TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP
Where Radio is a Contact Sport

News and Events, November 2026 Edition

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Who's Loudest Now?

My CQ WW SSB effort was seriously hampered by some terrible power line noise this year. While that certainly didn't help my score, it did give me an opportunity to observe something really interesting.

Who's loudest now?

We all know propagation follows the sun, and we know the East Coast generally gets the openings before those of us farther west. But watching that play out in a much smaller window, almost minute by minute, was fascinating.

Since I was operating about 99% Search and Pounce, I spent a lot of time listening to pileups. And I kept running into some familiar calls, especially K4TCG and AD4EB. But I was also hearing N2IC quite a bit, which seemed a little odd.

Early in an opening, K4TCG was absolutely SMOKING both of us (AD4EB and me)! They would pop into a pileup, call once, work the station, and disappear. Meanwhile, the rest of us were still trying to get through. I was sitting there thinking, WTH???

But here's where it got interesting.

About an hour later, working stations in that same part of the world, AD4EB was suddenly the big gun. He was getting through easily while I was still struggling. Then, maybe 30 minutes later, things shifted again, and suddenly I was the one getting through first!

Although I seemed to be sharing some of that glory with N2IC. In NEW MEXICO??? What the hell? I was about ready to call foul on that one!

Same general DX area, many of the same competing stations, but a completely different pecking order depending on WHEN you called.

W4KW, AC4G, and N4ZZ were also frequently heard in those pileups, giving me even more opportunities to compare what was happening.

This wasn't just a one-time observation. It played out all weekend, on most bands, as openings developed, peaked, and faded. You could practically hear the propagation moving across Tennessee.

It was a great reminder that having the biggest signal isn't always about having the biggest station.

Sometimes it's simply being in the right place at the right time. And once the band was really open for everybody, it mostly came down to timing, operator skill, and a little bit of luck.

It's one thing to understand propagation in theory. It's another to hear it happening in real time, with stations you know, competing for the exact same DX.

While CQ WW SSB wasn't exactly handing out record-setting conditions, there were still some serious efforts. The K4TCG team and AD4EB both put in impressive performances, and the N4SS team up in Kentucky turned in another solid effort after a slow start.

And that mysterious N2IC signal? Well, when it was revealed that K4RO was part of a distributed multi-op effort operating as N2IC, which turned in a huge score, suddenly hearing N2IC in all those pileups made a LOT more sense! Apparently, New Mexico wasn't quite as far away as I thought!

Sometimes you learn more from a contest that doesn't go as planned than one where everything works perfectly. And the next time somebody blows right past you in a pileup, don't automatically assume they've got 10 dB on you.

Give it 30 minutes. You might be the loudest guy on the band!

October also gave us plenty of RTTY contesting, so I had a lot of fun getting my diddles on! Besides making QSOs, I spent quite a bit of time testing some new software and trying to squeeze a little more performance out of the station.

November is shaping up to be a BIG month of contesting! We kick things off with ARRL Sweepstakes CW, followed by WAE RTTY — **get those QTCs ready!** Then it's Sweepstakes SSB, and we wrap up the month with the BIG one, CQ WW CW!

That's four weekends of serious contesting, and I expect we'll see some BIG scores and plenty of TCG participation!

Don't keep your plans a secret! Post them on the reflector. Let's hear who's going to be on, where they're operating, and what they're shooting for!

73,
WV4P

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERS

Just a reminder… The year is coming to a close, and that means that it is time to submit your TCG membership dues for 2027. Thanks for your support of TCG and its activities.

To renew your TCG Membership, just send $10 via PayPal tcgtreasury53@gmail.com and be sure to indicate your callsign. If paying by check, make it out to Mark Speck, add TCG Renewal and callsign in memo line and mail the check to Mark's qrz.com address.

TCG membership is open to all with an interest in contesting. There are no geographical limitations. All you need is a sincere interest in contesting, and the willingness to get on the air and operate with us. If you have someone that you would like to nominate as a new member, please e-mail K0EJ (mark.speck.k0ej@gmail.com) so an invite can be sent.

