Sometimes it is hard to summarize an on-the-air-operating event briefly. But thanks to Jim Lageson, NØUR, it was easy to focus on what proved to be one of the more exciting ARRL International DX CW contests in recent years. Endangered scoring records, record participation, and great propagation all added up to lots of fun during one of Amateur Radio’s premier events.

More than 1161 DX and 1021 W/VE stations submitted logs for this annual battle. With 48 hours on the clock, the winners are generally the ones with good planning, lots of stamina and maybe a healthy dose of “lady luck” in the shack. With the implementation of more thorough electronic log checking, the winners are also the ones who seem to take special care in data entry to go along with their demonstrated ability to copy higher speed CW.

After finishing second in 1998 and operating from his developing “super-station” on Cape Cod, K1ZM led the way of High Power W/VE single ops, setting a new scoring record in the process. Jeff’s 4,566,039 points lead the way as four ops topped the old mark of 4,001,790 set in 1991. Congratulations to the quartet of K1ZM, K5ZD (W2SC, op), KQ2M, and N2NT—all of whom broke the old barrier.

Two ops also managed to break the old scoring record in the single-op-assisted category. Congratulations to new record holder K3WW with 4,763,799 points. He edged out KI1G 4,673,250 points, which was 68,676 more than the record which had existed since 1992. All W/VE single-band scoring records remained in tact, in spite of spirited challenges from many ops.

Stations and operators in each of the three W/VE multi-operator categories walked away having set new all-time marks. Congratulations to the quartet of K1ZM, K5ZD (W2SC, op), KQ2M, and N2NT—all of whom broke the old barrier.

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Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter CW winner 8P9JA with operators Will, AA4NC and Jim, K4MA, hunkered down for the long haul.

Geoff, WØCG, one of the ops at Multi-Operator second-place finisher VP5CW in the middle of a 201-contact run in the first hour of the contest.

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winning the tough DX single-op QRP category in a close finish with HA2SX—406,116 points to 402,705. Another European, DK3GI, takes home top honors in the DX single-op assisted realm with a strong showing of 2,062,848 points. Intense competition and some great strategies highlight the DX multi-operator category. The multi-two operation at HC8N out QSO’d runner-up V26O on five bands to take home top honors with 8,440,950 points, and in the process upped the previous M2 record.

**1999 ARRL International DX Contest CW Plaque Winners**

**W/VE CW Single Operator**
- All Band: K12M, Frankford Radio Club
- 1.8 MHz: W9EWC, Butch Greve, W9EWC Memorial
- 3.5 MHz: W1MK, Thomas Rylander, SM3DMP
- 7 MHz: K8DX, Northern AZ DX Assn
- 14 MHz: K1TO, QRSLs By W4MPP
- 21 MHz: K2SS1, Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA
- 28 MHz: W1E, Green River Valley L ARS
- Low Power: W2TZ, Dauberville DX Assn
- QRP: N7IR, Tod Otson, K0TO

**Multi-Operator**
- Single Transmitter: W3BGN, Order of the Boiled Owls, W2AO Memorial
- Two Transmitter: K1AR, Alpha/Power, Inc
- Unlimited: W3PL, Alpha/Power, Inc

**DX CW Single Operator**
- World: K4AB, 1,883,484 C
- Africa: CAT, 1,034,838 C
- Asia: K5YA, 2,081,280 C
- Europe: K1RO, 658,512 B
- North America: W7TD, 1,440,610 B
- South America: K2MP, 1,073,620 B
- Oceania: W7EJ, 1,056,510 B

**DX CW Multioperator Two Transmitters**
- World: K2SS2, 2,066,831 C
- Europe: K9LA, 1,375,470 C
- North America: K1KG, 2,081,280 C
- Oceania: K3Q, 1,375,470 C

**Special Plaques**
- Atlantic Division CW: K3QO, Salt Lake DX Assn, K2NY Memorial
- Great Lakes Division CW: N9AG (at N8IR) Livonia ARC
- Japan All Band CW: KJ4UYB, Akita DX Assn
- Japan Low Power All Band CW: KJ5FX, Western WA DX Club
- United States MultiBand CW: W9RE, Willamette Valley DX Club
- Caribbean Multi-Single CW: 8P9JA, The YASME Foundation

**W/VE Region Leaders**

**Northeast Region**
- New England, Hudson and Atlantic Divisions: Maritime and Quebec Sections

- N1TM: 338,334 A
- NA1CA: 281,934 A
- N2BY: 141,120 A
- K1JT: 137,196 A
- K3WVP: 116,325 A
- W2ZT: 1,846,440 B
- V01MP: 1,427,688 B
- K1NO: 1,376,944 B
- N4U: 1,136,220 B
- K1RO: 1,108,554 B
- K12M: 4,566,039 C
- K5SD: 4,306,236 C
- K20ZM: 4,122,258 C
- N2NT: 4,096,134 C
- K1DG: 3,995,850 C

