

2011 ARRL RTTY Roundup Results

By Jay Townsend, WS7I ws7i@arrl.net

Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability. - John Wooden

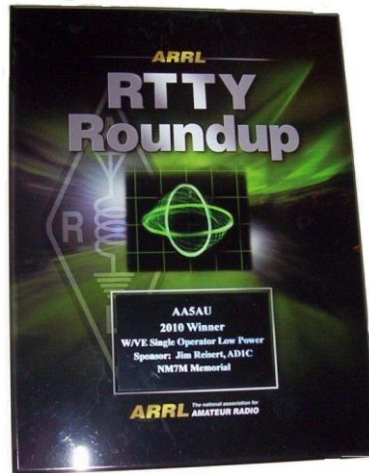
The Look of a Participant

Each participant in the RTTY Roundup makes this contest a special and fun-filled event. Don, W2DPT was right, "The World was Alive with the Sound of Diddle." RTTY Roundup is driven by the many guys and gals trying to improve on last year results, work a little DX or the next state they need more than operators chasing wallpaper, plaques, and the head of the Top Ten Box. Roundup focuses not just on the winners but rather on all participants. RTTY has big guns, and little pistols or as Marty, W8AKS stated, "little squirts" as well. This year we will take a regional focus and highlight participants as well as the results.

Everyone shares common contest like the RTTY Roundup. multioperator stations and clubs items to prepare. The level of participant seeks does seem to

RTTY testers often set a equipment, antennas, computers, other necessary parts in the grand Here is a typical comment from goals set for the contest. One was achieved, unfortunately - not sure but I still need WY to complete to better my last year's effort,

For several years we've contest logs received but this year was different as the number of submitted logs for the ARRL RTTY Roundup did not increase. Perhaps the timing of the event, moving to a week later than normal was significant and there were numerous conflicts, such as Ham Radio University. Having the CW North American QSO Party run on Saturday didn't help either as everyone had to avoid interfering too much with stations on close-by or shared frequencies. [With New Year's Day falling on Saturday this year, the January contest calendar was a little confused – Ed.] Participants from 132 different countries sent in nearly 1,600 logs containing about half a million contacts from the 24 hours out of 30 that stations may operate during RTTY Roundup.



ground when preparing for a Single-operator stations, all work on many of the same radiosporting success that the correlate with preparation. goal, make a plan, work on programs, buffers, and all the quest to enjoy the event. Peter, HZ1PS: "I had two to work Wyoming - not where the WYs were hiding WAS RTTY. The other was which I did."

reported a yearly increase in

Top Ten WVE Scores

Single Operator		Multioperator			
Low Power SOLP	High Power SOHP	Low Power MOLP	High Power MOHP		
AA5AU 215,180	K4GMH 286,125	N5RN 116,737	NØNI 212,653		
WW4LL 177,749	N2WK 227,456	KS1J 79,458	WØSD 194,247		
VA2UP 169,813	WØLSD 220,660	W1SLF 72,900	K1SFA 186,405		
KØTI 162,864	K6LL 204,710	KU1YL 64,657	W4RM 164,944		
N2QT 160,544	VE7CC 203,610	N8LRG 64,130	N8NR 146,850		
KB7Q 134,800	ABØRX (@ WØMA) 196,650	N6MA 63,756	K7OX 140,816		
KE5OG 125,820	AI9T 185,328	K9NR 54,438	K9MBB 140,026		
KTØDX 123,354	W5AP 178,866	W2V 54,033	K4QD 136,730		
WØAW 112,672	K5DU 174,264	N7UVH 52,060	K7BTW 130,694		
KØAD 100,704	W7WWW 173,937	VA7RY 45,892	NR4M 130,626		

Affiliated Club Competitions

We always discuss the major impact that clubs have had on the RTTY Roundup contest. Wayne, N2WK sent in a photo of his group, the Orleans County Radio club that won the 2010 local category. The gavel they won is displayed along with their plaque. [The winning club in each of the three club categories – Unlimited, Medium, and Local – receives a gavel – *Ed.*] For the Orleans County club the most fun they have is competing as a team.



The Orleans County Radio Club RTTY Roundup team. Front Row: Bruce, WA2TMC; Wayne, N2WK; and Terry, KC2JKU. Back Row: Chuck, N8CL; Rich, K2EN; and Andy. KC2HZM. (Photo by N2WK)

