

2012 ARRL November Phone Sweepstakes Results

The year that Ontario cracked up and split.

by Steve London, N2IC, n2ic@arrl.net



By all measures, Solar Cycle 24 has been less than stellar. Ol' Sol started really cranking for last year's Phone Sweepstakes, but just when we thought the solar flux was headed up-and-away, the sunspot cycle stopped dead in its tracks and the solar indices were nearly identical to last year's. However, that is actually a good thing for Phone Sweepstakes: 10, 15 and 20 meters were great in the daytime and 40 and 80 meters were great all night. The weather over North America was tranquil, too, resulting in low noise levels on all bands.

This was the first year since 2000 that the number of available multipliers increased — from 80 to 83, thanks to Ontario splitting into four new Radio Association of Canada (RAC) sections. With Ontario North (ONN) being the most thinly populated, there were fears of a difficult Clean Sweep. But as with the CW weekend, Ontario North was *not* the rarest section.

This was the second year for entries in the Single Op Unlimited Low Power and Multioperator, Low Power categories. The

popularity of these categories has increased, now that there are “new” records to be broken and benchmarks to be set. As a result, we have 103 new section records and 28 new division records!

The New Clean Sweep

The splitting of Ontario into four RAC sections (Ontario North — ONN, Ontario South — ONS, Ontario East — ONE, and Greater Toronto Area — GTA) created new challenges for earning a Clean Sweep. By working at least one station in each of the 83 sections, 329 participants made the grade. For a number of entrants, this was their first Clean Sweep. KØKR (operating as K7KU), who has been operating Sweepstakes since 1963, commented that this was his first sweep on both modes in the same year.

104 more operators came so close, missing by just one section. It looked like Ontario North would be the most challenging section, but no....it was Ontario East with 17 missed sweeps! What's the story there? ONE contains Ottawa, the Canadian capital and fourth largest city. Seems those ONE-philes prefer CW to SSB. Next was the perennial toughie, Puerto Rico (12 missed sweeps). The third most difficult was the Virgin Islands (10 missed sweeps). For those of you still wondering “Where were these sections?” they were all well represented. Many thanks to VE3PUX, VE3KI, VE3AAQ, VA3NW, VE3IAE, VE3DVY, NP4G, NP4A, WP3GW, KP4/KH2RU, WP2Z and NP2X. Special thanks also to Northwest Territories stalwarts VY1EI, VE8GER and VE8NSD.

Who was the first to earn a Clean Sweep? That honor goes to team W2FU, who made the sweep in the Multioperator, High Power category at 0118Z. Their last section was San Francisco. Just five minutes later, team K1LZ completed their sweep, working Quebec. The first single operator

to make the Clean Sweep was WB2ZAB, working Virgin Islands at 0307Z.

Close Races

Intra-section rivalries have been part of Sweepstakes since the very beginning, resulting in very close races. Sometimes, the photo finishes are completely accidental and the participants didn't even know their competition was going to be active. 2012 was no exception.

In what has to be an amazing coincidence, Alec, W2JU, was again part of the closest section race, just as he was in 2011. Alec changed to the Single Op, High Power category this year, beating Jack, W1WEF, by a single contact for the Connecticut title. Alec and Jack both operated only 12-13 hours, so there was plenty of opportunity for either of them to take a commanding lead.

Only two QSOs separated the South Texas Georges, NR5M and K5TR, in the Single Op, High Power category. Nationally, this put NR5M in the #4 slot and K5TR in #5. K5TR had what appeared to be a solid 32 QSO lead with 2 hours left in the contest. It was George versus George on 40 meters to the end but NR5M simply had a better frequency and better rate to finish up the contest.

In the Illinois Single Op, High Power category, Matt, KB9UWU operating at WR9D, beat Craig, K9CT by 10 contacts. Congratulations, Matt! Colorado also had a close race in the Single Op, Low Power category, with Tom, NØGOS finishing just 11 contacts ahead of Shel, KFØUR. These weren't the only close races. Details of all the section close races can be found in the table “Close Races.”

