



## Inside this Issue:

	Page
Presidents Report	1
NCCC Contact information	2
Annual awards and elections	7
VP/CC Corner	8
Members corner W9KKN	9
NW6P Antennas	10
Members corner Tom NW6P / Gary NI6T	11
Members Corner K6XX	12
Members corner KH2TJ	13
Members Corner K6GHA	14
Point Generator Profile – K6DAJ	15
KB Awards	25
WRTC 2018	27
February NCCC Meeting	30
Tube of the Month	35
Club News	37
Contest Calendar	38
NCCC Information	41
HRO	42

## President's Report

Hey KB'ers,

As your outgoing president, I am very pleased to announce one more win for NCCC. It's safe now to say that we have won the 2018 RTTY Roundup, beating our PVRC friends in the Affiliated Club Competition, Unlimited category. We could not have done this without the hard work of our Vice President and Contest Chair, Chris, N6WM. And, of course, we could have not done it without the efforts of 74 KB'ers.



## NCCC Awards Meeting Saturday 7th April



Preliminary scores:

3,486,901 – Northern California Contest Club

2,076,404 – Potomac Valley Radio Club

It looks like the Society of Midwest Contesters will win the Medium category with a preliminary score of 1,811,579.

See [Page 7](#) for Details

Continued on page 3



# Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting

## Officers:

President	Bob Hess	W1RH	w1rh@yahoo.com
Vice President /Contest Chair	Chris Tate	N6WM	ctate@ewnetinc.com
Treasurer	Dick Wilson	K6LRN	treasurer.nccc@gmail.com
Secretary	Ian Parker	W6TCP	secretary.nccc@gmail.com
Past President	<open>		
Director	Rusty Epps	W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Director:	Rich Cutler	WC6H	wc6h@yahoo.com
Director:	Ron Castro	N6IE	ronc@sonic.net

## Volunteers:

New Member Mentor	Al Rendon	WT6K	wt6k@arrl.net
Charter Member	Rusty Epps	W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Awards Chair	Gary Johnson	NA6O	gwj@wb9jps.com
CQP Chair	John Miller	K6MM	k6mm@arrl.net
K6ZM QSL Manager	George Daughters	K6GT	k6gt@arrl.net
K6CQP,N6CQP,W6CQP QSL Mgr	Ed Muns	W0YK	w0yk@arrl.net
NCCC Email reflector Admin	Phil Verinsky	W6PK	kb-w6tqg@verinsky.com
Webmaster	John Miller	K6MM	k6mm@arrl.net
Webinars	Bill Fehring	W9KKN	bill+nccc@w9kkn.net
JUG Editor	Ian Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian@gmail.com

## Thursday Night Sprint:

The Northern California Contest Club sponsors Thursday evening (NA local time) contest practice sessions of 30 minute duration.

On the Thursday (and, sometimes Friday also) prior to a major contest weekend, the practice format follows the upcoming contest.

Generally, on other Thursday evenings, a special format is followed, called NS or "NCCC Sprint". The NS began in the summer of 2004 as a snappy, concise contest occurring most Thursday nights, North American time. The power limit is 100 watts.

Thursday Night Contesting Director and Founder	Bill, N6ZFO
NCCC CW Sprint	Tom, N3ZZ (initially, Ken N6RO )
NCCC RTTY Sprint	Ken, K6MR
NCCC Sprint Ladder	Bill, N6ZFO
Sprint Web master <a href="http://www.ncccsprint.com">www.ncccsprint.com</a>	John, K6MM.
non-NCCC:	Tim N3QE (Ladder Scores manager )
Thursday night Contesting Advisory Group:	N6ZFO, Bill (Chair)
	Mark K6UFO, (with W4NZ, N4AF, W9RE, K4BAI, N3BB and W0BH).
The Thursday night NCCC Net	Ken, N6RO

In my three years as president, I've seen just how hard it is for our club to win big. When we want to, we can win just about any contest, and have. On the West Coast, we're faced with conditions that can severely limit our ability to win big during the lows in the solar cycle. In addition, when the Northeast and Midwest are snowed in, or dealing with temperatures that encourage staying inside and operating the radio, we on the West Coast can be doing yard work, sailing, hiking, boating, etc., which limits our participation. Last, but not least, unlike clubs like FRC and YCCC, who focus just on ARRL DX and CQWW, we have widely varying interests within our membership. Some like the DX contests, some like the domestic contests but relatively few participate in all of them.

It took a lot of phone calls, emails and tutoring to get us that RTTY Roundup win this year, thanks to Chris and others in our club. For that reason, we held off on pushing our membership to participate in the CQWW WPX RTTY contest. Nevertheless, we did show up and we certainly didn't embarrass ourselves.

I've seen what Chris, N6WM, can do to rally the membership. While I am in my third and final term as President, Chris can still volunteer to run for two more terms. Let's all hope that we see Chris's call on the ballot for 2018-2019 as VP/CC.

The KB Competition has been a huge success and certainly shows that our membership does participate in contests. It looks like N6ZFO has won the 2017-2018 KB Competition, toping the list of well over 150 members who have participated in the official list of KB Competition contests. The 2018-2019 KB Competition will feature four brackets, and they're now up on the website, updated hourly and based on scores submitted to the 3830 website. The four brackets will give our little pistols and members with little operating time available a chance to compete in a category they can win. Thanks again to Gary, NA6O, and Matt, WX5S, for the hard work in making this happen.

By the way, the Board has voted to give a generous donation to "Mr. 3830", Bruce, WA7BNM, for his time, effort, and expense in keeping the 3830 Scores site operational. Our KB Competition could not happen without Bruce and 3830 Scores.

On a personal note, I've been doing SO2R for several years now. First with two FT-1000MP's and a DX Doubler and most recently using the built-in SO2R capability of the Flex 6700. My antenna switching setup for SO2R, however, is a bit of a kluge. What I have are two towers spaced about 300 feet apart. I have a separate set of antennas and coax switches associated with each tower and no bandpass filters. This works OK, with little or no interference, especially on 10-15-20, even with the two Alphas turned on. What it doesn't allow me to do is to put the optimum antennas into which ever radio (slice) I want to use them with.

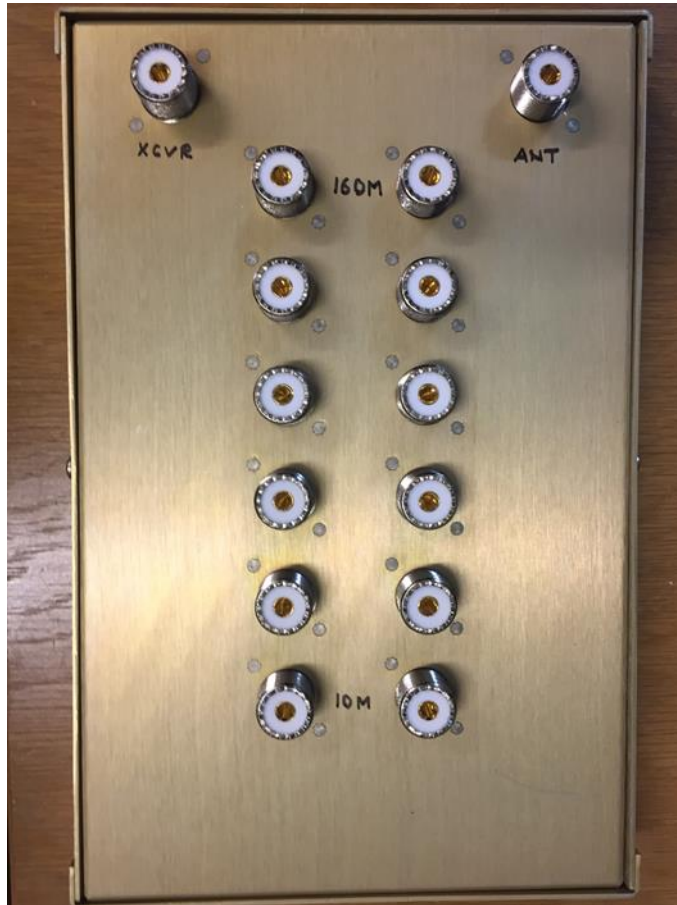
So, I decided to do what all of the other SO2R guys in the club do.....buy a SO2R antenna switch and band pass filters.

