County Hunter News OnLine

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Volume 22 Issue 11

Welcome to the On-Line County Hunter News, a monthly publication for those interested in ham radio county hunting, with an orientation toward CW operation**.** We also cover some park chasing activities these days. Contributions of articles, stories, letters, and pictures to the editor are welcomed, and may be included in future issues at the editor's discretion.

The County Hunter News will provide you with interesting, thought provoking articles, articles of county hunting history, or about county hunters or events, ham radio or electronics history, general ham radio interest, and provide news of upcoming operating events.

We hope you will enjoy the County Hunter News. Feel free to forward, or provide links. Permission is given for copying or quoting in part or all provided credit is given to the CHNews and to the author of article.

CW County Hunter Frequencies are 14.0565, 10.124.5, and 7056.5, with activity occasionally on 3556.5 KHz. There is CW activity now occasionally on 7188, 14336., 18136, 21336, 28336 . The CW folks are now pioneering 17M operation on 18.0915. (21.0565, 24.9155, and 28.0565). Look around 18136 or for occasional 17M CW runs usually after the run on 20M CW . (21.336 and 28.336)

You can see live spots of county hunter activity at ch.W6RK.com

For information on county hunting, check out the following resources:

The USACA award was sponsored by CQ Magazine, which unfortunately has gone the way of the dinosaurs. However, like other CQ Awards, they are still available. CQ awards require confirmation of all claimed contacts.

Rules and information are here:

http://countyhunter.com/cq.htm

MARAC sponsors the US Counties Award which can be earned in increments of 500 counties. The rules for this award are at:

http://marac.org/documents/usa-ca-rules.pdf

This award requires log data only to earn.

For general information FAQ on County Hunting, check out:

http://countyhunter.com/whatis.htm

MARAC sponsors an award program for many other county hunting awards. You can find information on these awards and the rules at:

http://marac.org/awards.pdf

There is a lot more information at www.countyhunter.com . Please check it out.

Back issues of the County Hunter News are available at www.CHNewsonline.com

De N4CD, Bob Voss, Editor (email: telegraphy@verizon.net

Notes from the Editor

1) Sunspots – Still have them by the hundreds at times but often under 100 now. Peak was 270 back two years ago.. Now, we are seeing a definite fall off in the number of sunspots, with under 50 common. We are on the downslope of the sunspot cycle headed to zero sunspots in a few years. The upper bands have been quiet other than E-skip and digital. Still, lots of 20M activity, but get your 30M resonators or auto-tuners working.

Along with being still near the peak of sunspot activity, we also tend to get lots of solar flares, CME's, etc, that can affect propagation. Some days are good. Some days are

very good. Some days are rotten propagation where you struggle to hear the mobiles. It is quite common to have lots of flare activity on the downslope as the sun decides to change into the next solar cycle but resisting changing from the old one. The polarity of the sun flips every 11 years for sunspot activity.

Recently, 10M has been quiet – opening at times, but often not much going on. We'll find out soon in November with Sweepstakes – watch the scores on 3830 contest reflector.

2) State QSO Parties – lots and lots of activity in October. Lots of reports. Hope you can find time to read them all as folks put in the effort to put out the counties. It will be a while before more activity like this. November is contest month – and state QSO party season has ended. Magically, some mobiles from MN decided to head to SD and turn in into possibly the best ever SD QSO Party ever! NY was also good.

3) Back to standard time - Nov 1 is the end of Daylight Saving Time. You get to sleep in an extra hour.

4) Weather - It's officially Fall.....but the snow is flying in MT, CO, WA so far with some 30 inch totals. LOTS and LOTS of rain in SW USA. Much of the US has had above normal temps. Here in Dallas area, we've been seven degrees above normal. Shorts and Tee- Shirts until Nov. Nice in the mid-east so far. For the SD QSO Party, temps reached over 100F in October! Whew!

New York QSO Party

There are 62 Counties in NY

An excellent QSO Party this year. No serial numbers, too!

From 3830 contest reflector:

N2Y portable 683 cw 841 SSB
Operator(s): KI2D NK2Y

This year we operated two stations (NK2Y on CW and KI2D on SSB) at three distinct county lines (and POTA) locations:

Started on Bear Mountain for ORA/ROC, then moved to where the Appalachian Trail crosses the PUT/DUT line, and ended the day at the PUT/WES line.

We would have had a chance to getting 500k points, if it weren't for some neighbor of the park calling the cops on us. Turns out the park was supposed to close at sunset, even if the gate was open.

Logged it all on Ham2K Power Logger, of course, this year with CAT control, voice and CW keying and more.

Pretty much the same radios and antennas as last year, if anyone is wondering.

W2SZ portable multi op 273 cw 449 ssb 15 digi
Operator(s): AD2OC K3IXD KC1J KD1ACF KD1AEJ KD3DUE KE2APT KE2BZF KE2FCA KO6KUE KQ4VEV N2VW W1HXC

Another contest in the books for W2SZ, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's amateur radio club!

We were once again fortunate enough to be able to set up at the (educational frat) RSEi house and were able to throw up 3 transmitters/antennas for the contest, including a massive 300ft loop constructed by our Station Manager, Will KC1J.

40m was alive for most of the contest, and the 40 ops were usually working pileups while everyone else scrounged around. Unfortunately, there wasn't much digital activity from stations participating in the NYQP. Hopefully we'll see more stations on (hopefully not WSJTX!) digi in the future.

A special mention goes to our President, Charles KE2APT, (with occasional logging assistance from Connor W1HXC) for making ALL of our CW contacts while operating for almost the last 5 hours of the contest straight.

Thank you for the great contest

N2T mobile 1578 CW

Operator(s): N5OT N6AN

This was a fun contest. For the 3rd year in a row I drove my ever-evolving RadioCar up to New York to join good friends for contesting and camaraderie.

This was the year it was going to be cold and rainy. I/we feared the weather given that I was still assembling radio stuff in the car all the way to New York. Huge thanks to pals Mike, W9RE, and Jim, W8WTS, for allowing me to stop in their driveways to build stuff as I made my way northeast. Friday, when the who team arrived, including best buddy David N6AN flying in from California, I found myself putting the finishing touches on in New York, in an occasional rain shower.

We definitely got it working. The 40 meter junk box special "Antenna Number Two" we cobbled together just delivered the goods. Post contest analysis shows how overwhelmingly we favored 40 meters - it was just a bottomless pit of stations calling, for a large part of every hour of the contest, from start to finish. Amazing.

