

The 2005 California QSO Party

<http://www.cqp.org>

by N6RCE

cqp@contesting.com

The 40th running of CQP is now in the record books. CQP 2005 was all about the double 'OAT record setting operations.

K2RD (callsign W6OAT), drove the K6IDX station to a new El Dorado county record of 295,395 pts for a 47% increase.

W6OAT, at the "urging" of W6ZZZ, hammered his old NV (state) record, operating W7RN @ K5RC. The old record stood for 22 years. This state record may stand for a very long time.

K6VVA set his sites on the San Benito county record, beating the old one that stood since 1988.

Other record setting activities include W6PH (INYO county), N6MJ @ W6YI (San Diego), and W0BH for a new Kansas state record.

Congrats to all these fine Ops for their record setting operations. See the table further in for the details.

SINGLE OP RESULTS - CA

Besides a new San Diego record, N6MJ @ W6YI took top slot this year with 374K pts. Second place was handily filled by K6LA at 315K pts. N6MJ just pulled out more QSOs - 2743 versus K6LA's 2236. The remaining top slot was filled with 306K pts by K6XX with 2145 QSOs. This year, it was the battle of QSOs. All top slots had a sweep.

The Low power category was lead by K6AM with a 217K pts and a sweep, from San Diego county. Followed by AA6PW with 209K pts and and W6JTI with 160K pts. AA6PW actually had 30 more QSOs in the log than K6AM. The 1st place goes to K6AM though, for pulling out 63 more CW QSOs to AA6PW greater 93 Phone QSOs. Congrats to all three ops for a great operation and excellent finish.

CQP has traditionally been a Phone contest. K6XX boasted this is the first year he didn't go begging for CW contacts. More and more 1st versus 2nd place slots are decided by the op with the greater CW total.

As is the CQP tradition, the top 20 Single-Op entrants take home a bottle of vintage CQP wine from WK6I's Twisted Oaks Winery. The results page gives the full details on these ops. Getting into the top 20 took a score of 176K, down from last year.

SINGLE OP RESULTS - non CA

The top Single-op spot was taken by a new, yet familiar op - VA7RR @ VE7SZ. VA7RR is a long time NCCC member, and chaired this contest for many years, before passing the task to AD6E.

2nd place is filled by long time CQP entrant K5TR, followed by K5GA.

K5TR had more total QSOs (1088 to 1070). Again, VA7RR pulled out 61 more CW QSOs, to George's 79 Phone QSO delta. This contest was decided again by the greater CW total. Both had sweeps.

K5GA did more CW QSOs than either of the top two (13 and 74). However, his Phone count was almost 100 behind the other two. The skill in this contest is getting the right balance.

Congrats to all three ops!

The Low Power category saw WD5K with the top slot, followed by VE6EX and W8MJ. No CW versus Phone ratios here. Each op did more CW and Phone QSOs than the one below, with all three of them producing a CA county sweep. I'm sure they've already filed for their WACC award!

Look at the results summary page for a list of the ops taking home a bottle of CQP wine. This year, the point spread from the 1st place to 20th place was 71K, almost the score it took to get into the top 20.

MULTI-SINGLE -

A new county expedition team of WC6H and W6CT took 1st place by 89 QSOs. W6PT, the 2nd place finisher, actually had 148 more CW QSOs. That couldn't overcome the 237 Phone QSO advantage WC6H had.

W6YX was only 116 pts behind W6PT for a 3rd place finish. W6YX had more CW QSOs, but the greater Phone QSOs for W6PT held the day for them over W6YX.

Overall, the M/S category is generating more interest in CQP, especially for county expeditions. Practice during field day leads to great CQP performance and the fun can be had twice a year.

