

Contest Soapbox

2002 ARRL 10 Meter Contest

70 Soapbox entries available

M0CUS -- May 1, 2003 18:32 ET

First contest for both myself (Mack/M0CUS) and Tim (M3SDE). Worked over 100 countries in 24 hours with hundreds of qso's on ssb. Really had a great time. It won't be the last. 73'S all.
-- M0CUS & M3SDE

D44TD -- Mar 15, 2003 09:24 ET



From D44TD side one of the main goal is to don't lose multiplier during the pile-up, so for the ARRL 10m Contest a different setup was arranged. Three different directions with monobander antennas were used, try to cover all the directions opened.

JA long path at D4 sunrise were amazing, more than 100ms of echo delay due to different paths were a big trouble to understand calls !!!

US were almost 60% of the total QSO's, West Coast were the most stronger until the end of the Contest !!

73 de Fabio -- I4UFH

D44TD -- Mar 15, 2003 09:07 ET

First time from our Contest Place in Cape Verde in the ARRL 10m. A lot of fun, more than 5K QSO in 36 hours, were a great thrill !!

Thanks for everyone who called me, hope to have more chance to work again.

Look at couple of pictures of shack and antenna system

73 de Fabio



I4UFH -- *I4UFH*

I4UFH during ARRL 10m Contest 2002

VK2CZ -- Feb 18, 2003 20:20 ET



Lots of signals around, but generally most were near the noise threshold and not strong. Used a compromise antenna this year which would have affected scoring noticeably. My 8 element, 18m (60') long yagi will go up in mid'03 to stir activity on 10m. In 2001, I used a 50' 7 element (and fragile) yagi. -- *K3HZ*

I wish..

WB6IYM -- Feb 17, 2003 17:11 ET



Since I don't live in an "antenna friendly" neighborhood; I was forced to use a Butternut HF-6V; but the results were still pretty impressive for a ground mounted vertical with a non-existent ground system. Already planning to fix that before next year....

One thought comes to mind regarding this test -- Simply G-R-E-A-T !! -- *WB6IYM*

Jr. Op. Ricky loves the radio and PC
also...Maybe a new Tech later this year?

LW7DUC -- Jan 23, 2003 19:36 ET



Very Nice Contest !!!! Im waiting next ARRL 10
meters 2003 -- *LW7DUC*

This is my contest antennaIt works fine
!!!

ON5YR -- Jan 23, 2003 13:52 ET



I had a great time participating from my home
QTH. I missed the 6 el monobander from last
year at OT1H. PSE TAKE A LOOK AT
WWW.ON7SA.BE See you in 2003. ON5YR /
AH7B ... -- *ON5YR*

DU1/K6ACZ -- Jan 15, 2003 01:50 ET

I have just returned from a month in the Philippines with a side trip to Bangkok. I carried my



DU1/K6ACZ



Cushcraft R-7 Vertical at DU1/K6ACZ



Whole roasted pig feast at end of contest

Kenwood TS-50, AT-50, and PS-40 in the little carrying case that Kenwood designed for that purpose which I placed in a larger Pelican case with some clothing for padding. The Cushcraft R-7 vertical, coax, and tools were packed in a golf club bag surrounded with bags of clothing for padding, hence, no extra baggage charges. I arrived in Manila about a week before the contest weekend and set up my station. The R-7 went on the rooftop of a two-story home with the coax snaking down the staircase, along the floor, to my room. I obtained a 10-foot piece of 1 1/4 inch EMT pipe from a local hardware store and attached the base of the R-7 to it. Then, with some help, the R-7 on its 10-foot pipe was raised to a vertical position. The mounting pipe was then attached to some heavy rebar pieces protruding from the roof with some heavy gauge GI wire. It was not pretty to look at and did not look too mechanical strong but it worked and that is what counts. Now on the air, I discovered a high noise level on 20 meters. A look at the nearby power lines showed all kinds of poor splices to the power lines, some being illegal drops to avoid having to pay for the electricity. However, the rest of the bands were fairly quiet. While working DX the week before the contest 15 meters turned out to be my best band. I could work all of Asia in the morning then all of Europe in the afternoon on 15. I could work Asia in the morning on 20. I could hear US stations on 20 but for the most part, they could not hear me. 10 meters seemed to be dead with only hearing a VK or ZL and them not hearing me. I was afraid of the contest being a bust based on what I could not hear on 10 meters the week before the contest. I listened to the band for about 30 minutes before the contest started but did not hear much. However, as soon as 0001Z rolled around starting the contest the signals started coming thru. It was early morning in Manila and sundown in the USA. First station in the log was K4WI in Alabama. I played search



Philippine Permit

and pounce and was getting some Midwest and West Coast US and VE stations in the log. One station said I was S-9 plus so I tried calling CQ Contest for a while with no takers so back to search and pounce. For the next two hours I was working US and VE stations with an occasional JA that I would hear calling CQ contest. Then

the US and VE stations were gone and I was working KL, KH, JA, HL, UA, XW, VK, ZL, and T32 for the next couple of hours. Four hours into the contest the Pacific and Asia were fading out and Eastern Europe such as EX2T, UA4's, EW4's, etc, started coming through. Then the OH's, OE's, LY's, SP's and DL's. Even though I was using a vertical, the signals I was hearing were very selective. I was hearing only one area of Europe at a time. I might have a run of DL's calling CQ contest then they would fade out and the S5, 9A, OK, OM, HA, LZ, and Z3 would come through. They would fade out then the I, TK, 9H stations came through. The first day Europe run ended with the first African in the log, ZS5NK at 1400Z, way past sundown. The next morning started the same with a string of US and VE stations coming through as far east as W4DD in GA. Last station worked in the Americas was ZX2B. Now again coming through were the Asian stations with new mults AP2IA and VQ9X. Then EX2Z and EX8O and more Eastern Europe such as LZ1NG and LZ9X. Signals then proceeded to move across all of Europe, hearing and working several stations in a country at a time then having them fade out as I was hearing further west out to F, ON, CT, G, GM, EI before the band went dead for the night at 1300Z. The next morning I was up before daylight tuning for anything that could be heard coming through. First contact for the remaining 1 hour and 15 minutes was W5WMU in LA starting a run of stations west of the Mississippi River except for K4XS in FL and KY5R in AL. Then, just as the contest was down to the last 15 minutes the US and VE's faded out and I worked a run of JA's calling CQ contest looking for US contacts. I was quite surprised just how selective were the areas I could hear stations calling CQ contest from. It was almost as if a pipeline was forming between Manila and different parts of the world. The effect was most profound in Europe as different areas would boom in then fade out and another area would then boom in. I was impressed by the operating skills of the European operators. Most got my call on the first try even with it's awkward portable designation or got it correct after asking "who's the DU1 stroke something". On the other hand, some US stations tried to make me DU16ACZ or some such call. I would have to repeat several times I was a portable station in the Philippines. I had many stations thank me for a new mult, so I am happy to contribute to their total score. A good time was had by all, including the mosquitoes that managed to sneak onto my back and have a feast. CU next year! 73, Alan, DU1/K6ACZ -- K6ACZ

LT1F -- Jan 12, 2003 22:13 ET

Low line tension resulted in reduced power output. The antennas made by LU1FJ, did a great job and compensated the lack of output power. We enjoyed some of the off time listening to contesting "monster" stations: ZD8Z, ZW5B, ZX5J, D44TD, and many others! What a great