Affiliated Club Competition

<i>Club Name</i>	<i>Logs</i>	<i>Total Score</i>	<i>Club Name</i>	<i>Logs</i>	<i>Total Score</i>
Unlimited			Kentucky Contest Group	3	126966
Minnesota Wireless Assn	64	2183630	Mad River Radio Club	5	122954
Northern California Contest Club	52	1824779	Southern California Contest Club	8	98867
Medium			Rochester (NY) DX Assn	5	94687
Potomac Valley Radio Club	37	1833820	Order of Boiled Owls of New York	4	87410
Society of Midwest Contesters	31	1087536	Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	3	60110
Florida Contest Group	15	832537	Maritime Contest Club	3	49944
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	12	599011	Carolina DX Association	5	40526
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	10	583470	Local		
Contest Club Ontario	18	570006	Dominion DX Group	10	639851
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	23	530377	Orleans County Amateur Radio Club	6	541423
Willamette Valley DX Club	8	391433	ORCA DX And Contest Club	9	432781
Frankford Radio Club	11	366925	Spokane DX Association	8	323858
Western Washington DX Club	8	365183	Boeing Employees ARS - St. Louis	3	238041
Louisiana Contest Club	3	336861	Low Country Contest Club	5	145330
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	3	329862	Bergen ARA	3	144521
Tennessee Contest Group	11	289592	Kansas City DX Club	4	139231
South East Contest Club	4	269564	Skyview Radio Society	4	105255
CTRI Contest Group	6	261657	Metro DX Club	4	54452
Alabama Contest Group	9	208203	Bristol (TN) ARC	4	23488
Contest Group Du Quebec	4	206301	West Park Radiops	3	15548

Significant changes were afoot this year in the club ranks. The big news was the elevation of the Minnesota Wireless Association (MWA) to the Unlimited category in 2011 from the Medium category in 2010. From the Black Hole all that success needed was a plan for how to win. Surprisingly, they determined that success might hinge on following one of my favorite suggestions that I always give out for RTTY contesting: Time in Chair (also known as Butt In Chair). As you know, my other adage has always been more RF!

The MWA got together to help their members get on RTTY, practiced beforehand, and secured the commitment of many club members to get the contest tasks done. Having members like Bob, KØRC, Al, KØAD, Ralph, KØIR and others sure gets a club kick-started. This snippet from KØRC tells the story: "...worked VY2SS on 15 meters a few minutes ago, right after WØWQ..." and instead of the typical 'TU KØRC QRZ VY2SS' that Bob was expecting he heard diddles and a slower paced keyboard entry...OH NO! PLEASE NO MORE

MINNESOTA'. It reminds me of the old Saturday Night Live adage, "More Cowbell!"

The MWA has as its primary objective competing against other radiosporting clubs in North America. I would say that they have arrived. WMA won the Unlimited gavel and made a large impact on the RTTY and radiosporting club scene. This was the second club *ever* to score over 2 million points in the RTTY Roundup. Do I hear a loud and deserved round of applause?

The Potomac Valley Radio Club won the Medium Club category. This group outscored the second place Northern California Contest Club's Unlimited score in securing the victory. On the Local Club level, The Dominion DX Group secured the gavel by outscoring last year's winners, the Orleans Club.

Propagation

Last year's predictions turned out to be fairly accurate: Ten meters was back but showed very low activity. Puerto Rico, the northern part of South America, Arizona, and Southern California were found to have the highest 10 meter totals. WP3C, NP4BM, K6LL, HI3TEJ, W6WRT were the leading 10 meter stations.

Phil, GUØSUP remarked that it was great to see 15 meters more open than last year but that it was a shame 10 meters did not open from his QTH. Mike, K4GMH reported his QSO total on 15 meters was 10 times larger than last year. Mike didn't check 10 meters, though – on those slow Sundays it can be worthwhile clicking the band switch.

2011 Solar Conditions During RTTY Roundup				
Date	Hour	SF	A	K
08-Jan-2011	18	86	11	2
08-Jan-2011	21	85	8	2
09-Jan-2011	00	85	8	2
09-Jan-2011	03	85	8	1
09-Jan-2011	06	85	8	3
09-Jan-2011	09	85	8	0
09-Jan-2011	12	85	8	1
09-Jan-2011	15	85	8	1
09-Jan-2011	18	85	8	2
09-Jan-2011	21	83	5	2
10-Jan-2011	00	83	5	2

American and Canadian Highlights by Region

West Coast

Our highlighted West Coast participant is Kirk, K7EKM who is the resident tower monkey for the Spokane DX Association. Kirk wanted to try his hand in a RTTY contest. Last year while Kirk and I did some repair work at Gary, K7OX's station we decided to do the Roundup with K7OX. Two of this group were experienced RTTY guys but none of us had operated together prior to the 2011 Roundup. "We" made some strategy changes during the contest... we started on 15 meters and I made them stay there hour after hour. I told them that we would save 20 meters for later in the weekend. Luckily it worked as K7EKM, K7OX and WS7I snared the Multi-Single, High Power (MSHP) victory for the Region, piloting the K7OX station. Kirk will get his first plaque!

