

OQP Soapbox.txt

K1LOK: I've never seen so many people so excited to get a contact in Utah. Thanks Ontario hams.

K1MTD: Great propagation between Connecticut and Ontario -- both ways! -- made for a fun QSO Party.

K3TW: Greetings from warm and sunny Florida!

KA0PQW: Great contest was alot of fun. Thanks for having it.

KE0TT: K3/10 driving a Ten Tec 405 amp to 50 watts out, to wire antennas. Lots of activity, thanks for the fun!
C U next time, 73, Dan ke0tt

KF3G: Thank you for the 2020 Ontario QSO Party.

KJ9C: TOO MANY CONTESTS IN ONE DAY!

KV8Q: Too close for much action on 40. Glad to get on 80 to get a few Q's. Thanks
- 73 tom

OM2VL:

After 6 years I taked part again on the MI QP. Band was full of contesting stations in various contests. On this weekend was also the Ontario QP (I taked part in 2011, but I forgot send my LOG with only 9 QSOS). MI QP began 2 hours earlier then ONQP so during this 2 hours I hunted MI stations on 20m CW and SSB. I thought that I made some VE3 for QSO Party Challenge points and main interest will be Michigan stations... when started the ON QP on the bands was so many VE3 stations and they'r come back also on my CQ on SSB (not as MI stations ...) so I decided focused on OQP.

20m was open fortunately so long and after that I found so many stations also on 160/80/40m.

I worked 38 diferent

counties, 14 QSO with BONUS stations: VA3CCO (6), VE3ODX (5), VE3RAC (3)

Most QSOS with stations:

(6): VA3CCO, VA3DF

(5): VE3BR, VE3CX, VE3KZ, VE3ODX

(4): VE3EJ, VE3FP, VE3KP, VE3SWA, VE3USP, VE3VY

(3): 15x

Thanks for the QSOS!

73, Laci OM2VL

SP6JOE: straight key,no computer,worked from my summer house

VA3PC: 40 was long, couldnt even hear TBY mult.

VA3RSA: Very poor band conditions for this year's contest for 40m - 6m.

VE3DC:

This is one of the great Canadian contests that we at VE3DC really enjoy. The bands were very noisy at my location and at most of the operators here in the city of Hamilton. but we all enjoyed the Ontario contest as we always do. Participation was down I thought as we never heard any rovers but to be expected in these self isolating times. 73 Rick VE3BK

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VE3DQN:

Seemed like lots of action during the short periods I could give to this contest. How about laying plans to get every Ontario county active?

VE3EEU: HOPEFULLY IWILL BE MORE ACTIVE NEXT TIME

VE3KAH: Happy to be a small pistol to help the others.

VE3RKS: A quick effort just to get a few contacts.

VE3RVZ: ROOKIE - 1st Amateur Radio operator certification 2017-07-04

VE3SST: Did much better than last year.

VE3SWA: Cambridge Amateur Radio Club Event

VE3XNS: Licensed in May 2018

W1END:

Rig was FTdx5000 and Butternut vertical.
Good activity this year.

W2AAB:

Mainly just giving out points while I was operating in the CQMM contest. Wish there was a bit more activity, though.

VE1TWM: Challenging conditions.

VA3PDE: Even tho the bands were crappy had fun

VA3RKM: An enjoyable weekend

VE3NE:

We have talked about this already...need to change date of the OQP; too confusing for everybody with the other contests. When the bands open up during Cycle 25 it will be even worst...:-)

73

Lali, VE3NE

AA4TI: First time in OnQP. Good activity but propagation from Florida was difficult.

VE3CV:

Great Fun! Had an amazing run on 40m LSB from 8 to 10PM. Called CQ 3 times and then just QRZ...worked all states but NE,DE,NV,HI,AK and amazingly MI!...all in their own contest I guess. Tough going to find participants with all the other events on 20m. Only VE3EJ heard me on 15m.

Great way to spend our time at home. Gotta go move some firewood before the rain. New record for HUR me thinks.

73 Jeff VE3CV

NJ4Q: Fun test for the low bands. Thanks for the Qs. de NJ4Q in VA

K7SV:

I have really been impressed with the number of Ontario stations that

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have been active in contesting over the past 10 years or so. Wanted to get on to work as many as I could in the time available. Tks for the Qs!

WB8WKQ: Just "trade" Q's during the MIQP plus a little playing on Sunday.

VE6TL:

Seemed like decent condx but just never heard many Ontario stations. Most had their beams pointed south or east with one saying he was surprised to hear me off the back, like he was disappointed.
Jerry VE6TL

NE8P:

Did MiQP and OQP simultaneously. Moved down to Florida ~3 years ago after having lived our entire life in Michigan. (Still have a summer home "up North") It was nice briefly chatting with all the Michiganders and Ontarians!