LU5FEL, LU1FKR, LU1FGE, LU5DX and LU1FAM

pleasure!. During the late afternoon and early evening we had to turn the RX preamps of the IC 775 off, because almost everybody was coming well over S9, and of course, there were three or four that almost make the S-METER needle crash at the end of the meter!! C U In 2003 Bad Power Team LT1F -- *LU1FAM*

PA6Z -- Jan 11, 2003 18:15 ET






This was our first (serious) attempt in the 10m ARRL contest M/S HP. Our team was formed by Herman PA0TEN, Arend PA2AWU, Peter PA2PKZ, Harry PA3HEP, Frans PA5CA, Jan PA5RA and Gerard PD5GS. We used an 8el Yagi and a vertical for SSB and an 6el Yagi and a vertical for CW. Unfortunately one of our CW operators was forced to QRL unexpectedly on Saturday. This meant that the CW station ran at -3dB for that day. As if this was not enough, our computer network died on Sunday morning just as the band opened to JA. It took us quite some time to get it back. But despite of these events we had a lot of fun. The activity was great and the US stations were loud as ever. We all hope to see you next year!

73 team PA6Z -- *PA5RA*



KA9SOX -- Jan 12, 2003 15:15 ET

KA9SOX						
						
HHH Net #323 10K-#39886		Baudette Chapter #885L Arkansas Visitor #502				
Bruce Brady 2009 Southshore Dr. Benton, AR 72015 U.S.A. Saline County						
QSO with	Confirming QSO					
	Day	Month	Year	UTC	MIIZ	RST Mode

Need one of these? QSL via home address.

My first REAL effort in an ARRL 10M Contest was 1989. I had just moved to Cary, North Carolina, and between a poor location and an even poorer antenna, I was only able to muster 43,000 pts (Low Power/Single Op).

Not too good.

After a long term lapse of activity due to career constraints, I renewed KA9SOX--only after promising myself that..#1) No more poor antennas. ONLY antennas with gain. #2) DXing

is priority. #3) Enter the ARRL 10M Contest with an all out effort.

Goal: To win the state of Arkansas, low power, ssb only, single op.

I settled on a 6 element cubical quad design. Since I have no tower, 2 very tall trees suffice for supports. The elements are constructed with electrical pvc conduit at a cost of a buck fifty per

element on a rope boom. The whole thing cost \$50 bucks to make. The quad is at 71 feet, and from my central Arkansas location, is fixed on Central Europe. A 3 element rotatable yagi on a tripod at 25' would cover the other directions

The hard part was having only completed the antenna 2 weeks prior to the contest, and having a hectic work schedule that kept me from testing the antenna, the band, and propagation before the contest.

I went into the contest blind.

1-Land SHOWED UP! Signals from New England were phenomenal! W1SIX sounded louder than 20 years ago! My 1-Land dupe sheet goes on for pages. I'm pretty sure I worked every living soul with a ham ticket in MA! Excellent signals and op's! I tip my hat.

It wouldn't be a 10 Meter contest without working GM4BLE. Other DX include: Moldova, Cape Verde, Niger, Sao Tome, Morocco, and Assencion Island.

Thank you all VERY MUCH!

Fav Moment: being called by S9SS.

Bad Moment: being intentionally QRM'ed by a North Carolina station for an hour and a half...but maintaining 100+ph rate in spite of it.

Very few openings to the Pacific, and low participation in the Caribbean was a surprise.

Final claimed score: 693 QSO's. 100 Mults. Total: 138,600

Single Op/Low Power/SSB only.

Many thanks to all who participated! QSL via home address. KA9SOX Bruce Brady Benton, Arkansas ka9sox@aol.com

PS. If there are any hams from Little Rock to the Memphis area who would like to participate in 10 Meter ground wave tests and survey, please e-mail me. ka9sox@aol.com -- KA9SOX

7P8ZZ -- Jan 9, 2003 06:37 ET

Great contest. It was nice working you! See you next year, same time, same place! Andre, 7P8ZZ, ZS6WPX www.zs6wp.com -- ZS6WPX

KA1BNO -- Jan 8, 2003 18:08 ET



Now you can put a face to the voice you heard on the band

I am not a regular contester compared to some hams, I do Field Day every year with my local club. And checking my log the last contest prior to this was the ARRL 10 meter contest in 1990. But I could not resist the urge to get involved. The Band was really open and the energy of all the participants was contagious. I am still only submitting logs by paper. Maybe I should consider a computer logging program in the near future. Well maybe the contest bug has bit me.

Dan -- *KA1BNO*

NJ6U -- Jan 8, 2003 13:53 ET



Boo Boo & my Pen

Rick from Apple Valley, CA writes I was planning to operate as Multiop but my co-operator had other plans for my pen so I went single op. -- *NJ6U*

P40K -- Jan 7, 2003 01:21 ET

The operation took place from the P49V super station. Kay, K6KO did the SSB and Ken, K6TA the CW. This was a Single Op, Single Radio, One Chair operation. We had planned to have Internet packet spots but the local ISP decided to shutdown for the weekend.

Our goal had been 3000 QSO's and 2 Meg's. In the end we had 3350 QSO's and 2.3 Meg with 29 hours of band openings.

Before the contest we attended the Aruba Radio Club Christmas dinner at a local restaurant. It



was a wonderful evening of great food and conversation. See photo below. -- *K6TA*

C31XR (left) used for Europe. 4 el (right) used for USA.



Kay - P40K (K6KO)



In the foreground left is Emily (P43E), Martin (P49MR), and Jacky (P43P). On the right from front is Kay (P40K), Joop (P43JB), and Yvonne (XYL - P43JB)

WB8AEV -- Jan 6, 2003 23:50 ET

For most of the contest, I operated from a weekend campout with Boy Scout Troop 407 using battery power and a dipole strung between two trees. It was the first exposure to ham radio for most of the Scouts, and the youth and adults alike were fascinated by some of the places we worked. Jon, KC8RYW, an Eagle Scout from the troop, took the mike for a few QSOs.

-- WB8AEV

K4ZA -- Jan 4, 2003 21:29 ET

W3LPL let me become an F-1 junkie for the weekend. Thanks, Frank! It took three hours to drive up to his QTH after work Friday, & I simply decided to do CW because the station was still configured for code from CQWW (I normally do mixed mode from N4ZC's place, but work has brought me back to PVRC-land).

The contest started slowly, & conditions seemed definitely "worse" than usual. But Saturday's EU run perked me right up, then the JA opening seemed entirely too short. By quitting time that night, I thought 2000 QSOs might be possible, but had no hopes for working SC. Sunday's EU run surprised me. The band opened quickly--solid signals on the stacks all at once. Then, the JA opening--it ran for four hours, with rates right at 130/hour. There's no meters like 10 meters!

