



Publication of the  
Northern California  
Contest Club



June  
2011

Issue 469

NCCC Net  
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[Guests are always welcome at the NCCC! Please join us.](#)

**MONDAY, June 13, 2011**

### Program

1. 2011-2012 Budget (Tom, N3ZZ)
2. Dayton Hamvention 2011 Recap (John, K6MM)
3. NCCC Survey Results: The Numbers & Beyond (Dean, N6DE)
4. NCCC: 2011-2012 (Chris, N6WM; Hank, W6SX)

**Date: Monday, June 13th, 2011**

**Time:** 6:00pm schmooz, 7:00pm dinner, 7:30pm program

**Location:** Harry's Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Avenue, San Jose, CA 95129 (408) 243-0434

Dinner: Purchase your dinner in the cafeteria line and take your tray to the meeting room in the rear.

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## The Magic of Education in action.



Greetings KB'ers!

During the International DX convention in Visalia this year, I had the pleasure of teaching a portion of the beginning track at Contest Academy, sponsored by the NCCC. This was as much a rewarding experience for me, as well as a positive experience for the Academy participants.

The NCCC has maintained a close relationship with the DX convention for some time. We generally maintain a booth in the exhibit hall, sponsor prizes, and of course our below the radar "hospitality suite" is always a blast. In this year's case, the convention was fully and successfully co-ordinated by K6MM and K6TD, both NCCC members and well respected testers.

Education of the ham and tester population at large is an opportunity that an organization like the NCCC can provide to add to our tester ranks, make existing testers more skilled, and improve the testing experience in general for all.

A great example of the NCCC education service to the community is Contest Academy. 2 sessions were held simultaneously. One "advanced" session to help improve the capabilities of existing contesters, and one "beginning" session for new or non-contesters to be familiarized with techniques to get them started.

Now all the instructors in all the sessions did a fantastic job and we got some great feedback. But what I found most rewarding, was the group of new contesters that attended the beginning session. This is our future, and we will be working these folks very soon on the bands, if not already. This group of wide eyed and excited new contesters had the opportunity to learn from the best of the best. They also got to meet the ARRL contest branch coordinator, Sean KX9X. They were drilled on different contest types, strategies, loggers, operating techniques, even VHF contesting strategies and information. I sure wish a program existed like this when I got started; it may have saved me a couple of QLF moments! One thing is for sure, these new operators left the room a bit wiser and a bit more educated on contesting and proper operating technique and etiquette. A big NCCC KB! out to Mark, K6UFO as well as all the instructors for doing a fantastic job of putting this program together.

Now its your turn gang. June brings our annual operating event extravaganza, ARRL field day. The "Non-contest" contest. As experienced contesters, you are some of the best operators on the bands. Field day, unlike many other contest activities, tends to bring out folks that do not operate regularly, or have very little experience operating in the conflagration of an event of this nature. If you hear someone out there that is struggling, take a little time to help them out. If you are hosting a field day, take a little time to provide some leadership and guidance to operators that are not used to contesting. Let them listen to you run a pile up. Sit with them and let them run one properly. One of the great benefits of an event like this, is when an operator has a good experience, a great time and feel like they learned something, they may, just may catch the contesting bug and join our ranks. We may even be able to welcome them into our organization!

I hope everyone has a great field day experience, and a wonderful summer. The NCCC has no shortage of great elmers, and these experienced operators are our clubs, as well as our communities biggest asset. I am sure we will all do our part to educate the newer operators amongst us, and maybe see that spark in the eye of next years Rookie of the year as they call CQ FD!

73 es KB

Chris/N6WM

# Hello Fellow Contesters!

Field Day! Love it or hate it. Is it really a contest?

To me, it doesn't matter. I love Field Day. It's fun no matter how you approach it.

I consider Field Day to be Contest Plus. It's as much of a contest as you and your buddies want to make it.

The Plus part: Field Day is a great opportunity to infect non-contest hams with contest spirit.