| | CW | SSB | total | Mult | Score | |
|--------|------|------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| WC6H | 837 | 1250 | 2087 | 58 | 290725 | MS |
| W6PT | 985 | 1013 | 1998 | 58 | 288985 | MS C |
| W6YX | 1017 | 964 | 1981 | 58 | 288869 | MS S |
| AC6T | 1017 | 907 | 1924 | 58 | 282315 | MS |
| K6VO | 698 | 1273 | 1971 | 58 | 269265 | MS |
| K6LRN | 570 | 728 | 1298 | 57 | 180604 | MS |
| NX6T | 626 | 478 | 1104 | 58 | 164372 | MS |
| N6A | 595 | 537 | 1132 | 57 | 162963 | MS |
| WN6K | 691 | 347 | 1038 | 57 | 157776 | MS L |
| N6JS | 0 | 1189 | 1189 | 58 | 137982 | MS |
| N6G | 412 | 584 | 996 | 56 | 134764 | MS C |
| K6XV | 330 | 586 | 916 | 58 | 125396 | MS |
| AB6WN | 0 | 882 | 882 | 56 | 98784 | MS |
| W6BBL | 0 | 612 | 612 | 57 | 69825 | MS |
| K6WLCL | 12 | 473 | 485 | 56 | 55132 | MS L |
| N6S | 61 | 320 | 381 | 48 | 39576 | MS C |
| K6MJB | 0 | 334 | 334 | 46 | 30728 | MS L |
| W6M | 0 | 290 | 290 | 51 | 29580 | MS L |
| K6PUD | 98 | 86 | 184 | 47 | 22019 | MS |
| KW6N | 0 | 201 | 201 | 45 | 18090 | MS L |
| W6SF | 0 | 134 | 134 | 43 | 11524 | MS L |
| W6ABE | 0 | 158 | 158 | 36 | 11412 | MS L |
| N6TCY | 0 | 103 | 103 | 29 | 5974 | MS L C |
| W6KA | 0 | 97 | 97 | 26 | 5044 | MS L C |
| KG6WQT | 0 | 48 | 48 | 24 | 2328 | MS L |
| KY6LA | 0 | 37 | 37 | 15 | 1110 | MS |
| KG6KVI | 0 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 16 | MS L |

Six M/S teams joined the fun this year from non-CA QTH's. AA3B was far the leader with more than twice the score of the 2nd place entrant. The team ranked 14th overall, including all the CA M/S entrants – that's quite an accomplishment! Congratulations. Good to see VY1MB on. Reports he wouldn't be able to make CQP this year.

| | CW | SSB | total | Mult | Score | |
|-------|-----|-----|-------|------|-------|------|
| AA3B | 264 | 219 | | 57 | 70167 | MS |
| N7LR | 117 | 139 | | 55 | 34677 | MS |
| W5KFT | 147 | 25 | | 44 | 21648 | MS L |
| VE6AO | 0 | 196 | 196 | 48 | 1888 | MS |
| VY1MB | 0 | 83 | 83 | 41 | 6806 | MS L |
| N3CA | 0 | 43 | 43 | 26 | 2236 | MS L |

MULTI-MULTI -

The Radio Oakley (N6O) crew again put on a full operation with seven ops and five transmitters. This operation included KG6KZV, a new contester getting his training with the best. This crew turned in the highest score for any log.

The traditional Modoc county expedition of KS6U by the Central Oregon DX Club was on again for 2005, turning in excellent results.

The N7YDX crew opened up at Imperial County for a good time. This is the Yuma, AZ DX Association.

| | CW | SSB | total | Mult | Score | |
|-------|------|------|-------|------|---------|--------|
| N6O | 1442 | 2081 | | 58 | 492,304 | MM |
| KS6U | 781 | 680 | | 58 | 214,861 | MM C |
| N7YDX | 0 | 112 | 112 | 34 | 7,616 | MM L C |

MOBILES -

Mobile activity saw a new entrant this year. Kit, WA6PWW took his super sized truck on the road, along with Ron, W6AZ visiting nine Northern CA counties for a QSO total of 113. They will be back next year, bigger and better. Of note, Kit is the ARRL Section Manager for Santa Clara.

Regulars K0DI and K0KTZ operated K6AQL from twenty three counties for a QSO total of 1,447.

Colusa County netted the most QSOs for both K6AQL and WA6PWW.

Other mobile entries include W6KY with a total QSO count of 206, NS6RR with 106 QSOs. Two out non-CA mobiles submitted entries as well: KF6GL from Florida with 21 QSOs, and W8AKS from Nevada with 116 QSOs.

K6AQL submitted the only log for Merced count, while WA6PWW submitted the only log for Trinity county.

COUNTY EXPEDITIONS -

County expeditions are the only way to get some of the counties on the air. Some expeditions are an annual gathering of an operating team. Some are a little unusual. All are fun and non-CA ops look for specific expeditions year after year.

For this 40th running of CQP, the top S/O slot goes to W6ML in Mono county with 160K points. 2nd place goes to now veteran county expeditioner N6ZFO with 102K points. N6ZFO had an adventure this year with his

vehicle that grants him "veteran" status. He's now a regular in Tehama County.

The top M/S county expedition goes to W6PT in Imperial county with almost 289K points.

