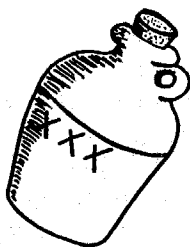


The Contest JUG



Newsletter of the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB
Post Office Box 2025
Castro Valley, California 94546

When You Care Enough . . .
. . . to Read the Very Worst

No. 31
December 1974

President: W6RGG. VP/Contest Chmn: WB6AIN. Sec/Treas: WA6NLQ. Directors: W6HQN, W6OAT, W6PAA.
Editoroids: W1ARR/6 and WA6NLQ.

PREVIEW OF COMING DISTRACTIONS

Dec. 7- 8	ARRL 160-Meter Contest
14-15	ARRL 10-Meter Contest
20	*NCCC Christmas/Awards Banquet, Rick's Swiss Chalet, P. Alto
25	Santa brings your new rig
Jan. 1	Jose Cuervo brings your new hangover
11-12	ARRL CD Party (CW)
18-19	ARRL CD Party (phone)
27	*NCCC club meeting, American S&L Building, Hayward -- ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR 1975

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ORATES. The fact that a person is unspeakable does not necessarily also render him incapable of speech, as W6RGG will demonstrate. C'mon, Bob, get off the floor and take the floor:

We are concluding another year of existence as the NCCC. We have 86 members, full and associate (out-of-territory), and are developing the potential of becoming a very competitive force in club contest ranking.

But if we are to realize this potential, we must make full use of all the resources at our disposal: stations, equipment, operators, operating skills and organizational abilities. We won't make it on size or individual performance alone.

Perhaps this is the year for our new VP/Contest Chairman to appoint, from an eager field of volunteers, managers for each of the contests in which we choose to make a major club effort. Each manager can then make the best use of stations and operators as suits his particular contest.

However, all of the planning in the world won't do a thing for us if we don't participate. Can you operate the contest? Full-bore, or just a minimum effort -- or somewhere in between? Do you need help with operators, equipment, antenna work, advice on techniques or equipment layout? Among our members are experts in every facet of contesting from antennas to zero-beating. Will 1975 see the wheels of the NCCC get the grease they need to get rolling at full speed?

I hope to see many of you at our Christmas and Awards Dinner, details of which are elsewhere in this issue as well as in the previous month's JUG. This is our only social function of the year and is always a very enjoyable evening for my wife and me.

A cordial welcome, also, to the new NCCC'ers voted in at the November meeting: WA6GSN, WB6ION, WA6JUD, W6RFF, K6RM and K6ZX. We look forward to your active participation in the Club.

Don't forget our January meeting -- place, date and time duly listed in this issue by the recalcitrant and recondite W1ARR/6. Be there to vote for your choice in our elections and to toast the new officers at the local pizza pub after the meeting.

My very best wishes to one and all for a happy holiday season and a healthy and high-scoring New Year. -- 73, Bob, W6RGG.

Thank you for those appropriately lofty sentiments, Mr. President, and congratulations on the Roget's Thesaurus you got as an early Xmas present. No doubt it will be well-thumbed!

ATENCIÓN! ACHTUNG! VNIMANIE! HEY! Despite what we assumed were pretty specific requests, many members have not contacted W1ARR about the Christmas/Awards Dinner. WE MUST KNOW IF YOU ARE COMING, HOW MANY DINNERS YOU WANT (I.E., HOW MANY GUESTS YOU'RE BRINGING) AND WHICH ARE STEAKS AND WHICH ARE PRAWNS! AND WE MUST KNOW BY DEC. 13! (No, damn it, we do not mean which guests are steaks and which are prawns. Ah, the headaches when you try to write in an unfamiliar language.) PLEASE! Call Bob Hill and share your secret. The magic numbers are 549-3963 (home) and 635-9666, x-461 (work). Do it, do it, do it, do it, do it. Do not send money, do not pass Go, do not collect \$200. Just have some serious reservations.

