

## 2016 KC9UR Pontoon Portable “APE” Tall Tales

For 2016, Stan (W9SMR/9) and I (Bob – KC9UR) set up two stations on the front porch overlooking the rain-soaked pontoon boat at Stan’s cottage on Round Lake in northeast Indiana, and operated two evenings and two days (i.e. from Monday (8/14) evening through Wednesday (8/16) afternoon). As in past years, we offered a custom QSL card plus a custom certificate to everyone who worked us on 3 or more bands. This year there were 14 certificate winners (a.k.a. certified “APE Hunters”), down slightly from last year’s 18, but the persistence of this year’s hunters was absolutely amazing, with 5 hunters working us on 3 bands, 5 working us on 4 bands, 2 working us on 5 bands, 1 working us on 7 bands, and 1 working us on 8 bands!



**"APEs" Stan (W9SMR/9 - left) and Bob (KC9UR) operating from Stan's front porch.**

The weather definitely turned out to be an issue this year. It was sunny and really hot during setup Sunday and Monday with the weather man predicting rain, so we decided to forgo operating from the pontoon boat and set up the rigs on Stan's front porch (that turned out to be one of our better decisions). The rain started Monday evening about the time we started operating, and continued pretty much unabated until mid-day Wednesday – a total of 6 inches! Contact-wise, the total QSO count was

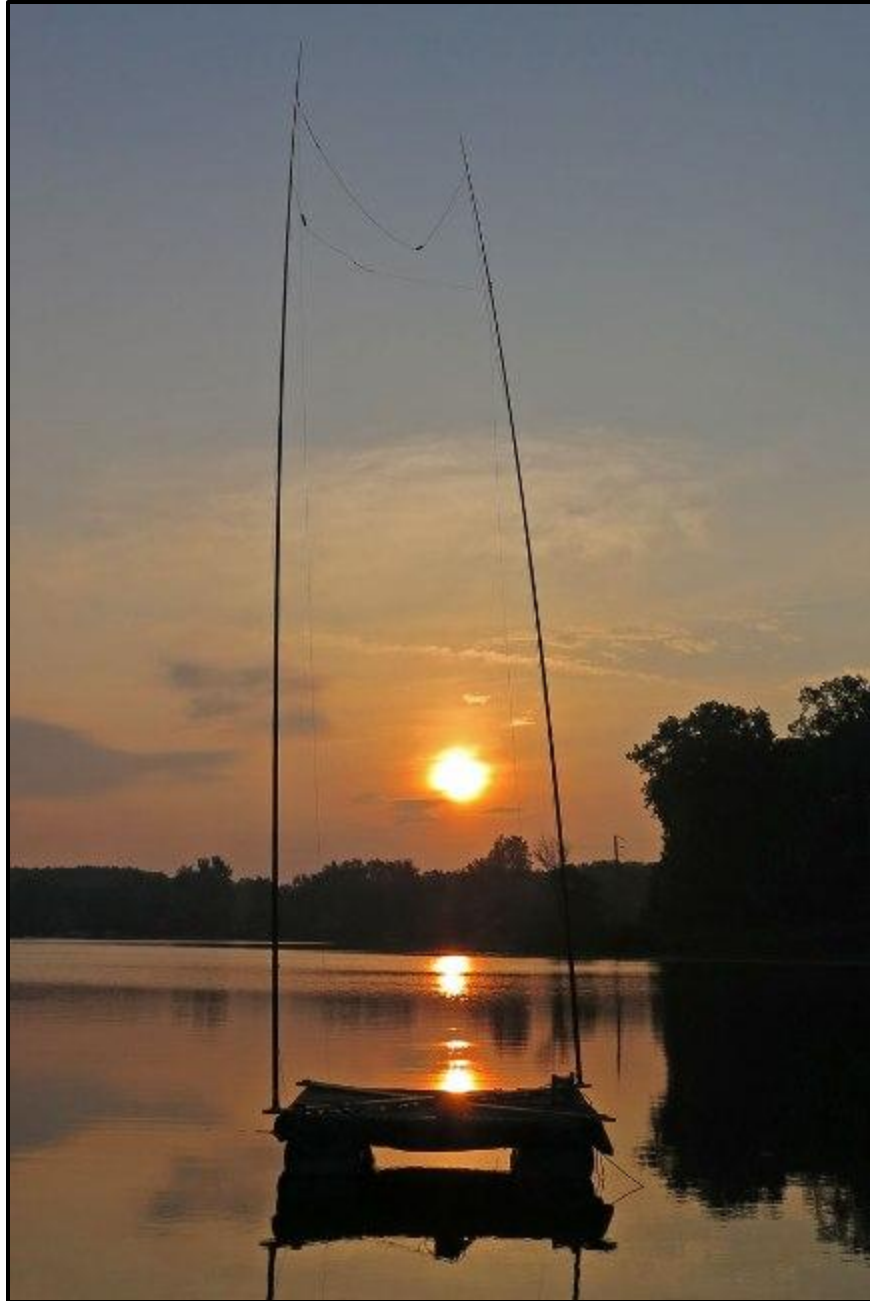
down slightly from last year – 209 this year vs. 222 last year - working QSOs in 39 states and 9 countries. With the declining solar activity, DX contacts were down, but the number of short-hop US states worked was up. With the exception of 12 meters, we had QSOs on all bands between 80M – 6M (we called CQ and monitored 12M numerous times, but heard nothing). Our lesson learned for the year was “don’t just listen – call CQ to drag other listeners into a QSO” – a number of times we called CQ on supposedly “dead” bands and stirred up some contacts. Also, don’t hesitate to call CQ when the propagation prediction is lousy – some “All Time New Ones” (ATNOs) may be waiting for your call – it’s what makes ham radio so exciting and fascinating!



