



News and Events, October 2025 Edition

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

It's the first day of October as I write this. Contest season has arrived! The TNQP was a big success this year, with some great activity and great scores. The K4TCG team (at NJ4P) and W4NZ team (at K0EJ) fought a nice "battle of the giants" and handed out over a thousand QSOs each! The K4TCG bonus station was reported as being loud and easy to work everywhere -- well done.

I had a super good time operating with AD4EB from his top tier mobile station. Several other mobile stations put in great efforts and made some rare counties available to the deserving. Then, to top it all off, Mike W0AG had the TNQP final results published by the end of the month! Many thanks to Mike for his strong work on the TNQP web site, and for publishing the results in such a timely fashion.

September went out with a real bang with the CQWW RTTY contest. Conditions were very good, with ten meter openings to Europe both days. The NJ4P Team made an astoundingly good score, smashing the old USA Multi-2 record by a big margin, and even breaking the Multi-Multi record in the process. Not bad for a station located in western Tennessee. Congratulations to the whole team on an outstanding effort!

Next up on the contest calendar is the California QSO Party. TCG placed third in the club competition this year. I believe that with a concerted effort, we should be able to recapture first place again. I would like to encourage everyone to get on the air and operate the CQP. There are a total of 58 multipliers (counties) to chase, and a sweep of all 58 is quite possible from TN. It's also very fun to chase down each county.

Of course at the end of this month, we have the granddaddy of all phone contests, the CQWW SSB. You won't want to miss this year, especially if the band conditions are anything like they were for September's RTTY contest.

The operators are always the most important part of a successful contest effort. Let's keep our minds and bodies as well as our stations in top condition for the next contest. See you in the pileups!

73 —Kirk K4RO TCG President

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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 July:

CWops CW Open 2025 0000Z-0359Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K3FH			20	20	0.4	400	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			125	115	1:10	14,375	TCG
KQ4E			11	11	:15	121	TCG

Single Op QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W3TB			50	50	1:40	2,500	TCG

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CWops CW Open 2025 1200Z-1559Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			179	148	1.5	26,492	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WM4Q			126	99	2.5	12,474	TCG
KQ4E			61	51	2	3,111	TCG

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CWops CW Open 2025 2000Z-2359Z

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AD4EB			254	202	2	51,308	TCG
NS4X			140	105	2	14,700	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WM4Q			200	150	3	30,000	TCG
W4UT			51	47	00:45	2,397	TCG
AE4GS			40	39	1	1,560	TCG
AC6ZM			25	24	1	600	TCG

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ARRL September VHF Contest

Single Op-All Modes HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
NS4X			12	10	1	120	TCG

Single Op-All Modes LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ6T	SO2R		56	49	5	3,479	TCG
KR4EE			6	6	6	36	TCG
AF4T			3	2	1	6	TCG

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WAE DX Contest, SSB

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K3IE			114	104	86	5	18,622	TCG
WN8Y			85	82	90	9	15,120	TCG
KØEJ			100	98	60	2	11,880	TCG
W4SDX			45	39	42	1	3,360	TCG
NS4X			32	30	46	1	2,852	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WV4AM			24	9	27	2	648	TCG

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NA Sprint CW Contest 2025 September

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
K4RO	SO2R		283	50	1	14,150	TCG HP Sprinters
KØEJ	SO2R		257	48	4	12,336	TCG HP Sprinters
W4NZ	SO2R		233	48	4	11,184	TCG HP Sprinters

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
WF7T	SO2R		185	43	4	7,955	TCG LP Sprinters
K1GU			163	44	2.8	7,172	TCG LP Sprinters
W4CMG			144	40	3:54	5,760	TCG LP Sprinters

TCG HP Sprinters

K4RO	14,150
N5TJ	13,475
KØEJ	12,336
W4NZ	11,184
Team Total:	51,145

TCG LP Sprinters

WF7T	7,955
K1GU	7,172
W4CMG	5,760
Team Total:	20,887

Tennessee QSO Party 2025

Multi-Op FixedMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
W4NZ(@K0EJ)				810		655		0	333	10	1,464,235	
K4TCG(@NJ4P)		x		673		674		0	348	10	1,406,268	

Multi-Op MobileCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
AD4EB				1785		0		0	152	10	939,815	

SO FixedCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
N4ZZ	2BSIQ			571		0		0	210	7:40	360,130	
W6UB				159		0		0	97	3.8	46,569	