Single Op, High Power Category (SOHP)

Almost every year, Single Op, High Power is the most competitive of the six Sweepstakes

Accuracy Honor Roll (Minimum of 400 QSOs)			
Call	# QSOs	Category	Error Rate (%)
K1OW	410	SOLP	0.2
W3WC	460	SOHP	0.4
N4BP	1469	SOHP	0.5
KE8FO	408	SOLP	0.5
VE5MX	755	SOUHP	0.5
WA8ZBT	612	SOLP	0.5
VA7RR	1392	SOLP	0.6
AB2KX	405	SOHP	0.7
N4CW	417	SOHP	0.7
N4VA	416	SOUHP	0.7
K4IVF	565	SOHP	0.7
NU0Q	543	SOUHP	0.7
VE3RCN	713	SOLP	0.7
W1MA	683	SOUHP	0.7
W2JU	602	SOHP	0.7
AB4GG	936	SOUHP	0.8
N9IO	651	SOUHP	0.8
ND0C	527	SOQRP	0.8
NK8Q	469	SOQRP	0.8
WD9CIR	1202	MH	0.8
AE7AP	434	SOLP	0.9
K3TN	426	SOHP	0.9
KD0S	781	SOQRP	0.9
KH6CJJ	445	SOLP	0.9
N1YX	552	SOHP	0.9
N3AFT	645	MH	0.9
N4HXI	418	SOUHP	0.9
N8SNM	1211	SOUHP	0.9
N9TF	439	SOUHP	0.9
VE2AWR	432	SOLP	0.9
VE3KI	642	SOHP	0.9
VE6BBP	947	SOHP	0.9
WD0ECO	645	SOUHP	0.9

Close Races				
Winner	Runner-Up	Section	Category	Margin of Victory (#QSOs)
NØGOS	KFØUR	CO	SOLP	11
K1KG	WC2W	EMA	SOLP	30
K2UF	K2XA	ENY	SOLP	21
WQ5L	AE5BR	MS	SOLP	21
W2JU	W1WEF	CT	SOHP	1
WR9D	K9CT	IL	SOHP	10
NR5M	K5TR	STX	SOHP	2
K4OV	W4MR	NC	MH	33
W3LL	N3RR	MDC	UH	28

Sponsored Plaque Winners



ARRL is pleased to award a Sweepstakes plaque to the Overall and Division Leaders in each entry category, thanks to Icom America and numerous clubs and individuals who sponsor these awards. For more information on plaque sponsorship or to order a duplicate plaque, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X at (860) 594-0232 or kx9x@arrl.org. Plaques cost \$75, which includes shipping charges.