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

URC DX RTTY Contest

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P	2BSIQ	x	170	139	8	66,170	TCG
W4SDX			22	19	1	912	TCG
AD4EB			16	14	1	572	TCG
W4CMG			13	11	1.5	330	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K4HWS		x	246	58	12	16,728	TCG

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California QSO Party

SO HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4UT			181	19	52	6.5	31,200	TCG
AI4DB			0	137	40		16,440	TCG
W4NZ			113	0	46	3	15,594	TCG
K1GU			69	0	38	2	7,866	TCG

SO LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K4KYN			120	0	43	5.5	15,093	TCG
W9WI			75	32	37	5	11,877	TCG
AC4G			43	49	38	2 hour	10,488	TCG
K9HIM			68	0	34	4:00	6,936	TCG
W3TB			31	18	18	1:22	1,674	TCG

SO(A) HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NR4L		x	376	371	58	21	129,978	TCG
AD4EB			365	0	56	9	61,320	TCG
KØEJ			209	98	57	6	52,497	TCG
AC6ZM			127	0	44	4:15	16,764	TCG
NS4X			74	34	44	2	14,256	TCG
W4SDX			36	39	40	1.5	9,000	TCG
WN8Y			0	64	35	5	6,720	TCG
W4CMG			61	0	29	3	5,307	TCG
K4DXV			23	14	28	2	3,108	TCG
WV4P		x	9	0	9	1	243	TCG

SO(A) YL HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NR4L		x	376	371	58	21	129,978	TCG

SO(A) LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K3IE			69	9	34	2.5	7,956	TCG
K3FH			66	0	26	2.5	5,148	TCG
W4SSF			36	0	19	2:00	2,052	TCG

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Oceania DX Contest, Phone

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WN8Y			9	18	1	108	TCG
AD4EB			3	3	0.5	18	TCG
WV4P		x	3	3	1	9	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AC4G			30	23	3	2,323	TCG

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Russian WW Digital Contest

SO RTTY HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	RTTY Qs	Dig Qs	Countries	Oblasts	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			21	19	14	5	0.5	1,615	TCG

SO-HiBands LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	RTTY Qs	Dig Qs	Countries	Oblasts	Op Time	Score	Club
W4CMG			5	0	4	0		68	TCG

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Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WN8Y			29	29	3	609	TCG
AD4EB			24	20	1	480	TCG
NR4L		x	3	3	1	15	TCG

SOSB/40 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P		x	3	3	1	27	TCG

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Arizona QSO Party

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AA4DD			19	0	13	0	2	594	TCG
W4NZ			19	0	13	0	1	494	TCG
W4CMG			9	0	8	0	1	144	TCG
NR4L		x	3	0	2	0	1	12	TCG
WV4P		x	3	0	2	0	1	12	TCG

SOCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4SSF			18	0	14	0	1:30	604	TCG

SOMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			12	1	9	1	0.5	250	TCG

SOMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4UT			14	4	12	4	1.5	512	TCG

SOSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AI4DB			0	13	0	10		230	TCG
WA4JA			0	4	0	3	1	12	TCG

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Pennsylvania QSO Party

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4NZ			76	0	35	4	5,320	TCG
W4CMG			49	0	25	01:45	2,450	TCG
AD4EB			20	0	19	0.5	760	TCG
AA4DD			23	0	16	2	736	TCG
WV4P		x	5	0	5	1	50	TCG

SOCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K3FH			95	0	56	2.5	10,640	TCG
K4KYN			20	0	16	1	640	TCG
W3TB			20	0	15	1:00	600	TCG
K9HIM			13	0	12	:30	312	TCG

SOMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NS4X			20	2	18	1	756	TCG
NR4L		x	6	4	10	1	160	TCG

SOMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4UT			17	3	17	2	629	TCG
KØEJ			14	1	14		406	TCG

SOSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AI4DB			0	53	30		1,790	TCG
WA4JA			0	22	17	2	574	TCG

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South Dakota QSO Party

SO FixedCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4NZ			10	0	0	7	1	240	TCG
W4CMG			4	0	0	3		124	TCG

SO FixedMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			4	14	0	18	1.5	496	TCG
NR4L		x	1	2	0	2	1	108	TCG
WV4P		x	1	2	0	2	1	108	TCG

