

Results, September 2003 Phone Sprint

By Jim Stevens, K4MA
ssbsprint@ncjweb.com

The forty-second Phone Sprint generated 110 logs from 36 different areas. Scores were slightly higher than the prior September Phone Sprint, mainly due to more multipliers being available. The number of QSOs by the Top Ten scores was similar to last September's, but 48 multipliers led the way last September while this time around 48 just made the bottom of the Top 10 multiplier list.

High Power

K7SS operating at K7RI easily notched his sixth SSB Sprint High Power victory. This victory moves Danny into a tie with VA7RR for second most SSB Sprint wins. They are just one win behind K6LL's record seven wins. Danny did an excellent job of continuing to return to 20 meters to troll for casual operators handing out very low QSO numbers. This strategy along with his high multiplier total enabled his easy win. Finishing in an unusual tie for second were K4XS and WD0T. This was WD0T's highest finish ever in SSB Sprint. Congratulations Todd, just one more spot to go to notch that first victory. Rounding out the Top Ten in order are: KW8N, K9PG (at K9XD), W9RE, KA9FOX, W7WA,

TOP 10	SCORES	BAND		QSOs LOST	00Z	01Z	02Z	03Z
		CHANGES						
K7RI	16960	7		4	98	79	66	77
K4XS	15688	14		1	86	75	61	74
WD0T	15688	5		1	93	78	61	64
KW8N	15657	104		6	92	72	56	87
K9PG	15120	62		2	108	77	67	63
W9RE	15024	53		6	94	84	77	59
KA9FOX	14250	5		5	91	68	62	65
W7WA	14100	6		2	76	72	61	73
K6LA	13300	37		4	79	60	63	65
W5TM	12716	2		5	83	79	57	71

TOP 10 QSOS

K7RI	320
K9PG	315
W9RE	313
KW8N	307
K4XS	296
WD0T	296
W5TM	289
KA9FOX	285
W7WA	282
K5TR	269

TOP 10 MULTS

K7RI	53
K4XS	53
WD0T	53
ND8DX	52
KW8N	51
KA9FOX	50
W7WA	50
K6LA	50
W6YX	49
W9RE	48
K9PG	48

TOP 10 Low Pwr

N5DO	9504
K7SV	9073
K07X	8730
W0ETT	8256
NI6T	8188
VE5SF	8120
N6ZFO	7134
W4NZ	7000
N0SXX	6320
N2IC	6031

TOP 10 QRP

N8VW	6888
K5IID	3131
KC5R	2790
KU5B	1403

GOLDEN LOGS (> 100 QSOS)

W6YX	255
NX9T	250
N8VW	164
N4CW	145
K9MI	140

TOP 10 Band Changes

KW8N	104
K9PG	62
W9RE	53
WE9V	42
K6LA	37
N5DO	26
KT0R	24
K5IID	18
W6FRH	16
W6TK	15

September 2003 Phone Sprint Commentary by Bob Hayes, KW8N

As is probably apparent, the phone sprint is one of my favorite contests and it is nice to see how interest and participation in it has grown in recent years. Much of this has been the result of promotion by local or regional clubs, as can be noted by geographical pockets of increased activity. But many Sprint participants missed NY. Hey, what's up with that! Hello, can't we get someone to stir up a little interest over there?

Circumstances over the last few years have limited my participation in the main event contests. It sure is nice to be able to go max out in a contest that does not require a full weekend and sleep deprivation in order to be competitive. Of course a good score in every contest takes a combination of skill and station, but the consensus of most contesters is that of all the contests, the ratio of importance between skill and station is highest in the Sprints.

The popularity of the 40 meter start here in the Northeast US has certainly helped bridge some of the geographical scoring disparity that had typically characterized the Sprints. The ease and efficiency of working a good number of very loud stations (and loud on both sides of the QSO) with little QRM (especially the foreign broadcast type) is a great way to start off (although, based on the results, it still seems that multipliers are a little harder to come by in this geographical area than most others). Recently I have failed to take a good look to the Northwest late on 20 meters and have missed available KL7 and VE8 mults.

