

JUG

Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club



May
2010
Issue 456

NCCC Net
Thursday 8 PM
3610+/-

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

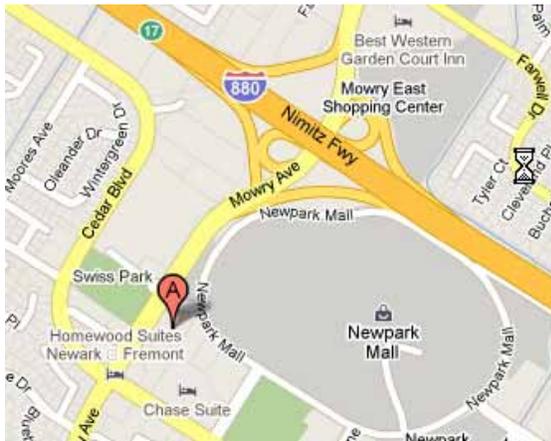
CQ WPX CW Operations

Date: Monday, 10 May 2010

Time: 6pm schmooz, 6:30pm dinner, 7pm program

Location: El Burro, 3100 Newpark Mall
Newark, CA 94560-5234

Phone: (510) 797-3030



NCCC Officers

President: Jack Brindle, W6FB, jackbrindle@earthlink.net

VP/CC: Chris Tate, N6WM, ctate@ewnetinc.com

Sec/Treas.: Barry Pfeil, K6RM, barrypfeil@sbcglobal.net

Directors

Past President: Jack Morgan, KF6T, jackmorgan.usa@gmail.com

Director: Alan Maenchen, AD6E, ad6e@arri.net

Director: Bob Wolbert, K6XX, k6xx@ihwy.com

Director: Hank Garretson, W6SX, w6sx@arri.net

Honorary Director: Rusty Epps, W6OAT, w6oat@sbcglobal.net

Webmaster: John Miller, John.Miller.K6MM

JUG Editor: Rob Brownstein, k6rb@baymoon.com



FB's Message

By Jack Brindle, W6FB

Over the past few years the club has done an outstanding job of recruiting new members. These fine people have ranged from very experienced contesters to newcomers to the hobby. Some have already contributed many points to our scores, while others will do so in the future. All share our interest in contesting, and a thirst for learning more about it.

This year we will turn our focus to education. Whether it be an old-timer, newbie, or someone in between, we will be looking for, and providing, opportunities to learn more about our part of the hobby.

We have an excellent start with the material from our own Contest Academy, presented the past two years at the Visalia DX Convention. Begun a

year ago with an excellent session oriented towards experienced testers, this year a beginners' session was added. Contest Academy leader, K6MM, did an excellent job of juggling the two simultaneous sessions. Building on the beginners' material, we will be hosting an introductory contesting program at Pacificon this year. And, if you haven't heard, Pacificon is back in the East Bay this year, complete with NCCC participation.

We will be doing other things as well. The Board of Directors is already discussing various activities, including a short beginners' program segment in our monthly meeting, Saturday (or other days of the week) gatherings to discuss contesting, reach-outs for local clubs, and even a rather interesting contest mentoring program. There are many possibilities, and everyone's suggestions and help are not only wanted, but needed.

Stay tuned for more details, things are just getting interesting with some really exciting ideas to be pursued. It's an exciting time to be in the NCCC. We have a lot going on this year, and we will be having some very exciting times. Educating ourselves will be a major part of the year as we spread the excitement of our hobby.

Welcome to the New Year!

It's that time of the year when we transition from one Board to the next. We have been blessed with an outstanding Board of Directors this past year. I would very much like to thank K6FT, K6DGW, K6TD, NI6T, N6WM and K6MM for the great work they have done this past year. The other member

was W6FB, but it just doesn't seem right to thank myself.

We have accomplished a great deal this year in many areas, and have grown quite a bit. Great job, guys. Of course, all this was not accomplished by just those 7 OMs. There are many more volunteers who do many outstanding tasks. These include committees for CQP, NS, awards, and several other activities including this fine instrument known as the Jug. Thanks a bunch to you all, you truly make the club go!

