ARRL International DX Competition

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The Contest

Newsletter of the NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB 3130 Raleigh Court

Fremont, CA 94536

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VP/Contest Chmn.: N6TU. Pres.: N6BT. Directors: N6RO, N6VV, K6ZM.

JUG Editor: WA6VEF. Sec/Treas: WA6DGX. JUG Post Production: N6CY and RØBYN.

COMING GEOMAGNETIC DISTURBANCES

Feb. 18-19 ARRL DX Competition, CW 27 NCCC Club Meeting, Allstate Savings and Loan, San Mateo, 7:30 p.m.

4-5 ARRL DX Competition, phone Mar. 14 NCCC Maxi-Test, CW 18-19 ARRL DX Competition, CW 25-26 CQ WPX Contest, phone 27 NCCC Club Meeting (location to be announced) 15 Visalia Convention Apr_{\bullet}

GUEST EDITORIAL:

"Put Your Score Where Your Mouth Is"

A lot of NCCCers have been reviling the Nor Cal DX and Contest Co-operative)XCC) lately. "Let the Contest Club handle the contesting and the DX Club handle the DXing." is the primary alternative proposed.

Much of the disenchantment with the Cooperative stems from accusations that it is a "paper club," and implications that the Contest Club is also a paper club. too, am 100% unhappy with the East Coast's inability to distinguish between these two organizations. We earned those Contest Club SS victories. I see the Co-operative as serving two main purposes: 1) easing political, and hence interpersonal, conflict between the DX Club and the Contest Club; and 2) providing a legal vehicle to combine the DX-contest scores of a group of people residing in the same 175-mile radius so that we can compete with other metropolitan areas which do not have our

There is no question that the level of co-operation in last year's ARRL DX Competition was the highest since the formation of the Contest Club. The club entry was good--and legal--but not competitive. not as "spiritually" satisfying as the SS efforts seemed to be. An element of artificiality was, understandably, intertwined with the spirit of co-operation.

political problems.

So much for past history. This year the Co-operative has wisely decided to

PROCLAMATION RR Z PROCLAMATION

Hope all of you have weathered the weather of late. Some members have been victims of the abnormal California storms. and have lost antennas and entire installations. The NCCC Erector Set is available for repair work--contact Bruce, N6TU, or Ken N6RO. Please be sure you can adequately define the level of effort required.

The latest news regarding club competition is that, at the January ARRL BoD meeting, the three-tier proposal/recommendation from the CAC was adopted. NCCC also received a letter from Mr. Wicker that (as reviewed at our January club meeting) set me straight on who were the players on the "True Blue" proposition. It should be noted that my column regarding this matter was reprinted in it's entirety in the PVRC January newsletter. This was without asking permission, so I hope the PVRC has the spirit to reprint this one as well--in it's entirety, also.

An apology is in order to Mr. Wicker for accusing him of being the author of the East Coast (True Blue) Proposal. true (blue) author is none other than John Kanode, N4MM, past president of PVRC. It therefore becomes apparent that even the past leadership of PVRC is afraid to compete with clubs their same size, at least in SS. Both our club and YCCC were the targets of Mr. Kanode. When you read the CAC proposal (found elsewhere in this JUG), it will become very evident that PVRC was quite happy and content to be at the top; but, when they were challenged and defeated, they cried, "Foul." Poor baby.

The new ruling sets PVRC squarely where it belongs -- in direct competition with clubs it's own size. If there is any doubt about the integrety of the NCCC, then PVRC should ask us openly -- but, there is no doubt. Thanks also to Mr. Wicker for setting us straight and for seconding

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GUEST EDITORIAL (from Page 1)

continue what it unquestionably did well

--ease tensions between the two clubs-and check out the feasibility of an alternative mode of club entry. NCCC now has
the opportunity to make its own entry.

Many DX Club members are curious to see
what the Contest Club will make of this
opportunity. If I were a DX Club member
I certainly would be, especially in view
of numerous claims that Contest Club members (including "dual" members--members of
both clubs) contributed the major portion
of the score generated by the Co-operative
last year.