SO FixedMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K4KYN			6	10	0	11	4	676	TCG

SO FixedSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AI4DB			0	24	0	17		491	TCG
W4UT			0	4	0	4	.5	116	TCG

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Makrothen RTTY Contest

SO/Multi Xcvr HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P	2BSIQ	x	992	24	5,651,330	TCG
AD4EB	2BSIQ		135	1.5	681,396	TCG

SO/Single Xcvr HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
AA4DD			197	8	794,664	TCG
WN8Y			125	10	556,024	TCG
NS4X			105	2	380,414	TCG
W4CMG			108	5	261,092	TCG
NR4L		x	4	1	17,788	TCG

SO/Single Xcvr LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
K4HWS			590	12	2,910,238	TCG
W4SSF			147	7:30	605,894	TCG
K3IE			40	02:30	135,608	TCG

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Oceania DX Contest, CW

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			9	12	1	108	TCG

SOSB/15 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NR4L		x	3	3	1	18	TCG
WV4P		x	3	3	1	18	TCG

SOSB/40 LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4SSF			3	3	:30	45	TCG

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JARL WW RTTY Contest

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4P	2BSIQ	x	2159	382	40	2,275,574	TCG
AD4EB	SO2R		301	127	5	104,394	TCG
AA4DD			203	107	6	55,319	TCG
W4SDX			222	81	4.5	47,871	TCG
WN8Y			199	446	14	43,262	TCG
NS4X			143	46	3	16,652	TCG
W4CMG			55	24	3.5	3,570	TCG
NR4L		x	35	26	1	2,392	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K4HWS			532	203	21	283,794	TCG
AA4CS			18	11	1	752	TCG
W4SSF			15	10	3:00	338	TCG

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New York QSO Party

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			106	0	0	41	3		8,692	TCG
AA4DD			27	0	0	13	1		702	TCG
W4CMG			23	0	0	12			552	TCG
NR4L		x	10	0	0	9	1		180	TCG
WV4P		x	6	0	0	6	1		72	TCG

SOCW YL HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4CMG			23	0	0	12			552	TCG
NR4L		x	10	0	0	9	1		180	TCG

SOCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC6ZM(@W2/MORSE)		x	101	0	0	65	3:35		13,130	TCG
W4SSF			105	0	0	40	5:30		8,400	TCG
W3TB			70	0	0	31	3:12		4,340	TCG
W4NZ			48	0	0	24	1		2,304	TCG
K3FH			14	0	0	11	0.5		308	TCG

SOMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4UT			79	6	0	33	4.5		5,412	TCG
KØEJ			14	3	0	12			372	TCG

SOSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			0	9	0	7	1		63	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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Worked All Germany Contest

SO CW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			146	0	44	2		19,272	TCG
W4NZ			70	0	44	2		9,240	TCG
W4CMG			29	0	22	1:30		1,914	TCG
WV4P		x	3	0	3			27	TCG
NR4L		x	3	0	0	1		18	TCG

SO CW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
KQ4J			24	0	17	1		1,224	TCG
W4SSF			10	0	8	30MIN		240	TCG

SO Mixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
KØEJ			15	5	17			1,020	TCG

SO SSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
DM4KW			0	106	33	10:59		11,220	TCG

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CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB

M/M HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4TCG(@KØEJ)	SO2R		2307	148	487	48		3,987,800	TCG

M/S LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
N4SS(@W5MX)			1497	129	425	44		2,335,664	TCG

SO(A)AB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			1597	134	427	32		2,433,618	TCG
WV4P		x	1166	142	449	37		1,944,390	TCG
NR4L		x	350	109	292	14		388,569	TCG
NS4X			361	64	167	7		227,073	TCG
WN8Y			165	31	78	10		51,339	TCG
K4DXV			108	35	79	4:19		33,516	TCG
W4SDX			101	35	63	3.5		25,970	TCG
W4CMG			4	4	3			63	TCG

SO(A)AB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4AM		x	860	94	311	19:39		975,240	TCG
W4SSF			225	50	124	17:32		102,070	TCG
K4HWS			151	50	96	9		54,020	TCG
N4BCD			117	56	96	6		46,664	TCG
W3TB			108	28	56	3:17		25,116	TCG