Tnx for the QSOs.... -- K4ZA

N8CPA -- Jan 3, 2003 11:00 ET

The ARRL 10M contest is among my favorites on the calendar. Although propagation at this latitude is rarely good at contest start, it's always a thrill to wake up early Saturday and Sunday morning and hear all that DX while the sun is low in the Eastern sky. Historically, all I've ever done is hunt and pounce. This year, however, I actually CQ-d more than in the past. With results just about equal to the last few years, even though I had less time to devote to the test:: 253 Qs, only 205 of which were not in California. No New England, whatsoever. I guess they were all up in the phone sub-band. Maybe they've forgotten that "pounding brass still kicks .-"

-- N8CPA

K1NT -- Jan 3, 2003 05:16 ET

Between my daughter's soccer, my wife's aggravation with yet another contest weekend and the church across the road suggesting I not operate between 11 and noon on Sunday's I was able to get a couple of hours operating in early Sunday morning, before 11am. Altho brief, it was,as always, FUN!!. -- *KINT*

W8TN -- Jan 2, 2003 12:03 ET



W8TN, Clark, and N6HC, Arnie, havin' fun!

Arnie, N6HC, contacted me just three days before the start of the contest so our "effort" was just what we could put together at the last minute. The propagation cooperated and combined with the stations we worked to make it a superbly enjoyable weekend. We did not set out to attain a huge score but, instead, to have a great time. And, in that regard, we succeeded immensely!

Here are the comments Arnie posted on the 3830 reflector:

The Ten meter contest weekend found me consulting in SE Ohio. I didn't bring my FT-100 along as my accommodations were not conducive to amateur radio. After many calls to local hams, Clark, W8TN, agreed to allow me to join him in a multi-single effort. What a stroke of luck! Southern hospitality is alive and well in WVA. Clark & Evelyn were the most gracious hosts I have ever met. They opened their beautiful home to me and my wife Sherry for the entire weekend! The food was plentiful, the company grand, and the radio station played very well once we got WriteLog to behave itself. We missed Friday night but worked most of Saturday and Sunday during daylight hours. Although we didn't set any scoring records for this contest, I can assure you that we set the record for becoming fast friends. I will miss my new contesting partner when I return to California, but I will never forget the fun we had together "mining" ten meters for QSOs this past weekend. Thanks Clark & Evelyn!

Thanks Arnie for your splendid comments and for the camaraderie we experienced in the 10-M Contest. It will be long remembered!

Sometimes you can enjoy more things in a contest than what you might expect. It is not always about winning but about having fun doing it! -- *W8TN*

WA2FHF -- Dec 31, 2002 19:30 ET

My XYL (KF6NBZ), two cats (Boojum and Snark) and I are currently touring the United States in our *classic* 1976 Bluebird Wanderlodge motorhome. Because of a mechanical breakdown



that delayed us several days, we did not arrive in South Carolina until Saturday afternoon, well into the Contest period.

Since I had not yet operated on 10m during this trip, the first order of business was to construct an antenna. Quickly cut an inverted vee dipole and raised the 15 foot mast on the top of the coach. Got the station assembled, contesting software initialized, and away we went!



A casual operating style and lower performance antenna array produced only a moderate score. However, I am always thrilled by the potential of 10 meters to yield spectacular propagation and DX for even more humble stations.

Currently we are over-wintering in Central Florida - see you down the log! 73, Mike Chalup WA2FHF -- *WA2FHF*

NX5M -- Dec 30, 2002 13:17 ET



The main 10m antennas.

10 meters was alive and well in December 2002!

A group of fine ops contributed to make this years raw score of 2.932 million the best 10m contest score ever from this station.

Friday night was about average as far as qso totals are concerned. But as I was monitoring our signal I noticed that there was a lot of extra hum in between our audio. It was also evident in the headphones as the ops reported that they could hear it in between transmissions. We decided to keep operating and see if the problem could be resolved after we went qrt for the night. About 1230am CST I told the guys to just go to bed and I would stay up all night and see if I could fix the problem.



Lance, KB5ZFO running ssb.



Jack, N5DUW working an EU pile on cw.



**Front: Don, N5OLS searching for mults.
Back: Bob, NX5M working cw.**

Where to start? A different computer was used this year so I figured that had to be the problem. To make a long story short, I tore the whole station apart. Moved radios 3 different times and had computers taken apart and put back together....all in all it was quite a mess. I still do not know what was causing the problem but about 4am I had things sounding clean again. At 3am I was about ready to get out of the hobby.

Saturday morning rolls around and I am sleeping....not for long...."Bob, the computer crashed!" I will omit what I said. Restart and all was well so I went into town to get breakfast for everyone.

Saturday went well from then on. At the half-way point of the contest we were behind the 2001 pace and I was beginning to believe that 2.1 million points was going to be about it. But by the time we shut down Saturday night we were ahead of the 2001 pace by a substantial margin.

Sunday morning as N5XJ and I were talking in the kitchen we agreed that with the extra qsos made Saturday night, thanks to a nice two hour e-opening from north to east, we might just have a shot at 3 million points if we could maintain some good runs throughout the day. Taking the time to find and work some mults early Sunday morning made a difference too. We ended with 315 mults which was well above the anticipated 290-300.

Rates stayed pretty steady throughout the day on Sunday but as expected they were down compared to Saturday. The guys worked hard on Sunday. I think having exceeded average totals by the time we shut down Saturday night gave us added incentive for Sunday and made all of us work that much harder to try to reach an even



Mike, N5XJ searching for mults.

higher goal. It paid off.....about 800,000 points better than expected.

Don, N5OLS (you may remember Don as KH8/N5OLS) came and operated for the first time. How Don could play on the internet all night and then stay handy all day Sunday is beyond me. He did take a 2-hour nap though but he told me that he went into the shack about 4am, put the radio on 28025 and went to sleep on the floor. He figured he would be awakened when the band opened. He was right!

Jack, N5DUW had a 2-hour drive and was a first-time member of the operating team. Jack operated 90% of his time on cw and was a big help.

Lance, KB5ZFO was able to be here almost all of Saturday. He put in some valuable time while he was here and ran some nice rate. We were all looking for him on Sunday but I later found out that he got sick after eating too much shrimp Saturday night at a Christmas party.

Mike, N5XJ is always a permanent fixture at multi-op gatherings here. Not only does Mike bring in fine operating skills, but he is also a person who is my right-hand when it comes to working on antenna and tower projects as well as some pre-contest prep work.

And me, Bob, NX5M enjoyed having the guys over. Other than that first night, when I stayed up practically all night to try to fix a problem, I had a great time. Sunday I was pretty worn out and I was frustrated while operating ssb and asking for "Charlie Charlie Alpha ur 59 Texas". I asked for CCA 4 times and everyone else kept calling. Frustration got the best of me so I threw the headphones off and took a walk.

And finally we had a year in which thunderstorms did not disrupt our operation. Last year lightning hit us Sunday morning.

I had done some antenna enhancements the month before the contest and I think that helped. This year we used a 5/5/6/5/5 stack, a fixed tribander on a new tower plus a single rotatable tribander to add coverage and a 4/4 spray array on another tower. A total of 4 towers had active antennas on 10 this year. Two other antennas that could have been used on 10 were not even connected but it is nice to know that they are there in case of a problem with the main array.

Will this be the 6th consecutive year of finishing in the top 5? I guess we will know for sure in a few months. -- NX5M



The vintage 'shack in a corner'



Classic Hy-Gain hardware

A great contest, the band was better than I expected!

After moving to a new QTH in September, I was still working on the room that would become the permanent shack. At the last minute, I decided to throw together a temporary shack on the computer desk to work the 10-meter contest. At the very last minute, I also put up my 10-meter vertical to give me a little better signal. Fortunately, Murphy must have been busy elsewhere (messing with someone's Yagi, no doubt) and everything worked fine.

