multioperator Categories

The three-man team of W3BGN, K2TW, and W2GD took top honors in the multioperator, single transmitter category from W3BGN (EPA) with a winning score of 3,990,987. Second place went to K1IR, K1TWF, K1VR, W1VE, and WO1N operating from K1IR (EMA) at 3,609,255. Central Division leader K9RS with AA5B and N3DXX also topped the three million mark to place third.

Multi-Two had three seasoned teams of contest operators all top the 5 million point mark, with K1AR (@K1EA, EMA) and K1EA, K1GQ, K6NA, and KM3T at the top of the points race. WE3C (EPA) with W3FV, NN3Q, KF3B, WB3FIZ finished second, and N3RS (EPA) with N3RD, N3ED, N3NA, N2SR, and W8FJ coming in third.

W3LPL (MD) has repeated their 2007 win with a second consecutive victory in the Multi-Multi category. Operators W3LPL, NI1N, WX3B, N3KS, AI3M, N3OC, K3RA, K3RV, WR3Z, KD4D, K4ZA, K4ZW, and AC6WI narrowly topped strong challenges in the #2 through #4 spots from KC1XX (with K1TR, K6AW, KA1R, N1KWF, W1FV, W2RQ, and WA1Z), K3LR (with K3UA, K8CX, KL9A, N0AX, N2NC, N3GJ, N3SD, N6MJ, VE3EJ, and VE3NE), and K1XM (with K2TJ, KT1D, W1FJ, W1KM, and W1UE).

DX Single Op Categories

Not even close is our opening thought for the DX single op categories as current DX QRP single op record holder Bill, W8QZA returned for a repeat performance in Costa Rica from TI5N. Bill's winning score of 1.4 million points was the widest margin of victory in any single op category from DX or W/VE in the 2008 running of the contest. Nice job! Second place, and European continental winner, was Peter, HB9BMY. Asia was topped by #5 finisher Izuno, JR4DAH.

Shifting gears backward to “boy, THAT was close!” is the DX Low Power category which featured a race between 3 operators who would all ultimately end up within a few percentage points of each other at the top. Our 2008 winner is Dave, WJ2O, who operated VP5DF to the #1 position over strong challenges from Alfredo, WP3C and Eric, K9GY operating from Nicaragua as H7/K9GY. Top South American score was #6 finisher Luc, PY8AZT at PT7AG. Top Africa was #10 finisher Andrew, ZS6AA. Europe was led by Barry, W5GN operating from Ireland as EI/W5GN (and who just missed the top 10, finishing #12). Top Asian score was Masa, JI1RXQ.

Rare is a year when the ARRL DX CW contest DX High Power category is not won from the Caribbean. Yuri, VE3DZ was in the right place at the right time to take the 2008 victory operating V31UZ from Belize. This is his first ARRL DX CW win. The next two spots went to Pacific stations in Hawaii, with Mike, KH6ND operating KH7X to a strong second place finish and John, KH6SH operating KH6NF third.

Best score from Africa was 4th place finisher Ville, OH2MM operating from EA8EA. Top European and #5 overall was Jiri, OK1RF operating from CT1JLZ. The continental parade continued with #6 overall Pedro, CX5BW as top South American and Masa, JH4UYB as leading scorer from Asia.

Current DX Single Op Assisted North America continental record holder Ed, N2ED has notched yet another win in the category after keying V26G to a 4 million plus point score from Antigua. This is Ed's 4th DX Assisted category win. Second place and the top European score was Barney, DJ8ZB operating DD2D. #1 South American was #4 finisher Wesley, PY5FB. Top Asian score was submitted by Mac, JO7KMB.

In the Single Band categories, U.S. operators going offshore won all three of the low band spots. On 160 meters, Bob, K4BP made 728 contacts to operate C6AKQ to victory from the Bahamas. A close finish on 80 meters had Joe, W5ASP, operating ZF1A in the Caymans to a score of over 260,000 points, followed by K4PG at C6APG in the Bahamas finishing second. That 2 element 80 meter beam at ZF1A sure is producing results! On 40 meters, again the Bahamas took the top spot with Fred, K9VV operating C6AKU to the #1 spot over Bill, KH7XS, operating from KH7B. Leppala, OH2BYS, traveled to the Canary Islands to operate EA8/OH6L to the top 20 meter single band spot, followed closely by Jozef, OM3NA who placed second. PT5T, operated by Carl, AI6V, was the top 15 meter single band entry, with Yuris, YL7A at D4C finishing a close second. On 10 meters there was sparse single band activity due to band conditions and Juan, LU1HF repeated his 2007 win on the band.