I remember my first Field Day: Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse, 1957. I didn't know much about contesting. I started out duping for an Old Timer contest pro. He was so much better at copying calls that he could have done better without me. But, he was patient and encouraging. Sometime after midnight, he insisted that we change chairs. I started out slowly and poorly. The OT kept patiently helping and encouraging me. Pretty soon I was working stations at a reasonable rate and having a blast. I was hooked on contesting. The rest is history!

So, KBers, if you can, I encourage you to assume the OT role. Take some newbies under your wings and infect them with contest spirit. Show them how it's done. Let them do it. Share the fun of contesting with them.

You can infect in the field or at home. If you're not going to the field, invite some contest newbies to join you for a 1D or 1E operation. It doesn't have to be a full-bore effort, just enough to help a new guy find out how much fun contesting can be.

Let's get on, infect, and KB!

**The first rule of contesting is to have fun—Contest Exuberantly!**

73,

Hank, W6SX

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**From the (NEW) Editor.....**

Hello NCCC,

Taking over JUG is not something we're taking lightly as Rob K6RB set the bar very high. However, with Stu's help we are looking forward to serving the NCCC membership. We welcome your suggestions and feedback on JUG. Also consider writing a article it will make the newsletter more interesting for the readers.

73,

Ian W6TCP & Stu K6TU

## OP-ED

### NCCC and “Giving Back”

Do you remember how you got into Ham Radio?

Even though its 40+ years ago, I still remember my first exposure to Ham Radio as though it was yesterday! Picture an 8 year old kid riding his bike around a military base in Germany and hearing strange noises coming from a window as he explored the back wood paths around the base.

A kinder gentler time where a parent wasn't considered negligent for putting their kid at risk allowing them to wander around and talk to strangers!

For me it was the Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Club on RAF Rheindahlen – part of the UK presence at NATO Headquarters, Western Europe near Dusseldorf in (then) West Germany.

Neville Cooper then DL5XD (still G3LMO), was the operator who looked up and graciously said “Hi!” to the kid who showed up at his window and then took the time to explain Ham Radio. Through his patience and that of the other club members, Ham Radio gained a life long recruit!

Their “Giving Back” was self-less and offered without hesitation!

The idea of “Giving Back” is fundamental to NCCC and is one of the main goals of the club (from the front page of our website!):

To help our members develop their operating and technical skills to become better contesters

As summer slowly limps into Northern California and the 2011 contest season draws to an end, we have a great opportunity to consider how we can develop our skills and our stations for the upcoming contest season and beyond.

Developing a station improvement plan is a great development tool – sized to meet personal time and resource constraints, setting down a plan can range from first steps such as mastering computerized logging software to a wholesale station upgrade.

For those constrained by HOA restrictions, work commitments etc., perhaps the plan is to combine a future vacation with a contest at a strategically located station – think HamCation!

Regardless of the scale and scope of the plan, NCCC has a tremendous talent pool of Ham's who can help with different challenges, technical or otherwise... for example, need some help to...

- Be a sounding board for your improvement plan
- Staff a work party to build and install a new antenna
- Troubleshoot RFI issues
- Tackle power line noise interference
- Help configure the myriad pieces of Ham Radio software
- Improve station workflow

One of the ways we can participate in “Giving Back” is to be openly available to help others in developing their skills and stations.

Know someone who is struggling with some issues? Offer your help!

Know someone who is building his or her contest skills and could really accelerate with some assistance? Offer your help!

Have a set of skills and experience that can help others? Make it known!

As we go into summer, think about “Giving Back” and how we can help each other become stronger as a club!

And if you need help, let people know!

Stu K6TU – QRX and ready to help!

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ARRL Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 35,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends or simply by themselves to operate.



ARRL Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles.

While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar.

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## FOR SALE

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DX Doubler (DXD) Single Operator Two Radio (SO2R) control box with 2X K3 factory made cables (no power plug/cable is available).