SO(A)AB Youth LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
WV4AM		x	860	94	311	19:39		975,240	TCG

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			480	80	217	17.5		405,405	TCG
W4KW			520	66	188	10:15		375,870	TCG
K9QJS			27	15	26	2		2,788	TCG

SOAB Classic HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			480	80	217	17.5		405,405	TCG
W4KW			520	66	188	10:15		375,870	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			213	57	115	9		96,320	TCG
W9WI			37	15	23	2		3,838	TCG
W4UT			18	8	14	1.2		1,166	TCG
KS4X			16	8	15	1		1,035	TCG

SOAB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			213	57	115	9		96,320	TCG

SOAB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA			213	57	115	9		96,320	TCG

SOAB 2-Bands LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4UT			18	8	14	1.2		1,166	TCG

SOSB20 HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4BP			147	23	63	3		36,034	TCG
DM4KW			243	19	62	20:30		31,509	TCG

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Stew Perry Topband Challenge

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			89	1.5	265	TCG
NS4X			80	1	211	TCG
NR4L		x	70	3	188	TCG
AC6ZM(@W2/TACONIC)		x	43	1	94	TCG
WV4P		x	32	1	84	TCG
AA4DD			42	2	83	TCG
AC4G			29	.5	81	TCG
W4NZ			12	1	30	TCG
W4CMG			10		17	TCG

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Illinois QSO Party

Fixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW-Dig	Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB				94	0	35	4	6,580	TCG
WA4WZR				37	24	33	2	3,234	TCG
W4CMG				17	0	14	1	476	TCG
NR4L		x		16	0	14	1	448	TCG
AC4G				15	0	14	.5	420	TCG
WV4P		x		11	0	10	1	220	TCG

Fixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW-Dig	Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4SSF				68	0	37	2:30	5,032	TCG
W4UT				67	0	33	5.5	4,422	TCG
W3TB				24	0	17	0:36	816	TCG
K9HIM				19	6	15	:58	660	TCG

Non-IL HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW-Dig	Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W4NZ				69	0	32	2	4,416	TCG
AA4DD				20	0	17	1	680	TCG

Non-IL LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW-Dig	Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
KØEJ				12	4	12		336	TCG

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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.

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TCG Most Radio Active Report for October 2026

Hello Fellow Contesters,

The Fall contest season got into full swing this month with the California QSO Party, a TCG favorite, kicking off the first weekend. We had 22 members playing and logging just over 3,000 QSO's, taking only 94 hours to do it.

NR4L again led the scoring with a good mix of CW and SSB in her 747 QSO high power effort. Great job, Trina!

California wasn't the only QSO party. It was followed by Arizona, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, New York and Illinois. But QSO parties were just part of the contest choices. There were 3 RTTY, 5 DX, a 160 meter and a worldwide multi-mode contest to give us plenty of opportunities to play.

Some notable efforts in these contests:
In the JARL WW RTTY contest - WV4P
In the Makrothen RTTY contest - WV4P, K4HWS, AA4DD, AD4EB, W4SSF, WN8Y

The grand finale for October was the largest phone contest of the year as the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest hit the air. Twenty-seven members joined the action as either single-op or multi-op participants. Collectively, we made 10,818 QSO's in 352 hours. Major scores were recorded by Multi-Op/HP K4TCG @ K0EJ's station (K3IE, K0EJ, W4NZ), Multi-Op/LP N4SS (AC6ZM, AJ4A, W5MX) from W5MX's station in KY and SO/HP WV4P from his superstation in Hardin County.. Congratulations, everyone!

For all the details on these and other outstanding efforts, go to:
https://tcgscores.com/mra/?year=2026&month=10

October by the numbers:
-We operated 16 contests this month
-We logged 29,631 QSO's
-We spent 921 hours on the radio!
-39 members submitted scores this month

Remember, there are still plenty of opportunities for contesting fun in November and December. Jump in and have a ball. Your score is NEVER too small to talk about!

Thanks for keeping TCG Radio Active!

