



# Results – 2019 Minnesota QSO Party

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## MNQP Results:

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## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual MNQP

This is our 21<sup>st</sup> year of sponsorship of the Minnesota QSO Party, and we saw the numbers were both UP, and DOWN from our big 20<sup>th</sup> event celebration of last year. No, we did not have a repeat of activating almost every possible 1X1 zero call, and the participation was down a bit from last year's record numbers. What was UP, was snowfall, and DOWN was temperature. Interestingly MNQP this year was sandwiched between record low temperatures at the end of January, and record HIGH snowfall after the MNQP. In the days leading up to MNQP Minnesota was in the grips of a Polar Vortex leaving us with temperatures ranging from -15 F to -28 F. After MNQP we were treated to an all-time record snowfall for the month of February. As I write this we are under forecast for ten inches more of snow and the Wisconsin QSO Party is tomorrow! Our mobiles fared better in MNQP than I suspect they will in WIQP.

Thanks to all the participants who stopped by to make some QSOs. The propagation was certainly challenging once again this year. We hope you mark your calendars, and we look forward to your participation once again for next year's event.

73 - Mark WAØMHJ

SK....

*Regretfully we have lost two of our participants from this and previous MNQP's. Our condolences to the family and friends of:*

*Scott – NØUV who was part of the mobile team of KØARF.*

*Hank Greeb – N8XX a QRP'er from Michigan.*

## MNQP: By the Numbers.....

We had a total of 266 logs submitted this year. There were 88 Minnesota logs, and 178 non-MN logs representing 26,365 lines of QSO data. All 87 Minnesota counties were activated, and of the 64 available W/VE/DX multipliers, there was some activity from all but 6. Only NL, NU, NT, PE, SK and YT did not show up in any log. Six more, including DC and Alaska were very rare to find.

If we would have received a log from every participant who made two or more contacts, our received log totals would have increased by almost 1,300 logs! Adding in the unique calls which appeared only for one contact would have added another 1,300 logs! Propagation remains difficult, as we see in the number of QSOs on both 10M and 15M were low. Generally the comments were that 20M was also marginal, so it is surprising

that 20M surpassed 40M in QSO count. Comments were generally favorable on 80M conditions, and the QSO count for a relatively short window of opportunity that we have during our ten hour period showed strong numbers.

Shown below is the QSO count by band and by mode. Also shown are the least six county activations based on the number of QSOs. The top six county activations ranged from 750, to over 1300 contacts.

The number of participants entering in the high power category increased by quite a bit this year. Perhaps a feeling of necessity to combat the poor conditions we have encountered? Unfortunately some of those participants were Minnesota stations, who found themselves entered in the Check Log category, as there is no category for MN stations to use High

power.

This year there were no tight "horse races" in any of the categories, with clear winners in each.

Getting close to a clean sweep takes skill. Actually achieving it is more a bit of good fortune and timing. Mark – K1RO is the only participant who came close this year, just falling one county short. Mark missed Todd County.

How close did Mark come? About half way through the contest K1RO worked Jon-WØZQ/m in Morrison County at 1850 UTC on 7051 KHZ. Right about that time John NØIJ/m, driving through Todd County, was finishing up with K9BTQ at 1849 UTC on 7050 KHZ.

**One kilocycle and one minute away from a sweep!!**

Thanks to all participants for joining in on the party once again this year!

Log checking reports can be requested.

E-mail: [mnqp@w0aa.org](mailto:mnqp@w0aa.org)

Include your call sign and the text "LCR".

Band	QSOs
160M	54
80M	5,787
40M	9,200
20M	11,303
15M	16
10M	5

Mode	QSOs
CW	14,009
Phone	12,353
RTTY	3

County	QSOs	Operators /Minutes
Pope	30	1 / 25 min.
Wilkin	30	1 / 37 min.
Norman	28	1 / 16 min.
Stevens	25	1 / 13 min.
Red Lake	24	1 / 25 min.
Wadena	22	2 / 28 min.

## MNQP Mobile – KØSIX

*Editor – Vince – KØSIX, and Jack - NØXT enter the MN Mobile category for their first attempt. Their story indicates the importance of having a Plan-B when going mobile!*

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In previous years I have participated with a small time effort from my Sherburne County home in Big Lake, northwest Minneapolis. But this year I thought I would try something different, to try out my mobile set up, and run a mobile SSB effort for the Minnesota QSO Party. How hard could that be? Right? Well I soon found out. My best friend for over 50 years Jack, NØXT, thought he was up for a change too, and would come along for the ride. Jack has also participated in the QSO party, and has won the Phone-Only class, from his home in Coon Rapids, Anoka County. Now with Jack on board, my small effort of 4 counties became 12 or maybe more. Really? I started out this endeavor with great intentions of making sure that all was working and in order, but "Old man Minnesota cold" got the best of that. We had brutally cold weather leading up

to the event, and things just got busy. Late on Friday afternoon prior to the event, I finally was able to check things out. The mobile set up is an Icom-706 MKII G, a Scorpion Screwdriver antenna, GMC Sierra pickup. This is a very large antenna, and I like to park my truck in the garage during winter months, so it is not installed at all times. The radio stays mounted in the truck. Friday afternoon was the day to get it all re-installed, tested and ready to go. It doesn't take much to put the antenna in the mount hook-up, make a few connections and we're ready to go. Since the antenna has been installed many times before, this was just a standard procedure. After installation, I tuned it up on 20 meters and got into Panama on Friday afternoon first call. Good - that works. I made a QSY to 75 meters where Matt KAØPQW was finishing up the section net, and I got into Steele County no problem. Well that was easy... I parked the truck outside, and we're ready to go.

Jack arrived early the next morning with a few additional items, laptop, inverter, headset, etc. and we were ready to start out

after checking everything out. With everything installed, we tried to tune to start out on 40 meters, hmm ? The antenna would not tune. Being outside overnight, the screwdriver would move a little and stop. It had worked the day before! Now the scramble begins; we should be getting on the road for our starting point - Wright County! We decided to switch out to a mag mount mounted "ham stick". Now the SWR was reading high, and no adjustments would fix it. I grabbed a K3 of mine and got that installed and

we were getting a better SWR; not the best but tunable, and we had power output. That's what we were going to have to work with. We also were fighting a battle with RF in the cab, headphones and the microphone keying switch. Now we are already 2 hours into the contest and not a QSO in the log yet, we decided to just go out with what we had and try it out.

