News and Events, October 2026 Edition

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

September was a BIG month for the Tennessee Contest Group, and there is probably no better place to start than right here at home with the Tennessee QSO Party.

Looking through the 3830 postings, 30 TCG entries reported scores. Together, those stations put 11,625 QSOs in the log — 8,611 CW, 2,984 phone and 30 digital.

That is a heck of a club effort for a ten-hour contest.

At the top of the TCG postings was the W4NZ multi-op team operating from the K0EJ mountain top resort and internet free zone :), with 1,599 QSOs and 1,449,594 points. Ted W4NZ, Mark K0EJ, Bill W4XK, Bert W4KW, Billy KE4CMA, Paul WA4AA and Rick W4IO put together a tremendous effort from Hamilton County.

Behind them was K4TCG @ NJ4P, our bonus station, with 1,449 QSOs and 1,412,232 points. N3QE, VE5MX, NR4L, WV4P, W4SDX, AA4CS and K4HWS operated this year's K4TCG effort. We tried a considerably different station configuration this year, which produced better rates along with considerably higher frustration! In the end, we worked all 50 states, nine Canadian provinces and a pile of DX. We also made a point of putting K4TCG on RTTY this year so the bonus was available to the digital guys.

Those two stations alone made more than 3,000 QSOs.

The depth behind them was equally impressive. NS4X posted 474,606, W9SN 426,425, K1GU 274,740, AC6ZM 261,448, AC4G 183,100, W4CMG 164,410 and W4UT 163,132. We had TCG members operating fixed, mobile, high power, low power and even QRP.

And then there was the AD4EB Mobile QSO Machine.

Jim AD4EB, Kirk K4RO and Melody KI4HVY covered 25 Tennessee counties on a 377-mile route. Jim and Kirk put 1,811 CW QSOs in the log during the ten-hour contest — the highest TNQP QSO total the AD4EB team has ever made.

Think about that for a minute.

That's an average of 181 QSOs per hour for TEN HOURS, operating mobile, while Melody drove the route. Temperatures reached 101 degrees, just to make things more entertaining.

Their calculated claimed score, including the additional county multipliers and bonuses, was 889,113 points, and they managed to work K4TCG 19 times, which Jim says is a new bonus-station record for their team.

Apparently Jim and Melody decided that wasn't enough driving for one month.

Two weeks later they headed west for the Texas QSO Party.

This time Jim operated solo CW while Melody again took care of the driving, navigation and keeping everything on schedule. They covered 42 Texas counties and 728 miles over the weekend.

Jim made 3,033 CW QSOs in 18 hours, for a claimed score of 1,070,187 points.

That works out to an average of about 168 QSOs per hour for 18 hours.

Even crazier, they were chasing Jim's own 2023 Texas QSO Party mobile record of 1,076,742 and missed it by only 6,555 points. Jim said one additional multiplier would have done it.

Those kinds of mobile efforts don't just happen. There is a tremendous amount of route planning, station preparation, driving and teamwork behind them. Congratulations to Jim and Melody on another incredible month, and to Kirk for joining them for the TNQP run.

September finished with one of the biggest weekends on our calendar — CQ WW RTTY.
TCG had a fantastic turnout.

We had 14 TCG stations posting to the online scoreboard, and at the end of the contest TCG was sitting 9th out of 224 clubs posting scores.

And the participation was actually even deeper than the live scoreboard showed. By Tuesday, the TCG 3830 tracker already showed 20 CQ WW RTTY claimed-score postings from club members.

At NJ4P, K4HWS, N4ML, AC6ZM, NR4L, AA4CS, WV4P, K6JO, NN5SS, WK9M and KT0W teamed up for the Multi-Two effort and finished with a claimed 6,513,438 points. Of the 10 ops 3 were part time and only 4 were in the shack. The rest got to sit in their underwear and eat their own food. W9SN also had a monster single-op effort at 1,717,602, and TCG calls were scattered all over the bands in just about every category imaginable. Certainly worth mentioning is Cathy, W4CMG who is brand new to RTTY and made over 250 Q's! Congrats Cathy! You might be on an NJ4P team soon 😀

For some perspective on just how strong TCG has become in RTTY, in the official 2025 CQ WW RTTY club results, TCG finished 5th among U.S. clubs, with 17 entries totaling 18,409,786 points.

