



News and Events, (Mid) September 2024 Edition

TENNESSEE QSO PARTY

Per Mike W0AG via our Google group:

- 344 logs received
- 3 entries in the new Rover class
- Over 33,500 QSOs
- Most counties worked – 59

Looks like another good one in the books. We look forward to seeing the write-up and the results on TNQP.org soon.

At the end of this newsletter is a list of operators who participated in TNQP but are not members of the Tennessee Contest Group. If you know any of them, reach out and let them know that their QSO was appreciated, and tell them about us!



AD4EB/m in TNQP: “As many of you know who check my QRZ page, you can track our location using APRS.fi during the contest. But we never considered the fact that we could also be physically followed. When we stopped to get gas in Hardin county, we were totally shocked when a big truck pulled in right behind us and out jumped and NR4L and WV4P (Trina and Ron). We all had a nice visit while we filled up, changed operators, and swapped antennas for 80m. Thanks Trina and Ron, it was a FB surprise!”

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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 August:



Clockwise: K8MR, KV8Q, K3TN, K3LA, AD4EB, Sunday morning after the OHQP. Mobile operations were K8MR/K3LA, KV8Q/AD4EB, K3TN

### WAE DX Contest - CW

#### M/S HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N4SS(@W5MX)			1526	1526	331	46	1,010,212	TCG

#### Single Op HP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K0EJ	SO2R		1147	1146	369	24	846,117	TCG
AD4EB			1191	1191	307	30	731,274	TCG
K3IE			663	657	241	20	319,325	TCG
N8UM			493	491	234	15	230,256	TCG
K1GU			271	270	238	11.8	128,758	TCG
NS4X			201	200	171	5	68,571	TCG
K4RO			249	243	127	4:26	62,730	TCG
W4SSF			76	75	101	5:45	15,150	TCG
AF4T			67	63	78	3.60	10,140	TCG
K3FH			39	38	52	3	4,004	TCG

#### Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	QTCs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
WF7T			163	163	157	6.75	51,182	TCG
W4CMG			271	134	137	08:30	37,124	TCG
N9TF			110	0	148	6	16,280	TCG

### Maryland/DC QSO Party

#### Fixed LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	CW	Qs	Ph	Qs	Dig	Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
N4MCC				0	24	0	9	8.5	482			TCG
WN8Y				0	6	4	4	1	24			TCG

### NAQP, SSB

#### Single Op LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
AD4EB			202	63	4.5	12,726	TCG
W4UT			21	13	1.5	273	TCG

#### Single Op Assisted LP

Call	OpMode	Remote	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Team
N4MCC			212	6	10.00	18,444	TCG
WF7T			200	84	2.5	17,800	TCG
AA4DD			51	29	2	1,479	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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### **How can you use Amateur Extra operating privileges with just a Novice license? – Jack KA4OTB**

Keep reading. I was in the US Air Force and in 1979 I was assigned to Yokota AB, Japan just north of Tokyo. My family and I moved there for a wonderful three-year tour. After getting settled at Yokota I met two pilots in the squadron who were hams. One of the pilots was an acquaintance that I had served with previously. Both of the individuals knew of my interest in radios and told me about a onetime good deal. There was not a reciprocal license agreement between Japan and the United States BUT the US military could issue a Auxiliary Military Radio Authorization license. In order to obtain this authorization, the applicant needed to show proof of technical knowledge, and one of the items included having a Novice or higher license. Both of the hams in the squadron agreed to help me study and get my Novice license. I worked on my code by listening to code tapes and somewhere I got a commercial book that covered the electronic theory I needed. After several months I felt ready to take my exams. Now you old timers will remember that if you wanted to get a Novice license and there were not any FCC locations in your area that a ham with a General class or higher license could administer the test. One of my mentors wrote the FCC and explained the situation and the FCC sent the needed test to him. I took the exams, and my mentor told me I had passed and sent the documentation back to the FCC. I used the address of an aunt in Nashville so I would get a 4 call. My aunt forwarded the letter from the FCC to me, and I got the call KA4OTB. My military authorization call was KA2FE. So, with my Novice license and my KA2FE call I was able to get on the air and use all the frequencies allocated to an Amateur Extra licensee.

When my Japan tour was over, we returned to the United States and when I got off of the airplane I turned into a toad and was restricted to just the Novice frequencies. I got busy and studied for the Technician exam which I passed at an FCC exam session in Little Rock, AR. At least now I could at least get on the air using one of the local repeaters. All my HF equipment was in temporary storage, but I did not slow down so when the FCC came to town again it took and passed both the General and Advance class licenses, which got me back on HF.