SO FixedCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
W9SN	SO2R			648		0		0	239	10	465,216	
W4CMG				447		0		0	150	7	201,350	
WK9M				364		0		0	158	8	172,936	
WF7T				336		0		0	159	5	160,195	
WM4Q				367		0		0	131	6:30	144,238	
K4AMC				247		0		0	109	3:24	79,904	
AC4G				216		0		0	102	4.5	66,196	
K4KYN				225		0		0	56	7.5	62,775	
KC4KS				20		0		0	0	1.5	60	

SO FixedMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
NS4X				426		310		0	200	8	442,200	
AF4T				329		13		0	130	6.15	133,780	
K9QJS				7		170		0	66	3	35,146	
K3FH				21		7		0	21	1.25	1,764	

SO FixedMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
KT4RH				301		19		0	136	9	130,760	
N9TF				280		2		0	118	4:03	100,428	
N4MCC				0		26		11	21	7.5	1,638	

SO FixedSSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
W4KW				0		450		0	112	06:05	151,400	
W4DTA				0		210		0	83	3	52,141	
N4BCD				0		115		0	66	3	22,970	
WN8Y				0		42		0	5	5	42	

SO FixedSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
WA4JA				0		229		0	116	6.5	79,892	
WB4YDL				0		114		0	70	5.0	24,140	
KO4DDG				0		52		0	37	2	5,772	
K4BP				0		17		0	14	1	714	

SO MobileCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
K1GU				494		0		0	276	10	409,032	

SO MobileCW QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
K3IE				94		0		0	37	3	10,434	

SO MobileMixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
AC6ZM				823		3		0	112	10	287,500	

New Hampshire QSO Party

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4NZ				2		0		0	2	1		8	TCG
NS4X				1		0		0	1	.5		2	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA				0		10		0	4	1		40	TCG
W4CMG				3		0		0	3	0.5		18	TCG
WM4Q				1		0		0	1	.1		2	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
W3TB				13		0		0	5	0:47		120	TCG
W4NZ				7		0		0	6	1		84	TCG
K9QJS				5		2		0	5	.5		60	TCG
NS4X				1		0		0	1	0.5		2	TCG

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA				0		11		0	10	1		198	TCG
W4CMG				7		0		0	5	1		140	TCG
WM4Q				8		0		0	1	.5		32	TCG

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Washington State Salmon Run

SOCW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4NZ				11		0	11		1	863	TCG
K1GU				12		0	10		0.6	360	TCG
K9QJS				2		0	2		.5	12	TCG

SOCW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4AMC				27		0		15	1:00	2,215	TCG
W4CMG				6		0		4		72	TCG

SOMixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
NS4X				8		8	9	1		860	TCG

SOSSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WN8Y				0		16	14		2	948	TCG
W4SDX				0		13	9		.50	734	TCG

SOSSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA				0		22	12		2	1,028	TCG

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Texas QSO Party

SO CW HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
AA4DD				96	0	0	63	7			18,144	
W4NZ				102	0	0	54	7			17,136	
W3TB				39	0	0	27	2:43			3,159	
K1GU				22	0	0	18	1.7			1,188	

SO CW LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
W9SN				270	0	0	112				90,720	
AC4G				158	0	0	77	9			36,498	
K4AMC				65	0	0	47	2:40			10,665	
W4CMG				35	0	0	27	1:30			2,835	
WM4Q				29	0	0	27	1.5			2,349	
KØEJ				35	0	0	20				2,100	
K4KYN				25	0	0	21	1			1,575	
N4ZZ				12	0	0	12	0:49			432	

SO CW QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
WD4CFN				61	0	0	38	3			6,954	

SO CW Mobile LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
AD4EB				3202	0	0	101	18			1,011,206	

SO Mixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
NS4X				24	6	0	25	2			2,100	
K9QJS				16	3	0	14	1			714	

SO Mixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
WV4AM				19	11	0	24	2			2,064	

SO SSB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
WN8Y				0	8	0	16	1.5			128	

SO SSB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score
WA4JA				0	51	0	41	5			5,682	

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Maine QSO Party

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	CW	Mults	Ph	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA				0	61	0	45	3.5				3,102	TCG	
W4CMG				2	0	2	0					16	TCG	

144 MHz Fall Sprint 2025 Sep 22

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	Analog	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AA4DD				0	15	14	1			210	TCG
AJ6T				3	9	9	4			108	TCG

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Iowa QSO Party

Out of State LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4CMG				6	0	0	6				72	TCG	

SO Fixed HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W3TB				17	0	0	16	1:03			544	TCG	
W4NZ				17	0	0	16	1			544	TCG	
K9QJS				7	1	0	8	.5			120	TCG	