The shack: All Vintage, all the time! Drake C-line 'twins', about 80 watts out; IBM PS/2 Server 95 + IBM 6091-19i monitor, Windows NT and N3FJP logging software; Hy-Gain 'Penetrator' 5/8-wave CB vertical shortened a bit for 10. Even the coax was old stuff!

42 Countries, 31 states, 7 Canadian provinces, 383 contacts with 80 total multipliers.

I'm looking forward to next year, when (hopefully) the QTH will have grown some more aluminum!

73 de NU0C -- *NU0C*

The band was in great shape, it's nice to hear 10m wall to wall with stations. I only wish I had the free time to put in a real effort - I operated only a limited time - but had a blast anyway.
-- *NL7Z*

PY2FRW -- Dec 26, 2002 02:03 ET



Fantastic Contest! I've operated the entire test in my "near the water" shack. -- *PY2FRW*

OH6NJ -- Dec 24, 2002 07:19 ET



Very nice conditions so I really enjoyed this weekend. Worked both cw and ssb, so it took a real effort. I used packetradio network, but I think that it was not so helpful at all. Anyhow I am satisfied with my score. CU all in next contest es 73! -- *OH6NJ*

K0SR -- Dec 22, 2002 10:39 ET

Usually I try CW only in this contest, this year I went mixed mode. It sure keeps you busy. Some good rates, even though the openings to Europe and JA sure weren't what they were last year. The sporadic-E Friday night was a lot of fun, with rates over 200 hr on CW at times. Too bad we only experience that mode every 5 or 6 years.

It's a darned shame they put this contest in the dead of winter. We get maybe 15 or 16 hours of daylight here in Mid December, and that has a huge impact on our scores. Maximum operating time of 36 hours ? That's pretty funny.

73 to all and thanks for the Q's !

Steve K0SR -- *K0SR*

K6III -- Dec 22, 2002 01:36 ET



K6III & KG6NED before the power outage!

I invited new ham Joseph/KG6NED (Tech n/c) to join me for the ARRL 10m action. We had a good time together and it was hard to restrain him enthusiasm - but other nature took care of that.... about 1:15 Saturday afternoon, lost all mains power for 9 hours. Oh well, we had 400 Q's in the log by them. -- *K6III*



Joseph, KG6NED on the mic.

DL0LD -- Dec 30, 2002 08:25 ET

ARRL 2002 10m Contest DL0LD op K5NZ Station DL3YEH Detmold, Germany

Joey, W5BAK and myself met Maik, DL3YEH, while he was doing a exchange work program for college in Houston a few years ago. Since moving back home, Maik has wanted us to come for a visit together. Airfare was right so we decided to make the trip.

Maik took us to Berlin for a long weekend when we arrived and that is a whole other story!

I first want to thank Maik and Uta for their great hospitality and to Maik's parents Bernd and Karin for taking us into their home and treating us like family for a week!



K5NZ @ DL3YEH

Since the 10m test worked into our schedule I wanted to try to operate the contest. Joey and Maik weren't too interested in a multi-op so they told me to do a CW only if I felt like playing.

The set up for the 10m test was a Fritzel FB-33 @ 60ft , Icom 746 and about 500 watts. Thanks to the Detmold chapter of DARC for allowing me to use the club callsign DL0LD for the weekend.

Here are some of the interesting things I noticed operating from northern DL.

With only 8 hours of sunlight the band opens late and closes early from this QTH.

I started tuning the band at 0600z which is 0700 from my QTH. Nothing so I went to have a snack and came back at 0644 to find a booming JY9NX. He gives me #258. Not another signal on the band. Then a booming A61AJ with #4. Ok now some Russian "buzz saws", more on that later, are coming through so I start picking them off.

I'm watching my greyline map closely for clues to propagation, looking for a JA run beaming 28d as we are both deep into our greyline. It just never happens. I work a few JA's but they are weak and watery. I suppose they were too deep into darkness already for me to get anything going. Maik confirmed this and said in summer months the JA run is a good one but not in winter. I do work a few station further down the greyline that are still in daylight. VR2, ZL, VK.

Ok getting light and I am expecting a super run of European stations. It just never happens. I guess the fact that many of these countries are no further than from my home QTH to Austin and the skip is just too long. There are very loud Russians but not the depth of weak ones I expected. Strange. I was left to mostly S&P hard with a few 40-50 an hour runs until sunlight made it to the USA.

Ahh the Russians! I have never in my life heard so many interesting signals. You think some of those sound bad from the US... Try being in their first skip zone. Buzzing, clicking, hacking, ghost signals, 20kc wide, I wish I could have taped the contest to allow you to enjoy some of this with me. It was really funny, I would be laughing out loud and Joey and Maik would come in to see what was so funny! Out of the MANY treats I enjoyed, I will share the top 2 with you. I'm S&Ping and find a UA3, call a few times, nothing. I move on up and find him again. Then again, and again... I finally hear the person he is working so I know I have found his true signal and work him. I found 6 ghost signals for this guy and they were all over S9. Sweet! I have a

nice run freq at 28.024, clear and am able to pull out those ether signals. All of a sudden I have what I think are CB'ers on my freq. Damn the luck, but wait.. I tune some and it becomes clear that it is RA3 calling CQ Contest on phone. Nice! A spurious signal all the way down from the phone band!

Ok , moving on. I make my first US QSO at 11:45 with W1GF still in darkness. And things pick up from there. I do note that there is in fact an east coast advantage into Europe. I'm not sure many of you realized that. :) When it really became clear was when I worked a mobile in NY and one in FL that were louder than the strongest W5 I worked the whole contest. But that's life. The good rate hours to the US for me were a small window of about 2.5 hours but I made hay during those hours. 1400 and 1500 were my 2 high rate hours but only at 80 and 88 when I had expected 100+ to occur.

Speaking of my W5 friends, it was great to work so many of them! I know you always want to know how loud you were so here are the standouts. W5KFT was always the loudest . Stacks do make a difference I guess I will have to admit! NX5M was a close second, also with stacked arrays. Of course many of you I worked were not CQ'ing so I didn't run across you over and over to make a comparison during different states of band openings. One stand out is my QRP buddy KG5U. Dale was S 5-9 several times running QRP and a tribander, so go figure! Nice job Dale!

I did work some interesting mults on strange paths that I yet don't understand. The standout was DU3NXE @ 12:46z on Sunday S-9 and beaming USA ?

The way I finally worked a few countries north of me was good old backscatter beaming to SA. Just like working the east coast from Texas sometimes.

All in all a super experience! I used the high DL score from last year as a goal and was able achieve it. Although DL1IAO and DL4MCF both did the same along with giving the "Texan" a good beating too! Congrats guys! The best part was listening to the propagation and familiar callsigns from another location. Working a VU on 10m that was S9 +5db.. yep pretty cool.

DL0LD Single op CW Only 18 hours

1032 74 Countries 54 SP Final Score 528896

73 K5NZ -- K5NZ

W1SJ -- Dec 27, 2002 02:52 ET

Now that we are starting on the down side of the sunspot cycle, I didn't know what to expect for conditions. Frankly, conditions were better than I expected.