**Map of 2016 KC9UR Pontoon Portable APE Contacts (map by K2DSL web application at [www.levinecentral.com/adif2map/](http://www.levinecentral.com/adif2map/))**

Kudos go to all 14 certificate winners. Working us on three (3) bands were K5SP, K8TOM, N4KP, N5AYB and WA4MIT. Working us on four (4) bands were K7OP, KE4JB, KJ4IZW, NU4C and W3HF. Working us on five (5) bands were W2DEN and W3WMU. Special recognition goes to AK4MK who worked us on seven (7) bands! Finally, the APE Hunter “Top Banana” honor goes to Bill Garwood, N4GBK, for working us on 8 bands, including 6m in both 2015 and 2016! Great job all!

Honorable mention goes to thirteen (13) who worked us on two (2) bands: AD4TA, AF7SQ, K3JAE, K4CCK, KA8UWA, KB0RM, KB3AAY, KD2EIM, KD5OSN, KI3F, KM4PJ, N4WDN and N7WE/P.



**Swim raft mounted inverted “L” end-fed antennas in a beautiful Round Lake sunrise  
(after set-up and prior to the rain).**

For those interested in a bit of the technical details, here’s the info:

Rigs: Two Kenwood TS-590s

Software: Fldigi

Antennas:

- 1) Homebrew Off-Center-Fed dipole at 25 ft (80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10M).
- 2) A PAR SM-50 6M 2 element Moxon antenna at 12 ft. – mounted to the pier.



- 3) Two homebrew end-fed inverted “L” antennas (one for 40/20/10M and one for 30/17M) mounted on an 8’ x 8’ swim raft deployed about 100 ft. from shore.



**PAR SM-50 6M Moxon antenna mounted on a painter's pole**

Stan and I would like to thank everyone who took time from their busy schedules to work us! We thoroughly enjoyed the “APE” experience and would encourage anyone who is considering an “APE” for next year to go for it!