From what I've seen and heard so far, we're blowing it--BADLY!!

"Oh sure," you say, "there was 'no organization, so I couldn't get excited." Granted. But it seems to me that after 2 (3?!) years of national SS titles you would know that "organization," for the individual member, simply means, "Get on the air and make some points!" Others may be bitching about not having "a station" to operate. Bullshit -- on two counts. For one thing, your own station (be it vertical or dipole or tri-bander or whatever) can be put on in a DX test; it <u>is</u> legal, though probably more work and less fun than using mono-band beams. Most of the top operators in this club came up the hard way, too; they'll give you credit for a good operating effort from a less fancy station. Second, why not arrange your own guest operator situation? To do this, operate your own smaller station so well that you get a reputation as a good operator. Then, take the time to make friends with other Contest Club members whose stations you would like to try operating. Really get to know them as people, not just as "Sugar Daddies." Bear in mind that having a guest-op for an entire weekend is an imposition involving meals, a place to sleep, etc. Also, ask yourself how you would feel if a stranger walked up to you and, say, asked if he could borrow your stereo for the weekend. You might be reticent.

With a string of SS victories and a number of individual triumphs under our belts, a lot of us NCCCers (myself included) have gotten pretty smug when talking about contesting. It seems to me that we need to spend more time putting our scores where our mouths are--and NOW is an important time to do it!

Bill Zachary N6OP

PROCLAMATIONS (from Page 1)

the motion on the CAC proposal at the ARRL BoD meeting.

February NCCC BoD meeting had the tol-

lowing highlights:

a) Proposed by-laws revisions were received, and will be distributed and voted upon by the membership in this issue of the JUG.

b) Current financial situation shows that there is plenty of money available for new NCCC awards designated for DX. Discussion will be opened at the February meeting for suggestions.

c) Club elections are coming in April. Let us know of your interests.

- d) Approved the purchase of a commercially-made gin pole (erection fixture) to be available to the membership and the Erector Set. A signed insurance/claim waiver will be required for each use.
- e) CQP Chairman position is still open for other volunteers. 1978 should be the biggest state QSO party in history.

f) JUG mailing will remain as 2nd Class.

g) More remains to be resolved regarding "Fresno" and the DX awards an formulas.

Best regards, and I hope to hear you all on in the pile-ups. Looks like we are off to a great start in ARRL DX. Good show, guys!

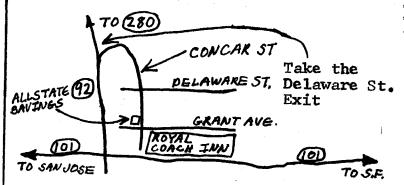
ORZ-

N 6 Brother Tom

P.S. Work those JA's and get an award!

February NCCC Meeting in San Mateo Featuring a Talk By John Doremus, WØAW, on the "Whys" of Propagation

> Allstate Savings and Loan Statesman's Club 1820 S. Grant San Mateo



It is located across the street from the Royal Coach Inn (scene of the Greater Bay Area Hamfest).

CAC SPEAKS

The following information is taken f in The Annual Report of the Contest Advisory Committee, submitted to the ARRL Board of Directors by the 1977 CAC Chairman, Dr. Wayne Overbeck, N6NB. It contains the CAC proposal for a three-tiered club competition, which was unanaimously adopted by the ARRL BoD at it's annual meeting last month.

"In recent years, it has become increasingly apparent that the typical ARRL-affiliated local radio club has little chance to win the gavel in club competition. As giant metropolitan clubs in the midwest and west emerged to challenge the traditionally-dominant giants of the east, the level of competition reached amazing heights. It was, of course, a shock to the 200-member, Washington, DC -based Potomac Valley Radio Club when the historic eastern monopoly of club gavels was broken by the San Francisco-based Northern California Contest Club's 180 members in the 1975 SS. However, the only healthy response to this event--by PVRC, NCCC, and others--was to seek an even bigger score the next year.

