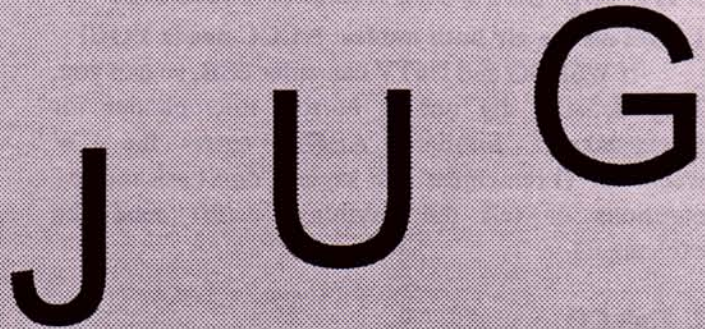


Club Repeaters W6RGG/R 147.24+, 442.200 (107.2PL)



## NEXT NCCC MEETING!

This meeting will be held on Friday, November 15th, in the cafeteria of building 50 at HP-Santa Clara. (That's the "usual" HP place.) It is on Stevens Creek Road, between Lawrence Expressway and Interstate 280. Pizza at 6:30 and meeting at 7:30. We would like to hear lies about your scores and how you did in CQWW-SSB and SS-CW, and pledges for SS-SSB.

## NCCC OFFICERS

If you have a question or a suggestion, let your officers know about it! (E-mail addresses are given. Other particulars can be found in the NCCC roster.)

President ..... Carl Cook, AI6V ..... ai6v@aol.com  
 Vice President/CC ..... Jim Hollenback, WA6SDM  
 .....jholly@cup.hp.com  
 Secretary/Treasurer ..... Dick Dievendorf, AA6MC  
 ..... dieven@almaden.ibm.com  
 Directors .....  
 Ken Silverman, WM2C  
 ken.silverman@atlas.ccmil.airtouch.com  
 Ed Muns, W0YK ..... w0yk@msn.com  
 Dave Curtis, NG0X  
 David\_b\_curtis@ccm.sc.intel.com  
 Andy Faber, AE6Y ..... ae6y@aol.com

**SWEEPSTAKES!!**  
**SWEEPSTAKES!!**

## SWEEPSTAKES!!

**When?** CW... 2100Z, Saturday, November 2 until 0300Z, Monday, November 4.

SSB... 2100Z, Saturday, November 16 until 0300Z, Monday, November 18.

**Where?** Your station on the usual HF bands, (*i.e.* no WARC bands.)

**Who?** YOU!! and I, and he, and she! Every NCCC member.. big guns, little guns, pop guns, squirt guns!

**Why?** Because we promised ourselves we'd do it again! And we can, if everyone puts forth an honest effort and sends in a log, specifying Northern California Contest Club as the club affiliation!

### Excerpts from the Presidential message, 1994...

The November Sweepstakes is an old tradition of the NCCC. This club was founded over twenty years ago... to be able to submit a club entry for Sweepstakes. Since that founding, NCCC has won the club competition 11 times! (updated October 96...ed) The club won 6 consecutive times, and began to take the victories for granted. That, of course, is when we stopped winning. When we returned to our roots, our winning ways resumed, and we have now won 4 times in a row! This is not a contest where the club can ride to victory on the coattails of a few superstars. The key to club victory is ... us... all of us! Winning the club competition is simply a function of which club can get the largest number of members to make a serious effort. (The NCCC definition of "serious effort" is 100,000 points or 24 hours of intense operation, whichever comes first. Each and every member's contribution to the club's score will be what decides whether or not we walk off with the gavel again.

de AA6KX

# O.K., What should I do?

## *The top six recommendations:*

### 1. Get on the air both modes: NCCC needs YOU!

If W6RGG and N6TV can enter SSB, so can you. They actually dig out or borrow microphones for Sweepstakes. Similarly AB6EQ enters the CW weekend! (I remember him saying "don't ask me any questions or tell me anything! Just send the exchange!")

### 2. Call CQ

If you have a decent signal, CQing is the fastest way to get QSO's into the log. Pick a frequency and CQ away! Sometimes it will seem like you're not getting any action, then another bunch of calls will come in, so don't give up too easily! When the rate really drops too low for your taste, then pick a new frequency, or go to "search-and-pounce."

