

Results: North American Sprint CW — September 2014

The 75th running of the North American CW Sprint took place on the first Saturday in September 2014. Conditions were close to excellent for most stations, except for those subjected to bad weather. Apparently many stations in the South and East had to deal with local storms that either created lots of QRN or, in some cases, were severe enough to force them off the air altogether or at least for part of the contest.

Forty meters seemed in good shape for most stations, even at 0000 UTC. This enabled some of the two-radio stations to make more than 100 contacts in the first hour and take an early lead. As the contest went on, however, some of these stations fell back to Earth, and then noisy conditions on 80 made it tough for them to finish strong. As a result, contact totals were down slightly, with no stations reporting more than 350 QSOs. Only one station, KW8N, was able to record more than 100 contacts on 80 meters.

Another big factor that influences the order of finish is multiplier totals. Some participants have been frustrated over the past few years with multiplier counts that were not competitive. It is certainly difficult to come up with a good strategy that guarantees a good multiplier count, although it does seem that the two-radio ops who call CQ a lot on a band that has been worked out still tend to scare up a few more mults. Curiously the station that logged the most contacts, N5KO/6, just barely made it into the Top 10 box.

One idea that has been kicked around is to change the scoring algorithm so you'd add your multiplier total to your contact total. So, if you worked 350 stations and 50 multipliers, your total score would be 400 instead of 17,500. While a multiplier would still benefit your score, it would not have as large an impact. It would take some work to redo the records using the new algorithm, of course, but this could be done. Let us know what you think of this idea in your soapbox comments for the next Sprint.

It was interesting to hear K7GM operating a remote site in Maine from North Carolina. How far away are we from deciding one hour before the contest what state we plan to operate from? Do we need some kind of website to coordinate remote operations, so we don't end up with four

people operating from North Dakota at the same time?

High Power

The High Power category continues to have a high level of competition by top operators, and if you made it into the Top 10, you achieved something some operators only do once or twice in their contest careers. Achieving his *first win* in a CW Sprint was Bob, N6TV. He has operated the Sprint for a very long time, and his scores have continued to improve. Everything finally came together for him this time, though, and he pulled off the victory. It was a close finish, as Andy, N2NT, was right on his heels, less than one contact behind. Bob's clean log helped him stay ahead in the final analysis. Third place went to Steve, N2IC/5, followed by Mike, W9RE. We had a tie for fifth place between N9RV and W1AW/7. Finally, N5RZ, KØEU, NO3M, and N5KO/6 finished out Top 10. The geographical spread in the Top 10 is impressive, with scores coming from most areas of the country except the Southeast.

In the single-radio category, Dick, N6AA, came out on top, ahead of Mike, K9NW. The competition in this box was also pretty strong, with nine scores topping 12,000 points.

Low Power

The Low Power category continues to be very popular. Once again, Steve, N9CK, ended up with the top score. Second place went to Bob, KU5B, who edged out former *NCJ* Editor Al, KØAD. Don, W4OC, came in fourth from South Carolina, followed by Hal, W1NN/8.

QRP

We received seven QRP entries. First place went to Ken, KE3X/4, in Virginia with a total of 234 contacts. Jim, K8MR, came in second with 158 contacts. Mark, K6UFO, operating NN7SS came in third.

Team Competition

The Ad Hoc team posted the winning score. Scattered about the country, this team put together top-tier scores from the high power and low power boxes. The second-place team was the Northern California Contest Club Team #1 with scores

all from Northern California (imagine that). While they were not able to match the scores of Ad Hoc team, they certainly held their own with an average score more than 12,000 points. Third place went to the NCC/MRRC East team, followed by the DFW Contest Group.

This time around saw a complete team from Montana. Pat, N9RV, decided to copy the blueprint used recently for other state-based teams and signed up 10 stations. This is an excellent way to increase participation. We have to wonder when we will see an all-Nevada team, or perhaps all-Iowa? Forming a team like this brings new blood to the contest, making it a healthier event over the long term.

Golden Logs

Congratulations are due to the 11 operators who came through log checking unscathed. This included two logs containing more than 300 QSOs (N2IC and N3RC), the Low Power winner, N9CK, with 290 contacts, NAØN and K6AW with QSO totals in the 270s, and K1AR, W2RQ, and NA4K, each logging more than 100 contacts.

Records

Two new records were set during this running. Mike, K8CN, updated his QRP record of 2 years ago from New Hampshire, and Zoli, HA1AG, submitted the first-ever score from Hungary, with 10 contacts.

Next Time

The next CW Sprint takes place on February 8, getting underway at 0000 UTC (this is February 7 in US time zones). Participants may operate for the full 240 minutes from 0000 to 0359 UTC inclusive. If you start a contact just before the clock ticks over to 0400, feel free to finish it and log it at 0359 UTC.

For team registration, use the *NCJ* web page, www.ncjweb.com. Logs can be submitted via e-mail to cwsprint@kkn.net or using the log submission form on the *NCJ* web site. *Logs are due 7 days after the contest!* Final scores are typically posted within 2 weeks and announced on the cq-contest mail reflector and posted on the *NCJ* web page.

