

# Contest Soapbox

## 2004 ARRL RTTY Round-Up

14 Soapbox entries available

### WB6IYM -- Feb 1, 2004 16:03 ET

I did not have much time to contribute this year as other commitments got in the way, but I got on for a few hours and made about 60 contacts thoroughly enjoying myself.

I used WA7BNM's web based cabrillo software to submit my log....A nifty little program for the little pistols out there. My hat is off to the author!

Hope to see you all next year. Until then....

73's and Best DX de Charles -- *WB6IYM*

### WB6IYM -- Feb 1, 2004 15:36 ET

This was my second effort in the RTTY RU. Due to other commitments, I did not have much time to devote this year, but thought I should get on when I could and submit my log for the NCCC effort. However, I did manage to make 60 contacts and I had the privilege to use the WA7BNM Web2Cabrillo software to submit my log. A very nice little program indeed. It really helps the little pistols that do not have a big investment get their logs in on time and in the proper format.

Hope to see you all again next year.

73's for now, Charles -- *WB6IYM*

### K4KHV -- Jan 24, 2004 22:24 ET

I enjoyed the SKN this year. Those worked were: WR4Z, W5RE, WB4CDR, WO4J, K4WAL, and K4CZI. Only worked 6 stations but it took nearly 5 hours, lots of ragchewing going on. I used a Johnson valiant, National HRO 7, and a key that my daddy bought me when I was 12 years old (in 1955). I hope to work these old buddies and new friends again on CW. I will be looking forward to 2005 SKN 73, Jimmy K4KHV -- *K4KHV*



**Old ventage station, Good on CW and AM**

**VE9DX -- Jan 24, 2004 13:39 ET**

Had to program an F key saying my call was VE9DX and not FX or TX. Good to see other VE9's on but maybe a call change is in order...! Always happy to QSY to other bands on request. TX: 30 watts to a vertical. As always Writelog worked flawlessly. 73 Andy (VE9DX)  
<http://www.ve9dx.com> [ve9dx@rac.ca](mailto:ve9dx@rac.ca) -- *VE9DX*

**N7MNY -- Jan 16, 2004 23:00 ET**

This is the one contest I try to never miss! There are not a lot of operators in Montana so was always happy to hear "thanks for MT" during the contest. I had a blast with low power and after the contest was over I promised myself to have a better homebrew antenna in place for 40 and 80 meters by next January. As a Radioman in the U.S. Navy I have never lost my enjoyment of RTTY! -- *N7MNY*

**M0DCS -- Jan 10, 2004 21:24 ET**

Having just returned to Ham Radio and finding the delights of RTTY, I decided to enter the contest, although with my 50watts and small ant. I knew there was no way I was going to be up there with the "Big Guns".

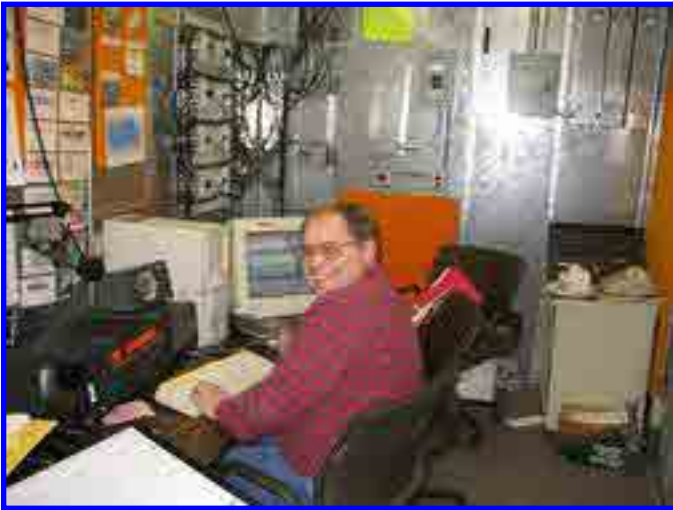
However, I have set myself a target for next year now so at least I can beat myself.

Nice contest and thanks to those US stations that could just make me out over the water.

Breaking my right hand the day before the contest did not help, but at least I had a go and gave some one a DX country.

Dave Taylor -- *MODCS*

**W0MA -- Jan 8, 2004 11:29 ET**



**AB0RX at the IC-775DSP and Henry 4K Station**

W0MA Boeing Employees ARS. AA0RX and K0BX decided to do a mult-single from our club station W0MA and to operate high power. Our goal was to make 1000 QSO's. Saturday was a big day with 564 QSO's in the log when we quit at midnight. A big run on 80 meters for 3 hours really help our total.

Sunday started at 7:30 AM. Conditions were poor and then when to bad as we had a heavy rain storm until 1 PM. Things started to improve and with a big final hour on 40 meters we made 1007 QSO's. After dupes it came down to 997 QSO's but that is close enough

Worked all states and DC. And 51 DX countries.

Cu in the next RTTY Roundup

-- *K0BX*



**K0BX at the IC-756 and AL-82 Station**



The Henry 4K amp wattmeter at a hair under 1500 watts output.

