Results of the 2008 CQ WW DX 160 Meter Contests

BY ANDY BLANK,* N2NT

Tradition is what defines the CQ WW 160 Meter Contest. This year marks the passing of the directorship from the capable hands of Dave Thompson, K4JRB, to yours truly. Dave has been directing the contest since 1992, when he took over for the late Don McClenon, N4IN, whose log-checking ideas planted the seeds for today's techniques. The CQ 160 Committee and all participants wish to thank Dave for his years of service and dedication.

Without the tireless effort of volunteers such as Dave, the contest would not be what it is today. As a participant in CQ 160 contests since 1978, it has always been one of my favorite contests. We plan on continuing to improve the contest by adopting new log-checking techniques and making some progressive rule changes for our ever-changing sport.

The 2008 Contest Highlights

This year's contests were highlighted by some very good conditions on both modes. The SSB contest might have been renamed the "VP6DX show," as Milt, N5IA, managed to pilot the DXpedition to a score of over 1 meg, fighting the summer static on Ducie. Judging by the QRM comments from many other stations, Milt made a lot of people happy with a new country on Top band.

Another highlight was the double win on both modes USA by "newcomer" Peter, K3ZM. Peter has Top band in his blood, being the brother of famous Topbander Jeff, K1ZM. Peter's new QTH in a salt marsh in Chesapeake Bay, VA has proven to be a real winner. On CW, at his brother's not so shabby QTH in Canada, VY2ZM was piloted to #2 in the world by Bill, W4ZV. Incredibly,

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Bill's score was doubled by another fabulous effort by Jim, CN2R, with a score of 2.34 meg. Location, location, location!

CW Results

There were no less than eight scores over 1 meg from the DX end in the CW contest!

The top score once again went to Jim, CN2R, with over 2.3 meg. The next highest score was by VY2ZM operated by W4ZV, just edging out Clive, GM3POI. These stalwart stations on the far coasts of their respective countries always prove to be the standard to beat. While not breaking records this year, the scores were huge nevertheless. CU2A, M2D, VE3EJ, and S51TA were the others with scores over 1 meg. Ted, S51TA, operated from a portable QTH on the water, proving again the value of location.

In the USA, Peter, K3ZM, used his VA beach QTH to edge out a great effort by Krassy, K1LZ, by less than 20K.

The magic of Top band shows that propagation can favor the north or the south at different times. This year it seemed not to favor a specific region for more than a short period. Proving this with an amazing effort was Dave, W5UN, who placed third, edging out N2NT and KT1V. Dave made more QSOs while still amassing a large multiplier from Texas. The East Coasters had more ten pointers "across the pond," but the extra stateside QSOs by Dave were enough to overtake them. Right behind these guys was another great effort from Texas by K5RX. N3UA, AA1K, K5GO, and WB9Z rounded out the top ten, all with scores over 500K. Great effort, guys!

On the low power end, a great score by TA2D outclassed 4L2M and VP9I by almost 100K. If you think low power is tough on Top band, try QRP! This year's winner in QRP was OK1IW, just edging out OL4W by working a few more mults in W/VE.



So that's where the big signal from CE1/K7CA comes from!



The fantastic antenna farm at CN2R, where Jim puts out winning scores every year.

2008 PLAQUE DONORS AND WINNERS SINGLE OPERATOR CW

WORLD BY W4ZV: Winner Jim Sullivan, CN2R (W7EJ) USA BY K4TEA: Winner Peter Briggs, K3ZM CANADA BY Alabama Contest Group: Winner Jeff Briggs, VY2ZM (Op. Bill Tippett, W4ZV) ZONE 3 USA BY N5IA: Winner Lee Finkel, KY7M (@K5RC) ZONE 4 USA BY K4WA: Winner Dave Blaschke, W5UN ZONE 5 USA BY N4PN: Winner Krassy Petkov, K1LZ AFRICA BY WS9V: Winner Frantisek Pubal, 7XØRY (Op. Valery Komarov, RD3AF) ASIA BY K4SX: Winner Valentin Benzar, C4M (5B4AGM) EUROPE BY K9DX: Winner Clive Penna, GM3POI SOUTH AMERICA BY W4NU: Winner Alan Van Buren, CE1/K7CA JAPAN BY Alabama Contest Group: Winner Masaki Okano, JH4UYB NORTH AMERICA by CQ (N4IN Memorial): Winner Herbert Schoenbohn, KV4FZ