Meanwhile, the three contest-oriented memoers of the Poinsettia Radio Club in this writer's area--and hundreds of others in grassroots clubs like it all across the land--could only watch this development with awe. Nobody's hometown

club could match these giants!

Recognizing this fact, the Contest Advisory Committee was studying various proposals for a revised club competition as early as mid-1976. By early 1977, we had formulated and voted upon a three-tiered approach to the club competition that would involve awarding three different gavels to the winners in three categories, broken down by the size of the club's contest effort (in numbers of entries).

Under the CAC's proposed system, there was to be an "open" class for clubs covering a whole metropolitan area such as the Frankford (Philadelphia), Potomac Valley, Northern California or Murphy's Marauders (orignially Hartford-Boston) clubs. In this category, there would be no limit on the number of entries permitte

Then there was to be a second "intermediate" class for clubs submitting 11 to 50 entries. This would accommodate large but not gigantic groups, such as contestoriented clubs in smaller urban centers.

And finally, there was to be a "neigh-

borhood club" category for strictly local groups (e.g. a 10-mile radius) that submitted 10 or fewer contest logs toward their aggregate scores.

Based on the CAC's recommendation, the Headquarters staff was prepared to implement this three-tiered club competition for the current contest season. However, at its July meeting the Board called for a study of a two-level club competition, and our headquarters liaison person was unable to gain the floor to point out that a three-level competition was then about to be implemented.

When that happened, our liaison person felt--and we concurred--that it would be improper to move ahead with our three-le-vel club competition plan, pending further board review of the whole matter.

Subsequently, our vice chairman (Ken Bolin, WlNG) contacted Director Wicker, whose motion led to the request to study a two-level club competition. Mr. Wicker said he felt there would be no objection to the CAC "going one better" and standing by its original proposal for a three-level club competition. Thus, the Contest Advisory Committee again voted in favor of the three-tiered club competition plan, and now recommends that option for board consideration. We believe it best reflects the needs of the league's affiliated clubs, large and small."

The CAC Annual Report also contained the following information on Minute 49 of the January, 1977, ARRL BoD Meeting, which proposed taking tower heigth and power into account for determining con-

test scores:

"Our committee members appeared at the meetings of contest-oriented clubs and groups all over the country, consulting with many hundreds (and perhaps thousands) of radio amateurs. We found overwhelming opposition to the Minute 49 proposals among contest enthusiasts everywhere. Ultimately, we reported this strong grass-roots sentiment back to the board, and the Board wisely dropped the proposal."

Tuesday Night Net QNI for January: 4)
N6BT, K6HIH. 3) K6XO, K7OX, WB6DSV, N6TU,
W6YX (N7MH), WA7NIN. 2) N6RO, N6VR,
WA6HJV, WB6UOC. 1) N6NE, N6KT, WA6VEF,
N6DA, WA6DNM, WA6JUD, K7SV/6, WØUA, K6RM,
K7TU, WBØNYY, W7EQW, W6AM (N6TJ), WA6DIL,
N6IO, W6XB, N6VV, N6LC, K7SS.

Badges available at the February meeting for WA6VJH, BØNNIE, K4EO, WD6DBM, N6RO, and K6XO.

QSL card orders at the February meeting for N6NE, N6LC, N6RO, and N6OP.

NCCC QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

NCCC Number One in SS '78!?!

Well, we still aren't sure of the outcome of the 1977 SS yet. But, the results of the December questionnaire clearly show that the NCCC wants to go all-out in Sweepstakes again this year.