*Continued next page...*

*KØSIX/m mobile set-up*





## MNQP Mobile – KØSIX.....cont

We had a dilemma. First stop was just down the road in Big Lake for Sherburne County. There was no point in going too far, as this was mounting up to be a test of patience. Starting with 40 meters and one QSO, and then on to 20 meters which wasn't anything to write home about as of yet, but we did manage a few in the log.

No new takers, so we hit the road to Monticello and Wright County. We started again on 20 meters, we were thankful that the same few who managed to find us again. Rinse and repeat for the next few counties: Stearns, Benton near Clearwater and St. Cloud, MN. Then out on highway 95 for a little more Benton

and Mille Lacs counties. We were calling CQ for the most part on 20, that way at least those who we worked previously took the time to find us again. With about an hour left, overall frustration set in and we decided to head home. It was a learning experience, definitely more preparation was required. We ended up working 25

stations on 40 and 95 contacts on 20. Another major disappointment was just 2 contacts each in Benton, and Sherburne, our only MN contacts. Thanks Jack NØXT; you really did all the work. Next year we will both probably just stay home, and leave it to the real /m's..... Really -900 + Q's? 73 - Vince KØSIX

## MNQP perspective – Bill Waters W7GKF

My station has remained an old TS-850 and an even older SB-1000 amp for many years. The only variety in my set-ups has been the antennas, which is one of my main interests in the hobby. At this location I am lucky to have 90 and 100 foot Douglas Firs and Hemlocks. This allows for a lot of experimentation with large loops at decent heights. The only drawback is the occasional high winds, which means you get to start all over again! As usual, 2019 MNQP was the premier state QP of the wavelengths. The volume of mobile activity (17+) made for constant action, and no lapse of interest. Probably the most unique and useful aspect of the MNQP contest is the pre-contest preparation of planned mobile operation. Besides the individual mobile routes with predicted operational times for each county,

Bob, KØRC prepares a comprehensive chronology matrix that shows what is expected to happen throughout the state, each moment of the contest, and in each county. Using this matrix properly leaves no excuse for missing any county during the 10-hour contest.

Another big plus of MNQP is simply the length of the contest. Ten hours is perfect: All counties are covered and the 80 year-old op can stay awake that long, while the XYL doesn't get bent out of shape because of a "lost" weekend. In addition, the mobile ops don't need to

plan on an overnight stay somewhere. Contest scheduling is also a big factor in MNQP's successful history. With its high level of mobile operation, it is safe to say that MNQP "owns" the bands during the first Saturday of February. . Bill – W7GKF



*Bill – W7GKF with assistant OP "Mocha"*



## Profile – Victor Paul WBØTEV

*Editor: - Victor is an avid DX'er and Contester, being first licensed in 1976 and he has held the call WBØTEV ever since. A graduate of LeTourneau University, Victor spent 38 years as an RF and Systems Engineer prior to his retirement in 2018. In recent years, he has been a DXpedition participant (3DAØET in 2013) and was part of the World Record setting team for M/S Low Power in the CQ WW RTTY contest from PJ6A in 2015. Since 2016 he has made several trips each year to operate from Belize where he is licensed as V31VP. He is a member of the Majors Field Amateur Radio Club, the Lone Star DX Association and the DFW Contest Group.*

The Minnesota QSO Party is one of my favorite state QSO parties. With my QTH north east of Dallas Texas I'm sitting at an optimum standoff range and longitude to work Minnesota on several bands throughout the contest although in this part of the sunspot cycle it's pretty much a 20m and 40m show. I even managed to get one 10m QSO by moving a guy from 15. I think most if not all of the 15m QSOs also resulted from moves off of 20m.

Working conditions at WBØTEV are a TS-590SG with an old-old Dentron MLA2500 amp. Antennas are a Moseley PRO-67B for 40/20/17/15/12/10 at 63 feet (aimed North for this one!) along with an 80 meter inverted V at 60 feet and a homebrew 40m

vertical with a couple dozen radials. The tower is also shunt feed for 160m.

Having operated mobile several times in the Texas QSO party, I have an affinity for chasing the mobiles around from county to county. A number of the mobile ops used APRS this year and that made it fun to see them scoot across the state and I'd know when it was time to tune back to their last know frequency when I saw them cross over into a new county. Those with APRS had an edge I think over those that didn't (Hint, hint). I started the contest at 1400Z on 40m and pretty much stayed there. ~1645Z when it was time to move to 20m, with the

occasional jump to 40 to snatch another county. While running in the 1800Z hour I started announcing that I would be on 21350 at 1900Z to try and drive some business to 15m. That worked, resulting in the 4 aforementioned 15m QSOs and one of those guys I managed to move to 10m (I hope.... copy was darn near ESP HI!). 20m folded early (or what I considered early) with pretty slim pickin's after about 2030 Z around here and so switched to 40m at 2100Z; probably should have made the switch sooner. I had a big dry spell from 2241-2316Z at which time I switched to 80m where several stations. I made one quick jump back to 40m for a with KCØDMF/M. I

worked Craig's crosstown rival Rich NØHJZ who was worked 10 times. Final QSO was a 4th QSO with "Tramp" KØARF (!) in Kandiyohi county on 80m. I see that I worked the "ARF" team on 3 bands 80/40/20. Ditto for ACØW and NGØE Looks like I worked NYØV on 3 bands also, 20/15/10 thanks to those moves.

When the closing bell sounded I'd managed to scoop up 60 of 87 counties.

I typically enter the Phone Only category in order to play to my strengths and that paid off in 2012 when I won a really nice plaque sponsored by the Runestone ARC for 1st Place - W/VE Phone Only. The MNQP is one of the few it seems that offers a Phone Only category. After missing out on the MNQP the last few years I'm hoping perhaps to grab top honors in that category again here in 2019. We'll see if I score some more of that fine wild rice and something for the wall.

Thanks to the organizers and sponsors of a great QSO party. I look forward to playing again in 2020. In case you're wondering if by virtue of the Zero call I hold if I might be a former Minnesotan, sorry.... I got my call when I was in high school in 1976... in IOWA. (You can start the Iowa jokes now HI, we always referred to our neighbor to the North as the "Land of 10,000 Petersons!")



Victor – WBØTEV.

