

# 2010 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest Results

Silver Anniversary event yields thrilling  
“Tropo” for the Midwest.

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Jim, KØKFC, operates in eastern South Dakota from the I-29 Summit rest area in EN15lj. Here he is beaming north to Winnipeg and Barry, VE4MA, in EN19lu.

The ARRL 10 GHz and Up contest, held August 21-22 and September 18-19, 2010, yielded fun and adventure for many who participated. On the microwave bands thrills come from conquering challenges that should make a contact impossible. Tight antenna beamwidths, low transmit power levels and obstructing terrain and foliage make completing microwave contacts difficult. When an operator considers the significant barriers to making a contact — yet there is the signal in the rig — the reward is the “zing” of success.

## 2010 Contest Highlights

Some areas of the nation had below average conditions while the Midwest enjoyed a rare tropospheric ducting event. On the September weekend, John, W3HMS and Joe, WA3PTV visited their favorite site in FN00wc but experienced the worst conditions they’ve yet seen in five years of 10 GHz activity. At the other extreme, the Upper Midwest experienced the finest tropo opening yet seen during a 10 GHz contest. Winnipeg, Manitoba, the eastern edge of the Dakotas, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois enjoyed a real thrill as frontal boundaries spun through the area on Sunday morning of the August weekend. Several overland contacts were made in the 700km range. The longest one reported was between Barry, VE4MA (EN19lu) and Steve, N4PZ (EN52gb) at a whopping 1046 km!

During the September weekend, Lake Michigan had activity along both shores. Bob, K2YAZ near Glen Arbor, MI hosted a group of operators who explored many of the shoreline locations in the northwest corner of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula and worked other groups along Lake Michigan’s western shore. The August weekend found Lake Erie particularly hopping as a group activated several locations on the northern shore and worked stations along the southern shore and well inland.

The Red River Valley was busy for the August weekend. First, a portable group set

up both days as a portable operation in eastern South Dakota at the “Summit” rest area along I-29. Also, a rover group operated from many locations between Fargo and Grand Forks, ND. Fixed stations in the region worked the rover

group at as many of their stops as possible.

### Top 10 Scores

10 GHz Only	Score	10 GHz and Up	Score
KK6MK	58,803	AA6IW	57,919
WØZQ	55,769	N6RMJ	54,215
WBØLJC	55,130	W6BY	45,481
KCØIYT	53,933	KI6TWT	43,302
NØKP	50,938	N9JIM	35,020
WA2VOI	47,054	N1JEZ	30,372
KE6HPZ	44,107	W6QIW	27,629
W6SR	37,530	KC6QHP	23,328
AF1T	36,369	W1GHZ	23,144
KØKFC	33,811	AD6FP	23,133

### Top 10 QSOs Completed

10 GHz Only	QSOs	10 GHz and Up	QSOs
KCØIYT	280	AA6IW	287
WBØLJC	249	N6RMJ	283
WØZQ	247	W6BY	213
KK6MK	238	KI6TWT	189
KE6HPZ	230	N9JIM	175
WA2VOI	222	WA6CGR	133
NØKP	194	W6QIW	130
KØMHC	168	KC6QHP	120
WB6JDH	155	KA1OJ	112
KØKFC	151	N1JEZ	109

### Participation by Call Area

Call Area	Call Entries	Area	Entries
6	37	9	5
Ø	21	5	4
1	16	2	3
VE	11	3	3
8	10	DX	1
4	7	7	0

## Expanded Report on Website

Be sure to check out the expanded web version report at [www.arrl.org/contests](http://www.arrl.org/contests) with more reporting, analysis, and graphics. — look for the 2010 10 GHz and Up listing.

## 10 GHz Only

In the 10 GHz Only category, Rex, KK6MK led all 88 operators in this class with a score of 58,803. Rex topped Jon, WØZQ in second place with 55,769, by having more unique call signs (59) worked despite Jon’s slightly greater distance point total. Third, fourth, and sixth places went to WBØLJC, KCØIYT and WA2VOI who traveled with WØZQ in eastern ND on the first weekend and southern MN on the second weekend. In fifth place was Dave, NØKP.

Longest DX in the 10 GHz Only category goes to VE4MA and N4PZ with their 1046 km shot mentioned earlier. Between Virginia and New England’s Mount Washington, Larry, K1LPS and Gary, NA4N completed an excellent DX contact of 845 km.

## 10 GHz and Up Category

Just like last year, the “And Up” category received 31 logs. Topping this category in points is Lars, AA6IW with 57,919 points. Of the logs submitted in this category, all made contacts on 10 GHz and 24 GHz. Five operators submitted contacts on the 47 GHz band. In the 10 GHz and Up category, N1JEZ had the longest 10 GHz distance with 845 km. Gary, AD6FP had the longest distances on 24 GHz at 526 km and also on 47 GHz at 181 km. No activity was submitted for 78 GHz and above this year.

## Looking Ahead — The Next Quarter Century

Congratulations to the 119 microwave operators who met the challenges for the 2010 contest. For 2011, make a point to get on the air for this event. Put it on your calendar for August 20-21, 2011 and September 17-18, 2011. Plan a new adventure different from past years. Also, include new operators in your plans to expand the fun.