This is what I have and yet to be installed:.....

With the Flex, I'm installing one of these to go along with one 6x1 Array Solutions Rat Pak fed down stream of the 6x2 box and feeding just one of the Flex antenna inputs.



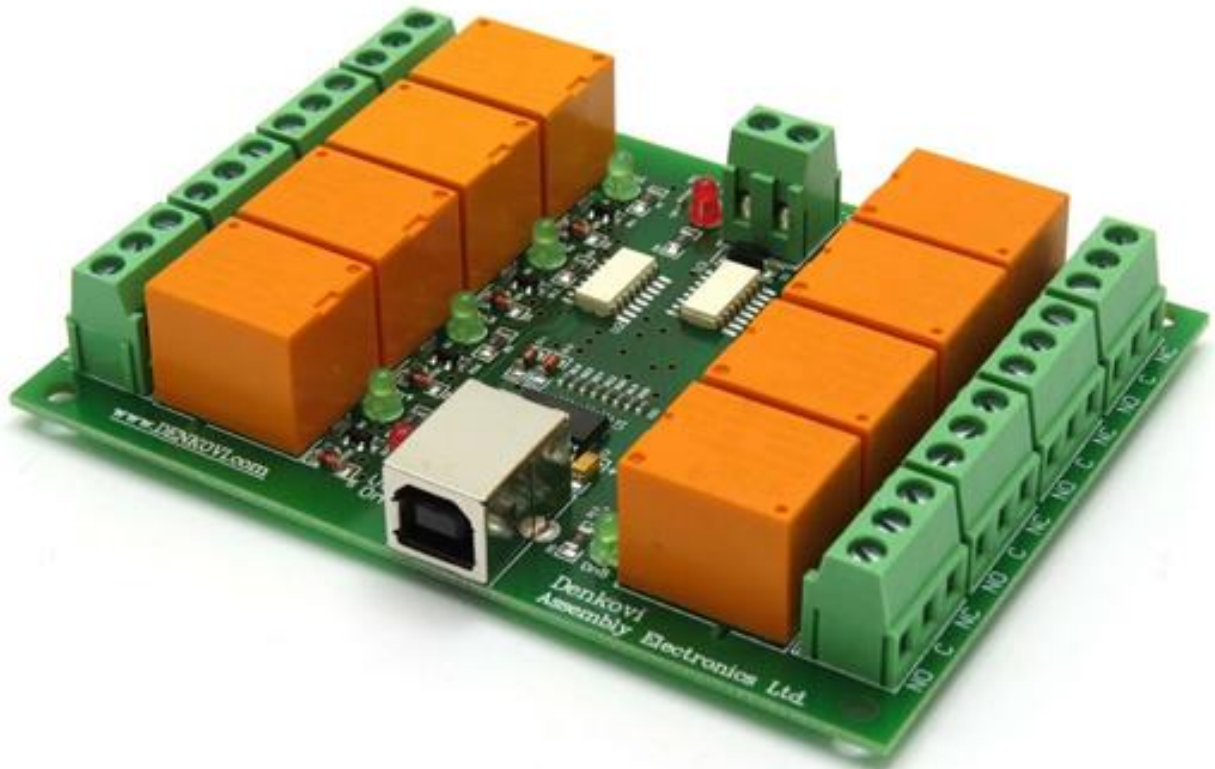
Two of these Array Solutions filter switching boxes.



Two sets of 10/15/20/40/80/160 band pass filters.



And, two of these Denkovi eight channel relay boards.



The Denkovi boards can be plugged into the Flex 6700 USB jack and take commands directly from what is essentially a band decoder inside the Flex.

While all of this may not be the absolute best set of switches and filters available, they should work fine for me and are within my budget.

I hope to have all of this installed and operational prior to CQ WPX CW.

Bob

W1RH

# NCCC Annual Awards Meeting and Elections



Tied House Brewery & Cafe

954 Villa Street

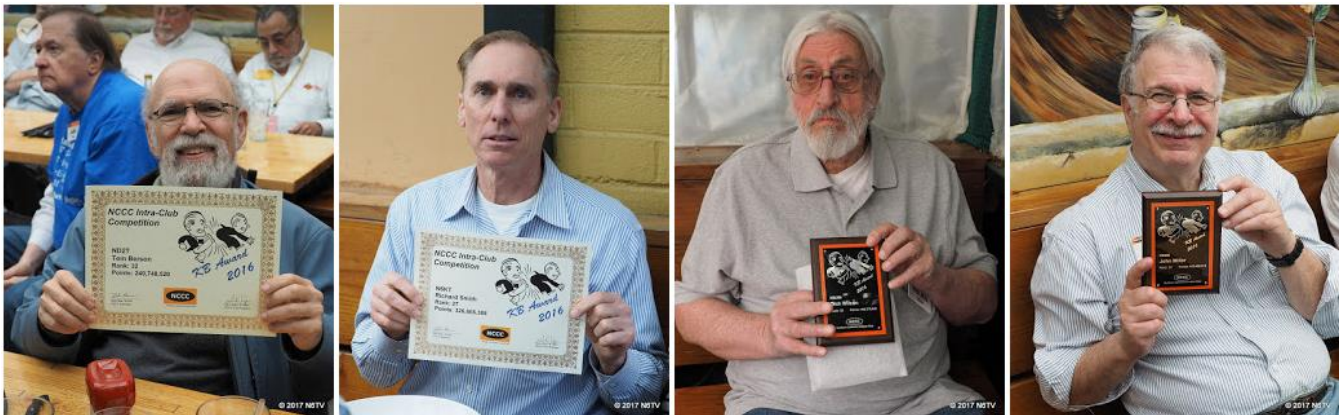
Mountain View, CA 94041

(650) 965-2739

## Saturday 7th April

### 11:30 am

## CQP ~ Operating & KB Awards



Watch the reflector for more information or visit [nccc.cc/meetings](http://nccc.cc/meetings) for details!





### VP/CC's Corner

*Your VP/CC getting ready to joust in NAQP RTTY SO2R with his new Flex 6600-M SDR*

What a great Q1 performance by the NCCC.

I know there has been a little disappointment about the NAQP challenge, but Quite honestly we do have a great deal to be proud of as a club. In the First Quarter of 2018, the NCCC is on fire!