Division/Category	Plaque Sponsor	Winner	Division/Category	Plaque Sponsor	Winner
Overall			Northwestern		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Don Lisle, K6IPV	VY2ZM	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	W7WA
Single Operator Low Power Phone	ARRL Contest Branch — Ken Adams, K5KA Memorial	KH6LC (NH6V, op)	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	N7XU (K4XU, op)
Single Operator QRP Phone	QRP Amateur Radio Club International	KD0S (WD0T, op)	Single Operator QRP Phone	Barbara Yasson, AC7UH	NN7SS (K6UFO, op)
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	K4XS	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	W7JL
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	W4AAA (KK9A, op)	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	KL2HD
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W6Y1	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	K7IR
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	K3JD	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	KU7K
School Club Phone	David Brandenburg, K5RQ	W6YX	School Club Phone	Icom America	No Entrant
Atlantic			Pacific		
Single Operator High Power Phone	North Coast Contesters	W2RE	Single Operator High Power Phone	The Carroll Dean Jensen Memorial (K6CDJ)	WC6H
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Potomac Valley Radio Club	K3UA	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	KH6LC (NH6V, op)
Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	NK8Q	Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	K9YC
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	N2MM	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	W7RN (WX5S, op)
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	K3MD	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	K7XC
Multioperator High Power Phone	Mark Sickmeyer, KB3GJ Memorial	W2FU	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	K6MMM
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	K3JD	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	NZ6Q
School Club Phone	Icom America	K2CC	School Club Phone	Icom America	W6YX
Central			Roanoke		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Society Of Midwest Contesters	A49A	Single Operator High Power Phone	Potomac Valley Radio Club	NN3W
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Society Of Midwest Contesters	WT9U	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Raleigh Amateur Radio Society — W4DW	WA3OFC
Single Operator QRP Phone	Sean Kutzko, KX9X	N9NE	Single Operator QRP Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	WK4P
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	N2BJ	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	W4NF
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	W9IU	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	W4AAA (KK9A, op)
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	WD9CIR	Multioperator High Power Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	K4OV
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	W9QL	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	N2XQM
School Club Phone	Icom America	N9GTC	School Club Phone	Ronnie Reams WA4MJF & Sherry Reams KB4EXL	K4KDJ
Dakota			Rocky Mountain		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Minnesota Wireless Association	NE0U	Single Operator High Power Phone	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	W0UA
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Minnesota Wireless Association	N0KK	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	WA7LNLW
Single Operator QRP Phone	Tod Olson, K0TO	KD0S (WD0T, op)	Single Operator QRP Phone	Colorado QRP Club	N1XH/7
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Minnesota Wireless Association	K1KD	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	WA5ZUP
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Tod Olson, K0TO	K0AD	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	W0RAA
Multioperator High Power Phone	In Memory of Jim Dokmo, K0FVF Minnesota Wireless Association	N0GF	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	K0CL
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	W0ZF	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	W5MPZ
School Club Phone	Tod Olson, K0TO	K0VYV	School Club Phone	Icom America	No Entrant
Delta			Southeastern		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	K0EJ	Single Operator High Power Phone	David Brandenburg, K5RQ	WP2Z (NQ6N, op)
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	NA4K	Single Operator Low Power Phone	David Brandenburg, K5RQ	W4LT
Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	N5EE	Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	W4SVO
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	W5WUW	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Charlie Wooten, NF4A	K4XS
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	K2FF	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	N4KH
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W5RU	Multioperator High Power Phone	David Higdon Jr KD4ICT — With thanks to W4QO	WD4IXD
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	KJ5FA	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	WA1F
School Club Phone	Icom America	W5YM	School Club Phone	Icom America	W4UAL
Great Lakes			Southwestern		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Mad River Radio Club	K8AO	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	K6NA (N6ED, op)
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Mad River Radio Club	WZ8T	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	K9WZB
Single Operator QRP Phone	Mad River Radio Club	K78K	Single Operator QRP Phone	N6HE and W6DLD	KK7EL
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	N8SNM	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	K6LL
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	KW8N	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	W6TK
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W8BI	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	W6Y1
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	KC8PKY	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	NX6T
School Club Phone	Icom America	W8SH	School Club Phone	Icom America	No Entrant
Hudson			West Gulf		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	N2NC	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	NR5M
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	W2ID	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	WD5K
Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	W2JRO	Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	WJ5RM
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	W2GDJ	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	N5ZC
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	K2DFC	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	N5DO
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	KA2D	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	KB0HH
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	W2EF	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	K5LIB
School Club Phone	Icom America	No Entrant	School Club Phone	David Brandenburg, K5RQ	K5LBJ
Midwest			Canada		
Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	WA0N	Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	VY2ZM
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Society Of Midwest Contesters	KU0G	Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	VA7RR
Single Operator QRP Phone	Icom America	KC0MO (K0OU, op)	Single Operator QRP Phone	Frank Merceret, NA4CW	VA3DF
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	N0XR	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	VE3ONN
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	NU0Q	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	VE3MGY
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	K0S	Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	VO2WL
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	KB0VVT	Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	No Entrant
School Club Phone	Icom America	K0HC	School Club Phone		
New England					
Single Operator High Power Phone	Icom America	NC1I (K9PW, op)	Single Operator High Power Phone		
Single Operator Low Power Phone	Icom America	AE1P	Single Operator Low Power Phone		
Single Operator QRP Phone	QRP Club of New England	W1MR	Single Operator QRP Phone		
Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone	Icom America	WB1GQR (W1SJ, op)	Single Operator Unlimited High Power Phone		
Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone	Icom America	K1ZO	Single Operator Unlimited Low Power Phone		
Multioperator High Power Phone	Icom America	K1LZ	Multioperator High Power Phone		
Multioperator Low Power Phone	Icom America	WA1J	Multioperator Low Power Phone		
School Club Phone	Michael McKaughan, K1DM	W1AF	School Club Phone		

