The 2009 ARRL RTTY Roundup

“To attract good fortune, spend a new coin on an old friend, share an old pleasure with a new friend, and lift up the heart of a true friend by writing his name on the wings of a dragon.” — Chinese Proverb

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Logs Surge Again

Another participation surge wasn’t expected this year! Last year, RTTY Roundup was voted “Best in Class” on its anniversary and 1246 logs were submitted, but this year the ARRL had something new up their sleeve. Frank, N2FF, broke the news on the RTTY Reflector on December 3: There would be a new Worked All States award starting on January 1 and it would be called the Triple Play.

Coupled with some excellent club activity, the result was yet another record-breaking turnout. A total of 1555 logs were received for processing, leading to one new World record, 20 new Division records, 55 new Section records and new QSO total number records in three of the four categories of competition!

Special Performances

Perhaps the longest running win record in the history of Radio-Sport has now come to an end.

Having shared the operating position with Earl, N5ZM, and his operating buddy Glenn, N5RN, clinched their fourth victory in a row again, setting both a new US/VE record and Delta Division plaque. Charlie told us last year that he thought that the contest again this year is Ed, P49X (W2JGR Memorial by Don Hill, AA5AU)

American and Canadian Highlights

Single-Op Low-Power (SOLP)

We knew it was going to be close as the 3830 High Claimed Scores had Chad, WE9V, trailing AA5AU by only 156 QSOs but Chad was ahead by 10 multipliers. When the smoke cleared Chad had nipped Don with a 1100-point victory, setting a new Central Division Record and winning the NM7M Memorial Plaque. Don, AA5AU, secured the Delta Division crown. Steve, N9CK, placed third in the Top Ten.

Single-Op High-Power (SOHP)

Four out of the five all-time QSO totals were set this year in High-Power. Charlie, K15XP, had 2211; Dennis, W1UE, at W1KM had 2164; Mike, K4GMH, 2026; and Ty, K3MM, had 2026. Dennis, W1UE, operating at W1KM again, wins the W7RM Memorial plaque. Charlie held off Ty, K3MM, who placed third overall in High-Power. Placing fourth this year was Mike, K4GMH.

Multi-Single Low-Power (MOLP)

Earl, N5ZM, and his operating buddy Glenn, N5RN, clinched their fourth victory in a row again, setting both a new US/VE record and Delta Division Low-Power record. Taking the Midwest Division was Toni, N0IN, who once again placed second overall in Multi-Single Low-Power, setting a new total-QSO record, yet still a bit off the pace with multipliers. Third overall went to KB9AX who also came in third as well in the all-time QSO numbers while winning the Central Division plaque.

Multi-Single High-Power (MSHP)

Operating from the K6IDX station, Dean, N6DE, set several records by winning the Pacific Division with a record as well as setting an all-time High-Power QSO record of 1729. Mike, K5NZ’s group, was down quite a bit from last year’s run, but still managed to be second from Texas. W4QG was next from Northern Florida setting a new Southeastern Division record.

DX Overview and Continental Highlights

Leading the DX community and the entire contest again this year is Ed, P49X (W2JGR Memorial by Don Hill, AA5AU). Ed told us last year that he thought that the 3000 QSO barrier was close. With the increase in participating stations this year he set the new all-time and all-category record

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of 3166 QSOs. Ed also set the new World Single-Operator High-Power record as well as South American record of 387,004 — just short of 400,000 points.

Africa

With a new African continental record and second place overall Single-Operator Low-Power was 5C5W, operated by Mohamed, CN8KD. In ninth place overall and setting a new Canary Island record was Heijo, EA8OM. There was also a new Senegal record made by 6W7RV. Turning to the Single-Operator High-Power category, we have Barry, ZS2EZ, getting the win and a new Senegal record set by Peter, 6W2SC.

Asia

Leading the Asian continent was JA1OVD in the Single-Operator Low-Power category. Setting a new India record was Nandu, VU2NKS. From Cyprus, Steve, ZC4LI, won the Single-Operator High-Power Asian trophy. JA1XRH was the Multi-Single Asian victor in Low-Power. Prasad, VU2PTT, from Bangalore set a new record for India. Setting a new Japanese record and seventh overall was JA6ZPK in the Multi-Single High-Power group.

Europe

In the Single-Operator Low-Power category it was Vlاد, UA3PAB, taking the European honors and placing fifth overall. Northern Ireland station 2I0SAI was sixth overall while setting a new country record. YT2U placed seventh overall, while UT5EPP out of the Ukraine was eighth in overall. Europe Single-Operator High-Power was won as well as second place in High-Power overall by Nikola, 9A5W. Capturing overall third place was IQ2CJ with IK2NCL operating. Winning the continent of Europe in the Multi-Single Low-Power category was UZ4E. IZ1OMY was third overall while IW1QN was in fourth place.

Nine out of Top Ten for Europe

Utilizing their spotting skills to the maximum, S53M set a new fifth place in multipliers all-time as well as a new fourth-place all-time QSO total in the Multi-Single High-Power category. Daniel, OL6X, was in second place with a new Czech Republic record. EI6HB is now all-time fifth place in MSHP QSO totals while setting a new Ireland record and taking third place overall.

North America

H3TJEJ was first overall in Single-Operator Low-Power, setting a new QSO record in this category as well as a new Continental and Dominican Republic record, placing #5 overall for 2009. Setting a new Grenada record, J39BS was fourth overall in Single-Operator Low-Power. Manny, NP2KW, in a part time operation, set a new US Virgin Island Single-Operator Low-Power record.

Grabbing the Single-Operator High-Power category was 4A1DXXE operated by XE2K. Hector took tenth place overall and also set the new record for Mexico. The crew from KP2D won the Multi-Single Low-Power category once again and notched a fifth all-time QSO total for the category. Placing sixth overall was XE1ZVO.

Oceania

It was a pretty light turn out from Oceania this year. From Down Under it was VK5NPT winning the Single-Op Low-Power category. This helped a lot to provide the Australian country multiplier. KH6MB had a nice showing and won Single-Operator High-Power. Setting a New Zealand record and capturing his category was John, ZL1BYZ, who along with his packet won the Multi-Single High-Power category and made many stations happy.

South America

Winning the South American trophy and third place overall in Single-Operator Low-Power was ZX2B with Wanderly, PY2MN, at the keyboard. Out of Aruba, P49X set a new Aruba record to go with Ed’s other accomplishments this year. Fourth overall, winner Ramon, PZ5RA, set a new Suriname Single-Operator High-Power record.

LU3DY took the Multi-Single Low-Power category this year and got the trophy. The other station of note was PY2I, grabbing a new Brazil record. Returning home this year after activating Suriname last year the 4M5DX group won the trophy for Multi-Single High-Power while setting a new Venezuela record.

Club Competition

This year saw the NCCC enter (and win) in a category that heretofore had not been entered in the RTTY Roundup — Unlimited Club. The Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVR) captured the Medium Club competition against this year in a tight race with the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC). And in the Local Club category it was the Orleans County ARC beating out the Eastern Washington ARG.

Next Year

Conditions will hopefully be a little bit better next year and 15 meter openings should give contesters some breathing room on 20 meters. December solar conditions will help by bringing more operators to the RTTY Roundup, and build on its increasing popularity. Start the new decade with a win! Next up in the record department is the 400,000 point mark — will it be yours? Whatever route you choose, be ready for the 2010 running of the ARRL RTTY Roundup, January 2-3.

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