



Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club



September
2004
Issue 388

NCCC Net
Thursday 9PM
3853+/-

Next NCCC Meeting

Guests are always welcome at the NCCC! Please join us.

ARRL Sweepstakes Dean, N6DE; Rusty, W6OAT

Our menu for the evening will consist of hot and sour soup, honey walnut prawns, lemon chicken, Mongolian beef, ginger scallion fish fillet, dry braised green beans, steamed rice and soft drinks for a price of \$19 per person which includes tax and tip. Beer and wine are available on a no-host basis. The cuisine at China Wok is exceptional, so if you like Chinese food you won't want to miss this one!

Please RSVP in advance to [K6UFO](mailto:k6ufo@arrl.net)

Date: Monday, 13 September 2004

Time: 6:00pm schmooze, 6:30pm dinner, 7:00pm program

Location: China Wok Restaurant, 512 Sacramento Street, Vallejo, CA (707) 645-2008

Directions: From I-80 westbound, take the Georgia Street exit (which loops back around and you make a left turn onto Georgia Street), continue into downtown Vallejo, turn right on Sacramento Street and you're there. From I-80 eastbound, take the Highway 29 exit just after you cross the Carquinez Bridge. Go north on Highway 29 into Vallejo, turn left onto Georgia Street, go two blocks and turn right onto Sacramento Street. It's in the middle of the block across the street from the Vallejo police substation, an easy-to-spot building on the corner of Sacramento St. and Georgia St. There is plenty of free parking in the adjacent lot on the north side of the restaurant.

NCCC Officers

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Two Tango

Tom Berson, ND2T, NCCC Pres.

Yikes, another *JUG* deadline (actually, it's past the deadline). Is it already the end of August? Why are these kids going back to school? Why are the days getting shorter? Where has the summer gone? What about all the projects I was going to do over the summer to prepare for the contesting season?

Here is a partial list of things I could write about at length if I weren't late:

Recruiting: W6ZZZ and K6UFO are doing a great job for the club here, together with N6RCE for CQP. WX5S is also involved with making phone calls, and looking for a few good people to help him. The idea is to have every active contester (and almost every semi-active contester) in our ARRL area be a member of the club before November. Please talk to your friends and colleagues about this. Resources for talks at local radio clubs are available on the NCCC web site.

CQP: Publicity is out, and beginning to appear in other club newsletters and contest listings. Publicity packages were mailed. N6TV is collecting county expedition information. What are your CQP plans?

NAQP: We fielded five (count 'em, five) all-NCCC-member teams for each of the CW and SSB sections. This is a great activity level, unsurpassed in the nation. Thanks to team members, and to

coordinators K6DGW (CW) and K6IF (SSB).

NCJ Sprint: The Sprints are coming soon. Practice, practice, practice. How best to practice? Participate in the NCCC CW Network Sprint (NS) Thursday evenings before the NCCC net. The 20-minute mini-contest runs at 20 wpm or below for the first ten minutes. N6ZFO coordinates NS. W6RGG is coordinating teams for the CW Sprint. Who will be our coordinators for SSB and RTTY?

Antennas: The summer is almost over. I actually prefer antenna work in the autumn when the sun seems cooler. Get them up now.

Logging Programs: If you are planning to update your logging program, do it now. The hour before a contest is NOT, repeat NOT an appropriate time to change your software.

Logbook of The World (LoTW): Try it, you'll like it. I uploaded 13,000 Qs and immediately "received" 2,700 QSLs.

Deficit: Our club expenses are under control, but our income for this year is still below budget. All ideas (and moneys) to the Treasurer.

Vallejo Meeting (September): The September meeting – featuring a Sweepstakes program -- will be held on 11 September at China Wok in Vallejo. Directions are on the web site. This restaurant is owned and operated by protégées of W6OAT. I've eaten there: warm family atmosphere; delicious Chinese food. I hope that all members will try to get there, especially those from the North Bay, Sacramento, and the Central Valley.

Palo Alto Meeting (October): Looking ahead, the October meeting – featuring a different Sweepstakes program – will be held on **18 October** at TIBCO in Palo Alto.

Notice the date: one week later than usual for us.

See you on the air, or in person at the meetings. KB.