K3PP:

Many thanks to our VE3 friends for a well-done QSO Party! Most of this was "remote" in my living room upstairs from the shack.

AA8TA: Thanks fer the Qs. Stay healthy.

VE9AA:

SO1R - about 75% of Q's made with 100w. (a few with 500w)
All Q's made with 1 radio and a single ZS6BKW antenna @ 35' (so, no 160m)

Lost Radio #1 in my SO2R setup when I was running VE9RAC yesterday, but still wanted to get on and give my VE3 neighbours some Q's, as they do 4 me, in most contests.

A bit too close for 20m, so a few ESP Q's were eeked out.

VE3CX was far enough away that he was loud here on 20m. Everyone else, notsomuch !
73 es CU (all of a sudden) in the next one.

VE3MV:

K3 with trap sloper on 80 & 40, SteppIR on 20M
Blew a 20A line fuse at 11:55Z so lost over an hour getting that repaired. Still a 100% improvement over last year.

K6SRZ: Poor Ontario! Your QSO party was blindsided by the Pandemmic and the MM contest.

VE3GFN: Sure would help if there weren't two additional major contests on this weekend!

VA3ATW: A nice way to spend stuck at home :)

WØZQ: Thanks to the Contest Club Ontario for sponsoring. 73, Jon

N2CU:

I can see southern Ontario while standing in my driveway, so high band QSOs were minimal.
40m was ESP level but I'm glad our friends to the north dug out my signal. Had fun with more activity than I'd ever heard in the ONQP. 75m QSOs were low power for lack of a resonant antenna

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up there, but with the close proximity to VE3 it didn't seem to matter much.

73, Tom N2CU

K6TD(@K6MTU): Fun working VE3s. Go CCO! 73, K6TD

VA3GKO:

Great contest especially at night when the bands got really good.

See you all in the next one.

Greg VA3GKO.

VE3VN:

Saturday only. 100% running, just because, and I wasn't focussed on my score. Hopefully all who needed LGR got it. Lots of confusion due to all the concurrent contests. I moved to bands and modes whenever requested. It was nice to hear from several old friends.

K8TE:

Where was everybody? I found (heard) only nine ops Sunday morning.

There were many great signals on both days, although 20m had very deep fades between here and there. I hope you are all safe and healthy and hope to hear many more of you next year!

73, Bill, K8TE

K9GDF: Antenna is rain gutter and downspouts.

W1AJT(VE3UTT):

Great fun as always and of course great to meet all the CCO members on the air.

Keep safe.

VA3DF:

OK - where do I get me one of them T-shirts that say (Life's too short for QRP)?

The more astute among you may have noticed a new wrinkle in the above score summary - I got me an amp!

Took the new Elecraft KPA500 out for a test spin in the OQP and was very impressed.

Didn't really got at it that hard - cause everybody knows you don't have to work hard when you run HP! Going to HP from the home qth was not an easy decision, especially when your job is selling pencils on a street corner, so I gave the decision considerable thought and weighed all the pros and cons.

On the one hand, there was no doubt that I liked the amp's color and it would fit in well with my other Elecraft stuff. Also, there was space on an empty corner of the operating desk. Elecraft was going to increase the price and buying at a lower cost was important (see above re pencils).

After a lifetime of riding in the back of the bus, maybe it was time to move up a few seats - so to speak. But what really put things over the top was the thought that, if, in my lifetime, anyone ever operates from Bouvet, I don't want to be on the outside looking in. Makes sense - right? I lost the list of cons but that doesn't matter cause I wanted the amp anyway.

Oh, I'll probably still do the occasional contest as LP but even if I never use the amp again - it will still look real good sitting on that corner of the desk!

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As usual, it's a jungle out there. Surprisingly, even when you run HP.

73,

Doug
VA3DF

N4LZ: Tried. Worked just about everyone I could hear.

K6MM:

I was hoping for more VE3 activity but it looks like the pandemic and other contests got it in the way. Still a fun contest. Congrats to the organizers and thanks for the Qs.

73, John, K6MM

WB40MM: Lucky enough to get all three bonus stations!

VE3VY: Single element wire antennas only for HF @ 100W maximum.

VE3SST:

I did much better than last year. On for twice the time but managed almost 3 times the contacts and 7 times total score. Thanks to all the stations that could hear me!

KJ9C: K3, KPA500 sometimes, low stealth dipoles

AB1J:

Just putting a stake in the ground for the State QP Challenge, Province in this case. Not that I'm challenging anyone - just want to be counted present.

73,

Ken, AB1J

VE3KZ: World Amateur Radio Day! WOW!

KU8E: Handed out contacts between other contests that were going on.