SO Fixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
WA4JA				0	6	0	6	1			36	TCG	
WM4Q				4	0	0	3	.1			24	TCG	

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Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW

SOAB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K3IE			127	80	3		11,600	TCG
W6UB			95	68	5.4		7,820	TCG
KØEJ			119	64	3		7,616	TCG
NS4X			91	62	2		6,758	TCG
W4NZ			70	43	2		3,010	TCG

SOAB Wires HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W6UB			95	68	5.4		7,820	TCG

SOAB Classic HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
KØEJ			119	64	3		7,616	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4CMG			19	17	2		357	TCG
W4UT			14	11	0.5		154	TCG
K4KYN			7	7	.5		63	TCG

SOAB TB-Wires LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
W4UT			14	11	0.5		154	TCG

SOAB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
K4KYN			7	7	.5		63	TCG

SOSB/10 LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			65	29	2		1,885	TCG

SOSB/10 Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op	Time	Score	Club
AC4G			65	29	2		1,885	TCG

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NA Sprint RTTY Contest 2025 September

Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
WV4P	2BSIQ	x	108	30	4	3,240	SWACC #1

Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
AA4DD			85	27	03:44	2,295	TCG
K4HWS		x	75	26	3.25	1,950	TCG
AA4CS			62	26	3.7	1,612	TCG
W4SDX			24	12	.50	288	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	5560		287 452	147	48	11,784,686	TCG
K4EA		x	2689		222 374	133	44	4,621,860	TCG

SO(A)AB HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
AA4DD			1003		140 239	93	28:28	1,148,848	TCG
NS4X			670		104 147	46	10	476,685	TCG
K4RO			541		96 159	70	7:37	418,925	TCG
WN8Y			503		70 1215	60	32	328,050	TCG
W4SDX			313		71 120	59	6	178,500	TCG
AF4T			82		23 50	31	5.18	20,280	TCG
K9QJS			34		11 22	17	1.5	3,900	TCG

SO(A)AB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
N4MCC			132		43 48	23	4:45	34,086	TCG
K4HWS			89		20 22	18	2	12,180	TCG

SOAB LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
K9UC			571		112 178	63	23.5	440,897	TCG
K1GU			376		78 124	48	8.0	223,000	TCG

SOAB Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
K9UC			571		112 178	63	23.5	440,897	TCG
K1GU			376		78 124	48	8.0	223,000	TCG

SOAB QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
W9WI			80		18 34	22	3	13,024	TCG

SOAB Classic QRP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
W9WI			80		18 34	22	3	13,024	TCG

SOSB15 LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
AC4G			153		11 64	30	5.75	45,360	TCG
K0EJ			60		14 25	10	1.5	6,909	TCG

SOSB15 Classic LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score	Club
AC4G			153		11 64	30	5.75	45,360	TCG
K0EJ			60		14 25	10	1.5	6,909	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.

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & NEW MEMBERS

Thanks to the following member who renewed in September – Randy, KK4OVW. Thanks for your support of TCG and its activities.

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 members, please e-mail K0EJ (mark.speck.k0ej@gmail.com) so an invite can be sent out.

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TNQP: Hamilton County After Action Report for Tennessee Valley DX Association

de Ted W4NZ

The Tennessee QSO Party (TNQP) is an annual operating event sponsored by the Tennessee Contest Group (TCG). This year's running took place on Sunday, September 7th from 1:00 PM until 11:00 PM Eastern time. The purpose of the QSO party is to allow amateur radio operators around the world the chance to contact as many Tennessee amateurs in all Tennessee counties in the pursuit of several awards such as Worked All States (WAS) and the USA Worked All US Counties Award (USACA).

Each year tens of thousands of QSOs occur between Tennessee amateurs and hams worldwide. Distinctive engraved plaques are usually awarded for each category winner. These coveted plaques are hand-made in the woodworking shop of Mark, K0EJ.

As last year, Mark offered us the opportunity to use his contest station located on Mowbray Mountain to enter the TNQP as a multi-operator, multi-transmitter, high power entry. Last year we were privileged to be the designated bonus station. The purpose of the bonus station is to help generate interest and stimulate activity by having a presence on as many bands and modes as possible, and to give out as many bonus points as possible. This year that honor went to the crew at NJ4P near Savannah, TN.

So, our challenge this year was to see if we could surpass our score from last year. To achieve that goal here is Mark's description of his station, how we set it up for the TNQP and a few comments about our operation.

"The day-to-day station setup is a 6600M running SO2R feeding 2 old (upgraded) Alpha amps going to a 403A Antenna Genius and VA6AM HP BP filters.