IF IT'S TUESDAY, THIS MUST BE 3815. Owing to QRM and other propagational phenomena, the Tuesday-night NCCC net will henceforth emanate on 3815 kHz (or above that freq when condx dictate, up to +10) starting at 7 P.M. local time (currently 0300 GMT). The net is attracting 7-8 per session -- not bad but could be better.

THE JANUARY MEETING of this august body will be held on Monday, January 27, beginning at 7:30 P.M. QTH: American Savings & Loan Association, 22533 Foothill Blvd, Hayward. Election of officers, discussion of impending ARRL DX Test -- these and other thrilling subjects will be covered. There'll be another JUG out just before the meeting (you can't stop us now; we're getting into the groove), but make a note of that date now.

AND THE GROWTH GOES ON, as six more troops were added to NCCC's ragged army at the last meeting. May we have the envelope, please:

- WA6GSN Mitchell B. Wolfson
1182 "E" Street #204
Hayward, CA 94541
(phone 886-3682)
- WB6ION Richard B. Cutler
5247 Keystone Drive
Fremont, CA 94536
(H: 793-3653, W: 797-9111)
- WA6JUD Carl David Cook
1249 Lancashire Drive
Concord, CA 94518
(H: 685-7987, W: 685-5630)
- W6RFF Jettie B. Hill
1436 Miramonte Avenue
Los Altos, CA 94022
(H: 968-0268, W: (408) 732-5000,
x-6849)
- K6RM Martin Fox
1465 165th Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94578
(phone 278-5199)
- K6ZX Douglas K. Beck
925 Redwood Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
(H: (408) 739-7688, W: 494-1165)

Our ranks are the richer for your presence, OM's. (It should also be noted, in passing, that the NCCC continues to improve in quality by adding a third Hill to the membership roster.) By the way, all phone numbers shown above are in Area Code 415 unless otherwise specified.

VHF, ANYONE? One of our new members, WA6-JUD, is a VHF enthusiast. Well, that term is a bit inadequate -- Carl is out to break the W6 single-op scoring record in the January VHF SS and would appreciate some help from us. So if you can get on VHF during the weekend of January 4-5, look for him and give him a QSO. And, in connection with that affair, it

should be kept in mind that, while it's true most of us get nosebleeds above 28 MHz, it's also true that the VHF SS offers a club competition category and we are a contest club. If NCCC submits just three entries, we'll be listed in the club aggregate scores box in QST. So why not do it? Send your log, no matter how unimpressive, to ARRL, marking it for NCCC.

Rules for this contest are on Page 55 of the December QST. Cavity resonators QRV?

THE RAIN IN SPAIN FALLS MAINLY ON CHAIRMAN AIN. Our VP/CC has words for us, also numbers:

The first half of the contest season is behind us now, with major efforts having been put forth by the NCCC in the CW and phone SS tests and with many members doing their own things in the CQ WW bashes.

I have received only a few notes from members giving their scores for the fall contests, and for having received at least those few I am grateful. However, where are the scores for everyone else?

The Tuesday night (7 P.M.) gathering on 3815 (changed from 3838) is beginning to attract more participants, and it looks like this will prove to be the best vehicle for getting the scores in. I was not able to get on for the last session after the phone SS, but I understand that a few scores were tossed around. Tnx to Rustv, W6OAT, for much of the following information