Other than that, David and I played by the numbers and stayed on schedule. The bands seemed really nice and quiet for the most part.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make this weekend so much fun and so successful. They NYQP definitely sets the bar in many ways.

73 and see you all in it next year,

Mark N5OT
with David N6AN

K2C mobile 1476 CW QSO
Operator(s): K2UA N2MG (K2UA mobile)

We had a great time covering 22 or 23 counties and almost 600 miles, with some challenges, but it was a blast as always! Qs were up a little, mults were down a little, from last year. It's always a highlight of the year for me. More to come! Please share stories and pictures with us for the results at info@nyqp.org and GET YOUR LOG IN before the deadline!

As always, thank you for your great support of NYQP! Especially all the mobiles, portables, organized club efforts, and out-of-state chasers who spent tons of

time in the chair to make the contest fun for everyone!

--73, Rus, K2UA

W2R mobile 260 SSB QSO
Operator(s): K5JSG K5SEG

K5JSG OPERATOR, K5SEG DRIVER AND SUPPORT
OPERATING FROM THE ALL/CAT COUNTY LINE, AND THEN CHA FOR THE SECOND STOP.
WORKING THROUGH CAT WHILE MOVING

.
W2LC mobile   469 CW QSO

It was nice to go mobile again this year after staying at home last year. Going to the "north country" in NNY has it's challenges. I drove through the Adirondack Mountain area in Northern New York NNY to activate, Clinton, Franklin, St. Lawrence, Lewis and Jefferson counties.

A beautiful drive during the day. Many areas with lakes, state parks, state forests and the Adirondack mountains. There is a 95 mile stretch from Tupper Lake to Watertown where there isn't much. The temperature was in the 30's mostly with a high of 41 for the day and there was a touch of snow Saturday morning when I left home.

I arrived at my first destination at the Jefferson and Lewis County line about 40 minutes late. I operated from a cemetery where the county line went through the middle. I parked on a marginally maintained access road right on the county line. A nice spot out of the way and no one bothered me! I should have stayed longer but I wanted to get moving since I was already running late.

I only operated in five of my planned seven counties Jefferson, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Franklin and Clinton. I got a late start so I skipped the side trip to Hamilton County. I went to Essex County to do the ESS/FRA county line but the lake side park I was going to use was full of people for some event in Saranac Lake NY. Dang tourists!

My two county lines did really well. But these two are two hours and fifteen minutes apart.

At CLI/FRA I had 244 QSOs. JEF/LEW yielded 154 QSOs.

All other county lines I was near include Franklin County.

After it got dark I packed it in and drove home. It gets really dark in the northern NY counties. The couple of parking areas that looked good during the day were not so good in the dark. Sunset was about 6:15PM local. I stopped for gas and food and headed home. About 5 hours of operating time for a total rate of about 90 per hour.

QSO totals: Clinton 122. Franklin 133, Jefferson 77, Lewis 77, St Lawrence 60. Total 469. I worked 19 counties, 38 states

Nice to work all of the familiar calls! 73 Scott W2LC

N2E mobile 1358 cw 120 ssb
N2CU operator

Another fine NYQP in the books. Conditions were excellent, aside from the occasional QSB which required a couple of repeats. I stuck mainly to CW to maximize the score as trying to find an open frequency to CQ on SSB is a practice in futility. It would be nice to have a mobile window, not that anyone would pay attention to it.

I activated 6 county lines and tried to spend as much time as possible in each so I didn't waste as much time driving (and not operating). 34 New York counties and 42 sections worked. Not bad for 100% running; it's not productive for a mobile to S&P and have to wait in big pileups to finally get through. I wish more fixed stations would S&P more when their rates get slow.

Some states really came out to play. Besides NY, Minnesota made it into my log 126 times (great job MWA!), followed by PA at 102 and IL at 72. Individual ops on the top of the heap were OM2VL (34), K1RO, N8II, WB9HFK (24), K5CM (22) and N5KW (20). A number of stations in the teens too. There were several stations that duped me 2+ times, but I'd rather have them in the log at both ends than not.

Thank you to all that gave me a shout and I look forward to doing this again.

FTdx10

Tarheel 75A
100 Ah LiFePO4 battery (lasted the entire contest)

73, Tom N2E (aka N2CU)

K2AL portable 380 CW 176 SSB

FT-710. LDG AT-200ProII Tuner, G5RV, N1MM+
Portable from Tuxedo ,NY Orange County

K2K rover 25 cw 59 SSB
Operator(s): KD2KEH

I tried County line ops in the northern four counties of NY which didn't prove to be as good I hoped. One QTH, I only heard electrical interference from, what appeared to be solar panels. I received 2 counties in an hour that I could hear thru the noise. I went to the top of a mountain and I couldn't get thru pileups. My transmissions didn't seem to be heard except the far western NY counties. I tried 3 different antennas thinking that it was my antenna selection. Lots to learn in being a Rover

N2Q portable 434 SSB QSO
Operator(s): KQ2R

worked single op portable on albany/schoharie county line.
operated from pota us-5272 rennsalaerville state forest.
setting up on a ridge overlooking the Catskill mountains,
temp was 38 degs, wind blowing steady 20 mph, gusts 40 mph.
couple of black clouds came overhead, got snowed on during setup. had a tripod mounted antenna with sandbag weights on the legs. wind gust over 40 mph shook the car and toppled the tripod...ouch! next time will sandbag and install guy ropes! main antenna a 40m dipole stayed up ok...less wind resistance. 20m,15m 10m at my location were mush sounding, couldn't buy a qso. did everything on 40m.

W2EMC portable 142 SSB

Operated portable on battery power at Harriman State Park in New York State

(Orange County). I operated very close to the Fingerboard Shelter which is on the Appalachian Trail. I had an inverted V about 15 feet off the ground. I was operating an ICOM IC-718 at 100 watts. I operated from 1:15 PM - 5:15 PM local time. My home QTH is NJ. I hike many times in Harriman. I am a member of the New Providence ARC which is based in New Jersey. I used N3FJP logging software. I uploaded my Cabrillo file to the NYQP website. My contacts totaled 142 and they were all on 40 meters and all SSB.

