

# Results of the 2014 CQ WW VHF Contest

By STEVE BOLIA\*, N8BJQ

**“N**ot the best of times, not the worst of times!” This is how NIØW describes the 2014 CQ VHF contest. Depending on where you operated from, the contest was either very good (Europe) or not quite as good (everywhere else). From the scores reported and the comments by K9AKS, the European 6-meter, ops had a great time while most of North America struggled until the last few hours of the contest.

Marshall, K5QE, summed up the contest from the North American side of the world:

*“The contest started out simply terrible. There was no propagation at all on Saturday and the moon rose about 2:30 a.m. on Sunday. We had a great run on EME thereafter. The weekend coincided with the DUBUS 2-meter digital EME*

*[Earth-Moon-Earth] contest, so there were a lot of guys on from EU that were working their contest. We made 72 EME contacts this time, mostly for new grids in the contest. That is a new record for us. Six meters finally opened up Sunday afternoon, so we had a lot of good Es contacts. I don't remember the exact grid count on 6 meters, but it was in excess of 150 grids. So, except for a very slow start, we did fairly well this year. We work harder and try harder for this contest than any other VHF contest. The rules for the CQ WW VHF contest are the main reason why this contest is the best VHF contest that we have.”*

For the first time, the most logs were received from outside of North America (375 to 371). The 746 entries were down a bit from the 2013 record. While North American submissions were down, entries from Europe and Asia increased by about 60. Total Qs were down about 10,000 from last year but

grids activated stayed the same at 417. Rovers activated 111 grids and 23 of those were unique grids. Thanks, guys.

Now for a few words from our records custodian, Curt, K9AKS:

*While many North American operators were grumbling about the below-average 6-meter conditions, European stations were celebrating excellent conditions on that band and breaking numerous all-time records. The previous high number of 6-meter QSOs made in Europe was 440, by Multi-op UU9A in 2011. This year eight entries exceeded that total, three of them working over 500. This year the six highest European scores ever were posted in the 6-meter-only category, led by S59A's 111,000. Of the 25 highest 6-meter-only European scores in the history of the contest, 12 of them were posted this year.*

*European entries in other categories benefited from the good 6-meter conditions. DL2OM barely edged out HG1W in the all-band category, 94,000 to 93,000. Their two scores were the highest scores ever from Europe in the category, the previous high being 77,000 scored by DL2OM in 2003. HA5KDKQ and UX2KA, two QRP stations, had exceptional scores of 68,000 and 40,000 respectively, the second and third highest ever from Europe. In the Multi-op category, HA6W's 239,000 was the third highest ever in Europe. Their 472 QSOs on six and the 474 worked by AMØ5SR are the two highest Multi-op, 6-meter QSO totals ever worked in Europe.*

*Beyond the big year on six in Europe, we find only a few scores that stack up against scores from previous years. In the Hilltopper category, the 6,325 points scored by HA2VR/P was the top score this year and the second highest ever in Europe. In the 2-meter-only category, EO6F reached over 15,000, the highest ever from Ukraine. Finally, although he was not able to benefit from 6-meter conditions in Europe because he was roving around Illinois and Iowa, ACØRA/R scored over 99,000, historically the fifth highest rover score from that region.*



The E20AX ops assembling the 6-meter beam.

The records pages at <http://www.cqww-vhf.com> should be updated by the time this article is published.

## USA

Bob, K2DRH, topped the all-band category with a fine 101,000 score. Jay, W9RM, was second; Bruce, KG6IYN, finished third (see Bruce's "Unofficial 2014 Left Coast Report" elsewhere in this article. - ed.), followed by Jim, W4RX, and Ken, WØETT. All of the 6-meter propagation started and ended at W5PR's QTH. Chuck worked 484 stations in 155 grids for 75,000 points. Tom, WD5K, was second, followed by Austin, N4WW; Emil, W3EP; and Vince, KØSIX. The 2-meter title goes to Don, NL7CO, followed by Ron, KAØRYT; and Todd, N4QWZ. Steve, WI2W, takes the Hilltopper title with Zack, W9SZ, second and the Oregon Summits on the Air Association manager, Steve, K7ATN, finishing third. Official records keeper Curt, K9AKS, is number one in the QRP category with an excellent 11,500-point effort. Steve, N2CEI, used his new portable setup (see photo) to take second with Axel, N8XA, coming in third. Wyatt, ACØRA, did a great job to capture the Rover title with Darryl, WW7D, placing second; and N2SLN in third place. In the Multi-op category, Marshall