The new Board has a tough act to follow, but we look at it as a challenge. And as testers, we *love* challenges!

The new board is:

President: Jack Brindle, W6FB

Vice President / Contest Chair: Chris Tate, N6WM

Secretary/Treasurer: Barry Pfeil, K6RM

Past President: Jack Morgan, KF6T

Director: Alan Maenchen, AD6E

Director: Bob Wolbert, K6XX

Director: Hank Garretson, W6SX

We have already had our first meeting in conjunction with the outgoing board, and the transition is in full swing. There are some great ideas being discussed, and we expect to have some very exciting things to announce, and do over the next year.

The main areas we have discussed so far include the Education initiative (discussed elsewhere in this Jug), a very exciting contest slate, our participation in Pacificon as well as other area activities, along with some other things that are now being hatched and you will learn about in the near future. We have had some very exciting contest activities

in the past, but some really exciting things are coming. If you get the feeling that we are “jazzed” about the club and the things we want to do, you are definitely right. And we want you to also become infected with this excitement.

So stay tuned and get involved as we move forward through the year. I will try to lay out our plans here each month and give everyone a great chance to become just as excited as we are. And then when the results of our various contest efforts are announced, join us in our own competition to see who is the first to hold the gavels!

VP/CC

By: Chris Tate, N6WM

Greetings Kbers!

I would like to first take a moment to thank you for the vote of confidence through your election of me to the office of VP/CC, and the fantastic team of contesters that make up the leadership team you have elected. I am humbled to have the opportunity to work alongside such a fantastic group, and honored to serve you in another leadership role in what I feel is the greatest contesting organization in the world amateur radio community.

Introductions

I hope over the last couple of years, you have by now had a chance to meet me, or at least seen postings from me on the reflector, been subject to some of my (overly) energetic flogging, have sat in the chair along side of me in a contest, or worked me on the air. But for those who have not, I want to take a moment to tell

you about myself without boring you to death in the process.

I think my first interesting aspect is my short time in the hobby of amateur radio compared to a great many of you who started as youngsters. Although no stranger to RF theory and practical application in my professional career, providing wireless data services and IT systems administration, I got my first amateur license just a few years ago, in 2007, in order to share in some of the activities my co-workers were enjoying in amateur radio.

My attraction to the energy surrounding amateur contesting was almost immediate. I was also fortunate to be surrounded and supported by some very technical and experienced operators from the start, and through those relationships, had access to the old broken down Comcast microwave site on a 2,000 foot hill that some of the guys called “the ham site.” It is now (with some serious elbow grease and philanthropy by me and a small group of hams) the K6LRG contest station.

The groundswell that followed was nothing short of amazing. Through the relationships developed working on that project, I was introduced to the vast knowledge and skill base in the NCCC, and very soon afterward introduced to Ken, N6RO.

In short order I found myself working alongside some of the most skilled and knowledgeable contesters in the world, all the time soaking up knowledge and improving my skills, first in SSB, then RTTY, and most recently CW(kind of an odd progression, but probably is consistent of what the future will hold

for newer ops). I am energetic, dedicated and learn fast.

Last year, I had an opportunity to give back, and spent a year on the NCCC board of directors, serving you in the club membership and learning many of the administrative aspects of the contesting community. I have simultaneously worked over 40 contests during this period. I am honored to now share some of my energy and enthusiasm with you as your VP/CC.

Goals

The 2010/2011 contesting year should be an exciting year! It's our clubs 40th anniversary, and we already have efforts underway to win competitions the club has not pursued in quite a few years, and that can be very energizing!

If, by the time you read this, you have not heard from me, yet, you will! We in the NCCC are a powerful team. The club's leadership, by itself, cannot achieve the greatness we are capable of as a group.

We are working hard on establishing the major contests we should pursue for club competition this year. Once this is done, we will be asking for volunteers to step up to the role of contest champions.