The West Coast Region stretches over very long distances and we see many band opening differences. Operators in British Columbia don't always share the same openings with operators from Arizona. From Yuma, Dave, K6LL worked 98 contacts on 10 meters while Lee, VE7CC had not a single 10 meter QSO. It was a very tight race with just a little separation between these two stations when the amps

West Coast Region

Pacific, Northwestern and Southwestern Divisions; Alberta, British Columbia and NWT Sections

KB7Q	134,800	SO	LP
N6OJ	93,541	SO	LP
AB7R	73,538	SO	LP
K8IA	68,817	SO	LP
N6EE	60,987	SO	LP
K6LL	204,710	SO	HP
VE7CC	203,610	SO	HP
W7WW	173,937	SO	HP
KR7X	158,110	SO	HP
W7RY	150,414	SO	HP
N6MA	63,756	MO	LP
N7UVH	52,060	MO	LP
VA7RY	45,892	MO	LP
N3RC	41,472	MO	LP
W0PC/7	35,478	MO	LP
K7OX	140,816	MO	HP
K7BTW	130,694	MO	HP
W7IV	130,185	MO	HP
KK7PR	113,715	MO	HP
W9NGA	107,360	MO	HP

finally cooled off. After log checking there were just a few QSOs difference between the two stations and the southern end of the Region won this year. K6LL was fourth in the Top Ten and VE7CC was fifth. David, W7WW also from Arizona, hit the Top Ten Box with the tenth and final spot for his efforts this year.

Gene, KB7Q entered his third full-time RTTY Contest. He wanted to see if he could increase the Northwest Division's Single-Operator, Low Power record and move up in the Top Ten list this year. Gene related that "Making a 'log-then-grab' key in N1MM logger and spending two hours Sunday morning mining that 20 meter opening to Europe with an extensive S&P effort worked well."

I guess I no longer feel so bad that Gene replaced my long standing Northwest Division Low Power record, also done from Montana many years ago. KB7Q finished up sixth in the Low Power Top Ten operating at WA7U. N6OJ took the Pacific Division title again this year. K8IA secured first place in the Southwestern Division.

West Coast Region Multi-Single, Low Power stations saw Paul, N6MA rank sixth in the Top Ten while grabbing the Southwestern Division plaque. Murph, N7UVH placed eighth as well as obtaining the Northwest Division plaque. The Canadian winner out of British Columbia was Erik, VA7RY. He rounded out the final place in the Top Ten.

After the K7OX sixth place overall finish and Northwest Division plaque it was K7BTW and W7IV in a very tight race with only a few points separating them. Yet K7BTW was ninth overall and W7IV who had some trouble with the coils of his 80 meter Yagi antenna finished just out of the Top Ten box.

Midwest Region

An interesting participant from Kansas is Jeff, AC0C. Jeff operated the Roundup using no exterior antennas and has quite a site with his stealth contesting antennas. It's quite a feat to get over 1,000 QSOs and 90- some thousand points with interior antennas!

Midwest Region

Dakota, Midwest, Rocky Mountain and West Gulf Divisions; Manitoba and Saskatchewan Sections

KØTI	162,864	SO	LP
KE5OG	125,820	SO	LP
KTØDX	123,354	SO	LP
WØAW	112,672	SO	LP
KØAD	100,704	SO	LP
WØLSD	220,660	SO	HP
ABØRX (@			
WØMA)	196,650	SO	HP
W5AP	178,866	SO	HP
K5DU	174,264	SO	HP
KØIR	142,272	SO	HP
KU1YL	64,657	MO	LP
WB5TUF	31,339	MO	LP
KOØZ	26,719	MO	LP
AAØAW	23,232	MO	LP
WØSM	16,536	MO	LP
NØNI	212,653	MO	HP
WØSD	194,247	MO	HP
K9MBB	140,026	MO	HP
WA5ZUP	124,920	MO	HP
WT9Q	88,954	MO	HP

Winning the Dakota Division, Dan, KØTI was fourth overall in the Top Ten for the MWA, and Bill, KE5OG placed seventh overall in the Top Ten. From Colorado, Steve, KTØDX was the Rocky Mountain Division winner and eighth overall. Gary, WØAW took the ninth spot overall and, of course, was a MWA guy as was Al, KØAD who secured the final spot in the Top Ten list. NTØF won the Midwest plaque.

Switching over to SO2R, Ken, WØLSD took top honors in Single-Operator, High Power for the Midwest Region and the Rocky Mountain Division. He set a personal all-time best while securing third place in the overall Top Ten. Another trying SO2R was George, ABØRX at WØMA where he nailed sixth place along with the Midwest Division hardware. Jim, W5AP was eighth and won the West Gulf Division. Susan, K5DU secured the ninth spot with her one radio and might be the only station running SO1R in that box. Ralph, KØIR won the Dakota Division.

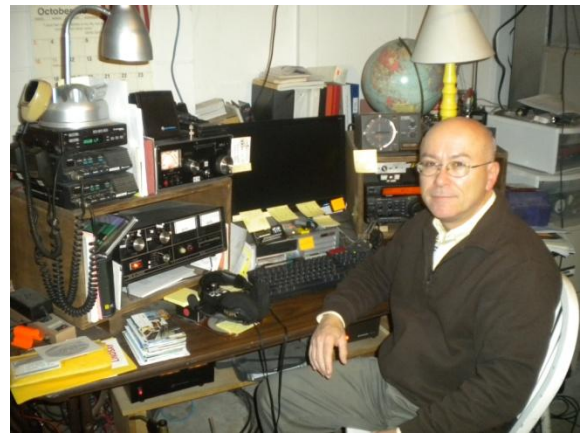
Natasha, KU1YL and Alex, KU1CW navigated her station to fourth overall. They won the Midwest Division and the Midwest Region in Multi-Single, Low Power. The West Gulf Division was won by Glenn, WB5TUF.