Antennas:

- Tower 1: 90' 25G with HB 5/5 on 20M. Lower one fixed NE@45'. 80M quarter-wave sloper
- north (CW only)@~70'
- Tower 2: 80' 45G Mag340N and HB 6/6/6 on 10M (90/60/30) with lower 2 fixed NE
- Tower 3: 75' 25G with HB 5/5 on 15M. Lower one fixed NE@37'
- 80M 4-square
- 160M inverted L (~80' vertical) between Tower 1 and 2
- All these antennas feed into a 403A Antenna Genius switching array.
- Tower 4: 40' 45G with Skyhawk tribander@40', HB shorty rotatable 40M dipole@~45'.
 - These are on a common switched feedline and manually selectable with no BP filtering. Rotor set up as south-centered and usually serves as go-to for CAR/SA. Trees currently prevent full rotation so ESE-WSW thru south is about it.
- This is all squeezed into just under 2 acres.

For TQP, we added a Station 2: Flex 6600M feeding an old TT Titan at the 2nd op desk and Station 3: K3 barefoot with LP BP filters at the kitchen table. A NetGear router had Station 1 hardwired and #2 and #3 wireless linked. Internet provided by USB tether to Station 2 laptop. Cell service is very spotty on the mountain so I have an outside antenna and in-shack booster/repeater. Good enough for telnet spots. Antennas tied to #2 and #3 manually. Setup was done on Friday and had everything working. Restart on Sunday was like starting over with network setup. Ted finally got it working about 5 minutes before GO time.

To start we had Station 3 on 40 to the dipole. Plan was to alternate CW/SSB every hour. Achieved more/less. It later transitioned to 80CW.

Station 2 was on 20M alternating CW/SSB. It later went to 160 CW and 40CW. Station 1 was setup on 10/15 at the start. 2BSIQ/SO2R alternating CW/SSB as rate dictated... mostly lack-of-rate... but we got what we could. Station 1 eventually filled in blanks on 40 and 75M.

We had 6 ops, 4 of us FT, 2 left around 8PM. One op was SSB only and I think 2 played CW only. I operated most of the 1st half SO2R and filled empty seats after that. We discussed trying to max in-state mults but had minimal luck on the high bands and just left it up to the ops to catch what they could/wanted. We could've done better there but did OK... Ted/NZ and I shared responsibility for rig/band assignments. No predetermined op schedule except to start. All ops got plenty of BIC time and time to eat/BS. 20 and 40 were good at the start. 10 was OK but OM2VL was only EU worked there...and he was EEEEEESP and was moved from 15M. Worked him both modes easily on 10M last year as I recall.. a few TN mults worked via some path. Spotlight prop at different times so it was worth playing beacon and let guys find us. Caught a few surprise mults. 15M was very disappointing, especially on SSB, but an improvement in mults from last year (55 vs 47). OM2VL was LOUD on SSB. Mobile stations were mostly unheard above 40M save a few.

No in-band stations which may have been useful on 40/80. Closest thing was late with the K3 on 80CW to the sloper and Station 1 on 75SSB with the 4-square. No real interference noted there

Overall, compared to last year's effort signing K4TCG with essentially the same setup but had a few more ops, we were up on CW Qs (810 vs 762) way down on SSB Qs (655 vs 915) but up on mults (333 vs 315). Score was down compared to 1.58M last year."

This year's operating team was: Mark K0EJ, Gary K4VIG, Billy KE4CMA, Bill W4XK, Paul WA4AA and Ted W4NZ.

How did we do? These numbers tell the story.
Band CW Qs Ph Qs Mults

160: 21 16
80: 156 37 56
40: 227 303 98
20: 286 207 77
15: 90 16 55
10: 30 88 29
2: 4 2

Total: 810 655 333

Total Score = 1,464,235 (includes 700 bonus points, 7 QSO's with K4TCG)

And a bit of interesting trivia. We worked:

- 993 unique stations
- 21 DXCC entities (DL, EI, F, G, GI, GM, HB, HP, JA, KP4, LY, LZ, OK, OM, PA, SP, SV, VK, XE, YO, Z3)
- 57 Tennessee counties

- 117 Tennessee stations
- All states except Delaware
- 9 VE provinces (AB, BC, MB, NB, NL, NS, NT, ON, QC)



Bill W4XK at Station 2



Mark at Station 1 on 10/15M



Gary at Station 2 on 20M

Some of the antennas at K0EJ's. Foreground: 40M tower (85') with 3-high stack of 6L10M yagis and 3L40. Background is 15M tower (75') with 2 5L15M yagis.