We kicked off the year with the ARRL RTTY roundup. Our goal, was to return ourselves to the Unlimited Club level. We did that with a bang, And with the preliminary ARRL results out, demonstrating we soundly routed PVRC by 1.4 megapoints to regain our place on top of the Unlimited club competition. As your VP/CC I congratulate you all on your well deserved victory!

Not to be content with an unlimited club win, our SSB teams saddled up for NAQP SSB. Team #1 won the team competition. Big congratulations go to W6NL(N6KT op) W7RN(WK6I op) W6YX (N7MH op),WX5S@N6RO and N6ZFO! Now there is a star team!

Still not content with 2 very good achievements, our CW Sprint Team was up next, wasting no time in winning the team competition for NA Sprint CW! Congratulations to N5KO@W6NL, W6YX (N7MH), N6TV, K6XX and N6RO..

But that isn't all... We then saddled up for the NAQP RTTY Contest in force. And once again, our NCCC Team #1 on rumors appear to have soundly won the team trophy. So an early and hopeful congratulations go out to W7RN(WK6I), N6WM@N6RO, W6YX(N7MH), K6MR, and K9YC.

This is an amazing Q1 performance with multiple top level achievements. So thanks you all for an amazing kickoff to 2018. We have the greatest operators in the world in our club, and the message is clear that we will not be kept down. Great job, everyone.

73 es KB

Chris, N6WM  
VP/CC



## Members Corner



Bill W9KKN at NW6P RTTY RU Contest

Bill W9KKN was operating my station NW6P last Saturday during NAQP RTTY contest.

He did 88K points and 631 Qs as single op with one radio.

## NW6P Antennas



Antennas are: 80 meter dipole, 2 element 40, 3 element 20, 3 element 15, 4 element 10 in Cupertino on knoll at 300ft sloping to SF Bay.

## Members Corner



Tom NW6P and Garry NI6T

Sunday (2/25) was the birthday of Yelena, wife of oldest friend Garry Shapiro NI6T. We were ham radio ops in high school and both got EE degrees from RPI. It was wonderful to see so many happy folks celebrating Yelena's 70th. Happy Birthday, Yelena!

## Members Corner



I wish to thank the NCCC for sponsoring the WPX CW Plaque (Zone 3), as I was fortunate enough to receive last year's version in today's mail. Bob K6XX

## Members Corner



Received a nice plaque in the mail today. First one for the little pistol KH2TJ home shack! ;-)

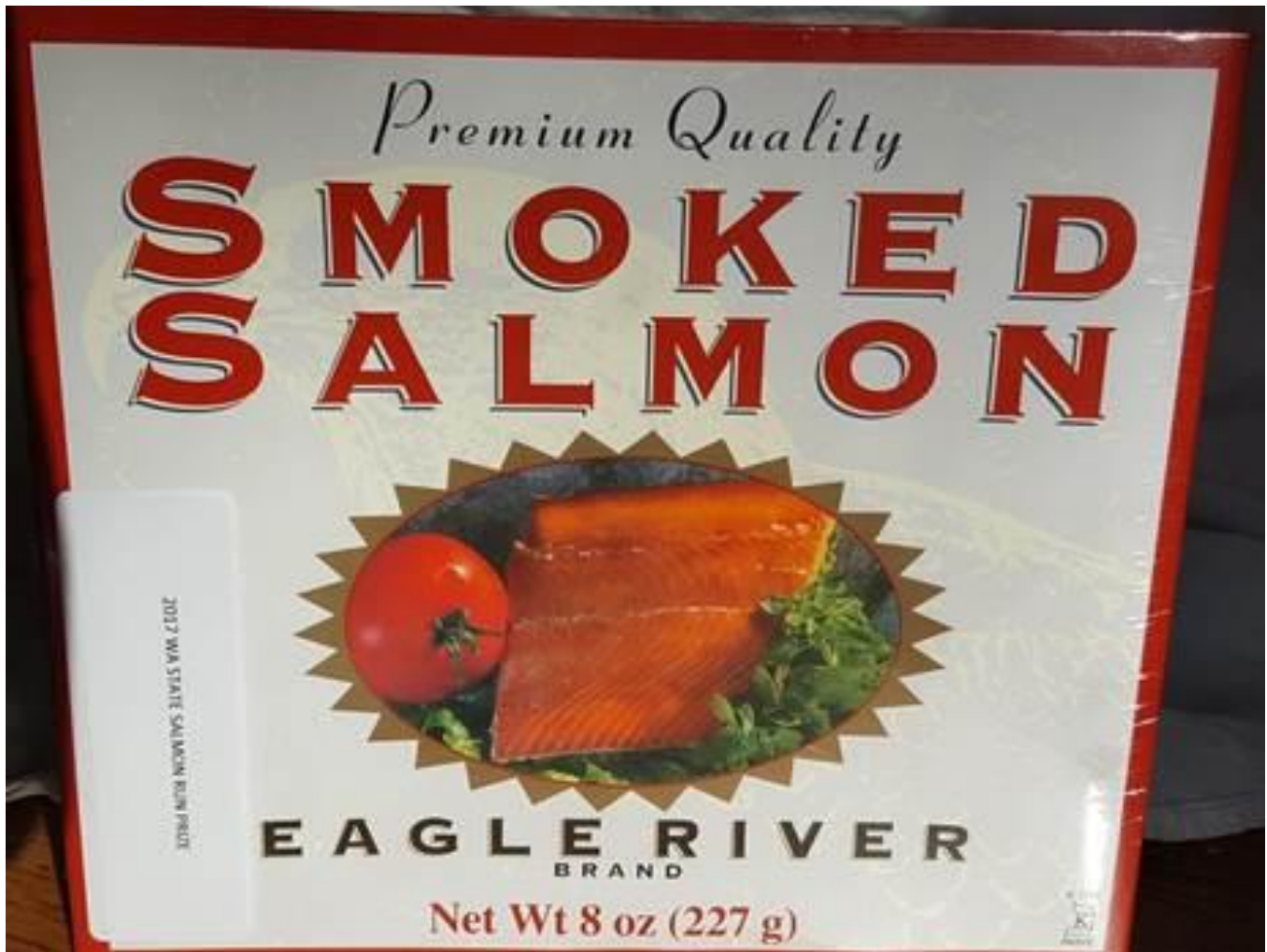
Kansas QSO Party - 1st Place USA CW.

This was for the 2nd day of the event, Sunday. Contest within the contest of who had the most CW QSO's with Kansas stations.

Thanks to W0BH and K0JVX.

73, Todd KH2TJ (W7TR)

## Members Corner



Well this is a first. An eatable trophy!

I just received a 1st Place NONWA-SOAB QRP MIXED certificate and trophy from the Washington State 2017 Salmon Run Contest.

The best part about it is that the trophy is a wonderful 8 oz of Smoked Salmon!  
In a week or so, all that will be left will be the paper certificate! But a wonderful memory I am sure.

73, de Don K6GHA

## Point Generator Profile Bob, W1RH

This month, we're featuring one of our newest members, David, K6DAJ. He's new to contesting, but he's not new to ham radio.