–Here at NJ4P, the infamous Heat Dome has FINALLY lifted!—

The brutal heat through August and September slowed a lot of projects and completely stopped some others. We had a long list of things we wanted finished before CQ WW RTTY, and quite a few of them simply didn't happen.

Thankfully, it looks like we had enough.

Now it is going to be Busy Busy Busy trying to get antennas, station improvements and all the other projects caught up before we reach that wonderful Tennessee season where we stop complaining that it's too hot and start complaining that it's too cold.

And there isn't much time to waste, because October is a HUGE contest month.

First up is the California QSO Party, October 3–4. TCG has traditionally made a BIG impact in CQP, and I hope we do it again this year.

In fact, here's a pretty cool piece of TCG trivia: the current CQP Club Competition rules actually use K0EJ and the Tennessee Contest Group as their example of the county-expedition exception. Their example is Mark traveling from Tennessee to California, operating a county expedition in Tuolumne County and having his score count toward TCG.

When the rules of a California contest use a Tennessee Contest Group member as the example, I think we've probably made an impression over the years.

There are 16 MRA contests during October, which means there are LOTS of opportunities to put points on the board.

Nobody has to operate every contest.

Nobody has to make 3,000 QSOs.

An hour here, a couple hundred QSOs there, a QSO Party one weekend and a Sprint the next — it all counts.

And then October finishes with THE BIG ONE — CQ WW SSB, October 24–25.

CQ WW is the largest amateur radio competition in the world, with more than 35,000 participants, and it is one of those weekends where the bands simply come alive. Whether you're chasing a serious score, joining a multi-op, trying a new category or just getting on for a few hours to work some DX, I want to see TCG calls everywhere.

September was a good example of what makes TCG what it is.

Thirty members posted TNQP scores. We had huge fixed-station efforts, big mobile operations, QRP entries and people who simply got on for whatever time they had available. Jim and Melody represented TCG with another enormous effort hundreds of miles from home. Then we finished the month with TCG scattered all over the CQ WW RTTY bands and sitting near the top of the live club scoreboard.

That's a lot to be proud of.

Now let's carry it into October. Get on the air. Make some QSOs !

Most importantly, have fun doing it.

73, Ron, WV4P ▬•••▬

CONTEST ACTIVITY: Here is a selected list, as of this publication, of those who put up scores on 3830 Scores Summary in September:

CWops CW Open 2026 0000Z-0359Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			423	265	4	112,095	TCG
W4CMG			316	205	4	64,780	TCG
WV4P		x	121	118	2	14,278	TCG
NS4X			90	71	2	6,390	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KV8Q			205	147	4	30,135	TCG
W9WI			184	131		24,104	TCG
W3TB			114	96	2:45	10,944	TCG
W4SSF			55	50	1	2,750	TCG
K3FH			49	43	1	2,107	TCG

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CWops CW Open 2026 1200Z-1559Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			316	228	3	72,048	TCG
W4CMG			117	107	1.5	12,519	TCG
NS4X			50	47	1	2,350	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KV8Q			162	128	4	20,736	TCG
K4RO			108	92	1	9,936	TCG
W3TB			54	49	1:45	2,646	TCG
K9HIM			44	44	1:18	1,936	TCG
KØEJ			40	35	<1	1,400	TCG
K1GU			18	18	0.9	324	TCG

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CWops CW Open 2026 2000Z-2359Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			268	205	2:15	54,940	TCG
W4CMG			189	157	03:59	29,673	TCG
NS4X			83	76	1	6,308	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KV8Q			171	147	4	25,137	TCG
W9WI			117	103		12,051	TCG
K4RO			110	89	1	9,790	TCG
KQ4J			51	46	1	2,346	TCG
K9HIM			46	46	1:30	1,978	TCG
K3FH			29	29	1	841	TCG

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All Asian DX Contest, SSB

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	15	14	2	210	TCG
AD4EB			4	4	0:30	16	TCG

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ARRL September VHF Contest

Single Op-All Modes LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ6T	SO2R		106	77	10	10,703	TCG
WV4P		x	54	41	6	2,214	TCG

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Colorado QSO Party

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			22	0	17	0	0.5	748	TCG
W4CMG			13	0	10	0		260	TCG

SOCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4NZ			49	0	24	0	2	2,352	TCG
W3TB			34	0	21	0	2:21	1,428	TCG
K9HIM			14	0	11	0	:42	308	TCG
KV8Q			8	0	7	0	1	112	TCG

SOMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4UT			36	4	23	4	3	2,160	TCG
WV4P		x	15	4	15	4	2	722	TCG

SOMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AA4CS			3	2	3	2	.5	50	TCG

SOPh LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AI4DB			0	23	0	16		736	TCG
WA4JA			0	5	0	5	1	25	TCG

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WAE DX Contest, SSB

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	160	159	182	13	57,876	TCG
DM4KW			99	0	121	12	11,979	TCG
WN8Y			65	63	68	10	8,704	TCG
KØEJ			65	65	58	1	7,540	TCG
AD4EB			61	40	44	1	4,444	TCG
K4DXV			45	20	50	1.5	2,250	TCG
W4SDX			9	0	19	.5	171	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K3IE			15	0	33	1	495	TCG
WA4JA			5	0	5	1	25	TCG

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Tennessee QSO Party

Multi-Op FixedMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4NZ(@KØEJ)			626	973	0	302	10		1,449,594	TCG
K4TCG		x	817	605	27	326	10		1,412,232	TCG

Multi-Op MobileCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			1811	0	0	147	10		813,051	TCG

SO FixedCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W9SN	SO2R		631	0	0	225	10		426,425	TCG
W4CMG			385	0	0	142	9		164,410	TCG
W4UT			382	0	0	142	8.5		163,132	TCG
WF7T			270	0	0	129	5		104,690	TCG
K4KO			266	0	0	127	5.5		101,546	TCG
K4KYN			225	0	0	52	7.5		63,450	TCG
KT4RH			129	0	0	142	3:36		27,577	TCG
K9HIM			62	0	0	36	2:52		6,796	TCG

SO FixedCW QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WD4CFN			197	0	0	92	6:50		54,296	TCG

SO FixedMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
NS4X			412	355	0	206	9		474,606	TCG
K4DXV			208	129	0	108	06:49		119,698	TCG
N4MCC			0	74	2	49	8.5		11,272	TCG

SO FixedMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			237	183	0	145	10		183,100	TCG
W9WI			281	4	0	119	6.5		101,945	TCG
W4SSF			190	12	0	80	7:30		48,000	TCG
K3FH			20	8	1	24	2.5		2,288	TCG

SO FixedSSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4DTA			0	161	0	24	2		4,392	TCG
N4FR(@WC4EOC)			0	183	0	0	4		549	TCG

SO FixedSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			0	185	0	80	10		44,400	TCG
KR4EE			0	47	0	36	7		5,076	TCG
N4BCD			0	49	0	31	1		4,657	TCG

SO MobileCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K1GU			380	0	0	241	AllDay		274,740	TCG
AC6ZM			756	0	0	111	9		261,448	TCG
K4AL			117	0	0	52	1.5		19,252	TCG

SO MobileCW QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W3TB			84	0	0	32	2:39		9,312	TCG

SO MobileMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K3IE			125	4	0	0	4		22,485	TCG

SO MobileSSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WN8Y			0	12	0	11	1		396	TCG

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Iowa QSO Party

SO Fixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	4	1	0	5	1		45	TCG
NS4X			4	0	0	4	1		32	TCG
W4SDX			0	1	0	1	.10		1	TCG

SO Fixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
KV8Q			14	0	0	14	1		392	TCG

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New Jersey QSO Party

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4UT			16	0	0	10	1.5		320	TCG
AD4EB			11	0	0	8	0.5		176	TCG
W4CMG			8	0	0	7			112	TCG
WV4P		x	3	0	0	3	1		18	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4NZ			25	0	0	13	1		1,300	TCG
W3TB			25	0	0	12	2:11		1,152	TCG
K9HIM			6	0	0	6	:31		72	TCG
AA4CS			2	1	0	3	.5		30	TCG

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NA Sprint CW Contest

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Team
K4RO	SO2R		297	48	4		14,256	TCG Sprinters Alpha
AD4EB			252	48	4		12,096	TCG Sprinters Alpha
W4NZ	SO2R		234	47	4		10,998	TCG Sprinters Alpha
W4CMG			172	40	4		6,880	TCG Sprinters Beta
K4DXV			51	28	02:20		1,428	TCG Sprinters Beta
WV4P		x	3	3	1		9	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Team
K1GU			209	42	4.0		8,778	TCG Sprinters Beta
KØEJ			101	36	1:20		3,636	TCG Sprinters Alpha
WF7T			64	33	1		2,112	TCG Sprinters Beta