DX Multioperator Categories

Belize was the scene of the victories in both the Single Operator High Power and DX Multi Operator Single Transmitter categories in 2008. WCØW and K5PI set up Field Day style at the Cahal Pech hotel with a TA-33, modified Butternut vertical, 40/80 dipole and a 400 foot long receive antenna. Operating V31TP to 3.8 million points they won M/S by a comfortable margin over second place entrants AC8W, K8DD, KB8TXZ, and W5JAY who operated from PZ5WW in Suriname. Third place went to perennial contest entrants LT1F, with LU1AEE, LU1FAM, LU1FKR, LU1FT, LU5DX, and LU7ACW as operators. A famous Amateur Radio pundit from the past always headed his columns "Never Say Die" and that moniker is applicable to the top DX Multioperator Two Transmitter category for this year. After a close loss in the category operating from HP1XX in 2007, N4GG, W9RE, N5OT, and W4OC returned to Bonaire to operate PJ4O to a solid victory in the category, besting second place KP2M (K3TEJ, K3CT operators) by nearly two million points. Third place went to Hawaii's KH6LC, AH6RE, N6GQ, N6KB, and SM0DRD who operated KH6LC to a score of 4.48 million.

PJ2T is the most logged callsign in radio contesting, with more raw QSO's made than anyone else over the past eight years. Numerous victories in various ARRL and CQ and other contests have come in the wake of the resurrection of W1BIH's old Curacao QTH by W0CG and his XYL Cindy. Operators N1ZZ, W9VA, W0NB, W8TK, N0YY, W8AV, and W0CG have taken 1st place in the DX Multi-Multi category for 2008. The CCC crew decides categories usually based on the number of operators and the fun factor involved, and it's served them well: this is a 5th consecutive Multi-Two or Multi-Multi victory for PJ2T, and their 3rd overall in the Multi-Multi category.

Coda

"Standing on a tower, world at my command..." Bob Weir sang this standing on a stage rather than at the top of a tower, but the analogy for radio contesting rings true. We are on the verge -- no, really, I mean it -- of the next sunspot cycle going on the upswing and it can only get better from here. There is no ARRL contest event that tops ARRL DX in yearly interest or sheer QSO's made, even at the lull of the sunspot cycle. The 2009 running of the ARRL DX CW Contest will be held on February 21 and 22. Until next year -- see you on the bands!

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The following reviews take a look at what was happening outside the top national and continental finishers. Each of the five regions for which a table of "top five" SOAB scores is created also got a little in-depth analysis. In addition, we also have analysis of the Asia and Oceania scores! Perhaps next year, we'll have even more analysis. If you can help, please contact the writeup author, W4PA.

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

Northeast Region by K3WW

A quick look at the Northeast Regional top scores looks a lot like the national top ten. The Northeast was the place to be for big scores, especially with fairly poor conditions. With little action on 15 and 10 meters, 20 carried most of the load, with the low bands keeping things going at night.

This year 551 operators participated in a total of 422 regional entries. A total of 258566 QSOs were made for an average of 613 per entry. The most popular class was Single Operator Assisted, with 125 entries. The club competition between FRC, HVDXC, PVRC, and YCCC helps keep SOA popular in the Northeast. 16 of the 22 SOA entrants with over 1 million points were in the region. Chas, [K3WW](#), edged out Rich, [N3W](#) who operated from the [N3HBX](#) superstation, for the top spot followed closely by Bud, AA3B, Barry, [N1EU](#), and Mike, [N1IW](#) all with scores over 2 Million.

The second most popular class was Single Operator Low Power, with 119 entries. Ed, [N1UR](#) made it three in a row with his 15,000 point win over Art, K1BX. [W3EF](#) and [K2PS](#) both managed to break the 1 million point barrier.

There were 83 Single Operator High Power entries. The top 3 ops had 3.5 Million points each with Tom, K1KI doing a solo appearance from his often multi op station, beating [LZ4AX](#) who was piloting the Penn State power house station ([K3CR](#)) by about 36,000 points. Another 56K back was Jeff, [K1ZM](#). Andy, [N2NT](#) was the 4th HP op to break 3 M, and Jon, [AA1K](#), just missed 3 M. All in all 17 ops broke 1M. 41 Ops chose to enter the Single Band classes. Bob, [W3GH](#) was #1 on 160 with Ron, [W2VO](#) hanging in for second. Robye, [W1MK](#) squeaked past Ted, KT1V for 80 meter honors. Brian, N1MF ran away with the 40 meter regional title. On 20 meters, Mike, [W1MU](#) bested Noel VE2FWW, both running away from the rest of the field. [NG2T](#) and WO2N represented the region on 15 and 10.

There were 16 brave souls in the QRP class. George, [K2DM](#), provides another First Place finish for the one of the Fabulous Briggs Boys (K1ZM, K2DM, K3ZM), by trouncing frequent winner, Doug, [KR2Q](#). Bob, [K3PH](#), Tom, N1TM and Tom, K3TW all demonstrated their persistence by breaking 100K points.