WN4AFP fixed SC 203 CW

Operated portable on battery power at Harriman State Park in New York State (Orange County). I operated very close to the Fingerboard Shelter which is on the Appalachian Trail. I had an inverted V about 15 feet off the ground. I was operating an ICOM IC-718 at 100 watts. I operated from 1:15 PM - 5:15 PM local time. My home QTH is NJ. I hike many times in Harriman. I am a member of the New Providence ARC which is based in New Jersey. I used N3FJP logging software. I uploaded my Cabrillo file to the NYQP website. - all SSB suddenly

K1RO fixed NH 279 cw 244 SSB Mults62

Wow, great activity and good propagation combined to make this a really fun contest. It's grown considerably in the 10 years that I've been doing it and is now one of the premier QSO parties of the year.

With all the portable and mobile activity, it was hard to keep up. Finally worked all 62 counties after missing by 1 in 2016 and 2024. Thanks to the NY stations and NYQP organizers for an outstanding event!

Arizona QSO Party

There are 15 counties in AZ. Big ones for the most part.

The remnants of Tropical Storm Rachel put a damper on this years event with lots of rain, wind and nasty conditions. There was only one mobile, and fewer county

expeditions than in the past. Propagation on the upper bands (10M) not good at all, and static from the storm made 40M difficult for many. :Many fixed stations on from populated cities.

From the 3830 scores page:

KK6MC Mobile 284 cw 60 SSB

As a mobile, I activated half the counties in AZ. Having said that, there are only 15 counties in AZ and I activated 8 of them. The counties are large and travel time between them long, which may explain why there aren't' more mobiles in the AZQP. I think I was the only one th is year. I spent a little over seven hours traveling to operate four hours. This contest is obviously better with a driver. Next Year!

The remnants of Hurricane Rachel shadowed me all day. At the first two stops it was just intermittent rain, at the third it was heavy at times and at the fourth it was a full blown thunderstorm at times. At that stop precipitation static and static crashes rendered the bands useless at times. I pulled up stakes sooner that I would have if the bands had been quiet.

At the first stop, AOPH/NVO, I started on 40M but only made two QSOes, despite the band being open, at least for short distances. I then QSYed to 20M and the SWR was high on the antenna, despite tuning it before leaving. After some trouble shooting and adjusting huge antenna, I found the problem and fixed it and was back on the air. Conditions seemed good despite the light rain. 15M was open and I made a few QSOs to Europe. It was a great start.

I moved on to CNO/YVP and heavier rain. Again, I made a couple contacts into CA on 40M, but no more. 20M was productive as was 15M. I found out there that the QSO Party Mobile tracker still had me in APH/NVO. Some trouble shooting did not resolve that problem. I spotted my self on the QSO Party Hub and had a productive stop.

On to GLA/MCP and periods of very rain. I forgot that there is no cell coverage there, so it was back to operating with no assistance, which seemed to work fine. That stop was productive, with more 40M activity, although offset by more noise, and 15M activity too.

Then off to PMA/PNL. All the activity there was on 40M, despite 20M still being open a bit. There was a full blown thunderstorm courtesy of Rachel. Noise was bad, rendering

the band useless at times and I noticed at times I lost connectivity briefly during the closer lightning strikes.

2024 was the last time I entered the AZ QSO Party, and I hoped to better my score. I did, but then I only visited 6 counties. I ran the same route in this year's 7QP, but that was much more productive, largely due to more outside AZ activity. I operated more phone in an attempt to increase my multipliers, and that was moderately successful.

With a single operator, no driver, and long distances between stops travel time dominates operating time

N8II fixed WV 34 CW 8 SSB

Not a great weekend for this QP competing with SD and PA. I worked both of the others seriously, 125 QSO's with SD thanks to 3 mobiles. No way I could have pushed much higher than 55-60 with AZ. High band activity (15+10) was poor, 10M never seemed to open, heard one weak station who couldn't hear me. Thanks to Duffy, KK6MC/M for operating nearly full time.

Thanks for the Q's and 73, Jeff

WW9R County Expedition 265 CW

I operated from Catalina State Park POTA US-1055
Icon 7300 at 100W

17’ whip with tuned elevated radials for 20 meters
Inverted Vee dipole at 30’ for 40 meters
N1MM for logging

Mobile Activity in October

At the beginning of the month

AB7NK/K7SEN in San Juan, WA. Then down through CA to Los Angeles.

AI5P spotted in CO

K0PC participated in IL QSO Party

- - -

Looks like mobiles 'traveled out' after the UT National Convention. Very quiet month other than park spots.

South Dakota QSO Party

There are 66 counties in SD

This might have been the best ever SD QP. Three mobiles/rovers plus lots of activity with folks chasing them!

From the 3830 contest reflector:

K0D Rover 541 SSB QSO
Operator(s): KØBBC KØVAL

800 miles of driving and 14 counties activated. 1 QSO per 1.47 miles driven at $4.00 a gallon and we had a good time activating counties with no active ham population.

AA5JF Fixed GA 48 cw 68 SSB Mults49

Excellent fun. Many thanks to all in South Dakota who made this fun, including especially the mobiles. Many new ATNO counties worked.

K5CM fixed OK 45 cw 52 SSB Mults42

Special thanks to the mobiles: K0D-(K0BBC), K0S-(N0HJZ), W0ZQ, and W0OJY, which made this SDQP, the best ever.

73,
Connie / K5CM

OM2VL fixed DX 33 CW 34 SSB Mults36

Rich was again on the route, and of course I hunted him. Unfortunately this time condx was bad. 20m closed too early and on Saturday I missed most of his counties on 20m. I noticed too late that K0D was also mobile and missed him many times.

On Sunday I can work with Rich from his every counties. The most important county for me was Campbell (now I need only 1x TX and 1x AR to finish all 3077 on 20m)Thanks a lot Rich for the QSO from Campbell + some other new band or mode points.
Of course my big thanks also to W0ZQ/M for the QSOs and to be also on 15m.
Next year I will sure skip PAQP and I will be 100% focused to SDQP!

K0S 41/23
W0ZQ 18/11
K0D 6/5

73, Laci

N8II fixed WV 49 cw 75 SSB Mults52

The invasion from MN made it easy; they spotted themselves almost every time they moved to a different county or band/mode. Even the SD ops spotted themselves. So, the great majority of my QSO's were chasing spots while trying to keep up with the PAQP. I made a few Q's with AZ also. Many thanks to the mobiles Matt, K0D/K0BBC, Rich, K0S/N0HJZ, and Jon, W0ZQ for making it a very enjoyable QP. I never heard K0D in Ziebach on 20M, that would have be a new SD county. I even tuned around for him on 20. I worked Rich, K0D the most times. Sunday he was battling a very scratchy voice but he kept going which actually helped us when he changed to CW in all counties on Sunday as well as working SSB. I hope he is well now. Rich added 4 counties late to his Saturday route, got him in maybe 3 before I needed to QRT. Thanks also to the bonus ops for plenty of activity. 15M was open around 20Z Saturday and from 1430Z-1880Z

on Sunday, wish there had been more action there.
20M was open well into the evening.

