

Results, The 2003 ARRL August UHF Contest

Many things go into operation on the UHF and microwave bands...Home stations... experimenting...training...hilltopping... roving...added bands...

It all starts with the stalwarts—the home stations. They might be single or multi-operator...High power or low... Some with tall towers and some just beginning...Many caught the UHF bug while operating VHF contests...

Then come the experimenters... homebrewing or modifying equipment to add a new band or to see if their latest find in the flea market has value...

Add a dash of hilltopping activity... Drag the microwave dish, radio, transverters and power up a mountain...

Top it all off with a healthy dose of rovers... They dash about from site to site, long enough to slay the available dragons at one locale then quickly move to the next challenge...

Sounds like a recipe for fun, doesn't it? And for many UHF and microwave enthusiasts, the ARRL August UHF Contest provides a great stage to challenge their skills. Different from the other major ARRL events above 50 MHz in that it doesn't include the 6 and 2 meter bands, the UHF Contest is better known for Gunnplexers and innovation than stacked Yagis and armchair copy. In 2003, entries from 140 stations were received representing 49 of the ARRL/RAC Sections. A total of 9357 QSOs were reported by the participants, with 432 MHz being the most popular band (3629 QSOs), followed by 222 MHz (2526) and 1296 MHz (1240).

Don't be lulled into the impression that the lack of 6 and 2 meters means this contest is not fun or not competitive. The satisfaction of a long E-skip QSO on 6 is easily replaced by the joy of making a new grid on 1296 or realizing that the piece of gear you modified for 3.4 GHz works!

If you don't think it can be competitive just ask Bob, K2DRH (IL), Dale, AF1T (NH), or Russ, KB8U (MI). This trio slugged it out in the **Single Operator Low Power** category. Dale employed



The NØDQS Rover—chasing electrons across the Midwest.

more bands (nine) but was edged out by Bob who eked out eight more QSOs but won the multiplier war handily. Russ had a 20 multiplier advantage on Dale, but Dale's higher point QSOs on the higher bands allowed him to hold on by a scant 4.4k points.

So it's not a *serious* event? Don't mention that to Bill, AA2UK; Jeff, K1TEO, or Don, WW8M, the top three finishers in the **Single Operator High Power** category. All three of these aficionados flexed their muscles and easily surpassed the rest of the competition, each posting better than 230k.

So how do newer operators learn their way around operating at the highest frequencies? As with HF, many operators are trained by assisting at one of the large **Multipoperator** stations. Unlike HF, where the major lobe of a Yagi might encompass 60°, a couple of degrees off in your dish orientation may well mean a missed QSO. Many of the top VHF operators have gained valuable experience by working with multipoperator stations such as W2SZ, the RPI Amateur Radio Club. Mount Greylock again reigned supreme, more than doubling the valiant efforts of the N3EMF group.

Of course, you cannot overlook that one of the biggest parts of this hobby is the bottom line—it's *fun*! And few have more fun during this event than that hearty group that finds their "escape from the asylum"

Expanded Results, Line Score Printouts Available

For complete contest results on-line, please visit www.arrl.org/contests/results. ARRL members without Internet access may obtain a printout of the complete line scores by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to ARRL Contest Results, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Please be sure to include the contest name and year.

Table 1 Top Ten

Single Operator Low Power	Multipoperator
K2DRH 57,684	W2SZ 613,068
AF1T 45,864	N3EMF 242,550
KB8U 41,496	WA3UGP 42,594
WA3GFZ 29,106	WB8USA 17,766
W3HMS 16,983	K4EJQ 16,470
NØURW 16,638	W1XM 9,270
W1PM 16,632	W6TE 6,930
N6RMJ 11,286	N3JFM 4,290
WB2SIH 11,124	K1NKR 3,933
K3HCE 10,302	KT8O 2,772
Single Operator High Power	Rover
AA2UK 296,205	W3IY 114,696
K1TEO 245,802	(+ON1CFX)
WW8M 232,065	N6DN 58,296
KMØT 127,008	NE8I 57,627
K1RZ 65,817	NØDQS 51,414
WØGHZ 48,312	N1JEZ 50,856
N2BJ 39,618	K9JK 43,152
N6NB 39,168	K1DS 28,776
WØZQ 34,920	WB8BZK 16,428
W6TOI 27,342	WØAMT 12,069
(KE6HPZ, op)	(+KCØLBT)
	N1MU/VE3 11,979
	(+N2NAO)

of everyday humdrum as **Rovers**. We are willing to bet that no one had more fun than the top rover Bill, W3IY. With his faithful sidekick Christophe, ON4IY, Bill pumped enough RF into the ether from 10 grids to bring home another win! A great battle for second place was fought between Paul, N6DN, and Lloyd, NE8I, with Paul taking second by only a scant 667 points! Lloyd employed three more bands than Paul and pulled in one additional multiplier, but Paul was able to hold off the challenge with more QSOs. QST

