

Publication of the Northern California Contest Club



Issue 480

May 2012

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

"NCCC Plans for 2012-2013"
Dean N6DE & Stu K6TU
"CQP 2011—Results and Sausage Factory"
Alan K6SRZ, Kevin K6TD, Stu K6TU

Date:

Monday 14th May.

Time:

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

El Burro, 3100 Newpark Mall, Newark, CA (510) 797-9300

Please RSVP to nccc.treasurer@gmail.com with your dinner choice :-

Dinner selections for this month's meeting are:

- 1. Beef (Enchilad a& Taco)
- 2. Chicken (Enchilada Mole)
- 3. Pork (Chile Verde) Their specialty!

All dinners include Spanish rice, refried beans and salad as well as coffee, tea or soda. Price, including gratuity and tax, is \$23



From the President...

"Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose. " Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr, Les Guêpes, 1849

Before I sat down to write this, my first JUG column as President, I spent a couple of hours going back and reading the first columns written by past Presidents... I wanted so see what was on their minds and how they had approached their time in this office.

I found a lot of consistency in the issues they chose to address:

- NCCC as Contest Club or Social Club
- Increasing contest participation
- Reinforcing NCCC's goals
- Encouraging the spirit of "giving back"

If you go back far enough you will find surprises such as the yearly "purge" of inactive members as well as recurrent debate about how much to flog Sweepstakes.

As Karr said, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." - past presidents alike all felt they were dealing with the same issues.

Not surprisingly, I share these initial thoughts but from a different point of view — *sustained enthusiasm and participation* come from within each of us. Passionate people move mountains and perform amazing feats; not because they get flogged to do so but because *they are self motivated*.

(continued on page 3)



Officers:

President Stu Phillips K6TU stu@ridgelift.com Vice President Dean Wood N6DE cqden6de@gmail.com Secretary/Treasurer Dave Ritchie W6DR nccc.treasurer@gmail.com Past President Chris Tate N6WM ctate@ewnetinc.com Director **Kevin Rowett** K6TD kevin@rowett.org k6mm@arrl.net Director John Miller K6MM Director Ira Stoler K2RD k2rd@arrl.net

Volunteers:

New Member Mentor Al Rendon WT6K wt6k@arrl.net Charter Member **Rusty Epps** W60AT w6oat@sbcglobal.net **Awards Chairs** Joanna Dilley joanna.k6yl@gmail.com K6YL Rebar Rebarchik N6DB rebar@hamilton.com CQP Chair Alan Eshleman K6SRZ doctore@well.com **CQP** Certificates

CQP Certificates

Andy Faber
AE6Y
ae6y@arrl.net
K6ZM QSL Manager
George Daughters
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WebmasterJohn MillerK6MMk6mm@arrl.netJUG EditorsIan ParkerW6TCPw6tcpian@gmail.comStu PhillipsK6TUstu@ridgelift.com

Thursday Night Contesting:

NCCC—SprintKen KeelerN6ROkenkeeler@jazznut.comNS LadderBill HaddonN6ZFOhaddon.bill@gmail.comSlow NS (SNS)Chris TateN6WMctate@ewnetinc.com

NCCC Net

Thursday 8 PM Freq: 3.610 +/-

NCCC

Monthly meetings take place on the second Monday of each month!

Details here

NCCC Membership Information

If you wish to join NCCC, you must fill out an <u>application for membership</u>, which will be read and voted upon at the next monthly meeting. (<u>PDF application form</u>)

To join, you must reside within <u>club territory</u> which is defined as the maximum of:

- Northern California, anything north of the Tehachapi's up to the Oregon border, and
- A part of north-western Nevada (anything within our ARRL 175-mile radius circle centered at 10 miles North of Auburn on Highway 49).

People organize in groups because they have shared purpose and appreciate they have more strength as a group than as individuals. It doesn't matter whether the group is a company, a demonstration or a club; the group brings shared knowledge, greater achievement and reinforced enthusiasm from results.

We stay with a group as long as we are getting feedback that helps our personal motivation. When the feedback diminishes or becomes negative, we lose motivation and either change group or adopt an attitude of "well, it's just a job".

NCCC is no different. It's a group whose members came together through their shared passion and interest in contesting. NCCC was born out of the negative feedback the founders got for their contesting enthusiasm from their previous group and deciding to do something about it. They were passionate enough to take the "risk" and create a new group.