It looks like it could be a repeat of winning both SD and PA in the LP mixed category, we will see. I only missed Rich a few times. It was a very pleasant surprise to have 3 mobiles active except for the wee night hours!

Thanks and 73, Jeff

K0S Rover 413 cw 1016 SSB
Opr N0HJZ

Conditions were up & down but the stations kept calling. Lots of fun out on the roads of SD! From start to finish, we traveled 1,189 miles! 34 Counties!

The top states worked:
TX - 168 Q's
CA - 110 Q's
IL - 89 Q's
OK - 72 Q's
GA - 64 Q's

Top stations worked:
N8II - 47 Q's
AA5JF - 42 Q's
OM2VL - 41 Q's
K5CM - 34 Q's
N5KW - 34 Q's
KN6VTC - 33 Q's
WB9HFK - 33 Q's
N7EPD - 31 Q's
WA5DTK - 30 Q's

I activated six states as a mobile this season. Thousands of miles and thousands of QSO's. THANKS to everyone that followed me around! I had a blast!

Rich N0HJZ (W9W, K4Y, K4T, K0I, K0S)

W0ZQ mobile 641 cw 552 ssb

Almost 90 degrees on Saturday, KSQP all over again. Lots of wind too, gust to 40mph on Saturday took out my 80m hamstick. Propagation was all over the map ranging from crummy to pretty good .... 15m on Sunday was good. Thanks for all the Qs.

73, Jon

N6MU Fixed CA 33 cw 45 SSB Mults 37

Not sure the SDQP has ever had this much action with K0D, K0S and W0ZQ handing out counties by the bucketful. K0S showed he's not just an SSB guy by pounding considerable brass. Well played Rich! Thanks to all the SD guys and gals that came out to play. It was fun. 73...

John, N6MU TS-570 & 5BTV

Illinois QSO Party

There are 102 counties in IL.

Lots of activity this year. Mobiles/Rovers. Thousands of QSOs.

From 3830 contest reflector:

K9CT fixed IL 513 cw 452 SSB

I had a great time and thanks to the WIARC for hosting another IQP.

This was my lowest score in years and mostly due to the lack of mobile activity. AD4EB has been a treat for the last few years and not to be this year. My 113 multipliers consisted of 52 of 64 possible NA mults and 5 DX mults. I only worked 56 out of the

102 possible IL counties. My high water mark was 98 in 2017. So the total multipliers were way down compared to normal. My best was 154 in prior IQPs.

Activity was good and it was enjoyable to S&P up and down the bands. Calling CQ was productive and the best on 40 and 20. I tried a couple of times on 15 but 10 was interesting late in the contest on SSB. Rates seemed pretty good for most of the contest even though we were in competition with NFL football and a great fall weekend to be outside.

I had just recovered from a significant lightning damage event and this was the first time using the station after the repairs. I have one GHE RT21 to get working with the 15m tower but other than that everything worked. Another significant test was using the new JK antennas installed earlier in the week. They all seemed to perform as you would expect and that was a relief with CQ WW coming up soon. I still have some work to do for complete implementation.

Thanks for the QSOs and fun time. See you next weekend.

73, Craig K9CT

OM2VL Fixed DX 194 cw 89 ssb Mults 64

Thanks for the QSOs! Nice mobile mobile/portable activity but missed Jim AD4EB ...
Most QSOs:
W0ZQ 28/6
K9JK 21/6
K0PC 18/12
AC9VC 15/3
KD9LSV 14/9
KY0Q 11/8

K9I 8/2
W9AWE 6/2

(6): K9CT, N9EP
(5):K9Q, KJ9A, N7US

KF9D portable 471 cw 105 SSB

Portable operation from Morrison Rockwood State Park, Whiteside County IL

W0DCN portable rover 363 SSB
Operator(s): KE9DIH KE9FNP WØDCN

Henry, Mercer, Rock Island County corner. Two newer ops for all but the first 51 Q's. We all had a great time. Last year I stayed for 80 Meters after dark but ran out of gas and was not anxious to disassemble and pack-up in the dark. Always a lot of great ops in the Illinois QP. - happy to have K9CT call us.

Doug, W0DCN

W9YES portable PEOR 70 SSB

Seems like we traded nicer weather this year for worse band conditions than last year.

I wasn't feeling the best, but I decided to go out and operate at least some of the contest portable at Jubilee College State Park (US-1003). Based on knowledge of how things went operating portable at the park last year, I was more prepared than last year and thought I would do better. That was not the case. I used the same equipment as last year, except I brought a headset and foot switch this year.

15m worked relatively great for me last year so I decided I'd start there this year. I found a spot to run and made some QSOs, but then things dried up quickly. After 20 minutes of unanswered CQs, I decided to try to do some hunting on 15m, and I don't even think I could hear any Illinois stations.

I saw on the spotting page that people were mostly on 20m and 40m while I struggled on 15m, so I adjusted my antenna and got on 20m. Between the POTA 'Support Your Parks' weekend and ILQP operators, I gave up trying to find a spot to run in 20m in the general portion of the band. I probably wasted enough time trying though before settling for a spot in the extra portion. After a bit, I managed to relocate to a frequency in the advanced portion of the band. Things picked up a bit but it was still slow going. I tried to hunt a few times, but every time I could barely hear other Illinois stations (except K9CT) and all of the Illinois stations seemingly could not hear me.

Through the afternoon, I checked the spotting page every now and then, and it seems

that 40m was the place to be. I should have brought a different (or second) antenna. Based off how things went last year, I figured I could get away without an antenna for 40m (or 80m). Lesson learned.

I ended up making 0 in-state contacts, which I think is a first for me in the few times I've done ILQP. Things might not have gone as well as I hoped, but it was still a good time to enjoy the weather.

David | W9YES

Yaesu FT-891 - 100w - POTA PERformer

W0ZQ Rover 859 CW 433 SSB

From the MnQP in February to the IlQP in October, and those 44 others in-between, its been fun. Pretty darn good band conditions this weekend coupled with pretty darn good weather. Even 15m tried its best to generate some Qs.