Completing the awards for top M/M expedition is the KS6U crew in Modoc county with 214K pts.

| | Mult | CW | SSB | County | Score | |
|--------|------|-----|------|-------------|---------|------|
| W6ML | 57 | 640 | 446 | Mono | 160,340 | SO |
| N6ZFO | 54 | 444 | 280 | Trinity | 102,249 | SO L |
| N6YEU | 54 | 343 | 204 | Colusa | 77,733 | SO L |
| W6C | 49 | 394 | 198 | Vent | 77,371 | SO L |
| N6LL | 47 | 235 | 23 | Tulare | 35,297 | SO L |
| K6EZ | 44 | 224 | 31 | Lassen | 32,296 | SO L |
| N6LL | 48 | 237 | 39 | Tulare | 37,944 | SO L |
| K6AUC | 44 | 152 | 106 | Del Norte | 29,392 | SO L |
| W6A | 43 | 77 | 34 | Sierra/Plu | 11,008 | SO L |
| WB6PVU | 10 | 0 | 17 | Alp/Cala | 340 | SO L |
| N6NZ | 1 | 0 | 1 | Santa Cruz | 2 | SO L |
| W6PT | 58 | 985 | 1013 | Imperial | 288,985 | MS |
| N6G | 56 | 412 | 584 | Glenn | 134,764 | MS |
| N6S | 48 | 61 | 320 | Sierra | 39,576 | MS |
| N6TCY | 29 | 0 | 103 | San Joaquin | 5974 | MS L |
| W6KA | 26 | 0 | 97 | Inyo | 5,044 | MS L |
| KS6U | 58 | 781 | 680 | Modoc | 214,861 | MM |
| N7YDX | 34 | 0 | 112 | Imperial | 7,616 | MM L |

2005 CQP brought interesting WX to the northern CA county expeditions. Most didn't survive past Saturday sunset. Those that did survived rain, wind gusts greater than 40 mph and a pretty deep freeze by Sunday sunrise. That played a factor in non-CA sweeps...

SWEEPS -

One of the exciting elements is to work a sweep – all 58 counties for non-CA entrants, or all 58 states and RAC Prov for CA entrants. Sweeps were a little hard this year, for both sides of the contest. More on that in a minute.

The first to work all 58 non-CA mults is W6TK in 6 hrs and 20 minutes. But, the story doesn't end there. Skill is definitely the bigger part of a sweep, and being first to sweep. This year, it took a little more – luck and being at the right place, at the right time, in the right mode.

AT 22:18Z, (3PM PDT), many stations were at 57 mults, looking for Utah. KB7RUQ came on the air from Utah, 40M SSB. He started at the top of the band, and started working stations as he was able to copy their CQ. First up was W6TK, followed by W6PH, followed by KF6T, giving each operator their 58th multiplier. Oh, and Jim only operated SSB for the contest. CW counts as an important element in CQP, but, clearly it's not a CW only contest.

Non-CA first to sweep was again this year by N4PN, in 5hrs and 15mins, beating last year's time by 44 minutes. Congrats to Paul!

Of course, this 1st to 58 also has a story to it as well. N4PN beat out venerate Yukon Territory contester VY1JA by only twelve minutes! N4PN found N6AJR in Solano county at 21:15. Twelve minutes later, VY1JA found N6ZFO in Tehama county for his 58th mult.

WD5K was more than an hour back from VY1JA, also finding N6ZFO for his 58th mult.

A total of 17 non-CA stations were able to work a sweep of all 58 CA counties. If you didn't work the northern counties by Saturday sundown, you missed them.

Sweeps of all CA counties by non-CA:

| | | |
|-------|--------|-------|
| N4PN | K5TR | VE3CR |
| VY1JA | WB5KIA | |
| WD5K | K9DXR | |
| VE7SZ | K0CIE | |
| VE6EX | VE6TN | |
| KE9I | WA1FCN | |
| W8MJ | K4BAI | |
| W0BH | K4EA | |

A sweep from California was a little easier, if you worked KB7RUQ from Utah, with a total of 27 stations making a sweep. The most difficult states were again North Dakota and Hawaii.

