

# 2011 ARRL UHF Contest Results

250 logs — still to be reached!

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**T**hanks to all who participated this year — August 6-7. While this year's log submission count of 142 was disappointing and moving *away* from my hope to see the "249s" of 1994 and 1999 finally eclipsed, I still believe it *can* be done. We need to *make* the activity happen as Lloyd, NE8I reminds us. The graph of Activity by Band compares the last five years of activity.

Activity was noted from quite a few stations that did not submit a log — almost 400 additional fixed stations and 20 call signs logged with an "R" suffix (and showing activity *from* two or more grid squares) were among this year's 7000 reported QSOs. Just 15% of these stations submitting logs would have gotten the log total over 200 and 30% would have broken 250 with some margin and finally surpassed the log counts of 249 from 1994 and 1999 at last. *All* logs are appreciated and welcome, whether just a single QSO or several hundred. [Use WA7BNM's handy log submission web page at [b4h.net/cabforms](http://b4h.net/cabforms) to submit your log. — *Ed.*]

## Records and Leaders

Despite the lower activity level, there were still a few Division Category records for which the bar was raised in 2011. **Mike, WA6ZTY** (with **WD6CMU**) established a new best for Multioperator in the Pacific Division. The other two raised bars occurred in the newer Limited and Unlimited Rover categories; **Darryl, WW7D** set a new standard for Limited Rover in the Northwestern Division and **Rick, K1DS** accomplished the same feat for Unlimited Rover in the Atlantic Division.

**Bruce, W9FZ** claimed the highest QSO count of any entrant this year with 302. Aside from Bruce, 19 other entrants reported QSO counts of greater than 100. 91 entrants reported QSO counts between 10 and 99, leaving 31 with QSO counts in the single digits including 4 logs who reported only a single QSO.

One of those single-QSO logs was from **Mike, N4VBV** who was very excited to have completed his first 432 MHz QSO on SSB as well as his first QSO in a UHF contest. Mike noted that he was using an omnidirectional antenna and appreciated the heavy lifting that was performed by the other party, **Russ, K4QI**

DARRYL HOLMAN, WW7D



**WW7D's novel use of an airplane suggests new possibilities for an "aero-rover"! Do you think those radials at the base of the pole will provide any "lift" to his signals?**

for them to be able to complete the QSO. We are reminded of Bill Seabreeze's comment: Listen for the weak ones!"

## Where the Action Was

Contacts were reported with 176 different grid squares in 2011 which included **John, W3HMS** reporting a contact on 1.2 GHz with **Hannes, OE5JFL** in JN68 (presumably by EME) very likely the longest path travelled of any contact in this year's UHF Contest.

Among stations submitting logs, a total of 109 grid locators were represented. Fixed stations were active from 70 of those with 51 uniquely by fixed stations. FN31 and CN87 were most popular among the fixed stations with six logs being received from each of those, followed in popularity by: CM98 (5 logs), FN42 (5 logs), and four logs were received from each of EL98, FM19 and FN43.

The 85 grids activated by rovers were among 58 unique grid locators with 39 of those visited only by rovers. EN25, EN34, EN43, EN44 and EN52 were each visited by four different rovers. Forty-three grids were only visited by a single rover so that may have been the only way to make a contact with those multipliers.

## When Did Contacts Happen?

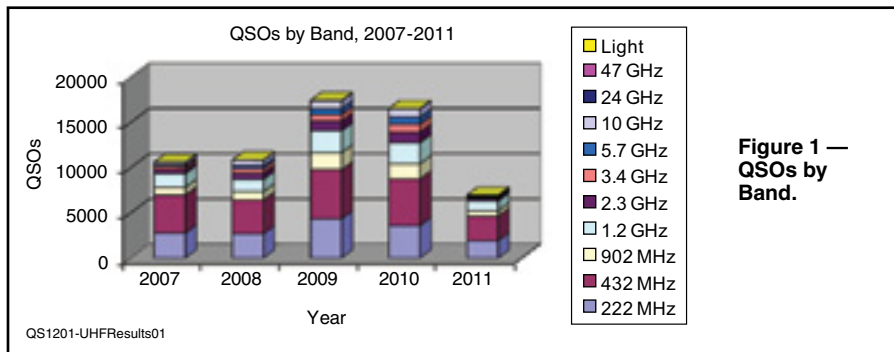
With the UHF Contest spanning only 24 hours, the graph of QSOs by hour shows the QSOs reported during each hour. The first hour was the busiest by far with almost 850 QSOs logged — about 12% of the total QSOs reported in the contest. Unlike 2010, when activity dwindled significantly after the first hour, activity remained strong through Saturday evening with almost two-thirds of the total QSOs reported occurring on Saturday.