16 teams entered the Multi Single class with Steve, [W3BGN](#) leading his crew to another victory, just missing 4 Million points. Jim, [K1IR](#) representing New England came in second, and BGN's neighbor Ray,

[K9RS](#), came in third with over 3.5 M. The teams at [K2QMF](#), W2XL and W2ZQ all made very good showings.

Multi-Two continues to be very popular with 13 entrants in the Northeast. [K1AR](#) put together the winning team with 5.6 M, beating [WE3C](#) (5.3M) and N3RS (5.1M). The next three closely packed around 3.5M were [N2RM](#), [KB1H](#) and [K0TV](#).

In the heavy weight, Multi Multi class, team [W3LPL](#) repeated as first, [KC1XX](#) moved into second sending [K3LR](#) to third place. All of the MM stations did well under tough conditions.

Southeastern Region by KU8E



The 90 foot tower at SOAB HP winner

K3ZM



Inside the station of SOAB QRP winner

Bill, K4CIA



Antenna farm at 40 meter winner Ralph,
K1ZZI



Check out the new 20 meter beam at M/M winner
NQ4I. The antenna is 8 elements on a 86 foot boom at the top of Rick's 185 foot Rohn 55 tower. See
www.nq4i.com for more information on the NQ4I station.



The antennas at M2X winner NY4A

Southeastern Region SOAB-HP

The winner of the SOAB HP category was Peter, K3ZM. Many of you might know Peter as the brother of Jeff Briggs, K1ZM/VY2ZM. Just behind K3ZM was another Pete, N4ZR, in West Virginia. In 3rd place it was Wil, WJ9B down in Florida.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
K3ZM	1,903,851	1977	321
N4ZR	1,450,251	1881	257
WJ9B	1,400,490	1755	266
AA4S	1,086,960	1294	280
W4NZ	919,149 1211	253	

Southeastern Region SOAB-LP

The SOAB LP category was a very tight race in the Southeast region. Taking top honors was Merrill, WK2G, in Florida. Just 72K points behind him was Julius, N2WN, in Tennessee. In the 3rd place was Nathan, N4YDU.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
WK2G	672,192 1167	192	
N2WN	600,456 788	254	
N4YDU	580,635 759	255	
N4IG	505,575 749	225	
WA4DOU	455,700 620 245		

Southeastern Region SOAB-QRP

The top spot in the tough QRP SOAB category was claimed by the North Carolina station operated by Bill, K4CIA. In 2nd place was W9WI in Tennessee. 3rd place was K4ORD.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
K4CIA	285,012 468	203	
W9WI	180,180 385	156	
K4ORD	121,401 287	141	
N4JF	99,441	261	127
NU4B	69,174	189	122

Southeastern Region SO-Assisted

Bob, W3YY, took top honors in the region in the SOAB Assisted category. Just behind Bob by a short margin was Rich, K9OM, in Florida. Steve, K4SV, in North Carolina took 3rd place honors.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
W3YY	1,111,362	1126	329
K9OM	1,092,366	1226	297
K4SV	1,009,050	1085	310
N4KG	891,738 926	321	
N4ZC	808,665 845	319	

Southeastern Region Single Band

In the Single band categories the regional winners were W4ZV on 160, K1GU on 80, K1ZZI on 40, N4ZZ on 20, K4EA on 15 and K4WI on 10 meters.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Band
W4ZV	67,266	303	74	160
K1GU	48,441	241	67	80
K1ZZI	392,805 1247	105	40	
N4ZZ	256,680 920	93	20	
K4EA	27,264	142	64	15
K4WI	552	23	8	10

Southeastern Region Multioperator-Multitransmitter

In the Multi-Multi category it was a battle between the Georgia team of NQ4I and NR4M in Virginia. Rick's NQ4I team just edged out Steve's by just over 100 QSO's and 11 multipliers in a very competitive battle. K5GO, in Arkansas, came in a respectable 3rd place.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
NQ4I	5,350,419	3819	467
NR4M	5,064,336	3702	456
K5GO	4,029,948	3081	436

Southeastern Region Multioperator-Two Transmitter

NY4A was the class of the Multi-2 category in the Southeast region. W4RM was 2nd followed by KF7NN.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
NY4A	4,861,047	3691	439
W4RM	2,942,802	2771	354
KF7NN	2,142,816	1717	416

Multioperator-Single Transmitter

The winner of the Multi-Single category was by the KT3Y team. In 2nd was W3GQ followed by N4AU in 3rd place.