Sweeps of all states and provinces:

| | | | |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| N6O | W6PH | W6PT | NX6T |
| W6TK | K6VO | AC6T | K6IF |
| WC6H | K6MR | NT6K | W6FA |
| KF6T | K6LA | K6KDK | |
| K6NA | W6YI | W6XU | |
| W6OAT | W6YX | N6AHA | |
| K6XV | K6XX | K6AM | |
| N6JS | KS6U | K6RB | |

CLUBS -

Mother Lode DX & Contest Club again was the top CA club with 2.2M pts and 21 logs. Redwood Empire put on some competition this year with 14 logs and 1.3M pts. More logs from those high scoring Northern Counties, and REDXA could take the top CA club spot. MBARA made a very strong showing this year. Maybe they will take top spot in a few years.

CCO again took the top spot for non-CA competition. Just barely. SECC came in with 12 logs versus 26 logs, with ONLY 26K points less. A few more logs submitted, and SECC might have the Plaque to show off on their web page.

Florida contest group, with 8 logs and 279K pts filled up the third slot. SMC took fourth with 7 logs and 239K points. Clubs submitted logs from all points of the compass. It's possible for any club to win this category. It's necessary to get the members out though.

| CA Clubs | # Logs | Total |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------|
| Mother Lode DXCC | 20 | 2,265,692 |
| Redwood Empire DXCC | 14 | 1,312,065 |
| MBARA | 4 | 377,102 |
| San Fernando Valley ARC | 2 | 80,871 |
| Livermore ARK | 1 | 14,076 |
| West Valley ARA | 1 | 6,510 |

| non CA Clubs | # Logs | Total |
|-------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Contest Club Ontario | 26 | 554,360 |
| South East Contest Club | 12 | 533,397 |
| Florida Contest Group | 8 | 279,363 |
| Society of Midwest Contesters | 7 | 239,466 |
| Yankee Clipper Contest Club | 14 | 229,932 |

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|---------|
| Tennessee Contest Group | 9 | 225,528 |
| Frankfort Radio Club | 6 | 182,132 |
| Mad River Radio Club | 6 | 139,639 |
| Western Washington DX Club | 6 | 116,313 |
| PVRC | 6 | 115,394 |
| Grand Mesa Contesters | 4 | 112,429 |
| MN Wireless Association | 6 | 99,740 |
| Willamette Valley DX Club | 2 | 31,266 |

SCHOOLS-

CA School competition was really a Stanford story this year with 288K pts. N6AN tried the QRP route this year, with W6CIT. He decided life was too short for QRP, changed call signs to W6UE and went high power. Not soon enough to catch W6YX.

Carl Hayden High School took the non-CA school top spot with 23K pts.

School competition

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----|---------|
| W6YX | Stanford | MS | 288,869 |
| W6UE | Cal Tech | SO | 230,251 |
| KC7KFF | Carl Hayden | SO | 23,699 |
| | Community High | | |
| | School ARC | | |

QRP-

This category continues to draw very fine stations and operators with 26 logs submitted.

Top CA QRP station for 2005 is K6YR from San Luis Obispo County with 61k pts. His was a completely CW operation, as is usual for QRP stations. In the 2nd place slot is N6WG with 41K pts. Bob also operated CW only.

Top non-CA QRP station is NA4BW from Georgia with 38K pts. In 2nd place is KE0G in Minnesota with 26k pts.

Both top ops are to be congratulated on their success with QRP in this contest.

This year, the top CA tops outscored their non-CA QRPers.

QRP stations:

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| K6YR | KG6UZB | K9DXR | WC7S | VE3IGJ |
| N6WG | W6QE | K7MM | W1KLM | W2VMX |
| NK6A | | N0UR | AA1CA | WD5FGZ |
| W6RCL | NA4BW | W0PQ | W5ESE | |
| KG6TGI | KE0G | W8TM | VA3RKM | |
| W6CIT | VA3DF | KI4FW | N0TK | |

RECORDS -

Six new records were set this year, despite the increasing factor of much lower sunspot activity.

| | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|---------|
| El Dora | W6O AT (K2RD @ K6IDX) | 295,3 94 | K6LR N | 200 4 | 200,3 26 | 47 % |
| Inyo | W6PH | 260,3 33 | W6PH | 200 2 | 251,8 36 | 3% |
| San Benito | K6VV A | 191,0 44 | KG6G F | 198 8 | 169,5 34 | 13 % |
| San Diego | W6YI (N6MJ op) | 374,9 12 | K6NA (N6TR op) | 198 9 | 366,6 18 | 2% |

| | | | | | | |
|--------|------------------------|--------|----------------------|------|--------|-----|
| Kansas | W0BH | 95,207 | N0AG | 2002 | 69,720 | 37% |
| Nevada | W7RN (W6OAT @ K5RC) | 91,200 | WA7NIN (W6OAT op) | 1983 | 73,776 | 24% |

OBSERVATIONS

Overall, the number of logs submitted was down for the 40th running of CQP – just over 600 logs were received, versus 662 for 2004. One thing hasn't decreased – the fun factor!