## Top Scorers by Category

Log counts by category were 114 Single-Operator (71 Low Power and 43 High Power), 8 Multioperator and 13 classic Rovers. The 7 Limited Rovers and 1 Unlimited Rover actually matched 2010 for those categories. The 21 rovers activated 85 grids for an average of 4 grids activated by each rover.

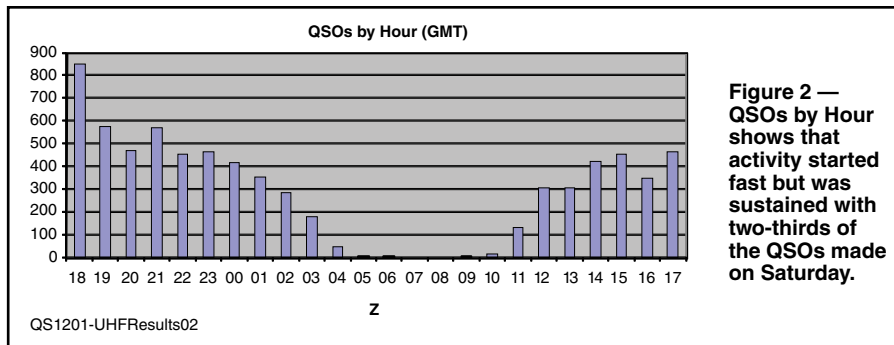
Frequent top scorer **Bob, K2DRH** returns to his familiar top spot in Single-Op, Low Power from Illinois (also the top score

The Top 10		Multioperator	
Call	Score	KB0HH	27,816
<b>Single Operator, Low Power</b>		K2LIM	25,728
K2DRH	145,410	K09A	8,277
W3PAW	59,286	WA6ZTY	7,350
N0KP	45,828	W3SZ	7,161
KC9BQA	39,072	K5QE	4,473
K2KIB	30,096	N2BJ	3,816
N9LB	29,820	W5ROK	117
W9SZ	27,531	<b>Rover</b>	
WB2SIH	23,691	W0ZQ/R	139,200
AF1T	23,232	W9FZ/R	90,870
N0TTW	9,108	W9SNR/R	60,786
<b>Single Operator, High Power</b>		N2CEI/R	26,400
WA2FGK		KC0P/R	18,648
(K2LNS, op.)	142,230	AA1I/R	8,091
K3TUF	61,746	WB8BZK/R	7,134
W0JUC	59,670	N0HZO/R	6,468
K1RZ	43,818	KA0KCI/R	6,420
K2YAZ	40,014	VE3CRU/R	3,240
WB2RVX	26,784	<b>Limited Rover</b>	
K0VXM	26,469	K9JK/R	10,800
W4WA	21,420	WA0VPJ/R	
N7EPD	17,220	(+AI0Z)	6,216
K8TQK	16,284	WW7D/R	2,790
		N6ZE/R	2,340
		WA7KVC/R	180
		KK6MC/R	105
		N2YTF/R	45
		<b>Unlimited Rover</b>	
		K1DS/R	80,142



### Affiliated Club Competition

Medium Club		
Club Name	Logs	Total Score
Badger Contesters	8	294,396
Northern Lights Radio Society	10	289,146
Mt Airy VHF Radio Club	7	189,507
Society of Midwest Contesters	4	185,034
Florida Weak Signal Society	7	62,163
Pacific Northwest VHF Society	15	43,173
North East Weak Signal Group	8	24,315
Contest Club Ontario	3	14,841



### Division Leaders by Category

Division	Call	Score
<b>Single Operator, Low Power</b>		
Atlantic	W3PAW	59,286
Central	K2DRH	145,410
Dakota	N0KP	45,828
Delta	N4QWZ	8,658
Great Lakes	N8AIA	690
Hudson	K2KIB	30,096
Midwest	N0TTW	9,108
New England	AF1T	23,232
Northwestern	KD7UO	3,621
Pacific	AF6RR	3,876
Roanoke	K4FJW	1,632
Southeastern	W2BZY	6,348
Southwestern	K6TSK	3,540
West Gulf	WB5ZDP	8,787
Canada	VE7FYC	2,736
<b>Single Operator, High Power</b>		
Atlantic	WA2FGK (K2LNS, op.)	142,230
Central	W0UC	59,670
Dakota	K0AWU	11,514
Delta	AA4DD	1,392
Great Lakes	K2YAZ	40,014
Hudson	K2AMI	252
Midwest	WA0ARM	60
New England	N1JEZ	6,417
Northwestern	N7EPD	17,220
Pacific	KC6ZWT	4,752
Roanoke	K4QI	5,742
Rocky Mountain	WA7KYM	792
Southeastern	K0VXM	26,469
West Gulf	W5VHF (K5SW, op.)	1,125
Canada	VA3ST	10,836
<b>Multipoperator</b>		
Atlantic	K2LIM	25,728
Central	KO9A	8,277
Pacific	WA6ZTY	7,350
West Gulf	KB0HH	27,816
<b>Rover</b>		
Central	W9FZ/R	90,870
Dakota	W0ZQ/R	139,200
Midwest	KA0KC/R	6,420
New England	AA11/R	8,091
Northwestern	K7HPT/R (+W7OE)	2,064
Rocky Mountain	KR0VER/R	1,476
Southeastern	N2CEI/R	26,400
Canada	VE3CRU/R	3,240
<b>Limited Rover</b>		
Central	K9JK/R	10,800
Dakota	WA0VPJ/R (+AI0Z)	6,216
Hudson	N2YTF/R	45
Northwestern	WW7D/R	2,790
<b>Unlimited Rover</b>		
Atlantic	K1DS/R	80,142