73 Victor WBØTEV

## Profile – Sudhir Kamath KD8HAM

*Editor: - Sudhir ("Sunny") has provided the Becker county multiplier often in MNQP. He mixed things up a little and caused me to do a quick log edit when deciding to use the name "Joe" this year.*

I have always wanted to be a ham and when I finally passed my technician license in 2007, I ended up with the random FCC issued call sign of KD8HAM. I did not do much with my license until around 2009, when I moved to Bemidji and started spending a lot of time on the local repeaters. In 2011, right before moving to beautiful Detroit Lakes, I upgraded to the General class license. I got active with the Detroit Lakes Amateur Radio Club and started operating on HF. Most of my time was spent on SSB on 10 and 12 meters. While I enjoyed talking to hams around the world, I was not a contester - until the club had its annual Field Day event in 2013. I enjoyed the fast pace and ability to make many contacts over the course of a few hours. I am an avid county hunter and my goal is to work all US Counties! Contests, to me, are a good way to knock out a few counties. Around 2013, with some

help from DLARC members WØOMY (SK) and K9FQO, I setup a station at my in-laws place outside of Detroit Lakes. My first attempt at the MNQP, at the behest of a fellow ham, came in 2014 and I had a lot of fun! Not sure how many stations were active from Becker County, but I managed a little over 200 contacts with 76 multipliers. I enjoyed the time spent in front of the radio and returned similar numbers in 2015 and 2016, even setting a new high score for Becker County.

With the move to a new QTH and a limited antenna setup, my numbers were low for 2018. Since then, with some help from a fellow ham (WØBOY), I have set up a G5RV in the backyard and seem to be putting out a decent signal.

While most of my time is spent on SSB, ragchewing and collecting QSLs - I do diligently get on the air during the MNQP and NAQP contests. And contrary to what people might think, one does not need a 100 foot tower and amplifier putting out a kilowatt of power (although it would be nice!). You can have as much fun with 100

watts and a long wire antenna. Get your county on the air, there might be some county hunter who needs your QSL!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the MNQP this year! The band conditions were not the best, and I appreciate your

patience as we tried to make contact. A big shout out to the mobile stations who braved the treacherous road conditions to get those rare counties on the air. Look forward to catching you on the air during MNQP 2020!

73 – Sunny KD8HAM

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*Sunny-KD8HAM and YL- Susan enjoying biking in Glendalough State Park in Otter Tail County.*





## Profile – Stu Hoar N7ZZ

*Editor: - Stu N7ZZ is retired and living in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He is from British Columbia and also holds the call VE7ZZ. In addition to joining us in MNQP, Stu was a WIQP participant this year as well.*

Thanks to everyone who participated and added to the fun in this year's Minnesota QSO party. Contests; mostly the DX variety, have held my interest since the days we

all used radios with tubes and any station with a rotating beam was a "Big Gun". I still dream of towers, giant rhombics, and a rig for every band but in the morning I wake up on a city lot with a barefoot transceiver and an all-band dipole. The good news is that a "Peanut Whistle" like me that has to wait in line during a DX contest can actually have folks

answering my CQ in a domestic contest like the QSO party. I got as big of a kick out of working a new county multiplier in Minnesota as I would landing Bhutan in a DX contest. I'm an old fashioned operator, still sending with the same bug I bought as a teenager and not ready yet for "assisted" contesting. My next challenge is learning more about the way computers

and the internet have added features to our hobby that would have sounded like magic when I sent my first CQ.

73, Stu – N7ZZ







## 2019 MINNESOTA QSO PARTY - RESULTS

## MINNESOTA STATIONS

Mobile-Single XMTR

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
N0HJZ *	MOBILE	MN	28	42	927	59	114342		
NE9U	MOBILE	MN	29	783	0	63	98658	Honey Badger Contesters	NE9U, KK9K
N0IJ	MOBILE	MN	23	693	0	59	81774	Spirit Valley Amateurs Assn	N0IJ, AA0ME
K0PC	MOBILE	MN	22	738	0	55	81180	Twin City DX Assn	
N0EO	MOBILE	MN	15	512	11	67	70082	Spirit Valley Amateurs Assn	AA0AW
KE0TL	MOBILE	MN	15	402	4	61	49532		KE0TL, NR0T
KC0DMF	MOBILE	MN	24	0	405	39	31590		KC0DMF, N0SFF
W09B	MOBILE	MN	13	242	0	40	19360	West Allis RAC	
N0ECK	MOBILE	MN	16	0	163	39	12714		N0ECK, K0APR
W0ZF	MOBILE	MN	19	0	199	29	11542	Twin City DX Assn	W0ZF, K0BBC
K0SIX	MOBILE	MN	5	0	119	39	9282		K0SIX, N0XT
W9FZ	MOBILE	MN	5	0	119	33	7854		W9FZ KA9VVQ
NU0W	MOBILE	MN	14	0	130	29	7540	Spirit Valley Amateur Assn	NU0W, KC0MKS

Mobile-Unlimited

K0ARF *	MOBILE- UNLIMITED	MN	4	0	141	65	18330	St. Cloud ARC	K0SV, N0UV
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Rover

W0ZQ *	ROVER	MN	10	477	0	66	62964	Northern Lights Radio Society	
KE0TT	ROVER	MN	5	267	0	66	35244		
N0BUI	ROVER	MN	7	143	1	48	13824		N0BUI, K10F, K0CID

Single OP - QRP

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
ND0C *	QRP	MN	NOB	47	104	65	19630		
AC0AF	QRP	MN	STL	0	33	24	1584		
KD0V	QRP	MN	WSC	34	0	20	1360		ARES

**Multi-OP**

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
N0UR *	MULTI-OP	MN	STE	306	345	106	138012		N0UR, KB0R
K0LD	MULTI-OP	MN	ANO	269	298	91	103194	Tw in City DX Assn	KA8HDE, WA0MHJ
W0NE	MULTI-OP	MN	WIN	0	492	85	83640	Winona Amateur Radio Club	WK0W, AD0UT, K2OPT, KG6RLM, KD0YOB, AC9TO, KA0MLO, W0IH, W0MZN, K0NY, W0MK
KC0LDH	MULTI-OP	MN	SHE	193	210	87	70122		KC0LDH, K0UU
N0I	MULTI-OP	MN	ITA	18	90	62	13392	Northwoods Amateur Radio Group	W6GMT, KB0UWK, N0KKT, KD0HRO, KE0CTY
N0EOC	MULTI-OP	MN	STL	0	140	47	13160		<b>ARES</b> - KC0NFB, K0DSL, KC0WDQ, KE0JDB, KC0WCT, K0JRW
K0LTC	MULTI-OP	MN	HEN	0	63	37	4662	Maple Grove Radio Club	K0SUR, WB9CFN, N0RUG, K0BHJ
AC0DH/P	MULTI-OP	MN	COO	2	67	29	4002		AC0DH, KE0HW
AA0RW	MULTI-OP	MN	GOO	0	29	19	1102	Hiawatha Valley Amateur Radio Club	W0IKE, KD9KIS, KB0LYL, KE0QBD, KE0JRS, KC9LLH
K0YD	MULTI-OP	MN	HEN	5	13	9	324	Minnetonka MN Radio Club	KC0ITP, AJ0O, Maija