Scoring Summary (scores in bold type are new records)

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mlt	Score	Bnd Chg	Team
K1KI	TOM	CT	116	114	74	304	42	12,768	8	Team Chowda
W1UJ	*JAY	MA	89	102	65	256	43	11,008	80	Team Chowda
K6ND	CHAS	MA	81	90	62	233	40	9,320	2	Team Chowda
K1AR	JOHN	NH	5	100	45	150	37	5,550	2	
K7GM	RICK	ME	10	34	46	90	32	2,880	2	
K8CN	**MIKE	NH	10	31	7	48	26	1,248	5	
N2NT	ANDY	NJ	109	134	87	330	48	15,840	137	NCC/MRRC EAST
N2NC	JOHN	NJ	88	111	75	274	40	10,960	8	NCC/MRRC EAST
W2LC	SCOTT	NY	78	93	75	246	43	10,578	2	
NW2K	DEAN	NY	71	104	67	242	41	9,922	40	NCC/MRRC EAST
W2RQ	BILL	NJ	31	34	63	128	36	4,608	2	
K2UA	RUS	NY	64	58	0	122	34	4,148	1	NCC/MRRC EAST
WW2Y	PETER	NJ	54	23	0	77	27	2,079	1	NCC/MRRC EAST
NO3M	TY	PA	108	138	93	339	43	14,577	164	Ad Hoc
K3LR	TIM	PA	92	114	88	294	42	12,348	5	NCC/MRRC EAST
K3UA	*PHIL	PA	80	99	79	258	40	10,320	5	NCC/MRRC EAST
N3QE	*TIM	MD	79	96	61	236	37	8,732	78	PVRC YET AGAIN
N3DXX	ART	DE	21	40	32	93	31	2,883	2	
AA3B	BUD	PA	45	21	0	66	26	1,716	23	
WA1HEW	*BOB	PA	14	31	13	58	27	1,566	2	
K4RO	KIRK	TN	91	134	90	315	44	13,860	112	Ad Hoc
N4AF	AL	NC	106	122	79	307	45	13,815	102	Ad Hoc
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	108	111	92	311	40	12,440	2	Southeastern Sprint
W4OC	*DON	SC	94	99	88	281	43	12,083	38	Ad Hoc
KØEJ	MARK	TN	78	103	92	273	41	11,193	2	Southeastern Sprint
N4DW	DAVE	TN	80	90	75	245	42	10,290	5	Bristol (TN) ARC
KU8E	*JEFF	GA	75	104	59	238	42	9,996	78	NCC/MRRC EAST
KE3X	**KEN	VA	79	92	63	234	40	9,360	6	PVRC YET AGAIN
K7SV	*LAR	VA	80	86	81	247	37	9,139	8	PVRC YET AGAIN
N4OX	*JAY	FL	84	79	54	217	42	9,114	2	Southeastern Sprint
AA4CF	CHAS	GA	63	76	35	174	37	6,438	3	Southeastern Sprint
W3YY	BOB	VA	60	58	38	156	38	5,928	2	
N5TOO	*VAN	GA	47	71	30	148	35	5,180	13	
N8FF	*KEN	TN	44	55	34	133	36	4,788	7	Bristol (TN) ARC
K1TN	*JIM	FL	69	45	0	114	36	4,104	3	
NA4K	STEVE	TN	27	74	0	101	32	3,232	1	
WB4OMM	**STEVE	FL	13	15	0	28	23	644	1	
AA4DD	DAVE	TN	26	12	0	38	14	532	1	Bristol (TN) ARC
W4PA	*SCOTT	TN	0	20	0	20	13	260	0	
N2IC	STEVE	NM	125	133	81	339	46	15,594	181	Ad Hoc
N5RZ	GATOR	TX	109	128	85	322	46	14,812	153	DFW Contest Group
N4OGW	TOR	MS	112	121	81	314	45	14,130	116	Ad Hoc
N3BB	JIM	TX	122	124	65	311	44	13,684	146	Ad Hoc
KU5B	*BOB	TX	113	105	70	288	43	12,384	6	DFW Contest Group
K5OT	LARRY	TX	102	93	76	271	42	11,382	16	DFW Contest Group
KZ5D	ART	LA	108	94	69	271	42	11,382	50	Southeastern Sprint
W5KFT	ROB	TX	111	110	59	280	40	11,200	2	
K5WA	BOB	TX	104	96	66	266	42	11,172	104	DFW Contest Group
WQ5L	*RAY	MS	98	98	55	251	41	10,291	2	DFW Contest Group
K5YAA	JERRY	OK	92	93	64	249	40	9,960	2	
N5DO	*DAVE	TX	75	106	47	228	41	9,348	4	DFW Contest Group
N5QQ	RON	TX	81	94	48	223	37	8,251	23	DFW Contest Group
K5CI	LEO	TX	80	73	43	196	40	7,840	5	DFW Contest Group
N5XZ	ALLEN	TX	48	33	0	81	35	2,835	1	
NM5M	*ERIC	TX	1	56	0	57	28	1,596	1	
N6TV	BOB	CA	123	133	82	338	47	15,886	100	NCCC #1
N5KO	TREY	CA	119	139	86	344	42	14,448	165	NCCC #1
N6RO	KEN	CA	121	121	81	323	43	13,889	82	NCCC #1
N6AA	DICK	CA	117	115	74	306	44	13,464	2	SCCC #1
K6XX	BOB	CA	117	108	77	302	43	12,986	12	NCCC #1
W6YX	MIKE	CA	119	99	76	294	44	12,936	8	NCCC #1
K6LA	KEN	CA	107	111	65	283	44	12,452	38	SCCC #1
N6XI	RICK	CA	107	110	65	282	43	12,126	6	NCCC #1
AE6Y	ANDY	CA	102	103	88	293	41	12,013	50	NCCC #1
K7GK	DENIS	CA	102	111	60	273	42	11,466	8	NCCC #2
AJ6V	ED	CA	120	91	50	261	42	10,962	2	NCCC #2
K6AW	STEVE	CA	100	96	74	270	40	10,800	8	NCCC #1
N6ZFO	*BILL	CA	89	95	64	248	41	10,168	4	NCCC #2
N3ZZ	TOM	CA	93	95	66	254	40	10,160	5	NCCC #1
K6MR	KEN	CA	85	84	63	232	41	9,512	5	NCCC #2
K6SRZ	ALAN	CA	93	91	59	243	39	9,477	2	NCCC #2
K9YC	JIM	CA	92	92	39	223	40	8,920	4	NCCC #1
KZ2V	NICK	CA	79	89	42	210	40	8,400	2	NCCC #2

