

## Results of the 2009 7QP

It seems that the ARRL's declaration of 2009 being the "Year of the QSO Party" had a very positive effect on this year's 7QP. Even though conditions were the same as last year, log submissions were up by almost 20%. Similar results have been reported by other state parties earlier this year. The increase is gratifying. We are trying hard to make 7QP the best in the land.

There are 259 counties in the eight states that make up the 7<sup>th</sup> call area. As you might expect, the counties are large. 7-land makes up almost 20% of the land area of the country – all eight states are in the top 20 in size – yet it has less than 8% of the total US population. That puts us behind California and Texas. There is a lot of very beautiful but empty country out here. How many counties were on this year? 203 – after removing unconfirmed uniques, 188. Only AZ and OR were fully represented.

With all the empty spaces to cover, mobiles are a very important part of 7QP. This year we were pleased to see the massive efforts of two hardy mobiles from outside W7 who came west to help: WØQE and KDØS. Other native mobiles who lit up rare counties: K7UT in Utah, KT7G in WA and OR, W6RA in OR, K4XU in ID and OR, and KD7RUS in WA.

Digital mode was new this year, in response to the ARRL's tri-mode WAS program. We are pleased there were 737 digital QSOs reported and several single mode digital entries. It seems that many newer hams are using digital as a way to enter the contest fraternity. Because of Cabrillo's universal use of "RY" for any digital mode, we do not have a breakdown of RTTY vs PSK. It would be interesting to see.

56% of all 7QP QSOs were on CW, 43% on phone and 1% on digital. 55% were on 20m, 33% on 40m, 10% on 80m, and 2% on 15m. The remaining less than 1% were spread over 160, 10 and 2m.

### Logging Programs Used:

153 N1MM  
50 WriteLog  
25 GenLog  
21 TR  
11 SD  
5 CT  
4 N3FJP  
4 NA  
4 TR4W

7QP is one of the parties that place a limit on paper logs, in this case 40 QSOs or roughly one page. If you are running low power into modest antennas on the east coast, this does not pose a serious limit. However, 72 logs had 40 or less and only 24 of them came in on paper. There were 37 that came through WA7BNM's web form. It is not known how many of these were generated by a program without Cabrillo output capability. The 24 paper logs received were typed into TR-log which has nifty features for this specific task.

Logging programs are being used by more of the non-contesting casual operators as they discover their obvious advantages.

N1MM was the clear winner this year. Note that two thirds of these programs are free. We are working with the programmers of the few remaining programs that do not support 7QP to get us on board.

### RESULTS – Outside of W7

The clear winner in the very large SO high power mixed mode field was Bob, WØBH, his fourth year in a row. He had almost double the points of the next closest entry, K4EA, who was also twice as far away. Kansas is a single hop from most of 7-Land. SO CW high power was won by WØZA, followed closely by N8II and N4TB. In the SO phone race, WA5ZUP nudged out W6AFA.

The top DX entry in High power CW was DL5AWI followed by CU2JT and HK3Q. The Canadians were led by VE4EAR in high power and by VA7ST in low power mixed.

## General Statistics

Counties:  
(reported – minus unverified uniques)

St	#	on	Stations:
AZ	15	15	7th: 1200
ID	44	31	RoW: 4679
MT	56	27	total: 5879
NV	17	10	Logs: 386
OR	36	36	
UT	29	28	
WA	39	30	
WY	23	11	
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In the low power mixed bracket, by far the most popular with 65 entries, AA6YX was the clear winner. The LP CW honors go to N6MU for the third year. The LP phone winner is K5WMH, and in the new digital category, W9ILY.

Top QRP mixed score was turned in by WØPQ. Top QRP CW was KEØG.

### RESULTS – Inside the W7 area

Single op high power mixed went to K7L (K6LL in disguise), followed by NN7ZZ (K5LZ). Top High CW went to Quack,

K7QQ. SO high phone honors went to W7VO while the top high power digital entry was W7NNN.

In the low power bracket, W3CP (check of 32) took the mixed honors followed by WAØKDS. The CW bracket was a close battle between K7CA and WC7CW (K7BG) with 'CA winning by just a hair. Low power phone was won by N7NKO and digital honors went to W7MEW.

In the QRP race, WC7S wins mixed again, KB7LJP wins CW and K7MTH took phone.

Multi-single high power race was captured by N7CW. MS low power honors go to K7LED and MS QRP to WØKP.

K7ZSD was off cruising in the Aegean so the Multi-Multi category turned into a fight between NK7U and W7RN. The final difference between them was just 5 CW and 11 phone QSOs or 0.6%. Tom had a stellar crew visiting his Virginia City aerie while celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year on the air. It helped.

The County Expedition category is essential for lighting up the darker corners of our realm. This year there were nine logs received in the single operator category, headed by K7JJ. The Multi-single category was led by W7AC, followed closely by the low power K7PX group.

Saving the best for last, we have the Multi-Multi County Expedition Category. Once again, the boys from the Eastern Arizona ARS using K7EAR with LOW POWER, made almost twice as many contacts as any other entry – including MM fixed High power. It seems they like our cooler early May date so much they have moved their traditional mammoth Field Day effort to the 7QP. Major hardware, crack operators, and a well-organized support crew makes it happen. Check out their YouTube video.

### Concluding Remarks

We would like to thank all who participated, and all the state captains, co-captains and lieutenants in the eight states of 7-land who make this event possible. While at times it was a bit like herding cats, this year's event came off without a hitch. We will see you all back again next year, hopefully along with a few sun spots!