My greatest hope for my term as President is to help reinforce the passion and positive feedback we each get from being members of NCCC.

Dean and I will share our initial thoughts with you at the May meeting but this isn't a one way street. We need your input, feedback and ideas especially on what YOU want to get from being a member of NCCC and not feel that its just a group to which you contribute your contest scores.

We will work to encourage transparency and participation recognizing that with the size of NCCC territory, its difficult for everyone to attend every meeting. To this end, we are working to be able to webcast all NCCC meetings; bear with us in the beginning as we are still working out the logistics to be able to do this. We will also publish a set of meeting notes in the JUG after every board meeting so that you can see what we are working on and provide us with your thoughts and input.

The JUG is an important communication vehicle for NCCC especially as not everyone is on the NCCC email reflector. Announcement of the availability of the JUG will be included in the email that goes out to everyone in NCCC with the next meeting notice. Please read the JUG regularly so that we can all share ideas and keep in touch.

73 & KB! Stu K6TU

VP/CC Report

Dean Wood, N6DE

I'm looking forward to being your VP/CC for the next year. At the May NCCC meeting, I'll be outlining our NCCC contest plan. This plan will be thoughtfully developed to strongly support the club's overall goals for the year, and will continue to act on feedback you gave in the NCCC contest survey last year, as well as input that several of you have given us this year.

A portion of my upcoming VP/CC columns every month will be dedicated to recognizing little pistol and big gun NCCC efforts in recent contests. Also, I have something different planned for part of my VP/CC reports at NCCC meetings every month. Come to the May meeting to participate and see what I have in mind!

Contests to check out in May 2012:

- 7QP (7th Call Area QSO Party): May 5 1300Z May 6 0700Z
- New England QSO Party: May 5 2000Z May 6 0500Z; May 6 1300Z-2400Z
- CQ WPX CW: May 26 0000Z May 27 2400Z



Invites you to the Pacific Northwest DX Convention in beautiful Portland, Oregon

August 3--5,, 2012 Monarch Hotel 12566 SE 93rd Ave Clackamas, OR 97015

www.monarchhotel.cc

Reservations: 800--492--8700 orr 503--652--1515

(Ask for DX Convention rates)

Questions? Contact Al Rovner, K7AR e-mail: K7AR@arrl.net Registration form is available on the WVDXC website:

www.WVDXC.org

Preliminary Speakers include:

Dave Patton, NN1N, from ARRL HQ, responsible for DXCC and Contesting
Bob Locher, W9KNI, from Bencher Paddles, Idiom Press
Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, "A DXers Trip through Europe"
DOOR PRIZES!

Upcoming Meetings

We are working to develop a program of speakers for the year and give plenty of advance notice about speakers/topics. Hopefully a forward looking program will help you avoid missing topics of special interest. As always, the NCCC web site calendar provides information about meeting dates, locations etc.

CQ WW RTTY from 6Y & YCCC New Projects Dennis Egan, W1UE

June 11th, Tied House—Mountain View

Dennis will be speaking on his 6Y CQWW RTTY trip from 6Y last year, and on the upcoming YCCC projects. Dennis Egan, W1UE, has been licensed for 43 years. His last California call was N6QW back in the early 80's. He is the current vice-president of the YCCC, and has been the fulfillment for the YCCC SO2R Box project, and soon to be MOAS and 9-Circle Array projects.

Dennis has been a multiple winner of the CQP from Massachusetts, and last year made a first time entry from 6Y. He is the current NA record holder for CQWW RTTY, and was part of the KC1XX team that may soon hold the CQWW CW MM record.

July Meeting

TBD

Monday July 9th—TBD

Special Joint Meeting MLDXCC / NCCC / REDXA

Saturday July 28th, 11:30am—Fairfield, CA

With the cooperation of the Mother Lode DX & Contest Club and the Redwood Empire DX Association, we will be having the first ever three club meeting in July as an additional NCCC meeting. We are working on a very special agenda for this meeting and want to get this on your calendar now. In addition to the speaker, we will also have a short presentation on the 2012 California QSO Party—as many of you know, CQP is hotly contested between MLDXCC and REDXA and their President's want to kick off the 2012 rivalry at this meeting.

Watch for more information regarding this meeting as we confirm our guest speaker and organize car pools from different areas of the NCCC territory.

You will not want to miss this meeting!!!!!