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CW Sprint - September 14th 0000 to 0359 UTC (logs due 7 days later)

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AC4G's 2025 QSO Party Operation from a New County

de Bruce/AC4G

I, along with many Tennessee Contest Group (TCG) members, annually plan and look forward to participating in the Tennessee QSO Party (TNQP) every September. The officers of the TCG always do a great job of encouraging the TCG members to become “Radioactive” to include the TNQP as one of the major contests that we activate. The date of this year’s TNQP was September 7 with the start time for the TNQP at 12:00 P.M. CST and ended at 10:00 P.M. CST.

A few months ago, I began wondering where I was going to operate the TNQP. Would it be from my home QTH of Lincoln County; from my folk’s place in Clay County; or my daughter’s new home QTH in Macon County (See Picture 1: Map of Tennessee showing MACON County)? This was an easy decision allowing me to visit with my daughter and her family, especially my granddaughters. I selected Macon County as my operating location for the 2025 TNQP.



Picture 1: Map of Tennessee Depicting MACON County

On the morning of September 6, I had planned to leave my home QTH of Taft, TN at 10:00 A.M. However, we were blessed with torrential rain for several hours. It had already rained all night long, and I began to wonder when I could load my equipment and luggage into the truck to make the journey to Red Boiling Springs, TN. The rain continued until it finally came to a halt around 1:30 P.M. on Saturday. My wife, daughter, and I finally left after loading everything, making the 3-hour journey North. We finally arrived at my daughter’s QTH at approximately 5:00 P.M. My first thing to do was unload the luggage and equipment, then erect my antennas. We arrived later than originally intended.

The first thing I had to do was install my tilt-over antenna plate by driving my truck onto the raising fixture that my son and I had fabricated. I would reserve setting the station up until after dark when I had lights to see inside the garage. See Picture 2 and 3 of the antenna-raising tilt-over plate. Afterwards, with the sun going down, I quickly installed my 180 feet long horizontal dipole onto the raising fixture and raised it in the air. I needed to check out the bands to verify good SWR. With it becoming dark, I realized I needed more time; therefore, it would require me to make antenna checks the following morning only hours from the start of the TNQP, so I would spend an hour inside the garage setting up my station Saturday night.



Pictures 2 & 3: Tilt-over Antenna Raising Fixture

My station consisted of my Yaesu FTDX3000 HF transceiver, Kenwood Power Supply, small mobile antenna tuner, my CT599 Key, and Laptop Computer loaded with N1MM logging software. Picture 4 and 5 shows my operating position. I planned to operate in the Low Power, Single Op, Fixed, CW Category. These are actual photos taken during the TNQP.



Pictures 4 and 5: AC4G Operating Position for TNQP

On Sunday Morning, I was able to lower the antenna, tune the antenna the best I could, and raise the antenna into position for the TNQP. The apex of the antenna was up about ~40 feet. I was able to obtain good SWR readings on 10m, 15m, and 20m. I could not get the low bands to tune with the time left prior to the TNQP. Since I did not have time to continue pruning and tuning on the 40m, 80m, or 160m, I figured I would try using a small antenna tuner later. See Picture 5 of AC4G raising the antenna and Picture 6 of the dipole antenna mounted on the raising fixture.



Picture 5: Raising the Dipole Antenna

Picture 6: The Dipole Antenna at ~40 feet

At 12:00 P.M. Noon, the TNQP began. As I was prepared to begin, the electricity at my daughter's house went out. There was a power outage in the area that lasted until 3:30 P.M. I had not intended to bring a generator believing that commercial power would be all I needed. I finally got on the air and began "running" on 10m. I made one QSO with KA6BIM in Oregon. I continued calling for several minutes, before QSY'ing to 15m. On 15m, I was able to make QSOs with OM2VL, DL3DXX, and other stations. I ended up making 5 QSOs on 15m, before QSY'ing to 20m. On 20m, I was able to make 49 QSOs. I kept calling but felt that 40m and 80m would be more productive.

After QSY'ing to 40m, I tried tuning-up but could not get achieve a decent SWR on the horizontal dipole. At about 5:00 P.M., I decided to pull down the horizontal dipole. I had wire, so I built an inverted-L vertical antenna that I had hoped will tune on 80m and 40m. I lowered the tilt-plate and removed the horizontal dipole. I installed the newly built inverted-L antenna. Picture 7 shows the Inverted-L installed and Picture 8 shows the mechanism used to connect the coax to the inverted-L wire element.



