

# Results of the 2023 CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest

## Top-Band Contesting During Less-Than-Optimal Conditions, Both On the Air and Off

BY ANDY BLANK,\* N2NT

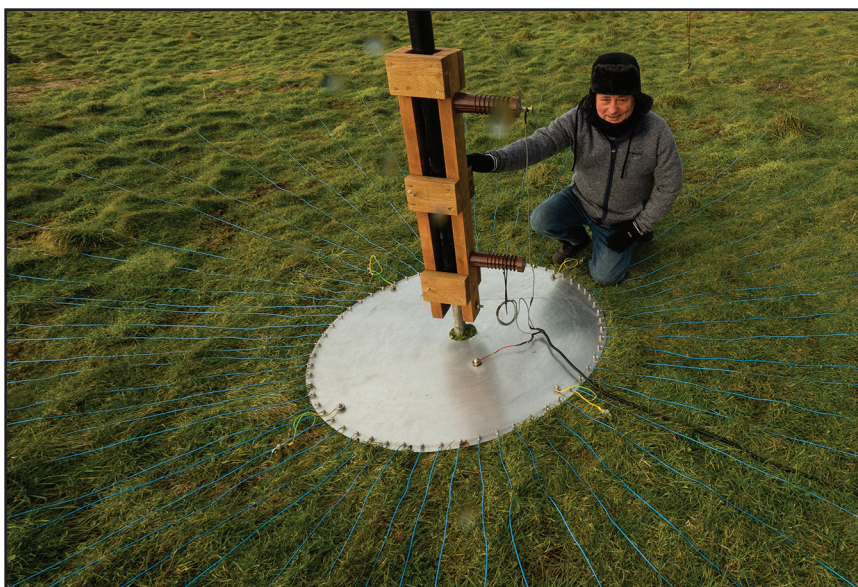


Bob Beebe, GU4YOX, as MJ5E just before contest start.

The 2023 CQ 160 CW Contest, along with all other amateur contests, suffered this year from the Ukraine/Russia war. Log participation was way down as well, and this is due partially to the approaching solar maximum in Cycle 25 as well as the war.

Traditionally, we are now charting the log activity from prior years; this will be shown below. Participation was down slightly from 2022, and only nine stations were able to break 1 million points, which was down from 13 stations last year. SSB conditions were depressed again, similar to 2022. The highest score was from I5JVA, with 446K.

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The MJ5E Topband vertical antenna radial plate with 2400 meters of radials. Check out the MJ5E van.



Below is a comparison of logs submitted since 2015, with the peak year being in 2021.

### CW Results

Conditions had the typical high sunspot signature, with high absorption for long haul propagation. Geography played a big part in the ability to make a good score, and specifically if you were centrally located between high density areas of activity, it was the only way to make a big score. Witness the scores from Wales, Jersey, African Italy and Labrador for examples of this.

The Millionaires Club was quite small again this year, with only the following entries breaking the barrier. All of these were CW scores. Congratulations to the

team at IG9/S59A for the highest score in the entire contest.

IG9/S59A	1,664,970
PJ2T	1,252,320
P40AA	1,202,571
P33W	1,165,682
VO2AC	1,126,800
E7DX	1,072,375
MW5B	1,067,664
S50C	1,030,302
MJ5E	1,004,435

Only MJ5E was able to accomplish the Millionaire's Club Single op unassisted! Congratulations to Bob Beebe, GU4YOX on this amazing job (see photo)!

There were also several noteworthy winners from 2022, although not necessarily in the same category. Congratulations to the following stations as repeat "contenders."

essarily in the same category. Congratulations to the following stations as repeat "contenders."

NA8V	K1LT	ND8DX
CR3W	KD4D	4L2M
KH7A	N0NI	ED8W
JH4UYB	K1LZ	OK1LRD
ZM4T	NA7TB	S54ZZ
K7NJ	VE3MGY	HG8DX

In the highly competitive multi-op category, aside from the team at IG9/S59A who ran away with the high score, there were three very close results.

VO2AC	1,126,800
E7DX	1,072,375
S50C	1,030,302

Special shout-out to VO2AC and VE3KG, who annually make the trek to a lighthouse on the coast of Labrador. They fought the elements in a Field Day-style operation, to make the highest score from North America. We decided to award them a trophy this year as well for their outstanding effort!

The most interesting story is the operation of Bob Beebe, GU4YOX, from MJ5E, mentioned earlier in the article. Bob managed the number 1 single-op unassisted score in the world. Here are some comments directly from Bob.