Notes from NCCC BoD Meeting—May 3rd, 2012

In the spirit of providing more transparency into the "sausage factory" (a.k.a. NCCC Board) behind the club, we will regularly publish a set of notes regarding the action items, resolutions etc after the board meetings (which are held in a combination of Webex and in-person meetings).

From time to time, there will doubtless be items that could stand clarification or better description — I would very much appreciate that items like this be flagged to me first before engaging in public discussion on the reflector. IT IS NOT MY INTENT TO PREVENT DISCUSSION IN ANY WAY — quite the contrary! I'd like to have an opportunity to provide any clarification in a single message to the reflector rather than seeing a flood of mail in everyone's Inbox. If after that a discussion results, so much the better.

Like the sausage factory, club membership might be better in the consumption than the manufacturing!

If any NCCC member has a matter which they would like the board to consider, please send a brief description of the matter to any officer or director.

73's Stu K6TU President

Meeting held by Webex

- All present except Kevin K6TD (business trip) & Chris N6WM (family matter)
- Follow up on past Action Items
 - Meeting venues
 - ⇒ Reviewed current venue list; most don't have Internet access, some are noisy and others are getting too small.
 - ⇒ Agreed that we want to webcast as many meetings as possible
 - ⇒ Either need Internet access or we bring Personal Hotspots. Currently have access via two members to Verizon based devices, need to also get ATT to cover the bases.
 - ⇒ Agreed that NCCC needs to acquire audio equipment to be able to adequately support presenters and webcast needs. ACTION: K6TU to work with K9YC to develop equipment requirements and report on costs etc to the board.
 - ⇒ Dave W6DR and Ira K2RD will revue venue list, prospect for alternative venues and report back to board.
 - Future meeting topics
 - ⇒ Meeting topics in place for May and June; Meeting topics already in place for September (CQP), October (SS), and March meetings (Awards).
 - ⇒ John K6MM and Stu K6TU will develop the calendar and recruit speakers/topics for upcoming meetings. Any suggestions for either, please send to 'MM and 'TU

Dues Chair

- ⇒ Developed a short list of potential candidates to help with dues drive.
- ⇒ 'TU to recruit

• Christmas Dinner

- ⇒ Discussed venue, date selection and agenda.
- ⇒ Attendance this last year was significantly down
- ⇒ Many alternatives but we need input
- ⇒ Agreed to survey members recognizing that we may be stuck venue/date wise for 2012. K6TU and K6MM will develop survey and solicit input.

• 501(c)3 update

- ⇒ Dave W6DR gave a brief update on the process which must be followed to apply for 501(c)3 status.
- ⇒ We will need to incorporate and amend the bylaws to begin the process.
- ⇒ Dave has put together a list of actions that need to be accomplished. Not daunting but will take time to complete.
- ⇒ Benefits include NCCC able to accept donations and provide tax-deductibility to donor, not pay tax on interest income, hold real property perhaps with a goal to have an NCCC remote location or station etc.

Pacificon 2012

⇒ Agreed that NCCC should have a strong presence and contribute to the program. Consider a 3 hour Contest Academy aimed at new contesters, provide speakers/ presentations for the technical tracks and have an NCCC "booth" in the exhibit hall.

CQP Update

- ⇒ With grateful thanks to the NCCC Green team, the results are almost completed. Kevin K6TD is almost complete with the final score report.
- ⇒ Will present the results at the May NCCC meeting
- ⇒ Need to re-tool the CQP backend; with almost 1000 logs in 2011, CQP is as big as some of the ARRL contests and the backend has not scaled gracefully to handle the increase. Many issues with data collection and processing are the root cause in our delay to get the contest results completed.

Joint meeting with REDXA/MLDXCC

- ⇒ K6TU/K6MM held a conference call with Presidents of both clubs and have agreed to sponsor a joint three way meeting on July 28th in Fairfield. A special speaker was proposed and will be recruited.
- ⇒ Publicize meeting to all three clubs and develop car pool plan for NCCC members.
- Next board meeting, June 7th at 8pm via Webex



Please consider writing an article for JUG!

June 2012 Newsletter Deadline-May31st

This is your newsletter so lets make it something we are proud of. I hope you will consider writing an article for the JUG! Whether its about your station, recent contest experience or a technical article we would appreciate hearing from you.

Send your articles to Ian W6TCP w6tcp@comcast.net and Stu K6TU stu@ridgelift.com