### 3. Transmit the strongest signal you can

The high power stations consistently outscore the low power stations in this contest. If you have an amplifier, use it.

### 4. Stick with it. Operate the full 24 hours

The rates are highest at the beginning, so start at 2100Z. Your score will seem like it's going up very slowly, but hang in there. (Get some sleep between midnight and 7AM, local times.) Near the end, when you've got 75 sections or so, the score meter will be advancing at a much more satisfying rate!

### 5. Work ALL fellow NCCers

When you work a fellow club member, it's TWO QSO's for us, and NONE for them.

### 6. Send In Your Log!!!

Be sure to write "club affiliation: Northern California Contest Club" on your summary sheet! Then send logs, summary sheets, and dupe sheets to the ARRL, before December 15<sup>th</sup>. Send *copies* of the summary sheets to WA6SDM, whose new address can be found elsewhere in this issue of the JUG.

So these few things, and we'll pick up another one of the little wooden hammer things.

## NF1J ADVISES NCCC

At October's meeting, Warren Stankiewicz, NF1J gave his advice on maximizing your contest scores, not by discussing operating techniques directly, but by

telling us what his experience as a log-checker and contest guru at ARRL taught him. He said things like "the difference between first and second place is often just 10 QSO's or so. That means you want every entry in your log to be impeccably accurate. It would be a shame to drop out of first because you blew a few calls or exchanges."

While he spoke about the first and second place finishers, it was clear to this correspondent that the lessons learned applied to the tenth and 11th place finishers as well. To paraphrase Warren:

First and foremost, get the CALL right! A blown call is a non-QSO.

Get the time right! If it's off by a few minutes, it's trouble. (This should be easy, with computer logging, but who among us has forgotten to reset the computer's clock to WWV just before the contest starts? Lots of us, I'd bet! ...*ed*)

By the way, Warren applied for NCCC membership, and was voted in as a new member!

## HOLIDAY BANQUET Sunday, December 8th

Mark your calendars now! The unique NCCC Holiday Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 1996, at the Pleasanton Hotel on Main Street. You might be asking yourself "How is this event 'unique'?" There are at least two ways: first, NCCC members dress up in a civil manner, and act civil (notice I said "act!"); and second, amusing but competitive games (we are a CONTESTING club, after all) where everybody has a good time, and almost everybody wins a prize! It's highly improbable that you could have anything more satisfying planned. The menu is yet to be decided, but it will likely feature the hotel's succulent prime rib and a fish or fowl selection. Price and menu details will be in the next JUG, but for now, **MARK DECEMBER 8th ON YOUR CALENDAR.**

**SWEEPSTAKES!!**  
**SWEEPSTAKES!!**  
**SWEEPSTAKES!!**  
**SWEEPSTAKES!!**

# CQP from Yuba and Butte Counties

The good news is the antennas stayed up and weren't stolen this year, we were at the high point of the site instead down in the ravine (result of first stolen antenna last year...), and we even had such creature comforts as not just one but two working refrigerators and a real gas stove in a RV.

Now for the bad news.

We ended up not repeating the invitation to NCCC members and any local reflector readers to join us. While surveying the site for the new clearing at the high spot of the property we found a pound of nails strewn in the entrance to the existing drive one week before the event and began to ask questions of a couple of neighbors as to why.

Both counties sheriff's departments confirmed much of what the neighbors reported and more. It seems the vandals were connected with a gang they had just partly arrested and convicted last June of operating a crank (methamphetamine) lab on the property directly across the road from ours. The gang members as a whole--including those still at large may have been suspicious of our radio antennas, equating them with extra law enforcement attention in the area, and sort of blamed us as being partly responsible for their troubles.

It seems not to have occurred to their drug-fried brains that had they not stolen two antennas of ours in the first place, maybe the local law enforcement officers wouldn't have gotten extra curious and checked them out. This turned out to be irrelevant as we learned only Butte County was suspicious for that reason.

Yuba County did the actual raid on the crank lab and knew nothing about the stolen antennas or any of the other numerous property crimes that had happened along our access road because the deputy responsible for that area had never actually filed any of the reports he collected. It seems he also grew up with a couple of the gang members... Yuba county was acting on information collected about the source of problems in another deputy's area.