SSB

WORLD BY N4NX: Winner Milt Jensen, VP6DX (N5IA) USA BY K4JRB: Winner Peter Briggs, K3ZM CANADA by Alabama Contest Group: Winner Nikola Lekic, VE3EY ZONE 3 USA BY N4TMW: Winner Jim Stevenson, W6YI ZONE 4 USA BY N4XMX: Winner Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z ZONE 5 USA BY K1PX: Winner John Evans, N3HBX AFRICA BY WB4ZNH: Winner Pier Iovino, IH9/W1NA ASIA BY NT4TT: Winner Hovik Tarzyan, EK6TA EUROPE BY WS9V: Winner Jens Rohme, OZ1DD NORTH AMERICA by CQ (K2EEK Memorial): Winner Tony Ramos, KP4KE

MULTI-OPERATOR CW

WORLD BY N4RJ: Winner Madeira Group, CT9M (OM3BH, OM3GI, OM3RM Operators) USA BY W8UVZ, WØCD, and K8GG: Winner Tom Rauch, W8JI (K1ZZI, VE7ZO, W8JI, W8XR, WA2MBP, WW4LL Operators)

Zone 3 by 4X4NJ: Winner Larry Pace, N7DD (W8TK, N7DD, KC7V Operators).

SSB

WORLD BY SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB: Winner CN3A Contest station, CN3A (IK2QEI, IK2SGC, CN8WW, Operators)

USA BY WB9Z: Winner John Rodgers, WE3C (KQ3V, W3FV, WE3C Operators) Zone 3 by 4X4NJ: Winner BNCC, N7AP (N7RQ, K8IA Operators)



Here is Ted, S51TA, who operated Field Day style from a water pier to the tune of over 1-million points.

VE3FRX and WØGJ were the respective high scorers from W/VE. Having done QRP myself, I know how frustrating it can be on Top band. Congratulations to these fine ops.

On the multi-op side, another incredible effort by the gang at W8JI stood out this time. Tom's station broke its own 2006 record by more than 50K. The race for second in the USA between W2GD and WE3C was very close. GD's extra QSO total made the difference.

On the DX end, the OM gang from CT9M blew away the competition with almost 2.2 meg. It was another close race for runner up with 403A, OM7M, CU8A, and C4N finishing all within 100K. Again, the point advantage of being in another continent from the main activity centers proves to be the big difference.

SSB Results

The VP6DX show ended in a score of over 1.05 meg! This is a bit short of the record set by D4B in 2005, but nevertheless a fantastic effort by N5IA. W1NA made the trek to IH9 and managed to finish second. Right behind was VE3EY, who finished third in the world from Canada, a tough thing to do.

Corrections to the 2007 CQ WW 160 Results

GJ2A should have been listed as the winner for Jersey Islands.

KQ8RP should have been listed in the boxes as #2 Low Power USA SSB.

XE1RCS was listed as VE1RCS on page 25 regarding most W/VE multipliers. The call was correct elsewhere in the results.

DJ6QT (YO3JR operator) was a Single Operator CW entry not a Multi-Operator. This moves **DQ4W** to the Multi-Operator runnerup position and **DJ6QT** lands in the thirdplace Single Operator position in Germany.

UA6LV's name was incorrect in the plaque winner's box as Alan Biryukov. The correct name is Vlad Biryukov.

The Zone 4 Plaque Winner on SSB should have been **N8TR**, Peter Michaelis, not Don Kerouac, **K9NR.** Both are great scores, ranking #7 and #8 USA.

