

The CONTEST JUG

Newsletter of the
Northern California Contest Club
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April 1990 Issue — No. 215 — April 2, 1990

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Director:	WB6MZQ	(415)254-3350
NCCC Repeater:	147.240 (+600)	

COMING ATTRACTIONS

(Contest dates are UTC.)

- Apr 7-8 N. American QSO Party, CW,
1800 Apr 7 to 0600 Apr 8
SP-DX Contest, CW, 1500 Apr 7 to
2300 Apr 8
- Apr 14-15 N. American QSO Party, SSB,
1800 Apr 7 to 0600 Apr 8
- Apr 20 NCCC meeting, Miguel's.
Hayward
- Apr 28-29 Helvetia Contest, CW/SSB, 1300 Apr
28 to 1300 Apr 29
- May 5-6 Ten-Ten Spring QSO Party, 10m,
CW, 0000 May 5 to 2400 May 6
- May 12-13 CQ-M Contest, 2100 May 12 to 2100
May 13
- May 19-20 World Telecommunications Day,
CW/Ph, 0000 May 19 to 2400 May 20
- May 21 Armed Forces Day
- May 26-27 CQ WW Prefix Contest, CW

March minutes

Our March 16 meeting was the Annual Awards Banquet held at the Pleasanton Hotel, Pleasanton. VP Alex, KI6EZ, presided because

Pres. Carl, AI6V, was in Aruba making lots of points for the club as P40V. We had so much fun talking to each other that Alex could barely get us to sit down in time for the excellent feast prepared by the Pleasanton Hotel. Awards were given out for the California QSO Party, and the various club awards were presented. The actual awards are reported on separately in this issue of *The Jug*.

A short business meeting was held to approve new membership for W6FAH, WB6NUT and NT7E and to deal with a minor crisis caused by lack of foresight on the part of our founder, Jim Neiger, N6TJ. (As most of you know, Jim moved to the southern part of the state, where he also founded the Southern California Contest Club. What can I say!)

Anyway, Jim set up an award called the Founder's Award, a plaque that goes to the highest scoring single op in the club in both modes of the CQ WW Contest. Each year, the new winner's name is added to the plaque and the recipient gets to keep the plaque for one year. This year, the Founder's Award used up the last space on the plaque.

Our speaker for the evening was Scott Martin, W7SW. Scotty gave a very interesting slide presentation about his tour as KC4USV, VK9XT and VK9YT. Scotty operated as KC4USV in the 1987 CQ WW SSB contest. He should have been the continental winner, but for some inexplicable reason Antarctica counted as part of South America. I guess this is no stranger than counting Alaska, Hawaii and the contiguous 48 states as three distinct countries!

The meeting was adjourned at 11 p.m.
— AK6T

April meeting coming up

Our April 20 meeting is scheduled for Miguel's, 22865 Atherton Street, Hayward. Cock tail time starts around 6 :30 p.m., with dinner at 7.

This will be the annual election meeting, but election matters should take only a few minutes.

The N6RO/WZ6Z gang will celebrate their WPX victories at the meeting.

The WPX contests are great fun to operate because you work the DX on all bands for points and the US stations once for the multiplier. Also, single operators are limited to 320 hours, so you don't need to be a superman or superwoman to be competitive.

If you haven't operated WPX in a while, come to the April meeting and prepare for the CW WPX weekend of May 26 and 27.

The latest issue of CQ reported that our club members set an all-time new multi-multi US phone record using the call WZ6Z at N6RO's station.

Although this year's effort was not another new record, it will probably carry the US again. Participants included N6RO, WZ6Z, K3EST, N6IG, WA6VEF, VE7NKI, WA6AUE and K6TMB.

At the meeting, N6RO will lead as many of these contestants as can attend in an analysis of the past two years of performance and a discussion of strategies we can use in future WPX contests. There will be slides of the famous N6RO multi-multi station and its antennas.

— N6EK

NCCC meeting dates

NCCC meetings normally are held on the third Friday of each month at Miguel's restaurant, 22865 Atherton, Hayward, but there are occasional exceptions. Be sure to check *The Jug* to make sure of the date.