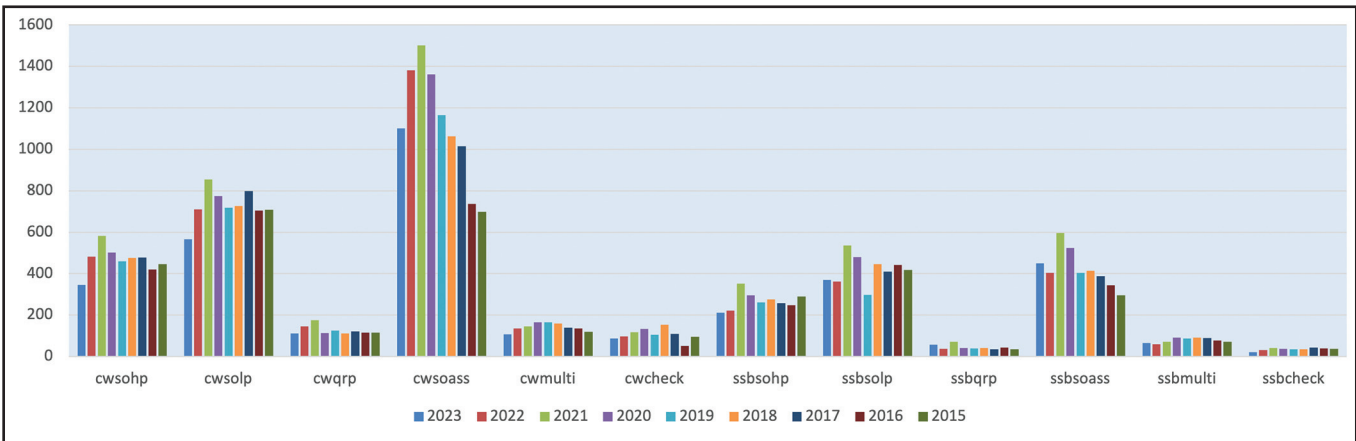
"The only British winner of CQWW 160 CW HP was Ron Stone, GW3YDX in 1989 and 1985, which was 34 years ago. That's a long time. Previously, GM3IGW/A in 1965 and G3GRL in 1964 (200 Qs). This is the first ever win for the Channel Islands. Ron became SK in 2023 and my win is dedicated to the memory of Ron."

There was a feature article in the May/June issue of the *National Contest Journal* about Bob's operation. Here is an excerpt to put it into perspective:

"I thought I would try a Field-Day style operation to try to improve my 160 con-

Year	CWSOHP	CWSOLP	CWQRP	CWSOASS	CWMULTI	CWCHECK
2023	346	566	112	1101	107	88
2022	482	711	146	1381	135	98
2021	583	854	175	1502	146	118
2020	501	775	113	1362	166	134
2019	459	719	125	1166	166	105
2018	475	727	112	1064	160	153
2017	478	798	122	1014	139	110
2016	420	705	115	737	135	51
2015	446	709	116	698	119	96

Year	SSBSOHP	SSBSOLP	SSBQRP	SSBSOASS	SSBMULTI	SSBCHECK
2023	212	369	58	450	65	21
2022	221	362	38	404	59	32
2021	352	537	71	596	71	42
2020	295	480	42	524	92	38
2019	261	298	39	403	87	35
2018	276	446	41	413	91	36
2017	258	409	36	387	90	44
2016	247	441	44	343	77	39
2015	290	418	35	295	72	37





test performance. I managed to lay 1,000 meters (3,281 feet) of ground radials under the vertical transmit antenna and installed a couple of 200-foot Beverage-on-Ground (BOG) receive antennas. The station was operated from a wooden summer house, which turned out to be particularly cold.

The physical effort in setting up a portable 160-meter station takes its toll, but with the island being small, if I forgot or needed anything, it was a short trip home to pick anything up. I did quite well in the contest, but after some reflection, I decided to make a more ambitious effort. My focus was to

put an even greater effort into the 2023 CQ WW 160 CW, and that it would be a Field Day-style contest expedition to Jersey, where I would use MJ5E.

It was a great contest expedition trip, full of apprehension and trepidation before leaving and all the detailed planning that went into it, but it seemed to work for everyone who made a QSO with MJ5E. Since the contest, I have received many QSL requests and letters from ops who said they'd waited decades for GJ to be on 160 competitively, so I am pleased my efforts made helped others."