**Single OP - Low Power**

AC0W *	SOLP	MN	MOW	293	291	79	92272	
K0EA	SOLP	MN	HEN	148	204	75	52800	
W0PI	SOLP	MN	BEC	202	68	89	48060	Detroit Lakes ARC
NG0E	SOLP	MN	COT	5	304	77	47586	
K0RC	SOLP	MN	CHS	286	3	81	46818	
KX0A	SOLP	MN	WSH	221	65	80	45760	
W0K	SOLP	MN	KIT	199	46	86	42140	
K0TG	SOLP	MN	RAM	257	0	70	35980	F.O.R.C.E
AE0EE	SOLP	MN	LES	204	37	67	32294	Bloomington Amateur Radio Assn
K0AD	SOLP	MN	HEN	152	75	71	32234	
WB0CFF	SOLP	MN	SCO	181	0	68	24616	SMARTS
KA0CSW	SOLP	MN	MEE	99	57	74	23088	Meeker ARC
AI0Y	SOLP	MN	HEN	169	0	52	17576	
N0UY	SOLP	MN	PEN	112	0	59	13216	

K9DU

K0JP

Single OP - Low Power (cont.)

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
N0KK	SOLP	MN	HEN	99	0	47	9306		
N0OK	SOLP	MN	MIL	1	101	39	7956		
KC0RET	SOLP	MN	HEN	60	28	40	7040		
N0BM	SOLP	MN	WSH	87	0	40	6960		
KB0HXL	SOLP	MN	CAS	83	0	37	6142		
W0Z	SOLP	MN	RAM	18	55	42	6132		WA0LIF
W9LHG	SOLP	MN	RAM	67	0	36	4824		
KM0O	SOLP	MN	RAM	67	0	33	4422		
WB0N	SOLP	MN	HEN	51	8	33	3894		
K0KX	SOLP	MN	HEN	58	0	31	3596		
KC0INP	SOLP	MN	RAM	44	0	27	2376	ST PAUL RADIO CLUB	
W0A	SOLP	MN	HEN	8	22	18	1080		W0AD
NY0V	SOLP	MN	FIL	18	7	17	850		
N0ZQB	SOLP	MN	AIT	0	23	16	736		
WA9TRY	SOLP	MN	STL	11	1	12	288	Spirit Valley Amateur Assn	
K0QMU	SOLP	MN	HEN	9	3	8	192		
K0VG	SOLP	MN	HEN	2	0	2	8		

Single OP - PHONE ONLY

K0YR *	SOPH	MN	PIN	0	447	88	78672	Mora Open Repeater Assn.	
N0VRM	SOPH	MN	STL	0	296	58	34336	Spirit Valley Amateurs Assn	
KD8HAM	SOPH	MN	BEC	0	186	58	21576	DETROIT LAKES ARC	
KE0KOT	SOPH	MN	PEN	0	161	51	16422		
KG0DX	SOPH	MN	STR	0	122	66	16104	RUNESTONE ARC	
N0HDR	SOPH	MN	ANO	0	124	63	15624		
KD0MOM	SOPH	MN	MOR	0	137	56	15344	RUNESTONE ARC	
NY0MN	SOPH	MN	CLA	0	129	58	14964		
KC0QED	SOPH	MN	LAC	0	116	58	13456	West Cental MN ARC	
K0MJS	SOPH	MN	SHE	0	92	53	9752		
AD0DB	SOPH	MN	SCO	0	93	50	9300	SMARTS	
WX0Z	SOPH	MN	RAM	0	102	40	8160		
KC0TAF	SOPH	MN	TOD	0	87	45	7830	Runestone ARC	
WB0KUG	SOPH	MN	DOU	0	41	33	2706	Runestone ARC	
K0JJR	SOPH	MN	STL	0	35	24	1680		
WA0EBZ	SOPH	MN	TOD	0	28	26	1456	Runestone ARC	
WB0YDF	SOPH	MN	CRV	0	23	20	920	SMARTS	
W0NFE	SOPH	MN	AIT	0	17	16	544	SMARTS	
KC0FOT	SOPH	MN	JAC	0	15	14	420		
WB0DYZ	SOPH	MN	OLM	0	14	8	224		



## W/VE STATIONS

Single OP - Low Power

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
K2SSS ***	SOLP	NY	155	30	77	28490		
N7ZZ ***	SOLP	WI	105	50	63	19530		
WB9HFK ***	SOLP	IL	113	12	70	17500	Society of Midwest Contesters	
K0HNC ***	SOLP	KS	111	0	67	14874		
K9CS **	SOLP	IL	116	4	60	14400		
N6MU ***	SOLP	CA	105	0	64	13440	Southern California Contest Club	
NW0M ***	SOLP	MO	105	0	55	11550	Kansas City Contest Club	
N8II *	SOLP	WV	49	55	54	11232	POTOMAC VALLEY RADIO CLUB	
W8TM *	SOLP	OH	76	12	47	8272	Mad River Radio Club	
K9CW	SOLP	IL	89	0	46	8188	Society of Midwest Contesters	
KA3QLF *	SOLP	PA	82	3	46	7820		
K9BTQ	SOLP	WI	70	7	46	7084	West Allis RAC	
AD1C	SOLP	CO	56	16	45	6480	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	
N9NM	SOLP	TX	73	0	44	6424	Central Texas DX and Contest Club	
KM4FO *	SOLP	KY	66	0	39	5148	KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	
W8PI	SOLP	MI	61	3	40	5120		
WN4AFP	SOLP	SC	58	2	40	4800	Sw amp Fox Contest Group	
AK7O *	SOLP	UT	63	0	38	4788	Utah DX Association	
W4XK	SOLP	TN	64	0	37	4736	Tennessee Contest Group	
WA9LEY	SOLP	IL	60	0	38	4560	Metro DX Club	
WA2JQK	SOLP	NY	26	34	38	4560	Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	
AB7RW	SOLP	WA	51	0	43	4386		
AA7TV	SOLP	MT	29	24	38	4028		
W9XT	SOLP	WI	42	12	35	3780	Society of Midwest Contesters	
KN4Y	SOLP	FL	51	0	37	3774	SPORTMAN'S PARADISE ARC	
NY9P	SOLP	IL	46	0	39	3588		
K4YJ	SOLP	OH	42	11	32	3392	Southw est Ohio DX Association	
K2QO	SOLP	NY	53	1	31	3348	Niagara Frontier Radiosport	
K4ZGB *	SOLP	AL	52	0	32	3328	Alabama Contest Group	
KE0L	SOLP	IL	52	0	31	3224	Society of Midwest Contesters	
K9FO	SOLP	IL	47	0	32	3008	Society of Midwest Contesters	
K0WRY	SOLP	KS	43	0	32	2752		
W6RLI *	SOLP	AZ	44	0	30	2640	Arizona Outlaw s Contest Club	
N9EAT	SOLP	IL	29	3	31	1984		
K9GDF	SOLP	WI	38	0	25	1900	W/K ARC	
W5VS	SOLP	VA	22	12	27	1836		
NU0Q *	SOLP	IA	30	0	29	1740		
KB9S	SOLP	WI	23	10	23	1518	Eau Claire ARC	
AE9LL	SOLP	IN	20	22	17	1428		
K7AZT	SOLP	AZ	28	0	23	1288	Arizona Outlaw s Contest Club	
N8FYL	SOLP	MI	28	0	23	1288	Mad River Radio Club	
WA3AAN	SOLP	PA	28	0	17	952	Frankford Radio Club	
AA0YY	SOLP	MO	24	0	17	816		
K7ZYV *	SOLP	MS	23	0	16	736		

