



Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club



November
2008
Issue 438

NCCC Net
Thursday 8 PM
3610+/-

NOVEMBER MEETING

Program:

**Mid-SS Checkpoint (Jim, K9YC; Bob, N6WG)
ARRL RTTY Roundup (Ed, W0YK)**

Date: Monday, 10 November 2008
Time: 6pm schmooz, 6:30pm dinner, 7pm program
Location: China Wok, 512 Sacramento St.,
Vallejo, CA 94590

Check Website for dinner info

Please RSVP to K6EU by Friday 7 November

Pay ahead of time via PayPal or at the door.

NCCC Officers

President: [John Miller, K6MM](#)
Vice-President and Contest Chairman: [Jim Brown K9YC](#)
Secretary/Treasurer: [Tom Carney, K6EU](#)

Directors

Past President: [Bob Tellefsen, N6WG](#)
Director: [Tom Taormina, K5RC](#)
Director: [Dean Wood, N6DE](#)
Director: [Tom Berson, ND2T](#)
Honorary Director: Rusty Epps, W6OAT

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

Zero Beat

By John Miller, K6MM

California QSO Party (CQP)

We've closed another chapter on CQP for this year. I hope everyone had a great time in the contest! Once again there was a high level of participation, in what has now become one of the most respected QSO parties in the country. All 58 CA counties were on the air. As of October 22, over 650 logs have been received, and there are at least 15 "sweep" winners from both in- and out-of-state. Special thanks go to the many KBers who traveled to a destination away from home to put one of the rarer counties on the air. You did a great job! My congratulations to CQP Chair Rick, N6RNO and his team:

- Fred (K6DGW),
- Bob (N6TV),
- Marc (W6ZZZ),
- Mike (WA6O) and
- Matt (WX5S).

They worked hard to make sure that CQP was another successful event for 2008. Don't forget to send in your logs – deadline is November 15 – and order your 2008 CQP T-Shirt, too. See the "Rules" section at <http://www.cqp.org> for details. Only 338 days until CQP 2009!

Pacificon 2008 – October 18 & 19

For the second time we exhibited at the ARRL-Pacific Division convention, sponsored by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club, at the San Ramon Marriott.

Our primary goals in attending this convention were (1) to create awareness among the attendees about contesting in general, (2) to attract new recruits to join NCCC, and (3) to solidify our image as a first class Contesting and Amateur Radio Club.

It was a very successful weekend. We recruited 35 new members (see "Welcome Aboard"). Almost everyone paid Dues for the year! They will be officially voted in at the November meeting, but ALL are eligible to compete in ARRL Sweepstakes this month. We also distributed New Member packets to another 17 potential members, and will be following up with them soon.

Our Exhibit Booth was in a great location and attracted visitors throughout the weekend. It was very encouraging to see a number of General Class or recently licensed hams either joining us or taking an information packet home. We had a great time telling stories, especially what it takes to accumulate 20M points for SS, and the awards and gavels on display facilitated conversations with folks. Many visitors confessed that they either knew nothing about contesting or had the wrong impression of what it takes to feel "competent" or "successful". This gave us a chance to "demystify" contesting and remove roadblocks for many folks. These are the ones who either signed up on the spot or took an information packet for follow-up.

My thanks to this outstanding group of KBers who helped out at the Exhibit Booth at Pacificon 2008:

- Chris (AF6JG)
- Fred (K6DGW)
- Vic (K6IC)
- Barry (K6ST)
- Bob (K6XX)
- Jerry (KD6WKY)
- Jack (KF6T)
- Jim (K9YC)

- Tom (N3ZZ)
- Tom (N6AJR)
- Dean (N6BV)
- Doug (N6TQS)
- Bob (N6WG)
- Pat (W6DRX).

ARRL Sweepstakes: Defending The Gavel

Our goal this November is to defend the Club Championship Gavel for the 6th consecutive year. Bob, **N6WG**, has put together a hard-hitting strategy to ensure another successful SS year for NCCC – but we're counting on YOU to get on the air and make it happen.

