

2025 Georgia QSO Party Results

The Georgia QSO Party



The 2025 iteration of the **Georgia QSO Party** was held on a beautiful spring weekend, April 12th and 13th, with operators across the world enjoying 20 hours of radiosport focused on the Peach state. There was good activity, with 407 submitted logs, of which 338 came from outside of the state. And despite the contest starting off slowly, as skip on 20M and 15M was very long during the Saturday daytime hours, limiting propagation between Georgia and many of the North American population centers, Georgia operators reported 17,262 CW QSOs and 12,553 phone QSOs over the weekend. And for the first time in many years, all (or perhaps almost all) of the 159 counties were on the air for at least a few QSOs. **Dietmar, DL3DXX** worked an incredible 137 Georgia counties on CW alone.

The general consensus was that conditions were rough, especially Saturday. As the contest started on Saturday, the usual pipeline on 20M between Georgia and the club members of the PVRC, CCO and the SMC never materialized, and while there were plenty of QSOs available with ops in Minnesota, Oregon, Oklahoma, New Mexico (during their state QSO party), and Europe of course, most pre-contest plans were scrambled. Many in Georgia turned to 40M early, and found good conditions through the evening hours. 80M was decent as well, especially in the final hour or two of the Saturday operating period. On Sunday morning, there was finally shorter skip on 20M, and most Georgia stations on at 10am local when the contest restarted, were rewarded with good runs. There was also less noise Sunday, leading to many more 20M contacts on the second day. And there were contacts to be made on 15M and even 10M, with OM2VL, KA6BIM and DL3DXX happy to have you QSY.

The absolute highlight of the year was the incredible talent that took to the roads, with six rovers crisscrossing the state, and between them hitting nearly all the 159 counties of Georgia. Between the six of these operations (AD4EB, N4N, W4AN, AC6ZM, N4R and KO4GBB) they made 9,703 contacts. The sheer contesting talent included in these six vehicles is something to behold. **Jim AD4EB's** finely tuned operation made an absolutely incredible 3,531 contacts, all on CW (winning the single-op, CW rover category)—on Sunday he routinely went over 200 QSO/hour. There probably is no easy way to quantify records for state QSO parties mobiles, but this has got to be one of the top achievements ever (in QSOs, it surpassed his 2024 FQP total). Jim and driver **Melody KI4HVV**, have perfected their mobile operation, with phenomenal antennas, and reportedly the loudest signals on the band. Many thanks to Jim and Melody for visiting from neighboring Tennessee and putting 808 miles on their vehicle, and providing those 3,531 QSOs (108 to DL3DXX alone).

N4N (K5JR, KX4MZ and WK4U) returned with their multi-op, two-radio rover in Mike's 2002 Yukon, making 2107 contacts on CW, and 145 contacts on phone, to score 326,925 points. I followed them on APRS for a while, and thought maybe this year I'd snag a 6M contact, but it wasn't to be. **W4AN (K4BAI and KU8E)** did a mixed-mode rover entry this year, covering counties in the southeast of the state on Saturday, and the north on Sunday. They made 1814 contacts on CW and 12 on SSB, winning the multi-op mixed rover category. **Juan, AC6ZM** again returned for a mobile operation, in the single-op, mixed mode rover category, traversing the mountains of north Georgia by himself, and making 1185 CW and 74 phone contacts, all while stationary. Rover **N4R** made 460 CW contacts and 88 SSB contacts, amassing 69,552 points. Kudos to **KO4GBB** for his 287 QRP SSB contacts.

There was a great deal of out-of-state interest, with the six rovers keeping many glued to their radios. The top performance was from **Dietmar, DL3DXX** who made a stunning 341 CW contacts, working 137 Georgia counties, to score 93,434 points, higher than anyone else outside of Georgia – including those who had phone multipliers. Dietmar was particularly dedicated and operated SO2R style so he could make quick QSYs. One-third of his contacts were with Jim AD4EB. **KA6BIM** was the top W/VE entry, scoring 77,190 points from his Oregon QTH to win the mixed-mode, high power plaque (and one for most multipliers/counties). And while many in Georgia worried about the absence of **OM2VL** for most of Saturday, it was only a birthday party that kept him from the radio – Laci returned late Saturday evening (very late in the Slovak Republic), and then was a constant presence in the pile-ups on Sunday. He still amassed 315 QSOs, and the third highest out-of-state score. Many of the QSO party regulars turned in excellent mixed-mode, high-power scores, including AA3R, NE8P, and VE3YT, but all were behind KA6BIM and OM2VL. **W5TM** in Oklahoma won the high-power, CW only

plaque, with 71,424 points. **W6AFA** won the high-power, phone only plaque from Los Angeles County.

There were a number of outstanding out-of-state low-power scores include **NM2A's** low-power CW only entry of 256 QSOs and 115 counties, **WB9HFK's** 43,875 points in the low-power mixed mode entry, and **W4ANT** making 3,256 points on SSB from neighboring state South Carolina, mostly on 40M and 80M, but with a few ground-wave QSOs as well. Some dedicated QRP operators broke through in (some) of the rover pile-ups, and **K2YG** won the mixed-mode, QRP category (with 150 contacts) and K9UIY topped the QRP, CW only category.

For the in-state operators, there was as always intense competition across the state in the fixed-station entries. And the North Fulton club's 1x1 entries did well. **N4F (KO4VW)** won the mixed-mode, high power competition, with 765 CW QSOs and 402 phone QSOs. **N4L (NJ8J)** topped the mixed-mode, low power category, with 91,125 points. **N4A (N4TOL)** was the top in-state CW only finisher, winning the low power plaque. K4R was the low-power, SSB only in-state winner. **N4NYM** was the high-power CW only winner. **K4NV** turned in an exquisite phone-only effort, making 1523 contacts, and scoring 86,811 points, and winning the high-power plaque. Perennial QRP powerhouse **KR4AE** made a very tidy 464 CW QSOs, to top the QRP operators in the state. **N4CN**, in an equally impressive QRP performance, achieved 253 QRP phone contacts to win the QRP, phone plaque.

Despite the gorgeous weather, this weekend did not bring many Georgia portable operators out to play. Newcomer **KQ4PEF** topped the phone only portable efforts, with 330 contacts and 15,088 points. **AA5JF** made 740 contacts from six counties (including four POTA locations) to win the mixed-mode, portable plaque. And a few of those contacts were made from Augusta in Richmond County, just a few miles away from the other sporting event held in Georgia on the second weekend of April.

The club competition was fun as always, with the **North Fulton Amateur Radio League** winning the large in-state club competition and the **Gateway ARC** winning the small club competition. The out-of-state club competition was won by **the Society of Midwest Contesters**.

And for 2026, the GQP again manages to miss Easter – so mark your calendars, April 11th and 12th.

Andrew Goss, AA5JF