Call Sign	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mlt	Score	Bnd Chg	Team
K6MM	JOHN	CA	82	77	40	199	38	7,562	2	NCCC #2
W6RGG	BOB	CA	60	54	52	166	35	5,810	2	NCCC #3
W4EF	MIKE	CA	96	34	0	130	38	4,940	2	SCCC #1
KA3DRR	*SCOT	CA	51	60	34	145	34	4,930	5	
KM6Z	*VLAD	CA	56	79	0	135	35	4,725	33	
W6OAT	RUSTY	CA	76	24	0	100	35	3,500	1	NCCC #2
K6LRN	DICK	CA	0	64	0	64	30	1,920	0	NCCC #3
N6AN	REX	CA	67	0	0	67	26	1,742	0	SCCC #1
K6XV	*BOB	CA	27	23	8	58	19	1,102	6	
K6DGW	SKIP	CA	5	23	0	28	16	448	1	NCCC #3
K6CSL	*BERT	CA	8	17	5	30	14	420	2	NCCC #2
W6SX	HANK	CA	0	7	0	7	7	49	0	NCCC #2
N9RV	PAT	MT	120	135	76	331	46	15,226	143	Montana Sprinters
W1AW/7	HIRAM	OR	127	121	83	331	46	15,226	130	Webfoot Paddlers
N3RC	CHRIS	MT	124	116	69	309	42	12,978	2	Montana Sprinters
K8IA	BOB	AZ	81	114	83	278	42	11,676	2	Arizona Outlaws Cont
N7XU	*DICK	OR	88	105	69	262	42	11,004	10	Webfoot Paddlers
KB7Q	GENE	MT	86	92	70	248	43	10,664	2	Montana Sprinters
KJ9C	MEL	MT	104	86	77	267	39	10,413	4	Montana Sprinters
K7BG	*MATT	MT	110	100	35	245	40	9,800	12	Montana Sprinters
KE7X	FRED	MT	87	83	62	232	41	9,512	2	Montana Sprinters
K2PO	*BILL	OR	77	92	50	219	42	9,198	2	Webfoot Paddlers
WJ9B	WILL	ID	67	94	70	231	39	9,009	12	
WS7L	CARL	OR	99	78	37	214	38	8,132	6	Webfoot Paddlers
KY7M	LEE	AZ	99	94	0	193	41	7,913	1	Arizona Outlaws Cont
AA7V	*STEVE	AZ	87	100	0	187	42	7,854	3	Arizona Outlaws Cont
K0SN	TOM	MT	54	69	79	202	38	7,676	6	Montana Sprinters
W7WHY	TOM	OR	38	81	67	186	39	7,254	4	Webfoot Paddlers
W9CF	*KEVIN	AZ	84	77	25	186	39	7,254	10	Arizona Outlaws Cont
N6VR	RAY	AZ	27	58	59	144	38	5,472	2	Arizona Outlaws Cont
NN7SS	**BURT	WA	65	63	13	141	34	4,794	2	NCCC #3
W8NF	DAVE	OR	31	66	28	125	31	3,875	2	Webfoot Paddlers
KL7SB	STEVE	AK	94	13	0	107	33	3,531	1	
W7KF	DOUG	MT	45	0	0	45	21	945	0	Montana Sprinters
WN7Y	*RON	MT	17	8	0	25	18	450	1	Montana Sprinters
KW8N	BOB	OH	87	105	102	294	44	12,936	32	NCC/MRRC WEST
W1NN	*HAL	OH	89	103	88	280	42	11,760	79	NCC/MRRC WEST
ND8L	RAY	OH	68	76	49	193	42	8,106	3	NCC/MRRC WEST
K8ND	JEFF	OH	63	94	54	211	38	8,018	4	NCC/MRRC WEST
N8SS	*EARL	MI	65	84	50	199	40	7,960	2	NCC/MRRC WEST
W8WTS	*JIM	OH	37	81	53	171	43	7,353	11	NCC/MRRC WEST
K8MR	**JIM	OH	56	71	31	158	39	6,162	13	NCC/MRRC EAST
W8UE	*TED	MI	49	61	16	126	40	5,040	3	
N8XX	**NANCY	MI	3	30	25	58	27	1,566	3	NCC/MRRC WEST
K8GO	*GLEN	MI	2	3	0	5	5	25	1	NCC/MRRC WEST
W9RE	MIKE	IN	97	130	94	321	48	15,408	145	Ad Hoc
K9NW	MIKE	IN	94	117	82	293	45	13,185	10	NCC/MRRC WEST
N9CK	*STEVE	WI	90	114	86	290	44	12,760	79	Ad Hoc
W19WI	*JIM	WI	83	85	54	222	38	8,436	2	SMC Scarecrow
W9PA	*DAVE	IN	59	59	44	162	40	6,480	2	NCC/MRRC WEST
K9GY	*TINMAN	IL	10	65	0	75	31	2,325	3	SMC Scarecrow
KB9S	*MARK	WI	20	15	0	35	22	770	1	
KA9VVQ	*JAN	WI	22	5	0	27	13	351	1	
WT2P	**FRED	IL	0	18	0	18	15	270	0	
K0EU	KEN	CO	116	124	84	324	45	14,580	130	GMCC Rockies
K0RF	CHUCK	CO	116	120	69	305	45	13,725	67	GMCC Rockies
WD0T	TODD	SD	120	115	83	318	42	13,356	100	Ad Hoc
K0AD	*AL	MN	90	111	72	273	45	12,285	50	Southeastern Sprint
NA0N	*PAT	MN	92	105	80	277	41	11,357	89	
W0BH	BOB	KS	85	94	77	256	40	10,240	48	
W0ETT	*KEN	CO	79	71	40	190	41	7,790	7	GMCC Rockies
N0TA	JOHN	CO	69	79	30	178	36	6,408	2	GMCC Rockies
WG0M	*MIKE	MN	2	6	0	8	7	56	3	
VE3JM	VLAD	ON	102	116	69	287	43	12,341	50	Great White North, E
VE3KI	RICH	ON	85	109	66	260	42	10,920	2	Great White North, E
VE3EJ	JOHN	ON	48	50	0	98	31	3,038	4	Great White North, E
VE3RCN	*KEVIN	ON	25	37	25	87	29	2,523	15	
VE3CX	TOM	ON	52	0	0	52	19	988	0	Great White North, E
VE3FU	*CHRIS	ON	0	9	20	29	24	696	1	
VA2ES	*BOB	PQ	0	27	1	28	17	476	1	
VA7JC	*JON	BC	10	0	0	10	8	80	0	
NP2X	ED	KP2	104	70	36	210	34	7,140	15	NCC/MRRC EAST
HA1AG	ZOLI	HA	10	0	0	10	7	70	0	