I had one more step to go so I studied for the Amateur Extra exam which I passed in 1992. After I retired from the Air Force my wife and I moved to Brentwood TN. I was very active in the Williamson County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (WCARES) and was also a member of the Nashville VE Team. I eventually learned about the TCG and started participating in contests and listing TCG as my radio club. I never reached the quality or quantity of some of the "Big Guns" but nevertheless I enjoyed playing in the contests.

We have two daughters living in AR and another one living in KS. They had been encouraging us to move back to AR to be close to them, so in August 2021 my wife and I made the move here. I still try to participate in some of the contests and I am really happy when I make contact with a TCG member.

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### **WRTC-2026 TENT SPONSORSHIP, A REMINDER**

WRTC-2026 is looking for contest clubs to sponsor operator tents. A WRTC tent sponsorship involves a non-trivial amount of funding, well in excess of a thousand dollars. Many TCG members would like to sponsor a tent collectively as a club. While this significant expenditure may not appear to directly provide much benefit to TCG, WRTC is a very high-profile event which has the potential to expose a world-wide audience to the joys of radiosport. TCG has been a supporter of WRTC tents going back to WRTC-2014 in

New England. We would like to continue the tradition of supporting WRTC. If you would like to contribute to TCG WRTC-2026 tent sponsorship, you may send a check to K0EJ, or use the TCG PayPal address: [tcgtreasury53@gmail.com](mailto:tcgtreasury53@gmail.com)

Be sure to memo your check or PayPal transaction with “WRTC-2026 tent contribution.” Thanks for your support of WRTC-2026!

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### DUES

Speaking of money, are you up-do-date with your dues? Do you need help navigating the HamClubOnline? Pop us a message via the Google Group (<https://groups.google.com/u/1/g/tcg1>) and we can assist!

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### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Brian W4BJB and Billy KE4CMA. We appreciate your joining the group. Please reach out to the membership if you have questions.

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.

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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 AD4EB for this list, and to Ted W4NZ for administering the TCG Most Radioactive Award.

September 1, 2024	Tennessee QSO Party
September 7, 2024	All Asian DX Contest, Phone
September 7, 2024	CWOps CW Open
September 8, 2024	North American Sprint, CW Sep
September 14, 2024	ARRL September VHF Contest
September 14, 2024	WAE DX Contest, SSB
September 21, 2024	New Hampshire QSO Party
September 21, 2024	New Jersey QSO Party
September 21, 2024	Texas QSO Party
September 21, 2024	Washington State Salmon Run
September 21, 2024	Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW
September 21, 2024	Iowa QSO Party
September 22, 2024	North American Sprint, RTTY Sep
September 23, 2024	144 MHz Fall Sprint
September 28, 2024	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY
September 28, 2024	Maine QSO Party
October 5, 2024	California QSO Party
October 5, 2024	Oceania DX Contest, Phone
October 12, 2024	Arizona QSO Party
October 12, 2024	Makrothen RTTY Contest
October 12, 2024	Nevada QSO Party
October 12, 2024	Oceania DX Contest, CW
October 12, 2024	Pennsylvania QSO Party
October 12, 2024	Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB



October 12, 2024	South Dakota QSO Party
October 19, 2024	New York QSO Party
October 19, 2024	Stew Perry Topband Challenge-Oct
October 19, 2024	Worked All Germany Contest
October 20, 2024	Illinois QSO Party
October 26, 2024	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB

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## **TENNESSEE QSO PARTY OPERATION BY K4TCG, HAMILTON COUNTY – Ted W4NZ**

*Bonus Station, Supported by Tennessee Valley DX Association*

The Tennessee QSO Party (TQP) is an annual operating event sponsored by the Tennessee Contest Group (TCG). It takes place on either the first or second Sunday of September which is traditionally Labor Day weekend. 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.

Again this year, Mark offered us the opportunity to use his contest station located on Mowbray Mountain to enter the TQP as a multi-operator, multi-transmitter, high power entry. Making this extra special was the fact that he had secured the approval from the TCG officers to use the club call, K4TCG. Thank you, Mark! For the TQP, the K4TCG call sign is used by the only designated “bonus station” in the party. That meant the QSO’s with K4TCG were worth 100 points each rather than the usual 3 points for all other QSO’s. As you might imagine, we were very popular!

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.

To achieve these goals, we set up three stations:

Station 1 was Mark’s Flex 6600M with two amps. It was configured in an SO2R (Single Operator, 2 Radio) arrangement which allowed monitoring a second band while operating on another. We put this to good use at the start while operating on 15M and watching for activity on 10M. This station had available the 3-high stack of 6 element 10 meter monoband yagis and the 2-high stack of 5 element 15meter yagis.