Since my early days in ham radio I have enjoyed playing around with antennas. Unfortunately I sometimes find myself doing last minute antenna work that is really of limited benefit and results in diminishing returns. Resting up and getting mentally prepared or practicing (especially since I am not on the air much at other times) would have been a much more effective way to spend my time. It's one thing to get back into running a pileup efficiently. It's quite another to regain proficiency in the two radio Sprint style of operation. I could have gotten off to a much better start if I were better prepared to operate. K9PG and W9RE got big early leads; I didn't catch up until the very end. This year I didn't have a choice, though, as the thrust bearing on the top 20 meter beam was frozen up and required greasing and rocking to free it up. Also broken wires on 80 meter antennas as the result of a spring ice storm needed to finally be repaired. Usually in September these things would have been worked out for the CW Sprint the weekend before, but I had other commitments this year on the CW evening. So it was the all too typical "work on antennas the afternoon before the Sprint" routine again.

I also enjoy the nature of the Sprint interaction. A meaningful exchange (not automatically determinable), the ability to have some idea of how you are doing (the QSO number) and think of how many names of operators we have learned and remembered as a result of our Sprint QSOs. I was certainly confused this time though as some operators changed names during the contest. The "team" competition aspect adds another level of fun and camaraderie.

I have received many "well then I guess you're my number 1" only to find the same station later in the Sprint giving out numbers of 30 or higher. And some of these even come back and participate the next time. So, if you are reading this and are one who has typically shied away from the phone sprint, give it a try. And if you are someone who does operate it, try to stir up some additional interest. Think of the increase in activity if everyone who turned in a score this time got one other station to get on next time? K9PG is especially to be commended for his success in "promoting" the phone sprint.

CU in February Sprint es 73 de KW8N

K6LA and W5TM (W5AO).

Low Power

Winning the low power category for the first time was N5DO. Dave had the highest LP QSO total, and the second highest multiplier total. Finishing second was K7SV, Larry. Yours truly has had the honor of operating with Larry a couple of times in the last year at K4JA, and let me assure you that Larry just flat knows how to put QSOs in the log. Making his first appearance in the SSB Sprint Low Power Top Ten was KO7X from his new QTH in Wyoming. I'm sure everyone was glad to get that multiplier in the log.

The rest of the Low Power Top Ten are: W0ETT, NI6T, VE5SF, N6ZFO, W4NZ, N0SXX and N2IC. Also of note is that VE5SF extended his lead for most Low Power Top Tens. Sam has now finished in the Low Power Top Ten 12 out of 19 times.

QRP

N8VW won the QRP category for the first time. The remaining QRP scores in order are: K5IID, KC5R, and KU5B.

Golden Logs

W6YX, NX9T, N8VW, N4CW, and K9MI all submitted Golden Logs (no score reductions). Congratulations! If you want a copy of your log checking report, please send an e-mail to sbsprint@ncjweb.com.

Records

The only new high power area record was WD0T extending his South Dakota record. New low power area records are: KK1KW in New Hampshire, W2EQ in New Jersey, N2IC in New Mexico, KO7X in Wyoming, VE7BC in British Columbia, and XE1NW in Mexico. New QRP records were established by: N8VW in Ohio and KU5B in Texas. The Phone Sprint records have been updated on the *NCJ* Web. Check them out at www.ncjweb.com/sbsprintrecords.php.

Teams

In the team competition, Dead Lizards CAN Talk picked up yet another win and second went to the Mad River Radio Club. Third and fourth place teams were NCCC #1 and SCCC Last Minute.

Notes

See the sidebar for some interesting thoughts about SSB Sprint from Bob Hayes, KW8N, one of the greatest SSB Sprinters of all time. Let me echo a comment made by Bob: A number of logs that were submitted changed the name they were sending during the course of contest. Please don't do this! It makes log checking very difficult and can actually cause some other contesters to get

dinged for an incorrect name. Whatever name you start with, please use it throughout the contest.

Finally there were more than the usual frequency "disagreements" in this SSB Sprint. These issues were partially caused by the fact that the SSB Sprint somehow fell on the same weekend as the WAE SSB Contest. Because of that, 40 meters in particular was worse than normal. I would just remind everyone that the Sprint rules don't relieve your responsibility to check and ensure that a given frequency is not in use before you start calling CQ.