When is SS?

The CW section is 2100 UTC Nov 1 to 0300 UTC Nov 3. (Remember that PDST ends at 2AM PDST and becomes 1AM PST. Stick to UTC through the contest, and ignore local time.)

The SSB section is 2100 UTC Nov 15 to 0300 UTC Nov 17.

Why do we need you to participate?

Our winning club score is the combined total of all our CW and SSB scores. It takes a large number of rather modest scores and a few large ones to assemble a winning club score. It really does take a Team Effort to make it happen.

How can you contribute to our score?

Participate in both the CW and SSB sections of SS. The rules can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/novs.html>

Whether your scores are large or small, they are important to our final score. Every point counts.

For maximum fun in a limited amount of time, during Sweepstakes, come join everyone in the **West Coast Rallies**. You can pick up easy points quickly by working relatively local stations.

West Coast Rally Times:

Phone

- a. 0700 Z Saturday 3865 +/- 50 kHz
 - b. 2100 Z Sunday 7235 +/- 50 kHz
 - c. 0250 Z Monday 3865 +/- 20 kHz
- (last ten minutes of contest)

I hope you've been able to use the many NCCC resources over these last few weeks to upgrade your stations, solve any technical problems, and test that new antenna, software, and rig – to put yourself in a great position for Good Scores and Much Fun in this contest.

Please join your club in 2008 Sweepstakes, as we will really need each and every point this year. The competition is expected to be fierce. We're counting on you!

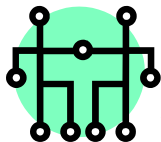
Summary

That's it for this month. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the November 10 meeting in Vallejo. And, of course, I'll be looking for you on the air in Sweepstakes 2008.

KB!

73, John, K6MM

Defending The Gavel. Every Log. Every Point.



Welcome Aboard!

Let's all welcome these new members:

- AE6RD** - David Schmidt - San Francisco
- AF6JP** - John Pimlott - Lathrop
- K6GYL** - Diane Hasemayer - Greenview
- K6IAM** - Iain MacDonnell - Brentwood
- K6MDS** - Mike Saculla - Stockton
- K6MMG** - Marc Gorelnik - El Cerrito
- K6NOD** - Don Hasemayer - Greenview
- K6SID** - Sid Sidorsky - Alameda
- K6TF** - Rick Prime - Colfax
- K7TP** - Grover Cleveland - Penn Valley
- K9RJ** - Harris Leck - Alamo
- KA6MIB** - Tony Page - Novato

- KB8VAO** - Steve Gocala - Walnut Creek
- KB6CGE** - Todd Bendt - Novato
- KC6QLV** - Tim Kyle - Hayward
- KF0G** - Robert Coppock - Pleasanton
- KG6OQZ** - Duane Sand - San Jose
- KI6ATA** - Shel Lawrence - Walnut Creek
- KI6BEN** - John Vargas - Fremont
- KI6ESK** - Curtis Maccoun - Lincoln
- KI6LQE** - Bruce Cash - San Jose
- KI6LUK** - Frank Redick - Lakeport
- KI6PR** - Mike Siegel - Merced
- KO6JF** - Sandy Lavine - Alameda
- N6BOB** - Bob McClard - Yuba City
- N6RZR** - Brian Waligorski - Anderson
- N7SLX** - John Mitchell - Clovis
- NV7A** - Ken Swanson - Gardnerville (NV)
- W0HJW** - Harold Wilkinson - Hanford
- W6AWS** - Andy Stephens - Orangevale
- W6BO** - Bob Olson - Yuba City
- W6JER** - Jerry Grandstaff - San Lorenzo
- W6JCW** - Bob Sanders - Sacramento
- W6JP** - Jeffrey Philpott - Nevada City
- W6LZZ** - Jim Martin - Castro Valley
- W6TTF** - Carole Whitteberry - Fresno
- W6VAR** - Jim Kohnke - San Ramon
- WA6WTF** - Jan Whitteberry - Fresno
- WO1NDR** - Christina Sand - San Jose

Contests For November

By John K6MM

For a one-page summary of all major contests throughout the year, go to: <http://www.nccc.cc> and click on "Major Contest Calendar" at the top of the page.