Scores

Each line score lists call sign, score, stations worked, multipliers, entry category (A = Single Operator Low Power, B = Single Operator High Power, M = Multioperator, R = Rover), ARRL/RAC section, and bands (C = 222 MHz, D = 432 MHz, 9 = 902 MHz, E = 1296 MHz, F = 2304 MHz, G = 3456 MHz, H = 5760 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)

Atlantic

WA3GFZ	29,106	127	42	A	EPA	CD9EFGHI
W3HMS	16,983	67	37	A	EPA	CD9EFGHIJ
K3HCE	10,302	81	34	A	MDC	CDE
W3KWH (N3LL, op)	3,105	34	23	A	WPA	DE
W3BBO	6	2	1	A	WPA	D
AA2UK	296,205	270	155	B	SNJ	CD9EFGHI
K1RZ	65,817	157	71	B	MDC	CD9EFHI
N3EMF (+N3FA, N2FMC, N3PBH, N3WV, N3TKK)	242,550	319	147	M	EPA	CD9EFGHIJK
WA3UGP (+K3YVWY, N3LJK)	42,594	138	62	M	EPA	CD9EFGHIJ
N3JFM (+W1LBY)	4,290	55	26	M	EPA	CD
K1DS	28,776	109	44	R	EPA	CD9EFGHI
N2GKM	3,792	32	16	R	EPA	CD9EFGHIJ
K0DI	1,014	23	13	R	MDC	CDE

Central

K2DRH	57,684	156	92	A	IL	CD9E
K9IJ	2,898	41	21	A	IL	CDE
W9SZ	828	15	12	A	IL	CD9EF
KR8L	585	15	13	A	IL	CD
K9DQ	216	9	8	A	WI	D
N9JZ	54	6	3	A	IL	C
KS9SSS (N9HDC, op)	24	4	2	A	IL	C
N2BJ	39,618	157	62	B	IL	CD9EF
K9SM	1,938	29	17	B	IL	CDE
K9JK	43,152	215	58	R	IL	CD9E
WB8BZK	16,428	148	37	R	IL	CD
K9TMS	5,418	62	21	R	IL	CD9E

Dakota

W0GHZ	48,312	156	61	B	MN	CD9EFGHI
W0ZQ	34,920	139	60	B	MN	CD9EFI
K0AWU	3,036	40	22	B	MN	CDE
KT8O (+packet)	2,772	34	22	M	MN	CDE
KC0IYT (+N0RPM)	156	11	4	M	MN	CDE
W0AMT (+KC0LBT)	12,069	124	27	R	MN	CDE
WB0LJC	9,120	81	19	R	MN	CD9EFGI
KC0P	2,760	46	10	R	MN	DEI

Delta

K8WW	60	5	4	A	TN	D
AA4H	2,016	26	21	B	TN	CD9E

Great Lakes

KB8U	41,496	122	76	A	MI	CD9EF
KB8VAO	5,292	25	18	A	OH	EF GHIJ
K4TO	2,580	20	20	A	KY	CD9EFG
W8LON	312	13	8	A	MI	D
W8PAT	48	4	4	A	OH	CD
KD4EVB	24	4	2	A	KY	D
WW8M	232,065	308	135	B	MI	CD9EFGHIJK
K8MD	27,027	96	63	B	MI	CD9EF
K2YAZ	23,436	69	62	B	MI	CD9EFGHI
K8TQK	15,288	54	49	B	OH	CD9EFGI
WD8USA (+KF8QL, N8DGD, N8XHP)	17,766	104	47	M	MI	CD9E

NE8I	57,627	163	57	R	MI	CD9EFGHIJK
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Hudson

WB2SIH	11,124	90	36	A	ENY	CD9E
N2FKF	4,599	73	21	A	NLI	CD
W2KV	2,700	21	15	A	NNJ	DI
K2AMI	660	20	11	A	NNJ	CD
KB2NOW	195	12	5	A	NLI	CDE
WA2NXK	90	10	3	A	NNJ	D
N2MCY	975	22	13	B	NLI	CD9E
WB2LLP	4,947	37	17	R	ENY	CD9EFGHIJ
KC2HIZ	4,590	37	15	R	ENY	D9EFGHIJ

Midwest

N0URW	16,638	83	59	A	IA	CDE
W0RT	96	6	4	A	KS	CDE
KM0T	127,008	168	112	B	IA	CD9EFGHIJ
N0DQS	51,414	207	41	R	IA	CD9EFGHIJ

New England

AF1T	45,864	148	56	A	NH	CD9EFGHIP
W1PM	16,632	99	44	A	EMA	CD9E
K5MA	6,210	69	30	A	EMA	CD
WG1Z	5,796	72	23	A	EMA	CDE
AC1J	5,610	71	22	A	NH	CDE
K1ZE	4,725	63	25	A	CT	CD
WW1Z	357	16	7	A	NH	CD9
WA1GTP	144	8	6	A	CT	CD
NS1Z	27	3	3	A	ME	CD
K1TEO	245,802	332	142	B	CT	CD9EFGI
KU2A	12,096	78	32	B	NH	CD9EFG
W1JR	3,780	53	21	B	NH	CDE
N1GJ	3,306	44	19	B	EMA	CDEF
K1PNQ	870	29	10	B	EMA	CD
KB1KAM	90	6	5	B	EMA	CD
W2SZ (N2YZO, W2ARQ, WA1ZMS, WA2AAU, WA8USA, ops)	613,068	520	188	M	WMACD9EFGHIJKP	