Picture 7: Inverted-L Antenna

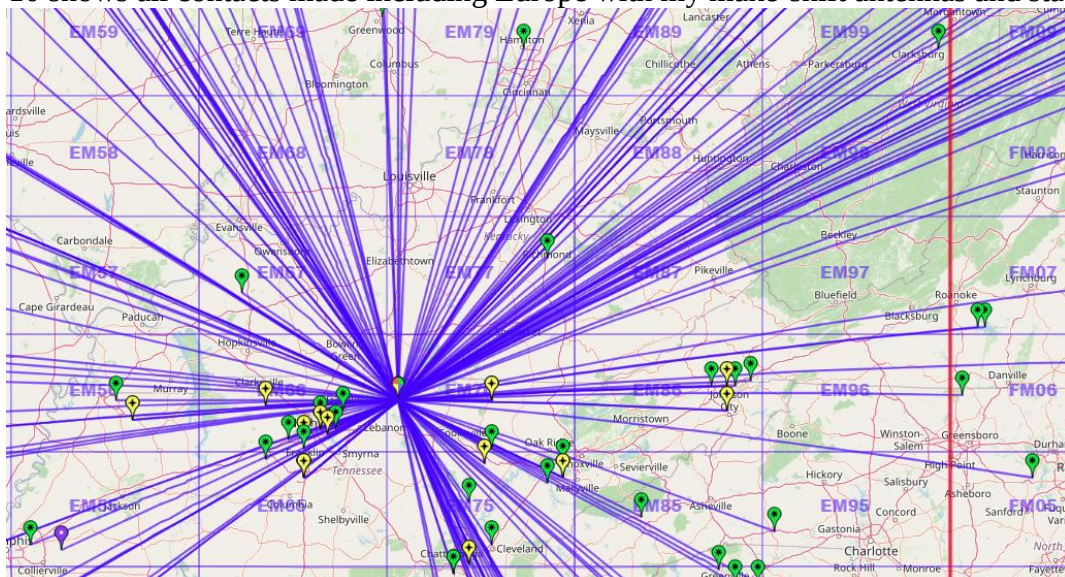


Picture 8: Connection to Inverted-L Element

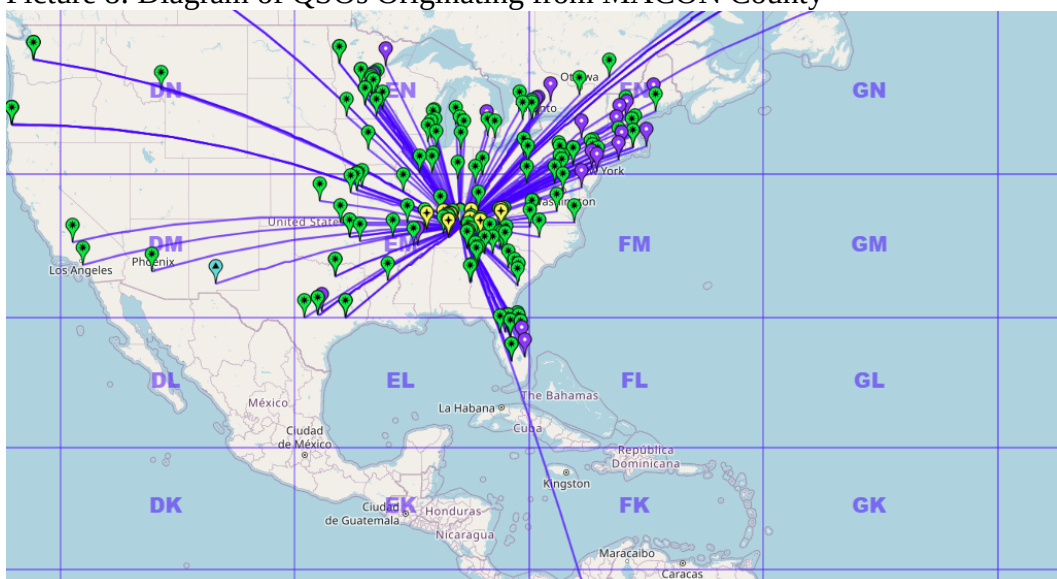
I was able to get back into the TNQP late Sunday afternoon. The Inverted-L antenna was a saving grace for me. I was able to make 147 QSOS on 40m CW as I "ran" most of the time with an output of 100 watts. I sometimes tuned the band for some of the mobiles and other Tennessee stations attempting to collect other counties as multipliers. I was happy to make QSOs with OM2VL, DL3DXX, and a few other European Stations with 599 signals. After chasing a few more multipliers and after the pileups died down, I decide to leave 40m and try 80m.