TCG Sprinters Alpha

K4RO	14,256
W2RQ	13,584
AD4EB	12,096
W4NZ	10,998
K0EJ	3,636
Team Total:	54,570

TCG Sprinters Beta

K1GU	8,778
W4CMG	6,880
WF7T	2,112
K4DXV	1,428
Team Total:	19,198

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New Hampshire QSO Party

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	1	3	0	4	1		20	TCG
AC6ZM			3	0	0	3	1		18	TCG
NS4X			3	0	0	2	1		6	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			0	3	0	1	1		3	TCG

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Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	154	69	4		10,626	TCG

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Texas QSO Party

Mobile SO CW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			3033	0	113	18		1,070,187	TCG

SO CW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC6ZM			77	0	49	3:42		11,319	TCG
NS4X			64	0	44	4		8,448	TCG
K1GU			56	0	34	2.5		5,712	TCG

SO CW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
KV8Q			160	0	83	18		39,840	TCG
W4SSF			53	0	38	4:00		6,042	TCG
K3IE			48	0	34	02:30		4,896	TCG
KØEJ			40	0	29			3,480	TCG

SO Mixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	84	10	57	10		15,504	TCG

SO Mixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4RO			70	4	43	4:24		11,554	TCG
KS4X			15	6	19	1		1,083	TCG

SO SSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WN8Y			0	1	1	.5		2	TCG

SO SSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			0	11	10	1.5		220	TCG

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Washington State Salmon Run

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC6ZM			33	0	16	1:25		2,084	TCG
NS4X			23	0	12	1		828	TCG
W4CMG			3	0	3			27	TCG

SOMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	58	16	22	4		5,532	TCG
AA4DD			15	6	13	1:30		1,241	TCG

SOSSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WN8Y			0	11	8	1		660	TCG
W4SDX			0	1	1	.1		2	TCG

SOSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			0	7	5	1		570	TCG

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Maine QSO Party

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4CMG			4	0	6	0			42	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4HWS			0	3	0	8	.5		24	TCG
WV4P		x	0	3	0	3	1		24	TCG

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NA Sprint RTTY Contest

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Team
WV4P	2BSIQ	x	111	28	4		3,108	SWACC #1

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Team
AA4DD			89	26	4		2,314	TCG
K4HWS			74	28	3.75		2,072	SWACC #2
W4SDX			54	23	2		1,242	TCG

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CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY

M/2 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
NJ4P		x	4098	243	362	128	48		6,513,438	TCG

SO(A)AB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
KEØL			511	119	118	59	16		246,272	TCG
NS4X			401	86	110	55	6		209,585	TCG
DM4KW			400	48	130	45	34		207,836	TCG
W4CMG			252	71	82	37	18		89,680	TCG
W4SDX			217	57	70	47	4.25		74,298	TCG
K4RO			138	7	55	24	2		33,970	TCG
KN4DUA(AC6ZM)			28	10	17	7	2:10		2,142	TCG

SO(A)AB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
K3IE			269	64	102	46	14		118,084	TCG
W4SSF			225	61	76	36	12:53		76,985	TCG
WA4WZR			179	44	88	44	11.5		72,512	TCG
K1GU			144	30	60	30	4		39,776	TCG
K3FH			103	29	42	22	3		18,600	TCG
K4HWS			51	11	31	25	4		7,906	TCG
WV4AM			14	4	12	10	00:44		858	TCG

SO(A)AB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4WZR			179	44	88	44	11.5		72,512	TCG

SO(A)AB Youth LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4AM			14	4	12	10	00:44		858	TCG

SO(A)SB15 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
NT6X(@K4EA)			872	47	95	31	19		388,731	TCG

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4DXV			143	56	26	18	04:51		21,000	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
W9SN	SO2R		1655	176	232	90	35		1,717,602	TCG
AC4G			135	33	56	44	5 1/2		42,757	TCG
KØEJ			130	41	52	31	3.5		34,472	TCG

SOAB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			135	33	56	44	5 1/2		42,757	TCG
KØEJ			130	41	52	31	3.5		34,472	TCG

SOAB QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
W9WI			20	13	9	9	3		620	TCG

SOAB Classic QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
W9WI			20	13	9	9	3		620	TCG

SOSB20 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op	Time	Score	Club
N4MCC			211	33	49	20	9:01		46,206	TCG

▬•••▬

Didn't see your score listed? Next time, make sure to submit your score summary to 3830scores.com, and use the pull-down menu under "Club" to select "Tennessee Contest Group." Of course, it's also important to make sure that the Cabrillo file that you submit to the contest sponsor also contains the following line: CLUB: Tennessee Contest Group. This will ensure that your score will contribute to the TCG club aggregate score.