W1XM (KB1CGZ, KT1D, N1UEJ, ops)	9,270	80	30	M	EMA	CD9E
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K1NKR (+W1RDB)	3,933	35	19	M	NH	CD9EFGI
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W1MV (N1JFU, N1JOU, ops)	1,428	34	14	M	EMA	CD
W1MAT	405	14	9	M	ME	CDE
N1JEZ	50,856	153	52	R	VT	CD9EFGHI
W1GHZ	10,560	68	32	R	VT	CDHI
WA2IID (+KB2SSS)	7,830	45	30	R	VT	CD9EFGI

KB1EKZ (+KB1ITX)	5,016	40	22	R	ME	CD9EFGH
WB1AUV	1,092	28	13	R	WMAD	

Northwestern

W7USB	513	18	9	A	ID	CDE
N7DB	84	7	4	A	OR	CD
K7AWB	24	4	2	A	EW	CD
N7EPD	10,509	74	31	B	WWA	CD9EFGI
W7MEM	486	17	9	B	ID	CDE
N7AM	120	5	4	B	WWA	E

Pacific

KC6ZWT	5,964	71	28	A	SV	CD
W6OMF	5,796	55	28	A	EB	CDE
KF6CNV	210	10	7	A	SJV	CD
KE6QR	120	10	4	A	EB	D

N6NB	39,168	122	64	B	SJV	CD9EFG
K6NC	14,637	97	41	B	SV	CDE
W6TE (+K6VLF)	6,930	47	30	M	SJV	CD9EFG
KE6FI	3,132	58	18	R	SCV	CD
K6WLC (+AB6CF)	2,100	38	14	R	NV	DE

Roanoke

W4SW	4,335	25	17	A	VA	CFGHIJ
K4FJW	936	21	13	A	VA	CDG
KC8KSK	48	4	4	A	WV	C
K4QI	15,900	84	53	B	NC	CDE
KE2N	4,050	75	18	B	VA	D
K4EJQ (+WB4WEN)	16,470	70	45	M	NC	CD9EFGHI
W3IY (+ON1CFX)	114,696	317	59	R	VA	CD9EFGHI
KB1EXM	150	10	5	R	VA	D

Rocky Mountain

W6OAL	5,796	51	23	A	CO	CD9EFGHIP
K0RZ	4,761	47	23	A	CO	CD9EFGHI
N0POH	1,365	35	13	A	CO	CD
W9BNO	288	16	6	A	CO	D
KI0SK (+N0BAF)	1,548	43	12	R	CO	D

Southeastern

K0VXM	5,346	57	18	A	SFL	CD9EFGI
WP4LNY	12	4	1	A	PR	D
WA8TTM	3,960	40	22	B	NFL	CD9EFGI
W4WA	690	23	10	B	GA	D

Southwestern

N6RMJ	11,286	67	38	A	LAX	CD9EFI
KE6GFF	1,710	57	10	A	ORG	D
KG6GIQ	882	21	14	A	LAX	CD
KF6NKC	273	10	7	A	SDG	DE
W6TOI (KE6HPZ, op)	27,342	96	49	B	SB	CD9EFGI
AF6O	20,460	93	55	B	ORG	CD9EF
K6TSK	9,579	85	31	B	ORG	CDE
K6IBY	828	23	12	B	ORG	CD
N6DN	58,296	227	56	R	ORG	CD9EFGI
KQ6EE	828	22	12	R	LAX	CDE
AD6AF	216	9	8	R	LAX	CD

West Gulf

NM5M	621	23	9	A	NTX	CD
NE0P	216	12	6	A	OK	CD
W5SSG	96	8	4	A	OK	D
K3TD	81	9	3	A	NTX	D
W5LCC (KC5MVZ, op)	195	13	5	B	WTX	CD
AF5Q	252	14	6	R	OK	CD

Canada

VE2PIJ	5,046	39	29	A	QC	CD9EI
VA7MM	462	17	7	A	BC	DE
VE3BFM	4,830	37	35	B	ON	CD9E
VE3TFU	3,960	32	30	B	ON	CD9E
N1MU/VE3 (+N2NAO)	11,979	58	33	R	ON	CD9EFGH
VE2JWH	1,518	21	11	R	QC	CD9EGI