**2016 KC9UR Pontoon Portable Log:**

Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
W3WMU	20160814	7.072	23:37	United States	MS	Stan
W1HS	20160814	14.071	23:49	United States	NH	Bob
KE4JB	20160814	14.071	23:53	United States	NY	Bob
W3WMU	20160814	14.071	23:56	United States	MS	Bob
KE4JB	20160814	7.071	23:59	United States	NY	Stan
KB0RM	20160815	14.071	0:00	United States	PA	Bob
N2JNZ	20160815	14.071	0:00	United States	NY	Bob
NU4C	20160815	14.071	0:04	United States	FL	Bob
W3HF	20160815	7.071	0:04	United States	PA	Stan
N4GBK	20160815	14.071	0:08	United States	NC	Bob
KW4NO	20160815	14.071	0:13	United States	SC	Bob
N2BOZ	20160815	14.071	0:18	United States	NJ	Bob
KA8UWA	20160815	7.071	0:20	United States	DE	Stan
AF7SQ	20160815	14.071	0:24	United States	AZ	Bob
W3HF	20160815	14.071	0:24	United States	PA	Bob
KD5OSN	20160815	7.071	0:27	United States	NC	Stan
KD3LK	20160815	14.071	0:29	United States	MD	Bob
K5SP	20160815	7.071	0:30	United States	TX	Stan
KA8UWA	20160815	14.071	0:33	United States	DE	Bob
KI3F	20160815	7.071	0:34	United States	PA	Stan
KD5OSN	20160815	14.071	0:36	United States	NC	Bob
N4KP	20160815	7.071	0:38	United States	GA	Stan
KK4SUH	20160815	14.071	0:44	United States	NC	Bob
N4KP	20160815	14.071	0:50	United States	GA	Bob
N4GBK	20160815	7.072	0:51	United States	NC	Stan
VE6RMN	20160815	14.071	0:55	Canada		Bob
AD4TA	20160815	7.072	1:00	United States	KY	Stan
K1LO	20160815	14.071	1:02	United States	NH	Bob
WDOX	20160815	7.072	1:09	United States	MO	Stan
KD1NA	20160815	14.071	1:10	United States	MA	Bob
NM0EJ	20160815	7.072	1:15	United States	MN	Stan
TF2MSN	20160815	14.071	1:15	Iceland		Bob
N9UOM	20160815	7.072	1:18	United States	WI	Stan
W8FDV	20160815	14.071	1:18	United States	AZ	Bob
KF7GMD	20160815	14.071	1:22	United States	AZ	Bob
AF7XJ	20160815	7.072	1:25	United States	ID	Stan
K8TOM	20160815	14.071	1:28	United States	WA	Bob
KB3VQL	20160815	7.072	1:31	United States	PA	Stan
KI4UZW	20160815	14.071	0:34	United States	SC	Bob

Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
AD4TA	20160815	3.581	0:40	United States	KY	Stan
N5AYB	20160815	7.071	1:48	United States	TX	Bob
W3WMU	20160815	3.582	1:49	United States	MS	Stan
KC8FRP	20160815	3.582	1:55	United States	OH	Stan
KJ4VTH	20160815	7.071	2:03	United States	VA	Bob
W0DQ	20160815	7.071	2:07	United States	IA	Bob
AK4MK	20160815	7.071	2:10	United States	GA	Bob
KE4JB	20160815	3.581	2:14	United States	NY	Stan
K8IKO	20160815	7.071	2:18	United States	OH	Bob
KA9FON	20160815	3.582	2:19	United States	MI	Stan
KJ4IZW	20160815	7.071	2:20	United States	NY	Bob
K8TOM	20160815	7.071	2:24	United States	WA	Bob
W8IW	20160815	7.071	2:29	United States	WV	Bob
N4KP	20160815	3.582	2:30	United States	GA	Stan
KE0AOO	20160815	7.071	2:34	United States	ND	Bob
AF7SQ	20160815	7.071	2:39	United States	AZ	Bob
KJ4IZW	20160815	3.582	2:39	United States	NY	Stan
W8IW	20160815	7.071	2:43	United States	WV	Bob
KE0CGB	20160815	7.071	2:46	United States	MO	Bob
N7IV	20160815	7.071	2:49	United States	ND	Bob
KJ4IZW	20160815	10.142	2:54	United States	NY	Stan
N0DLR	20160815	7.071	3:13	United States	MN	Bob
K8TOM	20160815	10.141	3:17	United States	WA	Stan
N5AYB	20160815	10.142	3:41	United States	TX	Stan
N5BMD	20160815	14.071	3:45	United States	LA	Bob
N5BMD	20160815	14.071	3:45	United States	LA	Bob
AA5BE	20160815	7.072	12:29	United States	AR	Bob
KD4ADC	20160815	14.072	12:37	United States	AL	Stan
KD0CA	20160815	7.072	12:41	United States	IA	Bob
W1HS	20160815	14.072	12:44	United States	NH	Stan
W1IPS	20160815	14.072	12:50	United States	NH	Stan
KC3FSJ	20160815	14.072	13:03	United States	PA	Stan
W4RGN	20160815	14.072	13:06	United States	VA	Stan
W4BFZ	20160815	14.072	13:35	United States	SC	Stan
VE2OCH	20160815	14.072	13:51	Canada		Stan
WB3IGR	20160815	14.072	13:58	United States	PA	Stan
N5AYB	20160815	14.072	14:09	United States	TX	Stan
K3RJG	20160815	14.072	14:12	United States	DE	Stan
KC3FL	20160815	18.101	14:13	United States	FL	Bob
WB3IGR	20160815	18.101	14:17	United States	PA	Bob

Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
KD2EIM	20160815	18.101	14:18	United States	NJ	Bob
WB3IGR	20160815	14.072	14:18	United States	PA	Stan
F4EUG	20160815	18.101	14:19	France		Bob
KJ4IZW	20160815	14.072	14:21	United States	NY	Stan
N4GBK	20160815	18.101	14:22	United States	NC	Bob
WA4MIT	20160815	18.101	14:24	United States	AL	Bob
WB3IGR	20160815	14.072	14:24	United States	PA	Stan
XE2EX	20160815	14.072	14:27	Mexico		Stan
NI3B	20160815	18.101	14:29	United States	MD	Bob
KD2EIM	20160815	14.072	14:30	United States	NJ	Stan
WA4MIT	20160815	14.072	14:34	United States	AL	Stan
K9HW	20160815	18.101	14:37	United States	MN	Bob
KI3F	20160815	14.072	14:37	United States	PA	Stan
KA5BJC	20160815	14.072	14:43	United States	NY	Stan
W2DEN	20160815	14.072	14:48	United States	FL	Stan
KA5VVD	20160815	14.072	14:53	United States	TX	Stan
W2DEN	20160815	18.102	14:55	United States	FL	Bob
KF4WCL	20160815	18.102	14:59	United States	GA	Bob
W3RLO	20160815	14.072	14:59	United States	DE	Stan
TF5B	20160815	14.071	15:06	Iceland		Stan
KA4BLS	20160815	14.072	15:18	United States	GA	Stan
KK4RSJ	20160815	14.072	15:23	United States	TN	Stan
AE5ZA	20160815	14.072	15:27	United States	TX	Stan
KB0GLN	20160815	14.072	15:38	United States	LA	Stan
K4UTX	20160815	7.071	15:42	United States	NC	Bob
KD0DFN	20160815	14.072	15:48	United States	CO	Stan
AC5JV	20160815	14.072	15:53	United States	OK	Stan
NW1P	20160815	14.072	16:00	United States	ME	Stan
KK3AM	20160815	14.072	16:14	United States	FL	Stan
WA6YPE	20160815	10.141	16:20	United States	CA	Bob
KD2JKV	20160815	14.071	15:32	United States	NY	Stan
N7WE/P	20160815	14.071	16:39	United States	FL	Stan
KB3EK	20160815	14.072	17:40	United States	MD	Stan
KC7HS	20160815	14.072	17:45	United States	OR	Stan
AK4MK	20160815	14.072	17:56	United States	GA	Stan
K4CCK	20160815	14.072	18:01	United States	FL	Stan
KE4BXR	20160815	14.072	18:02	United States	FL	Stan
K4CCK	20160815	10.141	18:06	United States	FL	Bob
KD4CM	20160815	14.072	18:06	United States	FL	Stan
AK4MK	20160815	10.136	18:09	United States	GA	Bob

Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
AK4MK	20160815	18.101	18:09	United States	GA	Bob
KB3AAY	20160815	14.072	18:14	United States	MD	Stan
AK4MK	20160815	21.071	18:18	United States	GA	Stan
N4GBK	20160815	24.922	18:24	United States	NC	Stan
KM4CZU/AG	20160815	14.072	18:41	United States	VA	Bob
W2ACY	20160815	14.072	18:47	United States	TX	Bob
WA3WZR	20160815	14.072	18:51	United States	PA	Bob
KB2GCG	20160815	10.142	18:55	United States	DE	Stan
VA7GEM	20160815	14.072	18:56	Canada		Bob
AA0CW	20160815	14.072	19:13	United States	CO	Bob
WB2HVX	20160815	14.072	19:37	United States	NJ	Bob
WB2HVX	20160815	14.072	19:37	United States	NJ	Bob
K7PAX	20160815	14.072	19:43	United States	WA	Bob
KE4JB	20160815	10.142	19:46	United States	NY	Stan
K7OP	20160815	14.072	19:48	United States	ME	Bob
W2DEN	20160815	10.142	19:53	United States	FL	Stan
AK4MK	20160815	14.072	19:54	United States	GA	Bob
AK4MK	20160815	28.122	19:59	United States	GA	Bob
K5BTW	20160815	21.072	20:07	United States	GA	Stan
K6MKF	20160815	21.072	20:14	United States	CA	Stan
KB3AAY	20160815	7.071	20:21	United States	MD	Bob
WA2PCN	20160815	14.072	20:37	United States	SC	Bob
KM5DW	20160815	14.072	20:41	United States	NC	Bob
K5SP	20160815	14.072	20:50	United States	TX	Bob
W3WMU	20160815	10.141	20:53	United States	MS	Stan
K9QJS	20160815	14.072	20:54	United States	WA	Bob
NU4C	20160815	10.141	20:59	United States	FL	Stan
K5SP	20160815	10.141	21:02	United States	TX	Stan
N4GBK	20160815	10.141	21:06	United States	NC	Stan
NU4C	20160815	28.121	21:09	United States	FL	Bob
AA3JM	20160815	10.141	21:10	United States	PA	Stan
K7OP	20160815	10.141	21:18	United States	ME	Stan
K7OP	20160815	28.121	21:24	United States	ME	Bob
W3WMU	20160815	21.071	21:25	United States	MS	Stan
N4WDN	20160815	28.121	21:28	United States	AL	Bob
N4WDN	20160815	21.071	21:35	United States	AL	Stan
KM4PJJ	20160815	21.071	21:39	United States	GA	Stan
KC4ZGP	20160815	21.071	21:45	United States	GA	Stan
KM4PJJ	20160815	28.121	21:45	United States	GA	Bob
N4GBK	20160815	28.121	21:52	United States	NC	Bob



Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
N4GBK	20160815	50.291	21:52	United States	NC	Bob
WA4MIT	20160815	7.072	23:12	United States	AL	Stan
N9AVY	20160815	7.072	23:16	United States	IL	Stan
K5WRE	20160815	7.072	23:22	United States	CO	Stan
KA1BSZ	20160815	7.072	23:28	United States	VT	Stan
WA2ZFO	20160815	14.072	23:32	United States	NJ	Bob
AK4MK	20160815	3.580	23:35	United States	GA	Stan
K3JAE	20160815	14.071	23:39	United States	TN	Bob
N5IM	20160815	7.072	23:39	United States	TX	Stan
N0OWP	20160815	7.072	23:47	United States	MN	Stan
N4BUA	20160815	14.071	23:48	United States	FL	Bob
K3JAE	20160815	7.072	23:51	United States	TN	Stan
N2GSL	20160815	14.071	23:53	United States	NY	Bob
KB0RM	20160815	7.072	23:57	United States	PA	Stan
KA1PPV	20160815	14.071	23:58	United States	CT	Bob
KW6JIM	20160816	14.071	0:02	United States	CA	Bob
NU4C	20160816	7.072	0:03	United States	FL	Stan
EC1DBO	20160816	14.071	0:05	Spain		Bob
K7OP	20160816	7.072	0:08	United States	ME	Stan
KB2PG/4	20160816	14.071	0:08	United States	VA	Bob
K4LEA	20160816	7.072	0:12	United States	SC	Stan
K5GMT	20160816	14.071	0:14	United States	TX	Bob
W3WMU	20160816	7.072	0:20	United States	MS	Stan
N7WE/P	20160816	7.072	0:28	United States	FL	Stan
W5CTT	20160816	14.072	0:33	United States	TX	Bob
K5WHO	20160816	14.072	0:38	United States	AR	Bob
AA5BE	20160816	7.072	0:40	United States	AR	Stan
AE2A	20160816	14.072	0:44	United States	FL	Bob
W3HF	20160816	3.582	1:04	United States	PA	Stan
EA3ZX	20160816	14.072	1:18	Spain		Bob
HC1PE	20160816	14.072	1:25	Ecuador		Bob
K2AFY	20160816	3.582	1:29	United States	NJ	Stan
KC2LM	20160816	14.072	1:29	United States	NM	Bob
N4GBK	20160816	3.582	1:35	United States	NC	Stan
K4IU	20160816	14.072	1:38	United States	MN	Bob
AK4MK	20160816	3.582	1:40	United States	GA	Stan
NX1Q	20160816	14.072	1:48	United States	GA	Bob
W3HF	20160816	10.143	1:58	United States	PA	Stan
W2DEN	20160816	18.102	13:17	United States	FL	Bob
W2DEN	20160816	21.072	13:20	United States	FL	Stan

Call	Date	Freq.	Time	Country	State	Op
CO8AF	20160816	14.072	13:31	Cuba		Bob
K7LWC	20160816	14.071	13:37	United States	WA	Bob
N1YXE	20160816	14.072	13:43	United States	NH	Bob
N5SN	20160816	21.072	13:45	United States	TX	Stan
AB2PP	20160816	7.072	13:58	United States	NY	Stan
DK9KW	20160816	14.071	14:22	Germany		Bob
W2DEN	20160816	28.121	14:31	United States	FL	Stan
W4/G8ERJ	20160816	14.072	14:31	United States	FL	Bob
KA1F	20160816	14.072	14:39	United States	MA	Bob
W2FMQ	20160816	14.072	15:19	United States	TN	Bob
K5WLY	20160816	14.072	15:52	United States	TX	Bob