The February 2004 Phone Sprint will be held at 0000Z on February 8 (February 7 local time). Get on and join us in the fun!

Soapbox

First Sprint in many years! This contest was a lot of fun.—K2UT. This was my second phone sprint, and I felt like I got off to a much better start than I did in February, but that feeling only lasted for forty-five minutes or so.—K5TR (WM5R). Glad to help a few guys out with the MA mult.—K5ZD. Got to try new IC756 PRO II—worked very well. Don't know how you 300+ QSO folks do it! Good Job—K6NR. What can I say? One running low power can't finesse his/her way around the high power boys on fone like one can on CW.—K7SV. Continues to be the most intense contest I'll ever experience!—K9JS. Got off to a great start, all down hill after the first hour. 80 meters was a killer! I remember why I was running LP on 80, forgot to push the 80 meter amp switch!—K9PG

(@K9XD).

I missed this one last year due to my appendix rupturing (yeah, I know, weak excuse). Now I'm wondering which hurt more, the appendix or suffering through this contest. Seemed activity was down, I got beat out a lot more than normal, had way too many unanswered CQs, 20 meter conditions were just downright funky, WAE confusion and QRM, and just never seemed to keep any sort of rhythm going. Sprint still rules!—KA9FOX. My first Sprint ever! Lots of fun, once I got the hang of it.—KE6QR. Always a great contest!—KT0R. Thanks to all who put up with my weird name.—KU5B. Operating low power with poor antennas was, er..., interesting!—N2IC. Unexpected RF feedback in the transmit audio forced me into the low power category. I think it's Murphy's way of punishing me for doing poorly on CW.—W4NZ. Mults are sure a score killer for me!—W9RE.

More fun than one should have with their clothes on....oops wrong contest (Now I am curious what is the contest that is more fun than one should have with their clothes on?—Ed).—WN6K. I wanted to operate full time, however, my car was stolen one hour before the contest. I had to go to four different police offices in the city to report the robbery. I had the chance to operate for only one hour. It was a nice distraction from my problem. I must have sounded somewhat stressed during the exchanges, now you know why. (I did confirm with Guillermo that he recovered the car. Please join us next time and hopefully you won't have any such problems—Ed).—XE1NW

TEAM SCORES

1. Dead Lizards CAN Talk		2. Mad River Radio Club		3. NCCC#1		4. SCCC Last Minute	
WD0T	15688	KW8N	15657	W6YX	12495	K6LA	13300
K9PG	15120	ND8DX	11492	K6LRN	8428	W6TK	11340
W9RE	15024	K9NW	7480	NI6T	8188	K6EY	4644
KA9FOX	14250	N8VW	6888	N6ZFO	7134	WA6BOB	2697
WE9V	12549	K8MR	5187	WK6I	5977	WA7BNM	1856
K9ZO	12098	KT8X	3605	W6FRH	5304		33837
K0OU	10534	K5IID	3131	AD6TF	1508		
K9BGL	10191	K8KHZ	2139	KJ6RA	1180		
W19WI	9135		55579	K6UFO	1175		
K9JS	8385			W6ZZZ	728		
	122974				52117		

- 5. Westerners (KO7X,W0ETT,K0UK,N0SXX) 30962
- 6. Team Longneck (NT5TU,N6MJ,N4GI,N9YM,KU5B,KB1IPK,K3ASK) 23363
- 7. SMC (NX9T,N9KT,K9MI,N9RV) 23121
- 8. MWA (KT0R,WG0M) 13804
- 9. TCG 1 (W4NZ,K4BP) 10528
- 10. Avaya Lincroft ARC (W2EQ,W2MN,W2DAD,W2JZ) 7277
- 11. Go FRC! (K2UT)