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults
KT3Y	3,477,240	2972	390
W3GQ	1,328,250	1375	322
N4AU	121,836 286	142	
N4NM	22,869	121	63

Midwest Region by N2IC

The Midwest Region comprises a huge swath of North America, ranging from the Central Canadian provinces to the Gulf States, out to the Desert West. Not surprisingly, DX propagation varies tremendously within the region, depending on your location. Add to the mix, absolutely no sunspots, and you have all the makings for an "interesting" contest weekend ! Despite the challenges, 185 Midwest region contesters submitted logs this year.

The most hotly contested race was in the Single-Op, High Power category, where central Texans Richard King, K5NA and Jim George, N3BB, battled it out. K5NA came out victorious, by a mere 1.6%! Richard used his multiplier sleuthing skills (37 more countries) to overcome Jim's substantial QSO advantage (158 more QSO's). Check out the specifics in the table below. Note the low 40 meter QSO number for K5NA – the new shack chair was just too comfortable, with the expected result on Sunday AM...

Zzzzzzz....

	160Q	160M	80Q	80M	40Q	40M	20Q	20M	15Q	15M	10Q	10M
K5NA	46	34	170	67	453	81	734	95	174	64	19	12
N3BB	31	21	153	61	749	91	674	86	142	53	5	4

Other impressive scores in the single-op, high power category came from Roy, AD5Q, operating at WX0B in the Dallas area, and Steve, K0SR, putting in a great effort from propagation (and weather!) challenged Minnesota. Phil, N0KE, put in a fine effort from his western Colorado QTH.

In the single-op, low power category, Marv, N5AW, did a great job, placing #6 nationally despite local thunderstorms. 2nd place in the region went to Jim, W0UO, operating from Texas.

In the single-op, QRP category, Doug, N4IJ persevered from Oklahoma for 239 QSO's. Second place in the Midwest region went to perennial QRP stalwart Dale, KG5U.

In the single-op, assisted category, Dennis, K5YA had a commanding regional victory, also placed 7th nationally. The next four places were closely contested, between Bill, K0UK, in Colorado, Ron, N0AT, Mark, K0KX, Mark, WA0MHJ, all in Minnesota. Only 26 QSO's and 20 countries separated the Minnesotans.

In the single-band categories, the Midwest region was well represented on the national scene.

- On 160 meters, it was K5RX vs. static crashes, earning Jim a 4th place national finish !
- On 80 meters, Bill, KV0Q, from Colorado, also placed 4th nationally.
- On 40 meters, Steve, N2IC, operating from New Mexico, broke the 1000 QSO barrier, placing 3rd nationally.
- Proving that you can do well from North Dakota, Joe, N7IV, came in 1st in the Midwest region on 20 meters.
- Eric, NM5M, piloted the up-and-coming NR5M station on 15 meters, earning a Number 1 national finish! With only 224 QSO's, I'm sure Eric is praying for more sunspots next year !
- No Midwest region contesters were crazy enough to do single-band, 10 meters, this year. That will change in future years, I'm sure.

Not much multi-op activity from the Midwest region this year. K0JE, operated by K0JE and K0JA, were the sole multi-single entry. In the multi-2 category, the W5KFT radio ranch, piloted by N1XS, KU5B and W5TA put in a fine 1544 QSO effort, despite a 4-hour power outage during Saturday's Europe opening.

Central Region by K4RO

Central Region highlights:

Single-Operator

VC3E (VE3AT, op) had the leading HP score for the Region with 2639 QSOs and 354 mults. K8GL was the regional winner in the US SOAB category 1326 x 288. VE3RM (DL7FER, op) also broke the 1 meg barrier.

N4TZ dominated the region's Low Power category with 1318 x 287 and N8IE was the regional QRP winner with 237 x 147.

N9CO and K9QVB had a nice Illinois LP shootout: 681 x 294 vs 704 x 199. Mults gave N9CO the edge.

The Assisted category was won by VE3UTT (W1AJT, op) with 1322 x 344. The top USA Central Division Single Op Assisted leader was K9NW with 1111 x 321. In second place was W8MJ behind Mike at 1064 x 301 .

K9DX was the regional leader on 80 meters with 779 x 92, and also place #3 USA.

Multi-Operator

W0AIH (+K0UU K9MU) was the only Multi-Multi entrant with 1.88 million points. N0IJ (+ W0BV N0IM AF9T AA0AW) was the only Multi-2 entrant with 1.3 million. K8AZ (+KI9A K9ZO K0RAY KW0A K0JPL) was the Multi-Single regional leader with 3.1 Meg, and also placed fifth in the competitive USA M/S race.

West Coast Region by N0AX

It is really pleasing to see so many stations in there, thrashing it out, even at the bottom of the sunspot cycle. CW gives the best bang for the human-copy buck and so, why not? Each contact is a little sweeter by consequence of languid propagation and the extra challenge. Speaking of challenges, then, how did we, in fact, do? (Listings for all West Coast stations follow the text portion of this story.)