Mark down Feb 6th 2027 in your calendars for the 2027 MnQP and we can start this all over again !

73, Jon

K0PC rover 1028 CW QSO

A great day to ROVER around Illinois. Thanks to everyone that followed along.
73, Pat K0PC

KD9LSV rover 907 CW QSO

As I was reviewing the Activity map around SMC Fest, I saw a lot of empty holes and thought about going on the road for ILQP. With all that in mind, I had to put many things together on Saturday before the contest (still being employed means can't take all the time to put it together). I didn't know everything was going to work out until that night. With my 2024 Tucson on its maiden HF State QSO radio voyage, I knew I was going to learn a lot (and boy did I read the rest below).

I kinda had the lay of the land and planned my route the week before so we were good to go there. I stopped on the way at good ol Harbor Freight (yes good ol HF was good in multiple ways for this adventure) for some last minute supplies.

I turned on APRS so the operators would see me headed place since I wasn't sure my activiation plans made the ILQP reflector to give some heads up. And headed out to near HARD/POPE.

Worked a lot of the external kinks out before the contest start except my normal laptop was having some trouble. So out comes a old Thinkpad I bought at Dayton in the boneyard a few years ago. I wasn't entirely sure the health of the battery (left with a full charge =]) but got started 28 minutes after the start (blessing in disguised foreshadowing ...) in a place with no cell service. Got started on 20M then went to 40M for a short amount of time before on the road to the next spot and kept to the time plan.

Drove through Harrisburg and got out to SALI/HAML. This spot was really nice (flat/secluded, and not a single person to stop by. So I was able to operate quite successfully on 20M&40M. The next spot was on 5 miles down the road for GALL/WHIT. Talk about efficiency. This stop was a quicker one due to excess delay at stop previous and probably a quick change.

After that we ended up at WAYN/EDWA on the side of the state route road. This was my best raw rates of the contest. Even with the occisional bad vehicle noise driving by.

After that, we ended up grabbing a bite to eat in Albion, and planned towards the highlight of the route a triple at RICH/LAWR/WABA. This place was really the premier spot. (No RFI/middle of nowhere/flat) Rural IL at its finest. Also was there at a beautiful sunset. As I arrived, I decided I was going to chop off my last proposed spot of JASP/CRAW due to additional drive time and have te opportunity for 3 really productive bands (20M/40M/80M) at a 3-county corner. As I got to the middle of the 40M run, I got the dreaded warning of PC battery working. I just kept going until it died. Next time I will have the charger for the laptop =]. Sorry for the operators that were in line, I was also planning to head to 80 which would have been at least another 150/200 Qs (3 adds very quick). With the long drive back to St. Louis and having to be at work in the morning, I just said enough and called it.

Overall I considered it a success.

Stop #,CTYs,Time(min),RawQs,Rate(total Qs/Hr)
1,HARD/POPE,34min,53Q,187Q/HR
2,SALI/HAML,46min,89Q,232Q/HR
3,GALL/WHIT,32min,69Q,258Q/HR
4,WAYN/EDWA,57min,108Q,248Q/HR
5,LAWR/RICH/WABA,43min,83Q,347Q/HR

Total Operating Time 3:32,402Qraw,256Qs/Hr
Total Time 6:28

Overall Condx felt great

Thanks to all that called, It was great to hear so many familar callsigns.

Also thanks to WIARC for another successful ILQP.

73 until the next one,
Connor KD9LSV

Rig: FT891
RigPower: 30AH LFP (fun fact used only 18Ah).
Antennas: Triple Mag Mount & Hamsticks.
Vehicle: 2024 Hyundai Tucson

KY0Q Rover 603 CW

Great fun! Pile-ups like I never experience from the home station in any contest. Half the time was spent driving, which happens with a one person rover. Next year, something different. I wanted to finish my route and pass out as many Qs as possible so I went for all the Qs I could make and didn't S+P too much for new mults. Thanks for all the Qs, especially those that tracked me through all or most the counties.

K89K rover 65 cw 626 SSB

Mostly SSB QSOs with some Running and some S&P but also made some S&P CW QSOs.

Made 3 stops at county Borders.

1. OGLE/STEP/WBGO - 384 QSOs from 120 actual contacts (about 3 hours)
2. DEKA/KANE/MCHE - 243 QSOs from 81 actual contacts (about 2 hours)
3. COOK/LAKE - 64 QSOs from 32 actual contacts (about 40 minutes)

39 U.S. States (including IL), 7 Canadian Provinces, 1 DX, 34 IL Counties

Special shout out to Laci, OM2VL, for 21 Qs from 3 CW and 4 SSB contacts, but shout outs as well to several others who tracked me down from more than one stop and/or more than one band.

Thanks to the Western Illinois ARC for sponsoring and hosting the ILQP and to all who participated.

73, JK

AA9JK rover 326 CW
Operator(s): AA9RK KD9NZB

We kinda put this together at the last minute, but Max KD9NZB (my 15-year-old son) and I decided to activate the northern tier of Illinois counties for ILQP today. We put a 40 meter Hamstick and a magnet mount on my car (as we could not get the 20 meter Hamstick to work, even with a tuner), planning to deploy our Spark Plug EFHW for 20 and 40 meters at some stops along the way. (After all, even after seven years as a licensed ham, Max is still not a licensed driver, and refuses to drive even after I told him I'd let him. It really cuts into my operating time.)

We got a late start -- we were at "Weird Al" Yankovic's concert until almost midnight last night, so we went to late church this morning, plus we had to make a hardware store run (broken o-ring on the magnet mount -- took 75 cents and 2 minutes to fix), so even though the contest started at 1700 UTC, we didn't cross into Illinois until almost 1800.

What a difference two years makes. At age 13, Max and I effected a similar ILQP run, and then he started at about 14 WPM and slowly crept up to 20 WPM by the end, but he only operated for 20 minutes or so at a time, and needed a lot of guidance. This year he was at 24 WPM the whole time and was almost entirely self-sufficient. He made 110 QSOs, almost entirely on 40. I can't tell you what a boon companion Max was the entire day. He was helpful, chipper, positive, happy to help troubleshoot, and delightful to talk to, plus being a skilled and patient operator. On the 45 minute drive from home to the state line, he was setting up N1MM, fixing the ROVERQTH/COUNTYLINE settings,

getting the 7300 working (COM ports, baud rates, and such), making test transmissions and checking RBN, and generally taking charge of the radio situation while I drove and navigated. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Mike WO9B, who lent us enough battery power that we didn't have to worry about running out.