Station 2 was my Flex 6600M plus an amp which early on was primarily responsible for covering 20 meters CW and SSB. Antennas on this station were the 2- 5 element 20 meter yagis. This band was productive for almost the entire contest.

Station 3 was my Elecraft K3 set up in the kitchen area. It was barefoot at 100 watts. This radio covered 40 meters CW and SSB in the early part of the contest and was later moved briefly to 80M CW and then to 160M CW. Its antennas were a 40 meter, rotatable dipole and a 160 meter inverted-L.

Our intrepid operating team consisted of: Mark K0EJ, Gary K4VIG, Billy KE4CMA, Clayton KJ4YLR, Karen KX4KM, Ted W4NZ, Bill W4XK, Corey W4ZHA and Bryan W5MX. Paul, WA4AA, dropped by for a visit and provided moral support!

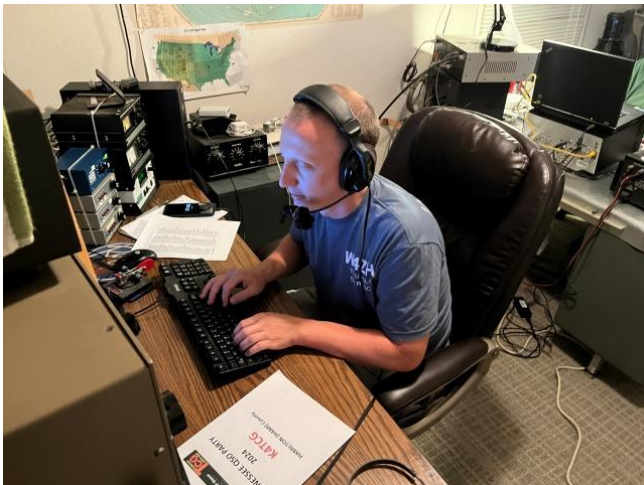
Bryan and Clayton drove down from Kentucky just to help us operate the TQP. Bryan had participated in multi-ops with Mark and I before.

So, with all this hardware and great operators, how'd we do? Take a look (*Last year's score: 1,324,440*):

Band	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults
160:	23			17
80:	134	43		56
40:	227	339		97
20:	247	432		70
15:	101	28		47
10:	30	71		26
6:				
2:		2		2
222:				
432:				
<b>Total:</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>315</b>
				<b>Total Score 1,584,765</b>

A few interesting facts...we worked:

- 1,130 unique stations
- 14 DXCC entities
- 50 Tennessee counties
- 48 states (yes, we missed AK and HI)
- 6 VE provinces.



Corey W4ZHA at Station 1



Bill W4XK at Station 2



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.





Left to right: Clayton KJ4YLR, Bryan W5MX and Billy KE4CMA



Mark K0EJ at Station 3, having a good time!

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## PARTIAL EMISSIONS

Well, that's what we got for this month. Some good contests are coming up in the remainder of this month. Hope everyone stays healthy and happy, and thanks in advance for the Q's! Be sure to send me your news and pictures for the next one!

73 — Brad WF7T

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## LAGNIAPPE (a little something extra)

**DO YOU KNOW THESE HAMS?** Below is a list of operators in TN who participated in TNQP but are not currently among our ranks. If you know them, consider asking them to join the Tennessee Contest Group.

AD4GG	KG4LIO	KQ4KMI	W0RBG
AJ4SB	KG4NIT	KQ4KQS	W2MBZ
K4ARN	KI4ZZJ	KQ4OVD	W4IH
K4CVD	KJ4KVC	KQ4QEV	W4JEL
K4KYN	KK4HSJ	KQ4UNE	W4MF
K4SKT	KM4AEM	KR4EE	W4WX
K4TZ	KM4EUG	KT4MJM	W4YJ
K4VOZ	KM4IYW	KT4RH	WA4CDM
K4VVA	KO4DFO	N2BFD	WA4TTP
KA4AIB	KO4DNR	N2IDK	WA4WZR
KA4SCV	KO4EVE	N4FV	WB0CJB
KC3SBO	KO4JJR	N4PWG	WB2QJ
KD4LT	KO4LMK	N4TLB	WB3JKQ
KD9MQV	KQ4CC	N9XC	WB4E
KE4MRX	KQ4FBF	NG9X	WB4IME
KE4VRM	KQ4FUM	NQ4Y	WB8WDO
KF4TY	KQ4KIH	NS4E	WD4PTJ

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