Top Ten by Category

Single Operator, High Power	Single Operator, Unlimited, Low Power
VY2ZM 341,794	W4AAA (KK9A, op) 233,728
W7WA 333,826	KW8N 200,030
WP2Z (N6N, op) 331,170	K7XC 184,260
NR5M 319,550	K8BL 177,288
K51R 319,218	N5DO 171,976
K7RL 312,246	N6ZFO 138,092
NN3W 302,618	N4KH 134,128
WC6H 288,176	K2DFC 133,464
K5NA (WM5R, op) 283,860	W6TK 126,160
K6XX 281,204	K2FF 124,998
W2RE 281,204	
Single Operator, Low Power	Multi-Operator, High Power
KH6LC (NH6V, op) 273,568	W6YI 371,342
VA7RR 231,072	K0CL 305,440
N0KK 230,076	W5RU 285,520
VE5ZX 202,852	K7IR 280,208
VE6E 200,362	K4OV 276,224
K9WZB 198,370	W4MR 270,746
W4LT 191,066	WY7SS 266,430
NP4G 189,406	W2FU 266,098
WD5K 179,612	K1LZ 261,450
KI6LZ 173,470	W1VE 245,016
Single Operator, QRP	Multi-Operator, Low Power
KD0S (WD0T, op) 129,646	K3JD 198,868
NN7SS (K6UFO, op) 96,778	KB0VVT 168,158
W4SVO 92,988	K3AJ 145,084
ND0C 87,482	NX6T 134,792
NK8Q 77,854	N2XQM 106,904
VA3DF 69,056	W2TZ 101,094
KT8K 66,584	WA1J 95,284
KJ5RM 62,240	NZ6G 85,822
KC0MO (K0OU, op) 61,254	W5MPZ 85,822
N9NE 59,360	W0ZF 80,524
Single Operator, Unlimited, High Power	School Club
K4XS 318,720	W6YX 258,296
K6LL 293,156	K0HC 231,736
N5ZC 281,536	W1AF 137,614
N0XR 273,070	W5YM 130,974
WB1GQR (W1SJ, op) 265,102	W0EEE 101,260
W7RN (WX5S, op) 249,830	W8SH 97,940
K1KD 248,004	K0VVY 74,240
W5WMM 247,340	K2CC 73,470
W1SRD 245,508	W1KBN 64,306
N2BJ 245,182	W1YK 63,018

categories. This year, the top three competitors were from the continent's "corner pockets" and their time-off strategy seems to have converged — take off 5 to 6 hours between 0700Z and 1300Z.

Congratulations to Jeff, K1ZM, operating from VY2ZM at his Prince Edward Island QTH. This is the second time in three years he has taken the title. Jeff took advantage of 40 meters on Saturday night to stay in the race, and 20 and 10 meters on Sunday to take and hold the lead.

In 2nd place, 48 contacts behind, was Dan, W7WA. Dan had a substantial lead through Saturday night, but the high bands were not kind to him on Sunday, putting him in the #3 position most of the day. From the Virgin Islands, Matt, NQ6N, operating from WP2Z, came close to challenging Jeff on Sunday by taking advantage of the great high band propagation from down south, but slipped once the Sun went down in the tropics.

Single Op, Low Power Category (SOLP)

The Low Power category continues to be the most popular with 781 submitted logs. Unlike most other years, in 2012 the Single Op, Low Power Top 10 was missing stations from the central and northeast portions of North America. As in 2011, Rob, NH6V, and Gary, VA7RR, battled for the top spot. However, unlike last year, the victory was decisive with Rob, operating from KH6LC taking first by 301 contacts. Congratulations, Rob!