Sooo, not only did we apparently have the doubtful perceptions of reality of those still at large to worry about, but the questionable reliability of the local deputy in the event the hoodlums decided to do more than their usual petty larceny, vandalism and target practice on the site as reported by the neighbor next door to the former crank lab. Yet, both sheriff's

departments--and the lots of good neighbors all wanted us up there... So with a "yippee-yikes - Yuba and Butte counties and bust!" up we went.

Not knowing how much we really had to worry about, we did decide that NCCC members and Reflector readers probably would prefer not being invited to a site whose updated apparatus list now included "9 mm or 44 caliber communications equipment" and extra "security personnel". The RV, as well as the 9 mm and 44 caliber communications equipment both belonged to the personal security personnel, one 'Pheonix' Bill. Bill is a friend of mine from High School who was forced to interrupt our time at college together for a few years in the service by an Uncle. Bill got the nickname 'Pheonix' after he joined the Navy in San Diego, accidentally came to know something he should not have, and was given a choice of a transfer to "No Such Agency" or "The Company" and chose the latter. (No it is not a misspelling, look up Operation Pheonix in the transcript of Bill Moyers' white paper report "The secret government").

Tony and Bill called ahead on Friday morning to check on the contractors progress with the clearing and new driveway, and learned that all was ready. Hearing this, Bill decided to drive up in his RV, actually a 40 foot long GMC Coach formerly used to transport the Guy Lombardo Orchestra.

Just to make certain we were not molested, we requested and received visits and extra patrols by the Butte county Sheriff's department, patrols by at least a quarter of a local motorcycle club, both courtesy of the efforts of one of the members of Butte county's reserve communications unit, and visits by virtually every neighbor on the road except for the ones plinking in our general direction Saturday afternoon. (Yes, that was gunfire, and not ours, you might have heard in the background on 20 SSB) This last item meant I never did get to try out my metal detector down in the creek, but that is another story.

On the positive side, the new clearing was really nice for the tower and tent. Since we didn't have a power outlet yet installed on the new clearing, we had refrigerators but no air conditioning, meaning we needed the extra refrigerators.... We figure it will be even better after the rainy season when the poison oak oil is all washed out of the soil and it no longer blows around like talcum powder in the slightest breeze, like those from all the patrolling and visiting vehicles... In the meantime, buy stock in "Benadryl" and "Cortaid" ointments...

It took five hours total to set up tower with tribander, wire antennas, tent (necessary if nothing else

to keep the dust out of all the equipment and to keep the keyer working), etc., etc.. Tony came to the conclusion he really needs to do something to minimize all this, especially when he found himself so exhausted he could barely keep awake after the set up. The rate suffered a good deal most of Saturday. We also found that somehow during the transporting (perhaps it was that last two miles of washboard/gravel road), the FT990's IF shift knob (not normally noticed or used) got moved to fully CCW. As a result I probably sounded like an out of tune baritone for nearly four hours on 20 SSB Saturday morning, and probably why not many people answered my calls. I had suspected "something was wrong", only it didn't seem to be any of the usual things. The manual for the radio, along with the new LMR coax had not been packed and Tony couldn't hear me yell while he was giving directions and helping string the 80 and 40 meter antennas about 25 yards away.

The 1750 W generator did not have enough juice to power the amplifier, and at 2 p.m. both days, the computer decided it had enough of the 100 degree heat in the tent--despite the use of additional sun-shades and a fan--and took a siesta. Soooo, we had to get a couple of repeats, reload DOS and TR, and log with paper--all while trying to operate and answer questions from neighbors. Those of you who got QSO numbers 140 to 155 had better check with us before turning in your logs. BTW, can we count the eyeball QSO's with the neighbors ????

We retired to the motor home Saturday night and left everything in the tent overnight. We weren't terribly worried about security at that point. Between the poison oak, roots and the loose rocks still strewn over the not yet fully smoothed clearing, and the more than 30 guy wires and lines to the tower, 40 and 80 m dipoles, the tent, and two sun shades, we figured we would hear anyone coming long before they got to the tent. If they successfully missed all these obstacles (some of which we failed to avoid even in broad daylight) we were sure to hear them when they either fell over the small refrigerator or various bric-a-brac we strategically located just inside the closed door flap of the tent.

At about 2 a.m., our Bill and I heard something stumble over one of the guy wires, but since the sound wasn't followed by recognizable cussing, we figured it was a four-legged beast rather than two. Since it also didn't growl or roar, it wasn't the local mountain lion either. He or she was apparently still camped out at Mrs. Winchell's (the neighbor not the doughnuts), along with the bobcat we spotted.