* Low Power
** QRP

Top 10 Scores

<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Bnd Chg</i>	<i>Qs Lost</i>	<i>00Z</i>	<i>01Z</i>	<i>02Z</i>	<i>03Z</i>
N6TV	15,886	100	3	110	71	75	82
N2NT	15,840	137	8	107	81	73	69
N2IC	15,594	181	0	95	87	73	84
W9RE	15,408	145	7	98	75	75	73
N9RV	15,226	143	4	101	78	72	80
W1AW/7	15,226	130	2	92	79	80	80
N5RZ	14,812	153	4	99	85	74	64
KØEU	14,580	130	7	98	82	74	70
NO3M	14,577	164	8	110	80	83	66
N5KO	14,448	165	3	102	77	83	82

Top 10 High Power (Maximum 12 Band Changes)

<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Score</i>	<i>Bnd Chg</i>	<i>Qs Lost</i>	<i>00Z</i>	<i>01Z</i>	<i>02Z</i>	<i>03Z</i>
N6AA	13,464	2	4	86	80	59	81
K9NW	13,185	10	7	86	61	67	79
K6XX	12,986	12	3	90	82	56	74
N3RC	12,978	2	0	90	68	71	80
W6YX	12,936	8	3	86	78	65	65
K1KI	12,768	8	4	103	72	74	55
K4BAI	12,440	2	2	93	81	69	68
K3LR	12,348	5	5	76	84	67	67
N6XI	12,126	6	2	77	72	63	70
K8IA	11,676	2	7	81	67	66	64

All-Time CW Sprint Records

<i>Category</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>Date</i>
Highest multiplier	55	K9AA (K9PG)	Feb 2000
Highest QSO total	428	N6TR/7	Feb 2005
Highest score	21,816	K4AAA (W4AN)	Sep 2003
Highest team score	163,373	SCCC #1	Feb 2002
Highest Low Power	17,050	N6MJ (@W6KP)	Feb 2004
Highest QRP	10,800	K7RI (K7SS)	Feb 2002
Logs received	227		Feb 2004
Number golden logs	18		Feb 2008
Number logs with 300 QSOs	52		Feb 2003

Top 10 QSOs

N5KO	344
N2IC	339
NO3M	339
N6TV	338
N9RV	331
W1AW/7	331
N2NT	330
KØEU	324
N6RO	323
N5RZ	322

Top 10 QRP

KE3X	9,360
K8MR	6,162
NN7SS	4,794
N8XX	1,566
K8CN	1,248
WB4OMM	644
WT2P	270

Golden Logs

N2IC	339
N3RC	309
N9CK	290
NAØN	277
K6AW	270
K1AR	150
W2RQ	128
NA4K	101
AA3B	66
WT2P	18
W6SX	7

Top 10 Multipliers

N2NT	48
W9RE	48
N6TV	47
N2IC	46
N5RZ	46
N9RV	46
W1AW/7	46
KØAD	45
KØEU	45
KØRF	45
K9NW	45
N4AF	45
N4OGW	45

Top 10 Band Changes

N2IC	181
N5KO	165
NO3M	164
N5RZ	153
N3BB	146
W9RE	145
N9RV	143
N2NT	137
KØEU	130
W1AW/7	130

Top 10 Low Power

N9CK	12,760
KU5B	12,384
KØAD	12,285
W4OC	12,083
W1NN	11,760
NAØN	11,357
W1UJ	11,008
N7XU	11,004
K3UA	10,320
WQ5L	10,291

Team Scores

1. Ad Hoc

N2IC	15,594
W9RE	15,408
NO3M	14,577
N4OGW	14,130
K4RO	13,860
N4AF	13,815
N3BB	13,684
WDØT	13,356
N9CK	12,760
W4OC	12,083
Total	139,267