The battle between 2nd and 3rd place was extremely tight, between Gary, VA7RR, and Kirk, NØKK. Gary got off to a great start, building up a 125 contact margin by 0300Z. However, that lead quickly dissipated, with Kirk taking advantage of excellent 80 meter conditions from Minnesota, while Gary struggled. Gary made a total of only 50 contacts between 0400Z and 0900Z. Ouch! Kirk continued to dominate through mid-day Sunday, building up a 154 contact lead. But then, as can often happen in contests, Gary's fortunes changed. He had great hours on 10 and 15 meters on Sunday afternoon and clawed his way back, finally taking the lead from Kirk in the last hour. Great perseverance, Gary!

Single Op QRP Category (SOQRP)

The QRP category increased in popularity with 97 operators toughing it out. The winner was Todd, WDØT, operating from KDØS in South Dakota. Todd tried QRP last year, finishing number 9. He obviously learned some lessons, making 781 QSOs and setting a new division record. Todd's 5 watts sustained some excellent runs on 15 meters. Mark, K6UFO, operating from NN7SS near Seattle, came in 2nd with 583 QRP contacts and a Clean Sweep.

Single Op Unlimited, High Power Category (SOUHP)

After many great Phone Sweepstakes finishes from Hawaii, Bill, K4XS, returned to his North Florida roots with a decisive win. 40 meters was Bill's workhorse band with nearly half of his contacts. Surprisingly, a total of only 302 contacts were made on 10 and 15 meters. For the second consecutive year, 2nd place went to Dave, K6LL, operating from Arizona. Dave's southwestern strategy was entirely different from Bill's, making 982 contacts on 10 and 15 meters.

Single Op Unlimited, Low Power Category (SOULP)

In this, the second year of this category, 140 participants entered. Competition is heating up! John, KK9A, operating as W4AAA, from North Carolina was the winner, with 1408 contacts setting a new category record, more than double the previous mark. John's contacts were almost equally divided among 80, 40 and 20 meters. Perennial high-power competitor Bob, KW8N, stuck his toe into low power, taking 2nd place with 1205 contacts. Tim, K7XC, turned off his amplifier this year to take #3.

Affiliated Club Competition

Unlimited Category	Score	Entries
Potomac Valley Radio Club	20,112,044	267
Northern California Contest Club	8,116,740	107
Society of Midwest Contesters	7,370,044	126
Minnesota Wireless Assn	6,558,292	101
Yankee Clipper Contest Club	5,958,598	82
Medium Category	Score	Entries
Southern California Contest Club	4,928,036	48
Florida Contest Group	4,090,446	50
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	3,030,364	44
Contest Club Ontario	3,011,416	50
Frankford Radio Club	2,981,556	37
Alabama Contest Group	2,895,106	40
Western Washington DX Club	2,737,760	27
Georgia Contest Group	2,395,710	31
Tennessee Contest Group	2,367,700	37
Mother Lode DX/Contest Club	2,279,988	32
Mad River Radio Club	2,159,562	24
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	2,063,458	21
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	2,040,868	18
DFW Contest Group	1,947,168	30
North Coast Contesters	1,887,368	20
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	1,609,918	20
North Texas Contest Club	1,319,544	13
Willamette Valley DX Club	1,108,996	18
Maritime Contest Club	950,120	12
Utah DX Assn	928,892	9
Saskatchewan Contest Club	827,112	9
Louisiana Contest Club	783,584	8
CTRI Contest Group	769,694	10
Northern Rockies DX Association	752,286	5
South East Contest Club	685,140	13
Kentucky Contest Group	599,736	8
Order of Boiled Owls of New York	595,150	8
ORCA DX And Contest Club	575,618	7
Rochester (NY) DX Assn	561,732	14
Contest Group Du Quebec	547,146	13
Mississippi Valley DX/Contest Club	454,472	9
Allegheny Valley Radio Association	339,316	8
Radio Club of Redmond	329,676	6
Eastern Iowa DX Assn	317,002	4
Motor City Radio Club	301,480	11
East Coast Canada Contest Club	256,794	4
Western New York DX Assn	192,988	4
Carolina DX Association	173,406	6
Local Category	Score	Entries
New Mexico Big River Contesters	1,194,616	7
Iowa DX and Contest Club	927,234	6
Kansas City Contest Club	689,182	9
Spokane DX Association	541,636	8
Contocook Valley Radio Club	446,414	3
Sussex County ARC	313,790	3
Central Oregon DX Club	304,898	3
Bristol (TN) ARC	298,168	8
Hazel Park ARC	291,694	10
CorTek Radio Association	289,646	4
Oakland County Amateur Radio Society	254,914	3
Metro DX Club	254,644	7
Delara Contest Team	242,368	5
Lincoln ARC	237,212	3
All Amateur Radio Club	183,750	3
Hilltop Transmitting Assn	178,546	4
Rappahannock Valley Amateur Radio	148,828	4
Portage County Amateur Radio Service	146,476	7
Kansas City DX Club	135,898	3
West Park Radiops	122,418	5
Granite State ARA	113,872	5
Alexandria Radio Club	109,846	4
Stoned Monkey VHF ARC	108,926	5
Bergen ARA	93,756	5
Milford (OH) ARC	83,694	3
Sterling Park ARC	73,972	4
Badger Contesters	73,252	3
10-70 Repeater Assn	70,812	3
Pueblo West Amateur Radio Club	67,242	6
Falmouth ARA	58,616	3
Northern Ohio DX Assn	53,464	3
Southern Berkshire ARC	50,740	5