TOP 10 SCORES

CW	
SINGLE OPERATOR	
USA	

••••	
K3ZM/4	773,430
K1LZ	755,040
W5UN	669,476
N2NT	663,187
KT1V	638,365
K5RX	618,205
N3UA/4	573,461
AA1K/3	568,216
K5GO	525,096
WB9Z	500,340
	,

VE (TOP 5) VY2ZM 1,591,564 VE3EJ 1,052,226 VE3EY 889,720 VE2TZT 851,920 VE3DZ 838,626

QRP (TOP 5)	
OK1IW	121,847
OL4W	117,500
SP2DNI	87,548
VE3FRX	74,094

S59D71,226

	DX
CN2R	2,348,214
VY2ZM	1,591,564
GM3POI	1,572,193
CU2A	1,284,324
M2D	1,108,256
VE3EJ	1,052,226
S51TA	1,029,120
OZ7YY	1,008,630
CT1JLZ	
YU1LA	

LOW POWER (TOP 6)	
TA3D	
4L2M	
VP9I	
TA2RC	
YT5A	
	333 333

LOW POWER W/VE (TOP 6)		
VE3NE		
VE3MGY		
VE3RZ		
W4IX		
KG4W		
K1EP	159,736	

W/VE QRP (TOP 5)		
VE3FRX	.74,094	
VA3YT	.70,200	
WØGJ	.68,747	
KØPK	.67,500	
NK8Q/3	.59,850	

MULTI-OPERATOR		
CT9M	2,196,132	
403A	1,577,610	
OM7M	1,518,429	
CU8A	1,476,288	
C4N	1,461,832	
9A2AA	1,334,704	
MD4K	1,285,596	
OM8A	1,175,592	
HG8DX		
RW2F	1,085,364	
MULTI-OPERATOR (TOP 3)		
US		
W8JI/4	1,039,036	
	747,370	
WE3C		

SSB	
SINGLE OPERATOR	1
USA	

K3ZM/4	391,160
WB9Z	353,760
N3HBX	347,886
WØEWD	286,832
W3BGN	284,130
K5RX	274,257
KU1CW/Ø	252,336
K2AX	214,414
W3TS	213,516
N4PN	209,160

VE (TOP 5)	
VE3EY	734,156
VE3AP	308,894
VE3CX	
VA5DX	198,009
VO1NO/VE3	196.719

QRP (TOP 5)	
VA3YT	40,280
OK7CM	
W4TMR	
S59D	

DL7UMK......13,104

D	DX				
VP6DX	1,054,868				
IH9/W1NA	736,848				
VE3EY	734,156				
CT3DL					
OZ1DD					
RW2F					
SP7MTF					
K3ZM/4					
ES5RW					
WB9Z					
	,				

LOW POWER (TOP 6)				
128,797				
117,728				

LOW POWER W/VE (TOP 6)			
VE3NE	112,057		
VE3MGY	109,648		
WØGJ			
KD4POJ/Ø	77,340		
VE3FRX			
VE3RZ	74,677		

W/VE QRP (TOP 3)

VA3YT	
W4TMR	
N8XA	

MULTI-OPERATOR

MOET OF ERATOR			
CN3A	714,735		
HG8DX			
WE3C			
XE1RCS			
EI7M			
LN9Z			
HB1ØDX			
S56P			
ND8DX			
C6ANM			

50K separated the race for top single op in the USA, and again Peter, K3ZM, emerged the winner. Closely following behind were WB9Z and N3HBX. On the low power side in W/VE, a good oldfashioned dog fight between VE3NE and VE3MGY ended with Lali, 'NE on top by only 3K!

The clear winner in the multi-op category was the effort by the Italian group at CN3A. They were able to outscore the HG8DX group by over 130K.

In low power, Tony, KP4KE, with a fine 349K score was the leader, with D4C runner-up. VA3YT and OK7CM were the top two scorers QRP. QRP on Top band is hard enough on CW, but on SSB it is ridiculously hard. Congratulations to these guys for sticking it out!

Club Competition

It is obvious that the Bavarian Contest Club takes the CQ 160 Contest very seriously! For the third straight year they won the competition with over 112 entries. There were 70 entries from the Potomac Valley Radio Club, good enough for second place. Following these great clubs were the Rhein Ruhr DX Association, Contest Club Ontario, and the Slovenian Contest Club. Remember, the club competition is for fun and bragging rights only. Please try to use the proper name of your club when filling out Cabrillo logs. There were so many different spellings of some clubs that it was sometimes hard to determine the proper entry.

Notes on Log Checking

2008 was another record-setting year log wise. There were 1860 CW and 926 SSB logs received.