73 and good contesting,
Ted W4NZ

-...-

CQWW SSB 2026 N2IC Distributed Multi
de Kirk K4RO

I have stopped sending score reports to the TCG reflector, as they are redundant with the 3830scores.com site and the weekly TCG score updates. However, there might have been a few of you wondering why you heard my voice using N2IC's call sign last weekend. The answer is that I operated as a Zone 4 "Distributed Multi Op" with N2IC Steve, N5RZ Gator, and K5WA Bob for the 2026 CQWW SSB Contest.

The operation was somewhat akin to the W1AW/4 distributed operation that we did as a club a few years ago, except that it was centered around a particular contest event, the CQWW SSB. Steve contacted me about a month ago to see if I might be interested in joining him and the Texans. It turned out to be a lot of fun. It was a great way to stay involved with the contest as a team, while enjoying the comforts of home. The latter turned out to be very important, as Susie and I both returned home from a trip to Washington DC with severe head colds.

K5WA used Claude AI to create some kind of virtual N1MM router so that all of our N1MM sessions were networked together. Again, similar to the W1AW/4 approach, except that Bob's software negated the need to use a VPN -- at least not one that was visible to us. We just launched his custom program, and our N1MM sessions were auto-magically launched and synched together. It was pretty slick. The software worked perfectly for 48 hours straight. I was impressed with the networking stability.

As the team was made up of seasoned contest operators who (mostly) knew what they were doing, we operated "free style." We chose bands and Run vs. S&P to suit our particular fancy at any given time. We did attempt some level of coordination in order to maximize our location advantages and minimize our disadvantages. We had a Slack channel to communicate with each other, which definitely added to the team cohesion. In the end, it was a lot of fun for a bunch of CW guys who didn't want to spend an entire weekend shouting into a microphone. To quote the comedian Dusty Slay, "Yeah, we're having a good time."

Steve's report is below. 1/4 of our score will go to TCG.

—Kirk K4RO

de N2IC
It was time to try something completely different !

The Multi-Distributed rules allow a maximum of six transmitted signals, one per band at any one time, from stations in different locations all in the same CQWW zone and the same DXCC country.

We put together a great team from Texas (N5RZ, K5WA), Tennessee (K4RO) and New Mexico (N2IC). We were each planning on operating for 20-30 hours, and from our home stations. None of us have super stations, and we all had station and antenna issues.

We had a great time! We operated with only a few general guidelines, such as eastern stations mostly work EU and western stations mostly work JA. Otherwise it was a free for all doing run or S&P based on operator preference. 160 was awful for all 4 of us. 80 was not good, though Kirk did work some EU, and I worked some JA. Gator was a warrior on 20, working lots of 0 point USA with the occasional DX calling in. 15 was the money band for all of us. Kirk had some good EU on 10 Saturday morning, and the western stations had some JA. Kirk was a champ, operating with lingering effects of being sick.

As the contest progressed, we all seemed to find our various station and operator strengths, which was cool. Each op did run and S&P, and QSY'd to bands of their choice.

The stations were linked by N1MM Logger, and we used Slack to chat with each other. The networking worked perfectly.

The plan was for each op to do 20-30 hours, but I think the reality was more like 30-35 hours each.

I will enter the log in LoTW, with the correct QTH for each QSO. Thanks for working us!

73, Steve, N2IC

And… The Scores:
Call: N2IC
Operator(s): K4RO K5WA N2IC N5RZ
Station: M1ANY
Class: M/M Distributed HP

QTH: NM TX TN
Operating Time (hrs): 48
Location: USA
Summary: Compare Scores
Band QSOs Zones Countries
160: 39 13 16
80: 169 23 64
40: 803 35 97
20: 1128 36 120
15: 1747 35 138
10: 722 32 99
Total: 4608 174 534 Total Score 7,944,468

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CQWW SSB comments
de Mark K0EJ

After reading Kirk's comments on their elegant Distributed MM operation, I thought I might share some random thoughts on the not-so-elegant MM K4TCG@K0EJ operation.

The last CQWW SSB multi-op here was 2015 – 10M was better even though 11 years separated the 2 events.