Single OP - Low Power (cont.)

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
K8SIA	SOLP	MI	21	0	17	714		
KF3G	SOLP	PA	21	0	17	714		
KX9RT	SOLP	WI	21	0	17	714		
WA1LAD *	SOLP	RI	4	17	16	672		
W4SNF	SOLP	FL	6	11	14	476	Contest Club Ontario	VE3AYR
KK4WX	SOLP	GA	4	13	14	476		
KC5LL	SOLP	TX	2	16	13	468		
WA0LIS	SOLP	IL	6	12	12	432	Prime ARA	
K4ORD	SOLP	VA	18	0	12	432	Potomac Valley Radio Club	
W1ARY	SOLP	CT	16	0	11	352		
VE3WG *	SOLP	ON	6	8	11	308	Contest Club Ontario	
N0KOE	SOLP	NC	3	10	11	286		
K2AL	SOLP	NJ	5	8	11	286	New Providence ARC	
W8KNO	SOLP	OH	11	1	11	264	Mad River Radio Club	
K4VBM	SOLP	GA	5	8	10	260	GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP	
AG7CC	SOLP	ID	7	4	10	220		
K7DBN	SOLP	UT	2	8	9	180		
W7GF *	SOLP	OR	11	0	8	176		
VE3AQ	SOLP	ON	9	0	8	144	Contest Club Ontario	
N0PP	SOLP	IA	7	0	7	98		
ND3R	SOLP	PA	7	0	7	98		
NZ1D	SOLP	FL	6	0	6	72		
W8NWX	SOLP	IL	5	1	6	72		
W1END	SOLP	NH	6	0	6	72	Yankee Clipper Contest Club	
W5QLF	SOLP	TX	6	0	5	60	South Texas DX and Contest Club	
NF8M	SOLP	MI	5	0	5	50	Mad River Radio Club	
W4ZPR	SOLP	VA	5	0	5	50	USS WISCONSIN RADIO CLUB	
AC6ZM	SOLP	TN	3	3	4	48	Tennessee Contest Group	
N4DLR	SOLP	OH	2	0	2	8		

Single OP - QRP

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
K8KZB *	QRP	MI	73	0	50	7300	Genesee County Radio Club W8ACW	
KY0Q	QRP	IL	50	0	37	3700		
KI4MZC	QRP	GA	31	0	21	1302	South East Contest Club	
VE7NI	QRP	BC	28	0	22	1232		
W1IG	QRP	CT	9	13	16	704	CTRI Contest Group	
KB8ZR	QRP	OH	0	2	2	8		
N8XX	QRP	MI	1	0	1	2	MAD RIVER RADIO CLUB	

Single OP - Phone Only

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
WB0TEV ***	SOPH	TX	0	155	59	18290	DFW Contest Group	
WA1SAY ***	SOPH	CT	0	86	49	8428		
AJ4LN *	SOPH	VA	0	74	44	6512	Sterling Park ARC	
K2RYD	SOPH	NY	0	69	44	6072	Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club	
K0OP *	SOPH	ND	0	57	39	4446		
W4BBT	SOPH	NC	0	51	37	3774	Potomac Valley Radio Club	
KI7AAY	SOPH	WA	0	32	29	1856		
KD4QMY *	SOPH	GA	0	31	24	1488	SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB	
W7OXB	SOPH	WA	0	30	24	1440		
W7ON	SOPH	AZ	0	29	24	1392	Classic Operators Contest Club	
WB7CYO *	SOPH	ID	0	28	24	1344		
KE6FQC	SOPH	CA	0	25	22	1100		
W4KW	SOPH	TN	0	26	21	1092	Tennessee Contest Group	
KM5JV	SOPH	TX	0	24	19	912		
K3EDM	SOPH	PA	0	20	18	720		
N7FLT	SOPH	MT	0	22	16	704	Big Sky Contesters	
KG9JP	SOPH	WI	0	20	17	680	Fox Cities ARC	
WE1SAX	SOPH	CT	0	21	15	630	Manchester CT CERT Radiosport Team	
N7ACI	SOPH	UT	0	18	16	576		
AG4I	SOPH	GA	0	17	16	544		
WB2NVR	SOPH	NY	0	17	16	544	RZS Amateur Radio Club	
VA7ODX	SOPH	BC	0	16	16	512	ORCA DX and Contest Club	
W7KAM	SOPH	MO	0	17	14	476	Society of Midwest Contesters	
W2GFV *	SOPH	NJ	0	16	14	448		
NW5Q	SOPH	TX	0	16	14	448	DFW Contest Group	
KG2DWS	SOPH	NY	0	15	13	390		
KM4IAJ	SOPH	VA	0	13	12	312		
N7MZW *	SOPH	WY	0	14	11	308	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	
N4JAH	SOPH	GA	0	12	11	264		
AB1ZQ	SOPH	VT	0	12	11	264		
N1WRK	SOPH	MA	0	11	10	220		
N2MTG	SOPH	NY	0	11	10	220	Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	
WB4HRL	SOPH	SC	0	11	10	220	SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP	
W7CH	SOPH	WA	0	11	9	198		
K1SO	SOPH	VA	0	10	9	180	Potomac Valley Radio Club	
KG7DAB	SOPH	WA	0	9	9	162		
W5TCB *	SOPH	AR	0	9	8	144		
KD2JQG	SOPH	NY	0	9	8	144		
N5PBP	SOPH	TX	0	7	7	98		
VE3HED	SOPH	ON	0	6	6	72		
AG7YX	SOPH	ID	0	6	6	72		
KA9GDW	SOPH	IN	0	6	6	72		
W5XNA	SOPH	AR	0	5	5	50		
KB1VXY	SOPH	MA	0	6	4	48	FARA	



Single OP - Phone(cont....)