VP/CC Report

Dean Wood, N6DE

Sweepstakes Presentations

You already have the first and third weekends in November reserved on your calendar, right? If not, do it now! The programs at our September and October meetings will be about Sweepstakes. Did you attend our first Sweepstakes program this year in June at N6ZFO's QTH? We covered a lot of great content about what we learned last year in Sweepstakes, and what we can apply from those lessons for this year. If you missed the meeting, you really should download the presentation from the NCCC web page at http://www.nccc.cc/members/pdf/2003_ss_1essons_learned.pdf

We hope to have some great SS programs at the September and October meetings, so I hope all of you are able to attend!

North American QSO Party (NAQP)

Thanks to Fred K6DGW and Dan K6IF for organizing the NCCC NAQP CW and SSB teams, respectively. We had a total of five NCCC teams for each mode. This was more than every other club except the Tennessee Contest Group, which adds several non-club members to their teams. NCCC teams are only composed of NCCC members. Thanks to everyone for participating in NAQP! Please submit your log, regardless of score!

Send your NAQP SSB log in Cabrillo format by to ssbnaqp@ncjweb.com by September 4.

You can verify that your NAQP CW or SSB log was received by going to:

NAQP CW logs:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/cwnaqplogs.php>

NAQP SSB logs:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/ssbnaqplogs.php>

The winner of the NCCC NAQP Newcomer Award will be announced at the September 13 NCCC meeting in Vallejo.

September Sprints

The NCJ September Sprint contests are approaching soon. These are great, intense, four hour Saturday contests. The NCCC has done well in these contests in the past, winning a few team competitions and usually fielding more teams than any other club. I encourage you to join an NCCC team!

It is easy to become intimidated by a Sprint, especially on CW. Preparing for a Sprint is a valuable experience. This is the main reason why the NCCC is hosting the NS CW practice contests, roughly in the form of the Internet Sprint CW contest. See N6ZFO's e-mail posts to the NCCC reflector or page 2 of the July 2004 JUG for more NS contest rules. These 20 minute practice sessions on Thursdays at 8:40pm-9pm really help to prepare for the Sprint exchange, QSY rule, and SO2R practice. Please join us on Thursday nights for these practices.

NCJ Sprint rules:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/sprinrules.php>

CW Sprint: September 11, 5-9pm PDT

CW Team Manager: Bob W6RGG –
w6rgg@sbcglobal.net

SSB Sprint: September 19, 5-9pm PDT

SSB Team Manager: your name here!

Many thanks to Bob W6RGG for volunteering to manage our CW Sprint teams. Please send an e-mail to W6RGG if

you think you'll be active for even a short time in the CW Sprint.

I'm looking for a volunteer to help manage the SSB teams. Let me know if you can help.

Recognition

This month I'll recognize outstanding NCCC scores from the ARRL DX CW and SSB official results. If this contest was just for the east coast clubs to enjoy, someone forgot to tell the following NCCC members before they put up great scores from across the world.

ARRL DX CW

DX S/O HP – 5 of the Top 10 were NCCC members!

#3 – P40Y (AE6Y), South America continent winner

#4 – HC8L (W6NL)

#6 – ZF2NT (N6NT)

#8 – ZD8Z (N6TJ)

#9 – KP2CW (K6VVA)

DX M/M – Our own KI6T was a member of the J6DX operation that placed #2 in this category.

USA S/O 40m - #3 – N6IG

USA M/S – #10 – W6YX (K6UFO, N7MH, W6LD)

Pacific Division winners:

N6BV, S/O HP

N6NF, S/O LP

K6KM (WA6O op), S/O assisted

W6OAT (+K2RD, WX5S) @K6IDX, M/2

ARRL DX SSB

DX S/O HP – the top 2 were NCCC members!

#1, World winner – 8P1A (W2SC)

#2 – P40L (W6LD)

DX S/O QRP

#5 – ZF2NT - Bruce had a golden log with this effort!

DX M/S - #3 – HC8L (K6BL, W6NL)

USA S/O 10m – #6 – N6EE

USA S/O 20m - #5 – WA6O (@N6RO)

USA S/O 40m - #2 – N6IG, new W6 record, beating K6NA's record previously set in 1995.