In addition to Max operating on 40m while we were in motion, we made three stops to get on 20 meters: a county line/POTA activation stop at Chain O' Lakes State Park, then a shorter stop in BOON at Capron Lions Park, and then one more long stop at Rock Cut State Park, which is one of the most beautiful parks I've visited. We drove into Rockford while Max made a few more contacts, got dinner, and then called it a day and headed back to Wisconsin.

Final statistics: we made 326 QSOs with 72 multipliers. It looks like 30 counties, 36 states, 3 provinces, and 3 DX countries (Germany, Bulgaria, and of course our good friend Laci OM2VL from Slovak Republic). We finished with 178 QSOs on 40 meters and 148 on 20 meters. 40 improved steadily through the afternoon, giving us access to Illinois counties but also to states in the midwest and beyond. 20 worked well to both coasts. Band conditions were generally favorable, I thought. The most common state we worked was of course IL (81 QSOs), but then we made 14 QSOs each with MN, OK, TN, and WI. We were both gratified to work a number of friends from the CWT, SST, and Spartan Sprint.

The only casualties of the day were the throw bag for my EFHW, which I believe is still lying on the ground in one of the parks (oops), and some deep scratches on the trunk lid of my car from removing the mag mount before we had dinner at Disco Chicken in Rockford. The touch-up paint is in the garage, just waiting.

We hope to reunite with the rest of the usual team (Frank KA9FZR and Mike WO9B) to operate in the Wisconsin QSO Party in March as WO9B. See you then!

Rig: IC-7300, 75 W
Ant: 40 meter Hamstick, 20/40 meter Spark Plug EFHW
Software: N1MM+
Counties: LAKE, MCHE, BOON, WBGO

WA9LEY rover 179 cw 67 SSB

Rover from LaSalle, Grundy, Kendall and Cook. Using an FT891 and a Wolf River Sporty 40 tripod mounted on a piece of Faraday cloth. I bypass the 40 meter coil with a

jumper when using it on 20. At my Kendall stop, I used my ATAS120 on a mag mount since I was pressed for time later in the day. I should have stuck to CW since I wasn't getting much going on phone. I had about 200 more Q's last year with the same time put in and one less county. CW was sent with my 50+ year old paddle and internal keyer. I am spoiled by mostly just pushing buttons at home. It was a nice day to be outside.

LaSalle 128
Grundy 56
Kendall 47
Cook 15
246 total Q's

California QSO Party

There are 58 counties in CA.

All CA counties were on the air. A hundred "county expeditions' were out and about- many high power with beans, amps – some at 'guest' locations already set up, some out in the field where they go each year, some camped out. Lots and lots of activity on the bands. Easy to get over 50 counties. The others tougher and the one mobile covered some of the tough to get ones.

From 3830 contest reflector:

K6AQL mobile 1592 cw

What a blast! We are down by about 150 contacts compared to 2025 but we definitely improved the entire process; we were ready to go in half the time compared to 2025. We retired TR4W in favor of N1MM and its rover feature. Nice! Plus, we have a new refurbished laptop with better views of the N1MM windows. We used K4D, and it performed just as we expected. We knew, near the end of the first day, that we would not come close to the 1744 contacts (before log checking) completed in 2025. But we were certainly better prepared than in 2025, and our operating and scheduling went as well, if not better, than in 2025. So, we think our score this year is a reflection of propagation and/or level of activity, compared to 2025. 15 meters just did not deliver in

the way it did in 2025, but this is not a complaint!

Thanks for a great time. Please do look for us in 2027, God Willing. Follow us here:

https://www.qrz.com/db/K6AQL

We will share CQP on this webpage as we prepare for 2027. See you in pre-Stew Perry, SSCW, and in ARRL DX 160 from the N2CEI Superstation.

73, Will Wj9b, and Dave K0di

N8II fixed WV 275 307 Mults58

Another CQP is in the books, quite a paradigm shift in solar activity from even just a year ago. Surprisingly, my score was about 17% higher. Good totals 20 and 40 outweighed 10M being nearly closed and 15M being much more marginal. Conditions were good on 20 certainly quite a few more hours. 10M was good for 88 Q's in 2025 and well over 100 in '24. 15M Q's were 191 in '25; it was decidedly more difficult to make Q's than last year. 20M was only 250 Q's last year, much better with 322 this year. 40M was only 57 last year but would have been better without an early stop time. 40 opened well early and 40 SSB was 3 times as productive. The equal weighted 3 points per Q seemed to shift 40M activity to SSB, but it didn't seem to matter on 20 and 15. I had some nice long runs on nearly or completely clear prime frequencies this year.

It was a rough start, fairly weak signals on 20 and 15 very sparse at 16Z. By 17Z 15 improved but it never seemed to reach the activity level of 2025. I only made 193 Q's in the first 5 hours. Best hour was 16Z with 55 Q's but 22Z was 53 Q's on 20 mostly SSB.

Sunday AM was a QP nightmare, really slow 20M opening starting around 10 AM = 14Z. 15 didn't really open until the 17Z hour. Conditions were disturbed with SFI of 91 or so. First Sunday hour with more than single digit Q total was 16Z with only 10! 15 finally opened well in the 17Z hour and closed around 21Z with a 32 rate at 18Z. 10M actually opened but only to SOCAL with weak to moderate signals.
I worked N6O Saturday on 10 CW and K6VO beaming due south before the opening. Stations farther south were doing much better. I took off about 40 minutes for a walk in the 19Z hours and quit at 2135Z.

The mults were harder to come by than last year. Thankfully, quite a few called during my 20M SSB runs including #57 Sutter; W6KJ finished off the sweep at 1425Z with a

loud signal on 20 CW. Many thanks to all of the portables and mobiles. I didn't track K6AQL very well at all and only found K6R once. Jim, W6C/KN6VTC was doing well with his dual POTA/CQP expedition. Many other expeditions were good for 4 or more Q's. I worked N6O on 10-80 M, thanks!

Thanks to all for the calls and Q's. It did get tedious and tiring on Sunday. I somehow managed 138 more Q's after making 446 Saturday stopping about 0345Z; there were some low band Q's left on the table. I'm not sure I'm up to the long hours for another round. The runs were fun!