Ron, KOØZ contested with his fiancée Debbie who had such a great time that she now wants to earn her ticket. Doug, AAØAW won the Dakota Division and Steve, WØSM won the Rocky Mountain Division.

In Multi-Single, High Power it was the NØNI crew that moved up from last year's Low Power category to win a new title. Running high power only gave them 100 more contacts and fewer multipliers than last year but it made the pileups easier. Giving out South Dakota as usual was high flyer WØSD. The crew placed second overall in Roundup and won the Dakota Division plaque. Winning the West Gulf Division was K9MBB out of Texas. WA5ZUP cleaned up the Rocky Mountain Division this year.

Central Region

Our featured participant from the Central Region is Scott, K8SM who set out to win both the Great Lakes Division and Ohio Section Low Power awards. The last certificate that Scott won in an ARRL contest was Novice Roundup in 1979 when he took 1st place. Novice Roundup was a lot of the inspiration for the RTTY Roundup. K8SM loves the ARRL RTTY RU contest. His determination to beat his 2010 score led to 12 hours straight in the chair with his XYL (KD8EIJ) and girls (one is KD8EIP) bringing him food and drinks. Scott claimed, "I am NOT a big gun." Sorry Scott, when you win the Division plaque, place in the top five in the entire Central Region, and win Ohio you are indeed a 'Gun'.



Ohio Section and Great Lakes Division Low Power winner Scott, K8SM just prior to the Roundup (Photo from K8SM)

Central Region

Central and Great Lakes Divisions; Ontario Section

KB9S	79,680	SO	LP
K9WX	70,666	SO	LP
VE3KAO	70,246	SO	LP
K8SM	69,064	SO	LP
W4LC	63,852	SO	LP
AI9T	185,328	SO	HP
K3WA	143,608	SO	HP
W8JWN	107,800	SO	HP
AB8K	91,806	SO	HP
W9IU	82,390	SO	HP
N8LRG	64,130	MO	LP
K9NR	54,438	MO	LP
N8DC	33,759	MO	LP
VE3MGY	33,460	MO	LP
N9LAH	32,604	MO	LP
N8NR	146,850	MO	HP
NØIJ	107,944	MO	HP
KE4YVD	101,587	MO	HP
WZ8P	96,710	MO	HP
N2BJ	93,936	MO	HP

In the Central Division, Single-Operator, Low Power was won by Mark, KB9S and Clive, VE3KAO won the Ontario Section.

Single-Operator, High Power in the Central Region was won once again Steve, AI9T. This year he also scored well with a Top Ten seventh place. Bill, K3WA had problems with SO2R yet he had this to say, "Kudos to the non-contesting hams that joined the fray." Winning the Great Lakes Division was Tom, W8JWN making it two years in a row.

Multioperator, Low Power in this Region was won by N8LRG. They were also fifth overall. Once again, K9NR won the Central Division, this time seventh overall in the Top Ten. Placing fifth in the Top Ten box was N8NR who won the Great Lakes Division. NØIJ collected the Central Plaque.

Southeast Region

A special contester from this region is Marty, W8AKS from West Virginia. Marty has given many of us that important West Virginia multiplier for many years. Marty's goals weren't unlike those of many other operators. He was shooting for 500 QSOs. Marty came close but ran out of time with 490 in the log. He looks forward to Roundup every year.



Marty, W8AKS in Roundup handing out the sought-after West Virginia multiplier. (Photo by W8AKS)

Living in the Southeast Region makes for great contesting and DXing. I've not been lucky enough to live where propagation is always so good! The Southeast Region secured three overall category wins out of the four available in the US and Canada.

Winners included Single-Operator, Low Power winner Don, AA5AU (as usual). The Single-Operator, High Power record was set by Mike, K4GMH who repeated as our overall winner of the category. Multi-Single, Low Power was won by Glenn, N5RN with assistance from using the cluster. It's a bit odd that Pat, W5WMU doesn't fire up the station in Multi-Single, High Power once in a while. Perhaps I'll have to give him a call!