Things didn't start off all that well with a 3:1 SWR on the yagi. Gee, it worked 2 weeks before the contest! I couldn't get motivated to climb the tower in the dark while it was snowing, so I slapped in the tuner and hoped for the best.

The first hour was a struggle. Then again, I remembered that I never set records for the first hour in the 10 Meter contest from the NE. After a slow start at the crack of dawn, I started running up the pileups into Europe and felt a lot better.

The Europe run seemed to end prematurely on both days. In fact, at 1600-1800Z the band got very quiet and spooky with signals dropping all over the place. The quiet was relaxing, even if the rate dropped a bit. Then the signals came back up and the onslaught was on again. No Japan on the first day, although I heard lots of guys out west working them. I did get the JA opening on Sunday, along with a bunch Finnish stations coming over the pole in the afternoon with tons of flutter.

I trust everyone enjoyed the bash this year. Next year from this high latitude (44.5N), I expect a 40-50% drop in QSO's. -- *WISJ*

N6XI -- Dec 26, 2002 18:33 ET

Had a terrible time sustaining rate this year. Just didn't feel as loud as usual. Then power went out Saturday afternoon as Northern CA was belted by a horrific storm. Winds as high as 134 MPH were clocked on nearby ridges. It wasn't that fast at my place, but I lost a tree, a vertical and five days of power. When I finally secured the premises and lowered the tower the rest of the way, there were only two hours left in the contest. Finished up with generator power. Man-made noise was blissfully absent during those two hours as power was out all around me. Only managed about 14 hours of operating. The good news is that my new tower and horizontal antennas survived the snow, wind and ice just fine. -- *N6XI*

NX9T -- Dec 25, 2002 16:52 ET

What Fun! I had a great time going at this one QRP. It's always a thrill to be reminded of what can be done w/ 5 watts on 10m. My antenna is a 2 el. quad at 73 feet. Worked a lot of DX, and made around 600 Q's. I was only able to put in about 18 hours due to family committments but had a super time.

Thanks to all for the QSO's and I wish you all the best for the Holidays and 2003!

73, jeff NX9T

You can visit my website at: <http://www.qsl.net/nx9t> -- *NX9T*



N3FR -- Dec 23, 2002 10:16 ET

Great contest! Improved on my previous score with more Q's but fewer mults. Lots of very big signals. Thanks for a fine contest weekend. -- *N3FR*

KB3DPU -- Dec 21, 2002 11:47 ET

This was my second 10mt contest. I beat last years by 20%. I'm happy with my score until I get a better location/antenna. -- *KB3DPU*

VE4MM -- Dec 20, 2002 19:39 ET



New shack in Basement Storage Room

After about 10 years with my radios in boxes, I managed to set up a station for the Fall 2002 contest season. Set up a new TH3MK4 tribander on my roof which was in my basement for 7 years.

Hoping to meet my 2500 QSO's in 1991 (SSB Low Power), I fell short and only managed to fight for 1355 QSO's and 118 Mults.. Saturday 1100, Sunday 255. Sunday was brutal.(I had a 5 element monobander in 1991 and the Band was better)

Highlight: Working Ken Miller ,K6IR whom I met at Dayton in 1991 or 92 cause the day before, I found his QSL card in an old Dayton Program and was wondering if he was still alive.



Only a tribander.

Now I know.

I also worked N3FJP and when I entered his call, I said, "Hey I am using your program for the Contest".

Lots of VE4's this year, so no one should complain about the lack of us guys anymore! Where were Yukon and NWT???? Come on you guys...

73

Michael Mark, P.Eng. VE4MM (ex: VE4AMC) -- *VE4MM*

KG4DX -- Dec 20, 2002 15:45 ET



Working the pile-ups! Bill KG4DX

Had great time in test. Worked about 20 hours. Ended up with 1646 Q's and score of 353K. Big pile-ups!! WOW!. Thanks to all those that called me. 73 untile next time. de Bill KG4DX Gitmo, Cuba -- W4WX

K6PFA/3 -- Dec 20, 2002 10:22 ET

Since I had only a short time to operate on Sunday afternoon, I thought it would be interesting to put the HTX-10 in the car and drive over to Washington, D.C. to provide a DC multiplier. With my 25 W and a magnet-mount antenna I made 34 contacts in my one hour on the air. I appreciated the kind words from a number of contacts for whom I was the first DC of the contest. It was fun, I'm looking forward to future contests. -- *K6PFA*

KE0UI -- Dec 20, 2002 00:16 ET



By Bob North, KE0UI, St Louis Park, Minnesota

With excellent propagation (nice flux in the high 100s and a quiet geomagnetic field, Ks of 1 and 2) the stage was set for some nice numbers.

Competition up here in Minnesota is pretty fierce with a lot of CW only ops in my Low Power category, but I was determined to move up in the standings from last year. Running a tribander at 45

feet isn't much of a threat, but 693 QSOs in the log was an improvement over last year's 560. The main "mantra" I believe in now is "if you're not CQ-ing you're losing" so forced myself to hold a frequency and endure all those deathly silences after a call. It paid off in the long run with rates holding in the 45-60/hr range!

Did a little two-radio action this time around. Boy, what a challenge! Set up the Omni V on the beam and found a high frequency to call CQ on, then would tune the low end of the band for mults with the FT-890 while CQing. Feeding the audio from one radio into the left channel and the other into the right does give cause for occasional thoughts of "wonder what a relaxing hobby would be like?" See you next year!

Bob -- KE0UI

DJ1AA -- Dec 20, 2002 07:43 ET



The antenna construction is a fritzel FB-DX-660 6 element yagi with rotary dipol for 40m included.

SOAPBOX: Very good DX conditions during the daylight phase. During my 2 active days I had only about 4 hours time to go on the air. Some QRL kept me busy most of the possible daylight zone. Short after the sunset the signals goes down closed to the ground noise and followed by the dead line. By the way, I am collecting real QSL cards and I will send out step by step a card for every contact. Please do me a favor and confirm this contest QSO by QSL bureau or directly please see www.qrz.com -> DJ1AA address. QSL Info for AB0DL is via DJ1AA, thanks. The uploaded pictures shows my 24m antenna tower behind my house in Kreiensen - City, about 40 miles south of Hanover City in north Germany (Locator JO41XU). The antenna construction is a fritzel FB-DX-660 6 element yagi with rotary dipol for



Just a fun picture from the contester with small portable equipment IC-706MK2G, MFJ16010, 25A PS, and 15m wire from a Motel on Ibiza Island (EA6/..)



During the last CQ-WW contest 2002 I got big problems with orkan winds up to 85 miles and I had some weeks an interesting short wave E-M-E antennai. Hard job to bring up the antenna and the tower back in service for the 10m ARRL contest.

40m included. The yagi is 21m up from the ground and I am very happy with this kind of beam. On 10m there are 4 elements active. During the last CQ-WW contest 2002 I got big problems with orkan winds up to 85 miles and I had some weeks an interesting short wave E-M-E antenna..hi. I had a lot to do and a hard job to bring up the antenna and the tower back in service for the contests during the winter time. Last but not least I wish you marry xmas and a happy happy new year 2003. Hope to meet you coming up contest year.

Email(s): DJ1AA@darc.de or AB0DL@arrl.net

Lets have a lookup to..