2. NCCC #1

N6TV	15,886
N5KO	14,448
N6RO	13,889
K6XX	12,986
W6YX	12,936
N6XI	12,126
AE6Y	12,013
K6AW	10,800
N3ZZ	10,160
K9YC	8,920
Total	124,164

3. NCC/MRRC EAST

N2NT	15,840
K3LR	12,348
N2NC	10,960
K3UA	10,320
KU8E	9,996
NW2K	9,922
NP2X	7,140
K8MR	6,162
K2UA	4,148
WW2Y	2,079
Total	88,915

4. DFW Contest Group

N5RZ	14,812
KU5B	12,384
K5OT	11,382
K5WA	11,172
WQ5L	10,291
N5DO	9,348
N5QQ	8,251
K5CI	7,840
Total	85,480

5. Montana Sprinters	N9RV, N3RC, KB7Q, KJ9C, K7BG, KE7X, KØSN, W7KF, WN7Y	77,664
6. NCC/MRRC WEST	K9NW, KW8N, W1NN, ND8L, K8ND, N8SS, W8WTS, W9PA, N8XX, K8GO	77,389
7. NCCC #2	K7GK, AJ6V, N6ZFO, K6MR, K6SRZ, KZ2V, K6MM, W6OAT, K6CSL, W6SX	71,516
8. Southeastern Sprint	K4BAI, KØAD, KZ5D, KØEJ, N4OX, AA4CF	62,852
9. Webfoot Paddlers	W1AW/7, N7XU, K2PO, WS7L, W7WHY, W8NF	54,689
10. GMCC Rockies	KØEU, KØRF, WØETT, NØTA	42,503
11. Arizona Outlaws Cont	K8IA, KY7M, AA7V, W9CF, N6VR	40,169
12. Team Chowda	K1KI, W1UJ, K6ND	33,096
13. SCCC #1	N6AA, K6LA, W4EF, N6AN	32,598
14. Great White North, E	VE3JM, VE3KI, VE3EJ, VE3CX	27,287
15. PVRC YET AGAIN	KE3X, K7SV, N3QE	27,231
16. Bristol TN ARC	N4DW, N8FF, AA4DD	15,610
17. NCCC #3	W6RGG, NN7SS, K6LRN, K6DGW	12,972
18. SMC Scarecrow	WI9WI, K9GY	10,761

Guest Ops

K5OT (@K5TR)	N3RC (KL9A)	VA2ES (VE2AXO)
K6ND (N1RR)	N6AN (@W6UE)	W1AW/7 (N6TR)
KA3DRR (@W6SL)	N7XU (K4XU)	W5KFT (K5PI)
KE3X (@N4RV)	NN7SS (K6UFO)	W6YX (N7MH)
KZ2V (@NW6P)	NP2X (K9VV)	

Soapbox

About too fast fer me. — *K6CSL*

New personal best. — *K6ND*

First time in a Sprint since the first or second one. I still don't like Sprint. — *K8ND*

Had fun breaking in the Icom IC-7100 for its first contest! — *K9GY*

Definitely an improvement over previous years logging Sprint contacts. — *KA3DRR*

Should have packed up and headed back to Indy, but N9RV wanted a Montana team, so we stayed a couple more days. — *KJ9C*

This was very fun. 80 meters was super, the whole US open at once. — *KW8N*

Managed to get the damaged station patched up. Not all was working. No Beverages at all. — *N3BB*

Limited time available, hence the Single Band entry. — *N6AN*

It felt like tough going, especially on 40. I used a new program I wrote to display a Visible Dupe Sheet window for *Win-Test*, and it seemed to work pretty well! Much less typing this time. — *N6TV*

Ugh! — *N6XI*

What a thrill to have a full Montana team for this one. I am usually sweating working my own state. — *N9RV*

My goal was to use the RemoteRig to make 100 QSOs and/or solve any problems before my next travel away, when problems become harder to solve. One radio, and streaming audio and control over local WiFi, but it worked fine. No problems to be solved, so I kept operating. Shoulda stopped before doing QRP on 80. — *NN7SS (K6UFO op)*

Only about 90 minutes available, due to severe thunderstorms through most of the contest, but enjoyed what time I had. — *W2RQ*

First Sprint in a while and first operation from home in as long. Sprints are the same mix of chaos and thrill as I remembered. Thanks to those who suffered my blunders with *N1MM* — *W8NF*

Great conditions for a noisy weekend. Good skip on all bands. — *W9RE*

Crushed in first effort. Love the concept, will be back! — *WA1HEW*

My First North American Sprint CW

I just participated in my first-ever CW Sprint. This is saying quite a bit, since I have been licensed for more than 44 years, getting my Novice license at age 10. I am a great fan of CW ragchewing and DXing.