Election of officers

The April meeting is our annual election meeting, and we will vote for our new officers to represent us in the coming year. The nominating committee is pleased to report that the following excellent people have agreed to allow themselves to be nominated:

President: Jack Troster, W6ISQ
VP/CC: Bob Wilson, N6TV
Sec/Treas: Al Maenchen, AD6E
Director: Howard Brainen, WZ6Z
Director: Alex Rabinovich, KI6EZ
Director: Rich Smith, N6KT

In addition, Carl Cook, AI6V, will automatically be a director because he was the president this year. Pat Whittle, AK6T, will be the *Jug* editor (with a little help from his friends) and Phil Frazier, K6ZM, has agreed to continue as awards chairman.

— N6EK

Deadlines for *The Jug*

Please be sure to get material for the *Jug* into the hands of the *Jug* Editor, AK6T, by the 25th of the month. Our editorial team, consisting of AK6T, K6ZM, N6EK and WZ6Z, is aiming to put the newsletter into the mail before the end of each month.

— AK6T

WPX scores needed

If you haven't already done so, please send your CQ WW WPX scores to KI6EZ as soon as possible for inclusion in the May *Jug*. You can do it via packet if you wish.

— AK6T

How to get news to the *Jug*

We're always delighted to get news items for the *Jug* in any shape or form. Most convenient is copy that is already keyboarded and sent through the DX Packet Spotting Network on 145.770 MHz. That saves me a lot of time and effort, freeing me to work more DX!

— AK6T

NCCC badges for sale

NCCC badges are available at a cost of \$7.50, including sales tax. Order them from Bob, N6EK, enclosing your check.

Awards made

The major NCCC contest efforts in 1989 were CQ-P and SS. Many outstanding performances were recognized with awards announced at the 1990 NCCC banquet, held on March 16 at the Pleasanton Hotel.

5 Million Point Awards:

#10	N6TIB	Bill Philpott
#12	WX6M	Rich Hudgins
#13	WA6AUE	Jim Duffy

#14 W6FSJ Wendell Peirce
 #15 WZ6Z Howard Brainen

Founders Award for 1989:

NC7K Tim Marek 1,690,597 points

Sweepstakes Awards:

Little Gun	CW	W6BIP	Bip Bachman
Little Gun	SSB	K6MA	Stan Kuhl
Big Gun	CW	N6EK	Bob Fabry
Big Gun	SSB	W6ISQ	John Troster
KB-1000	SSB	WA6AUE	Jim Duffy
KB-1000	SSB	W6BSY	Mac McHenry
KB-1000	SSB	KJ6FD	Jeff Kershaw
KB-2000	Both	NC7K	Tim Marek

CQ-P Awards:

Plaques —

1st place in CA: Larry Tyree, N6TR at K6NA

2nd place in CA: Jim Pratt, N6IG at N6RO

3rd place in CA: Ken Keeler, N6RO

Out of state most CW QSOs: Jim Duffy, WA6AUE at N7NG

Top mobile: N6BT, WA6VEF, VE7NKI

Wine awards:

About 60 inside CA and outside

Many thanks to all who contributed their time and money, among them:

Area coordinators —

Dick Wilson, K6LRN

Russ Bentson, K6KLY

Doug Bender, WW6D

Stan Kuhl, K6MA

Scott Liebermann, N1EE

Charles "Mac" McHenry, W6BSY

Duane Ausherman, W6REC

Tim Marek, NC7K

Publicity —

Louese Bloom, KA6ING

Certificates and labels —

Bob Fabry, N6EK

Unix support —

Patricia Shanks, Basis Company

Contest chairpersons —

Gary Caldwell, WA6VEF

Niki Bloom, VE7NKI

Phil, K6ZM, has plaques for a number of people who did not attend the Annual Awards dinner:

Single op CA county expedition — Larry Murdock, K6AAW

Calif. low power champion — W6AB, operated by Bruce Wesley, N6GC

Top multi-single in CA — Terry Baxter, N6CW; Fred Kleber, K9VV; Bud Semon, N7CW

Top multi-op CA expedition — Terry Baxter, N6CW; Fred Kleber, K9VV; Bud Semon, N7CW

Top multi-multi in CA — Jim Danley, KS6H; Bob Dunn, N6ZB

Top novice/technician in CA — Greg Green, KB6HWZ

First place outside US and Canada — LY2WW, operated by Gintas Sakenas, LY2BKW

Second place outside CA — K4XS, operated by Jeff Bolda, WC4F

Chairman's award — W6AQ, operated by Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU: 1102 CW QSOs

Top novice/technician outside CA — Robert Hertzberg, N9ICH

Out-of-state low-power champion — Mike Tessmer, N0BSH/9

I have more than three cases of wine to distribute as awards. Packing and shipping them would bankrupt the club's treasury, so I sure hope we can find many of the winners at Visalia! Winners include the top 20 stations in CA and the top 20 outside CA.

— K6ZM

Now's the time to update the roster

Howard, WZ6Z, is about to prepare the new membership roster. Please check your listing in the current roster and send any changes to him right away.

Geomagnetic storms in the news

The March 1990 issue of *IEEE Spectrum* journal has a seven-page article that I feel every DXer would find as interesting as I did. "Bracing for the geomagnetic storms" is subtitled "As solar activity moves toward an 11-year peak, utility engineers are girding for the effects of massive magnetic disturbances."

Results of 1989 CQP available

Gary Caldwell, WA6VEF, has prepared a comprehensive account of the 1989 California QSO Party. His eight-page report gives a full list of the final scores for California, the other US states and the rest of the world. It also contains Gary's amusing and informative comments on the contest.

I understand from his mother-in-law, Louese, KA6ING, that Gary mailed the report to all members of the NCCC. Many thanks, Gary. If anyone needs a copy, send a business-size envelope (#10) with 45¢ postage to:

Gary Caldwell, WA6VEF
PO Box 8014-56
Blaine, WA 98230

Three new members welcomed

Bob, W6FAH, was first licensed in 1954 and holds an advanced class license. He has also held the calls K4HQQ and KA2BC (Japan). He lives in Stockton and works at the Sonoma Valley Hospital. His station includes a TS-950SD, a TS-440S, a Henry 2K, a TL-922A and a TH6DXX. He operates half phone and half CW and likes CQP, ARRL DX and WPX. In fact, he earned a certificate for first place in San Joaquin County in the 1989 CQP with a score of 55,390 based on 454 QSOs and a multiplier of 58.

Mike, WB6NUT, has been licensed for 19 years and holds an extra class license. He lives in Walnut Creek and works for PGandE in San Francisco. His station includes an ICOM 701 and a 4-1000 linear. He operates 25 percent CW and 75 percent phone.

Harry, NT7E, came over from Reno for the banquet. He has been licensed for 32 years and holds an extra class license. He previously held the call K6MQX. He lives in Reno and works at Computing Resources in that city. His station includes a TS-940, an A3 at 35 feet and a connection to the packet cluster. Harry earned many certificates in the ARRL Ten Meter Contests in the 1970s, and it sounds as if he will be earning more certificates soon.

— N6EK

Gary and Niki step down as CQP organizers

The year before Gary, WA6VEF, took over the CQP, there were a mere 85 entries both in state

and out of state. The third highest out of state was a walloping 30K. In four years of chairing the contest, Gary and now also Niki, VE7NKI, have turned this contest into one of the best-organized contests of the year. This year we had 382 entries, including those from most of the country's top contesters.

Everyone in the club appreciates what Gary and Niki have done for CQP. The contest brings great honor to our club and allows each of us to run a station from home as if we were on a DXpedition. For any California contester, CQP has become one of the very best of the year. THANK YOU, Gary and Niki.

One of the first tasks of the new NCCC officers will be to identify the new leadership for CQP. Running the contest is a big job. Gary sees the job as having four main parts: (1) publicity; (2) organizing the club and making sure all the counties are activated; (3) collecting the logs, tabulating the scores and doing the write-up; (4) preparing and distributing the awards including certificates, wine bottles and plaques.

