



Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club



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NCCC Net
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Happy New Year!

Our Next Meeting

Joint Meeting with REDXA

Program: Coax Baluns, K9YC

Date: Wednesday, 16 January 2008

Time: 6:00 pm schmooze, 7:00 pm dinner,
8:00pm program

Location: Mr. McGoo's Restaurant, 1375
Petaluma Blvd. North, Petaluma

Dinners – all inclusive - \$22 per person

RSVP: to K6MM, webaron@gmail.com

Directions:

Go to www.nccc.cc, and select "meetings."

NCCC Officers

President: Bob Tellefsen, N6WG, n6wg@comcast.net
Vice-President and Contest Chairman: Alan Eshleman,
K6SRZ, doctore@well.com
Secretary/Treasurer: John Miller, K6MM,
webaron@gmail.com

Directors

Past President: Dean Straw, N6BV
Director: Jeff Stai, WK6I
Director: Fred Jensen, K6DGW
Director: Jack Brindle, W6FB
Director: Jim Brown, K9YC
Honorary Director: Rusty Epps, W6OAT

Webmaster: Ed Muns, W0YK w0yk@msn.com
JUG Editor: Rob Brownstein, k6rb@baymoon.com

Presidential Musings

By: Bob Tellefsen, N6WG

What a year for NCCC. We won our fourth SS gavel in a row. We had members win SS plaques in all contest classes. We recruited a great group of new members who contributed big points to our 2007 SS effort. The jury is still out on 2007 SS, but it looks hopeful.

Tom K5RC was inducted into the Contesters Hall of Fame. A well deserved honor for a top contester and a great example for the rest of us.

Tom K6EU organized a group buy of toroids. When they came, he had to hand them out from a box in his car trunk because it was too heavy to carry into the meeting. I got good use from mine, quieting the shack computer. Thanks, Tom.

Kevin K6TD produced a great CQP report for the March JUG. We had great participation from all over the US and VE, plus Europe, South America, Asia and Oceania. Looks like CQP has made the big time. Thanks to all the CQP volunteers who make it work.

John K6MM orchestrated a highly successful dues drive, in spite of dues being officially voluntary. The club treasury is quite healthy now. At budget approval time, he also gave a detailed report on the proposed budget which clearly laid out our planned expenses and projected income.

Again, through K6MM's efforts, we had our first booth at Pacificon. It helped raise awareness of NCCC and our activities, plus we recruited a number of new members through our booth presence. John scored a bit of a coup, getting our booth space in the main-exhibitors area, instead of out in the hall. This gave us terrific foot traffic exposure.

Thanks to John, we now have large NCCC and CQP banners, which were on display at Pacificon. It really does pay to advertise :-)

We finished the year with our annual Holiday Party at Michael's in Mountain View. We had a great program with music from Ken N6RO, playing the guitar and singing. Bob N6TV gave his annual manualism performance, which delighted everyone. My wife thought it was great.

John K6MM and Rob K6RB played the keyboard and drums to entertain us. Very professional sounding. They managed to have a musical QSO, complete with musical QRM from a call that sounded like K6VAA.

The Locust, Rick K6VVA, did a ventriloquism act, using Ken N6RO and Andy AE6Y as his "dummies". It was hilarious. Rick also managed to draft a choral group that had been singing for another dinner party and brought them in for us to enjoy. They were the Los Altos Main Street Singers from Los Altos High School. Really fine vocal musicians.

The annual Holiday Party auction was run by Bob N6TV, with great results. He sure can move a lot of stuff in a short time.

Then John K6MM did the raffle. Everyone attending received a raffle ticket and a rose. Prizes were gift certificates to Borders or Home Depot.

We closed the evening with a chorus of Auld Lang Syne. Now that 2007 is over,

it's time for CTRL-ALT-DEL REBOOT. 2008 here we come.

See you in the contests.
73, Bob N6WG

VP/CC Report

By: Alan Eshleman, K6SRZ

Here's a selected list of upcoming contests in January:

- ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800 Z January 5 to 2400 Z January 6
- North American QSO Party CW 1800 Z January 12 to 0600 Z January 13
- North American QSO Party SSB 1800 Z January 19 to 0600 Z January 20
- ARRL VHF Sweepstakes 1900 Z January 19 to 0400 Z January 21
- CQ 160 M Contest 0000Z January 26 to 2359 Z January 27

As always, you can find links to the rules and deadlines for log submissions for all of these contests and many more on the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>
And, now...

A Tale of Two Hats

Back in April I was sitting in a tent on Swains Island, running stateside stations on 17 M SSB and trying to ignore the facts that (1) it was 104° F in the tent and (2) that a swarm of mosquitoes was feasting on my ankles. Things were going along at pretty good clip when someone broke in to congratulate me on my election as VP/CC of NCCC.

“KB,” I said, and added “listening up 5 to 10...” Fast forward to December. I'm again on a tropical—well, actually, semi-tropical—*island*. This time it's a pleasant 83° F in mosquito-free Kona,

where the only pileups are the long lines at Lava Java where I go for my morning latte. But, as on Swains, I'm also contemplating yet another ham radio club office—one that will overlap with my NCCC responsibilities.

In addition to my VP/CC hat, starting New Year's Day I will wear the hat of President of the Redwood Empire DX Association or REDXA. I'm a moment of weakness, I told the outgoing President—our esteemed KBer, Al, K6RIM—that I would “run” for the office, being as how I had recently relocated K6SRZ to Penngrove and would now have a ten-minute commute to attend meetings.

One of my first official acts will be to welcome the members of NCCC to our joint meeting in Petaluma on January 9. I hope to see as many of you as possible.

My own radio operations at the new QTH are at the temporary stage. I'm using the same portable tower I use for CQP and a variety of wires strung up in some tall pines.

I'm bracketed on two sides by heavy hitters Len, K6ANP, and Chuck N6OJ. A few days ago we had the opportunity to see how we could coexist when FJ/OH2AM started up on 17 M as entity #338. I found myself in a pileup with Len, Chuck, and Al, K6RIM, and it went surprisingly well. All were successful and the front end of my radio did not melt down.

I have been sustained in my role of VP/CC by the great cooperation, enthusiasm, and wisdom of other members. Marc, W6ZZZ, and Bob, K6MM, deserve special mention for

their help with the 2007 ARRL Sweepstakes club competition. Barring a big surprise, NCCC is poised to...

Well, no, I can't say it. It's something like the “no hitter” superstition.

When wearing my other hat—the REDXA presidency—my responsibilities will include making sure we have a series of great programs and guest speakers. This is where I need the help of members of both clubs. Please, let me have your suggestions for programs. Maybe you'd like to do a program for us. For my part, I'll try to work up a presentation on DXpedition medicine.

Now, back to the pool.

73, Alan, K6SRZ

Did We Win the Gavel?

By: Rob Brownstein, K6RB

As Yogi Berra once said, “It ain't over 'til it's over.” That said, though, the news looks pretty good for another SS gavel inscribed with NCCC on it.

My hat's off to PVRC who filled the bands with CW and phone ops for each contest weekend. The friendly competition is healthy and benefits all comers in Sweepstakes by keeping the rates and points up.

Just wait until the sunspots re-emerge, and 10 and 15 meters allow us to spread out more and QRM each other less. I only hope the enthusiasm continues unabated through the next sunspot peak.

NCCC Holiday Party 2007

(Photos courtesy N6TV)