My first reaction was, and still is, Wow! I have participated in a few contests before, and even took first place for my section in a 10 meter CW contest a few years back, but nothing prepared me fully for the CW Sprint. Pat, N9RV, had drafted a team of 10 Montana hams (the Montana Sprinters) to participate in this event, and he sent almost-daily tips and suggestions on how to prepare. These including getting your station ready, correctly installing and configuring logging software, and, most important, participating in the two NS Sprint CW weekly "mini-sprints" on the two Thursday nights prior to the main event, in order to learn the process.

On Thursday night #1, I am psyched for a 30-minute mini-sprint with my very modest station. The gun goes off, and the bands go from dead silent to a loud cacophony of dits and dahs at every possible pitch, all coming out of the speaker at very high speed! I fastened my seatbelt and went to work trying to decipher what I was hearing. At the end of 30 minutes, my head hurt, I was in a pool of sweat, and I had worked one station — and even that QSO was suspect. I'm still not sure I got his name and section correct.

I licked my wounds for a few days, went back through Pat's previous e-mails and really read them, and then implemented his tips. I waited each day for a new tip to arrive, and I read it backward and forward several times to

make sure I understood what he was suggesting.

On Thursday night #2 and still feeling humbled, I waded into the chaos and managed to work two stations this time, but I wasn't so overwhelmed and finally was catching on to the process of "grabbing and releasing" a frequency over and over. My ability to copy the high-speed CW in my head had improved over the week, thanks to hours of playing ARRL Morse code practice MP3s in my headphones at work and during my drive to and from work.

Finally the main event rolled around. Just an hour or so before start time, Pat sent out his final tip. I was waiting for a real secret to be revealed, but there it was: "Step 1. Write on a yellow sticky note, 'I will not quit this contest after 1 hour!' and place it on your radio where you can't miss seeing it." That's it? Years of knowledge compressed to one line! But, I did it.

One hour into the Sprint, I was floundering, having only made a couple of contacts. I told myself it was time for a break — either more soda or maybe a beer and see if that helped. And maybe I could sit on the back deck and catch some fresh air and rethink my future in CW. Then, I saw it: The yellow sticky note on my radio. Of course, I had to soldier on.

By the end of the Sprint, 42 contacts were in the log. I won't swear that I copied everyone 100 percent, but they were in the log.

I may not be at the top of the leader board, but you will see my call sign in more CW contests and Sprints in the future. Bring 'em on! — *Ron Glass, WN7Y*

CW Sprint Records through September 2014

QTH	Pwr	Date	Call Sign	20	40	80	QSO	Mult	Score
CT	H	Sep 2003	K1KI	153	132	84	369	50	18,450
CT	L	Sep 1999	NT1N	122	115	43	280	49	13,720
CT	Q	Feb 2013	NN1N	62	70	56	188	46	8,648
MA	H	Feb 2003	K5ZD	136	144	85	365	54	19,710
MA	L	Feb 2003	K1HT	72	106	114	292	50	14,600
MA	Q	Sep 2003	NB1B	75	29	3	107	33	3,531
ME	H	Sep 2008	N1LI (K1DG)	88	122	84	294	47	13,818
ME	L	Sep 2006	N1LI (K1DG)	89	106	49	244	43	10,492
ME	Q	Sep 2010	N1LI (K1DG)	91	72	50	213	40	8,520
NH	H	Feb 2003	K1DG	129	119	83	331	50	16,550
NH	L	Feb 2002	K1BX	131	76	62	269	47	12,643
NH	Q	Sep 2014	K8CN	10	31	7	48	26	1,248
RI	H	Feb 2002	K11G	122	95	93	310	47	14,570
RI	L	Sep 2011	W1WBB	55	54	47	156	37	5,772
RI	Q	Sep 2006	KO1H	10	8	0	18	9	162
VT	H	Feb 2004	NT1Y (W4PA)	116	175	47	338	48	16,224
VT	L	Sep 2009	K8MR/1	0	43	71	114	40	4,560
VT	Q	Sep 2004	WT1L	18	2	18	38	21	798
NJ	H	Feb 2003	N2NT	88	158	134	380	51	19,380
NJ	L	Feb 1999	K2SQ	94	101	85	280	46	12,880
NJ	Q	Sep 2010	KR2Q	58	59	31	148	41	6,068
NY	H	Feb 2002	K2UA	113	123	85	321	50	16,050
NY	L	Feb 2013	W2FU	75	105	103	283	47	13,301
NY	Q	Sep 2010	N2ZN	36	75	56	167	43	7,181
DE	H	Sep 1989	KN5H	98	102	72	272	46	12,512
DE	L	Sep 2008	N8NA	46	135	80	261	47	12,267
DE	Q	Sep 2009	N8NA	21	98	64	183	44	8,052
MD	H	Sep 1989	W3LPL	120	110	80	310	47	14,570
MD	L	Sep 2013	N3QE	73	105	68	246	43	10,578
MD	Q	Feb 2013	KE3X	52	29	60	141	40	5,640
PA	H	Feb 2014	AA3B	88	132	108	328	51	16,562
PA	L	Sep 2013	K3UA	75	103	79	257	43	11,051
PA	Q	Sep 2007	K3MJW	7	27	49	83	27	2,241
AL	H	Feb 2004	K4NO	115	98	67	280	48	13,440
AL	L	Sep 2003	K4IQJ	70	89	60	219	44	9,636
AL	Q	Feb 1998	KJ3V	0	8	0	8	7	56