Southeast Region

Delta, Roanoke and Southeastern Divisions

AA5AU	215,180	SO	LP
WW4LL	177,749	SO	LP
N2QT	160,544	SO	LP
W4PK	82,800	SO	LP
KE1F	73,780	SO	LP
K4GMH	286,125	SO	HP
W4UH	163,560	SO	HP
WB4YDL	140,120	SO	HP
W4GKM	135,966	SO	HP
K9OM	126,594	SO	HP
N5RN	116,737	MO	LP
W4APP	45,672	MO	LP
AA2MF/4	45,123	MO	LP
W4BNO	28,980	MO	LP
KJ4IZW	21,513	MO	LP
W4RM	164,944	MO	HP
K4QD	136,730	MO	HP
NR4M	130,626	MO	HP
W4MYA	129,402	MO	HP
N4KFT	128,649	MO	HP

Fred, WW4LL tried to give AA5AU a race but he found that his software left him chasing calls around the screen and in the end Fred could only make a second place finish. Losing to Don isn't really very hard to do. Mark, N2QT was fifth overall out of Virginia in the Low Power Top Ten box.

Bill, W4RM and his crew only do one RTTY contest as they are CW guys – and that is the RTTY Roundup – but they took fourth place. Jan, K4QD with the “Florida Boys” claimed the eighth place finish in the MSHP category. Finishing up tenth overall was Steve, NR4M and the “Goat Gang” (they contest from a farm).

Northeast Region

Single-Operator, Low Power in this Region was won by Fabi, VA2UP. Fabi set the new Canadian Low Power record while securing third place overall in the Top Ten box. David, K2DLS won the Hudson Division. Norm, W1BYH captured the New England plaque. Bob, WØBR took the Atlantic hardware from Eastern Pennsylvania.

In the Single-Operator, High Power category it was Wayne, N2WK who placed second overall. He set a new personal high score and won the Atlantic plaque. David, K2ZC from New Jersey captured the Hudson hardware. Pamela, K6NDV – whose call is often confused with that of Will, K6ND – won the New England Division. My XYL Betsy, WV7Y and I once had calls that were one letter different. After several “not in logs” from RTTY pileups we changed to calls that were quite different – no more confusion and many fewer “not in logs”.

Multi-Single, Low Power was won by KS1J who placed second overall in the contest while also getting the New England plaque. Terry, KC2JKU won the Atlantic Division.

Our featured Northeast Region RTTY station this year is the W2V Multioperator, Low Power team. They won the Hudson Division while placing eighth in the Top Ten box. The call W2V was a special event of Ham Radio University. W2V reported that their rate was slowed by the call, “One station, a KH6, refused to work me unless I sent my whole call. I think his message was, ‘No partial calls please!’” They did manage to work the KH6 a bit later on.

The Multi-Single, High Power category was secured by W1SLF who was third overall and won the New England plaque. N2KI won the Hudson Division. The Atlantic Division plaque was secured by WA2TMC.

New US/VE Records

Records indicate just how much the sport of RTTY contesting has grown as the years roll along. This year Mike, K4GMH set the Single-Operator, High Power record by averaging over 100 contacts per hour, a feat long waited for in America. Seventeen new Division records were obtained along with 41 new Section records.

This was a record year for Canada as well. Fabi, VA2UP set the new Low Power record. Fabi reports, “Murphy generally strikes for me in this contest and I can never really do well or not as well as I'd like to but this time it all went smooth (still can't believe it), no broken rotors, no freezing computer, no coffee poured on the keyboard, didn't even trigger the building's fire alarm...nothing! I never really got any big or long runs but things were pretty steady so eventually I did better my last year's score”.

On the other side of Canada it was Lee, VE7CC who operated at VE7SV's QTH. Lee might well be the rookie of the year. He related that this was his second Roundup but the first serious one so far. Using SO2R keeps him very busy. When 10 meters arrives he will be a West Coast station to fear.

Northeast Region

New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions; Maritime and Quebec Sections

VA2UP	169,813	SO	LP
WØBR	89,760	SO	LP
K2EN	77,121	SO	LP
K2DSL	76,912	SO	LP
W1BYH	74,628	SO	LP
N2WK	227,456	SO	HP
WA2ETU	130,572	SO	HP
K6NDV	115,463	SO	HP
N8CL	89,670	SO	HP
W1TR	74,121	SO	HP
KS1J	79,458	MO	LP
W1SLF	72,900	MO	LP
W2V	54,033	MO	LP
KC2JKU	31,706	MO	LP
KC2HZM	28,470	MO	LP
K1SFA	186,405	MO	HP
N2KI	105,678	MO	HP
NY6DX	103,070	MO	HP
W1MAT	98,120	MO	HP
WA2TMC	87,000	MO	HP

W/VE RECORDS**CATEGORY RECORDS**

<i>Sect</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>QSOs</i>	<i>Mults</i>
VA	SOHP	K4GMH	286125	2324	125