-...-

TCG Most Radio Active Report for September 2026

There is no better way to kick off the Fall contesting season than with our very own Tennessee QSO Party. This year we had 41 members on the air handing out Tennessee county QSO's. Our efforts alone accounted for more than 11,000 QSO's. I know that there were at least another 111 Tennessee stations participating because we worked them from our W4NZ multi-op. All this to say that Tennesseans really turned out for this party. Last time I looked at the log submissions page there were over 340 logs submitted this year.

In addition to our party, there were 7 other QSO parties, 3 RTTY, 4 DX , 1 VHF and the CWOps Open contest. Altogether we had no less than 17 contests to enjoy this month.

Closing out the month was the ever popular CQ World Wide DX RTTY contest. The NJ4P crew, operating from the WV4P superstation, is currently sitting atop the Multi-2 scores for North America with 6.5 million points. They are rapidly becoming a perennial contender for this position. Speaking of notable performances, congrats to the AD4EB mobile team of Jim and Melody who logged over 3,033 QSO's in 18 hours, 42 counties and 728 miles during the Texas QSO Party. Outstanding performances, all!

September by the numbers:
- We worked 17 contests this month
- We logged over 76,000 QSO's
- We spent 1,183 hours on the radio
- We had 53 members get on the air, a high mark so far this year. Well done!!

But there's more to this story... go to: https://tcgscores.com/mra/?year=2026&month=9 and read all the details about many more individual and team efforts..

Thanks for keeping TCG Radio Active!

73 and good contesting,
Ted W4NZ

-...-

ARRL America250 Worked All States Tennessee Section Activity Wrap-up

THANK YOU to all who participated in the W1AW/4 Tennessee event - whether it was in June, September, or BOTH! We had some TCG'ers on the Roster who played a big part in our scores! Our September logs were submitted to ARRL on September 29, confirmation received, and the Tennessee time operating as W1AW/4 TN has drawn to a close.

We all know how interesting (tough) the band conditions have been lately. Coupled with an expected decline in the number of operators who still needed W1AW/4 TN and called to make the QSO (because we had so many in June), the September volume was literally half of the June total. (June / September 4672 / 2340 = 1.996581197 rounded = 2.0)

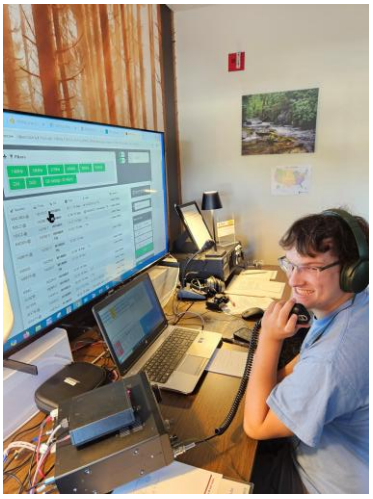
TCG Totals June:

Operator Callsign	Total QSOs
AC6ZM	129
K0EJ	50
K1GU	36
K4KO	60
K9QJS (+ KB4MPS - Youth op)	59
KR4EE	70
N4MCC	649
W3TB	155
W4CMG	482
W4DTA	420
WB5WAJ	100
WM4Q	46
TCG TOTALS	**2256**

W1AW/4 TN at W4DXCC: Vlad N3CZ getting us set up for operations. CW, SSB and FT8 operations on 20M through 10M

TCG Totals September:

Operator Callsign	Total QSOs
AC4G	56
AC6ZM	196
K4KO	52
K4KYN	154
K9QJS	46
N4MCC	489
W3TB	61
W4CMG	190
WB5WAJ	34
WM4Q	44
SEPTEMBER TCG	**1322**



W1AW/4 TN at W4DXCC: Getting Youth on the Air

W1AW/4 Overall Total QSOs - June 4672
W1AW/4 Overall Total QSOs - September 2340

Thank you again for all you did to make the America250 W1AW/4 TN weeks a success!
CONGRATULATIONS TEAM!!!
de Cathy W4CMG ▬•••▬

Corporate Casuals – TCG Logo Items

Corporate Casuals now uses what's called a /*sharelink */in which they share the TCG logo with club members through their webstore platform. The link below will take you to their website and prompt you to create an account with them. The page will look like the screenshot below (and will show the logo at the bottom of the screen).