This year's logs were scored using the same software used in many other contests. There are log checking reports available to any entrant who would like to see them. Send an e-mail to <director@cq160.com> requesting the report and we will forward it to you. All logs were checked with the same software and scoring system. We hope to promote more accuracy in copying and log-ging. Any penalties administered are equal for all entrants.

Although it was not explicit in the rules for 2008, we checked logs for "operating time." The goal was to set a standard for off times. The good news is that most stations did not require any adjustments. There were a few logs over the time limit, but none were grossly affected. Off times are well-defined in the new rules.

Another controversial item during both the CW and SSB weekends was the use of the "Low Band Chat Channel" by some entrants. The channel provides an internet chat between stations. Again, while not expressly forbidden in the rules, it is not consistent with the intent of the contest to coordinate or check QSOs by any method other than radio.

There were a few stations with very big scores that voluntarily withdrew their entries and reclassified as check logs. There was much discussion about this after the contest, resulting in these actions. Other logs were submitted with the caveat that contacts made with chat-channel assistance would be removed. The committee checked all logs against the chat logs and made the necessary adjustments. The 2009 rules specifically disallow the use of any QSO assistance such as chat channels.

Committee, Awards, and Expanded Results

I wish to thank the following committee members for their help with log checking and other administrative duties: N6TR, KL7RA, K1EA, K1DG, and again K4JRB for making it a smooth transition. Also thank you to K5ZD and K3BU for their help with the newly revamped <CQ160.com> website.

We hope to have all awards from previous years sent out very soon. This year's awards should go out very quickly also. A big thank you to all the trophy sponsors, whose generosity helps keep the awards program alive. For 2009, please check the <CQ160.com> for a list of trophies and sponsors.

For a list of the guest ops and members of multi-op teams, plus more QRM, see the expanded results of the contests on



No, it's not K1ZM but his brother K3ZM. Peter operated hisVirginia salt-marsh QTH to take the top spot on both USA.

the CQ website: <www.cq-amateur-radio. com> and also <CQ160.com>.

Changes for the 2009 Contest

The rules for the contest have been revamped (for the complete rules, see the November issue of *CQ*). Here are some of the highlights:

1. The dates for the 2009 SSB contest are a week later than usual to avoid conflict with the ARRL DX Contest. This is a calendar anomaly and the contest will return to the last full weekend in February in 2010.

2. The start and end times of the contests have been shifted two hours earlier in response to requests from the 160 contesting community.

3. The exchange for DX stations has been changed from RS(T) and country to RS(T) and CQ zone.

4. A new Single-Operator Assisted class has been added to permit the use of clusters, skimmers, etc.

5. A 40-hour maximum operating period has been added for multi-op entries.

6. Provisions have been added regarding remote operation.

Please check <CQ160.com> for the complete rules and other information.

See you in the 2009 contests!

73, Andy, N2NT

CW QRM

Great fun! Eleven JAs and an RWØ in the log on Sunday morning ... AA1K. I believe this is my first ever 160m operation. Just put up a 40m wire vertical on a Jackite pole, found it would tune for VSWR on 160m, but almost no one could hear me. Lesson learned: 40m vertical is better than a dummy load on 160m, but not by much ... AA4Q. My first 160m contest. Very strange conditions not similar in other bands but all went OK considering that I was using 100w output. Was able to work US and Canada, never thought to work them. I am looking forward to next 160m contest, CT1DRB/ OK8RB, David ... **CT1DRB.** TNX to Jose, CU2CE, for offering his fine QTH. TNX to Martti, OH2BH, for taking care of the logistics ... CU2A. Our first 160m contest from Flores island/Azores. Great propagation and we worked the 160m WAS during this contest ... CU8A. 2009 I will take part in this competition again! With so lively participation I had a lot of fun in the contest. Rig: 100 watts to an inverted dipole ... **DF5BM.** First time on this contest, lots of fun, cu next year! ... **DJ5HD.** What a super contest! For the first time on 160m and then I got 48 DXCCs! Wow! ... **DK1AX.** Just one world "Great." Although all were problems I tried to do the best. Anyway I really enjoyed and work my last state (ND) to completed my 9BWAS, so could it be really better? hi hi. Thanks again to all

... EA6SX. First contest use of K3. Excellent. Antenna fell down and had to make temporary repairs in the dark! Condx variable ... G3XGC. Friends say, how do you hear so well on 160. I say very quiet location! So what happened on Friday!! S5 noise till 2230 on Sunday when it fell to S1! Do you say Sod's Law in USA?! Conditions variable, no JA opening, and most USA down in strength from normal. Very high level of QRM from EU for whole 48 hrs. Still my favorite test of the year ...