David has already generated serious points for the club. In the short time he's been a KB'er, he has operated three contests. Check out these scores:

ARRL DX CW – 227 Q's with a score of 73,920  
NAQP RTTY – 180 Q's with a score of 12,600  
CQ WPX RTTY – 127 Q's with a score of 23,465

Way to go, David!

Dave sent a bunch of pictures, but one of the best is a shot of his 10x12 foot ham shack, a separate building in the back yard.

Now, more from David.

**Name/Call Sign:** David A. Jaffe, K6DAJ

**Past calls:** WN2BHJ (1967), WA2BHJ (1968)

**Location:** Berkeley

**How much property do you have?** 102 foot x 40 foot lot, on side of hill that faces SW

**Describe your antenna system:**

**Current:** KLM KT34A tribander on small roof tower at around 35', recently put up Butternut HF2V 80/40 vertical (ground-mounted) with radials only in a half circle (because antenna is on the side of property), wire half-sloper (using tower ground wire) for 160/30/17/12/6. 2m/440 vertical in attic.

Unused antennas: Have an Arrow hand-held satellite antenna that I used a few times, a pile of hamsticks I used for mobile CW with my previous car, and an Icom AH-4 auto-tuner that I used when I first got back into ham radio in 1998.

**Future:** Just got a Welbrook ALA1530 magnetic loop for receiving. Have a Force 12 vertical dipole that I was using for 40 before I put up the HF2V. May put it up again and use it for 30m. Considering replacing the KT34A with a StepIR.

**What's in your shack?** Shack is separate 10x12 foot structure in back yard, which I also use for work and music.

Ham gear: Main rig is Icom 746 with Inrad filters, Icom IC-PW1 amplifier, MFJ-989C tuner, which I only use for 160m. Also have an Icom IC-706mk2g (previously in my car) that I could potentially for SO2R. Accessories include RIGblaster Advantage, Bencher paddle and an Icom IC-32A HT. Considering getting a more modern transceiver.

Also have lots of computers (mac, linux, windows), lots of audio hardware (for work), a Yamaha Disklavier piano, and a large collection of stringed instruments, including a violin, a viola, a cello, several guitars and banjos, a mandolin, a mando-cello, an electric bass, etc.

Sitting in the basement is a Heathkit SB-301, which I built when I was 12 years old. It needs some work. I no longer have the matching SB-401 and SB-200 (I sold the latter to K6YX). BTW, my novice rig (which I no longer have) was an Amaco 15w CW transmitter kit and a Hallicrafters general coverage shortwave receiver.

**What are your previous QTH's?** I was active from 1967-70 (age 12-15) from W. Orange, NJ at the top of a hill with a 2 element beam on the roof. I did some contesting, and got DXCC/WAC/WAS, etc. (I remember making a CQ tape-loop with a reel-to-reel tape-recorder for use in a phone contest, possibly the NJ QSO party.) Then I got interest in girls and music and drifted away from radio. I was inactive until 1998 when I went back on the air from my current QTH (and upgraded to Extra from Advanced).

Other places I've lived (though inactive) include Palo Alto, Stanford (where I did a doctoral degree in music composition), Bennington College in Vermont (where I got my BA), Ithaca NY (Ithaca College School of Music), and Prattsville NY (where I lived with and toured with a bluegrass band as a fiddler for several years just after high school.)

**If you're working, what is your career? If not, what was your career?**

I've got (at least) two careers I've tried to juggle with varying degrees of success:

**Career #1 - Composer** - I compose contemporary classical music, everything from string quartets to symphonies, as well as computer music. Local performances of my music have been presented by the SF Symphony Chamber Music series at Davies and the vocal ensemble Chanticleer and many others. Usually I work on commission from ensembles or organizations such as the Kronos Quartet, the Russian National Orchestra, the American Guild of Organists and many others.

I've also done a fair amount of computer music research. In the 1980s, I pioneered the physical modeling of plucked strings and computer simulation of ensemble interactions. From that era, my best known piece was "Silicon Valley Breakdown" (1982), which was performed in 27 countries on 4 continents. Since the 1990s, I've been developing software for the "radio-drum", a percussive sensor with 2 antennas and a pizza-box-shaped receiver, performed by a percussionist. This instrument is perennially a prototype, but I've written many pieces for it, most recently a commission from the Other Minds Festival (2011). My collaborator has made a new version based on an SDR.

I have an upcoming concert of a violin concerto on April 7 with the Redwood Symphony at Canada College in Redwood City. Please come!

More info on my music (including lots of video and audio) at [jaffe.com](http://jaffe.com)

**Career #2 - Software Engineer** - When I came to the Stanford AI Lab in the late 1970s, I got heavily into computer programming for music and "accidentally" stumbled into a career doing it, despite having taken no formal courses in it. First, I was hired by Intelligenetics, the first company to use computers for genetic research. Then I was hired by Steve Jobs (personally) at NeXT (where I was employee #32) to do music and DSP software. Jobs used to sit in my office and watch me program, which could be unnerving. He could also scream and rant. Then in the 1990s, I consulted for Stanford for a few years to try and beef up their sound synthesis patent portfolio, while simultaneously working for a company that did "Guitar Hero" 10 years too early. They did a title with Aerosmith, but



eventually crashed and burned. I then co-founded Staccato Systems, funded by Yamaha and Stanford, with the mission of creating a better General MIDI synthesizer based on physical models. We ended up making models of car engines and airplanes for video games. We were then acquired by Analog Devices in 2001, where I worked at the Audio Rendering Technology Center until I moved into my current position as Senior Scientist/Engineer at Universal Audio, Inc, where I've been doing firmware, libraries and drives for audio interfaces, as well as audio plugins that model classic analog studio gear.

**Married? Kids? Grandkids?** I am married to Kathy Geisler, a classical oboe player, who is creating a classical music marketplace web site. We have two kids, a 17-year old girl (senior in HS) and a 19-year old boy (in college). Both are into music. Neither has a ham license... the closest they got was "CQ Kids Day" and holding the ladder while dad puts up antennas.

**How many DXCC entities have you worked?** I'm a bit fuzzy on what is counted and what isn't these days, but I know how many I have NOT worked: fifteen. They are...

Equatorial Guinea, Anabon Island, Yemen, Nepal, Bhutan, Mayotte, Glorioso, Tromelin, Crozet, Amsterdam and St. Paul, Sudan, Mt. Athos, Heard Island, Lakshwadeep Island, and Syria.

I also haven't been able to get a QSL from St. Peter/Paul, but I worked him in 2004, so I don't have much hope of getting it.

I've got a few deleted ones as well (Canal Zone, GDR, etc.)

I haven't sent my cards in to ARRL since 1970. I've just started using LOTW and it will take me some time to get the QSOs in there, since I've been using paper logs. I may have to wait until I retire (if I can ever afford to) to go through the boxes and boxes of QSLs and organize them into something I can submit to ARRL, though I don't feel a burning need to do so.

My current DXCC focus is 80 meters. A few months ago, I put up the HF2V and my 80m total started going up. I still need 34 more but I've gotten more than 10 new ones in the last 2 months. FT8 helps too. I'm definitely getting heard on 80 now; my main issue is hearing, due to local noise, so I'm experimenting with the loop, etc.

I also need a few more on 17, which shouldn't be hard, and 12, which may have to wait a few years. If I can upgrade to a StepIR, these should be easier.

