

Results, 2011 ARRL RTTY Roundup

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

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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 by operators chasing wallpaper, plaques and the head of the Top Ten box. This year we will take a regional focus and highlight participants. [See the online version at www.arrl.org/contests for the extended version of the article. — *Ed.*]

RTTY contesters often set a goal, make a plan, work on equipment, antennas, computers, programs, buffers and all the other necessary parts in the grand quest to enjoy the event. Here is a typical comment from Peter, HZ1PS: “I had two goals set for the contest. One was to work Wyoming — not achieved, unfortunately — not sure where the WYs were hiding but I still need WY to complete WAS RTTY. The other was to better my last year’s effort, which I did.”

For several years we’ve reported a yearly increase in contest logs received but this year was different. Perhaps the timing of the event, moving to a week later than normal, was significant and there were numerous conflicts with other contests. Nevertheless, participants from 132 different countries sent in nearly 1600 logs containing about half a million contacts from the 24 hours out of 30 that stations may operate.

Propagation

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 and W6WRT were the leading 10 meter stations. Phil, GU0SUP, 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.

Affiliated Club Competitions

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. The MWA has as its primary objective competing against other radiosporting clubs in North

America. I would say that they have arrived. MWA won the Unlimited gavel and made a large impact on the RTTY and radiosporting club scene. [The winning club in each of the three club categories — Unlimited, Medium, and Local — receives a gavel. — *Ed.*] 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?



W/VE

Single Operator, High Power

K4GMH 286,125
N2WK 227,456
W0LSD 220,660
K6LL 204,710
VE7CC 203,610
AB0RX
(@ W0MA) 196,650
A19T 185,328
W5AP 178,866
K5DU 174,264
W7WW 173,937

Single Operator, Low Power

AA5AU 215,180
WW4LL 177,749
VA2UP 169,813
K0TI 162,864
N2QT 160,544
KB7Q 134,800
KE5OG 125,820
KT0DX 123,354
W0AW 112,672
K0AD 100,704

Multioperator, High Power

N0NI 212,653
W0SD 194,247
K1SFA 186,405
W4RM 164,944
N8NR 146,850
K7OX 140,816
K9MBS 140,026
K4QD 138,730
K7BTW 130,694
NR4M 130,626

Multioperator, Low Power

N5RN 116,737
KS1J 79,458
W1SLF 72,900
KUIYL 64,657
N8LRG 64,130
N6MA 63,756
K9NR 54,438
W2V 54,033
N7UVH 52,060
VA7RY 45,892

DX

Single Operator, High Power

P49X
(W0YK, 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

Single Operator, Low Power

HI3TEJ 159,600
WP3C 144,509
P40P 128,068
5C5W
(CN8KD, op) 126,170
J39BS 96,416
EA3GLB 94,830
VP9/WW3S 91,368
ZC4LI 71,071
NP4BM 68,875
OQ6A
(ON5MF, op) 67,620

Multioperator, 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

Multioperator, Low Power

H13A 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

West Coast Region

Our highlighted West Coast participant is Kirk, K7EKM who is the resident tower monkey for the Spokane DX Association and wanted to try his hand in a RTTY contest. He started on 15 meters and stayed there hour after hour, saving 20 meters for later. Luckily that strategy worked as K7EKM (with 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 with many band opening differences. 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 and 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.

Midwest Region

An interesting participant from Kansas is Jeff, AC0C. Jeff operated the Roundup using his stealth contesting antennas. It’s quite a feat to get over 1,000 QSOs and 90-some thousand points with interior antennas!

Natasha, KUIYL and Alex, KUICW navigated her station to fourth overall. They won the Midwest Division and the Midwest Region in Multi-Single, Low Power. Ron, KO0Z contested with his fiancée Debbie who had such a great time that she now wants to earn her ticket.

Central Region

Our featured participant from the Central



Simo, OH2HAN operates from his ham shack that is situated in a separate building so the disturbance between family and contester is minimal.

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. 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."

Southeast Region

Living in the Southeast Region makes for great contesting and DXing, securing three overall category wins out of the four available in the US and Canada. 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 and came close but ran out of time with 490 in the log.