These regions contain the following states:

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Scores
Scores are listed by DXCC Countries and ARRL/RAC Sections. Within each Country or Section, scores are listed in descending order by power categories, followed by multipliers. Log scores list call sign, score, QSOs, multipliers, hours of operation (days), power (A = QRP, B = Low Power, C = High Power), and band.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Call</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Multipliers</th>
<th>Power</th>
<th>Hours of Operation</th>
<th>Band</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>K6YV</td>
<td>Brian Pearsall</td>
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<td>15</td>
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The stations at 8P9J, V5P5C, and V31TP battled it out in the multi-single category. While each snared similar QSO and multiplier totals, on most bands, 8P9J emerged as the winner, in part due to an excellent QSO total on 10 meters. Their 5,403,942 score missed the old mark set in 1990 by about 500K. What will the fall this next year? Rounding out the DX multispots was the 9A1A win in the multi-multi category.

More detailed log checking was introduced to this year’s contest. If you submitted an electronic log, you can receive a copy of your UBN by sending an email request to k5uv@arrl.org and including as the subject line your call sign and the words “UBN request DXCW.” A couple of changes will affect entries for next year’s event. If you use a computer to log the contest, you will be required to submit a copy of the log file for log checking purposes in the required ARRL file format. Look for more information on this in the upcoming “General Rules for all ARRL Contests,” as well as the specific rules for this event for the year 2000.

Speaking of next year, the dates for the 2000 ARRL International DX Contest CW weekend are set for February 19-20. With the excellent propagation expected to continue, it’s a good bet that activity will continue to increase. Whether you are a die-hard contest looking to hunker down for the duration, or a casual operator who is looking for a couple of new DXCC entities, this event is a place to bring out the best in your operating skills. The 1999 running of the DX CW contest was one to remember for many, that’s for certain. But start looking ahead now as you plan to make the year 2000 ARRL International DX Contest CW weekend your “one to remember.”

Soapbox
After poor conditions at the start, I finally heard a large European station in the passband. I worked him, QSYed up to the next clear spot, called CQ, and didn’t move for about seven hours (N8III). Conditions were good Saturday night, but my neighbor W4DR blew me away (W4HJ)! Great contest! Results far exceeded my previous efforts or my expectations for this contest. Great to have the solar round (K0JL)...Best I ever did from home in this contest. Had a ball! Managed to stay in the station for 41.5 hours but couldn’t sleep much during off time (W1WE). First DX contest at a new QTH—rig on an old kitchen table and amplifier on an upside-down recycling bin (N2MF)...Murphy attacked with a vengeance. It started a week before the contest when a Nor Easter took out the rotor, the local packet node crashed three days beforehand, and during the contest the Henry 4k amplifier tripping the HV overload. A thoroughly exhausting weekend for me but the ops here did a superb job (W3PP)...Ten meters was so congested that at times I had to use my 250-Hz filter, just like 40 meters (W2YR)....The highlight of the weekend was working VR2BG on 80 meters at sunrise Saturday morning using only 100 W and a G5RV antenna and making an amazing 573 QSOs. Break 1 million points with my little antennas (N5AW)....I was astonished at the number of requests for me to QSO other bands. All requests were completed (VE9DJ). Outstanding day for all DXers all day Tuesday all day. Thanks to all of the Caribbean stations who pulled out my weak signal on the Top Band. HC9N definitely had the best cars on 160 meters (K3P)....The propagation at the start of the contest of the day through Saturday was absolutely puny. Trying to run was hopeless (N0FW)...Excellent conditions. Was able to QSO 15 and 10 even flux on 20 meters. (W1W)....I secretly wished for another radio and stacked beams, having been spoiled at AA4NU while being introduced to Single-Op Two-Radio (W4QO)...I was fascinated to read comments of those in the west who had good low-band conditions while in the northeast it was awful. I would have thought given the aurora and extent of the solar storm that conditions would have been poor. Wonder what conditions will be next year? (KQ2M)...This was my first attempt at the DX contest and was impressed with the skill and responses of the operators—and their patience (W9QPV)...Enjoyed fine signals from the new QTH with temporary (wimpy) antennas. Had to go outside to swap antennas. (W9QW)...Now that I have the Highlights! Busting HZ, SH, TQ, and EL piles up fairly quickly with the grounded-mounting vertical (N8SM).