<http://www.qrz.com/callsign/dj1aa> <***>

<http://www.qrz.com/callsign/ab0dl> <***> APRS

position: <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/find.cgi?dj1aa>

Many greetings Mirko, DJ1AA / AB0DL
-- AB0DL



Merry christmas and lets have fun with amateur radio. Perhaps santa claus brings new equipment to you as well..hi 73 Mirko

N5MDO -- Dec 19, 2002 17:58 ET



Whew! Had to take a break but boy! was I having fun! (N5MDO)

This was my first time in a contest. Man was it hard, and fun. You do not realize just how much it takes out of you until its over. After its over, you have to get your brain to settle down and think of something besides letters,numbers,and your call sign. Now that I have done one by myself I can do just about anything. I can't wait for my next contest. I am not sure how I will do, but it will be fun to find out. When I did this contest by myself it made me feel like the whole world was coming to me. My DXCC experience had been limited before but I worked 46 countries, some I had never heard of before. That was Great!!! I am also well on my way to WAS with all the contacts I made. I would like to thank my elmer (N5QYC) for all the help he has given me and the encouragement to try new things on my own. Now I know what to do and am looking forward to the next one. See you all

on the air waves from ARKANSAS. 73.....Carol N5MDO -- *N5MDO*

ON5ZO -- Dec 19, 2002 17:30 ET



3el monobander for 10m against a grey sky - add rain and wind yourself.

ON5ZO -- *ON5ZO*

Ever since I closed the log of the 2001 edition I was looking forward to this year's ARRL 10m contest. I planned a bit more serious effort than last year's casual 'bandsweeping'.

Due to circumstances I don't have a real fixed mast and big antennas at this moment, so I used a temporary 'field day style' push up mast (6x2m sections minus overlap). This carries a 3el monobander optimized for CW operation, which was about 9m high on Saturday but had to be lowered to 7m on Sunday due to the weather. Bummer!

Nevertheless I had a great time. Mostly S&P but some good runs too. The antenna should be (a lot) higher and (a lot) bigger, some QRO might help too. CU in next contest, 73 es DX de Franki

LY7Z -- Dec 19, 2002 14:22 ET



Nice test!!! CU next year!! -- *LY2TA*

KL7RA -- Dec 18, 2002 21:34 ET

KL7RA multi-op entry in the ARRL ten meter contest 2002. Larry, N1TX working CW and Wigi, AL7IF tuning for SSB mults. Ops had three antenna systems to choose from, a Cushcraft 4/4/4/4, Hy-gain 5/5/5 and a long boom 7 element at 120 feet. Rigs were Icom 781. A little over 20 hours of ten meter propagation made the contest fun. No Europe made for a poor score.

-- *KL7RA*



KL7RA multi-op

KB1FWN -- Dec 18, 2002 21:13 ET



The Kenwood TS440...the transceiver I used night and day and it didn't quit! (Well, it still doesn't work on 14MHz!)



The Array at KB1FWN/KB1FWM/WB1HAB.

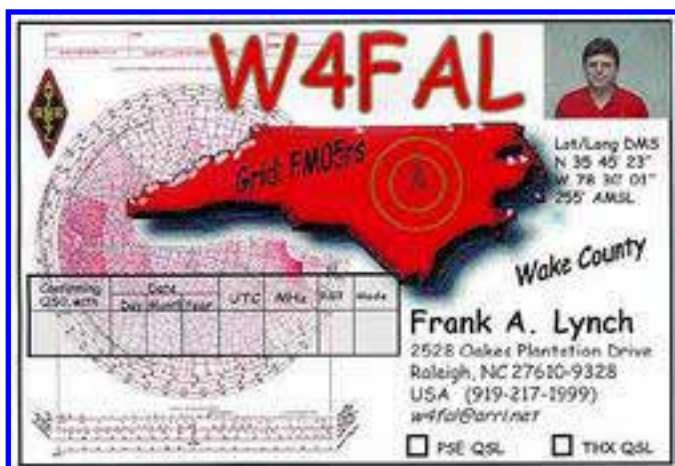
This contest was a learning experience for those at KB1FWN/KB1FWM. It started off as a grueling multi operator event. I started off first, with reassurance that my father Tom, KB1FWM, would take my place in a few hours. And to relieve him would be Luke, KB1ISP even later. However, a few hours prior to the contest, I learned that Luke would not be coming up. Then, a few hours further in, my father went to bed. That dashed my plans! So I sat there, a lone single operator, all night long at the ten meter station. On Sunday, dad stopped in and made some QSO's, but then had to leave (for him, it was a Honey-Do weekend). All in all, I called it a multiop because he DID make a few Q's, and I had been giving the exchange all along.

Oh well, it worked out okay! The rig worked, the antennas worked, and there was plenty of DX. Good luck next year, and see you all down the bands! 73' -- *KB1FWN*



Here I am operating at the 10 meter station.

W4FAL -- Dec 18, 2002 16:39 ET



I enjoyed this contest. I unfortunately had a lot of pre-Christmas activities going on and didn't get to participate for very long on the 14th and none on the 15th.

Better luck next year and a higher score.

73,

Frank, W4FAL -- *W4FAL*

Merry Christmas, 73

Frank, W4FAL

N1DC -- Dec 18, 2002 10:20 ET

This is one of my favorite contests. Unfortunately, I was limited to only a few hours on Sunday morning. I started at 1400 UTC with my 4 element tribander pointed toward Europe. First a "search and pounce" yielded a quick 25 countries. After about 45 minutes I found an open frequency and started calling CQ. Propagation from MA was excellent. I had a very good run for about 2 hours working many Europeans and a bunch of 6's, 7's and 0's off the back of my beam. I ended up with 176 QSO's and 78,144 points in less than 3 hours. Thanks to all that answered my CQ. See you next year. 73, Rick -- *N1DC*



W8JWN -- Dec 17, 2002 13:30 ET

This was the first year using a logging program and the N1MM Logger was superb! Although I am a slow typist, I managed to use the program without any difficulties. I had family and church commitments which limited my time to 23 hours but still I was able to get 232,210 points. I used three antennas and each one seemed to work better than the others and various times. The 3 element at 80 feet, which I thought was too high, worked the best. The 3 element at 35 feet fixed on Europe never was better than the 80 foot antenna. A sloping dipole to the south at 50 feet worked well into SA. I was disappointed with stateside contacts to the east and southeast of my QTH in the UP of Michigan. Next year, the lower antenna will be fixed on Washington D.C.! I missed that multiplier!

How do the stations in Ohio work 1700 Q's in 27 hours on SSB??? It must be the antennas and lower latitude. It's tough at 45 degrees north!!

I'll be back! -- W8JWN

W4/DF2GQ -- Dec 17, 2002 12:53 ET

Man, what a contest!

I worked QRP with my new FT 817 and a wire dipole on our deck. Logged over 90 contacts and 30 countries including lots of Europeans, Africa, South America and Asia. Even worked Japan in SSB. Amazing!

I can't remember the last time I had so much fun in a contest.

Try QRP guys! It goes a long way.