and crew at K5QE (W7XU, NØQJM, K5MQ, AE5VB, K5QE, N5YA, KE5VKZ, WA5FWC, and VE3WY, ops) took advantage of a good EME multiplier total to take the top spot. The gang at K2LIM (KA2LIM, W9KXI, KB2YCC, and WA3CSP, ops) made the best of marginal conditions, GREAT food, and several flavors of home-brewed beer to finish second, with W4MW (K4CEB, K4VCF, W3OA, W4GRW, W4WNT, WW4CP) third. The Wopsonnock Mountaintop, ops W3SO (W3BC, W3BTX, W3IDT, W3TM, WA3TTS, and W3YOZ, ops) came in fourth and N9UHF (K9TMS, N9REP, K9HA, W1MRK, and KM9M, ops.) rounded out the top five.

## DX

The World All Band title was hotly contested with Roland, DL2OM, edging out Gabor, HG1W, for the top spot by 838 points. HG1W made more Qs but DL2OM had 32 more grids. Third goes to Dusan, OK1DC; with Nickolay, UT8IO, fourth; and Sergey, US7VF, fifth. This was the year for 6 meters in Europe. Drago, S59A, is the 6-meter champ with a European record of 110,000 points. The next five (E73S, EI9FBB, Z37M, LY1R, and HA8IB) also broke the existing European record.

Nikolay, EO6F, had a great 2-meter score to finish number one in the World followed by Petro, UT5DV; Karoly, HG5BVK/P; Somjai, E22HUV; and Chiradet, HS8JWH. Gyula, HA2VR/P, wins the Hilltopper category with UR5QU less than 100 points behind and HA1WD/P in third. HA5KDQ (HA5IW op) is the QRP champion with Sergey, UX2KA, in second and Luis, EA1SI, in third. The crew at HA6W (HAØMK, HAØLZ, HA6ZFA, HA5OKU, HA6WX, HAØLO, and HAØLC, ops) had the third highest Multi-op score ever in Europe followed by AMØ5SR (EA5GF, EA7IYI, EA5HYC, EA5SR, EA5BJ, and EA5HPX, ops) and UZ5ZZZ (UX1HW, UT7HA, UR6HBH, UY1HY, and UW7LL, ops).

## Other Stuff

Thanks to an anonymous donor, two



How much extra gain did K7ULS get from the birds?

## TOP SCORES WORLD

<b>All Band</b>	HA1WD/P .....2,640
DL2OM .....94,128	IZ2JNN/IN3 .....1,224
HG1W .....93,290	HS4WLA/P .....624
OK1DC .....40,749	
UT8IO .....25,920	<b>QRP</b>
US7VF .....21,670	HA5KDQ .....68,101
YO6FNA .....10,296	UX2KA .....40,256
	EA1SI .....10,650
<b>6 Meters</b>	OK7N .....4,440
S59A .....110,962	YL2CV .....3,456
E73S .....91,205	
EI9FBB .....90,540	<b>Rover</b>
Z37M .....83,293	HS8IMH/R .....966
LY1R .....81,940	HS1PYT/R .....224
	YU4VIP/R .....198
<b>2 Meters</b>	VE3RKS/R .....91
EO6F .....15,552	
UT5DV .....5,040	<b>Multi-Op</b>
HG5BVK/P .....4,428	HA6W .....239,316
E22HUV .....4,000	AMØ5SR .....78,210
HS8JWH .....3,150	UZ5HZZ .....60,310
	J48KEF .....29,440
<b>Hilltopper</b>	E2ØAW .....26,275
HA2VR/P .....6,325	
UR5QU .....6,237	

## USA

<b>All Band</b>	K7NIT .....572
K2DRH .....101,728	K4SME .....560
W9RM .....72,504	
KG6IYN .....50,731	<b>QRP</b>
W4RX .....26,052	K9AKS .....11,592
WØETT .....25,620	N2CEI .....7,729
	N8XA .....3,619
<b>6 Meters</b>	KKØQ .....1,960
W5PR .....75,020	N4TZH .....700
WD5K .....28,980	
N4WW .....16,072	<b>Rover</b>
W3EP .....11,440	ACØRA/R .....99,681
KØSIX .....11,242	WW7D/R .....59,976
	N2SLN/R .....27,825
<b>2 Meters</b>	W3DHJ/R .....22,220
NL7CO .....1,440	W7QQ/R .....20,160
KAØRYT .....1,302	
N4QWZ .....1,134	<b>Multi-Op</b>
KD8NYO .....560	K5QE .....198,930
<b>Hilltopper</b>	K2LIM .....69,125
WI2W .....2,375	W4MW .....61,728
W9SZ .....1,652	W3SO .....41,820
K7ATN .....1,349	N9UHF .....20,054