In the Single Op Unlimited, Low Power category 37 new section records were set. But there is still a lot of low-hanging fruit to go after in 2013.

Multioperator, High-Power Category (MH)

The W6YI team of Jim, W6YI; John, K6AM; Dan, N6MJ, and Dennis, N6KI, added Tim,

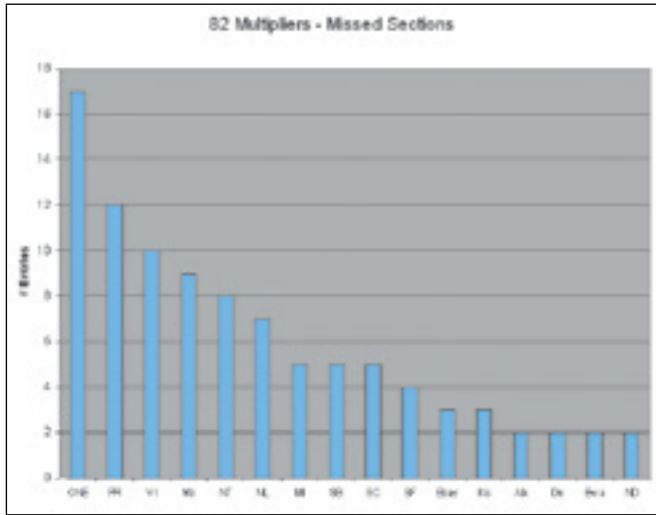


Figure 1 — So close and yet so far — this chart tallies how many stations missed only one of these sections in their quest for a Clean Sweep.

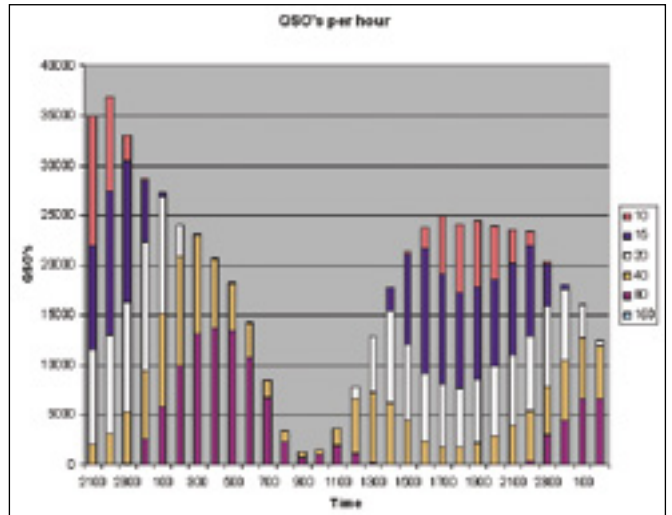


Figure 2 — If you want to know where the stations were throughout the contest, this chart shows how many contacts were made on each band during each hour.