73 de W4/DF2GQ (Louisville, KY) -- *DF2GQ*



AB2IW -- Dec 17, 2002 18:26 ET

What a fun contest... Were band conditions better or worse than in the 2001 contest ? Hard to tell. Some interesting DX... working rare stations in the single op qrp phone category. Made a contact while transmitting into the wrong antenna... a 350' beverage @ 10 ' with a johnson matchbox doing the tuning honors. Wondered why South America was down on Sunday... well... 450 ohm feedline fell off of the 140' dipole facing that direction. Johnson kw matchboxes will tune practically anything... Thanks to all who pulled my 5 watt signal out of the noise for much needed multipliers and listening for the "little guys". See you all next year!!!

Mark Madcharo Guilderland, N.Y. -- *AB2IW*

KI7N -- Dec 17, 2002 17:03 ET

Another great contest. I operated only CW, and once again, it was proven that lots of fun can be had with low power to a dipole on 10 meters. Because of antenna restrictions, my dipole is in my attic, which likely cost me a few dB as opposed to an outdoor antenna, but I was still able to work most of the people who I heard. -- *KI7N*

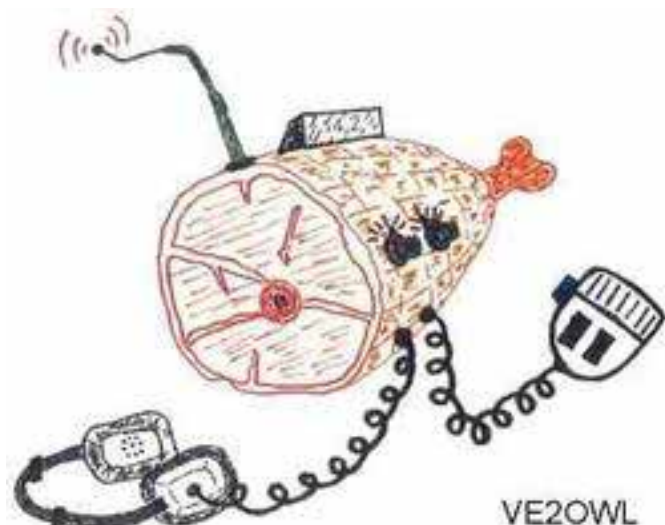
KB0JUL -- Dec 17, 2002 14:00 ET

This was the first time I had participated in the ten meter contest. What a blast! I decided to operate CW only; conditions were excellent from central Iowa to the East Coast and Europe during the morning, and then the West Coast and Japan in the evening. Had trouble working anyone in the middle section of the country though. Nevertheless, ended up with about 125 QSO's casually operating hunt-and-pounce.

Looking forward to the next one. Hope that conditions stay favorable for ten meters at least a little bit longer.

73, -- *KB0JUL*

VE2OWL -- Dec 17, 2002 10:41 ET



It "hogs" the band on 10m

shorter than previous years.

Very nice contest and 100% cw for a second year.

But for a change, I decided to use my hand keyer instead of using the computer for sending CW. Since I'm not an expert at sending fast, people did slow down to answer me at my speed, thanks. I'll use the hand keyer more often and I can now tell who's sending with a hand keyer or who's using the computer!

Propagation must have been really good too, as I contacted every continent this year with my 100W and a vertical ant. However openings were

Is it me or what? It seemed to me many stations had small if any signals. I'll need a more sensitive receiver soon ... Anyway, 477 cw qsos made it in the log!

Stephan -- *VE2OWL*

K5JAZ -- Dec 16, 2002 22:03 ET

Although I am not a contester, I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I worked low power SSB with my little K2-100. For antennas I used a 135' end-fed wire and a Gap Titan, scraping out 27 states and 89 DX contacts using only hunt/pounce. I managed seven hours each day and would

have gone longer had my voice not given out.

The courtesy I observed during this contest deserves mention. I heard many testers ask if the frequency was clear before staking out a frequency -- and when the freq was in use they moved. I thought that remarkable during such a hectic contest.

I would like to thank everyone with whom I contacted, and hope to see you again next year.
-- *K5JAZ*

KB9KEG -- Dec 16, 2002 20:44 ET



Contesting at KB9KEG's QTH.

Ran contest from home QTH. Wire antenna, horiz.double right angle loop and 500 watts. Condx were good. Sure had fun. Missed Friday night though due to work. See you next contest and 73... -- *KB9KEG*

K1HJ -- Dec 16, 2002 20:32 ET

This was my first try at the 10M contest. Worked QRP CW running 1 watt for all but 3 QSO's. I pushed it up to 5 watts to work 2 stations in New Zealand and 1 in Alaska. It was a busy weekend so only got on for about 5 hours. Nevertheless, with the limited power to an 80 meter dipole up 45 feet I managed to work 21 countries and 20 states. Hope to have more time next year.

Steve -- *K1HJ*

KB4QLZ -- Dec 16, 2002 18:26 ET

We love this contest. This year we (KB4QLZ / KB4FWN) invited a couple of new hams from the area to stop by and work some stations. KG4RTA Perry Phillips, and KG4RZT Herbert Boehm, both of Millers Creek, NC, stopped in Saturday and helped out. Both ops got the chance to work the rigs, as well as work the PC's for logging. As usual Bradley Scronce KB4FWN did



KB4FWN - Bradley Scronce

most of the radio work, and I, KB4QLZ did most of the logging and spotting. Our equipment consisted of a Kenwood TS-870S, Ameritron AL-1500, and a Force 12 C19XR at 125 Ft. We worked 49 states (missed Maine) and 82 countries, along with 9 Canadian Sections. We had a blast.

Mark – KB4QLZ

<http://www.kb4qlz.com> -- *KB4QLZ*



KB4QLZ - Mark Harrison



KB4FWN with KG4RTA Perry Phillips



KB4FWN with KG4RZT Herbert Boehm

W1JQ -- Dec 16, 2002 18:02 ET

Didn't know what to expect for conditions; 10 has sounded really flat for the past few weeks. Well, it turned out that everyone had been listening! I was surprised how good things were; nice solid openings into Europe, some good E openings to work the closer states. My dipole curtain worked like a champ.

I probably ruined a perfectly good SSB-only score by making 50 CW QSOs and entering mixed-mode, but I'm really proud of having gotten into CW at all. I've always avoided CW, and was probably the worst fist out there. But there were obviously a few guys out there who were willing to listen to my broken code. Thanks--hope I didn't create too many busted Qs for you! (Or for myself...)

Mike -- *W1JQ*

K4CNW -- Dec 16, 2002 15:39 ET

Had been playing with my old Heath Kit DX-40, VFO-1 VFO and Hallicrafters S-40B on 40 meters and decided to try them out in the 10 Meter Contest. Used an Ameco preamplifier to perk up the receiver and an Autek keyer to send with. Did not have a lot of time to operate due to a Holiday get together and Church on Sunday but had lots of fun while I was on the air. Always amazes me how much activity shows up on 10 during the contest. -- *K4CNW*



KC0LAV -- Dec 16, 2002 13:55 ET

Had fun working everyone in the contest! KC0LAV was the operator and KB5ULK was doing the logging. Even with my very modest antenna, we were able to work several DX stations!! Can't wait for the next one!! -- *KB5ULK*

WP3GW -- Dec 16, 2002 12:22 ET



Felt "enlightened", maybe the Holiday spirit

Almost a miracle had this weekend off during this holiday "shopping" season so I decided to give it a try to "see" how propagation was doing.

When it started at 0000UTC the only stations heard were from South America, US Virgin Islands-WP2Z and Cape Verde-D44TD which is one of the biggest scores with Ascencion Island-ZD8Z. Then in the morning Europe entered with force. . . .