PRELIMINARY SS SCORES

Call	CW	Phone
WA6AHF	90 (WA6PMK)	6
VE7AUA/W6	80	100*
W6BIP	105	123
WB6CEP	65	---
WA6CFJ	70	---
K6CQF	153 (W6PAA)	161 (W6PAA)
WA6DIL	7	80
WB6DSV	13	75 (W6OKK)
VE3DXV/W6	---	63
K6EBB	141	199 (WB6AIN)
WA6GFY	30 (WB6EXW)	88 (WB6EXW)
WA6HAF	---	140 (WA6GMR)
W6HJP	79	52
W6HQN	---	5*
WB6ION	101	125*
WA6JVD	100	50*
WB6KBK	---	190*
K6LU	---	25*
W6MAV	117 (WB6AIN)	---
W6NJU	28	---
W6NLG	---	15*
W6NUT	154	85
WA7NIN	160 (W6OAT)	219 (W6OAT)
W6OKK	103	174 (WB6DSV)
W6OWQ	96 (WA6NLQ)	15*
W6RGG	20	21
W6RNF	20	70
K6SG	31	18

Call	CW	Phone
WA6TQK	---	6
WA6UZA	---	5*
W6UZX	---	80
WA6WEI	---	90 (WA6GSN)
M	---	86

1.763 Meg 2.366 Meg

TOTAL ESTIMATED CLUB SCORE: 4.129 Meg

(* = estimated) The SS showing is impressive indeed, at least on paper. SEND IN YOUR LOGS TO ARRL HQ.! Your score will count for NOTHING if Hq. doesn't get your logs. (Ed. Note: a score of 4.129 Meg in last year's SS would have placed NCCC third in the overall club category, behind MM's 7.887 and PVRC's 6.961! Time to start thinking big!)

The very best of Season's Greetings to all, and see you at the Christmas party. -- 73, Dean, WB6AIN.

Boisterous little feller, ain't he? But it sure is that time of year, and Dean's ho-ho-ho will be a lot more hearty if you let him know your scores, if you haven't already.

ROSTER CHANGES. Men on the move include:

WB6KBI 2875 Birch Avenue
Morro Bay, CA 93442
(phone 805-772-2924)

WA9UCE/6 1096 Paseo Robles
Anaheim, CA 92807

WA6UZA (Dave gave us his new address
and we misplaced it. You're
welcome.)

Oh, and WA1ABW's QTH is on Stebbins Street, not drive.

Copies of the up-to-date club roster are available from WA6NLQ (Stu Carp, 2970 Russell St., Berkeley 94705). Enclose a long SASE.

When you address or phone number changes, please let W1ARR/6 (Bob Hill, 2923 Florence St. #304, Berkeley 94705) know. This way, the club roster will always be up to date and you won't miss a single crap-packed issue of the JUG. (BH's phone #'s are on Page 1.)

BULLETIN BOARD. For Sale: SB200, \$175 or reasonable offer. Call Rudy, work # 357-0010, home # 357-3004 or 278-3166. . . . Wanted: TH6DXX and 402BA, Ham-M, self-supporting

ink-up or tilt-over tower, 50' or over, capable of supporting above gear. Also need 1 MHz mechanical filter for 51J4. (K6SG, 916-944-3838). . . . BC221 freqmeter (W1ARR/6). Reminder: items for the Bulletin Board are listed free of charge.

WE GET LETTERS. "Am attending Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, working part-time as technician for a power-supply company, and trying to get in as much time on the air as possible. Just got appointment as OO, so will be on in CD Parties for sure, and probably everything else that comes along. Does my distance from SF preclude my submitting scores for the club totals? (Ed. Note: 'Fraid so, Ken -- the limit is 175 miles. By the way, isn't WA6QGW down there at Cal Poly also?) Regards to all." (WB6KBI)

"Was pleased to receive your letter and info regarding the NCCC. I've known about the club since its early founding through my old colleague Jim, W6CUF/K6AQ. However, I always felt I was too far from the action, geographically and psychologically, to consider applying for membership. Your enclosed roster of members, together with W6RGG's document, dispelled that hang-up. How do I go about joining?" (W6ZGM) (Ed. Note: Don, who's up in Yuba City, was sent a postcard explaining that he could obtain a membership application from WA6NLQ.)

"Did not do well in the SS despite a real try in the phone portion (17K). Being located on the west side of a steep hill, I am trying for WAS -- long-path. Going to try and raise the antenna next break in the rain." (W6KHI).