N6WIN to their team and ran away with the #1 spot for the 6th consecutive year dynasty! The Colorado team of KØDU, KØCL and KØUK slipped into 2nd place, knocking out last year's 2nd place W5RU Louisiana team who took 3rd place in 2012.

Multioperator, Low-Power Category (ML)

The Multioperator Low-Power category increased in popularity. Sixty five entries were received. The winner was a new team at K3JD, operated by K3JD, W7TBG and KB3YYB. With nearly 1200 contacts in this low power category, they showed they were a force to be reckoned with! They made all but 19 of their contacts on 80 and 20 meters!

Making it a family outing, the Rich family of Rebecca, KBØVVT; Dave, KGØUS; and Barbara, KGØUT, took the #2 slot from Missouri. 95% of their contacts were made on 15 meters! K3AJ made it a team effort in 2012, partnering with AB3CV while placing 3rd. A large team of operators shared NX6T from San



Mike, K2KR, operated at the "Field Day in November" Family Sweepstakes station that was the Missouri Multioperator High-Power winner. [Mike Wilson, K2KR, photo]

Diego, taking 4th place. This was another almost-single-band entry, with 812 of their 830 contacts made on 15 meters.

Twenty five new section records were set in this category.

School Club Category (S)

Twenty four schools competed in the School Club Category. The perennial battle between Stanford University, W6YX and Hesston College, KØHC continued. This year, KØHC was short-handed, giving W6YX a decisive victory. However, the Hesston College team should be proud of their lowest error rate in the category, losing only 1% of their contacts.

Harvard University, W1AF, placed 3rd. The University of Arkansas, W5YM, moved up from 11th in 2011 to 4th in 2012, more than doubling their previous number of contacts. The Missouri University of Science and Technology club, WØEEE, remained in the 5th slot this year.

Club Competition

Thanks go to the many clubs who encouraged their members to get on the air for Sweepstakes. In comparing the number of Sweepstakes entries and contacts from 2012 with 2011, there is no doubt that club support plays a key role in overall activity. We can't thank the clubs enough — and, of course, their members for their commitment, dedication and understanding families. Please, clubs...support Sweepstakes in 2013! Encourage your members to be active. This year, 1558 participants submitted their CW and Phone SS scores towards club aggregate scores.

In the Unlimited Club category, the Potomac Valley Radio Club ran away from the other four megaclubs, with 267 entries for 20.1 million points. In 2nd place was the Northern California Contest Club, with 107 entries totaling 8.1 million points. The Society of

Midwest Contesters again took 3rd place, with 126 entries and 6.6 million points.

In the Medium Club category, The Southern California Contest Club emerged victorious, with 48 entries and 4.9 million points. That is 8.9% higher than 2011 and a whopping 102,667 points per entry! The Florida Contest Group took 2nd place with 4.0 million points. The race between the 3rd place Arizona Outlaws Contest Club and 4th place Contest Club Ontario was a photo finish. Just 140 more total contacts in the 50 logs of Contest Club Ontario would have put them ahead.

In the Local Club Category, the Albuquerque, New Mexico-based Big River Contesters again took first place with 7 entries, averaging 170,659 points per entry. Super job! The Iowa DX and Contest Club took 2nd place just one big score behind, and the Kansas City DX Club took 3rd place.

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Sweep Up More Online

There's more available in the online version of the Sweepstakes writeup: additional detail about the contestants, charts and tables, QSO-by-QSO horse races and the complete set of line scores. Browse to www.arrl.org/sweepstakes for Steve's full article!