

2007 ARRL UHF Contest Results

“Hot fun in the summer time...”

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Once again, the first weekend of August brought UHF and Microwave radio enthusiasts to the bands for the “2007 edition” of the ARRL UHF Contest. And we’ve come a long way since the very first ARRL UHF Contest, held on the 5th and 6th of August in 1978, for which 118 logs were submitted to Headquarters. While this year’s log submission count of 166 is higher than the count for that first event, it did not continue the recent trend of increased entry count over the three previous years (dropping from 190 in 2006).

This year’s 166 logs contained just shy of 11,000 QSOs (compared to just over 12,000 in 2006). One interesting observation is that the count of “Single-Op Low Power” logs and “Rover” logs each only dropped by 3 as compared to 2006, but there were 11 fewer “Single-Op High Power” and 7 fewer Multi-operator entries.

More Numbers

Tables 1 and 2 return from last year, updated to compare 2007 to 2006. While the drop in QSO totals and number of stations

Table 1
Activity by Band, 2006 vs 2007

Band	2006		2007	
	QSOs	Stations	QSOs	Stations
222 MHz	3229	152	2767	130
432 MHz	4618	189	4204	165
902 MHz	1037	90	850	77
1.2 GHz	1613	131	1520	108
2.3 GHz	585	67	414	51
3.4 GHz	337	49	306	40
5.7 GHz	222	36	181	27
10 GHz	389	56	316	43
24 GHz	38	14	28	11
47 GHz	0	0	2	2
Light	1	1	10	6

Table 2
Participation by Number of Bands,
2006 vs 2007

Bands	2006 Logs	2007 Logs
1	26	26
2	32	36
3	40	21
4	25	24
5	8	15
6	18	16
7	12	4
8	19	18
9	10	2
10	0	4

From January 2008 QST © ARRL

active by band follows the reduced count of log submissions, it is nice to see the return of some 47 GHz activity. Also, repeating an observation from 2006, all but 1 log received in 2007 reported activity on 432 MHz.

Operating Conditions

On the “good weather” side, the photo shows how **K1TR** was set up at Mt Washington, New Hampshire, where he “snuck away” from a family visit to Maine to operate 432 MHz for a few hours on Sunday morning. **Ed’s** efforts yielded a couple of contacts over paths on the order of 600+ miles from his Mt Washington perch to along the eastern border of North Carolina and Virginia.

Besides “hot fun,” there were several reports of “wet fun” by participants in the Upper Midwest from a rain system that blanketed much of the region through the weekend. The photo on the next page, taken through Rover Top Scorer **W0ZQ’s** windshield, gives a sample of this “Upper Midwest experience.”

Repeaters?

In a VHF/UHF contest? Definitely not allowed by the rules for making contacts, but it certainly happens in the results. There were “repeaters” in the Single-Op High Power and Rover categories this year. In fact, 2007 is the fourth consecutive year that **Mike, KM0T**, and **Jon, W0ZQ**, have finished at the top of their respective entry categories. The “repeating” even continued in Single-Op High Power with **Don, WW8M**, and **Jeff, K1TEO**, in second and third places, also for a fourth consecutive year.

But Not Everyone Repeated...

In Single-Op Low Power, congratulations are in order for **Roger, W3SZ**, for his first place finish in that category this year, ending the reign of **Bob, K2DRH**, who finished second this year, after having been the top finisher from 2003 to 2006. Let’s also welcome **Dave, N0KP**, into the “Top 3” for the “A” category.

Marshall, K5QE, was joined by three



K1TR’s Sunday Morning perch at Mt Washington.

additional operators at his eastern Texas station to finish atop the multioperator category for 2007. In their log’s Soapbox, they commented that “Band conditions were not very good, but we just kept pecking away,” and it paid off. Five members of the **Chippewa Valley VHF Contesters** piloted their Club call, **K9CVC**, to second place. **Barry, N2BJ** (with his wife Paula, **N2PAC**), made their mark in Multioperator, finishing in third place this year.

Following **Jon, W0ZQ’s**, top finish in the Rover category were **Bruce, W9FZ**, and **Rick, K1DS**, in second and third places, respectively, for 2007. Jon activated 7 grids with his 8 band station, while Bruce traversed 8 grids with 6 bands. Rick had 10 bands operational from his rover and visited 4 grids. In total, the 31 Rovers who submitted logs for 2007 reported activations of 146 grid squares (actually an increase from the 137 grid square activations that were reported for 2006).

New Divisional Records

Just as last year, despite the general consensus that conditions were “normal” or slightly below that, a number of divisional records were updated by the 2007 entrants.