Let's start by congratulating our region's top Single-Op, All-Band finishers!

K7GK	1,289,400	HP
N6TV	1,260,441	HP
K7RL	1,174,932	HP

W6YI (K6AM, op)	1,164,828	HP
KO7AA	1,098,336	HP
N6NF	197,925	LP
W3CP	171,390	LP
KM6Z	169,335	LP
N7ZG	138,852	LP
NW7E	119,232	LP
N7IR	205,842	QRP
W6JTI	191,022	QRP
KD4HXT	37,620	QRP
K7MM	34,875	QRP
N6WG	33,048	QRP

Nationally, the only West Coast single-op, all-band stations that made it into (or very close to) the coveted Top Ten boxes were in SOAB-QRP! A perennial at the top-of-the-QRP-listings, N7IR placed 4th with W6JTI right behind in sixth. I'm sure you've worked both of these gentlemen many times!

Single-Band

The West Coast would not be denied in the single-band listings, however. Every band, including the wannest of wan 10 meters, had a West Coastie in there somewhere. On 10 meters, the results were unspectacular, but I enjoyed seeing **W7VS** tied for third with **KN4JN** – both eked out a single QSO, survived the log-checking process, and landed in the box! 15 was much better as all three of our 15 meter warriors made it; **W6YA** in 3rd, **KC7V** in 5th, and **NK6A** in 8th. In a few years, of course, these totals will be a faint echo of the leaders, but for now, we'll take it! Right, boys? Another perennial in the West Coast garden is **W7WA**, often found atop the standings on 20, but this year the conditions were too much to overcome and so he only made...second, the highest place finish of any West Coast operator this year. **VE6WQ** placed 4th with a great showing from "way up there", also known as "Canada". Both gentlemen picked up DXCC on the band; 112 and 105 entities, respectively. **K7ABV** was just below the 10th-place finisher.

On the low bands, conditions were better and the competition strong. Luckily the Chinese Dragon over-the-horizon radar was not as devastating as it can be, allowing lots of Asian stations to participate. 40 meters was tough, but three of our regional radio aficionados are found in the Top Ten; **K6RC** piloted **AI6V**'s station to 3rd place, followed by **K7AO** in 4th place and **N6MA** in 8th. There ain't no meters like 40 meters! One band down, **W6NV** found himself in 5th place overall and on Top Band, **W7RH** clambered into the Top Ten in 10th place.

Assisted

AA7A led the charge, picking up every spotted piece of DX he could, but it wasn't enough to break that glass ceiling called the F-layer. He and **K6TA** both broke the DXCC line on 20 meters, with 104 and 103 entities, respectively. There was a lot of activity in this category with propagation clearly favoring the SW – **VE7KS** was the top non-CA/AZ station, finishing 12th in the region.

Multi-Operator

No West Coast MO stations made the Top Ten boxes, but we do have some good scores to report. **W9NGA** pushed their single-transmitter totals to 829 QSOs, 96 of which almost netted them DXCC on 20 meters! In Multi-Two, the crew at **W7RN** (ops **K5RC**, **K6KR**, **K7XC**, **W6EU**, **W6NF**) finished just out of the Top Ten, very nearly bagging a DXCC on 40 and running up the highest entity count of any West Coast entrant and 115 of those on 20 meters, the highest band total in the region, as well. **W6OAT** was the sole Multi-Multi entry, with Rusty's crew logging 1040 QSOs (112 entities on 20).

Tight Races

SOAB-QRP is always a horse-race and we found two "easterners" – from EWA and EB – going at it and almost equal. It's tough to spot another station several hundred miles of latitude and live to tell the tale. Well done to **K7MM** for hanging on over the stiff challenge from **N6WG**!

K7MM	34,875	155	75	EWA	
N6WG	33,048	162	68	EB	

Another photo finish came along in the SOAB-LP. Again, the northern station, **W3CP**, prevailed, but not by much over **KM6Z**. That must have been a fun weekend!

W3CP	171,390	394	145	OR	
KM6Z	169,335	355	159	LAX	

The following traffic jams occurred in SO-LP a little farther down the listings. Looks like the strategy of going for multipliers paid off – this year!

W6ZL	99,120	280	118	ORG	
NE7D	98,496	304	108	OR	

and

K7ACZ	90,090	231	130	NV	
VA7RN	89,775	315	95	BC	

In SOAB-HP, here's a pair of squeakers! **K7GK** and **N6TV** were separated by just four QSOs and 13 multipliers after log-checking was over. That's an excellent race between two good operators – way to go, you guys!