USA M/M – K6AW KB'd with the KC1XX team which placed #2 in this category.

Pacific Division winners:

S/O HP - WR6M

S/O LP – N6NF

S/O assisted – K6TA

M/S – W6TE

M/2 – W6YX (K6UFO, N7MH, W6RQ, W6GEM)

73...

-Dean – N6DE

August Meeting

Rob Brownstein, K6RB

The August meeting was well attended and Holder's Country Inn is a good venue for future South Bay meetings.



Tom, ND2T, calls meeting to order.

The meeting kicked off at 7 PM with old business followed by new business and election of one new member. There was a surprise auction by Locust, K6VVA, who kept the bidders in the dark until the very end. Some NCCer is now the proud owner of a plastic owl with a jiggly head – and all for just \$25. What a deal!

Before the program commenced, George, K6GT, brought in a few goodies from the junk box – odd lengths of RG-59u – and told us that the new owner of K6ZM's Danville home will be leaving the towers in place because he “might become a ham someday.”

Al, AD6E's, program was about CQP. It should be titled everything you ever wanted to know about managing this contest but didn't have the time to ask. This single weekend contest is a nine-month effort on the part of Al and his volunteers.



Al, AD6E, explains all the various task involved in managing the CQP each year.

The CQP managers do an amazing amount of work including publicity, rules amendments, log gathering and checking, awards designations, awards distribution, and budgeting. Hats off to Al and the CQP gang.

K6RB – By The Beach

Rob Brownstein, K6RB

I was planning to do a protracted profile on ZF2NT for this issue, but to do it justice I need a lot more time. Also complicating things, I had cataract surgery on Thursday,

August 26th, so JUG editing had to wait until Monday, August 30th. So, I decided to take Ed's (W0YK) advice when I approached him to do a station profile. "My set up is such a mess, Rob, why don't you do one on your own station?" So, here goes.

I bought this 1/3 acre lot in 1984 specifically to build a house with room for a "decent" antenna. With the house completed in July 1984, I had already ordered a Tri-Ex WT-51 crank up, a KLM KT-34XA, and a HAM-M rotator – all delivered and set up in August 1984.

At that time, the station consisted of a Ten-Tec Omni-D and an Ameritron AL-80 (the original). I took advantage of a decent station to finally get my WAS and DXCC CW awards. At the same time I began getting my feet wet in contesting.

My first real contesting experience was as K2UMU/4X in the first Holyland DX Contest in the spring of 1973. I was living near Haifa, on a kibbutz, and had taken my ol' HW-100 and power supply with me. While there, I built a homebrew 15-meter delta loop, hand rotated, and mounted 18 feet off the ground on a 1 1/2-inch galvanized pipe. For the other bands, I used a 300 foot wire, 30 feet off the ground, and an L-network tuner. I placed in the top ten in Israel in that contest.

Upon returning to the US in 1973, I spent the next 11 years, in lots of places, with the HW-100 and wire antennas. Contesting? Why bother?

So, fast forward to 1984. I did Sweepstakes that fall and loved it. I did the ARRL DX contest (both modes) and loved it. I was hooked. By 1985, the Ten-Tec was replaced by an IC-761, and the Ameritron by an LK 500-ZC amplifier. I was cooking. I think I won my first-place CQP award for Santa Cruz County that October and was thrilled.

So, from 1984 until 2002, the station was an IC-761, the LK 500 ZC, and KT-34XA plus half slopers for 40, 80 and 160.

In 2002, I sold the IC-761 and bought a used FT-1000D. In 2003, I sold the LK 500 ZC and bought a used Alpha 87A.

During the summer of 2002, I replaced the KLM with a Force 12 C31-XR, MAG 240N and the 10' galvanized mast was replaced by a 20' chromoly mast.



The main antennas are a Force 12 C31-XR at 50 feet and a MAG 240 N at 60 feet. Not visible are the half slopers for 80 and 160.

For the contest seasons of 2002 and 2003, that was the set up. But I was intrigued by the prospect of SO2R. So, starting over the summer of 2003, I bought a DX Doubler switch, two ICE 419As, and band decoders.