I moved to 80m and checked 80m for low SWR, but with and without the small tuner, I was unable to adequately tune 80m. However, in a desperation to make 80m QSOs, I went ahead and operated with high SWR making 11 QSOs on 80m with 10 watts output near the end of the TNQP. With concern with the high SWR on the 80m band, I decided to cease operating on this band. Even though I could not operate on 160m, I listened on top band but heard nothing 15 minutes prior to TNQP ending. This is the point I shut down.

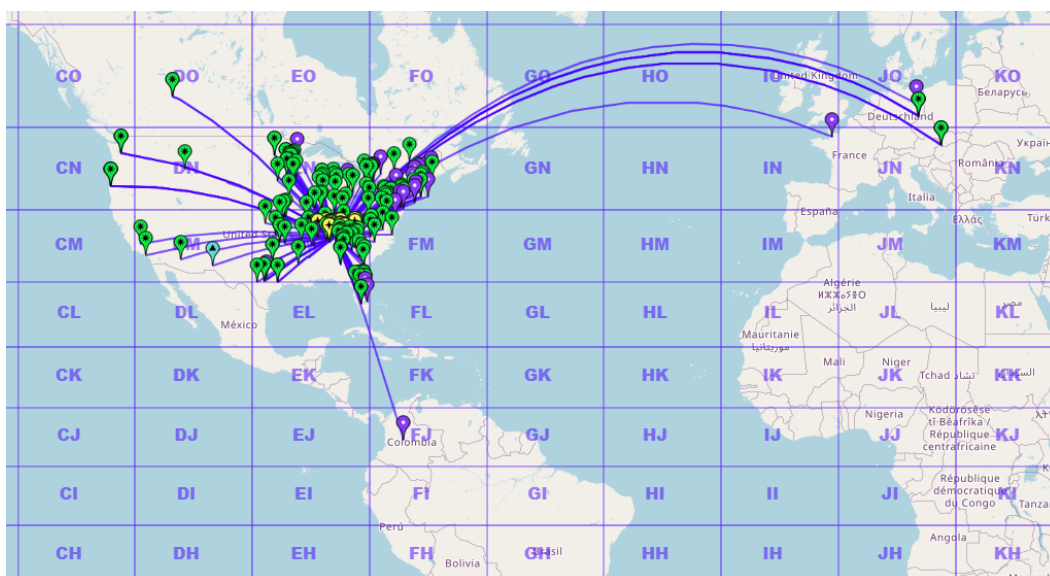
The following pictures show the contacts made throughout the TNQP by my weak station. Picture 8 shows QSOs originating from MACON County. Picture 9 shows QSOs made within North America. Picture 10 shows all contacts made including Europe with my make-shift antennas and station.



Picture 8: Diagram of QSOs Originating from MACON County



Picture 9: Diagram Showing QSOs made with North America



Picture 10: Diagram Showing ALL QSOs Made

I want to thank everyone for the QSOs made, especially QSOS made with my TCG peers and hams in other Tennessee counties. I realize I need to be better prepared in case power fails in the future. I also need to be prepared in case my antennas do not perform or have issues like this year. It is funny what we can achieve in a “McGyver” moment looking through our scrap box and resurrecting a 40m antenna that worked well. After looking at the 3830scores.com web site, I feel happy that I did as well as I did by operating in the Low Power Fixed CW category. Until next Year, thanks for the fun.

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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/tennessecontestgroup>