You can add a personal callsign as a personalization ("NAMES" icon in the product) and select the placement location on the purchased item (e.g., polo, bag, hat, etc.).Once the account is created, the logo will automatically upload to the account for use: http://www.CorporateCasuals.com/logoShare/tennesseecontestgroup

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Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions:

Hamfest Chattanooga

- **Oct 15-17, 2026 – https://w4am.net/hf2026/**

-...-

My road to WRTC 2026….de K0EJ

Part 3: The Wrap-up

As I write this, the final decision of the Scoring/Judging/Organizing/Sanctioning committees has been released and 2 of the original trophy winners have been disqualified and the initial silver medal team is now the winner. I am not going to rehash what has been a sad reflection of our great hobby. Instead, I will reflect a bit on the best parts of my WRTC experience. Notably the personal interactions and conversations I had in my WRTC experience.

Renewed ties:

K1ZM and xyl Miriam: Jeff celebrated his 80th birthday on the Friday before the contest. I first met Jeff back in 1979 after I hooked up with Jerry/W1ZM while in my initial submarine school training in

Groton, CT. Jeff was the main op at Jerry's multi-tower contest station in Gales Ferry. We both adopted Jerry as our "dad", so Jeff is my "brother of another mother". We have met many times over the decades and worked together to dismantle Jerry's station when he decided to move full-time to his winter QTH in Florida. I also had several opportunities to operate from Jeff's station in PEI using my VY2EJ callsign. One of those visits including bringing Jerry to PEI to give his "engineering stamp of approval" on the station Jeff had constructed. Miriam and my wife Judy are also good friends and shared many of the WRTC experiences together.

N5TJ: Jeff and I have been loosely connected for many years stretching back as far as when he was signing KB0RC in MO. One of the best in our hobby with previous CQWW world records (CW & SSB), CQWW win from EU (CR2X), 3 WRTC gold medals, he claims to no longer have "the fire in the belly" to compete at the highest levels. We had our first in-person meeting at dinner in Austin, TX a few years back when Judy and I were there for the solar eclipse. We enjoyed sharing stories and we met his wife Gina, who did not attend WRTC2026. Running 500W to a random end-fed wire in TX, he still routinely outperforms many of us with better-equipped stations. Maybe no fire????, but he is still "smokin'"…and of very great character.

N8VW: Pat was another one of the referees. We previously shared time doing M/M ops at NQ4I. We shared some great memories.

VE3EJ/VE7ZO: Previous WRTC gold medal winners and EJ was VE5MX's teammate in WRTC2026. Since John and I share the EJ callsign, we have something in common and have met several times at Dayton. Jim/ZO was the "chief operator" at the NQ4I MM station so we had operated together several times. Now retired and living in BC, he is quite active. He likes to call me "John" as during the times I would operate as VY2EJ, many callers would say "Hi John" thinking I was VE3EJ. Sorry, wrong "EJ"!

N4ML: I had the pleasure of being one of several TCG members to host Max as an op at the "K0EJ-not-quite-superstation". He has developed into a pretty good op and working towards becoming a DXPedition leader. Not a lengthy conversation as the youth had pretty well settled into their own cliques.

Some new "friends":

N5ZO: I had a good sit-down with Marko who was teamed up with KI6RRN. Marko passed along "best wishes" from N8UM who apparently lives about ½ mile from him in San Diego. We talked at length about his "CQWW from all 40 zones" achievement which puts him in rare company. When asked what were the toughest zones, he specified 2 - "#34" because the license was still up in the air when he boarded the flight heading to Cairo. He also said "#6" which surprised me. He said N6ZZ's advice was to do it "/MM" as Mexico no longer will grant licenses to visitors from the US. He said the rest were "relatively easy" with the "political climates at the time".

KI6RRN: interesting guy who I caught before the contest. We mostly talked about his experience living and fishing in Homer/KL7.

ES7GM: We had never met but had lengthy communications in developing the "youth focus" in the ES7A sidebar story in the CQWPX SSB writeup this year. We were both appreciative of the other's efforts and the apparent good press he acknowledged receiving.

VE5MX: Super nice guy and REALLY BIG and regular remote op with WV4P. When I told him Ron wanted me to give him a hug but I would settle for a handshake, he stood up and said, "oh no, bring it on in!". Mission accomplished!