NX4N:

Band cdx tough here; my attic dipole usually plays pretty well on 20m but I had several stations unable to hear me at all. Wah! Still, had fun - thanks VE3 friends for the QSO's!

And of course, see you next week in FQP!

vy 73/OJ,

Chris, NX4N

W6NKR: Worked all three bonus stations

VA3LR:

Had fun but my RF issue reared its ugly head again. I thought I had it solved ... thanks to all that responded to my calls. My CW skills are still not even close to attempt a contest ... yet. This was Phone only.

VE3SMA:

Activity seemed pretty high on HF, not so much on VHF. I was surprised that

I was able to run stations on 40 & 80 as well as I did, with a very modest antenna.

KM4HI:

First Ontario QP. Lots of fun chasing VE3's but had to wait out several "VE walls" with VEs calling the VE3s. 80m edged out 20m as the \$\$ band. Thanks to all VE3's who got me into their logs.
73 de Jim KM4HI

VE3RKS: Quick few contacts to contribute.

VE3CX:

Thanks for the Q's. Conditions were better than expected!

Tom - VE3CX

WA9LEY: Attic dipoles

WN4AFP: One of my favorite contests.

VE3DQN:

Seemed like lots of action during the short periods I could give to this contest. How about laying plans to get every Ontario county active next year? This could be developed as one of the major state/province QSO parties.

K8MR:

A few QSOs in amongst the Michigan QSO Party and many games of Spider Solitaire. Hope to catch many of our Canadian friends in the Florida QSO Party next weekend!

73 - Jim K8MR

N6GP:

California and Ontario almost have a "sister city" kind of relationship with our QSO parties. With Visalia DX Convention out of the picture this year, I hope the CA participation was huge. Sadly, the MM DX Contest this weekend might be sucking some of the oxygen out of the ONQP. It is becoming a BIG contest.

K4XL: Reasonable conditions and lots of good Ontario ops! Very enjoyable test.

VA6RCN:

Much higher than the 10 points I made last year. Still, a lot of stations that could not hear me...not much to be said for a ground mounted vertical and beam at 25 feet.

NS2N:

Thanks, neighbors!

VA3RAC(VE3NNT):

Some of you might be wondering why you didn't hear me on Sunday morning. Some of you have great scores. All I have is a great story, just not a happy one.

Operating remote has it's challenges. The COVID lockdown has its pros and cons. The benefit is that many more stations were on the air, which offered an opportunity to

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break some scoring records. The con is that with everyone at home watching Netflix, the internet is struggling to keep up.

Everything started out well for me Saturday afternoon, although I never found a sweet

spot on SSB. I probably wasn't on the right frequencies to attract attention.

Saturday

evening was another story. My station is set up for SO2R and I can use 2 keyboards when

I run my Flex SmartSDR CAT and DAX from my remote location with the Maestro. With the

internet jitter/delay (often exceeding 1 second) and dropped packets that would last

something like 15 seconds, either the Maestro or the CAT and DAX software would lose

connection with the radio. Then it took 5 minutes to get everything up and running again.

It got to the point around 7 or 8 pm that I could only make 1 contact between lost connections. I took a dinner break. When I returned, I decided to give up on the 2 keyboard SO2R and instead did a remote desktop connection to the station PC and ran CAT and DAX there. That was better since they didn't rely on the internet connection to stay alive.

I got up Sunday morning and decided to start with 75M SSB. Strangely, my amplifier kept complaining about SWR exceeded, even though it looked low enough when I hit the tune button. Then I went to 20 CW and heard VA3DF calling CQ and got ready to call him, but something happened. First, the radio complained that I was out of band, and I couldn't get rid of that TX inhibit until I powered the radio off and on again. Then I discovered that I had lost connection to my Antenna Genius switch, so I had no antennas. There was only one solution ... to drive to the cottage to see what was going on.

Now the story gets worse. When I arrived, I discovered that my 80M Yagi was tilted. I went up the tower and saw that 3 of the 4 bolts holding the boom to the mast plate had sheered. The antenna was hanging on by a thread. So I came down, got a sturdy tree strap and went back up to strap the boom to the mast so the antenna wouldn't fall when the last bolt breaks. Then it was 2 pm and OQP was over.

Next was a call to Guthrie's to try to arrange an emergency visit to reattach the boom to the mast plate ... hopefully later this week.

Now you know why you didn't hear VA3RAC today.

KØJP Single Op LP 3,596 2020-04-20 00:19:51

I sure did miss being in Kenora, ON, (KEN) this year! Propagation from far northwest Minnesota was tough. 40 was very long and 20 was...well it was 20. 80 was okay but our low long-wire antenna does not do very well there. Nada on 15 and 10. I could have had a few more Qs and mults but I forgot to check 160! ;<(Next year I'll be back in KEN with my VE3 call, VE3RUA.