Here is N2CEI's new portable setup, with which he placed second in the QRP category.

additional plaques will be added for the 2015 contest. One will be the "Marshall P. Williams, K5QE Highest Portable 2m Single Band Award" for the highest 2-meter, single-band only North American entry operating from a location not their normal operating location. The intent is to encourage people to go out and activate a grid that is not normally active and/or to encourage those of us who live in HOA restricted areas to operate Field Day style.

The second will be the "Edward J. 'Ned' Sterns, AA7A Worked Most North American 2m Grids Award" for the station (any category) that works the most North American grids on 2 meters. If you would like to sponsor a plaque (or more than one), please contact me.

Line scores and other boxes will be on the CQ Magazine website at the same time the results are published in the magazine. Records and other "stuff" will be on the <<http://www.cqww-vhf.com>> website.

I'm not too proud to beg — please send in a log even if you work only a couple of stations. If you can't do an electronic log, I will take just about everything (except on a napkin or an 8-

## GRID LEADERS BY BAND

### WORLD

Single Op 50 MHz	Multi Op 50 MHz
S59A .....218	HA6W .....203
E73S .....185	AM05SR.....165
DL2OM .....181	UZ5HZZ .....153
EI9FBB .....180	J48KEF .....109
HA8IB .....175	UT7E .....109

144 MHz	144 MHz
EO6F .....81	HA6W .....56
DL2OM .....41	HG6Z .....39
HA5KDD .....37	9A5G .....36
UT5DV .....36	9A1I .....29
UY9VY .....27	9A1CEQ.....21

### USA

Single Op 50 MHz	144 MHz
W5PR .....155	K5QE .....97
W9RM .....155	W3SO .....43
K2DRH .....125	K2LIM .....43
WD5K .....115	N8ZM .....31
K7ULS .....97	W4MW .....30

144 MHz	Rover 50 MHz
K2DRH .....51	AC0RA/R .....129
NT0V .....41	W7QQ/R .....109
W4RX .....34	WW7D/R .....103
N9DG .....27	W3DHJ/R .....91
KA0RYT .....21	AF5Q/R .....74

Multi Op 50 MHz	144 MHz
K5QE .....188	AC0RA/R .....94
K2LIM .....82	N2SLN/R .....43
W9RVG .....72	K9JK/R .....41
W4MW .....66	WW7D/R .....33
W4NH .....61	WB2SIH/R .....27

## QSO LEADERS BY BAND

### WORLD

Single Op 50 MHz	Multi Op 50 MHz
Z37M .....511	AM05SR .....474
S59A .....509	HA6W .....472
EI9FBB .....503	UZ5HZZ .....344
E73S .....493	J48KEF .....230
LY1R .....482	HS5AR .....196

144 MHz	144 MHz
E22HUV .....250	E20AW .....501
HS8JWH .....225	E27AC .....297
HA5KDD .....122	E22FFJ .....296
EO6F .....96	HS3SMO .....291
HG5BVK/P .....82	E29BMW .....291

### USA

Single Op 50 MHz	144 MHz
W5PR .....484	K2LIM .....198
W9RM .....374	W3SO .....144
K2DRH .....322	K5QE .....92
WD5K .....252	W4MW .....90
KG6IYN .....247	KB0HH .....46

144 MHz	Rover 50 MHz
KG6IYN .....138	WW7D/R .....221
K2DRH .....128	AC0RA/R .....187
W4RX .....91	W7QQ/R .....142
WA2NVN .....52	W3DHJ/R .....134
N9DG .....51	N2SLN/R .....115

MULTI OP 50 MHz	144 MHz
K5QE .....606	AC0RA/R .....130
K2LIM .....371	WW7D/R .....110
KB0HH .....520	N2SLN/R .....75
W4MW .....421	K9JK/R .....54
W3SO .....309	K9PW/R .....41

# YAESU

## NEED A YAESU HT?

Get a great price **and** this **FREE** emergency go-bag when you order your Yaesu HT from Universal Radio. This insulated bag protects your radio on-the-go and there is plenty of extra room for spare batteries, accessories, *Repeater Directory* (not included) and more. Visit [www.universal-radio.com](http://www.universal-radio.com) for details!

