Gerry Hull, W1VE

Gerry began his contesting career a year after receiving his first license in 1975, participating in ARRL SS as WA4UUX. Hailing from Nova Scotia, Canada, he returned to the Maritimes for college.   Originally operating as VE1BXC, later as VE1CER then VE1RM, he began a life-long love for multi-operator contesting, operating with the winning VE1DXC crew at Bob Billing's. VE1YX's QTH.

After college, he worked in broadcasting, and then returned to the US, joining ARRL HQ as a Lab Technician, moving on to become an Assistant Technical Editor under the tutelage of Doug DeMaw, W1FB.   W1FB suggested Gerry head up to Mt. Greylock to see what was up in V/U/uW contesting and technology, leading to a 30+ year amazing relationship with the W2SZ/1 crew, the so-called "Mount Greylock Expeditionary Force". The Greylock gang is an amazing group of engineers, builders and operators, who continue to dominate VHF multi-op contesting.

While at HQ, he joined Murphy's Marauders, then on to the Yankee Clipper Contest Club. From 1982 to 1985, he organized and participated in three DXpeditions, to Canada's St Paul Island (VE1SPI/'82, CY0SPI/'83) and to Sable Island (CY0SAB/'85). Continuing his passion for Multi-Operator contesting, he has spent the better part of 46 years in the hobby operating from powerhouse stations K1ZZ, K1TTT/KY1H, K1IR, K1LZ, K2LE, P40LE, VY2SS, HP3SS, 6Y1V, ZF5T, LO5D and many others. Gerry is proud of the scores generated by these multi-op teams, typically in the top 10, including top NA wins in ARRL DX CW and SSB, and a world win in ARRL DX CW M/S from P40LE.

Gerry enjoys mixing his avocation with his vocation, which has been software development for many decades.   In September, 2007 he built getscores.org, the first real-time score reporting system for the World Wide Web. Controversial at first, this concept has bloomed into another fun aspect of the game. Over the years, he has developed many applications for ham radio contesting.

A lifelong passion for ARRL SS led Gerry to a bucket-list quest: operate from as many different sections as possible in his lifetime.   VY1 was a very interesting QTH, but the expense of travel vs the chance of poor propagation led to a multi-year relationship with J, VY1JA – operating the station via Internet remote. This has been very successful, and VY1AAA, the Internet-remote club call at J's place, has provided the rare multiplier to many of the deserving.

Gerry introduced remote contesting to many in the contest community at WRTC 2014 in Boston, organizing six remote stations at the HQ Hotel. SK3W, K2LE, VY1AAA, PR1T, RHR Blueberry Hill. and N3AD were activated remotely. Gerry was a referee at WRTC 2018 in Germany, and again setup VY1AAA and K2LE for remote activation by guest ops from Germany. Gerry will also be a referee at WRTC 2022 in Bologna, Italy in 2023.

The COVID pandemic restricted much multi-op, in-person operation.   Remote via Internet helped keep people safe and stations active. However, the Internet, networking technology and our radios have improved to the point where remote contesting is not only practical, it is very competitive.   Gerry continues to innovate and help fellow contesters develop great remote operating strategies and techniques. He is currently the Remote Contesting columnist for the National Contest Journal, where he discusses techniques and technology for remote contest operating.