K7GK	1,289,400	1535	280	OR	
N6TV	1,260,441	1539	273	SCV	

A little farther down the list found an even tighter race – five QSOs and 2 multipliers were all that kept **KO7AA** and **K6XX** (Winner of the Jim Maxwell Trophy for 2007) from changing places.

KO7AA	1,098,336	1346	272	AZ	
K6XX	1,094,310	1351	270	SCV	

Master Hunter-Gatherers

Which of our SOAB stations rang up the biggest numbers by band? Let's take a look!

160 Meter QSOs (68) and Multipliers (20) – **W2VJN**

80 Meter QSOs (200) – **K7RL**

80 Meter Multipliers (58) – **K7GK**

40 Meter QSOs (575) – **N6TV**

40 Meter Multipliers (77) – **K7GK**

20 Meter QSOs (902) – **K7RL**

20 Meter Multipliers (101) – **K6XX**

15 Meter QSOs (130) – **KO7AA**

15 Meter Multipliers (42) - **W6YI (K6AM, op)**

10 Meter QSOs (13) - **W6YI (K6AM, op)**

10 Meter Multipliers (10) – **N6AN**

Noteworthy

How do clubs keep the competitive fires hot when the bands are cool? One way is inter-club challenges. The Pacific NW clubs in BC, WA, and OR have come up with a "travelling trophy" competition whose awarding sure draws a crowd at the Pacific NW DX Convention! (hosted by the Willamette Valley DX Club this year – www.wvdx.org) This might be the ticket to getting operators on the air in your area – challenge another club for bragging rights (or beer or a travelling trophy) and stand back! For more information on this program, check out the Pacific Northwest Challenge Cup at www.wvdx.org. The BC club has the trophy – but will they keep it?

Here's a score worthy of note. **W7QN** moved to a retirement apartment, set up shop from his top-floor perch and just keeps on crankin' out the QSOs as he has since 1939!

W7QN	58,548	238	82	WWA	
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Summary

Just as **W7QN** keeps going, cycle after cycle, so should we, not worrying so much about the sunspots and taking whatever the bands give us. After all, DX Is!

73, Ward N0AX

Full West Coast Regional Results

CALL	SCORE	QSO	MULTS	CATEGORY		SEC
W9NGA	631,698	829	254	MS		AZ
VE7UF	410,058	654	209	MS		BC
W6DR	65,424	188	116	MS		SCV
W7RN	2,012,682	1939	346	M2		NV
W6EMC	1,027,470	1181	290	M2		ORG
W7VJ	268,494	613	146	M2		WWA
W6OAT	960,960	1040	308	MM		SV
W7RH	2,907	51	19	SO	160	AZ
W6XI	1,581	31	17	SO	160	AZ
W7DRA	288	12	8	SO	160	WWA
W6NV	65,925	293	75	SO	80	EB
K8BN	27,264	142	64	SO	80	AZ
NT6K	11,655	105	37	SO	80	SV
K6OY	9,870	70	47	SO	80	SCV
VA7MM	1,566	29	18	SO	80	BC
AI6V (K6RC, op)	194,820	764	85	SO	40	SV
K7AO	118,041	511	77	SO	40	NV
N6MA	65,142	329	66	SO	40	AZ
N7WA	26,367	187	47	SO	40	WWA
AA7AX	16,698	121	46	SO	40	AZ
WA0KDS	6,270	55	38	SO	40	AZ
N6TI	5,022	62	27	SO	40	SDG
NE6M	2,565	57	15	SO	40	SJV
N7XY	972	27	12	SO	40	WWA
N7MAL	684	19	12	SO	40	AZ
K6UZH	216	12	6	SO	40	SV
W7WA	354,480	1055	112	SO	20	WWA
VE6WQ	273,420	868	105	SO	20	AB
K7ABV	75,447	303	83	SO	20	MT
KA7T	66,834	282	79	SO	20	ID
N6HE	3,366	51	22	SO	20	LAX
K6LRN	540	15	12	SO	20	SV