DIVISION RECORDS

<i>Division</i>	<i>Sect</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>QSOs</i>	<i>Mults</i>
Canada	QC	SOLP	VA2UP	169813	1435	119
	BC	SOHP	VE7CC	203610	1869	110
Central	IL	SOHP	AI9T	185328	1603	117
Dakota	MN	SOLP	KØTI	162864	1525	108
Great Lakes	OH	MOHP	N8NR	146850	1357	110
Hudson	ENY	MOHP	N2KI	105678	1045	103
Midwest	IA	MOHP	NØNI	212653	1816	119
New England	RI	MOLP	KS1J	79458	789	102
Northwestern	MT	SOLP	KB7Q	134800	1366	100
	OR	SOHP	KR7X	158110	1656	97
Roanoke	VA	SOHP	K4GMH	286125	2324	125
Rocky Mountain	CO	SOLP	KTØDX	123354	1268	99
	CO	SOHP	WØLSD	220660	1882	118
Southeastern	GA	SOLP	WW4LL	177749	1620	113
Southwestern	AZ	SOHP	K6LL	204710	1873	110
	AZ	MOLP	N6MA	63756	763	84
West Gulf	WTX	SOLP	KE5OG	125820	1184	108

SECTION RECORDS

	<i>Category</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>QSOs</i>	<i>Mults</i>
Maine	MOLP	W1SLF	72900	740	100
Rhode Island	MOLP	KS1J	79458	789	102
Eastern New York	MOHP	N2KI	105678	1045	103
New York City- Long Island	MOHP	NY6DX	103070	971	110
Western New York	SOHP	N2WK	227456	1792	128
Delaware	SOLP	K1RY	45584	526	88
Georgia	SOLP	WW4LL	177749	1620	113
Kentucky	MOHP	KE4YVD	101587	922	113
Northern Florida	SOHP	K9OM	126594	1105	117
South Carolina	SOLP	KR1ST	64296	692	94
	MOLP	KJ4IZW	21513	307	71
Virginia	SOHP	K4GMH	286125	2324	125
West Central Florida	MOLP	AA2MF/4	45123	515	89
Louisiana	MOLP	W4JHC	3468	102	34
New Mexico	MOHP	WA5ZUP	124920	1397	90
Oklahoma	SOHP	K5CM	103727	1039	101
West Texas	SOLP	KE5OG	125820	1184	108
San Francisco	MOHP	W6OTC	86583	943	93
San Joaquin Valley	SOLP	N6EE	60987	705	87
Arizona	SOHP	K6LL	204710	1873	110
	MOLP	N6MA	63756	763	84
Montana	SOLP	KB7Q	134800	1366	100
	MOLP	N3RC	41472	663	64
	MOHP	KA7HUO	43030	681	65
Nevada	SOHP	K7XC	38394	489	79
	MOLP	WØPC/7	35478	494	73
Oregon	SOHP	KR7X	158110	1656	97
	MOLP	K2PO/7	31382	455	71
	MOHP	KK7PR	113715	1222	95
Ohio	MOHP	N8NR	146850	1357	110
West Virginia	MOHP	KU1T	114352	1029	112
Illinois	SOHP	AI9T	185328	1603	117
Wisconsin	MOHP	NØIJ	107944	1064	103
Colorado	SOLP	KTØDX	123354	1268	99
	SOHP	WØLSD	220660	1882	118
Iowa	MOHP	NØNI	212653	1816	119
Kansas	SOLP	KI6DY	109200	1040	105
	MOLP	KU1YL	64657	791	83
Minnesota	SOLP	KØTI	162864	1525	108
Quebec	SOLP	VA2UP	169813	1435	119
British Columbia	SOHP	VE7CC	203610	1869	110

DX Highlights

The question posed in last year's results article was whether anyone could derail P49X's quest for his sixth straight Roundup Title. Ed, WØYK who operates in Aruba was the favorite going into the contest. Ed brought along another secret weapon into the event in 2011 going SO3R. I'm not sure how that worked out as 10 meters didn't seem to generate all that much activity. 20 meters was his money band with 15 meters a close second. His 2009 record still stands but Ed certainly wasn't challenged in 2011. A tip of the hat to Ed – now a six-time champion!

The featured DX participant this time is Simo, OH2HAN. It seems that my friend Tapani, OH2LU is his mentor and encouraged Simo to write this account for us to get a feel for the DX end of the RTTY Roundup:

The OH2HAN RTTY Story

Having been a radio hobbyist since the 1970s, listening to DX broadcasting stations, I passed my ham examination in 1997 and started to operate mainly on SSB as OH2HAN. One of the milestones in my career was WRTC which was held in 2002 in Finland and my station was one of the contest sites. It was really eye-opening to watch real competitors working!



Caption: Simo OH2HAN with two beauties: Siberian cat Olga and Tandberg Hurdle 5 receiver from the 1950s (Photo by OH2HAN)

Another milestone was the DXpedition in 2007 with Tapani, OH2LU and Pasi, OH2MZB to Market Reef where we participated in the SARTG WW RTTY contest as OJØMI and gained first place in the World in the Multioperator, All-Band category. That was my wake-up for fascination of contesting RTTY! After that I have participated [in] numerous RTTY contests, of which ARRL RTTY RU is one of the most important. It offers a lot of other competitors so you need not to be alone on the bands, which makes it real fun!