As for 160, my antenna is terrible. Even WAS would be a major challenge. I can pump a KW into that wire and it goes straight up or comes back into the shack and makes my phone freak out. But it's still better than nothing, and I still have fun with the 160m contests and get a thrill when I'm heard on the E. Coast once or twice per contest. As for 6, uh... I worked a bunch of JAs when there was a spectacular opening back in the mid-2000s, but that's about it.

**What's your favorite contest?** Yeah, I know it's not a contest, but I like Field Day. I remember the first one I did as a teenager. It was in NJ and they had around 16 transmitters. We used small pieces of paper to log, one per QSO, and each tent had a piece of wood with a nail sticking up and you'd put the little pieces of paper on the nail (avoiding impaling yourself). They had a cherry picker to put up the antennas. All very impressive to a 14-year old.

In general, I like CW contests best and SSB contests least... too much yelling. I often use the latter mainly to cherry pick DX. I've been having fun with RTTY, though I can't figure out why I like it.

Mainly, it's hard for me to get the uninterrupted time to do more than a few hours in a contest, as there are always demands from the family, work, etc. But kids grow up, so who knows?

**Any tips for testers?** More of a suggestion to myself... don't wait until 30 minutes before the contest to re-figure out the software!

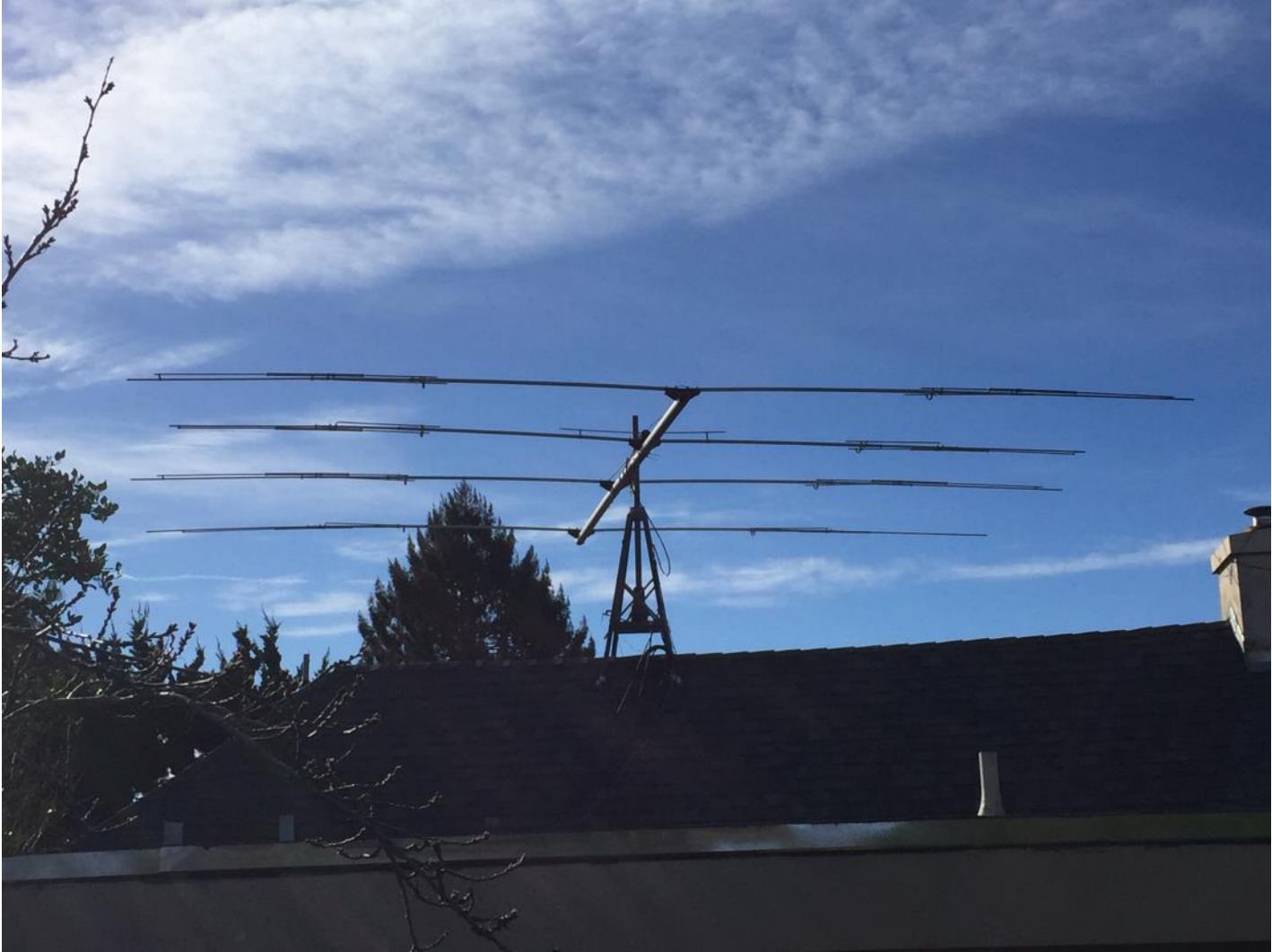
**What would you like to see changed in NCCC?** I'm too new to have an opinion. So far, I'm impressed at how friendly and welcoming everyone has been. I'm hoping being a member will inspire me to do more contesting. I'd also like to get a chance to operate multi at a contest station at some point.

**Any other hobbies besides ham radio?** I was a fanatical birder for many years. Birders are just as intense about seeing rare birds as hams are about rare entities. The difference is that birders are totally on the honor system... there's no way to get a bird to send you a QSL. It seems to work fine. If you cheat, you're just cheating yourself, so why bother? Through my music travels, I've had a chance to bird in remote places in Brazil, Cuba, Australia, Argentina, etc. Too bad I wasn't into ham radio at the time; would have been great to work from these places. I hope to have a chance to go on a DXpedition of some sort at some point, even a "vacation" one.