EA8KW: Another referee. Originally from eastern Europe, he left for the safety of his family. A real fan of RTTY, he showed me pictures of his SO4R-capable station. He has a somewhat checkered contesting past.

CT1ILT: the CR6K speed demon. Nice guy who brought his dad, CT1CJJ He made it a point of introducing his dad as "his hero, inspiration, and contest mentor" to all he met.

K4QPL: AKA VP5M. Another referee. I specifically sought out Jim mostly for advice on where to go in VP5 for a "verticals-on-the-beach" expedition which has been stewing in my mind for future possibilities as the VP5 mult is likely to be tougher with his station no longer there. He provided some good insights on where to look and on licensing, etc.

N7WA: Another referee. We acknowledged MANY Qs over the years. We had a lengthy chat sitting next to each other at the Opening Ceremony dinner on a variety of topics, mostly non-contest. Similarly VO2AC (referee) and K5GN (spectator- and a superb op!).

VE3DZ and UW7LL: Previous WRTC "winners"?? Yuri mostly shared stories of CQWW from Zone 2 (VE2IM). He was hoping to go to VP2M this year but probably back to FM or FG. Their reputation is now their "reputation".

Youth Teams: No long conversations but I did make a point of tracking down all the youth team participants and wish them well. I observed the 2 Russian youth testing their station setup in one of venue hallways. Pretty fancy setup with a mix of equipment. Nice kids but not much to say – at least to me. Focused on their mission at hand.

I am sure there were others but those stuck out.

Gifts on behalf of the TCG: Before departing for WRTC, I purchased several of WV4AM's 3D printed TCG key chains. Very nice trinkets. I planned on giving them to my team and other deserving folks I met at WRTC. I gave them to LY4A, HB9ARF, James M0??? our site manager. The deserving others ended up being Mark/M0DXR WRTC2026 Grand Poobah, Lee/G0MTM who was the head of competition, Georgina/M0YGL who managed all aspects of hospitality, and her go-to assistant, Julie. All quite deserving for their herculean efforts in preparing for and executing the event.

Following the awards ceremony, everyone enjoyed a "food court" dining experience with booths featuring various international delicacies. The best meal of the entire event.

As I finally finish writing this, the Awards Ceremony for the revised standings had just been announced to take place at the hamfest in Croatia in early October. Perhaps it will coincide with an announcement for who will host in 2030. I told Judy I wouldn't go in 2030 unless as a participant. She replied, "if it's in Croatia, I'm going"!

Some brief remarks on the cheating/disqualification: I was going to steer clear of the topic but can't but I will be brief. It is a sad state of affairs for these "giants" of radiosport to have tarnished their reputations and our hobby niche. Some have stepped up and admitted, others want more proof of their guilt. I guess the E77DX@EF8R CQWW-SSB record now might have an asterisk next to it. We'll never know. Many want them all "banished for life". I guess I am of the mindset that they all have a path to redemption, but it will be a slow process, if it ever takes place, and that path is very murky. The egregiousness of some of their actions will not easily be forgotten…but then some in our hobby have recovered (e.g. N6RO).

What about 2030: I went to Germany for Octoberfest once. Had a great time but once in a lifetime is enough. Same for WRTC, even without all the post-event drama. HOWEVER, once the qualification steps for 2030 are announced, I may try and qualify again. Being in the 4th quarter of life (but not the last inning), my chances are slim…unless I find a super-station to play from.. and probably even slim then!

I hope you have enjoyed my story (albeit lengthy) as much as I enjoyed sharing it. Now, on to the next contest!

Catching up with Jeff, K1ZM. Just turning 80!

Post-awards ceremony international food fair. You might recognize a few faces in that crowd!

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Some familiar Faces on the cover of the NCJ ! Congrats Cathy, Juan and Randy !