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
W4MF	SOPH	TN	0	5	4	40		
KF8MZ	SOPH	OH	0	4	4	32		
N5QIM	SOPH	OK	0	4	4	32		
VVW3MM	SOPH	MD	0	4	4	32		
AB1EP *	SOPH	ME	0	4	4	32		
K7JKM	SOPH	OR	0	4	4	32		
WZ6ZZ	SOPH	CA	0	3	3	18		
W2IOC	SOPH	NJ	0	3	3	18	New Providence Amateur Radio Club	
KF4QFJ	SOPH	VA	0	3	3	18		
W4BCG	SOPH	TN	0	2	2	8	TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	
N1CEO	SOPH	MA	0	2	2	8	Nashua Area Radio Society	
KD8TNS	SOPH	OH	0	2	2	8		
NS7U	SOPH	WA	0	2	2	8		
W6SFI	SOPH	CA	0	1	1	2		
N0ZTO	SOPH	CO	0	1	1	2		
N4AYS	SOPH	FL	0	1	1	2		
KC3LIV	SOPH	PA	0	1	1	2		
KC5DCT	SOPH	TX	0	1	1	2		

Multi - OP

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
WX4MT ***	MULTI-OP	TN	100	27	76	19304		NY4N, KM4ZGQ, KM4ZDR
N1SOH *	MULTI-OP	MA	21	44	46	5980	Yankee Clipper Contest Club	N1SOH, W1FM
W1NVT *	MULTI-OP	VT	0	40	23	1840	Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont	W1SJ, AA1SU, KE1AZ, K16ISG
K5LSU *	MULTI-OP	LA	5	9	11	308	Amateur Radio Society at La. State Univ.	AD5VC, N4CTM, KG5YZM

**Single OP - High Power**

<u>Call</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>St./Prv</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>	<u>Mults</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Club Affiliation</u>	<u>Operator(s)</u>
K1RO ***	SOHP	NH	201	115	86	54352	Yankee Clipper Contest Club	
W0BV ***	SOHP	CO	213	0	78	33228	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	
W5TM ***	SOHP	OK	191	0	71	27122	DEEP DIXIE CONTEST CLUB	
AD8J ***	SOHP	NC	132	51	69	25254	South East Contest Club	
W7GKF ***	SOHP	WA	97	69	72	23904	Radio Club of Redmond	
NS2N **	SOHP	NY	129	17	72	21024	Niagara Frontier Radiosport	
W9DC ***	SOHP	SC	58	62	69	16560		
K0SN ***	SOHP	MT	99	28	56	14224		
K4AMC **	SOHP	TN	117	0	58	13572	TENNESSEE CONTEST GROUP	
W6OUL **	SOHP	CA	46	50	57	10944		
W9OA	SOHP	IL	75	23	42	8232	Metro DX Club	
K9NW *	SOHP	IN	85	0	43	7310	Mad River Radio Club	
K4MM *	SOHP	FL	36	31	46	6164	Florida Contest Group	
N2IGW	SOHP	NY	30	24	42	4536		
W0BH	SOHP	KS	53	6	34	4012		
WA8KAN	SOHP	WV	43	2	35	3150		
W0LSD	SOHP	CO	16	32	29	2784	Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	
NX6T	SOHP	CA	28	14	30	2520	SAN DIEGO CONTEST CLUB	WQ6X
N7WY	SOHP	MO	34	5	27	2106	Society of Midwest Contesters	
K0TRL	SOHP	KS	36	1	23	1702		
N1NN	SOHP	MA	33	0	24	1584		
VE7JH *	SOHP	BC	33	0	22	1452	ORCA DX and Contest Club	
K4BAI	SOHP	GA	29	0	20	1160	South East Contest Club	
WB2WPM	SOHP	NY	24	3	20	1080	Niagara Frontier Radiosport	
K3TN *	SOHP	MD	23	0	14	644	Potomac Valley Radio Club	
AA1SU	SOHP	VT	3	15	14	504	Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont	
N5KO	SOHP	CA	8	2	10	200	Northern California Contest Club	
N5RZ	SOHP	TX	6	0	6	72	Central Texas DX and Contest Club	
NT5TT	SOHP	TX	3	1	4	32		
KD8TNF	SOHP	OH	2	1	3	18		

**DX STATIONS****Unlimited**

HC1DW *	UNLIMITED	DX	28	3	23	1426		W0OR
OM2VL	UNLIMITED	DX	6	3	8	144	Slovak Contest Group	

**Checklog**

AI0M	CHECKLOG	MN	OLM	0	579	81	93798	
NI0K	CHECKLOG	MN	BEL	0	603	62	74772	
KE0CRP	CHECKLOG	MN	MEE	0	398	76	60496	KE0CRP, KE0TQI
KR0B	CHECKLOG	MN	STL	0	500	54	54000	
K0TC	CHECKLOG	MN	RAM	225	0	60	27000	
K0RJW	CHECKLOG	MN	WSH	0	69	45	6210	
K1KD	CHECKLOG	MN	OLM	0	42	18	1512	

\*\*\* Indicates Plaque / Certificate &amp; MNQP Prize

\*\* Indicates Prize from MNQP (Some prize winners have declined)