## PLAQUE WINNERS AND DONORS

### COMBINED SSB/CW TROPHIES

**World Single Operator Combined SSB/CW**  
Peter Briggs, K3ZM  
Donor: Ed Parish, K1EP

**World Multioperator Combined SSB/CW**  
Station HG8DX  
(HA8DJ HA8DZ HA8DU HA8FM HA8KW HA8JV)  
Donor: Juan Carlos Munoz, TG9AJR

### CW TROPHIES

#### SINGLE OPERATOR

**World**  
Bob Beebe (GU4YOX), MJ5E  
Donor: DJ8WL Memorial by Bill Tippet, W4ZV

**U.S.A.**  
Peter Briggs, K3ZM  
Donor: Milt Jensen, N5IA, Memorial by Arizona Outlaws Contest Club

**Canada**  
Vlad Milutinovic, VE3JM  
Donor: Mike Wetzel W9RE

**U.S.A. - Zone 3**  
Frank Fusari, W8KA  
Donor: Bruce Butler – W6OSP Memorial

**U.S.A. - Zone 4**  
Greg Chapoton, NA8V  
Donor: Steve Schmidt, K4WA

**U.S.A. - Zone 5**  
Jon Zaimes, AA1K  
Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR, and Sandy Raeker, N0QQ

**Africa**  
Ulf Ehrlich (DL5AXX)  
Station CR3W  
Donor: James "Skip" Riba, WS9V

**Asia**  
Muhammad Al Hashash, 9K2NO  
Donor: Missouri DX/Contest Club, K4SX

**Europe**  
Tibor Szabo (OM5WW), OM5R  
Donor: Emir-Braco Memic, E77DX

**South America**  
Mathias Kolpe DL4MM, P40AA  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**Oceania**  
AKITO NAGI (JA5DQH), KH7A  
Donor: Steve "Sid" Caesar - NH7C

**Japan**  
Masaki Okano, JH4UYB  
Donor: Alabama Contest Group

**North America**  
Philip Allardice (KT3Y), KP2M  
Donor: N4IN Memorial CQ Magazine

**Southern Hemisphere**  
Holger Hannemann (ZL3IO), ZM4T  
Donor: Robert Kile, W7RH

**World Assisted**  
Jeff Maass (K8ND), PJ2T  
Donor: Andy Chesnokov, UA3AB

**Asia Assisted**  
Igor Booklan (RA3AUU), P33W  
Donor: Jon Zaimes, AA1K

**Europe Assisted**  
Ian Pritchard (G3WVG), MW5B  
Donor: Bill Salyers, AJ8B

**U.S.A. Assisted**  
Michael Schwartzman, AB3CX  
Donor: Akito Nagi, JA5DQH

**U.S.A. Assisted – Zone 3**  
Riki Kline, K7NJ  
Donor: Larry Pace, N7DD

**U.S.A. Assisted – Zone 4**  
Victor A. Kean, Jr., K1LT  
Donor: Pete Michaelis, N8TR

**U.S.A. Assisted – Zone 5**  
Dennis Egan, N1LN  
Donor: Potomac Valley Radio Club

**World Low Power**  
Brian Campbell, VE3MGY  
Donor: Akito Nagi, JA5DQH

**U.S.A. Low Power**  
Mark Bailey, KD4D  
Donor: Rich Kennedy, N4ESS

**Asia – Low Power**  
Kunishige Shimokawa, JA6BZI  
Donor: Robert Kile, W7RH

**Europe Low Power**  
Todor Diamandiev, LZ4TX  
Donor: DL1RK Memorial Petr Ourednik, OK1RP

**Canada Low Power**  
Ric Guidone, VE3XL  
Donor: Contest Club Ontario

**World QRP**  
Rudolf Ruffer, DK7HA  
Donor: EU1AA Memorial by Ilya Semichastnov, R3XA/4L9M

**U.S.A. QRP**  
Toni Fladebaugh, N0NI  
Donor: Bob Raymond, WA1Z

**Europe QRP**  
Vlada Sladek, OL1A  
Donor: Peter Voelpel, DJ7WW

### MULTI-OPERATOR

**World**  
Drago Turin, IG9/S59A  
(S59A S57DX S54W S51V S52OT S500 ops)  
Donor: Paul Newberry, N4PN Memorial (by N4RJ)