Gary and Niki are volunteering to continue handling the publicity for CQP. This is a critical area and easy for a new person to make mistakes with, so their offer is much appreciated. I have done the typesetting for the certificates and wine labels for several years and will continue to do so. I hope that some other people will volunteer to do a super-dependable job on some of the other aspects of the contest. With such support, the new chairman won't have to be quite so crazy to take the job!

— N6EK

Roster updates

AA6MC — Dick
Richard Dievendorff
Courtlands
Main Road
Itchen Abbas
Winchester SO21 1AT
England

WB6NUT — Mike
Michael D. Dobrzensky
132 Rosemont Court
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
(415) 932-0812
(415) 972-1140

NT7E — Harry
Harry D. Hart
5610 St. Andrews Court
Reno, NV 89502

W6FAH — Bob
Robert A. Craft, Sr.
8136 Grenoble Way
Stockton, CA 95210
(209) 951-1600
(707) 938-5442

Five Meg Award questions need answers

Louese, KA6ING, and Duane, W6REC, were speculating about the Five Million Point Award and came up with several questions that don't seem to be covered by the present rules. Perhaps the new officers will want to clarify the rules.

The rules state that points have to be made in NCCC territory, but what does that mean? Do contacts have to be made within the 150 mile radius or whatever the contest allows to be counted for the club, or would any place in Northern California be OK? Duane obviously has in mind his operations from Modoc county. Also, can someone who joins the club today count previous scores toward the award? Again, Duane is probably thinking of himself; he resigned from all radio clubs to spend full time building a new house. With luck, the house will one day be finished and he will rejoin us.

Anyone else have questions about the award? (The rules were last published in the October 1989 *Jug*.)

— N6EK

Tribulations of editing

I thought for a while that I was biting off more than I could chew by getting too fancy with the newsletter. Then I justified the extra effort by rationalizing that, since I had no choice but to keyboard every word, I might as well jazz up the

appearance while doing so. I've done all my writing with Microsoft Word on the Mac for several years, yet I was content to type straight text. No complicated tables or that kind of sophisticated stuff. But it so happens that I am just starting to co-author a book that will be packed with dozens of tables, so the experience with the *Jug* turns out to be a godsend. Thank you, *Jug*.

Bob, N6EK, and my book co-author, ex-W4LPZ (he loves contesting, and he plans to get back on the air soon), plan to get my Mac hooked up to the packet soon. That should save me hours of typing and make it easier to get the newsletter out on time.

Recent contest scores

I made this table from info carefully compiled by Alex, KI6EZ, and sent over the packet. Unfortunately, the scores of several members were garbled in transmission and I was unable to get a correction in time to meet the deadline. Call signs scattered around the bottom part of the table on my packet screen included N6TIB, KK1A, K6HIH (total 195 700?) and KI6EZ himself. Apologies to those left out. I hope to include them in next month's *Jug*.

Because of the worldwide nature of contesting, I decided to show the scores in international notation. Many countries use a comma for a decimal point, so the standard practice now is to leave a space instead.

— AK6T

CALL	WW 89 SSB	WW 89 CW	SS CW	SS SSB	TOTAL
NC7K	909 083	781 564	111 300	232 386	2 034 333
N6EK	380 196	849 090	119 866		1 349 152
K6HNZ	1 716 982				1 716 982
WX6M	308 066				308 066
AJ6V		265 680			353 280
W6BIP			123 060		123 060
CALL	CQP 89	CQ WW RTTY	ARRL 160m	ARRL 10m	TOTAL
NC7K		238 276			238 276
N6EK			12 587		12 587
K6HNZ				638 400	638 400
WX6M					0
N6TIB	183 222				183 222
AJ6V			2 772		2 772
W6ISQ	75 313			421 504	496 817
W6FSJ	46 000				46 000
K6MA				30 552	30 552

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Gary WB7SLY, Mgr.
East of Hwy. 17

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Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa Blvd.

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