We had to interrupt operations for a longer period Sunday when the contractor came by to review what had been done and still needed to be done. Tony insisted on leading the troupe over every road and trail that now existed and then beyond. Despite what we'd gone through he had finally decided we should build some sort of cabin--bunker style, mind you, but something permanent. Of course in his enthusiasm he never gave us a chance to put on either the anti-poison oak solution or any insect repellent... Like I said, buy stock in Benadryl and Cortaid ointments. If there is a square inch of skin on my legs below my knees that is now uncovered with bumps of one sort or another, I can't find it. Bill is complaining of the same thing. Tony was the only exception, and we're still trying to figure out why.

However, in our review we learned two things about the newly opened parts of our property. There is a spring near where Tony thinks we ought to build, so we won't have to pipe water uphill from the creek, and there is apparently a spur of the quartz pegmatite dike that cuts right across the center of the property and the quartz has evidence of minerals in it... Tony now wants to talk to Force 12 about big antennas and a bomb-proof tower, besides building the bunker... I wonder if I cooked the wine in the boeuf Bourguignon enough Saturday night...

At the end of the contest we packed up and started to leave only to discover entering the new drive with a 40' bus was easier than leaving. The entrance wasn't quite wide and flat enough and we bent back the tailpipe on itself and the muffler--requiring another half hour jury rigging the tail pipe... We all had just cleaned up and changed clothes by the way.

Oh well, despite the tension, heat, bugs of all sorts, poison oak, dust, mishaps, missteps, extra non-radio traffic, etc., in 15 hours we still managed to put 556 QSO's and 51 multipliers into the reconstructed log.

Funny Stuff: QSO # 555 was W5EHM whose exchange to us was serial number 55 in TX. That's a whole lot of dits!, or as Pheonix Bill put it "a perfect ending to go with the two ditzes who came up with this ditsy idea." ;-)

Celia/NOBBS (with Tony/AE0M's editing and Pheonix Bill's kibitzing)

becker@sprintmail.com - San Jose, CA

P.S. Do we hear any additional wild west frontier volunteers for next year??? Fire one round for "yes" and two for "no"...

# Updated NCCC ARRL Expedition List

As you hear of NCCC members going on ARRL dx-peditions, please have them give me a call. Attached is the updated list:

Kenny, WM2C

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## NCCC "Reserve Your Island" for the ARRL Contest

### ARRL DX SSB:

P4	AI6V +	M/S Planned
KH6	WR6R	SOAB

### ARRL DX CW:

6Y	WM2C, N6TV, N6BT, WS4E	M/2
KH6	N6IG?	(Rumored)
P4	AI6V+	M/S Planned
V2	N6BB, K6PJY, K6XV	M/S or M/2

## Ken's Pen SWEEPSTAKES!!

### SS Handbooks:

There are a limited number of NCCC SS Handbooks available for those that didn't receive theirs. This is a MUST HAVE item for anyone looking to enter the SS, at any level. Only NCCC members on the current roster will be eligible. A check for \$2.00 will get you this highly acclaimed NCCC publication!

### SS 96, Are YOU Ready?

SS is just a couple of weeks away, and this is *THE* NCCC event of the year. Get ready for another NCCC Kick Butt effort, and lets do something no one has done before: 5 Club victories in a row! We KNOW

that every other major club will be gunning for us, trying to take down the NCCC Dynasty. But we aren't going to let that happen!

To remain the premier SS Club, we need *everyone* to get on and do the best you can. Most other clubs have many more members than we do, so we need each and every one of you to get on and to your best. This year we will have a bunch of awards to add incentive, and I hope many of you try for at least 100k. 100k is EASY! To reach 100K, A station with a tribander and inverted-V's is considered a "Big Gun" and you'll reach and pass 100K before you know it.

To win the SS, we need YOUR participation. Every entry helps, regardless of size! Please pledge your score to the NCCC when the calling telephone tree makes its call to your number.

Kenny WM2C

## CLUB CALL UPDATE:

As many of you know (or maybe you don't!), the NCCC has a club call! It's KE6UCF. We hope this will change in the next few weeks. The NCCC has filed under Gate 2, for the call K6ZM, in honor of longtime member Phil Frazier.