Call	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mult	Score	Team	Call	Name	QTH	20	40	80	QSO	Mult	Score	Team	
KK1L	RON	VT	85	80	49	214	43	9202		K6EY	*BECKY	CA	53	49	27	129	36	4644	SCCC Last Minute	
N4CW	BERT	ME	78	41	26	145	41	5945		ND6S	*RAY	CA	61	27	22	110	36	3960		
K5ZD	RANDY	MA	17	52	30	99	35	3465		WA6BOB	*BOB	CA	21	45	27	93	29	2697	SCCC Last Minute	
KK1KW	*FRED	NH	84	1	0	85	34	2890		K6III	JERRY	CA	8	47	31	86	25	2150		
KB1IPK	*BUD	CT	13	25	0	38	19	722	Team Longneck	KE6QR	*GARY	CA	36	16	15	67	30	2010		
K1GU	NED	MA	1	0	0	1	1			W4EF	MIKE	CA	62	0	0	62	32	1984		
W2EQ	*TOM	NJ	51	29	27	107	35	3745	Avaya Lincroft ARC	WA7BNM	*BRUCE	CA	0	64	0	64	29	1856	SCCC Last Minute	
K2UT	*BOB	NJ	65	2	33	100	36	3600	Go FRC!	AD6TF	*JIM	CA	42	16	0	58	26	1508	NCCC#1	
N2NC	*JOHN	NJ	40	0	0	40	22	880		KJ6RA	*RICH	CA	13	27	19	59	20	1180	NCCC#1	
W2DAD	*STEVE	NJ	23	9	0	32	17	544	Avaya Lincroft ARC	K6UFO	*MORK	CA	33	3	1	47	25	1175	NCCC#1	
W2JZ	*JOHN	NJ	7	8	5	20	1	3	260	Avaya Lincroft ARC	W6ZZZ	*MARK	CA	5	29	18	52	14	728	NCCC#1
K1RH	ROB	MD	69	16	42	127	41	5207		K6CSL	BERT	CA	13	15	5	33	17	561		
K3SV	*BILL	PA	48	37	16	101	31	3131		W6AB	*AVERY	CA	23	2	0	25	16	400		
K3ASK	*BUD	MD	10	2	0	12	11	132	Team Longneck	W6OAT	*RUSTY	CA	0	0	27	27	11	297		
K4XS	BILL	FL	161	84	51	296	53	15688		K7RI										
NX9T	JEFF	NC	93	98	59	250	45	11250	SMC	(K7SS) DAN	WA	222	70	28	320	53	16960			
WD4K										W7WA	DAN	WA	205	54	23	282	50	14100		
(K0EJ) MARK		TN	88	102	61	251	42	10542		K07X	*ALAN	WY	78	96	20	194	45	8730	Westerners	
K7SV	*LARRY	VA	74	82	55	211	43	9073		N9ADG	*BRIAN	WA	74	31	37	142	38	5396		
W4NF	JACK	VA	76	67	56	199	45	8955		KI7Y	*JIM	OR	66	60	12	138	38	5244		
K4BAI	JOHN	GA	98	69	18	185	42	7770		K7NV	*KURT	NV	18	32	38	88	27	2376		
W4NZ	*TED	TN	63	58	54	175	40	7000	TCG 1	KW8N	BOB	OH	106	127	74	307	51	15657	Mad River Radio Club	
NF4A	*CHARLIE	FL	46	53	52	51	34	5134		ND8DX	ED	OH	66	88	67	221	52	11492	Mad River Radio Club	
NA4BW	*BRIAN	GA	37	56	43	136	36	4896		N8VVW	**PAT	OH	40	82	42	164	42	6888	Mad River Radio Club	
KT4Q	*STEVE	GA	74	26	29	129	37	4773		K8MR	*JIM	OH	39	52	42	133	39	5187	Mad River Radio Club	
WY4Y										KT8X	DENNIS	MI	68	35	0	103	35	3605	Mad River Radio Club	
(N4EIL) NEIL		GA	50	31	26	107	41	4387		K5IID	**TOM	WV	30	45	26	101	31	3131	Mad River Radio Club	
N4GI	*BUD	FL	43	38	31	112	32	3584	Team Longneck	K8KHZ	*SEAN	MI	40	29	0	69	31	2139	Mad River Radio Club	
K4BP	JEFF	TN	51	47	0	98	36	3528	TCG 1	K9PG										
KG4UHP	*JOE	VA	7	0	0	27	16	432		(K9XD) PAUL	IL	108	134	73	315	48	15120	Dead Lizards CAN Talk		
W5TM										W9RE	MIKE	IN	113	118	82	313	48	15024	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