<i>QTH</i>	<i>Pwr</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>QSO</i>	<i>Mult</i>	<i>Score</i>
FL	H	Feb 2003	N2NL	151	139	67	357	55	19,635
FL	L	Sep 2003	KØLUZ	118	132	0	250	47	11,750
FL	Q	Sep 1999	N4BP	119	51	0	170	34	5,780
GA	H	Sep 2003	K4AAA (W4AN)	146	170	88	404	54	21,816
GA	L	Feb 2003	KU8E	42	124	81	247	48	11,856
GA	Q	Sep 2009	NA4BW	6	65	55	126	38	4,788
KY	H	Sep 1998	K4LT	82	107	92	281	44	12,364
KY	L	Feb 2002	K4FXN	103	98	53	254	45	11,430
KY	Q	Sep 2011	KU4A	4	0	0	4	3	12
NC	H	Sep 2003	N4AF	98	129	115	342	49	16,758
NC	L	Feb 1995	K7GM	73	101	69	243	45	10,935
NC	Q	Feb 2010	AA4XX	28	25	64	117	33	3,861
SC	H	Sep 2008	W4OC	80	110	97	287	48	13,776
SC	L	Sep 2003	W4OC	87	92	116	295	50	14,750
SC	Q	Feb 2013	KX9X	6	27	5	38	22	836
TN	H	Sep 2003	W4PA	134	163	96	393	51	20,043
TN	L	Sep 2003	K4AMC	77	127	66	270	47	12,690
TN	Q	Sep 2013	NA4K	87	71	49	207	43	8,901
VA	H	Sep 1989	KT3Y	95	122	79	296	48	14,208
VA	L	Feb 2003	K7SV	84	101	115	300	52	15,600
VA	Q	Feb 2014	KE3X	63	86	73	222	46	10,212
AR	H	Sep 2009	N5DX	61	150	102	313	47	14,711
AR	L	Sep 2007	K5GO	99	82	78	259	44	11,396
AR	Q	Sep 2009	N5ER	14	15	16	45	23	1,035
LA	H	Feb 1995	W5WMU (K5GA)	105	115	86	306	48	14,688
LA	L	Feb 2004	W5EKF	43	67	18	128	40	5,120
LA	Q	Sep 2007	KC5R	95	66	17	178	39	6,942
MS	H	Sep 2008	N4OGW	90	139	110	339	50	16,950
MS	L	Sep 2012	N4OGW	76	123	105	304	46	13,984
MS	Q	Feb 2002	WA2NYR	30	16	0	46	26	1,196
NM	H	Feb 2013	N2IC	133	167	109	409	48	19,632
NM	L	Feb 2008	AA5B	85	101	95	284	42	11,928
NM	Q	Feb 2002	W5YA	121	75	28	224	42	9,408
OK	H	Sep 2003	K3LR	131	133	88	352	48	16,896
OK	L	Sep 1998	K5KA	79	89	62	230	40	9,200
OK	Q	Sep 2004	K5KA	91	69	52	212	43	9,116
TX	H	Feb 2000	N5TJ	148	137	96	381	52	19,812
TX	L	Sep 1998	N5TJ	141	111	80	332	46	15,272
TX	Q	Feb 2000	KG5U	122	60	22	204	47	9,588
CA	H	Feb 2003	W6EEN (N6RT)	150	147	81	378	54	20,412
CA	L	Feb 2004	N6MJ	106	158	77	341	50	17,050
CA	Q	Sep 2010	K6UFO	88	90	36	214	39	8,346
AK	H	Feb 2000	KL9A	139	63	0	202	47	9,494
AK	L	Sep 2007	K6VVA/KL7	68	30	18	116	34	3,944
AK	Q	Sep 2003	N6TR/KL7	1	0	0	1	1	1
AZ	H	Feb 2000	K6LL	178	144	42	364	50	18,200
AZ	L	Feb 2013	N7CW	61	122	95	278	46	12,788
AZ	Q	Feb 2014	N7CW	69	93	56	218	48	10,464
ID	H	Feb 2000	W7ZRC	123	107	44	274	45	12,330
ID	L	Feb 2001	W7UQ (KL9A)	144	88	44	276	48	13,248
ID	Q	Feb 2013	W7ZRC	65	84	38	187	41	7,667
MT	H	Feb 2014	N9RV	121	146	96	363	52	18,876
MT	L	Feb 2013	K7BG	102	119	85	306	45	13,770
MT	Q	Sep 2009	KB7Q	35	71	56	162	38	6,156
NV	H	Feb 2000	K7BV	106	141	43	290	50	14,500
NV	L	Feb 2000	KU7Y	88	116	0	204	45	9,180
NV	Q	Feb 1999	KU7Y	59	69	20	148	40	5,920
OR	H	Feb 2003	N6TR	172	142	79	393	52	20,436
OR	L	Feb 2003	K4XU	121	110	46	277	47	13,019
OR	Q	Sep 2011	W7YAQ	69	50	29	148	40	5,920
UT	H	Sep 1991	K6XO	128	93	42	263	44	11,572
UT	L	Sep 1995	AH3C	59	91	65	215	38	8,170
UT	Q	Feb 2003	NC7J	101	96	38	235	45	10,575
WA	H	Feb 2003	W7WA	133	113	54	300	49	14,700
WA	L	Feb 2003	K7RI (K7SS)	149	111	37	297	53	15,741
WA	Q	Feb 2002	K7RI (K7SS)	109	112	19	240	45	10,800
WY	H	Sep 1999	K7KU (N2IC)	132	117	63	312	48	14,976
WY	L	Feb 2004	KO7X	57	142	28	227	47	10,669
WY	Q	Sep 2008	KB7Q	1	78	8	87	29	2,523
MI	H	Feb 2003	N8EA	197	124	100	331	52	17,212
MI	L	Feb 2014	N8EA	74	90	98	262	46	12,052
MI	Q	Sep 2009	N8EA	28	68	74	170	43	7,310