Filing the paperwork seemed straight forward, until I happened to call the FCC Friday September 20, just 3 days before Gate 2 opened. Just the night before, I had been notified from one of the club members that K6ZM was still listed as an active call! Apparently the FCC was never officially notified that Phil had passed away. I finally got hold of a knowledgeable person at the FCC who laid out what I had to do to get Phil's call deactivated.

On Friday, I immediately went over to Peggy's place to get the proper paperwork and the Faxed it to the FCC Friday evening. Then, at 8:30 AM, Monday September 23, the first day of Gate 2, K6ZM was removed from the database. Why did we have to go through all this? The people who are working on the vanity calls do not have the authorization to delete active calls, even if we sent the correct paperwork with our application! Don't we love our governmental red tape?! But as of this writing, everything was AOK, and we should hear some news about K6ZM in a few weeks. Many thanks to Peggy for allowing the NCCC to remember and honor Phil's contribution with his callsign as the official NCCC club call.

73, Kenny WM2C

## THE VP/CC REPORTS:

CQP is past... Hope you all had fun! As I write this, CQWW-SSB is just a couple days away, and then the Sweepstakes in November.

Remember, the club is going all-out for this one. Everyone make an effort to get on and work *at least* 100 Q's and send your log to the ARRL. Make sure it is marked for NCCC in the club affiliation. The SS weekends are Nov. 2 and 3 for CW and Nov. 16 and 17 for SSB.

I'm at my new QTH now, the address is 1799 Westhaven Dr., San Jose, CA 95132. The new phone number is 408-258-0128. The email address is as before, jholly@cup.hp.com, and there's no packet yet. Keep the scores coming.

### Recent scores....

#### N6IFW

ARRL VHF QSO Party	7,920
ARRL VHF QSO Party	2,121
ARRL VHF SS	1,692
ARRL DX 1996	135
ARRL DX 1995	1,556

#### N6RO

NCJ NA Sprint	12,240
CW Sprint	10,332
AA DX SSB	42,240

#### W6ISO

CQP	70,992
ARRL VHF QSO Party	845

#### AB6YL

CQP	71,960
NAQP SSB	31,066

#### AC6DQ

CQP	119,586
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#### W6PYX, W1FEA, K6DGW

ARRL FD	3,886
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#### N2ALE/6

CQWW RTTY	28
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#### N6IP

(1995)

SprINT 1 '95	98
JIDX Low	585
ARRL DX CW	164,220
ARRL DX Ph	756
WPX Ph	175,686
WPX CW(AG7W)	528,393
AA CW	3,828

#### N6IP

(1995, cont'd)

IARU 95	292,675
CQP '95	28,938
SS CW	39,520
SS Ph	10,488

(1996)

CQ 160m	3,250
ARRL DX CW	6,804
ARRL DX Ph	936
WPX Ph	3,910
SprINT	113
WPX CW (AG7W)	289,914
AA CW	25,048
Field Day	652
WRTC/IARU	195,760
NA Sprint	7,638
CQP '96	104,552

#### N1EE

NA CW SPRINT	7,880
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## Contest Calendar

### November, 1996

(Note that CQWW/CW is *before* Thanksgiving!)

## SWEEPSTAKES!!

ARRL Sweepstakes, CW 2100Z, Nov 2 - 0300Z, Nov 4  
 High Speed Club CW 0900-1100Z and 1500-1700Z, Nov 3  
 Japan Int.DX, Phone 2300Z, Nov 8 to 2300Z, Nov 10  
 WAE DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Nov 9 to 2400Z, Nov 10

## SWEEPSTAKES!!

ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB 2100Z, Nov 16 - 0300Z, Nov 18  
 RGSB 1.8 MHz, CW 2100Z, Nov 16 to 0100Z, Nov 17  
 CQ Worldwide, CW 0000Z, Nov 23 to 2400Z, Nov 24

### December, 1996

ARRL 160-Meter 2200Z, Dec 6 to 1600Z, Dec 8  
 ARRL 10-Meter 0000Z, Dec 14 to 2400Z, Dec 15  
 TARA RTTY Sprint 2100Z, Dec 14 to 0100Z, Dec 15  
 RAC Canada Winter Contest 0000-2359Z, Dec 29

de WA6SDM

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# SWEEP STAKES

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