73, Jeff

One of the dozens of 'county expeditions;.....

NS6T Portable TULA 1023 cw 766 SSB
Operator(s): NS6T WU6P

The key positives of this year's CQP expedition to Tulare county were lots of 20m and 40m contacts, a comfortable operating location courtesy of the US Towers Guest House, and good teamwork (Nian WU6P and Tom NS6T). The key challenges were heat (101°F), a high SWR scare, N1MM+ numbering concerns, and a partially operational AL-811 amp.

As in the past, US Towers hosted us in their remarkable guest house and provided us with an awesome 106 ft tower. Last week, they made a custom 220V cable for us, so we could use Dean N6DE's ACOM 1500 amplifier. They provided air conditioned bedrooms: one for operating and two for sleeping. We also have access to their refrigerators, microwave, and kitchen equipment.

The only downside of the location is the heat which topped out at about 101°F this year. We were mainly able to avoid working in the hottest parts of the day by working in the evening and early morning, but teardown was mostly in the heat of the day. We took lots of breaks and drank a lot.

Our antenna setup included a Force12 C3S yagi at 106 feet, a 40m inverted V at about 98 feet, and a 80m inverted V at about 88 feet. We intended to have a 75m inverted V below that, but the fishing line broke 3 times when we were trying to get the last rope over the guest house. It seems that the line needs to be replaced -- not surprising

considering that it was purchased in 2019, Tom's first year going to Tulare.

Once we had all the antennas up and Dean's triplexer connected, we did our first SWR check, and every band showed up with SWR > 16:1 or just High SWR! Nothing looked wrong with the wiring, so I (Tom) started wondering if something was wrong with the antenna. I was wondering whether we could lower the tower without removing the dipoles -- wondering if all that was even feasible before the contest started. Nian suggested that we troubleshoot things inside first. Connecting the antenna feed line directly to a rig produced the expected SWR < 1.3. We gradually hooked up more equipment, and by the time we had everything hooked up, the high SWR problem had disappeared. The most likely explanation is that one of the connections was loose.

I was a little surprised that N1MM+ was using a shared global serial number rather than per band serial numbers. I expected serial numbers per band perhaps based on prior M/M operations or other contests. A quick email to the NCCC list had replies shortly suggesting that this was normal behavior, and we should just keep going.

We also discovered that NS6T's Ameritron AL-811 wasn't doing any amplifying on 15m, and the amount of amplification it achieved varied on the different bands. Nian's station was using this amplifier, and as the CW operator, he wasn't impacted as much by the lower power. In the end, we leveraged the AL-811 in 40m cw, it performed well there.

EQUIPMENT
Antennas: Force12 C3S at 106ft, 40m inverted V at 98ft (loan from N6DE), 80m inverted V at 88ft (loan from N6DE). VA6AM High-power triplexer and band pass filters (loan from N6DE).
Rigs: 2 Elecraft K3 -- one with an ACOM 1500 amplifier (loan from N6DE) and the other with an Ameriton AL-811 plus a HP MFJ manual tun

PA QSO Party

There are 67 counties in PA. Only 2 mobile, a few rovers/portable that seemed to not rove far, and many fixed stations on air. Tail end of hurricane didn't help with lots of rain.

From 3830 scores:

N2CU mobile 226 cw 226 SSB

Sunday only operation. Ran into some vehicle issues but decided to keep my fingers crossed that it would keep running. Only activated 4 counties this year and pulled the plug.

I worked 50 PA counties and 41 sections. Most QSOs with N8II, N3XF (8), K2QB, AA3B, K2KAR, W3uDX (6), AB2E, K3CT, N3GJ, K3WJV, KF8I, N3FCP (5).

For a mobile, it's a jungle out there.

FTdx10
Tarheel 75A

73, Tom N2CU

KC3BSA multi op portable 16 cw 657 SSB
Operator(s): KC3ZWP NT3V W3JZ WI3W WR1B

KC3BSA would like to thank all the stations that contacted us at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation. We would also like to thank N3UDI, for saving the day in Jefferson county.

W3CG rover 50 cw 102 SSB
Operator(s): AA2AD AA3YL

TS480 on LiFePo power to inverted V supported at center by drive-on 32' mast
4 hrs Sat PM at Hyner View State Park in Clinton County
2 hrs SUN PM at PA State Gameland #291 in Warren County
73 and thanks to all, Laurie & Peter

N3GJ Portable 514 cw 441 SSB

What a weekend! My fourth portable operation out of the camper for the PAQP, this year from Cowans Gap State Park in Fulton county. Good activity on Saturday from across the state, and by the break at midnight, Warren county was all that was left for the

sweep. Thanks to W3HDG for getting on 40M Sunday morning from WAR to complete the sweep! I added two more from NO3M and N2CU who both drove through WAR for a couple of insurance QSOs.
It was fun chasing N3IDR/rover who hit a bunch of the counties in the middle of the state.

A lot of rain Saturday night and just about all day on Sunday from the remnants of hurricane Isaias. At times it made it tough to hear with the noise from the rain hitting the camper roof, and sounded like static in the background of my audio when I was on SSB lol.

A couple of antenna changes with the portable set up this year. Rather than stringing up the separate inverted V's for 80, 40, and 20-10 which could be tough trying to find enough trees in the clear to hang everything, I opted for an OCF for 80-10 which seemed to work well. I also added a W1BB design 160M inverted L with 8 short radials which ended up as a horizontal V on the flat top to keep it inside the camp spot. What a thrill to log OM2VL on 160!

Most of the reviews I read on the campground noted that cell service was dead in the lower section of CG, but I brought along the cell booster and a 30 ft telescoping flag pole mast to see if I could pull a cell signal. As luck would have it, it worked and I was able to lock onto a signal long enough to get some intermittent throughput on the cell phone which provided some spots from the cluster as well as the PAQP spot hub.

Thanks to all the the out-of-state ops who give us some nice mults. It was really cool to see our Canadian friends who added NL, NS, PE, AB and BC to the log. VE6 was my only 10M QSO.

I've been having a blast doing this portable thing providing some of the rarer counties to everyone. It's always good to hear comments like "Thanks for the new one" or "I needed that one" :-)

A big thanks to the mobiles, rovers, and other portables for providing activity, and to the PAQP committee for organizing the event.

73, George N3GJ

N8II fixed WV 166 cw 282 SSB Mults67 Clean Sweep !