This year I operated ARRL RU in Single-Operator, High Power category and my preliminary result is 952 QSOs and about 93.000 points. Conditions on Saturday were poor here in Finland, but on Sunday it changed. Openings on 21 MHz have been rare here in the Northern Hemisphere during recent years but on that Sunday it was nicely open – I got about 120 QSOs there among others with VK, E21, EA8, ZS, VU, VE, CO, P49, HI and some North American stations, too. Sunday evening was very nice with numerous North American stations on 14 MHz.

My contest strategy is to first seek good multipliers and secondly to seek volume which usually happens during afternoon/evening time, when European stations appear in quantities on the bands and it is possible to build fine pile-ups. Quick band changes are my favorites and a must, too, because high bands are open very limited time here. One important part of my contest strategy is my wife Sari who eagerly takes care of my catering! Actually she is so keen on radio

that she made her amateur examination a couple of months ago and got the call sign OH2FVI. Maybe we will participate [in] future contests in Multioperator category – hi!



The OH2HAN ham shack is situated in another building so the disturbance between family and contester is minimal! (Photo by OH2HAN)

As to hardware I have a tower of 100 feet equipped with a 2-element 7 MHz beam and a 10-element tri-band beam for 14-21-28 MHz. Both are made by Finnish Antenna Ltd. Newest antenna is a quarter-wave GP for 3.5 MHz, which seems to work quite well. My rig is Yaesu FT-1000MP Mk V with linears Acom

2000A and Tokyo Hy-Power 1.5. Signal decoding is made in two ways: by KAM XL hardware modem and MMTTY software modem. Of those I choose the one which gives more likely result. Operation software is an old DOS-based program developed and continuously updated by Jukka OH2GI. The operating system is WinXP. My other interests are bees, classical music and sailing.

Best 73s to all readers and see you on the bands! Simo Sorvari OH2HAN.

Many thanks to Simo for the interesting story from the other side of the pond. It's refreshing to see what contesting is like in Europe.

Action in the DX Single-Operator, Low Power category was pretty much from prime spots in South American and the Caribbean from which the states and provinces can be easily worked. It was Ted, HI3TEJ with the top score. Setting a new Puerto Rico record was Alfredo, WP3C in second. The Low Power Aruba station of P4ØP with Robert, W5AJ operating was in third. The great signal of 5C5W operated by Mohamed, CN8KD was fourth.

As discussed earlier P49X led the Single-Operator, High Power category. Europeans took the next four spots but without good propagation to the US these operators were not a serious challenge for the lead. LZ8E driven by LZ2BE finished in second place. Tightly behind in third place was SO4M with SP4MGP in the operator's chair. Of note was JM1XCW with a nice score out of Japan.

**Top DX Scores
Single-Operator
Low Power**

HI3TEJ	159,600
WP3C	144,509
P4ØP	128,068
5C5W (CN8KD, op)	126,170
J39BS	96,416
EA3GLB	94,830
VP9/MW3S	91,368
ZC4LI	71,071
NP4BM	68,875
OQ6A (ON5MF, op)	67,620
High Power	
P49X (WØYK, op)	385,113
LZ8E (LZ2BE, op)	170,688
SO4M (SP4MPG, op)	168,516
UW8I (UT2IZ, op)	148,680
YO9HP	132,240
KH6ZM	126,015
YT5W	97,308
OH1F (OH1NOA, op)	96,960
OH2HAN	90,404
JM1XCW	89,128

This year in the Multioperator, Low Power category it was HI3A taking the honors. The KP2D group can't seem to shake the second-place jitters and took it again this year. Then it was the Europeans with a bunch of new faces in the Top Ten. UT7E was third. OH8KTN was in fourth and IW1QN fifth.

The big change this year was in the Multioperator, High Power category with what is usually an all-European-dominated group. Hector, XE2K with just packet assistance won top honors this year. OL8M operated by Pavel, OK1DRQ was in second place. Closely following Pavel was the IQ1RY group in third place. They related, "It was a first for us and we went through this learning the magic of the things."

In the 2011 RTTY Roundup there was one new Continental Record set along with 35 new Country records. There was not as much action here as propagation was difficult at times to many parts of the world. No doubt next year will likely be better.

Top DX Scores

Multi-Operator	
Low Power	
HI3A	111,647
KP2D	91,266
UT7E	68,150
OH8KTN	61,143
IW1QN	51,600
EA2DKF	49,808
OM3KWZ	33,540
UT8EL	32,116
YO5KUC	30,912
DF9ZP	30,108
High Power	
XE2K	167,918
OL8M	154,580
IQ1RY	150,040
OK1DVM	146,816
ED1R	139,934
UW4I	139,411
OH8A	133,340
IT9BLB	128,344
UZ2I	120,310
PI4DX	98,197

CONTINENTAL RECORDS

<i>Continent</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Station</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>QSOs</i>	<i>Mults</i>	<i>Year</i>
Asia	SOLP	ZC4LI	71071	786	91	2011