\* Indicates Plaque or Certificate

## CLUB COMPETITION

<u>Club Name</u>	<u># Entries</u>	<u>Score</u>	
<b>TCDXA</b>	3	<b>195916</b>	<b>Top MN</b>
Spirit Valley Amateurs Assn	5	194020	
Honey Badger Contesters	1	98658	
Winona Amateur Radio Club	1	83640	
MORA OPEN REPEATER ASSOCIATION	1	78672	
Detroit Lakes ARC	2	69636	
Northern Lights Radio Society	1	62964	
<b>Yankee Clipper Contest Club</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>60404</b>	<b>Top Non-MN</b>
Runestone ARC	5	43440	
Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	1	42800	
Society of Midwest Contesters	7	38282	
F.O.R.C.E	1	35980	
SMARTS	4	35380	
Bloomington Amateur Radio Assn	1	32428	
South East Contest Club	4	29204	
DEEP DIXIE CONTEST CLUB	1	27122	
West Allis RAC	2	26444	
Niagara Frontier Radiosport	3	25452	
Radio Club of Redmond	1	23904	
Meeker ARC	1	23088	
Tennessee Contest Group	5	19456	
DFW Contest Group	2	18738	
St. Cloud ARC	1	18330	
Mad River Radio Club	6	17186	
Potomac Valley Radio Club	5	16262	
West Cental MN ARC	1	13456	
Southern California Contest Club	1	13440	
NORTHWOODS AMATUER RADIO GROUP	1	13392	
Metro DX Club	2	12792	
Kansas City Contest Club	1	11550	
Genesee County Radio Club W8ACW	1	7400	
Sterling Park ARC	1	6512	
Central Texas DX and Contest Club	2	6496	
Florida Contest Group	1	6164	
Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club	1	6072	
KENTUCKY CONTEST GROUP	1	5148	
SWAMP FOX CONTEST GROUP	2	5020	
Utah DX Association	1	4864	
Hudson Valley Contesters and DXers	2	4780	
Maple Grove Radio Club	1	4662	
Arizona Outlaws Contest Club	2	3928	
SPORTMAN'S PARADISE ARC	1	3774	
Southwest Ohio DX Association	1	3392	
Alabama Contest Group	1	3328	
SAN DIEGO CONTEST CLUB	1	2520	
ST PAUL RADIO CLUB	1	2376	
Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont	2	2344	
ORCA DX and Contest Club	2	1964	
W/K ARC	1	1950	
Eau Claire ARC	1	1518	
Classic Operators Contest Club	1	1392	
Hiawatha Valley Amateur Radio Club	1	1102	

## CLUB COMPETITION cont...

<u>Club Name</u>	<u># Entries</u>	<u>Score</u>
Frankford Radio Club	1	952
Contest Club Ontario	3	928
Big Sky Contesters	1	704
CTRI Contest Group	1	704
Fox Cities ARC	1	680
Manchester CT CERT Radiosport Team	1	630
RZS Amateur Radio Club	1	544
Prime ARA	1	432
Minnetonka MN Radio Club	1	324
Amateur Radio Society at La. State Univ.	1	308
New Providence ARC	2	304
GEORGIA CONTEST GROUP	1	260
Northern California Contest Club	1	200
Slovak Contest Group	1	144
South Texas DX and Contest Club	1	60
USS WISCONSIN RADIO CLUB	1	50
FARA	1	48
Nashua Area Radio Society	1	8

**Soapbox & 3830 bits**

12<sup>th</sup> Minnesota QSO Party - **N1NN...** K3/10 driving a Ten Tec 405 amp to 50 watts output. Inverted Vee 66' total length, with apex up 20' fed with 300 ohm parallel line and an old Johnson tuner. Thanks for the fun !! C U next time, 73 - **KE0TT...** Tough to get and hold a frequency on 20 SSB. Deep QSB. 80 was decent. - **ND0C...** GREAT EVENT! - **KG0DX...** Another great MNQP Thanks for fine time. Missed 3 or 4 hours due to a birthday party. Hope to CU next year. 73 Jim - **K4AMC...** Had a great time - **K8KZB...** My first try at the MN QSO party. Too close for 20 meters but had fun on 40 and 80. - **K9FO...** This is another WQ6X remote operation from NX6T in Fallbrook, Ca. In between QSOs in the Mexican RTTY contest, I found time to look for MN stations. Look for a write-up on this GiG at: <http://WQ6X.Blogspot.com/> - **NX6T...** K3, KPA1500, 888 Watts, Time on 95 min. - **N7WY...** Thanks to the mobile stations. - **WB7CYO...** Good enough conditions to allow me to play this year. Lots of fun. Tnx - **KE6FQC...** Thank you for the 2019 Minnesota QSO Party. - **KF3G...** Q-trading was so smooth this year. :) - **VA7ODX...** Propagation was poor from my QTH for the exception of 80m. - **W8KNO...** I operated portable from a local park in my car. Had a lot of fun working the MN stations. - **AG7CC...** Unfortunately very bad condx! During first 3 hour only 10 QSO. CU in 2020! - **OM2VL...** Not much time but found a few souls braving the cold. - **W1END...** I enjoyed another contest weekend with MNQP. Thanks to organizers and operators! -73 - **KF4QFJ...** Did not have much time, but enjoyed the QSOs. - **NS7U...**

**Soapbox & 3830 bits... cont...**

*My first MN QSO Party. MN SSB stations are difficult to hear today due to propagation conditions. - N1CEO...*

*A big THANK YOU to everyone that followed me around on Saturday! I ended up activating 28 counties and drove almost 600 miles! While I'm disappointed I didn't make 1,000 Q's, I think I did as well as I could. -*

**NOHJZ....** *Exciting Ride! Couple bad Murphies.....First one is our logging program decided to not invoke our county line change macros that save us 2-3 minutes per county switch.....probably cost us an hour of operating time and 80-90 QSOs.....and we weren't even using N1MM or Windows 10!!! 2<sup>nd</sup> Murphy....I noticed all day long cars kept occasionally flashing their headlights at us. Then around 4:30 when it got dark, everyone did. Ron had some wood in back of his truck and we thought his headlights were just pointed too high. At end of contest, when we got out of truck.....both his headlights were burned out! No headlights and we are two hours from home and no open garage to fix the problem. Long story short, we spent the night in North Branch, Minnesota. We made it to 28 of our 29 planned counties....ran out of time to get to Pine Thought the bands were in pretty good shape...just not many CW ops chasing us. Very slow at times...a big hoot on 80 last 90 minutes. Thanks to all who did follow us. - NE9U.... About 650 miles drive around north/north central Minnesota in 23 counties. Big thanks to Randy, AA0ME, who did a super job driving for the first time after my lifelong friend, W0TV D becoming a SK during 2018. Discovered that my Screwdriver antenna would no longer fully tune up to 20, had to add a remote, read inconvenient, tuner which kind of worked! Had some good going, but the mid-day conditions were awful for us leading to 3 terrible rate hours. Finished with three approximately 100 hour rates, so that helped. Much appreciated a great bunch that followed us around with multiple contacts in the log. Hope to be back next year with a better 20 meter signal! - NO1J.... Great job by the mobiles but wished there were more fixed stations around to work. -*