Of the 46 questionnaires received, 31 NCCCers indicated SS as their first choice for Club priorities in '78, with **CQWW** and ARRL DX finishing way behind in 2nd and 3rd place respectively:

		Choice	2	
Contest 1s		3rd	4th	5th
SS		6	1	1
CQWW		10	4	1
ARRL DX	.2 15	7	2	1
CQP	.1 6	5	2	4
AA		4	6	6
FD	.1 2	3	5	2
WPX		0	3	<u></u>
VHF		1	Ĩ.	Õ
CD Parties		ī	ĩ	ñ
IARU		ī	า	0
10 Meter Test		· 5	ี	0
Can/Am		. 0	- I	0
		0	Ţ	. 0
New Jersey QSO Party	.0 0	·	U	L

I put these indications by the membership on a reverse 5-point scale, giving the 1st indicated choice 5 points, the 2nd choice 4 points, 3rd choice 3 points, and so on. The results again show SS as the overwhelming favorite:

SSCQWW		VHF5 CD Parties5	
ARRL DX		TARU5	
CQP		10 Meter2	pts.
AA		Can/Am2	pts.
FD.	34 pts.	New Jersey1	pt.
WPX	14 pts.	QSO Party	- -

SS or CQWW? 20 said SS. 7 said CQWW. And 12 said both. Talk about gluttons for punishment!

On the issue of the NCDXCC, 21 support the Co-operative, 21 oppose it, and 4 are undecided.

And, 34 Club members indicated that they're willing to support an increase in yearly dues in order to receive the JUG via 1st Class mail. Nine voted no on the idea, and 3 were undecided.

A big "Thank you" is in order to the 46 people who returned questionnaires. This kind of input is extremely helpful in guiding the decisions of the Board of Directors to reflect the desires of the membership-at-large. In fact, due to favorable reaction to the idea in the

questionnaire, the NCCC BoD is now seriously considering the sponsorship of a hospitality suite at the Visalia Convention.

The award for Most Positive Commen on a Questionnaire goes to George, K6SG. Of the NCCC, he wrote, "By and large, it's the best darned Radio Club in the whole U.S. of A."

G**ary** WA**6V**EF

CONTEST CHAIRMAN'S CUBICLE

Round 1 of the ARRL DX is now history. Scores appear elsewhere in this issue. Many KB stations were heard on the bands over the weekend. I presume all went well during the test, except for Sunday, when a freak storm rolled through the Bay Area, causing tower and antenna damage to some of our members.

The repeater provided many multis with multiplier information and moral support. The net could use more input, so if you listen a lot, try to input something as well. Lots of DX to be had. CU in the CW weekend. More logs and summary sheets will be available at the February meeting.

NCCC Maxi-Test CW is happening on Month 14th. Suggested frequencies are 3530, 7030, 14030, and 1810 kHz. The test starts at 6:30 p.m. local time, with a pre-contest call-up on 3815 kHz at 6:00 p.m. Other rules can be found in the January JUG. Good luck.

Hopefully the new roster will be to everyone's liking. Please get word to me about any changes or additions.

Get in on the fun of the NCCC Tuesday
Night net at 7:30 p.m. on 3815 kHz. Learn
all the latest contest scores and events
of interest to contesters. Also, come and
participate in the Mini-contests and special training sessions.

-N6TU-

ARRL DX PHONE SCORES

WA7NIN (+N6SF, WB6DSV, N6BT,1713 and K7OX; multi-single)	221
W6YX (N7MH, WA6ITV, and1658 company; multi-multi)	186
N6TU (+ N6KT, WA6VEF, WIARR,1340 N6LC, WB6SHD, and K6RM; multi-single)	190
Multi-single) N6BV (single-op, all band)1138 WA6JUD (+ WA6DGX and K6XO;1448 multi-single)	181
N6DA	? 39

Other active stations: N6QR, W6YL, W6BH, K6AYA, W6BIP, K6HIH, W6NLZ, and N6CT.

IONOSPHERIC DISTURBANCES IN JANUARY

VHF Sweepstakes	
VHF Sweepstakes 6KLY 370) 11
W6YKM283	L 12
W6YX (N7MH and WA6VEF ops)125	
WB6PCO101	
N6LC	
WB6U0C65	
WB6IGY70	
N6HT68	
WA6VEF64	
WB6SHD60	
Wlarr/642	
WB6GLF22	
WA6HJV26	
WB6NPZ11	
WB6YBR	4

Others active: N6NE, N6QR, K6GSS, K6QAX, WB6PYI, and WA6HCI. NCCC is submitting a Club entry for the VHF SS. Be sure to send in your score.