overall) followed by **Paul, W3PAW** from Western Pennsylvania. **Dave, N0KP** rounds out this year's SOLP scorers with a fine third place score from Minnesota.

After a seven-year "chain" of **KM0T** and **K1TEO** being among the top-three finishers in Single-Op High power, neither submitted a log in 2011. That allowed Eastern Pennsylvania's **WA2FGK** piloted by **Herb, K2LNS** to claim Top Spot honors in SOHP. Another EPA entrant, **Phil, K3TUF** stepped up to the second spot and **Paul, W0UC** claimed third place from Wisconsin.

In the Multipoperator category, **Gary, KB0HH** (along with **KC5DPT** and **KD5EKX**) operated from Gary's Oklahoma bunk house station and finished in first place. The **K2LIM** "LIM Amateur Radio Group" (operated by **KA2LIM, KB2YCC** and **W9KXI**) took "The Limo" (and trailers) to their favorite Western New York location and stepped up a spot over 2010 to finish second. **Jim, KO9A** added "packet" as his second operator to claim third place for 2011 from his Illinois QTH.

Without the concentrated, high-scoring rover participation from Southern California that has been present in recent years, the top three scorers of the 13 classic Rover entrants were back in the middle of the country. **Jon, W0ZQ** led the way, visiting seven grids around Minnesota with eight bands. **Bruce, W9FZ** visited eight grids around Wisconsin with six bands for second place and **Jim, W9SNR** rounded out the top three, travelling among four Illinois grids with his eight-band rover. While the author wrote in last year's results article that he planned to not be "limited" in 2011, **John, K9JK** was

again Limited and claimed the top spot in Limited Rover this year, visiting four grids in Illinois with three bands. Second and third places in Limited Rover were **John, WA0VPJ (+Mark, AI0Z)** visiting four grids around Minnesota with three bands and **Darryl, WW7D** visiting six grids around Western Washington with two bands, including travel by air and hiking on foot (see Darryl's description and photos at [tinyurl.com/ww7dUHF2011](http://tinyurl.com/ww7dUHF2011)). **Rick, K1DS** was the sole entry in Unlimited Rover in 2011 visiting three grids around Eastern Pennsylvania with his eight-band rover.

### What About the Clubs?

Clubs were definitely present in 2011, with 84 of the 142 logs giving a club name in their Cabrillo log file. That is consistent with the 60% of logs that have listed a club name since Club Competition started in the UHF Contest. With that lower log count, though, not as many clubs were listed. Twenty-five different club names were found compared to 33 in 2010. Only eight clubs met the minimum of three logs submitted to be eligible for the Club competition and all were in the Medium Club category so there is no Local Club gavel for 2011.

The battle for the 2011 Medium Club gavel turned out to be very close, with 8 logs from the Badger Contesters aggregating a total score of 294,396 and narrowly edging ahead of Northern Lights Radio Society's 10 logs and 289,146 aggregate point total.

### Still Hoping for 250 in 2012!

Winter is upon us as this *QST* is being delivered into your hands (or extended web version being posted). January's VHF Sweepstakes will happen soon, followed by Spring VHF & Up Sprints in April and May, then June's VHF QSO Party (or will it be another June Six Meter QSO Party in 2012?). Before we know it, that first full weekend of August 2012 will be here, offering the opportunity for another 24 hours of radiosport on the bands 222 MHz and Up starting at 1800 UTC on August 4, 2012.

### Looking for More?

The "ultra-high" version of this article at [www.arl.org/contests](http://www.arl.org/contests) provides additional discussion, tables and charts for more in-depth contest reporting.