W6YA	23,829	169	47	SO	15	SDG
KC7V	16,080	134	40	SO	15	AZ
NK6A	5,760	60	32	SO	15	LAX
W7VS	3	1	1	SO	10	OR
N7IR	205,842	406	169	SO	QRP	AZ
W6JTI	191,022	403	158	SO	QRP	SF
KD4HXT	37,620	165	76	SO	QRP	SJV
K7MM	34,875	155	75	SO	QRP	EWA
N6WG	33,048	162	68	SO	QRP	EB
K6DBG	15,300	100	51	SO	QRP	SCV
AC6YY	8,190	70	39	SO	QRP	SCV
K6RM	6,720	70	32	SO	QRP	SCV
W0RSP	4,140	60	23	SO	QRP	AZ
KS4DU	3,744	48	26	SO	QRP	ID
WD6DX	1,305	29	15	SO	QRP	SCV
KI6OFN	336	14	8	SO	QRP	EB
N6NF	197,925	455	145	SO	LP	SCV
W3CP	171,390	394	145	SO	LP	OR
KM6Z	169,335	355	159	SO	LP	LAX
N7ZG	138,852	399	116	SO	LP	WWA
NW7E	119,232	276	144	SO	LP	OR
W7RV	111,381	271	137	SO	LP	AZ
K7JE	105,045	235	149	SO	LP	AZ
W6ZL	99,120	280	118	SO	LP	ORG
NE7D	98,496	304	108	SO	LP	OR
W6RFF	96,768	288	112	SO	LP	SV
K7ACZ	90,090	231	130	SO	LP	NV
VA7RN	89,775	315	95	SO	LP	BC
VE6CNU	85,902	278	103	SO	LP	AB
NT6AA	84,132	246	114	SO	LP	ORG
W7TMT	77,805	285	91	SO	LP	WWA
VA7KOJ	70,596	212	111	SO	LP	BC
W7QN	58,548	238	82	SO	LP	WWA
W7GB	58,140	204	95	SO	LP	EWA
NG7Z	54,189	223	81	SO	LP	WWA

K6AAB	47,793	179	89	SO	LP	SJV
K7OVM	39,639	181	73	SO	LP	OR
N6RV	39,312	156	84	SO	LP	LAX
VE6BF	37,683	159	79	SO	LP	AB
AB7RW	37,575	167	75	SO	LP	WWA
N7NT	28,548	122	78	SO	LP	AZ
VE7JKZ	27,900	150	62	SO	LP	BC
WA0WWW	26,520	136	65	SO	LP	EWA
N7EIE	25,032	149	56	SO	LP	WWA
K6VFF	21,762	117	62	SO	LP	SDG
K1LKR	21,402	123	58	SO	LP	WWA
K7GS	19,740	94	70	SO	LP	EWA
W6IYS	18,792	116	54	SO	LP	SF
W7CF	18,285	115	53	SO	LP	WWA
K7ARJ	18,042	97	62	SO	LP	ID
W4LSC	16,965	87	65	SO	LP	AZ
AA4Q	14,976	104	48	SO	LP	AZ
K6LE	14,523	103	47	SO	LP	SJV
KA6NGR	13,029	101	43	SO	LP	SV
N7QS	12,690	90	47	SO	LP	WWA
K7VIT	12,324	79	52	SO	LP	OR
KE7NO	11,400	76	50	SO	LP	MT
N7VS	10,146	89	38	SO	LP	OR
N6MUF	10,062	86	39	SO	LP	SDG
K6CSL	9,135	87	35	SO	LP	SJV
N4LS	8,712	66	44	SO	LP	AZ
KA3DRR	8,613	87	33	SO	LP	SB
KJ6RA	8,541	73	39	SO	LP	SV
N6QZS	7,440	80	31	SO	LP	SV
NA6G	6,480	60	36	SO	LP	SJV
ND6S	4,773	43	37	SO	LP	SV
VE7BGP	4,536	54	28	SO	LP	BC
N7EPD	3,675	49	25	SO	LP	WWA
N5VWN	2,706	41	22	SO	LP	SJV
AC7MA	2,508	38	22	SO	LP	WWA

N6FD	1,953	31	21	SO	LP	SJV
W7GH	1,764	28	21	SO	LP	OR
KD6WKY	1,680	28	20	SO	LP	EB
KQ6Q	1,122	22	17	SO	LP	ORG
W6OUL	1,008	21	16	SO	LP	SDG
WU7R	429	13	11	SO	LP	MT
KI6NGN	270	9	10	SO	LP	LAX
K7GK	1,289,400	1535	280	SO	HP	OR
N6TV	1,260,441	1539	273	SO	HP	SCV
K7RL	1,174,932	1518	258	SO	HP	WWA
W6YI (K6AM, op)	1,164,828	1372	283	SO	HP	SDG
KO7AA	1,098,336	1346	272	SO	HP	AZ
K6XX	1,094,310	1351	270	SO	HP	SCV
N6BV	1,071,750	1429	250	SO	HP	EB
K8IA	929,055	1205	257	SO	HP	AZ
W2VJN	825,957	1133	243	SO	HP	OR
W6UM	420,174	558	251	SO	HP	SB
K7ZA	396,000	660	200	SO	HP	WWA
W6TK	334,917	561	199	SO	HP	SB
VE7XF	291,000	500	194	SO	HP	BC
W6BO	267,351	439	203	SO	HP	PAC
VE6EX	250,080	521	160	SO	HP	AB
K7HP	247,164	479	172	SO	HP	AZ
K7AR	244,296	468	174	SO	HP	WWA
VA7ST	227,850	490	155	SO	HP	BC
N6TW	208,560	440	158	SO	HP	OR
N6AN	198,528	352	188	SO	HP	LAX
KN7T	194,580	460	141	SO	HP	WWA
K6XM	185,130	374	165	SO	HP	SCV
WA5VGI	184,164	412	149	SO	HP	SB
VE7CC	164,049	367	149	SO	HP	BC
W7VP	152,892	411	124	SO	HP	WWA
K7EG	152,070	370	137	SO	HP	WWA
K6MM	104,520	268	130	SO	HP	SCV
N6KW	103,368	292	118	SO	HP	WWA