For a complete 12-Month Contest Calendar go to: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

To download ARRL's Contest Corral for October, go to: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/#corral> and click on November.

November 2008

- NCCC Sprint - Nov 1, 7, 14, 15, 21, 28
- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW - Nov 1 to 3
- WAE DX Contest, RTTY - Nov 8 to 9
- JIDX Phone Contest - Nov 8 to 9

OK/OM DX Contest, CW - Nov 8 to 9
Kentucky QSO Party - Nov 8 to 9
SARL Field Day Contest - Nov 15 to 16
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB - Nov 15 to 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest - Nov 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint - Nov 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW - Nov 29 to 30

Pacificon 2008



Ready For Business



Side View



"Where Do I Sign?"



K6IAM, N6BV, K6XX, K6MM



W4NJK, K6IC



KG6YMN, K9YC, K6IC



K6ST, KD6WKY



N6AJR – Thanks Tom!

NCCC Past Presidents

By John Miller, K6MM

Our list of Past Presidents reads like a list of “Who’s Who” in Contesting.

2007	Bob Tellefsen, N6WG	1988	Steve Demetrescu WB6MZO
2006	Dean Straw N6BV	1987	Bob Vallio W6RGG
2005	Mike Heideman N7MH	1986	Al Crespo WR6R
2004	Tom Berson ND2T	1985	John Huttquist K6GSS
2003	Steve Dyer W1SRD	1984	Ed Radlo AJ6V
2002	Dave Curtis N6NZ	1983	Ken Ruddock K6HNZ
2001	Rick Tavan N6XI	1982	Kip Edwards W6SZN
2000	Bob Wolbert K6XX	1981	Bob Vallio W6RGG
1999	Ed Schuller K6CTA	1980	Ken Ruddock K6HNZ
1998	Steve Merchant K6AW	1979	Gary Calwell WA6VEF
1997	Andy Faber AE6Y	1978	Rusty Epps W6OAT
1996	Carl Cook AI6V	1977	Tom Schiller N6BT
1995	Ken Silverman K2KW	1976	Ken Keeler N6RO
1994	Bruce Sawyer N6NT	1975	Bill Zachary N6OP
1993	Steve Thomas N6ST	1974	Bob Vallio W6RGG
1992	Bob Wilson N6TV	1973	Rusty Epps W6OAT
1991	Louese Bloom KA6ING	1972	Ken Keeler N6RO
1990	John Troster W6ISQ	1971	Don McClellan K6EBB
1989	Carl Cook AI6V	1970	Jim Neiger N6TJ

Sweepstakes Evolution

Rob Brownstein K6RB

I was reading the November 1949 issue of QST the other day. I have a ton of these old QSTs. On page 38 the title read “Announcing the 16th ARRL Sweepstakes.” It was interesting to see how the contest has evolved.

It was two weekends long (November 19th and November 26th) lasting a total of 66 hours (instead of 60 hours). And you could operate a total of 40 hours (instead of 48 hours).

The weekends were not divided into a CW and a Phone contest. Both weekends you could operate either or both modes (CW or AM).

In those days, instead of different classes (A, B, etc.), if you ran over 100 watts, your score was equal to your point score times the number of sections. If you ran under 100 watts, you got an additional 1.25 multiplier.

Interestingly, instead of 2 points per two-way exchange, you received 1 point for sending your acknowledged exchange, and 1 point for copying a sent exchange. There were 72 ARRL sections back then (instead of 80).

You could be assisted with logging, “spotting,” or relief operation, but in any of those cases, you were classified as a “multiple-operator station.”

Back then the exchange was also different. The sequence was: QSO number, call, RST, section, time and date. A typical exchange was:

NR1 W1AW 589 CONN 6R12 PM Nov 19