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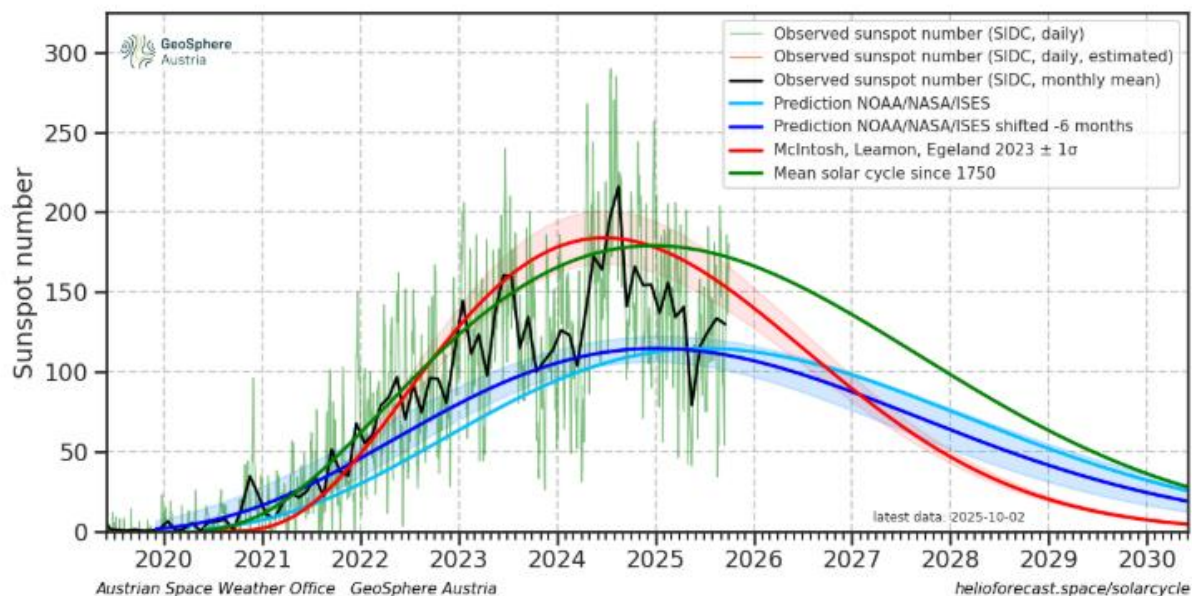
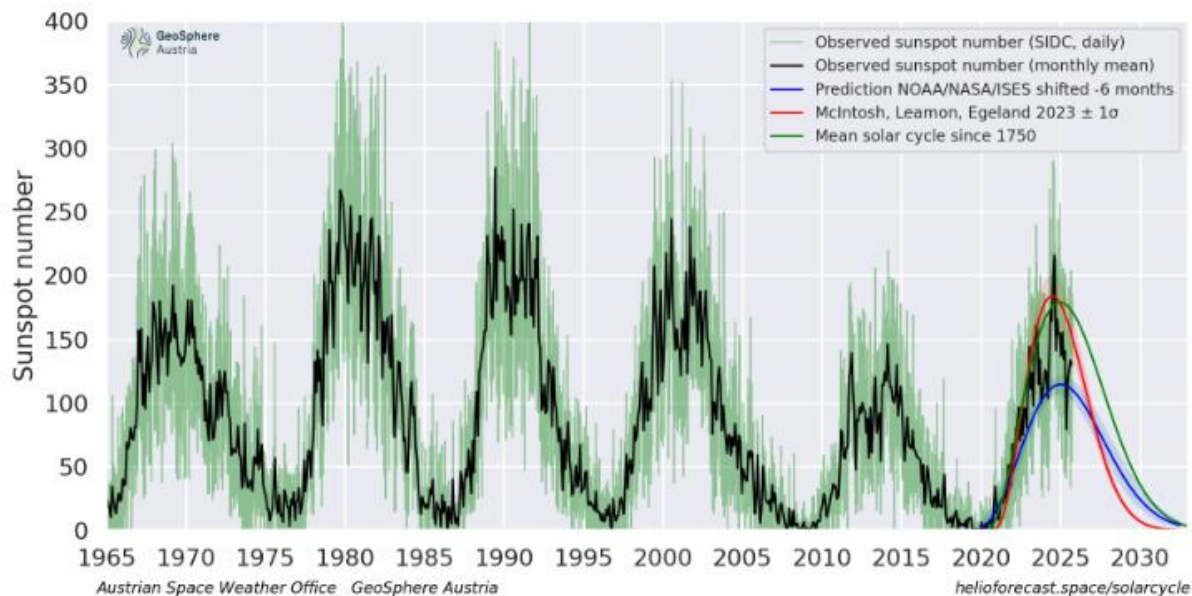
UPCOMING CONTESTS

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 4, 2025	California QSO Party
October 4, 2025	Oceania DX Contest, Phone
October 11, 2025	Arizona QSO Party
October 11, 2025	Makrothen RTTY Contest
October 11, 2025	Nevada QSO Party
October 11, 2025	Oceania DX Contest, CW
October 11, 2025	Pennsylvania QSO Party
October 11, 2025	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB
October 11, 2025	South Dakota QSO Party
October 18, 2025	New York QSO Party
October 18, 2025	Stew Perry Topband Challenge-Oct
October 18, 2025	Worked All Germany Contest
October 19, 2025	Illinois QSO Party
October 25, 2025	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB
November 1, 2025	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW
November 8, 2025	OK/OM DX Contest, CW
November 8, 2025	WAE DX Contest, RTTY
November 15, 2025	ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
November 22, 2025	LZ DX Contest
November 23, 2025	North American Sprint SSB Contest, Nov
November 29, 2025	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW

Progression of solar cycle 25

Sunspot numbers including predictions:



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