2005 was a year of change for CQP. The long time chairman, AD6E was co-chair for the Kure Island, K7C DXpedition this year, which occurred during CQP. N6RCE has taken over as chairman. AD6E took two major CQP participants with him – NI6T and W6SRZ.

Several of the normal county operations were not present this year, due to job and family changes.

Logs from DX stations were much lower this year. Total scores and QSO counts overall were down from 2004. The effect of the sun spot cycle is starting to be felt. It's an amazing how an object 93 million miles away can have such a drastic impact on our hobby. The force and power of nature is to be reckoned with.

CQP is sponsored by NCCC and requires a volunteer army to make it happen. Many of the regulars contributed to this years contest – K6RB, AE6Y, WK6I, W0YK, KX7M, N6TV, N6DE, W6OAT, AD6E.

Special thanks goes to WA6O for the new web server for log submission; WX5S for all around contribution; and W6ZZZ for insightful help.

We do it every year for you, the participant because we have fun and we know you have fun!

LOG CHECKING –

Our goal is to provide the best accuracy possible in these results. As always, nothing is perfect and there may be errors. Any error found after publication will be updated on the CQP web site: <http://www.cqp.org>.

Logs without specifically showing an operating category were entered as single op, high power. Many logs were received indicating an operating QTH very different than what others copied them to be on the air. In such cases, we used the vast majority of received reports rather than what was indicated in the log. Before submitting any log, please review it to be sure it has complete and accurate information.

Log checking was tackled by K6III, W6OAT, K6XX, WX5S, N6RCE, W6ISO, and AD6E. Any simple copying error such as wrong NR, wrong QTH, or wrong call was penalized by reducing the score by ½ of that QSO. Double copying errors (e.g. wrong call and wrong NR) or worse were penalized by removing the QSO. The team used extensive search software to be as accurate as possible. Only QSOs that were either proven to be in

error, or had a very highly probable error were reduced. No penalty was given by software alone. There was always a human judge to make the actual decision.

My thanks go to the log checkers who put in many hours of effort to get these results out. Their efforts have made these results more credible. Anyone who submitted a “soft” log can get a report file that details each and every deduction. Please send your request to cqp@contesting.com

Family obligations limited the operating time. Too bad as this is one of my favourite contests. The rotor failed just before the contest so VE3QSK climbed the tower and we manually pointed the Explorer to CA. Worked just fine on 20 and 40.

-- VE3HG

Lots of activity. I appreciate the QRP and CW multipliers.

-- KE0G

Many thanks for those who pulled me out of the noise. I must like to suffer running QRP year after year.

-- NK6A

ELECRAFT K1...5 WATTS...G5RV ANTENNA...ANTENNA TUNER...GREAT FUN!

-- W0PQ

Rigs used were a Ten-Tec TKIT 1380, a Small Wonder Labs SW+, and a Ten-Tec TKIT 1320. My antenna was a 300' Horizontal Loop. Thanks for sponsoring the event. Lots of good CW ops there.

-- W5ESE

FT-817, 5w, vertical and dipole

-- VA3RKM

Only my second contest. Very surprised at how far my signal got out. Thanks to all for your patience.

-- KG6UZZ

15 m slow, 10 m nonexistent, but still great fun to hear all the activity on the other bands. Looking forward to next year!

-- WW6D

Good test for my TA-33SR I just put up. Major Improvement over the wires.

-- W4NTI

Somewhat frustrating this year - have a rare county but couldn't get a good run going. Guess that's what it's like with 100 watts and zero sunspots.

-- W6OT

Once again, mucho fun .. hope to have big station again someday, but just participating is swell! Mark, in Eureka, FAR Northern California

-- AA6DX

Looks like I have an albatross around my neck - never had a sweep and 3 years in a row missed one. 2003 was Glenn, 2004 was Merced and this year Trinity. Also was absolutely no conditions on 15 meters into Nebraska this year. All contacts on 20 and 40 SSB. Will keep trying!!!!

-- N0WY

What a great time! Would have enjoyed having more time on the weekend to participate -- really wanted COL, DELN, GLEN, MARP, MER, PLU, & TRIN. Heard MARP, but they were S&P'ing. Perhaps you should encourage enjoying a great California Vintage DURING the contest.

-- N9ADG