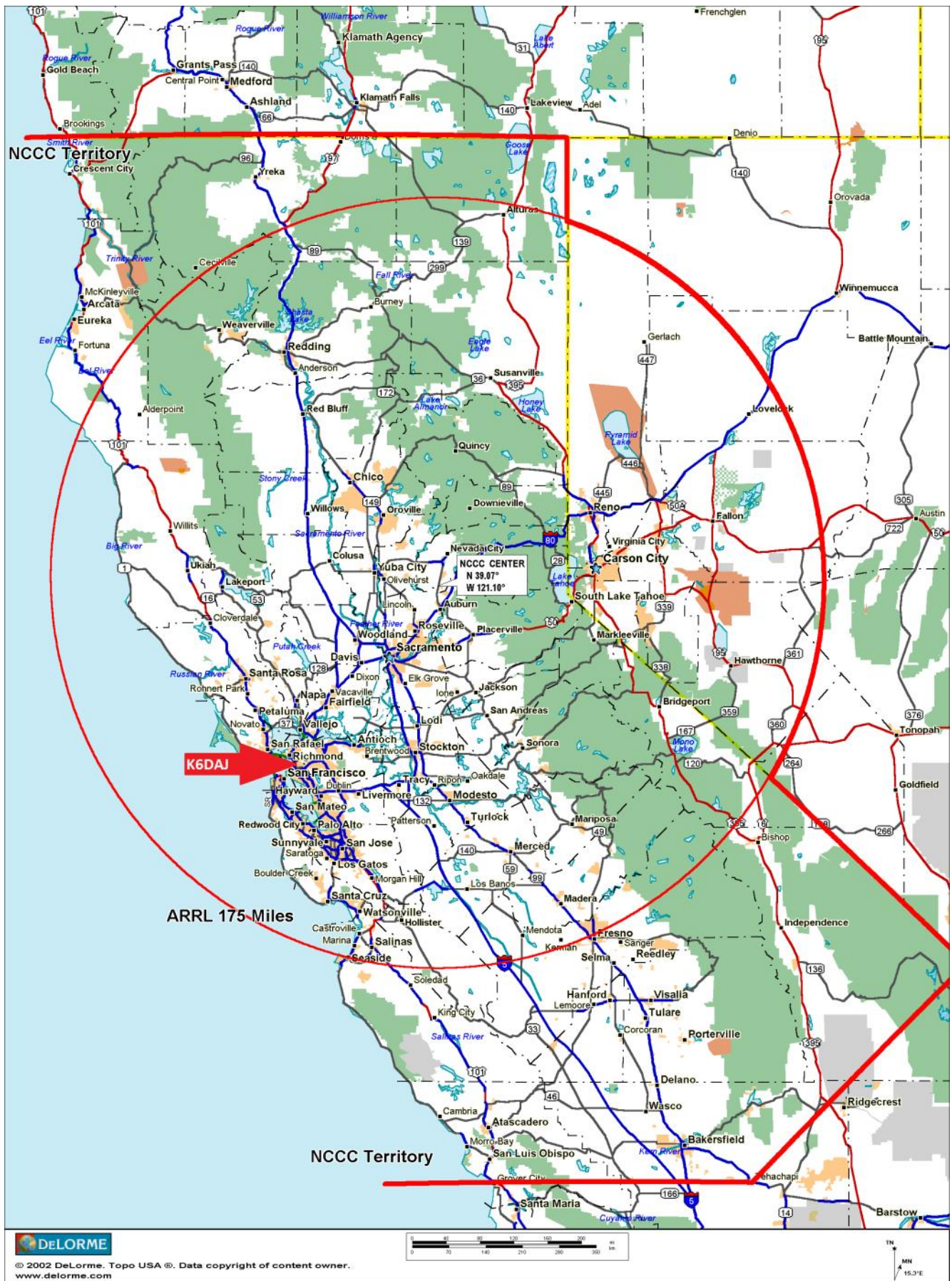














# NCCC Annual KB Competition Rules

Revised February 25, 2018



**Purpose:** To provide a means of rewarding NCCC members who are DX contesters, sprinters, VHFers, and especially active contesters in all modes.

**Time period:** The contest year starts at 0000 March 1 UTC. ARRL DX SSB is the first contest of the year. NAQP RTTY is the last.

**Eligible contests:** Currently, points from 38 contests are counted. See the table on the next page

**Scoring:** Score = number of contests in which you participated \* sum of (points for each contest \* each contest's multiplier). NCCC weekly sprints are special. Points for the entire year are added up, but it is only counted as a single contest.

**Multi-ops:** Points = total score divided by the number of operators.

**Station owners:** A station owner who does not participate in a particular contest receives 25% of the points.

**Valid scores:** Only scores posted to 3830scores.com are counted.

**Brackets:** There are four independent brackets for the purpose of awards: 1-Platinum, 2-Gold, 3-Silver, and 4-Bronze. Brackets are assigned at the beginning of the contest year according to your final position in the previous year's standings.

**Awards:** Paid NCCC members may receive awards.

**Contact:** Gary, NA6O. gwj@wb9jps.com

## NCCC Annual KB Competition Table (Updated 2/25/18)

<b>Contest</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Multiplier</b>
ARRL DX Contest SSB	March	5
CQ WPX SSB	March	1
NA Sprint Spring SSB	April	100
JIDX CW	April	10
Florida QSO Party	April	20
7th Area QSO Party	May	20
New England QSO Party	May	30
CQ WPX CW	May	1
ARRL June VHF	June	200
All Asian CW	June	10
RAC Canada Day	July	10
IARU HF World Championships	July	5
NAQP Summer RTTY	July	50
NAQP Summer CW	August	50
NAQP Summer SSB	August	50
Kansas QSO Party	August	20
NA Sprint Fall CW	September	100
CQWW RTTY	September	2
NA Sprint Fall SSB	September	100
CQP	October	20
<u>Makrothen</u> RTTY Contest	October	10
JARTS RTTY Contest	October	5
CQWW SSB	October	1
ARRL Sweepstakes CW	November	15
JIDX SSB	November	20
ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	November	15
CQWW CW	November	1
ARRL 160 Meter Contest	December	50
RAC Winter	December	10
ARRL RTTY Roundup	January	50
NAQP Winter CW	January	50
NAQP Winter SSB	January	50
NA Sprint Winter CW	February	100
CQ WPX RTTY	February	1
ARRL DX Contest CW	February	5
NAQP Winter RTTY	February	50
NCCC Sprint CW	Weekly	50
NCCC Sprint RTTY	Weekly	100

## WRTC 2018 is coming - 250 days to go

There are now just 250 days to WRTC 2018 in Jessen/Wittenberg. A lot has already happened - but there is still a lot left to be done and time flies. In recent months, important subprojects have been finished.

- The qualification stage is completed with the applications received from and invitations sent out to the participants.
- At the IARU Contest, several WRTC 2018 participants visited Germany and have already evaluated propagation routes and station equipment.
- During the big test day, 100 volunteers at 15 locations tested the WRTC 2018 technology and logistics.
- Here as well as at "Ham Radio" in Friedrichshafen you could feel a great deal of the Ham spirit, which carries us along the way to WRTC 2018.

The most important aspect of the WRTC is of course the sport. Meanwhile, the participants are confirmed (see [Participants Page](#)). To mark 250-days out from the event we asked the participants a few questions and asked them to tell us about their enthusiasm.

### Generation-Connecting Sport

Looking at the age structure of the WRTC 2018, a picture emerges that makes amateur radio sport something special. The youngest participant is Bryant, KG5HVO, at the age of 14. The oldest is the well-known Contester [Maryyn](#), N5AW, at the age of 77. In between, all age groups are represented almost equally, so that we will experience amateur radio not only as a global sport but also as a generation-connecting one. All participants compete in the same competition and on the same level.