**U.S.A.**  
Krassy Petkov K1LZ  
(K1LZ K3JO NA1NA ops)  
Donor: W0CD Memorial (by K8GG and W8UVZ)

**U.S.A. Zone 3**  
Station NA7TB  
(KY7M AA7A N7NR K9DR ops)  
Donor: Tom Whitted, N7GP

**Europe**  
Emir Memic, E7DX  
(E76C E77DX E77EA ops)  
Donor: Bob Evans, K5WA

**ASIA**  
Izumi Yoichi, JA3YBK  
(JG3KIV, JG3MRT, JG3WDN ops)  
Donor: Nodir Tursoon-Zadeh, EY8MM

**Canada**  
Chris Allingham, VO2AC  
(VO2AC VE3KG ops)  
Donor: John Crovelli, W2GD

### SSB TROPHIES

#### SINGLE OPERATOR

**World**  
Carlo Bavecchi, I5JVA  
Donor: Nodir Tursoon-Zadeh, EY8MM

**U.S.A.**  
Krassy Petkov, K1LZ  
Donor: Dr. Scott Wright, K0MD

**Canada**  
Brian Campbell, VE3MGY  
Donor: Tom Haavisto, VE3CX

**U.S.A. - Zone 3**  
Frank Fusari, W8KA  
Donor: Nate Moreschi, N4YDU

**U.S.A. - Zone 4**  
Karl Brandt, ND8DX  
Donor: Alabama Contest Group

**U.S.A. - Zone 5**  
Peter Briggs, K3ZM  
Donor: CQ 160 Contest Committee

**Asia**  
Mamuka Kordzakhia, 4L2M  
Donor: Ron Lowrance, K4SX

**Europe**  
LJUBO PINTAR, S53O  
Donor: James "Skip" Riba, WS9V

**Africa**  
Manuel Angel Martin Brito (EA8DO), ED8W  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**North America**  
Gerry Hull, ZF2VE  
Donor: CQ magazine – K2EEK Memorial

**South America**  
Sergio Lima de Almeida, PP5JR  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**Oceania**  
Ronald Tremayne  
VK3IO  
Donor: Steve "Sid" Caesar - NH7C

Here are some comments from the single op leaders to bring the contest into perspective:

Perennial USA winner Peter Briggs, K3ZM has some interesting comments as usual; pay particular attention to the last sentence!

*"I was able to work well to the west coast both nights and got two or three KH6's Friday night, then a VK6 at my sun-*

*rise Saturday morning. No JA yet. Never heard KL7QOW. At bedtime after the first night, my totals were as follows: 551,667 points 1,031 QSOs 56 Countries 57 States/Provinces. I had worked 320 EUs. Back on the air on Saturday at 2110Z and made 25 contacts the first hour. After that, the hourly total stayed around 30 to 40 for about nine hours. I was hoping to get close to 1,400 QSOs. A trip up the band during Saturday evening yielded a decent stream of EU contacts. I added 120 EUs the second night for a total of about 440, which is a pretty good result. Sunday morning was a grind after EU sunrise but it had a happy ending with two more VK6s and two JAs at my sunrise. Very grateful to the XYL for setting up my new WinKeyer and WinTest software. Maybe it's also time to discard my rotary telephone."*

Riki Tucek, OM7RU, using the contest call OM7K to #10 in the world had this interesting experience:

*"I spent weeks before the contest constructing a 5-circle RX vertical array (VE6WZ/W1FV concept). The electrical*

*part was optimised and tuned by Bel Ritzko, OM8AW (antenna guru of OMØM). The verticals provided outstanding performance, back and side signals are extremely suppressed. So, I was looking forward to the live test in the contest. It lasted 2.5 hours, then silence from all directions. One improper PTT sequencer setting caused a short, but fatal, peak towards the preamps. Two out of 6 were burned... Fortunately, I still have the K9AY RX array in the air. Conditions looked fine at the beginning, first night with a good opening to NA. There was no opening to the east on Saturday evening. The second night was worse, only a 2-hour NA opening in the morning, weaker than the first night. 69 W/VE in total. Fortunately, I was in the right place at the right time on Sunday evening. A nice eastern opening put 14 JAs in the log!"*

Long time Topband contester and DXer Jon Zaines, AA1K, had the following experiences:

*"Murphy struck early this year. Old age caught up with my K3LR parasitic*

**Southern Hemisphere**  
Yohanes Budhiono, YB2DX  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**World Assisted**  
Rolandas Jokubauskas, LY4A  
Donor: K9HMB Memorial by Ray Sokola, K9RS

**Asia Assisted**  
Husamettin Aksogut, TA3NE  
Donor: Chuck Dietz, W5PR

**Europe Assisted**  
Vlado Ludrovsky, OM3TWM  
Donor: Curtis Rose, N2ZX

**U.S.A. Assisted**  
Bud Foster, K4ISV  
Donor: Pete Michaelis, N8TR

**U.S.A. Assisted - Zone 4**  
Phil Baldwin, N0PB  
Donor: Pete Michaelis, N8TR

**World Low Power**  
Brian Campbell, VE3MGY  
Donor: Steve Molo, K14KWR

**U.S.A. Low Power**  
Gregory Poel (W8GP), WN8HCV  
Donor: Tim Duffy, K3LR and Sandy Raeker, N0QQ

**Europe Low Power**  
Vaclav Urban, OK1LRD  
Donor: Contest Club Ontario

**Assisted Europe Low Power**  
Simon Kopmajer, S54ZZ  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

**Canada Low Power**  
Kevin Smith, VA3AC  
Donor: Rudy Bakalov, N2WQ

**World QRP**  
Jeff Briggs, K1ZM  
Donor: John Rodgers, WE3C

#### MULTI-OPERATOR

**World**  
Drago Turin, S59A  
(S51V S56DX S57DX S57UN S59A ops)  
Donor: Rev. Paul Bittner, W0AIH Memorial by WB9Z and NV9L