Worked almost half the continent, mainly the western part, including Kaliningrad-UA2FB, country not heard a long time and Iceland-TF8GX, Gully who came in strong; also worked from Russia and Ukraine.

In Africa, XT1TI was a great surprise and worked my only new country, Lesotho-7P8ZZ by coincidence my QSO #100.



Lonely in my room-shack Saturday afternoon talking to the world.



Barely visible in the center is the Antron A-99, which I use. To the left is the ATV antenna In the center the silver stick is the 2 meter one

The only 2 from Oceania were Hawaii-WH6H and New Zealand-ZL1ANJ (missed very much Australia, heard some very low in the noise).

I can also acknowledge some local stations working like KP4SQ, WP4MUL, KP4KE/QRP and did work NP3P, hope they submit their logs.

Last but not least worked 33 states and some 6 Canadian provinces, the most for me on a contest.

My setup was simple: a Kenwood TS-440S, MFJ antenna tuner with 50 feet of RG-58 on an Antron-99 (see photo). With it I've done wonders, and still to submit for my DXCC!

I had a good time working this one because you could work everybody and it made you feel nice when other stations said "Thanks for the new multiplier". Also when stations learned where I come from, they also spoke back in Spanish, from places you wouldn't expect. Hey! even US stations said to me "Felicidades" (Happy Holidays)..... the good spirit of the hobby.....

73's from KP4-land Angel Santana -- WP3GW

IZ3ESV -- Dec 16, 2002 12:17 ET

I think that QRP is a nice way to be competitive... If you do not have too much time to spend on the radio, for any reason, or if you feel that your antenna system or radio cannot bear the competition on Low Power or either High Power, QRP is what you need. SSB, CW or both, QRP tastes so cool and funny that I recommend this category to everyone to be practiced at least one time on our life! By the way there has been great time on 10 meters, with good signals from all over the world, except Pacific and VK/ZL. I had the possibility to work also some absolute new ones DXCC & WAZ! What would you need more with 10W and a rotative dipole? C U next year! -- IZ3ESV



Was feeling "enlightened", maybe the Holiday Spirit



This was Saturday afternoon, lonely in a beautiful day contacting the world.



Almost a miracle had this weekend off during this holiday "shopping" season so I decided to give it a try to "see" how propagation was doing.

When it started at 0000UTC the only stations heard were from South America, US Virgin Islands-WP2Z and Cape Verde-D44TD which is one of the biggest scores with Ascension Island-ZD8Z. Then in the morning Europe entered with force. . . .

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The black antenna (barely seen on the center) is the Antron 99 covered with electric tape so the fiber doesn't come out. On the left an ATV antenna and in between, the silver "stick" is the 2 meters one.

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73's from KP4-land Angel Santana -- *WP3GW*

WD9CYI -- Dec 16, 2002 11:43 ET

WOW! What an event. This is the first time I have worked 10M contest. Over 90 contacts using a HTX-10 (25W) into a dipole 12 feet off the ground. Europe and South America were really hot Saturday morning. Also operated a little mobile Sunday afternoon. Thanks to all who made contact. 73 de WD9CYI -- *WD9CYI*

N2DUP -- Dec 16, 2002 09:26 ET

I suppose the contest bug has bitten, as I just spent a few (too few!) hours operating the 10M contest on phone -- my second contest. Although a ham for 20 years, my first contest was the SS Phone contest in November.

I love 10M, and wish I had holiday shopping done so I could have spent more time on the air for the contest. It was nice to work some DX stations, too. Can't wait for the 10M contest in 2003 -- I'll be sure to have shopping done in advance next year.

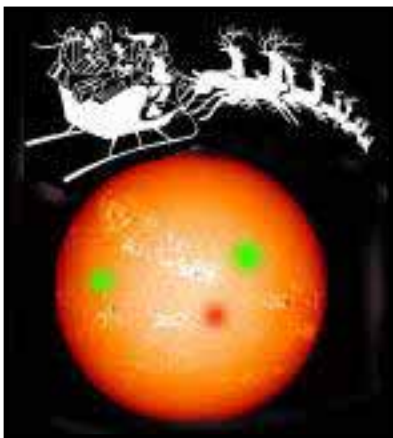
73, Chuck Gysi, N2DUP / MN Section / www.scancomm.net / N2DUP@arrl.net -- *N2DUP*

LW7EMN -- Dec 16, 2002 00:47 ET

My first contest !, thank's to all (Juan from Argentina) -- *LW7EMN*

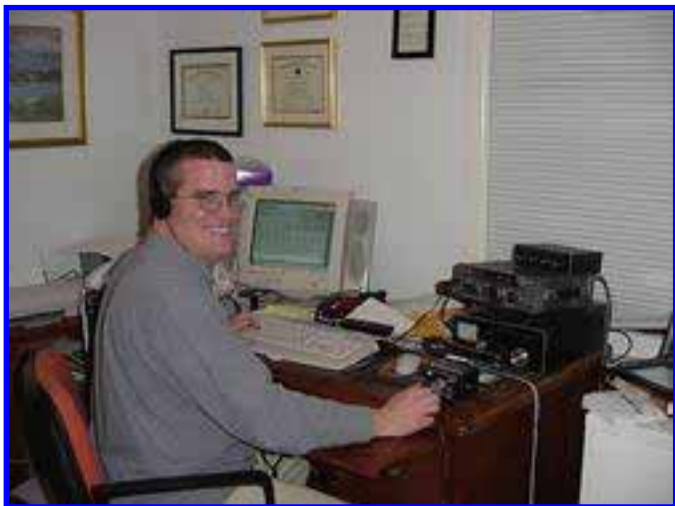
K0BJ -- Dec 16, 2002 15:16 ET

Conditions for the contest were very good, but the Kansas wx and my social calendar were even better, so I reluctantly had a limited operation. ARRL 10 has an enjoyable work-the-world format. I also really like mixed-mode operating but it sure scrambles the 'brain duping' and leads to typing in more duds than when I can rely heavily on the grey matter. 477 Qs, 147 mults and 228438 pts. -- *K0BJ*



That Old Timer 1NP came through with a Christmas gift of propagation. Can he possibly provide for us again in '03...?

N4NTO -- Dec 16, 2002 14:53 ET



Enjoyed the contest! I never made it to SSB, so here is my CW LP entry! I spent a lot of time rotating the TH-3....2 yagis on a coax switch would help.

73, Tripp -- *N4NTO*

K3EGE -- Dec 16, 2002 14:25 ET

Great contest. Worked CW only and had a blast. Thanks to contest need only 8 more countries for 10 meter DXCC and only 4 more states for 10 meter WAS. Finished up contest with ZL2BR for multiplier #114. Now got to get busy making out all the QSL cards. See you in next years contest. 73, Bill -- *K3EGE*

N8FK -- Dec 16, 2002 12:49 ET

I had a blast this year even restricted with the work schedule and unable to run full power at my condo. Qrp does work I broke thru several large pileups<barely> hope to see you all next year. 73 de N8FK Brian -- *N8FK*

N7UVH -- Dec 16, 2002 08:33 ET

I had the help of my 13 year old daughter doing the logging with cpu. Was cool seeing her with a set of head phones on. I hope the bug bit her. -- *N7UVH*

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