W6AEA	99,705	289	115	SO	HP	EWA
N7BF	92,070	279	110	SO	HP	WWA
W6NKR	86,376	244	118	SO	HP	SV
WA6BFW	82,170	249	110	SO	HP	ORG
K6BZS	79,476	358	74	SO	HP	SV
W6MVW	72,114	202	119	SO	HP	SDG
K6YK	66,900	223	100	SO	HP	SJV
NI7R	61,476	218	94	SO	HP	AZ
K7LV	58,128	173	112	SO	HP	NV
VE6EPK	48,132	191	84	SO	HP	AB
W1RH	45,198	162	93	SO	HP	SV
WW6D	42,282	162	87	SO	HP	SF
W6SX	35,424	144	82	SO	HP	SJV
KS7T	33,975	151	75	SO	HP	MT
WB6IYM	26,838	142	63	SO	HP	EB
W9PL	25,032	149	56	SO	HP	WWA
KG6ZHC	22,833	129	59	SO	HP	SCV
W7CB	22,713	113	67	SO	HP	SB
KB7N	21,240	118	60	SO	HP	WWA
W7LKG	21,033	123	57	SO	HP	WWA
K9JM	16,995	103	55	SO	HP	SV
K6HRT	16,632	99	56	SO	HP	ORG
K6OI	16,362	101	54	SO	HP	LAX
N6WK	15,309	81	63	SO	HP	ORG
KI6VC	13,467	67	67	SO	HP	SJV
K0IP	13,350	89	50	SO	HP	ID
K6DGW	7,128	66	36	SO	HP	SV
NO6X	6,696	62	36	SO	HP	EB
K6TD	3,225	43	25	SO	HP	SCV
WA6BOB	2,457	39	21	SO	HP	LAX
W7GKF	2,079	33	21	SO	HP	WWA
AJ6V	2,040	40	17	SO	HP	SCV
WG7X	363	11	11	SO	HP	WWA
K7UIR	162	9	6	SO	HP	WWA
W7DPW	12	2	2	SO	HP	WWA

AA7A	812,154	854	317	SOA		AZ
K6TA	643,140	794	270	SOA		SV
K9YC	572,985	749	255	SOA		SCV
K6ANP	532,098	721	246	SOA		SF
W7ZR	409,116	662	206	SOA		AZ
NQ7R	403,398	614	219	SOA		AZ
KC6X	314,496	504	208	SOA		LAX
K6RIM	265,608	408	217	SOA		SF
N2NS	235,320	424	185	SOA		SJV
W7SW	227,304	492	154	SOA		AZ
KN5H	180,612	348	173	SOA		AZ
VE7KS	162,240	338	160	SOA		BC
N6MW	148,176	294	168	SOA		SCV
WA6L	111,000	250	148	SOA		SDG
N6NC	104,118	259	134	SOA		SDG
W6KY	101,475	275	123	SOA		SDG
AD6E	101,268	291	116	SOA		SCV
NN7SS (K6UFO, op)	99,450	255	130	SOA		WWA
K6III	99,375	265	125	SOA		SV
W6SA	87,084	246	118	SOA		NV
K6GEP	79,860	242	110	SOA		ORG
K6NV	76,230	231	110	SOA		SV
N6KI	71,640	199	120	SOA		SDG
K7VI	50,373	193	87	SOA		WWA
N6VH	49,128	178	92	SOA		SDG
N7RK	41,850	150	93	SOA		AZ
N6RK	36,375	125	97	SOA		SV
N6NG	28,440	120	79	SOA		EB
W7WHY	23,808	124	64	SOA		OR
N6AJR	21,888	114	64	SOA		EB
AK7S	15,435	105	49	SOA		WWA
K6JEB	14,523	103	47	SOA		EB
K6RR	13,005	85	51	SOA		ORG
AB7CF	9,828	84	39	SOA		WWA
NT6X	7,452	69	36	SOA		LAX

KE6QR	6,438	74	29	SOA		EB
K6GT	1,620	30	18	SOA		SCV
K6TV	1,200	25	16	SOA		LAX
K6RFM	336	16	7	SOA		SCV
W7SST	180	10	6	SOA		OR