**U.S.A.**  
Steve Kostro, N2CEI  
(K4SME K0DI N2CEI ops)  
Donor: Jerry Rosalius, WB9Z, and Val Hotzfeld, NV9L

**Europe**  
Station HG8DX  
(HA8DJ HA8DZ HA8DU HA8FM HA8KW ops)  
Donor: South Jersey DX Association, N2CW

**USA Zone 3**  
Station K6YA  
(KA6MZE AA6XV W4NJK KN6QI ops)  
Donor: Paulo, PV8DX



One of the mainstay ops at K3LR on 10 meters, George Gross, N3GJ, takes some time to try his hand on 160.

transmit vertical array after 25 years. Numerous repairs a few days before the contest made it operational but still it wasn't right. The single driven element worked just fine in omni mode. Then on Thursday I discovered a broken wire at the T top of one of the elements on my other transmit array, a broadside/end-fire setup of 4 elements. No time to fix it until Friday morning, so I did a climb to 70 feet, cutting into my pre-contest rest period. After my nap, I walked barefoot into our laundry room an hour before the bell and stepped into puddles of water. The washing machine had sprung a leak inside somewhere. So I spent a half hour mopping up all the water instead of doing final checks of the station."

Number 2 USA Multi Op N2AA (W2GD, et. al.) also chimed in with a tale of Murphy's woe.

"We apologize to our EU friends for being almost deaf the first night. It became obvious within minutes of the start our EU Beverage (two 310-meter-long elements phased) had catastrophically failed. In searching for an alternative RX solution, we discovered the low dipole strung in tree branches 8 feet off the ground (an antenna we rarely use) was capable of hearing most callers, including EU. Signals were way down, but it was something to work with overnight. We logged 231 ten-point contacts, mostly EU, using the dipole. Saturday night, the EU Beverage worked perfectly but the band didn't cooperate. Compounding our reception problems, the Hi-Z Four system was inoperative and unavailable as a back-up or for diversity reception. Despite nearly 20 man hours of diagnostic effort with added guidance from K7TJR spread over multiple site visits, we could not find the reason the system had low signal output."

By the way, N2AA and K3LR had their usual battle, swapping places this year.

N2AA ..... 709,341  
K3LR ..... 705,789

The four regular operators of K3LR (Tim plus John Golomb, N2NC; Phillip Koch, K3UA, and George Gross, N3GJ) used just one radio and one op at a time. This is truly a testament to the capabilities of Tim's great station.

Also, in the "I worked the CQ 160 from a famous multi-multi station" category was Mark Bailey, KD4D, operating Low Power from W3LPL. Mark made 331K points, good enough for #4 in the world!

If you have ever thought about operating the CQ 160 contest, but just don't

have the room for a good antenna; check out the interesting story of Chris Bowne, AJ1G/M, who made 229 QSOs from his truck! Congratulations Chris!

"Operated strictly as a mobile from Stonington Point, Connecticut, overlooking Block Island Sound, Fisher's Island Sound, and the eastern end of Long Island Sound. This is the fourth 160-meter CW contest I operated in this season as a mobile from this location. It's been lot of fun tilting at windmills with a very small jousting lance! Finally made a QSO with Hawaii, KH6AQ, mahalo nui, we did it this time! My mobile station consists of an Icom 7100 putting 100 watts into a repurposed 1960s-vintage 2-MHz marine radio boat whip, 12.54 feet in length, center loaded

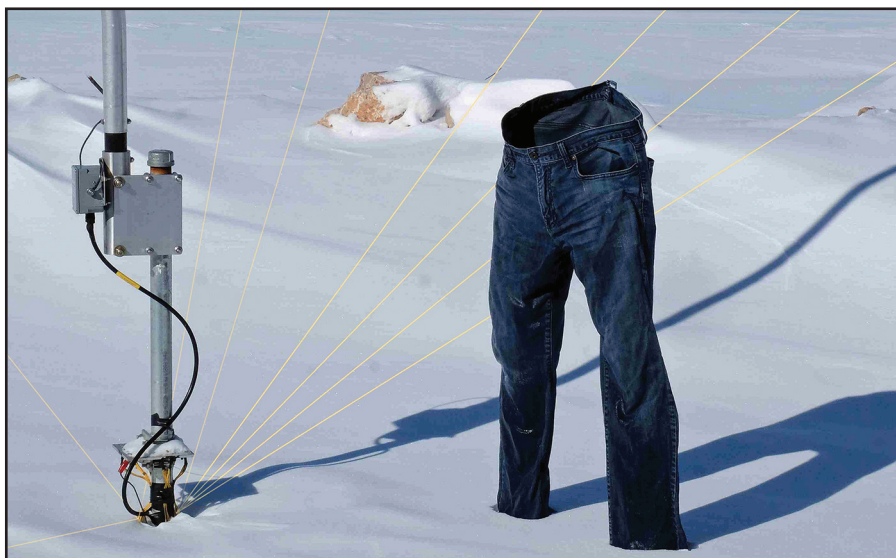
with a 30-inch-long small diameter solenoid-wound coil similar to that of a Hamstick, most likely was a Shakespeare Wonder Rod. The antenna is mounted on the left rear corner of a 2012 Tacoma 4x4 pickup. A small adjustable LC network at the base provides matching for use on 160 meters. No external radials were used, only the truck body is used for the counterpoise to keep it a true mobile."