K4BAI Single Op HP 5,863 2020-04-20 00:21:41

Good activity in spite of a lot of competition from other contests. Bands in fair shape from GA to ON. Thanks for all QSOS. 73, John, K4BAI

K9NW:

Good activity!

Tnx QSOS!

73, Mike K9NW

N8FYL: A few contacts while working the MI QP, and 4 more on Sunday morning with Eastern Ontario counties only.

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AC6ZM: Played a bit during Saturday while operating the CQMM DX. Thanks for the Q's.

VE3ODX(VE3JM):

This year I was asked to operate as a bonus station. I have never operated seriously in this contest and didn't know what to expect.

I tried to balance a bit operating between CW and phone so I can be available on both modes, even though SSB is not my first choice and I didn't have time to properly set SO2R box for phone.

I didn't bother moving stations, only tried moving one station.

Thought I operated long enough on phone, but was still asked to QSY to SSB.

Tough going with all that activity from the MM DX contest. Still fun, and hope most of the stations were not having trouble finding VE3ODX.

N4CW: On-again, off-again fun over the weekend. I worked only one county line station.

N9OU: Worked who I heard.

WØBH: A fun MIQP / ONQP weekend on WARD! Thanks to all for the Qs ..

KC2WUF: 5w Yaesu FTDX3000 with 100 foot long wire

KØVBU: Not much time.....Tnx.

73

Bill KØVBU

N4XL: Sorry to VE3MGY. Thought he was talking to someone else on freq and not me so I didn't work him.

Wasn't til later I figured out he was asking me to work him for this QP since no one was answering my CQ's to MIQP.

Kevan N4XL

KEØTT: 50 watts to two selectable dipoles up 40 to 45'. Thanks for the fun ! 73, Dan keØtt

OM2VL(@OM8A): After 6 years I taked part again on the MI QP. Band was full of contesting stations in various contests.

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(3): 15x

Thanks for the QSOs!

73, Laci OM2VL

K4TZ: TS590Sg 100w to dipole in the attic

KA6BIM: Seemed like lots more activity this year. QSO's up by 46% & Score up by 43% and I found 9 more counties.

Would have had more but many VE3 operators went to 40 to work East coast while 20 was still open here to the West Coast.

Thank you for the QSO's

Dave KA6BIM

WR3R: Tks for all the fun! 73s, Gary WR3R

K3KU: Saturday night and Sunday. 80/75M and 160M quietest I have ever heard; signals -- even SSB -- popped up like I hear at other stations.. Maybe it was the absence of intermod from band-cramming high-power sigs.

This weekend I focused on working our Ontario friends. I'll be looking for you all again in RAC Canada Day.

Even though "assistance" is allowed for single Op's I am not set up for it, so I was not aware when, say, a bonus station was on the "other" mode. Hence, I pestered a few stations for band or mode changes. My apologies.

I did get a few CQ responses from the CQMM participants. "599 MD/NA" I only logged one of them, a VA4 (whose call I must have busted; it does not exist). N1MM+ pre-filled "MB"; he sent "NA". I left it in the log because I got confused for a moment and thought all Canadians counted.

W1WBB: worked special 10-point calls a total of ten times: VA3CCO (3), VA3RAC (4), VE3ODX (3).

Missed going to 160m after wrapping up with MiQP...lost a few Q's/mults there.

All the Day #1 contacts found via spinning the dial as I was UNassisted Op without spotting network while simultaneously working in the MiQP. Good activity from our VE3 friends!

VY2LI: First official contest entry since my old QTH in early 2018. A cobbled wire DP with the apex at ~7 feet.

Loaded well...didn't hear great! Thanks to those that worked me.73, Bill VY2LI

W9ILY: Optibeam 9/5 and rotating dipole for 40M.

W1QK: Thanks for the contacts. 73-Dan, W1QK

K3WJV: Rural wooded location 1255ft ASL

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WA6URY: Tnx for the Qs! 73, Dan - remote in Tokyo

N8II:

Saturday, I was seriously focusing on the MIQP which definitely hurt the 80M totals.

I was disappointed with the 80M activity I did hear, no time to call CQ ON on 75M. Closer areas of ON were skipping over me on 40 Saturday leading to a very low 40M QSO count the first day. Sunday, 40M was about the only game in town and propagation

improved by 15Z to include all ON stations beyond my skip zone. Even W1's were working ON easily. New stations kept popping up right until the end. Thanks for all of the QSO's and I like the new mults per band rule which encourages less used bands.

73 and stay well, Jeff

VE3KTB:

Father-son team

VE3AD:

FUN CONTEST