

# 2016 – 2017 School Club Roundup Results

**Participants choose their own goals, while having fun.**

**Lew Malchick, N2RQ, n2rq@arri.net**

The October 2016 and February 2017 School Club Roundups (SCR; [www.arri.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arri.org/school-club-roundup)) excited lots of students at schools across the United States and several other countries. Non-School Club Multioperator entries returning this year included DLØESA at the European Space Operations Centre Radioclub and the FBI Amateur Radio Association, K3FBI — stations that are especially interesting to many students.

## Increased Participation

There were more than 80 entries and about 700 operators reported in each session. This year, the October session had as many entries as in February — a good sign! As usual, we expect that there were many others who operated, but did not submit an entry. (There may be some confusion about School Clubs. It is not necessary for a school operation to be a formal club. Any station operating from a school may enter as a School Club.)

Some groups are very competitive. Russell Elementary Amateur Radio Club, KM4RE, topped Dresden Elementary Amateur Radio Station (DEARS), KD8NOM, in both the October and February sessions in the Elementary/Primary category. Other high-scoring school stations include N4SMS, K5LMS, K9SOU, K5LBJ, KF5CRF, WB4HS, W8EDU, W9NAA, KØUND, W5AC, and N7ERU.

There are also groups that make only a few contacts, but get many kids on the air and attract attention in their schools and communities. The February entry from Brooklyn Technical High School,

W2CXN, complemented an in-school Maker Faire for the first time ever. It was on a Thursday afternoon, when the club usually has its regular meetings.



A few members from the LASA High School Amateur Radio Club, K5LBJ, in Austin, Texas, pose for a photo in their radio room. The club has earned 1st place in the School Club Roundup in 2006, 2010, 2014, and 2017. Featured (from left to right) are Aidan Dressel, KG5SHS; Ben Zern, KG5RWF; Sora Sunby, KG5SPQ, holding K5LBJ's SCR certificate; K5LBJ Trustee/Teacher Ronny Risinger, KC5EES; Travis Colbert, KG5SHT, and Vijay D. Veeraraghavan, KG5SPK. [Ronny Risinger, KC5EES, photo]

This was a chance for several school clubs to show off various activities related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

We have also seen a welcome increase in entries from non-school clubs. Individual station entries are not only welcome but necessary. Without them, the school stations would have very few stations to contact.

Although the SCR is not strictly a contest, the support of several popular logging programs has attracted contest-style operation. SCR is not a contest, but is an operating event intended to get students and other potential hams on the air. The contest-

style structure helps students exchange at least a minimum of information. Some clubs make rapid-fire contacts, but ragchewing and having multiple

students talk during a single contact is also encouraged. Each group and individual may choose their own goals: seeking schools, working a new mode or band, or attempting to better a previous SCR score.

## Join the Roundup

Join the fun as an Individual entry, or by helping a club make some contacts. The next SCR sessions, sponsored by the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) and ARRL, will take place October 16 – 20, 2017

and February 12 – 16, 2018. Visit or join the SCR online group at [groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SCR-L/info](http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SCR-L/info), or e-mail [scr@limarc.org](mailto:scr@limarc.org) for more information.

## Students on the Air

Online scores, including lots of comments, are available at [www.b4h.net/arrlscr/index.php](http://www.b4h.net/arrlscr/index.php). You can see the students in action making contacts or building equipment on the ARRL Soapbox web page, at [www.arri.org/contests/soapbox](http://www.arri.org/contests/soapbox). Select the 2016 School Club Roundup (Fall) or 2017 School Club Roundup (Winter/Spring) and click "Submit."