Never used, \$200 + shipping

Ian W6TCP [w6tcp@comcast.net](mailto:w6tcp@comcast.net)



# Contest Calendar—June 1 of 2

QRP Minimal Art Session	1600Z-2200Z, Jun 2
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 3
10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0000Z, Jun 4 to 2400Z, Jun 5
DigiFest	0400Z-1200Z, Jun 4 and 2000Z, Jun 4 to 0400Z, Jun 5 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 5
Wake-Up!QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Jun 4 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 4 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 4 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 4
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 4 to 1200Z, Jun 5
Maritimes QSO Party	1200Z, Jun 4 to 0300Z, Jun 5
UKSMG Summer Contest	1300Z, Jun 4 to 1300Z, Jun 5
+ IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 4 to 1459Z, Jun 5
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 4 to 1500Z, Jun 5
Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 4 to 0400Z, Jun 5
UT5EU VHF Memorial Contest	1700Z, Jun 4 to 0500, Jun 5
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 6
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 7
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 8 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 8 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 9
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Jun 8
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 10
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jun 11
DRCG Long Distance Contest, RTTY	0000Z-0759Z, Jun 11 and 1600Z-2359Z, Jun 11 and 0800Z-1559Z, Jun 12
VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 11 to 0600Z, Jun 12
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z-1300Z, Jun 11



# Contest Calendar—June 2 of 2

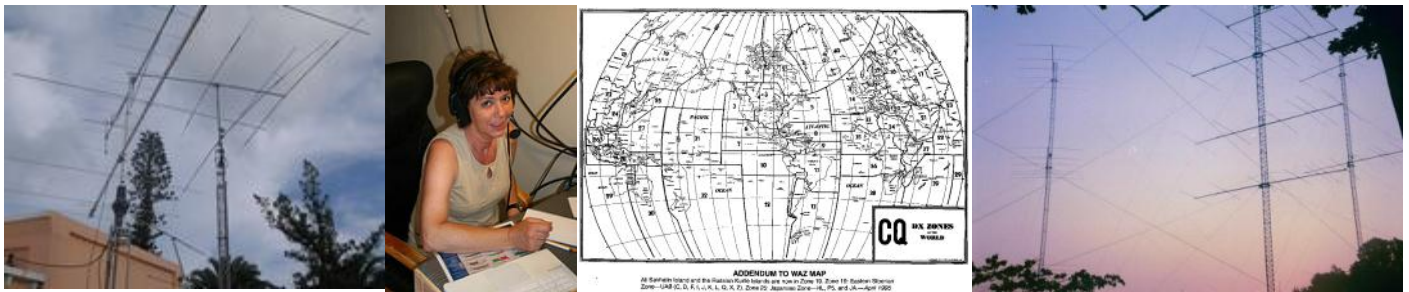
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 12
GACW WWSA CW DX Contest	1500Z, Jun 11 to 1500Z, Jun 12
REF DDFM 6m Contest	1600Z, Jun 11 to 1600Z, Jun 12
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Jun 11 to 0259Z, Jun 13
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jun 12
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 15
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 15
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0800Z-1000Z, Jun 16
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 17
SMIRK Contest	0000Z, Jun 18 to 2400Z, Jun 19
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 18 to 2400Z, Jun 19
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Jun 18 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Jun 18 (432)
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 18 to 1500Z, Jun 19
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 18 to 0200Z, Jun 19
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 18
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Jun 18
WAB 50 MHz Phone	0900Z-1500Z, Jun 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jun 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jun 22
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jun 22
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jun 22 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 22 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 23
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 23
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jun 24
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jun 25
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	1200Z, Jun 25 to 1200Z, Jun 26
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 25 to 1200Z, Jun 26
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jun 25 to 1400Z, Jun 26
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26



Please consider writing an article for JUG !

This is your newsletter so lets make it something were 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](mailto:w6tcp@comcast.net) and Stu K6TU [stu@ridgelift.com](mailto:stu@ridgelift.com)



**12 STORE BUYING POWER**



- IC-7000** All Mode Transceiver
- 160-10M/6M/2M/70CM
  - 2x DSP
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  - 2.5" color TFT display
  - 503 memory channels
  - Remote control mic



- IC-7700** Transceiver. The Contester's Rig
- HF + 6m operation
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  - 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
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  - Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15khz
  - 5.8 in WVGA TFT display
  - Hi-res real time spectrum scope



- IC-7800** All Mode Transceiver
- 160-6M @ 20W
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