Just three months ago, I got radio # 2, another FT-1000 (minus the D). Radio 2's amp is (for now) a Collins 30L-1 with QSK-5 for full QSK. And the antenna for radio 2 is a Hy-Gain AV640 vertical mounted on the chimney.



Today's SO2R set up – FT 1000s on right and left, Alpha 87A for left radio, Collins for right radio. DX Doubler switcher and ICE 419A bandpass filters.

CW and NAQP fone. I'm hooked. I loved it when the run rate began dropping and I started alternating Qs between radios.

In 1984, I was the contest king of Santa Cruz – there were no other serious testers to be found. In 2004, I have Ed, W0YK, and Bob, K6XX, establishing the pace. And, though I'm no longer "number one," the friendly competition has urged me on to higher scores than I ever earned before.

In retrospect, after 46 years of fairly constant ham radio activity, I have to say that I never enjoyed the hobby more than I do now. And, I've never participated as long or as actively in any club as I have in NCCC.

Member News

Trey, N5KO Elected to CQ Contest Hall of Fame

Trey Garlough, N5KO, was inducted into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame at the Dayton Hamfest.

The following is the nomination letter as printed in NCJ September/October 2004:

March 9, 2004

Mr. Box Cox, K3EST
CQ Hall of Fame
K3est@cqww.com

Dear Bob,

This is a Latin-American multinational nomination of Trey Garlough, N5KO/HC8N, for CQ Contesting Hall of Fame.

He is a life member of the American Radio Relay League, member of Quito Radio Club and Northern California Contest Club and founding member of the Boring Amateur Radio Club and Galapagos Radio Sociedad.

A ham radio Internet pioneer, he was the creator of many Internet mailing lists including CQ-Contest@Contesting.com and 3830@Contesting.com. He was also a founding member of Contesting.com and eHam.net web sites. Trey continues to provide web hosting, Internet mailing list services and technical guidance to scores of amateur radio contesting and public service organizations.

He is a former Editor (1993-1994) and CW Sprint Editor (1989-1993) of the National Contest Journal, and was a Team World (1966) and Team USA (2002) selection to the World Radiosport Team Championship.

He unselfishly has given his time to some less notorious activities that still have an impact on the way we contest today, as he was the leader of the collaboration between contest sponsors and logging program authors that resulted in the creation and adoption of the Cabrillo Format. N5KO also has been a key contributor in the conversion from paper log to electronic log processing for numerous contests, including all ARRL and CQ events.

As an operator, he won the 1976 ARRL Novice Roundup, was USA National champion (CW Sweepstakes) three

consecutive years (Top Ten 10 times) and has placed in the Top 10 of the CW Sprint 15 times.

He has placed in the To Ten single op all band in CQWW CW nine times from the southern hemisphere. This includes his overall victory in 1999, which was notable in the following respects: 1. world record, 2. only CW world champion from southern hemisphere in past 30+ years, 3. only CW world champion from Pacific Ocean in past 30+ years, 4. first single op to achieve 7000 QSOs in a 48-hour contest.

As an operator, N5KO has achieved 15 World #1 results in CQWW (nine world records) and 10 World #1 results in WPX (eight world records), many of them as multioperator with new and experienced contesters.

Trey is not an American coming south looking only for QSOs, he is a man who learned how to speak our language because of radio, an amicable competitor, a colleague always willing to share, a patient Elmer and above all a good friend.

In many ways, he is one of us and this is why the Latin-American contesters and DXers present Senor Trey Garlough to the CQ Contesting Hall of Fame.

Aruro Gargarella, LU6ETB; Atilano Oma, PY5EG; Ramon Santoyo V., XE1KK; Radio Club Quilmes; Araucaria DX Group.

Dues reminder:

Managing CQP, the NCCC Website, the NCCC reflector, and publishing the JUG takes volunteers – and money!

Beginning in 2003, NCCC adopted a dues optional policy. Members can remain in good standing whether or not they paid the annual \$24. However, only members who paid the dues would be able to receive non-paper awards. And, only members who paid the optional dues can receive the paper version of the JUG.

Practically all members of NCCC are dues paying. We all appreciate the value we receive from all aspects of our membership. Failure to pay dues is more often because we forget.

So, if you have not yet paid your dues, but intend doing so, please do it today. Use this coupon and send your check to:

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