#### NA5U -- Jan 8, 2004 09:47 ET

This was my first ever contest, other than S&P for DX in other contests. It was a blast. Thanks to all those that called and provided contacts. Admittedly my first love is DX but I must say that the RTTY contest bug has bitten...hard. 73 -- NA5U

#### K4WW -- Jan 6, 2004 20:03 ET

As with each contest, that I enter seriously, my main objective is to better my last year's score. My secondary objective was reaching 1000 Q's. I doubt if I really maximised my time, and spent too much time CQing, and not enough tuning the band. I believe that a sustained rate is paramount to a high score, but now I see how a few more multipliers would have been just as important. Although I made more contacts, 19, my multiplier count was down, by 3. Finding just 1 more multiplier, would have accomplished bettering last year's score. Missing 2 hours of operating, most likely, was to blame for not reaching the 1000 Q goal. Rain static on Saturday night, rendered 80 almost useless. Rather than my planned break at 0500, I quit at 0336. I was 45 minutes late returning from my break. An unexpected visit from my son and family took another 1:15 minutes, in the middle of Sunday afternoon. That's not really a complaint, just a fact. If/when I have to choose family time or contest time, the contest will lose every time! If there was a "lowlight", it was not accomplishing the 1000 Q goal? The "highlights" include working many, many regulars, along with a couple of "moldy oldies", N5ZM and W7AY, neither of which had been on my screen for more than 6 months. I also managed to work 96 "new" (never before worked on RTTY), and after exchanging email with most of them, it was their first RTTY contest. Imagine how nice it would be to have 96 "new" contacts, per band, available in each/every contest! The most amazing part of the contest was that my rate for the last hour was as high, if not higher, as any other! Thanks to ARRL for sponsoring, the log checkers for their efforts, and last, but certainly not least, all of you that were gracious enough

to give me a contact! Without y'all, RTTY contesting would be no more fun than watching TV!  
-- K4WW

### K9COE -- Jan 5, 2004 15:49 ET

Considering I ran 50 watts and my antenna is a ground mounted vertical, I had a blast in this contest. Made lots of contacts and was 6 states shy of making WAS in the contest. Looking forward to the next one. John - K9COE -- *K9COE*

### WD9CYI -- Jan 5, 2004 11:39 ET

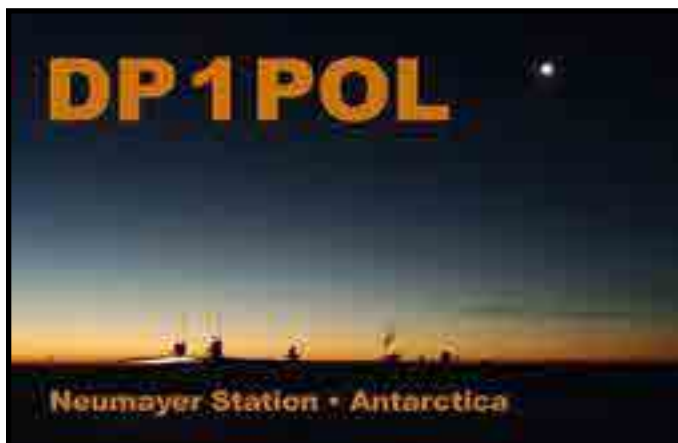
I had fun even with the modest 10-meter station. Would really like to see more RTTY operation during non event times. Always enjoyed operating "the old green keys". 73 Rich -- *WD9CYI*

### DP1POL -- Jan 5, 2004 03:12 ET



**DP1POL (DL5XL) at the operating position.**

DP1POL is located at Neumayer Station, Antarctica, Grid Locator IB59VI. I have been working here as a radio operator since December 2002, and will leave at the end of January 2004. I have had a great time in the Antarctic, it was fun to be active on the amateur bands as DP1POL. The "DP" prefix has been issued by the German authorities exclusively for use in extraterritorial locations such as German stations in Antarctica or the South Shetland Islands. I hope that my log will not be mistakenly scored for Germany as it happened in last year's ARRL CW Contest.



**The new (third edition) DP1POL QSL card.**

During RTTY Roundup, conditions were poor towards Europe and fair at best between Antarctica and North America. The weekends are normal working days at our station, and we are currently in the middle of the busy Antarctic summer season, so I did not have a lot of time at hand to operate, so I just managed to make 84 contacts. I checked the PSK frequencies for contest activity every now and then, but heard nobody participating, although there were quite

a few stations on there. Thus, all QSOs made were good old Baudot RTTY. I enjoyed using MixW V2.10 software which has great automation features for contest operation. QSL cards for

all contacts will be sent via my QSL manager DL1ZBO, Ray in Germany. -- *DL5XL*

**VE2OWL -- Jan 5, 2004 07:24 ET**

I won't say I made a great "performance", but it was a great event to "get together" again this year.

It was nice to have quiet geomagnetic conditions, especially on 80 and 40 meters. I could hear and contact many stations that I wouldn't have heard otherwise: my 100 Watts, my city location and my low dipole are not big performers.

I wish I could have heard Alaska, because I would have had all 50 states.

A consolation prize: I *\*finally\** contacted Hawaiï (yesssssss!), with contacts with KH7X during the contest! It is the last state I needed to confirm for a WAS made entirely during any of the previous Roundups. Where are my envelopes ? ...

It is the beginning of a new year, let's make some suggestions: why not make the Roundup an entirely low power event ? With the crowded bands and all this computer decoding, it should be possible ... and it would promote more efficient modes.

See you again, Stef -- *VE2OWL*

**K5PAX -- Jan 5, 2004 00:33 ET**

I had lots of fun with the event. I was a little disappointed by the very small number of PSK operations during the two days.

For next year I would recommend:

-- Include PSK63 as a permissible mode. It is excellent for high speed contesting.

-- Allow PSK and other non-RTTY mode QSOs to be counted as if they were on a separate band. This would help promote the different modes. This change would make the event reflect the growing use of PSK among active operators.

Thanks for this great opportunity. I look forward to next year.

Harvey Licht -- *K5PAX*

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