WHAT DO WE NEED?

by Rusty Epps, W6OAT

About a year ago, the NCCC decided to embark on an expansionist philosophy aimed at swelling our membership ranks so we could successfully compete on a national scale with other contest-oriented clubs such as MM, PVRC and FRC. To a great extent we have succeeded in adding to our numbers, and we are continuing to push for more. But it seems while we're gaining in one area, we're losing a bit in the others. Some of our original members are drifting away and our esprit de corps is erratic. Why? What is happening? Is bigness in and of itself defeating our purpose?

Why do people join a contest club anyway? It's certainly not just so they'll have a place to submit a score. Quite the contrary, that's what they can do for us -- and no one joins anything just so he can do something for someone else. The real question is: what can the Contest Club do for him? be he an old member or a new prospect.

The purposes for which the NCCC exists are stated very generally in our By-Laws. Let me attempt my own interpretation of these objectives in terms of what I think the NCCC can and should offer our members. It seems to me we should provide: (1) Fraternity -- the opportunity to associate with and get to know other amateurs who share interests similar to our

own. (2) A workshop to improve one's operating skills. We have some of the best contest operators in the world among our NCCC members. We should be able to pick their brains and learn from their years of experience. (3) An exchange of technical information about station setup and antenna design. (4) A chance to participate in group operating events. As examples, our club DXpeditions to XE1KS/2 and 6Y5BF, or more local events such as NPG or WO6PDC. (5) An organization that recognizes and appreciates an individual's achievements, be they top honors in some national contest or simply a significant improvement over one's past performance.

Is the NCCC in its present form accomplishing all these objectives? I think not! We've grown so large that many members have no inkling who some of their fellow members are. We haven't taken advantage of opportunities to get to know each other on a personal basis. We haven't had good club programs aimed at improving operating and technical competence. We haven't included the majority of our members in operating activities -- it seems it's always the same small group that shows up for our multiop efforts or our DXpeditions.

So much for the criticisms. What can we do to make some changes? First and foremost, it seems to me we've got to put a personal element back into our club. At meetings, we ourselves must take the initiative to go over and introduce ourselves to those unfamiliar faces scattered about the room. We have to let them know they are welcome additions and that we genuinely want them there. We should institute some sort of spring or summer club picnic or outing. We need to get on our NCCC 450 MHz repeater and talk to each other (and until we can get enough of us on 450, we need to meet on 3815 kHz at 7 P.M. on Tuesdays).

We need to institute an NCCC Field Day in-

tended as both an operating and a social event. We need to reactivate our Awards Committee and charge it with devising means of recognizing member accomplishments and providing that much-needed ego gratification. We need to get club QSL cards. We need to plan a major club contest DXpedition. We need to have well-planned meetings with good programs. We need to get our newer or less-active members more involved with running the club (as officers, committee members, etc.) We need . . . we need . . . we need . . .

Some changes have to be made. WE NEED to all pitch in now to make them happen if the NCCC is to succeed as a viable organization.

* * * * *

Some very good points, O Rust-Colored One. Along those same lines, the JUG Heads would like to add that, as usual, this issue has been filled by material submitted by a small handful of members. Usually it's the same few each month. Everybody wants to read the JUG, but not many want to take the effort to submit material for same.

These questions occur to us:

- (1) Why are so few contributing to the JUG?
- (2) Why have so few come through with reservations for the Christmas banquet?
- (3) Why does WB6AIN have to beg and beg for scores to be turned in to him?
- (4) What does it take to get this club off its collective sitzplatz and into high gear?

Held over for the next JUG are some brief articles by WA6NLQ and WB6CEP. Next issue will be mailed around January 16 -- all material for same must be in the hands of the JUG Heads by the 15th.

Again we solicit input: new station equipment, comments on the club and the JUG, brief articles, Bulletin Board items. MX & HNY 2U!

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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