**universal radio inc.**

**Universal Radio**  
6830 Americana Pkwy.  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
◆ Orders: 800 431-3939  
◆ Info: 614 866-4267  
[www.universal-radio.com](http://www.universal-radio.com)

done and gone. I lost perhaps 30 to 40 "possible" contacts because folks were trying to turn antennas, light up an amplifier, dial me in better, or want to have a conversation: "Well, I just turned the radio on and I was tuning around and I heard you calling CQ so I thought I would give it a try," followed by pop, sizzle, crackle, loss of signal and the potential contact. Good practice for VHF ops who haven't ever had to experience these kinds of band conditions, but frustrating overall for the losses that occurred.

Generally, as many of us do, we plot our grid squares on a map after the contest, for fun if nothing else. In most of those cases, we'll see a resulting "first hop" pattern emerge for wide areas of the continental U.S. where there were Es and other conditions supporting the band openings. For those of us here on the "Left Coast," every once in a while, we might see the "second hop" pattern emerge as well. This time around my "propagation map" was just plain random and ugly. Instead of blocks or chunks of the maps being colored in, showing openings that were larger in nature or persistent, mine was just one big and fairly open "checkerboard" with little to no patterns that developed. *Just weird.*

On Sunday, fun times were had when I found K2DRH and then an hour later, K1TEO, who were also on 50.135 where I had been running for several hours on my side, as they were doing the same from theirs. Several more from the northeastern U.S. made it in my log before the double hop opening fizzled out.

Overall, the contacts were on the light side, propagation was everything from tropo, Es, scatter, backscatter, side scatter, you name it, and it was there. Many contacts were made with better signal quality when the 6M7JHV was pointed anywhere other than a direct path to the contact. An interesting note for those who have worked VHF via aurora, was that many of the contacts had that deep QSB and "crackle" characteristic even though that wasn't the case. I think I'll formally call this year's contest "98 Grid Squares, the Hard Way" ☺.

Thanks as always to CQ magazine for promoting and sponsoring this contest, as well as all of the other "patient" operators who participated in the event. My thanks as well to my aspiring "ham" daughter, Kira, who helped me set up and tear down and shuttled food and iced tea to me, as well as being my cheerleader to carry on while times were really slow. Kira continues to learn the process by logging in parallel and learning the mechanical parts, which include how the radios work, as well as the operator parts of making contacts. Perhaps next year, it'll be her soapbox instead of mine. ☺

— 73, Bruce KG6IYN

## 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

# Six Meters, A Guide To The Magic Band

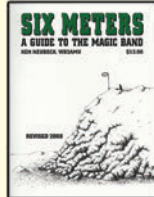
by Ken Neubeck WB2AMU

The fourth edition of the ultimate book on Six Meters is still available! The original edition was published by Worldradio, Inc. in 1994. The 2008 fourth edition is the most complete version with information on propagation, equipment and antennas for the Magic Band.

Special 20th anniversary price of \$18.00 includes shipping and handling and personalization by the author.

Please indicate callsign and name for personalization when ordering.

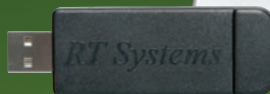
Please make check or money order to:  
Ken Neubeck, 1 Valley Road, Patchogue, NY 11772



## DON'T MISS OUT ON THE CONVERSATION.

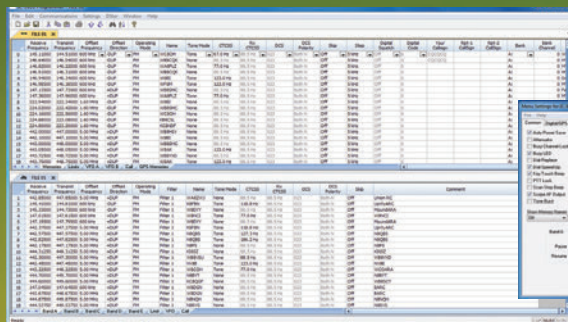
Get on the Air Quickly!  
It's soooooo easy...