In Single Operator, Low Power, the national first place finish by **Roger, W3SZ**, was a new division record for the Atlantic Division, topping the record he had just set in 2006. New Division records were also set in the Delta Division, by **Bob, W4BCU**; in the Roanoke Division by **Paul, AA4ZZ**; and in the West Gulf Division by **Keith, WB5ZDP**.

Once again, **Jimmy, W4ZRZ**, “high-powered” his way to reset the “B” category record in the Southeastern Division, for the third consecutive year. It looks like Jimmy has a good trend going.

Table 3

Division Leaders

A = Single Op Low; B = Single Op High; M = Multiplier;
R = Rover

Call	Score	Category	Call	Score	Category
Northeast Division			Central Division		
W3SZ	129,156	A	K2DRH	116,466	A
K2KIB	36,096	A	KB8U	70,752	A
AF1T	32,250	A	KC9BQA	16,905	A
WB2SIH	16,728	A	K0KFC	8,550	A
WA3EOQ	8,910	A	KF8QL	8,520	A
K1TEO	130,800	B	WW8M	336,648	B
K3TUF	88,350	B	K2YAZ	52,200	B
WA2FGK	35,424	B	K8MD	51,660	B
(K2LNS, op)			K8TQK	26,040	B
N2GHR	24,336	B	WBGA	18,228	B
W3ZZ	11,748	B	K9CVC	48,279	M
N3LJK	26,376	M	N2BJ	30,492	M
K3CB	25,110	M	WN8R	6,993	M
KA2LIM	5,490	M	K9DMW	252	M
Rover			Midwest Division		
K1DS	55,848	R	W9FZ	85,884	R
WA3PTV	44,550	R	NE8I	31,350	R
W3HMS	23,760	R	WB8BZK	27,489	R
WA2IID	10,695	R	K9JK	21,294	R
(+KB2SSS)			WB8TGY	2,340	R
WA2NXX	9,990	R			
Southeast Division					
AA4ZZ	22,638	A	N0KP	72,828	A
K4LY	18,564	A	WB5ZDP	33,453	A
K4FJW	6,882	A	KA0PQW	3,696	A
W4BCU	6,750	A	N0VZJ	3,168	A
WA4QYK	5,481	A	W0RT	2,448	A
W4ZRZ	73,983	B	KM0T	369,900	B
K4XR	44,928	B	W0GHZ	120,300	B
K4QI	30,015	B	W0LQG	23,520	B
W4WA	21,417	B	KA5BOU	18,906	B
W4DEX	20,349	B	K5LLL	13,689	B
WB4WEN	13,572	M	K5QE	161,784	M
AG4V	11,439	M	KB0HH	21,054	M
AF4OD	18,816	R	W0VAN	18	M
AESP	8,625	R	W0ZQ	123,552	R
(+ W5TV)			N5AC	30,324	R
AA4S	3,078	R	KC0IYT	19,701	R
K1MAP	462	R	WA0VPI	17,280	R
			N5AIU	8,568	R
West Coast Division					
			K6TSK	3,519	A
			K17JA	2,166	A
			KB7ME	1,287	A
			VA7MM	891	A
			K6XN	630	A
			N7EPD	12,525	B
			KC6ZWT	4,332	B
			K7ND	3,960	B
			W6YX	870	M

Among multioperators, the effort by the operators at **K5QE** established a new top score for the West Gulf Division, bettering a record that had stood since 1988.

Regional Highlights

The Northeast Region was the source of 47 logs, with overall Single-Op Low Power winner **W3SZ** leading the 23 SOLP entries. **K1TEO** lead the 12 SOHP entries and **N3LJK** was first within the 3 Multi-Op entries from the Northeast. Among the 9 Rover logs received from the region, **KIDS** achieved the top score.

Twenty-seven logs were submitted from the Southeast Region. **AA4ZZ** finished atop the 12 SOLP entries and **W4ZRZ** was the top scorer among 9 Single-Op High Power entries from the Southeast. Of two Multi-Op entries from the region, **WB4WEN** claimed first and there were 4 rovers active, led by **AF4OD**.

Looking at the 44 logs from the Central Region, each of the Top Category Finishers for the region was the second place finisher nationally. Does that suggest that the Central Region should be re-named to the "Avis" region...from Avis's old slogan, "We're number two. We try harder"? In Single-Op, **K2DRH** topped the 20 Low Power entries and **WW8M** topped the 9 High Power entries. **K9CVC** was the top (of 2) Multi-Ops in the Central Region and **W9FZ** scored the highest among 8 Rovers in the region.

Thirty-seven entries were received from the Midwest Region which included **KM0T** and **W0ZQ**, the national top scorers in the "B" and "R" classes for the fourth consecutive year, leading 9 SOHP entrants and 10 Rovers, respectively, who submitted logs from the region. **K5QE**, was the top Multi-Op scorer (of two Multi-Op entries from the region), in addition to matching Mike's and Jon's top national finishes in category. **N0KP** scored best among 16 Single-Op Low Power entries from the Midwest.