GW3JXN. It was a nice contest but local noise was not below S9+10 dB all over the time. My short antenna worked fairly well. Thanks for Qs, see you next year! Rig TS-530SP 100w into an end-fed 21m long wire above flat roof ... HA2MN. Unfortunately on afternoon of 28 January we got a heavy wind storm (120-150 km/h), so I must down the antenna! ... HG8ØMRASZ. My small contribution to a fantastic CQ WW 160. ... IZ7AUH. Entry on single-op low power. The condition was almost same as the last year. The first day I could QSO with W8JI (Georgia). And I QSO with 3W3W, HG8DX. But we had very heavy local power supply nose on 160m band. I was using MV (micro vert) antenna which is only 3.6m long. It was very good. This small MV antenna has same performance as a full size dipole antenna!! And I used two types tranceiver, FT-1000D and Elecraft K2!



The gang at N2CW (W2GD on CW). Left to right: W2USF, N2OO, and W2CG.

Narrow band blocking with the K2 was the excellent! I like this contest very much because I can QSO with many famous Top bander OM all over the world ... JE1SPY. I actually heard a European! ... KØSRL. After such a dearth of QSOs from DU9/NØNM, this contest has come alive in EPA. Amazing what 7 hours can produce – 100K! ... K3QF. I worked my first European station this year on 160m with 5 watts QRP ... K3TW. Lots of fun. Had to QRT each evening when the XYL hit the



Here is Bill, W4ZV, at the key of the VY2AM superstation on Price Edward Island, good enough for second place world!

sack cause I was setting off the fire alarm – hi ... K4UEE. Worked more than double the number of Europeans and JAs as ever before. ... K5RX. Good conditions both nights, lots of stations and QRM. Always a thrill to pick up new DX on 160 meter band ... K7QBO. Low power but my inverted L at 110 ft. seemed to work FB, made a shielded loop during daylight on Saturday. It sure made the sig to noise much better. Put it up in a light snow storm, hi. As my old Elmer used to say, "They

2000 CLUB SCORES

work better that way" ... **K80T.** Thanks to John Evans, N3HBX, for letting me use his station. I only destroyed one amplifier. I worked not one but TWO JAs, the two first for me on 160. Thanks for the QSOs ... **KD4D**. My Gruman Canoe makes a good 160 meter antenna ... **KD7GIM.** Cold, windy, and rainy, great contesting weather by a warm radio on Top band with a hot toddy. Contesting at its best ... **KN4Y.** Many thanks to Tom, K5RC, for allowing me to pilot his superstation. It was cold and snowing outside, but the band was HOT inside the shack! Terrific openings on Saturday to Europe and Asia ... **KY7M.** My best effort EVER. Superb DX conditions to the Mid/Far West USA first night

... M2D. Glad to see everyone and have to say the conditions were AMAZING. EU and the West Coast at the same time. It's been a good season on the Top band! ... N2WN. Wow! Most DX I have ever worked on 160 in a contest! ... N5AW. Heard many more mults, but we are still too weak to work them all. More than 1100 QSOs were fun anyhow, but only 47 W/VE shows our weakness on 160m DX ... OE2S. Thanks for another contest! Our 160m setup is not match to some others but we had fun! ... OH4A. Good propagation for QRP stations. But neighbors' plasma TV generated very big QRM. Thank you for fantastic contest ... OL4W. We were using the location of our club PI4ZI, an industrial area in Hengelo in eastern part of Netherlands. There are a lot of factories very close to us so almost no space to put up 160m antennas. Just before the contest we set up a Beverage in direction off Japan. This worked very well also for UA9's. Signals from stateside could be better, but overall we had great fun and were happy with the results ... PA1TT. Thank you for fb contest! ...