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UPCOMING CONTESTS

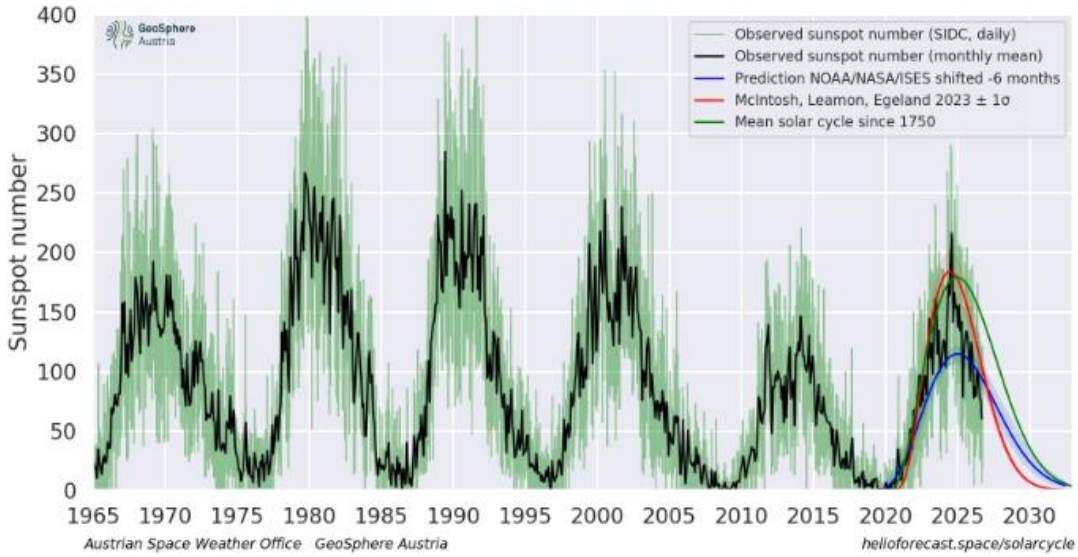
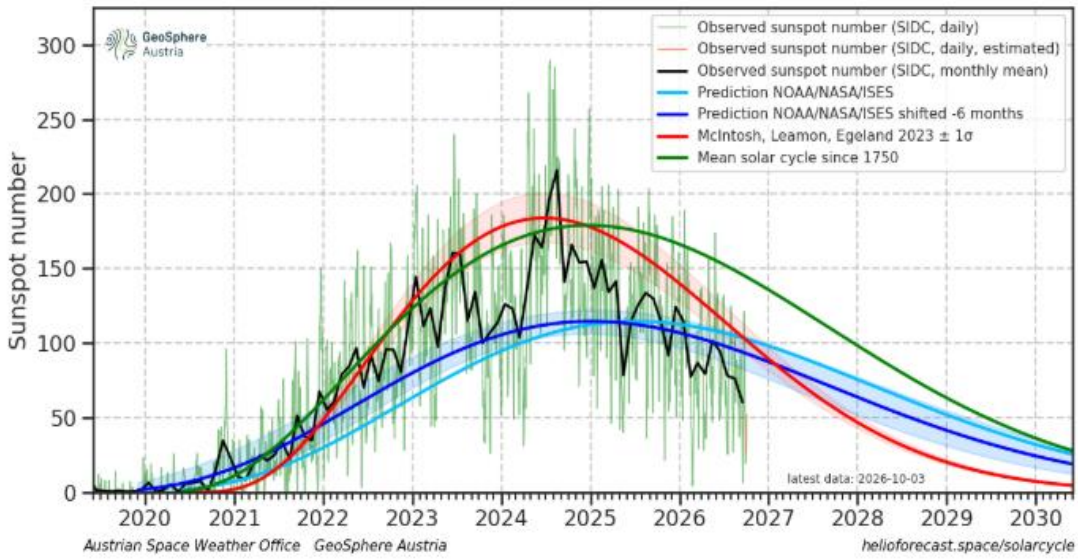
The following table is a list of the upcoming contests which qualify for the TCG Most Radioactive Award. For more information on the MRA, please refer to K4TCG.ORG under the TCG INFO section. Thanks to Jim AD4EB for this list, and to Ted W4NZ for administering the TCG Most Radioactive Award.

October

October 2, 2026	URC DX RTTY Contest
October 3, 2026	California QSO Party
October 3, 2026	Oceania DX Contest, Phone
October 3, 2026	Russian WW Digital Contest
October 10, 2026	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB
October 10, 2026	Arizona QSO Party
October 10, 2026	Pennsylvania QSO Party

November

November 7,2026	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW
November 21, 2026	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
November 28, 2026	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
November 21, 2026	LZ DX Contest
November 1, 2026	North American Sprint SSB, November
November 14, 2026	OK/OM DX Contest, CW
November 14, 2026	WAE DX Contest, RTTY
October 10, 2026	South Dakota QSO Party

Progression of solar cycle 25

Sunspot number including predictions https://helioforecast.space/solarcycle