We entered as a M2 then with 5 ops. This time, we had 3 guys sharing a SO2R seat. Didn't want to be restricted by the MS or M2 rules and the 2nd Flex slice doesn't show up as a separate xmtr # so went with MM even tho truly a single xmtr. We all got enough BIC time and still got sleep….some of us more than others😊

My interest in this one was not high but spurred on by an interest by K3IE, I figured we would give it a shot. W4NZ helped out both days as well. Not sure how much Ted or Hunter used SO2R over the weekend but I found it handy at times to keep up the rate (dualing CQs or chasing spots on 2nd rig). It was great to welcome Hunter to the Soddy-Daisy-not-quite-super-station. He was allowed admittance even though he failed to bring his entry ticket (QSL card for the wall)

I used one of the NJ4P telnet clusters which worked well the entire weekend using my android phone as a USB tether to the station computer. Tnx Ron/Trina.

Friday and Saturday were mostly a S&P affair. Crowded bands. 10M had a good run for just under 2 hours Saturday morning. We may have been late moving up the bands. Sunday was much better for running and Hunter had our best hour of about 145 on 15M. We only had 3 clock hours over 100. Flux dropped below 100 on Sunday but we were still working EU on 10M til after their sunset. Had brief runs of good rate to SA late both afternoons on 10/15.

We worked 39 zones, missing #29. That seemed strange as normally at least one VK6/VK8 is on. SU0ERA was active for #34 – always iffy and Z22 worked only on 15M.

160M was pretty crappy all weekend. 80M a little better Saturday night.

No real equipment issues. N1MM DVK would sometimes get flaky and require N1MM reboot. Having to change rig mic audio settings between Heil and whatever Hunter was using was a pain but was finally figured out.
The thumb-rule of doubling the 1st day score and add 10% still amazes me. 1.8M at the halfway point. We ended just shy of 4Meg.

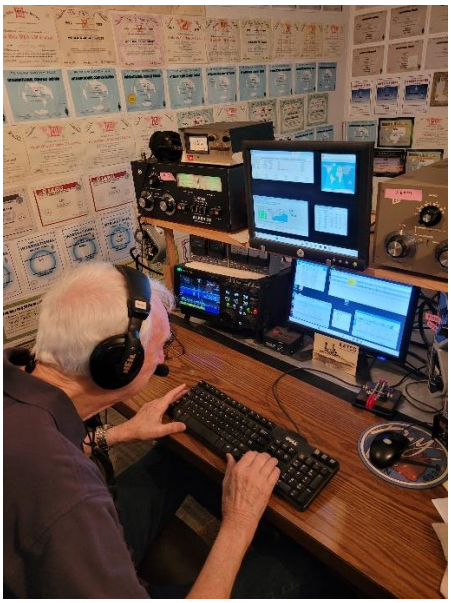
TCG was out there. Got kicked to the curb a few times by WV4P, NR4L, N4ZZ and "N2IC@k4ro") but still generally felt loud.

K4TCG is a TERRIBLE SSB callsign. Too easy to get tongue-tied and say CTG. Without phonetics, TCG may have sounded like BDZ – any letters with a long-E. Tango Charlie Golf usually worked but sometimes you had to add syllables – particularly to SAm. Tokyo-Canada-Guatemala was VERY effective.

Food was pretty simple but didn't get any complaints. Post-contest breakdown was pretty painless. We were gone by 0015Z!

Most importantly – the TCG Prime Directive was upheld!

73, Mark K0EJ



Ted W4NZ at K0EJ's

Hunter K3IE at K0EJ's

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 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.

November	
November 1, 2026	North American Sprint SSB, November
November 7,2026	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW
November 14, 2026	OK/OM DX Contest, CW
November 14, 2026	WAE DX Contest, RTTY
November 21, 2026	LZ DX Contest
November 21, 2026	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
November 28, 2026	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
December	
December 4, 2026	ARRL 160-Meter Contest
December 5, 2026	FT Challenge
December 12, 2026	ARRL 10-Meter Contest
December 19, 2026	Croatian DX Contest
December 19, 2026	OK DX RTTY Contest
December 26, 2026	Stew Perry Topband Challenge-Dec
December 27, 2026	RAC Winter Contest - Dec

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Back in the NCJ:

Juan, AC6ZM (left), and Ben, AD7N (right), take up operating positions for the VP2MMA Run and Mult stations.