2008 CLUB SCORES				
(Minimum of 3 three entries required for listing)				
BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB		OM3KHO		
POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	9.609.774	VRHNIKA CONTESTERS		
RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION		ORENBURG CONTEST CLUB		
CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO		ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION		
SLOVENIAN CONTEST CLUB	6.685.539	OL1A		
YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB	6,676,307	WESTERN NEW YORK DX ASSOCIATION		
CONTEST CLUB FINLAND		VERON		
FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	4.947.537	PLIS PLAI CONTEST TEAM		
SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS		NORTH COAST CONTESTERS		
SP DX CLUB		BRITISH COLUMBIA DX CLUB		
URAL CONTEST GROUP		OK2KRT		
HA DX CLUB		SRR		
LBCC		WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB		
SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB		SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB		
BELOKRANJEC CONTEST CLUB	2.680.990	OMSK REGION RADIOCLUB	362.329	
FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP		ARM		
TEXAS DX SOCIETY		CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION		
CHILTERN DX CLUB		ALRS		
LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB		WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB		
KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RADIO CL		WWYC		
MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB		SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	294 356	
CROATIA CONTEST CLUB		AUSTRIAN CONTEST CLUB	277 412	
TARTU CONTEST TEAM		EAST COAST CANADA CONTEST CLUB	264 447	
TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP		SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION	215 090	
GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	1 877 561	CRK	196 554	
ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP		TOP OF EUROPE CONTESTERS		
BLACK SEA CONTEST CLUB	1 497 959	MARITIME CONTEST CLUB		
RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB	1 428 619	CENTRAL SIBERIA DX CLUB	184 563	
UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB		WEST VIRGINIA DX ASSOCIATION	183 103	
CENTRAL ARIZONA DX ASSOCIATION		SP CONTEST CLUB		
MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN		WEST PARK RADIOPS		
DANISH DX GROUP		RADIOAMATOR	154 208	
OK2OMM		MARRAD		
YUCC		VLADIMIR RADIO CLUB	143 518	
DEUTSCH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB		SUCC	130 020	
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB		CTRI CONTEST GROUP		
HUDSON VALLEY CONTESTERS AND DXERS		RADIOCLUBUL NOSTRU DIN CONSTANTA	115 655	
KANSAS CITY DX CLUB		OKLAHOMA DX ASSOCIATION	107 267	
DOZEN DASHES CONTEST CLUB		RU-QRP		
CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	010 205	ARGO		
TOWER CONTEST GANG		BERGEN AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION		
OKDXF		METRO DX CLUB		
LOW COUNTRY CONTEST CLUB		TEMIRTAU CONTEST CLUB		
MAGNOLIA DX ASSOCIATION				

RA3BQ. That was a Field Day effort with portable TX antenna. Location was extremely low noise but the weather was terrible! Next year will try once more! ... RV6LFE. After the contest I received mail from 3A/ON5NT who tells me that he made only one contact on 160 and that was me! ... S57DX. The truth is: "You can't have too many antennas" ... SP5WA. Thanks for the great contest again! At the end of the contest was great cndx to NA, but my PA had broken in two hours before the end of the contest, so last two hours I worked only on FT-1000D. See you all! ... UU4JMG. Wind blew down folded inverted-L antenna a week before contest. Our best results yet for CQ contest. Seems central Canada took the weekend off. Sure missed MB & SK ... VE2OJ. Very odd condx the first two nights. First night Beverages worked very well. Second night not much f/b on noise. Nearly missed some mults Sunday as clock off! Low 40 ft. dipole this time as main one taken down by errant snowmobile ... VE3PN. 160 sounded like 20 during the CQ WW DX contest! I hope I can get more time next year ... VE6ZC. Propagation was great. The first European station was heard at 01:40 GMT. Hope to improve TX ant next year

... VK2CCC. Outdoor portable station at hilltop of Lamma Island at +8 deg C using FT-450AT, 50AH car battery and 250m long-wire antenna ... VR2ZQZ. Great conditions and good operators! My 55th year of contesting! ... W6PU. This weekend put me over the 100 country mark for DXCC. What a blast! ... W8TN. Webster Bandspanner mag-mounted on car, \$15. Wire to load Bandpsanner on 160, \$5. Twenty contacts in four states in about an hour's operation? Priceless! ... WA6HZT. After 11 years of SSB participation we tried CW and love it. CU next year ... XE1RCS. Mni tnx for first 160m contest. Mni 73's ... YO5CCX.