ARRL DXCC ENTITY RECORDS**ASIA**

United Arab Emirates	SOHP	A61BK	4896	147	34	2011
South Korea	SOHP	DS5QLJ	3596	130	29	2011
	MSLP	DS5DNO	1092	78	14	2011
UK Sov. Areas on Cyprus	SOLP	ZC4LI	71071	786	91	2011

EUROPE

Portugal	MSHP	CT2FPE	156	15	12	2011
Fed. Rep. of Germany	MSLP	DF9ZP	30108	396	78	2011
Spain	SOLP	EA3GLB	94830	888	109	2011
	MSHP	ED1R	139934	1171	122	2011
Estonia	SOHP	ES2BH	1032	48	24	2011
	MSLP	ES5TF	11658	202	58	2011
Hungary	SOLP	HA5BSW	56400	621	94	2011
	MSLP	HG3FMZ	19908	324	63	2011
Italy	MSHP	IQ1RY	150040	1259	121	2011
Lithuania	MSLP	LY3BY	25326	405	63	2011
Bulgaria	SOHP	LZ8E (LZ2BE)	170688	1362	127	2011
Austria	SOHP	OE9GHV	38454	445	87	2011
Finland	MSLP	OH8KTN	61143	694	89	2011
	MSHP	OH8A	133340	1201	113	2011
Slovakia	SOLP	OM7KW	45036	565	81	2011
	SOHP	OM3TPN	14056	254	56	2011
Denmark	SOHP	OZ1ADL	29930	371	82	2011
Netherlands	SOLP	PA3DBS	48060	542	90	2011
	MSHP	PI4DX	98197	899	113	2011
Poland	SOHP	SO4M (SP4MPG)	168516	1377	124	2011
Iceland	MSHP	TF3AO	8745	160	55	2011
Romania	SOHP	YO9HP	132240	1170	114	2011
Serbia and Montenegro	MSHP	YT2U	73950	728	102	2011

NORTH AMERICA

Guadeloupe	SOLP	FG1PP	1568	50	32	2011
Dominican Republic	MSLP	HI3A	111647	1167	97	2011
Grenada	SOLP	J39BS	96416	1056	92	2011
Puerto Rico	SOLP	WP3C	144509	1419	103	2011
Bermuda	SOLP	VP9/MW3S	91368	986	94	2011

OCEANIA

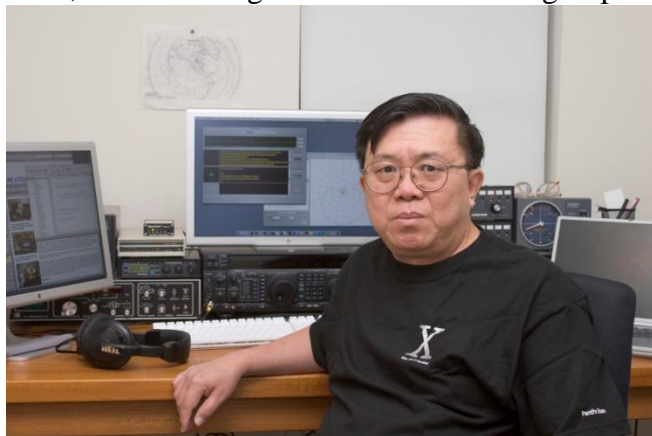
Philippines	SOHP	DU1IVT	7776	246	32	2011
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SOUTH AMERICA

Chile	MSHP	CE3FZ	42720	487	89	2011
Paraguay	SOLP	ZP9EH	2880	73	40	2011

Technical guys who answer the tough question

RTTY is a technical mode and when you have a terminal program talking to a logging program, all the while running through another program controlling an interface, things can get very interesting. One of our RTTY gurus and a guy who always has the technical answer is Chen, W7AY. He gives the entire RTTY group some fine insights into the technical background



of much of the software and hardware that we use. While looking for some stuff on his web site I found the fine picture shown here. Since we no longer have the big RTTY gathering in Dayton, sometimes we don't get to put faces to those emails.

Chen, W7AY – one of the premier RTTY technical guys.
(Photo by W7AY)

Next Year

By now you might be thinking of building or buying that interface to get your computer hooked up and doing RTTY for the next Roundup. This digital sport is what makes the bands come alive and fills the bands with old-time RTTY signals. The solar cycle is in full swing so don't miss the RTTY Roundup... a radiosporting event that tests your skill and ability. Roundup is "The most fun you can have in 24 hours!" according to AA5AU.

K8LF relates, "Was hoping to work some PSK but all the activity seemed to be on RTTY. Who says you need high power and big antennas for RTTY? I had a wire literally thrown over the house and low power. Worked 43 states and 13 countries and had lots of fun doing it." We need more PSK31 action for 2012. Will the 4,000-QSO barrier get challenged in 2012? Will 10 meters be a factor? Will SO3R be the next big breakthrough?

Use the rest of this year to plan your strategy for the next Roundup. January 6-7 will be the contest dates in 2012.

73, Jay, WS7I