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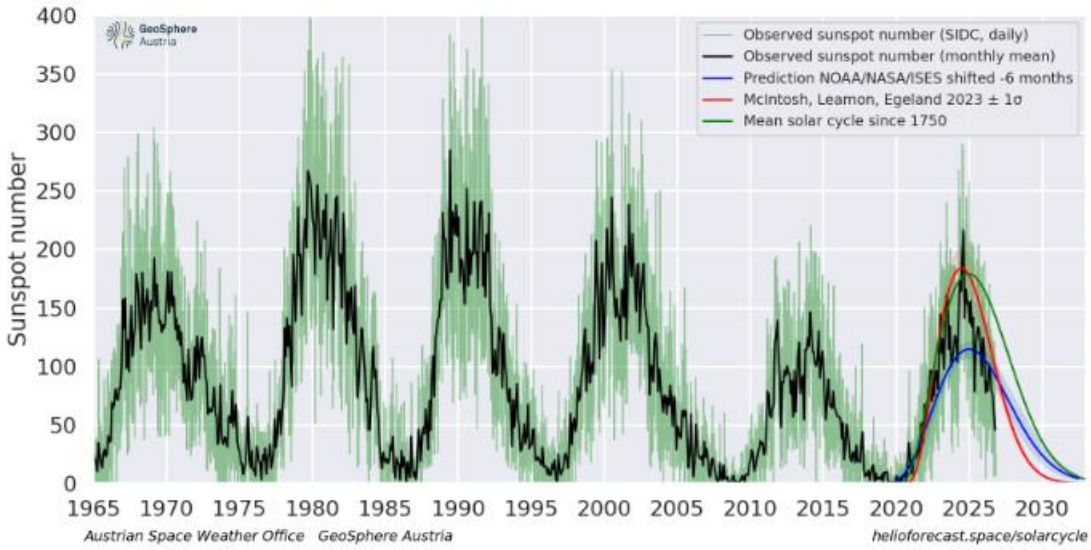
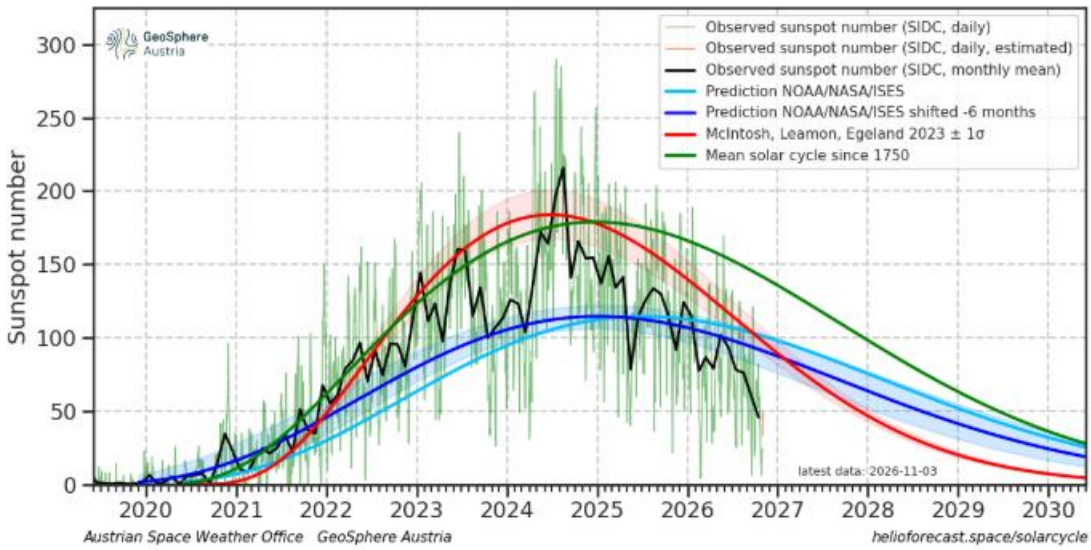
Progression of solar cycle 25

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