**AD8J....** *A reasonably successful outing for the MN QSO Party in 2019. The polar vortex lifted just in time to let me set up the car in 17F temps (instead of -17F). All the roads were in good shape and no mechanical issues came up. My only problem was during the last hour of the contest. A heavy fog set in and my screwdriver refused to tune on 80M in the fog. I thought the antenna was icing but I stopped and it was just wet but still wouldn't tune. So I lost some time and rate on 80M at the end. QSO rates did their typical midday swoon but it seemed a little deeper this year. I also lost rate the last hour messing with the antenna.*

*- K0PC... The Polar Vortex took a break with temps starting out at 9 (above!) and ending up around 34, very nice winter weather for a drive around MN. Since 2005 I have now operated the MNQP from 66 of 87 counties, just 21 more to go. As others have commented on, propagation was challenging. When 20m was good, it was pretty good, but it opened late and closed early. Not unexpected, 40m was the money band with 80m exploding in the last hour. At each of my 10 stops throughout the day I called CQ on 80, 40, and 20m. Thanks everyone for the Q's. Weather permitting, hope to see you in the WiQP. - W0ZQ.... Passing out a few QSOs to the MN crew. Tnx QSOs! - K9NW.... Nice activity. Thanks to all who worked me. See you next year. - K4MM.... Thank you for the QSOs and coming to our QSO party. - NOBUI....*



Well that was interesting. I got off to a much slower start than last year because 20 meters stayed closed for the first hour and was marginal the second hour. I saw a number of 80 meter spots at the start, but it was too late to hear anyone. The first two hours netted 31 QSOs less than last year when 20 and 40 were in good shape and active the first couple hours. However, I was able to work the mobiles on 40 CW throughout the day, with some QRM from the RTTY contest. Activity was surprisingly steady. Every hour was between 31 and 35 QSOs for the first 8 hours, and the last two hours were 24 and 29. 20 meters closed earlier than last year, and once again I couldn't work much on 80 before the last 45 minutes, but then signals on 80 picked up well enough to get several new counties. In the end I worked a few more contacts and multipliers than last year. The mobile/rover activity in this QSO party is simply amazing, especially considering that it's Minnesota in January. I worked 17 different mobile/rover stations, and they accounted for 224 of my QSOs! So close to the sweep..... missed TOD. From the APRS map, it looked like NU0W spent a lot of time there, but I did not hear them once during the contest. I believe NOIJ was there too, but that's one of the few counties in their itinerary that I missed. Thanks to the Minnesota stations and to the organizers for putting on a fun, first-class event! – **K1RO**.... 20m was flakey, worked weak stations beam W, couldn't touch much stronger stations with beam NNW, go figure. Tough hand this year. Thanks for Qs ... Go MWA ! - **NS2N**.... I always enjoy the first QP of the year in Minnesota. It was fun to follow the mobiles around as I had time during the day. Well done, all! Until the next one . – **W0BH**.... Thanks for all QSOs, especially the mobile, who did a fine job. - **K4BAI**.... Thanks for the Q's only missed SD for states. CU next year. - **AC0W**.... Had a lot of fun in this one despite down band conditions. K-index was a 3. Activity level was much better then i would have expected. – **K0EA**.... Bands were very strange. 40 was long and useless for in-state QSOs but 80, especially 80 SSB, made up for it to an extent. At the end I had 35 fewer QSOs but 6 more mults including 49 Minnesota counties. The mobiles made a huge difference! VEs, except for VE7, were a no show which surprised me quite a bit. About 2,000 fewer points but, given conditions, not a bad effort. – **W0K**.... Hats off to the county hoppers, they sure added to the fun. – **N7ZZ**.... First Party of the year. Worked them when I could hear them which left a lot to be desired. - **N6MU**.... The QP season has begun! Great mobile operations. Made many of my contacts with the mobiles...NE9U, K0PC, W0ZQ and more. 40m was surprising open from SC to MN during the entire contest... very light copy, but still work some. – **WN4AFP**.... Enjoyed the QSO party, worked some mobiles, drank coffee, what else can one ask for? – **KN4Y**.... The map at arps.fi that showed the locations of the 9 or so mobile stations was super cool. - **K2QO**.... A brief appearance to pass out some QSOs to start off the 2019 state QSO party season. Was KOLD a special event call sign to recognize the recent polar vortex? :-)) See you from Florida in April and from Ohio in August! - **K8MR**.... I got home from a business trip late Friday night and was kind of bushed. I had scheduled my return flight specifically to get home in time for MNQP, but it was hard to "get into it". - Don't know if it was just fatigue or what. Weird. I also took some time out for some family stuff - like building a snow man with my wife and 11 year old daughter. 20 was frustrating - tough to find and hold a run frequency and the QSB was an issue. I don't think I ever got spotted either, which hurt. I missed some states that should have been "gimmes". On the other hand 80 was reasonably productive considering my five watts. - **ND0C**....

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**Soapbox & 3830 bits... cont...**

*I think this is the first time I've been back in the MNQP in several years. (I have a nice MNQP plaque from 2012.) Had fun calling from down here in Texas. Worked Craig KC0DMF the most, some 15 QSOs, followed by Rich N0HJZ with 10. I did manage to make 4 QSOs on 15m around 1900 Z by advertising my intent while running on 20m and even managed to get one QSO on 10m with a move from 15. Prop on 20m to Texas just died around 2030Z, could have worked Craig and Rich more if they'd moved down to 40m midafternoon, but they seemed to have 20m prop to somewhere, just wasn't to me. Not sure if it was conditions or due to them both moving further south in the afternoon and into the skip zone from here. Last QSO on 20m I managed with anyone in MN was at 2055Z and then it was 40m only after that with a few pickups on 80m in the last hour. I think the mobiles squawking APRS had an advantage. I could see them move and know when it was time to stop CQing and QSY to snag them in the next county. Look for me and K5PS/V31CQ as V31VP in the ARRL SSB Contest next month. - **WB0TEV....** Thanks for the contacts. Great Mobile OP's. - **W4KW....** Not quite as good as last year as 20 meters went long and no MN was heard on those frequencies. Still worked everyone I heard on 40 meters with one new county recorded (Cottonwood). So not all was a loss. - **W7KAM....***

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**Mark your calendars for MNQP 2020**

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Minnesota QSO Party will be held on **Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020** from 1400 UTC until 2400 UTC. Check the web site for latest information, tools and updates.

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