RT SYSTEMS  
RADIO PROGRAMMING  
SOFTWARE\* KITS



161  
188 unique radio  
Programmers... and growing.  
Check for your radio model.

Easily explore ALL the features of your radio. Options you struggle to set from the face of the radio can be set up and saved in the Programmer. Software\* programming kits available for 161 different radio models from many radio manufacturers.



\* Each Programmer is unique to a specific radio... just as your radio is unique in itself.

- Set Up All Memory Channel Details
- Easily Change Menu Items
- Read Current Radio Configuration
- Copy and Paste Between Files - Even Files for Different Radios
- No Comport Setup
- Interface Directly to External Data Sources
- Import Data from CSV Files
- Programming and Control USB Cables for Current and Past Radio Models

Available Directly from RT Systems or Your Local Radio Dealer.



RADIO PROGRAMMING MADE EASY

800-476-0719 | www.rtsystems.com

Personal Assistance Mon.-Fri., 8:00-5:00 Mountain Time



## Pete's First Shot at Roving

Pete, KØBAK, had never entered a ham contest before nor operated VHF, but thought he'd like roving. In about a month he started from scratch to get an "all-mode" radio, two beams, and a walk-up mast on a trailer hitch. Operating from the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania on Saturday and the Delmarva Peninsula on Sunday, he had a blast making his first contacts from eight grids. Getting out of the car to turn the mast by hand was a pain, and having to install the antennas at each stop took a lot of time, but he learned a lot and is looking forward to future contests as a rover.



Pete operating near the intersection of FM19, 29, 18, and 28. At this mast height, he can drive very slowly to the next grid a little way down the road. (Courtesy of KØBAK)



Pete discovered one of the many hazards of roving ... there should be a good operating site down this road, but the maps didn't show it was private. (Courtesy of KØBAK)

inch floppy disk). There are several "free" logging programs that are readily available, easy to set up and export the log in the correct format. Contest loggers work much better than DX logging programs for exporting the correct information. There were easily 200 or more stations that appeared in multiple logs but did not submit a log. **If you need help, please ask.** More logs means more accurate log checking for all. All paper logs get typed in. Paper logs go to P.O. Box 481, New Carlisle, OH 45344. Cabrillo logs go to <cqvhf@cqww-vhf.com>. You may type in your paper log at

<[http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/cqwwvhf\\_cab.php](http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/cqwwvhf_cab.php)> and it will be submitted to the robot.

Thanks to K9JK and K9AKS for their invaluable assistance throughout the year. They act as my sanity check in addition to other duties (JK does the certificates and Curt keeps the all-time records). Without their help, my job would be a lot tougher. Complete scores are on the CQ website.

The 2015 contest will be held on July 18 & 19. Mark your calendar. Let's all ask the propagation gurus for some help that weekend.

– 73, Steve, N8BJQ

### CLUB COMPETITION

(Minimum of 3 entries required for listing)

#### UNITED STATES

Club Name	# Entries	Score
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	8	153,627
PACIFIC NORTHWEST VHF SOCIETY	13	146,877
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	15	130,476
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	14	88,841
CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION	3	62,968
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	7	59,413
ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	11	49,088
DFW CONTEST GROUP	7	44,735
NORTH TEXAS CONTEST CLUB	3	40,306
NORTH EAST WEAK SIGNAL GROUP	6	36,450
BADGER CONTESTERS	3	36,210
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	9	20,498
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	5	19,978
NORTHERN LIGHTS RADIO SOCIETY	6	17,998
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	4	13,188
CTRI CONTEST GROUP	3	12,131
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	6	9,711
CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB	3	9,702

SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	4	9,489
FLORIDA WEAK SIGNAL SOCIETY	3	8,324
BRISTOL (TN/VA) ARC	4	3,365
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	4	1,773

#### DX

UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	11	128,873
HA-DX-CLUB	4	77,055
LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB	3	33,156
BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB	4	30,510
RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION	3	19,683
BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB	4	17,789
SIAM DX GROUP	8	16,228
RADIO CLUB KVARNER RIJEKA	3	11,960
CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	12	11,105
CONTEST CLUB SERBIA	8	6,822
BERGEN ARA	4	5,640
SP DX CLUB	3	5,566
CDR GROUP	8	4,006
CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	3	1,284