Participants in the Western Region submitted 16 logs with 12 of those in Single-Op, Low Power, lead by **K6TSK**. The other category bests in Western were: **N7EPD** (among 3 High Power Single Ops) and **W6YX** (the top and only Multi-Op entry). There were no Rover logs received from the Western Region.

Wait until NextYear?

Living near Chicago, that's a saying I hear frequently with respect to a certain National League baseball team that plays here and the fans are ever faithful.

What will next year bring for the UHF Contest? It IS on the ARRL Contest Calendar for 2008, August 2-3 and will be the thirtieth anniversary of that first one in 1978. We "faithful" need to continue to participate and submit our logs. Can "we," the "faithful," attract some new participants and get back to the trend of increasing log counts year-to-year? Personally, I hope so, as I'd really like to see over 200 logs submitted for 2008, topping the 190 that were reported in 2006 or even better, to match or top the log counts in the 250 range from the mid 1990's.

How about "Club Competition"? Would that be an asset to this contest? In my opinion, yes. Of the 140 logs that were submitted electronically, about half listed a Club Name in their submission. While quite a few of the clubs only had one or two entries, so they wouldn't be eligible for a gavel, there were some very familiar club names, known for VHF Activity. Thirteen electronic logs listed the Northern Lights Radio Society as their club, 9 had the Badger Contesters, North East Weak Signal Group appeared in 8 logs and 12 more (6 each) were from members



Was **W0ZQ** singing "Raindrops keep falling my windshield"?

Table 4

Top 10 Scorers

The table shows bands activated, total QSOs and multipliers.
Band Key: C = 222, D = 432, 9 = 902, E = 1296, F = 2304, G = 3456, H = 5760, I = 10 GHz, J = 24 GHz, K = 47 GHz, L = 75 GHz, P = Light

Call	Score	Bands	QSOs	Multipliers
Single Operator Low Power				
W3SZ	129,156	CD9EFGHIJ	204	94
K2DRH	116,466	CD9EFG	196	118
N0KP	72,828	CD9EFGHI	134	84
KB8U	70,752	CD9EFGI	143	88
K2KIB	36,096	CD9EFGHI	122	64
WB5ZDP	33,453	CD9EF	108	63
AF1T	32,250	CD9EFGHIJ	123	50
AA4ZZ	22,638	CD9E	126	49
K4LY	18,564	CD9EF	84	52
KC9BQA	16,905	CDE	95	49
Single Operator High Power				
KM0T	369,900	CD9EFGHIJ	270	180
WW8M	336,648	CD9EFGHIJK	355	166
K1TEO	130,800	CD9EFGHI	248	109
W0GHZ	120,300	CD9EFGHI	187	100
K3TUF	88,350	CD9EFGHI	186	95
W4ZRZ	73,983	CD9EFGHI	137	91
K2YAZ	52,200	CD9EFGHI	114	87
K8MD	51,660	CD9EFGHI	126	84
K4XR	44,928	CD9EFGHI	103	78
WA2FGK	35,424	CDE	135	72
(K2LNS, op)				
Multioperator				
K5QE	161,784	CD9EFG	256	126
K9CVC	48,279	CD9E	153	77
N2BJ	30,492	CD9EF	116	66
N3LJK/3	26,376	CD9EFG	109	56
K3CB	25,110	CD9EFGHI	97	54
KB0HH	21,054	CD9EF	84	58
WB4WEN	13,572	CD9EFGHI	80	39
AG4V	11,439	CD9EF	62	41
KA2LIM	5,490	CDE	55	30
W6YX	870	CDE	26	10
Rover				
W0ZQ	123,552	CD9EFGHI	282	66
W9FZ	85,884	CD9E	264	68
K1DS	55,848	CD9EFGHIJ	167	52
WA3PTV	44,550	CD9EFGHI	130	55
NE8I	31,350	CD9EFGHIJK	117	38
N5AC	30,324	CD9EFG	173	28
WB8BZK	27,489	CDE	154	49
W3HMS	23,760	CD9EFGHI	84	40
K9JK	21,294	CDE	156	39
KC0IYT	19,701	CD9EFGHI	81	33

of the Pacific Northwest VHF Society and the Mt Airy Packrats. Some others were the North Texas Microwave Society (with 5) along with Contest Club Ontario and Potomac Valley Radio Club (3 each).

So...let's be "faithful" and continue our participation in the UHF Contest and try to attract others. Besides the "weak ones" that we all know to listen for, let's try to increase those "ones" to "twos" and "threes," even "fives" or "tens" if we can, and it would be okay if some were "strong," too. **QST**