Very Young Competitors: [Tamas](#) -HA8RT), Bryant - KG5HVO, Xenia -ZL4YL



# PRESS RELEASE

WRTC 2018 e.V.  
c/o Michael Höding, DL6MHW  
Phone: +49 39201 20779  
E-Mail: dl6mhw@wrtc2018.de



Very experienced Competitors Marvin- N5AW (77), Alan - N3AD (75), Dale VE7SV (73)

## Start Young for a lifelong Sport

Another view point shows a very uniform picture. Almost all of the participants started amateur radio as teenagers, i.e. they acquired their first license as a teenager and continued into a lifelong radio sport passion. The survey showed an average age of 13.3 years when the competitor's first amateur radio license was achieved. Starting young - teenager contesters from five decades



Starting young - teenager contesters from five Decades

## Great Expectations

Asked about the sporting goals, there were a number of interesting answers. There were clear announcements, for example, from reigning World Champion Chris, KL9A "To Win!", Vice-champion Tonno, ES5TV with "Gold", or Stefan, DL1IAO, (bronze at WRTC 2014) with "To do the best within my limits and get on the Podium!". However, there were also cautious



## PRESS RELEASE

WRTC 2018 e.V.  
c/o Michael Höding, DL8MHW  
Phone: +49 39201 20779  
E-Mail: dl8mhw@wrtc2018.de

remarks such as those of Bud, AA3B, "To be competitive." Or Ingo, SM5AJV, "To have our best competition position ever.", also show clear sporting ambitions.

Asked about who was expected to be on the podium, the reigning World Champions N6MJ / KL9A were mentioned several times. Several answers favored the medalists of the previous two World Championships. There were also calls such as "It's time for the German team!" Or "EU teams" from the participants. It's going to be exciting.

The expectations of the German organizers were pretty much the same. K5WA writes: "TNX a lot for all you are doing to make WRTC 2018 a success. You have my respect! ". With this motivation, the organizing team and the many volunteers will continue to work hard for the next 256 days, so that on July 16, 2018, we can select the next World Radiosport Champion.

---



## February NCCC meeting

The February NCCC meeting took place on Saturday February 3rd at Cattlemen's Restaurant Livermore.

The meeting was attended by Twenty Five NCCC members/visitors. Scott AF6RT, Jim K6JAT, Dick K6LRN, Carolyn K6TKD, Jerry KD6WKY, Joe KE8FT, Lee KI6OY, Marcus KI6WDX, Dave KK6DF, Michelle KK6KPW, Ron N6EE, Vicki N6KLS, Rich N6KT, Eric N6SPP, Bob N6TV, Chris N6WM, Gary NA6O, Tom NS6T, Tom NW6P, Bob W1RH, Rusty W6OAT, Ian W6TCP, Bill W9KKN, John WB6ETY and Matt WX5S. The program was "KB Awards 2.0" by Gary NA6O & Team.



Rich N6KT, Bill W9KKN (Wearing his official KB T-Shirt) & Chris N6WM











# TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at [N6JV.com](http://N6JV.com)

Norm N6JV

**Visit the Museum: [www.n6jv.com](http://www.n6jv.com)**

In the late 1920s, AC operated radios became available after the hum problem from the AC filaments was solved. With AC power, more powerful radios that could drive a large speaker were possible. The need for audio output tubes that would handle the increased power resulted in a number of tubes being developed. In 1929 the UX-245 became popular in this application. In the early 1930s, the tube was renamed the 45 and became popular with hams just getting started. A 45 could usually be found in a dead broadcast radio and if the power transformer still worked, you were in business. This was the depression and few had any money for expensive equipment.

In 1934, my father and his best friend, who lived across the street, got their licenses. My father was Don, W6LLA and the neighbor was Albert, W6LID. Grandmother's bread pan was appropriated to serve as a transmitter chassis. A 45 tube and a coil were mounted and wired as an oscillator on 160 meters. This was as high as a 45 would operate as an RF oscillator. AM phone was the popular mode on 160 in those days, but expensive modulation transformers weren't available. The cheap way was to add an extra link around the coil and run a twisted pair to the contacts of a carbon microphone. I understand the microphone was "borrowed" from a pay phone. This rig had an input of about 5 watts.

The link modulation from this set up wasn't very high and you had to use your "long distance" voice into the microphone. If you got too excited and got too close to the microphone, you got RF burns on your lip. The RF also tended to fuse the carbon particles together inside the microphone, so when you weren't getting out well, you had to rap the microphone on the table and loosen up the carbon.

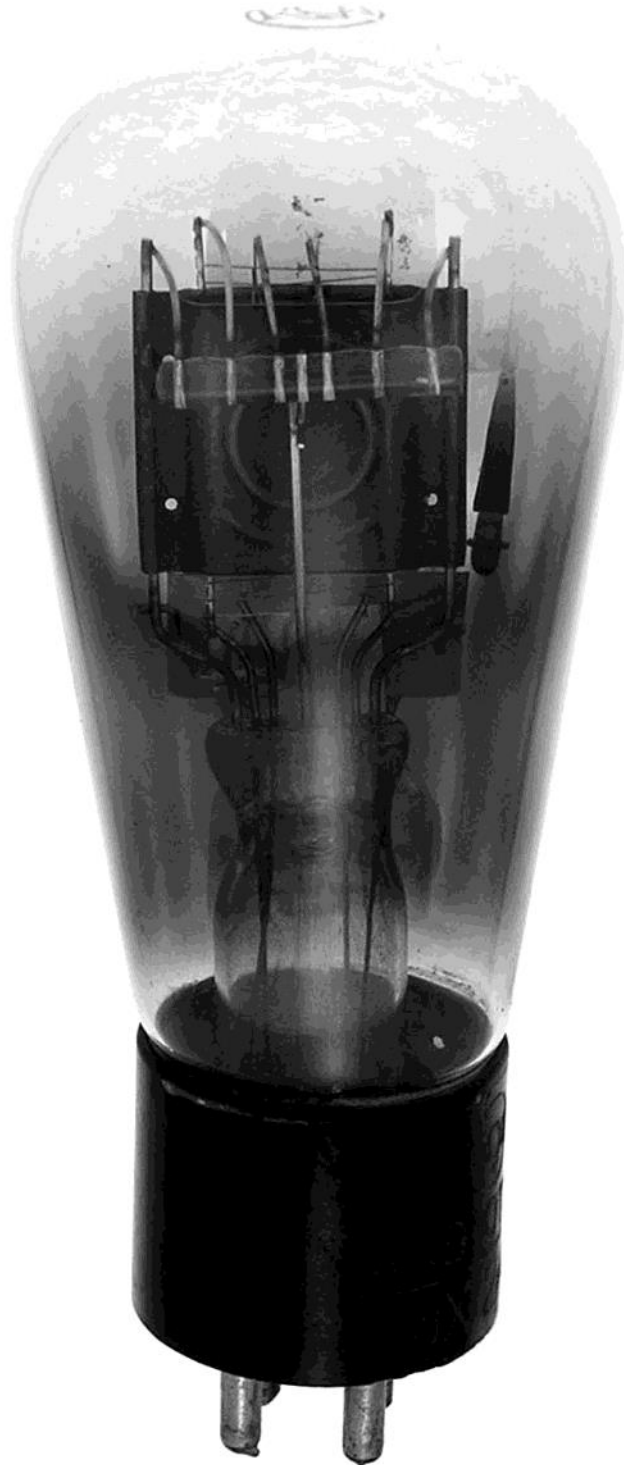
I got my middle name Albert from W6LID who died in 1939 in a boat sinking in Tulare Lake. Being named after the first LID has been offered as an explanation for my operating skills.

The low mu 45 tubes have become very popular with audio enthusiasts and somewhat expensive. Never give up on an 80 year old tube.

# TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at [N6JV.com](http://N6JV.com)

Norm N6JV



## NCCC Life Membership!

The NCCC Life member program was introduced for a flat fee of \$250. If you are interested in becoming an NCCC Life member, please contact Ian W6TCP at [w6tcpian@gmail.com](mailto:w6tcpian@gmail.com)

Members who have reached 80 years young and been a NCCC Member for 20 years are eligible for Honorary life membership. Contact Ian W6TCP at [w6tcpian@gmail.com](mailto:w6tcpian@gmail.com) for details.

---

## CQP T-Shirts 2016

We have a small number of T-Shirts left for anyone that wants one. They are \$15 each, available on a first come first served basis.

Available sizes:

2XL

XL

M

---

## CQP T-Shirts 2017

2017 CQP T-Shirt color will be **BLACK**. Place your order for a T-shirt by sending an email to [shirts@cqp.org](mailto:shirts@cqp.org) stating the sizes and quantities for each size (M/L/XL/XXL), the call sign of the CQP operation, the call sign of the person placing the order, and the address to ship to.

Send payment, \$15 (\$20 for DX entries), either via PayPal [using this email address: [paypal@nccc.cc](mailto:paypal@nccc.cc)] -- or a check to: NCCC, c/o Dick Wilson K6LRN, P.O. Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273. All orders are due by March 30th, 2018.

---

## JUG Articles Wanted!

Without your help we cannot reproduce a quality newsletter so please consider submitting a suitable article!

We welcome any and all relevant articles for inclusion in the JUG.

Deadline is 7 days before month end. Preferred format is MS Word, Arial 12 point and pictures should be full resolution. Send your material to Ian, W6TCP at [w6tcpian@gmail.com](mailto:w6tcpian@gmail.com) Don't worry about the formatting, we can take care of that if necessary !



# Contest Calendar— March page 1

NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Mar 1 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 1 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Mar 1 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Mar 1 (Dig)
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 2
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 2
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 2
Novice Rig Roundup	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2359Z, Mar 11
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 3 to 2400Z, Mar 4
Wake-Up!QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Mar 3 and 0630Z-0659Z, Mar 3 and 0700Z-0729Z, Mar 3 and 0730Z-0800Z, Mar 3
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	1800Z-2059Z, Mar 3 (Low Band) and 2100Z-2359Z, Mar 3 (Low Band) and 0800Z-1059Z, Mar 4 (High Band) and 1100Z-1359Z, Mar 4 (High Band)
UBA Spring Contest, CW	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 4
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 4
NSARA Contest	1200Z-1600Z, Mar 4 and 1800Z-2200Z, Mar 4
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 6
AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 6
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 7
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 7
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 7 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 7 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 8
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Mar 7



# Contest Calendar— March page 2

AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	2300Z, Mar 7 to 2300Z, Mar 8 and 2300Z, Mar 10 to 2300Z, Mar 11
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 9
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 9
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 9
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 10 to 1000Z, Mar 11
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	1000Z, Mar 10 to 1000Z, Mar 11
South America 10 Meter Contest	1200Z, Mar 10 to 1200Z, Mar 11
F9AA Cup, SSB	1200Z, Mar 10 to 1200Z, Mar 11
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Mar 10 to 2400Z, Mar 11
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 10
Oklahoma QSO Party	1500Z, Mar 10 to 0200Z, Mar 11 and 1400Z-2100Z, Mar 11
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Mar 10 to 1500Z, Mar 11
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 10 to 1600Z, Mar 11
TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	1800Z, Mar 10 to 0559Z, Mar 11
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 10 to 1800Z, Mar 11
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 10 to 1900Z, Mar 11
QRP ARCI Spring Thaw SSB Shootout	2200Z-2300Z, Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 11
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 11
WAB 3.5 MHz Phone	1800Z-2200Z, Mar 11
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 11 to 0100Z, Mar 12
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 12
CLARA Chatter Party	1700Z, Mar 13 to 1700Z, Mar 14 and 1700Z, Mar 17 to 1700Z, Mar 18
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 14
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 14
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 14 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 14 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 15



# Contest Calendar— March page 3

RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 14
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 16
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 16
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 16
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 19
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 17 to 1200Z, Mar 18
Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 17 to 0400Z, Mar 18 and 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 18
Louisiana QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 17 to 0200Z, Mar 18
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 17 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 17 (432)
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2159Z, Mar 17
UBA Spring Contest, SSB	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 18
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Mar 19
Bucharest Contest	1800Z-2059Z, Mar 19
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 21
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 21
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 21 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 21 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 22
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 22
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 22
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 23
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 23
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2359Z, Mar 25
FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 24
UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Mar 25
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 28
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 28
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 28
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 28 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 28 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 29
UKEICC 80m Contest	1900Z-2000Z, Mar 28
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 30
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Mar 30
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Mar 30
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 31
UK/EI DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Mar 31 to 1200Z, Apr 1
Russian WW MultiMode Contest	1200Z, Mar 31 to 1159Z, Apr 1





## NCCC Membership Information

If you wish to join NCCC, you must fill out an [application for membership](#), which will be read and voted upon at the next monthly meeting.

To join, you must reside within [club territory](#) which is defined as the maximum of:

- Northern California, anything north of the Tehachapi's up to the Oregon border, and
- A part of north-western Nevada (anything within our ARRL 175-mile radius circle centered at 10 miles North of Auburn on Highway 49).

## JUG Articles Wanted!

Without your help we cannot reproduce a quality newsletter so please consider submitting a suitable article!

We welcome any and all relevant articles for inclusion in the JUG.

Deadline is 7 days before month end. Preferred format is MS Word, Arial 12 point and pictures should be full resolution. Send your material to Ian, W6TCP at [w6tcpian@gmail.com](mailto:w6tcpian@gmail.com) Don't worry about the formatting, we can take care of that if necessary !

## Northern California Contest Club Reflector—Guidelines

This reflector is devoted to the discussion of contesting.

This includes contests, station building, dxpeditions, technical questions, contesting questions, amateur radio equipment wants/sales, score posting, amateur radio meetings/conventions, and membership achievements.

This does not include personal attacks, politics, or off-subject posts which will be considered a violation of the Guidelines.

Violations may result in removal of the violator from the reflector and possibly from club membership in good standing.



Find us on Social Media

NCCCKB



# HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

**ICOM**



**IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver**

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



**IC-7200 | HF Transceiver**

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



**IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver**

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



**ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver**

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

**ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver**

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz\*\* • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



**TH-F6A | 2M/220/440**

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



**TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile**

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

**KENWOOD**



**TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver**

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



**TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband**

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



**TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand**

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch

**YAESU**  
The radio



**FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver**

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



**FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver**

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



**FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver**

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



**FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile**

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band



**FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT**

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- FAX – All store locations
- MAIL – All store locations



ANAHEIM, CA (800) 854-6046	OAKLAND, CA (877) 892-1745	OAKLAND, CA (877) 892-1745	PORTLAND, OR (800) 765-4267	PHOENIX, AZ (800) 559-7388	WOODBRIIDGE, VA (800) 444-4799	PLANO, TX (877) 455-8750
BURBANK, CA (877) 892-1748	SAN DIEGO, CA (877) 520-9623	NEW CASTLE, DE (800) 644-4476	DENVER, CO (800) 444-9476	ATLANTA, GA (800) 444-7927	SALEM, NH (800) 444-0047	ONLINE STORE WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.