(W5AO) DAVE		OK	124	96	69	289	44	12716		KA9FOX	SCOTT	WI	107	90	88	285	50	14250	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
K5TR										WE9V	CHAD	WI	101	105	61	267	47	12549	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
(W5M5R) KEN		TX	134	82	53	269	44	11836		K9ZO	ED	IL	106	91	66	263	46	12098	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
NT5TU										K9BGL	KARL	IL	82	84	71	237	43	10191	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
(@NX5M) BUD		TX	94	82	52	228	44	10032	Team Longneck	W19WI	JIM	WI	61	85	57	203	45	9135	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
K5XR										K9JS	JOHN	IL	73	75	47	195	43	8385	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
(W5ASP) JOE		TX	98	74	52	224	43	9632		K9NW	MIKE	IN	119	36	15	70	44	7480	Mad River Radio Club	
N5DO	*DAVE	TX	92	82	42	216	44	9504		N9KT	*DAVID	IN	45	56	43	144	37	5328	SMC	
K5AM	MARK	NM	94	76	39	209	41	8569		K9MI	*MIKE	IN	42	62	36	140	35	4900	SMC	
N2IC	*STEVE	NM	96	67	0	163	37	6031		N9YM	*BUD	IN	19	50	23	92	30	2760	Team Longneck	
KE5OG	*BILL	TX	74	23	0	97	37	3589		N9RV	PAT	IN	0	6	47	53	31	1643	SMC	
KC5R	**AL	LA	44	30	16	90	31	2790		WD0T	TODD	SD	127	100	69	296	53	15688	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
W2MN	*TOM	TX	66	10	12	88	31	2728	Avaya Lincroft ARC	K0OU	STEVE	MO	97	84	48	229	46	10534	Dead Lizards CAN Talk	
K5PI	ROBERT	TX	12	39	0	51	28	1428		KT0R	DAVE	MN	84	98	51	233	44	10252	MWA	
KU5B	**KUB	TX	40	21	0	61	23	1403	Team Longneck	W0ETT	*KEN	CO	115	53	24	192	43	8256	Westerners	
WA5AU	*WALT	TX	21	4	0	25	14	350		K0UK	BILL	CO	107	67	0	174	44	7656	Westerners	
N3BB	JIM	TX	3	5	0	8	8	64		N0SXX	*GARY	CO	95	40	23	158	40	6320	Westerners	
K6LA	KEN	CA	135	77	54	266	50	13300	SCCC Last Minute	AE9B	*TOM	MO	69	49	0	118	39	4602		
W6YX										W60M	*MIKE	MN	52	44	0	96	37	3552	MWA	
(N6DE) BILL		CA	118	80	57	255	49	12495	NCCC#1	K0MPH	*ROGER	MN	42	17	11	70	29	2030		
W6TK	DICK	CA	121	76	55	252	45	11340	SCCC Last Minute	K0HW	*JIM	SD	35	8	20	63	28	1764		
W6NL	DAVE	CA	96	85	59	240	45	10800		VE5SF	*SAM	VE5	94	78	31	203	40	8120		
K6NR	DANA	CA	87	82	58	227	44	9988		VA3NR	CHRIS	VE3	40	75	46	161	41	6601		
K6LRN	DICK	CA	86	61	49	196	43	8428	NCCC#1	VE7FO	*JIM	VE7	64	35	24	123	38	4674		
N16T	*GARRY	CA	90	48	40	178	46	8188	NCCC#1	VE3FU	*CHRIS	VE3	30	17	7	54	28	1512		
N6ZFO	*BILL	CA	89	54	31	174	41	7134	NCCC#1	VA7DP	*DOUG	VE7	4	0	0	4	4	16		
WK6I	JEFF	CA	88	30	21	39	43	5977	NCCC#1	XE1NW	*BILL	XE	9	3	0	12	11	132		
W6FRH	BOB	CA	66	43	7	136	39	5304	NCCC#1											
W6IXP	TOM	CA	43	58	38	139	38	5282												
WN6K	*PAUL	CA	59	58	10	127	38	4826												
N6MJ	*DAN	CA	83	27	0	110	43	4730	Team Longneck											

* Low Power
** QRP