And yet another portable operation was done by Steve Harrison, KØXP, making 281 QSOs from his trailer as well:

"I had forgotten how much fun the CQ WW 160 CW contest is. I had technical issues with both my trailer and the radio/computer setup, so was not able



Here is the very neat shack of SOLP CW entrant Fred Sanborn, KG9X. Fred can be heard in almost every CW event!



With a feed system inspired by K7SS, 'Stu' Hoar, N7ZZ's vertical froze him out of his pants.

to get on until Saturday night. Imagine my surprise when several Europeans popped up during their gray line at 0430, and I was even able to work them with my makeshift, low inverted L, from the SoCal desert! "

Howie Naugle, K1TZQ, returned to the band after a long sabbatical to amass 716 QSOs. He said:

"This was a real blast! My first 160-meter contest since returning in 2020 from 35 years of inactivity. My present location has zoning limitations on towers, and the area lacks trees of useful height to put up an effective 160-meter antenna. A very good friend, John King, WA1ABI(SK), once said to me any antenna is better than no antenna, so I built a helically-wound 25-foot vertical for this band. I had no idea how this compromise antenna would do...I was pleasantly surprised."

The top score from European Italy was the 2-man team of Luca Babolin, IK2PFL, and Stefano Galli, IK2JUB, at IQ2CJ.

"This year we participated as MS, just two full time ops, running a main RTX and an inband. First night closed with 750 QSOs, very promising. But the second day and the following night were very, very slow. Propagation toward far-

east was one of the worst, only JA4UYB worked 1h before his sunrise. Nothing else heard at our station. On the other side, good opening to NA both nights, had in log 210 USA, 22 VE; heard N6JV for some time, but we weren't heard in CA. Most QSOs in our log are with DL:

237, Italians: only 66. Overall, a little below the expectations, but we had great fun anyway!"

And interestingly, the #3 Multi Op team in the world at S50C was also a portable operation. But this one is a bit more complicated than the others.



Gil Lappay, 4F2KWT, looks very comfortable at his bedside station!

"Another great Team C effort with UFB live score competition with E7DX and others, hats off! Station built over two weeks (several afternoons) and will be fully dismantled after 3Y and ARRL CW operation. 1xFTDX101d 2xFTDX10, 1xTS590SG + 3na1 QSO generator with QRO and for CW skimmers 2x Perseus, 1x QS1R and Red Pitaya in public domain."

The next time you complain about conditions at your QTH, think about the story of Fred Klein, KS7T who made 129 QSOs from lonely northern Montana:

"What else besides operate a contest can a guy do at 31 below zero (F)? No, I didn't stay up all night, had to get under the warm covers sometimes. Besides, the horrible propagation due to ongoing negative polarity events on the sun caused openings to be short, plenty of QSB and alligators."

And of special note was Ron Fitch, WQ6X, operating QRP from WA6TQT's fine but slightly broken station. Ron managed 154 QSOs.

"This was a last-minute 'find some time to run QRP' exercise. This was my 2nd 160-meter QRP operation from the WA6TQT Super Station in ANZA. I had access to a crippled 3-Square vertical array that was STUCK in the N-E direction. I appreciate everyone's patience with my WEAK signal. I'm beginning to get the hang of this QRP-thaing."

## SSB Results

Conditions once again were very similar to 2022, with very depressed propagation for long haul. Anyone who stuck it out deserves accolades, it was tough sledding. The highest score was only 446K from Carlo Bavecchi, 15JVA, just a bit higher than Carlo's 2022 score of 418K. The next high-

## 2023 CQWW 160M CONTEST CLUB SCORES

(Minimum of 3 three entries required for listing)