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. Pamela, K6NDV — whose call is often confused with that of Will, K6ND — won the New England 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!'"

New 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. On the DX end of the QSOs there was one new Continental Record set along with 35 new Country records

DX Highlights

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. 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, who wrote a great account of the contest for us to get a feel for the DX end of the RTTY Roundup — it's available in the online version of this article!

The big change this year was in the Multioperator, High Power category with what is

Affiliated Club Competition

Club Name	Score	# of Logs
Unlimited Club		
Minnesota Wireless Assn	2,183,630	64
Northern California Contest Club	1,824,779	52
Medium Club		
Potomac Valley Radio Club	1,833,820	37
Society of Midwest Contesters	1,087,536	31
Florida Contest Group	832,537	15
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	599,011	12
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	583,470	10
Contest Club Ontario	570,006	18
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	530,377	23
Willamette Valley DX Club	391,433	8
Frankford Radio Club	366,925	11
Western Washington DX Club	365,183	8
Louisiana Contest Club	336,861	3
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	329,862	3
Tennessee Contest Group	289,592	11
South East Contest Club	269,564	4
CTRI Contest Group	261,657	6
Alabama Contest Group	208,203	9
Contest Group Du Quebec	206,301	4
Kentucky Contest Group	126,966	3
Mad River Radio Club	122,954	5
Southern California Contest Club	98,867	8
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	94,687	5
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	87,410	4
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	60,110	3
Maritime Contest Club	49,944	3
Carolina DX Association	40,526	5
Local Club		
Dominion DX Group	639,851	10
Orleans County Amateur Radio Club	541,423	6
ORCA DX And Contest Club	432,781	9
Spokane DX Association	323,858	8
Boeing Employees ARS — St Louis	238,041	3
Low Country Contest Club	145,330	5
Bergen ARA	144,521	3
Kansas City DX Club	139,231	4
Skyview Radio Society	105,255	4
Metro DX Club	54,452	4
Bristol (TN) ARC	23,488	4
West Park Radiops	15,548	3

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."

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 (January 6-7, 2012). 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. Will the 4000-QSO barrier get challenged in 2012? Will 10 meters be a factor? Will SO3R be the next big breakthrough?

Sponsored Plaque Winners

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of numerous clubs and individuals, we are pleased to list the winners of the sponsored RTTY Roundup plaques listed below:

Plaque Category

W/VE Single Operator High Power — W7RM Award
W/VE Single Operator Low Power — NM7M Memorial
W/VE Multioperator High Power
DX Multioperator High Power
Atlantic Division Single Operator High Power
Delta Division Single Operator High Power
Great Lakes Division Single Operator High Power
Pacific Division Single Operator High Power
Roanoke Division Single Operator High Power
Midwest Division Single Operator Low Power

New England Division Single Operator Low Power
New England Division Multioperator High Power
Roanoke Division Single Operator Low Power
Southeastern Division Single Operator Low Power
Roanoke Division Multioperator Low Power

Plaque Sponsor

Spokane DX Association
Jim Reisert, AD1C
John Lockhart, WØDC
Paolo Cortese, I2UIY Memorial by WØYK
Orleans County Amateur Radio Club
Roland Guidry, NA5Q
Southwest Ohio DX Association
Northern California Contest Club
Mark Sihanick, N2QT
In Memoriam of Larry Lindblom, WØETC by Bob Ruvalo, K16DY
CTRI Contest Group
Cuzco Contest Club
Mike Sims, K4GMH
Alabama Contest Group
Dominion DX Group, K4VAC

Winner

K4GMH
AA5AU
NØNI
XE2K
N2WK
WB4YDL
W8JWN
KF6T
K4GMH
NTØF
W1BYH
K1SFA
N2QT
WV4LL
W4APP

To inquire about purchasing an unsponsored plaque, or for information on plaque sponsorship, please contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, at kx9x@arrl.org or by calling 860-594-0232. Plaques cost \$75, which includes all shipping and handling.

Shift to the Extended Results

Jay's online article at www.arrl.org/contests is nearly three times as large with more regional reporting, complete line scores and a searchable contest database, more photos and a sidebar by OH2HAN. Don't forget the personal stories on the ARRL's Soapbox page, too!