



2020 ARKANSAS QSO PARTY SUMMARY

Hello to all 2020 ARQP participants! This year's ARQP was a HUGE record-busting event, which will be pretty tough to beat in the future, although we always welcome new records!

Overall, according to many comments we received, the propagation for this year's ARQP was decent to very good, for the first time in over 5 years. That, probably coupled with many folks staying at home due to the Covid-19 issues, contributed to the best year in Arkansas QSO Party history.

47 records were either set or broken, with many new faces joining the fun. 47 out of 50 states submitted log entries this year, tying last year's record.

Another record was shattered with 411 log entries received, steamrolling the 189 entries from last year. Along with the 47 states, we had 3 provinces represented from our Canadian neighbors. And, another record was broken with 9 DX stations submitting log entries! ***THANKS TO ALL OF YOU OUT-OF-STATE OPERATORS FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!!***

We also offer-up a HUGE word of thanks to our great Arkansas fixed and portable stations this year who put forth a stellar job in activating 45 of Arkansas' 75 counties!

Although the Covid-19 issue did impact our mobile station activity, Connie & Pam – K5CM & N5KW, and Bob – N4CD braved the roads of Arkansas and turned-in great activity and great scores as our two lone mobile stations. ***THANKS CONNIE, PAM, and BOB!!!***

(Hopefully, the virus issue will be relaxed for next year's ARQP, and we will return to normal mobile station activity!)

The ARQP Co-Bonus Stations also experienced the best results in the history of the QSO party – WR5P and W5YO combined for a total of 553 CW QSOs and 659 SSB QSOs for a grand total of 1,212 contacts. The two stations also logged 103 cumulative multipliers between them. ***THANKS TO ALL THE BONUS STATION OPS FOR MAKING THESE NUMBERS POSSIBLE!***

We also received numerous comments (as can be viewed on the Soapbox option on the ARQP website) on how much fun many participants had, both in-state and out-of-state...which is what the ARQP is all about.

And now, a special announcement and a fond farewell –

I have headed the Chairmanship for the Arkansas QSO Party for almost 20 years. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve in this capacity, experiencing excitement in compiling scores and standings and meeting new friends all over the U.S., Canada, and DX entities. (Thanks to Tom-W5XNA for helping me with score tabulations this year!!!) It is now time to 'pass the torch' to a younger generation of hams here in northwest Arkansas, who I know will keep the 'ARQP fire' going.

It is my great pleasure to announce that the annual Arkansas QSO Party will now be sponsored by the *Noise Blankers Radio Group, callsign WR5P*. NBRG (as many of you who have participated in past ARQPs know) has served as Co-Bonus Station several times for our event, doing a real FB job every time. They are a fine group of hams who love the hobby, love what they do to encourage participation, and serve our local community with radio assistance in the public service. There is no doubt in my mind that they will continue the ARQP tradition with integrity and respect, promoting the event and our great state of Arkansas.

They also have an excellent website they maintain:

<https://www.noiseblankers.com>

I extend the very best of wishes to the Noise Blankers as they assume the Chair for the annual Arkansas QSO Party.

(You don't get rid of me that easily, though! I'll still be mobiling the Arkansas backroads in future ARQPs!!! Hi, hi!)

We hope that all of you will join us again next year for the 2021 running of the ARQP. Until then, have a safe remainder of 2020, and 73 from The Natural State!

Don, K5DB