SCORE	#ENTRIES	CLUB	SCORE	#ENTRIES	CLUB
25,708,654	244	BAVARIAN CONTEST CLUB	267,275	3	CS PETROLUL PLOIESTI
10,757,579	149	POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	245,788	3	SP-CW-C
10,210,457	102	FRANKFORD RADIO CLUB	234,597	10	NORTHEAST MARYLAND AMATEUR RADIO CONTEST SOCIETY
8,716,933	93	YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB			CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION
6,151,728	45	CONTEST CLUB ONTARIO	198,273	5	ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION
4,669,749	67	RHEIN RUHR DX ASSOCIATION	195,247	10	KANSAS CITY CONTEST CLUB
3,640,759	84	SOCIETY OF MIDWEST CONTESTERS	166,409	4	WILLAMETTE VALLEY DX CLUB
3,612,573	27	SP DX CLUB	155,708	9	HSC
3,561,379	44	ITALIAN CONTEST CLUB	152,889	3	RIIHIMAEN KOLMOSET
3,497,771	17	CROATIAN CONTEST CLUB	152,042	3	LA CONTEST CLUB
3,233,811	13	BALTIC CONTEST CLUB	151,143	3	TEXAS DX SOCIETY
3,136,507	20	MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB	149,593	4	IVANOVO DX CLUB
2,731,349	10	BELOKRANJEC CONTEST CLUB	149,290	3	CONTEST CLUB BELGIUM
2,435,068	10	SLOVENIA CONTEST CLUB	141,931	3	5NNDXCC
2,245,044	23	KAUNAS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY RADIO CLUB	130,940	5	ARI PRATO
			111,266	3	HUMBER FORTRESS DX ARC
2,142,280	7	MARITIME CONTEST CLUB	110,705	5	SHAKHAN CONTEST CLUB
2,077,081	4	THREE A'S CONTEST GROUP	110,288	3	SK6AW HISINGENS RADIOKLUBB
1,970,281	19	EA CONTEST CLUB	107,566	3	BIG SKY CONTESTERS
1,934,011	28	UKRAINIAN CONTEST CLUB	106,749	4	PORTAGE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE
1,777,701	8	LATVIAN CONTEST CLUB	105,598	4	BRISTOL (TN/VA) ARC
1,762,033	9	CONTEST CLUB SERBIA	103,254	6	CATALONIA CONTEST CLUB
1,691,353	31	FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP	102,132	3	CENTRAL VIRGINIA CONTEST CLUB
1,593,646	26	TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	102,132	3	HERMOSILLO CONTEST GROUP
1,565,426	6	HA-DX-CLUB	86,302	5	ORCA DX AND CONTEST CLUB
1,557,927	52	DEUTSCH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB	85,178	3	THRACIAN ROSE CLUB
1,456,419	27	ARIZONA OUTLAWS CONTEST CLUB	79,798	9	HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION
1,331,099	30	RUSSIAN CONTEST CLUB	79,456	3	SK5AA VASTERAS RADIOKLUBB
1,290,106	4	RSGB CONTEST CLUB	78,950	3	WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB
1,242,653	42	MINNESOTA WIRELESS ASSN	78,145	3	CSM CRAIOVA
1,057,790	11	CZECH CONTEST CLUB	77,062	7	RADIOKLUB SKOFJA LOKA S59DKR
1,025,329	4	CONTEST GROUP DU QUEBEC	70,913	3	TURKISH RADIO AMATEUR CLUB
1,015,003	16	NORTH COAST CONTESTERS	68,730	3	BAY AREA DXERS
1,010,564	16	SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	67,915	3	INTEREST GROUP RTTY
932,393	10	CONTEST CLUB FINLAND	67,820	3	SHENANDOAH VALLEY WIRELESS
891,967	15	HUDSON VALLEY CONTESTERS AND DXERS	55,068	3	ECHELFORD AMATUER RADIO SOCIETY
889,531	6	WORLD WIDE YOUNG CONTESTERS	51,924	4	PZK OT-01
875,711	18	VERON	49,007	3	HILLTOP TRANSMITTING ASSOCIATION
869,710	17	KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	43,622	3	PROVIDENCE RADIO ASSOCIATION
680,305	5	NIAGARA FRONTIER RADIOSPORT	34,085	3	VRHNIKA CONTESTERS
670,201	4	MILARA CONTEST CLUB	33,121	3	THE VILLAGES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
650,600	12	BELARUS CONTEST CLUB	31,849	11	RUSSIAN CW CLUB
636,142	11	CENTRAL TEXAS DX AND CONTEST CLUB	26,265	11	OKAYAMA DX CLUB
623,129	3	FAZENDA ACTIVITY CONTEST GROUP	25,643	4	SILVER COMET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
519,866	5	DANISH DX GROUP	25,511	3	LA4O
508,385	10	GRAND MESA CONTESTERS OF COLORADO	22,671	3	FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB
479,236	5	GM DX GROUP	21,012	3	SPOKANE DX ASSOCIATION
475,630	12	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	20,572	4	VK CONTEST CLUB
471,529	7	CTRI CONTEST GROUP	19,491	6	VLADIMIR CONTEST CLUB
438,143	9	ALABAMA CONTEST GROUP	15,002	6	RU-QRP
427,313	4	ALRS ST PETERSBURG	5,849	3	PACIFIC NORTHWEST VHF SOCEITY
374,043	4	ARKANSAS DX ASSOCIATION	5,613	3	ARAUCARIA DX GROUP
364,714	23	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB	5,112	3	7A DX-CONTEST CLUB
348,810	5	CHILTERN DX CLUB	3,772	6	ORARI LOKAL BOGOR
347,630	12	DFW CONTEST GROUP	2,303	19	YB LAND DX CLUB
334,320	9	SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP	1,452	18	ORARI LOKAL KEDIRI
281,336	3	DEEP DIXIE CONTEST CLUB	1,179	17	CABREUVADX
278,570	5	IOWA DX AND CONTEST CLUB	490	6	
271,418	3	SPANDAU DXERS	38	3	