<i>QTH</i>	<i>Pwr</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Call Sign</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>QSO</i>	<i>Mult</i>	<i>Score</i>
OH	H	Feb 2003	K8MR	72	128	109	309	52	16,068
OH	L	Feb 2014	W1NN	79	100	96	275	48	13,200
OH	Q	Sep 2004	N8VW	43	86	50	179	42	7,518
WV	H	Feb 2002	N4ZR	69	100	117	286	48	13,728
WV	L	Sep 1998	K3LR	62	93	64	219	39	8,541
WV	Q	Sep 2003	K5IID	49	52	42	143	34	4,862
IL	H	Sep 2003	AG9A	130	162	73	365	52	18,980
IL	L	Sep 2003	K9AA (K9PG)	112	119	59	290	48	13,920
IL	Q	Feb 1999	WO9S	43	66	32	141	41	5781
IN	H	Sep 2003	N9RV	134	168	87	389	53	20,617
IN	L	Feb 2003	KJ9C	76	95	91	262	48	12,576
IN	Q	Feb 2008	WT9U	38	16	75	129	38	4902
WI	H	Feb 2000	K9AA (K9PG)	94	169	69	302	55	16,610
WI	L	Feb 2008	N9CK	70	126	115	311	48	14,928
WI	Q	Feb 2012	KA9FOX	66	90	73	229	45	10,305
CO	H	Feb 2003	N2IC	154	151	84	389	52	20,228
CO	L	Feb 2008	KØEU	62	115	99	276	42	11,592
CO	Q	Feb 2013	KØUK	41	54	41	136	35	4,760
IA	H	Sep 2008	NØNI (AG9A)	108	134	108	350	47	16,450
IA	L	Sep 1998	KØRX	70	84	73	227	43	9,761
IA	Q	Sep 2006	AKØM	32	26	0	58	22	1,276
KS	H	Feb 2014	WØBH	74	93	101	268	47	12,596
KS	L	Sep 2004	K3LR	95	94	67	256	41	10,496
KS	Q								
MN	H	Feb 2003	KØSR	98	127	83	308	50	15,400
MN	L	Sep 2003	NAØN	112	125	51	288	47	13,536
MN	Q	Sep 2009	KEØG	44	75	35	154	34	5,236
MO	H	Sep 1996	K4VX (WX3N)	104	133	95	332	46	15,272
MO	L	Feb 2014	NØAX	72	112	89	273	45	12,285
MO	Q	Sep 2004	NJ4X	61	99	38	198	41	8,118
ND	H	Feb 2002	WBØO	124	106	88	318	47	14,946
ND	L	Feb 1998	WØHSC (KBØO)	49	96	72	217	36	7,812
ND	Q								
NE	H	Sep 2008	WW2Y	57	101	98	256	42	10,752
NE	L	Sep 2006	WW2Y	59	102	61	222	45	9,990
NE	Q	Feb 2003	W8TM	0	116	0	116	41	4,756
SD	H	Feb 2013	WDØT	79	145	124	348	47	16,356
SD	L	Sep 2012	KT0A	55	95	57	207	41	8,487
SD	Q								
VE1	H	Feb 2014	VE9AA	75	81	69	225	42	9,450
VE1	L	Sep 2000	VE9DX (K5NZ)	99	56	28	183	40	7,320
VE1	Q								
VE2	H	Sep 1988	VE2ZP	75	98	41	214	41	8,774
VE2	L	Feb 2003	VE2AWR	49	77	26	152	39	5,928
VE2	Q								
VE3	H	Feb 2014	VE3JM	90	117	87	294	50	14,700
VE3	L	Sep 2010	VE3DZ	78	98	93	269	44	11,836
VE3	Q								
VE4	H	Sep 2003	VE4/WBØO	136	130	0	266	45	11,970
VE4	L	Sep 2006	VE4XT	22	92	16	130	42	5,460
VE4	Q								
VE5	H	Sep 2000	VE5DX	122	92	50	264	43	11,352
VE5	L	Feb 2003	VE5SF	106	119	12	237	49	11,613
VE5	Q								
VE6	H	Feb 2013	VE6EX	77	91	61	229	46	10,534
VE6	L	Sep 1999	VE6EX	117	64	14	195	46	8,970
VE6	Q								
VE7	H	Feb 2000	VA7RR	151	128	37	316	48	15,168
VE7	L	Feb 2012	VA7ST	85	45	36	166	41	6,806
VE7	Q	Feb 2014	VA7JC	5	0	0	5	5	25
VE8	H	Feb 2000	VY1JA	36	0	0	36	22	792
VE8	L								
VE8	Q								
4U1	H	Feb 1985	4U1UN (W2TO)	3	52	15	70	23	1,610
4U1	L								
4U1	Q								
8P	H	Sep 2002	8P9JG (N5KO)	164	105	8	277	42	11,634
8P	L								
8P	Q								
C6	H								
C6	L	Feb 1999	C6AKP	15	4	2	21	14	294
C6	Q								