SSB QRM

Fun contest as usual, but the high noise level took a little edge off. Next year I am going to make an effort to work past 10:00 PM in the evening, hi ... AC9S. Biggest thrill was working VP6DX. I contacted 41 states & DC, 8 provinces, and 31 DXCC countries. I still have to install a real DX antenna ... AF1T. Multi VP6DX is the best QSO in last 5 years! ... DG7RO. Great fun if very slow at times. QSO numbers down from previous years but more states. Thanks to everyone who called us ... EI7M. Very good contest. It's my first experience in CQ WW 160M. Cu next year. Tnx for the QSOs ... F4FLQ. 100w into 41m wire sloped from 23m. Just a few points to the big pistols. Was fun. Hope one day I get space for real 160m antennas ... HB9TQG. Long time since I've been on 160. Large new country lot plus Ten-Tec Omni VI+, Hercules II, inverted L antenna, and good ops made the contest fun. ... K4AVX. I certify that, other than caffeine, no performance enhancing drugs or steroids were used during this contest. Also, no small animals or children were harmed ... K7ACZ. Always enjoy the 160 tests. Still the gentleman's band! ... K9FO. My OM (Russ, N8MWK) wanted me to do this contest. He was right; everyone likes my YL voice even with 5 watts. I was very surprised to work 33 states, one province, Mexico, and Bahamas with my 5 watt QRP rig ... KD8EIR. Good conditions, but many problems with PA. So I did stop the contest. See you next year I hope ... LX1ER. Not easy with 10w but glad to take part and thanks to all who pulled my weak signal out of the noise. ... M3RCV. A car hit a power line pole just down the road but we didn't lose power! Local conditions at our site not favorable this year. Our rookie team did a great job! ... N2CW. Best conditions in all the years I have entered this contest! However, the QRN and QRM (some of it deliberate) was horrendous! Beat last year's score by guite a bit ... N3HBX. Ears shot. Storms all weekend. Sounded like summertime. Good EU opening for about 30 minutes on Saturday night. First time ever to work all 50 states in a contest on SSB. Nice to work VP6DX/ Ducie with a great signal from there ... N4PN. First operation on 160m. Worked over half of the states with 100w from my mobile installation ... N8CBW. Steve, KD5LNO, who returned to Texas last fall flew in for the weekend and was rewarded with what had to be the best propagation for this contest that I can remember ... ND8DX. It was refreshing to be in a contest on a band I do not usually get on a lot. Lots of things to learn and surprisingly many stations to be worked within the few hours I was on. Transmitting and receiving on a shunt-fed tower was not easy but not as hard as expected. Thanks for the QSOs! ... OE6MBG. The inverted L-antenna that we had created for the occasion blew down in a major storm the day before the contest, so the first night was "just" on a dipole. Lots of contacts, but no DX until Saturday, when we managed to get the original antenna back up. Lots of fun, but quite slow ... OZ1ADL. First time active in this contest, age 69 years and licenced in 1976 ... PA3ASE. I rarely operate any of the voice modes, but when it comes to operation on Top band, especially in a contest like this one, I WILL make an exception. Many thanks to all who took the time to stop at my frequency and give me a QSO ... VE3CUI. What a ride! I also want to thank the VP6DX team for allowing me to indulge myself a bit and operate the contest single op. It was the opportunity of a lifetime. Thanks fellows, blokes, compadres for fighting the QRN to give me a contact. 73 de Milt, N5IA op of VP6DX ... VP6DX. It was a great contest. Working ND on only the thirrd QSO and getting HI as the second to last, with loads of fun in between! ... WØMR. 90 years old, and 68 years contesting! ... W4OGG. First time with Beverages and I'll never be without them again! Conditions were not as good as the CW contest ... W8GP. Pleased to run again the SSB contest, despite my aging ears! Hard to fight the tremendous Central European QRM! hi. Mediocre condx so only few DX QSOs and no new ones ... YO2IS.

(Continued on page 103)