est score in the entire contest was the multi op at S59A with 344K.

Some interesting comments about activity from Japan were made by Topband experts Akira Asai, JA8RWU, and Sakaaki Ashikawa, JE1SPY:

*"This was my third participation in this TopBand phone contest. The first one two years ago was my debut on 160m SSB from JA. Compared to the previous years, much less activity from Japan. Called CQ maybe for an hour in total with no luck even Still worked only ASIA so far on the TopBand phone." – Akira Asai*

*"It was the 3rd CQ 160m contest since the 160m SSB was lifted in Japan. The Japanese SSB band has a width of only 30 kHz from 1845 to 1875 kHz. JA stations can transmit on 1848 kHz low edge. In Europe and the United States, band plans are not laws and there are no penalties, but in Japan they are legal. So if we do not follow the band plan, we will be sentenced to imprisonment or a fine.*

*During the CQ 160m contest, in Europe and the United States, the entire 160m band is almost filled with SSB. However, from Japan, only about half of these operating (from) Western countries are in the Japanese SSB band, so it is not possible to call more than half of the stations. Western stations should sometimes watch the Japanese SSB band (1848-1875 kHz)." – Sakaaki Ashikawa*

The #1 score in the USA goes to the superstation of K1LZ with Manu Siebert, LU9ESD, at the helm. He had the following to say to his fellow DXers:

*"Thank you all for the QSOs and especially for your patience! The first night was a nightmare. If you were one of the many who called me and I couldn't work, I sincerely apologize.*

*The second night was more interesting, with some very strong signals from EU and a short opening with VK/ZL in the morning. Although I hoped to be able to make a higher score, it is all that could be done with the terrible propagation in this contest.*

*Thanks to Krassy Petkov, K1LZ, for letting me drive his Formula 1 for my first 160M experience. I am also especially grateful to Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, who constantly greeted me when passing through my frequency and asked me how I was doing. I knew his brother, Peter, K3ZM, would be in the same category, so it is my great honor and pleasure to share a radio contest. And also to my friend Velimir Deric, K3JO, the mastermind of the station."*

And here is an interesting perspective from Ron Tremayne, VK3IO, who

managed to make 28 QSOs under tough conditions:

*"Our Saturday evening was very low noise, so I could hear weak signals, but only five USA stations heard. Sunday morning, no Europeans heard, mostly due to very bad static noise here, but also due to no propagation. Compared to some other years, I would still consider this a good contest, even though I did not hear any pacific, NZ or Asia (JA) activity. Thank you all for participating."*

And finally Karl Brandt, ND8DX, the perennial top scorer from Zone 4 had these comments:

*"Missing the great runs into Europe of years ago. I was plagued by an existing RFI issue and sadly was greeted with a new RFI problem on the second night, rendering several Beverages almost useless. A BIG TU for those who hung in there and gave multiple repeats."*

### Obeying the rules

As we pointed out last year, the committee receives many complaints from entrants. We wish to emphasize these violations in the hopes we can keep a level playing field in the future.

- Use of remote receivers outside 100 kilometers (inside 100 KM allowed in Multi Op only)
- Use of excessive power
- Use of QSO finding assistance by Single Op who claim Unassisted
- Excessively wide signals, including key clicks and splatter.
- Operating outside band limits (below 1810 in IARU region 1, and using band edges)
- Unsportsmanlike conduct (such as frequency fights).

In closing, special thanks to all those helping out to make the contest a success, including Larry Tyree, N6TR (log checking); Doug Grant, K1DG (trophies), and Randy Thompson, K5ZD (webmaster). Certificates for everyone are available for printing on our website at <www.CQ160.com>.

If anyone would like a Log Checking Report, send an e-mail to me at <Director@CQ160.com>. Please specify which mode you are asking for and the call sign used. Trophies will be mailed shortly. Thanks to all for participating and see you in 2024!

Remember, all CQ contests have a 5-day deadline for submitting logs. Check out the rules on <www.CQ160.com> for the latest information.

73, Andy Blank, N2NT  
Director CQ160 Contest

(Scores on page 103)