The primary goal here is to have NCCC members "own" the club participation aspect of a particular contest or set of contests. You will be the go-to person for the NA Sprint SSB, or NAQP cw, CQWW RTTY, and the like, giving you the opportunity to rally the team, and follow through the log submissions, and finally enjoy the thrill of the win. This is a great way to get involved with the

club, while not breaking the time-investment bank. So, if there is a particular contest you enjoy, or if you are thinking of taking on a new test you think is interesting, answer the call when it comes. I will be right alongside of you during the process!

Another goal on the radar scope this year revolves around the recruiting of new testers, and the development of skills for NCCC members that want to expand their horizons. Again, this needs to be a team effort.

Our leadership this year is working hard on developing materials that you can take to your local clubs or groups of operators, to show them what contesting is all about. We are also working on putting together contesting "workshops" or practical training environments.

We will continue our series of skillfully executed Webinars. We need your input, expertise and regional reach to make this happen. So please when you hear the call, step on up and help us expand our ranks in the contesting world! Multi-capable station owners, you are also uniquely positioned to help develop our next generation of testers and keep this great aspect of our hobby energized!

So here we go! I think that's a great start and hope you do as well. I am very excited and am looking forward to working with you all this year. My "door" is always open, and feel free to email me with suggestions, advice, questions, comments, or just to say hello. You can call me on the phone, on the air, or email me anytime and we can chat.

Happy 40th to the NCCC. Let's all have a great year! And, as I usually sign on the 3830 reflector after every contest,

73 and see ya' next time!

Have you paid your dues for the year? It's still just \$24 (cheap), with students just \$12 (even cheaper) and family members \$12 (what a deal).

Contact [Jack Brindle, W6FB](#)

We can get your dues via PayPal or snail mail or via cash at the next meeting.

The Contest Academy

The second year's NCCC Contest Academy, in Visalia, was a rousing success. By dividing it into beginners and advanced, we were able to get a more homogeneous grouping in each of the two rooms.

The feedback was excellent, and the suggestions for future programs were extremely useful.

Several NCCCers took part in presenting many aspects of contesting from why do it, to what contest programs to choose from, to contest planning, to station issues, and so on. No one would argue that the attendees did not get their money's worth. The following photos are courtesy of several members who snapped many photos during the Visalia convention. These include: Bob, N6TV; John, K6MM; Rob, K6RB; and Debra, K6RB-XYL.



K6XX



N6BV



ND2T



K6MM



K6RB



K9YC

Visalia Contest Dinner Photos



K6UFO



W6RFF



K6TD



K6GT, XYL, and K6TA



K5RC



K6RB and Debra



NW6P



N6KT and AE6Y



N6WM



K7AFO and K5RC



K7NV



Debra (K6RB-XYL) and N6TV



K6IDX and K2RD



K6AW

1 2 S T O R E B U Y I N G P O W E R



HAM RADIO OUTLET

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



IC-7000 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-10M/6M/2M/70CM
- 2x DSP
- Digital IF filters
- Digital voice recorder
- 2.5" color TFT display
- 503 memory channels
- Remote control mic



IC-7700 Transceiver. The Contester's Rig

- HF + 6m operation
- +40dBm ultra high intercept point
- IF DSP, user defined filters
- 200W output power full duty cycle
- Digital voice recorder



IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver
- Dual DSP 32 bit
- Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz
- 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display
- Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7800 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 200W
- Four 32 bit IF-DSPs + 24 bit AD/DA converters
- Two completely identical, independent receivers
- +40dBm 3rd order intercept point
- And much more!

ANAHEIM, CA

(Near Disneyland)
933 N. Euclid St., 92801
(714) 533-7373

(800) 854-6046

Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaheim@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA

1525 W. Magnolia Bl., 91506
(818) 842-1786

(800) 854-6046

Eric, K6EJC, Mgr.
Magnolia between
S. Victory & Buena Vista
burbank@hamradio.com

OAKLAND, CA

2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757

(800) 854-6046

Mark, W17YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

SAN DIEGO, CA

5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(858) 560-4900

(800) 854-6046

Jose, XE2SJB, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA

510 Lawrence Exp. #102
94085

(408) 736-9496

(800) 854-6046

Jon, K6WV, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com