



Publication of the  
Northern California  
Contest Club



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2008  
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NCCC Net  
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## 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.

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### 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](mailto:w0yk@msn.com)  
**JUG Editor:** Rob Brownstein, [k6rb@baymoon.com](mailto: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 6<sup>th</sup> 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!

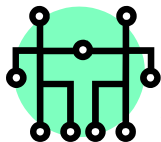
## Summary

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

## 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 16<sup>th</sup> ARRL Sweepstakes.” It was interesting to see how the contest has evolved.

It was two weekends long (November 19<sup>th</sup> and November 26<sup>th</sup>) 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