I was feeling pessimistic about conditions on 40M prior to the PQP. The solar flux had been down to around 90 a few days prior to the QP. I know from experience that usually means a skip out to about 150-180 miles. The solar flux rebounded to around 115-120. Then, there was talk of a solar storm coming; it did, making for some depressed prop on 20M and above. I had spent enough time Saturday in the other 2 QP's that I didn't have time to chase down what can be very difficult Q's above 40M. 500 Q's was possible with total focus. Sunday, conditions were worse as was activity. 40M worked out fine, no perceived skip zone, Franklin County which is only about 25 miles away to its southern border was workable. It was nice to see plenty of activity from Fulton next door and a decent turnout from FRA. Prop on 40 continued with much shorter skip than usual well into the evening, just gradually fading out. Something was amiss with my 40M flat top dipole which has gradually stretched out to make higher than a 2:1 SWR at the high end of the band. The SWR at 7225 KHz was about 2.2:1. My sloping dipole to the SW which should be poorer than flattop most of the time was better into PA at least 75% of the time. Sunday the flattop worked better with lower SWR during our drenching rain. I didn't feel as loud as usual, and it wasn't until about 1930Z that I was able to run stations as well as usual. I only had 169 QSO's through 21Z, best hour was 56 all on 40 (some on CW) at 16Z, many S&P. I had 2 good hours with 42/hr each at 23 and 00Z. The rest of the evening was slow. Most of my Q's were on 80M. The phone QSO total was disappointing, no sustained run for more than 15 minutes. Conditions on 80 were excellent by 2230Z, best activity around 24Z on SSB, a bit later on CW. I finished the night with 325 QSO's and 66 counties; ARM was worked thanks to a spot for #66. Quite a few rare mults called in on 40 SSB earlier. That left JEF which was briefly activated by NO3M/M, but I missed him.

There was an absolute furor on the QSO party hub spotting site begging for activity from Jefferson, a bit childish; no one is going to suffer any harm from not getting a sweep. N3UDI saved the day driving over to JEF and spent at least 90 minutes there giving the 40M SSB gang a chance to work him. I don't think he ever went to 20M. It was a slog for me all day Sunday trying to find new QSO's; best hourly rate was 21 at 14Z. A few stations would answer 40M SSB CQ's and then crickets. Quite a few PA ops spent the day CQ'ing on 40 SSB, not exactly a winning strategy when 20 and 15 are open. I caught quite a few new Q's on 40 CW.

The solar storm hit, large flare around 1540Z and a K index of 7 at 1750Z! After 17Z I felt that conditions were down on 20 and 15. 10 was dead. I can work quite a few southern PA stations direct, not nearly as many found this year. Many stations on scatter peaked to the SW or S vs. the usual W. I took some time off mid-afternoon and quit at 2235Z after a very unproductive 15 minutes.

I was also working the AZQP and SDQP, spent a lot of time mostly chasing spots in SD as 3 mobiles roved around. That probably cost me about 35 minutes away from working PA. The SD results look good as do PA. Thanks to NO3M/M for roving around both days; N2CU/M was only on Sunday in 3 counties. Other than that, just a few QSO's with SSB mobiles and rovers. There were quite a few ops portable from rare counties. AA3B was worked 8 times, the most from a home station. Thanks to you all for the QSO's. Many usually rare counties were well represented. The bonus station was mostly on SSB; their CW op was very slow, not good for a station that is supposed to be very active promoting the party. And while on the subject of CW operating the arcane time-wasting practice of ending or starting a transmission with BK needs to stop; it died out and POTA ops revived it. Please don't do anything that deprives someone waiting to have to wait longer. Also, please ID your call at a minimum every 3rd QSO.

This may be my last very serious effort in the PAQP; the skip is very likely to be long on 40 next year and beyond, and 75M seems to be much less popular. Thanks to all of the ops for the QSO's.

73, Jeff

OM2VL fixed DX 230 cw 144 ssb Mults64

It was my 12th PAQP (11 in the row) around 4.600 QSO total. Usually 4 QP on the same weekend - this time "only 3" - and every year I supported PAQP and very limited time in the other QP's.

This year I am very disappointed! Condx was not good, but 15m was open several times and I have in my LOG K3CT on 10m also.

I seen on PAQP activity plans, that several mobiles will be on the air, but most of them absolutely ignored EU and was QRV only on 40/80m. My big thanks to NO3M who was QRV also on 20m especially on Saturday, but on Sunday many time only on 40m. K3ZMC bonus station also focused mostly on the USA callers. Only 3 QSO(40m CW, 20m CW/PH)

I missed 3 counties: JUN, SUS, UNI - every was spotted many times on 40m during my daylight. Some of my friends tried move him from 40m to 20/15m but ignored it.

My big thanks to:
- KB3KLT who QSY from 40m to give me GRE multipler

- to stations who called me on SSB - I had several time nice SSB RUN
- NO3M/M who was also QRV on 20m
- and of course to everyone, who called me

Most QSO's:
NO3M/M 14/11
N3XF 10/2
N2CU/M 3/2

(10): AA3B, K3CT
(6): N3FCP, N3GJ, W3TDF
(5): KC3M, KC3WX, N3AD, N3FR, N3ZK, W3GV, W8FJ, WQ3N

Thanks for the so many QSOs also during this 12 years!
GL to everyone in the next years. I will be sure made some few QSO in the PAQP, but I will be now focused to the SD+AZ stations.

73, Laci

Awards Issued

ALL USA-CA Award

N2MH LEVEL 1000 AWARDED #2009

PG9S LEVEL 1000 AWARDED #2010
PG9S LEVEL 1500 AWARDED #1647

IK2JYT LEVEL 1500 AWARDED #1648

IN3EQZ LEVEL 500 AWARDED #3936

Single Band Awards:

K8ZZ 10 meters, Level 2000. He received #3
K8ZZ 12 meters, Level 2000. He received #2
K8ZZ 15 meters, Level 2000. He received #2
K8ZZ 160 meters, Level 2000. He received #1
K8ZZ 17 meters, WBOW 3077. He received #5

Events for County Hunters

You're out of luck. QSO Party season ended with a bunch of good ones.. Now it is contest month, holidays, and other activities. Lots of Parks on the Air to chase.

Of course, counties worked in Sweepstakes and other events count, but beware these days. Many 'remote' operations happen during contests. For county hunting awards, both the station and the OPERATOR must be in the county.

That's all folks