CQ 160 Meter Contest	
K70X289	53
WA6DNM205	5 1

PROPOSED BY-LAWS CHANGES

Article III, Section 4--Change the last sentence from, "The Secretary shall advise the applicant of the results of the ballot and shall see that he is furnished with a membership kit." to, "The Secretary /---/ furnished with a copy of these by-laws and a current roster."

Article III, Section 6--The second sentence to be changed by the addition of the words "each May" after the word "mem-

bership."

Article VIII, Section 1--Shall be entirely rewritten as follows: The full members shall pay \$6.00 annual dues, and associate members and full-time-student members shall pay \$3.00 annual dues, due 1 July. Dues of new members shall be pro-rated from the date of their application, and tendered to the Secretary/Treasurer at the time application is filed.

9 February 1978

Signed by:
R.B. Vallio W6RGG
Tom Schiller N6BT
Gary W. Caldwell WA6VEF
Alan A. Brubaker K6XO
Phil Frazier K6ZM

CD Party, CW (time spent in contest)	*
N6RO (20 hours)1004	71
N6TV (20 hours)902	69
N6NE (20 hours)846	68
N6BV (18 hours)780	69
N6KB (N6IG op)(20 hours)745	68
WB6DSV (7 hours)320	?
N6CY (12 hours)281	57
W6YX (WA6VEF op)(5 hours)249	53
WB6SHD (12 hours)247	50
W6KZJ (8 hours)+200	53
WB6U0C (2½ hours)	?
WA6VEF (1½ hours)93	33
Other active stations: N6TU, WLARR/6, WA6HJV, W6BIP, N6JV, WA6DIL, N3ER/8,	

ADDRESS RECTIFICATIONS, ETC.

WA7NIN 3450 Conte Drive Carson City, NV 89701

and K7SS.

W6XR 2547 California Street San Francisco, CA 94115 (H) 415-931-6014

WB6DHH
N7MH/6 205 Pickering Place
(H) 415-321-3595 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

CONTRABAND CORNER

FOR SALE: Heath HW-202 w/5 xtals, \$155. Mark, N6LC, 967-4696.

Dan, WB6STW, seeks information on antenna designs for the apartment dweller. His address is 1405 Marshall Street #216, Redwood City, CA 94063.

FOR SALE: Drake TR-4, w/processor, pwr supply, and speaker, \$500 or offer. Jim,

N6IG. 522-3178.

WANTED: Atlas 80-10 meter transceiver,

by Ed, WA6GJH, 415-537-6014.

FOR SALE: Very well built 3-1000Z amp.
Runs forever and drives easily. -OR- Henry 2K-4, immaculate. Have spare tube(s)
for both--must sell one of them. Tom,
N6BT, 964-5554.

FOR SALE: Curtis keyer and memory unit KM-420. Complete with repair kit. Offer/trade. WANTED: S-line(s)--specify what you have and how much or? Contact Pat, WA7NIN, via the Tuesday Night Net.

Please mark this ballot, and then either bring it to the February NCCC Meeting or send it to Sec./Treasurer WA6DGX, Ron DeBry, 2117 Rose Street #2, Berkeley, CA 94709

I am in favor of the proposed by-laws changes listed above.

I am not in favor of the proposed by-laws changes listed above.

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NEW TROOPS AND ARTILLERY

Four more contest enthusiasts were drafted into the service of the NCCC last month. They are:

WB6CBJ
Dennis O'Brien
Patrol Squadron 50
FP0 San Francisco, CA 96601

N6KL Dave Palmer 212 Davidson Hall 2650 Haste Street Berkeley, CA 94720 (H) 415-642-8239

K6XO Alan Brubaker 34456 Colville Place Fremont, CA 94536 (H) 415-792-5736 (B) 800-422-4460

WA6DNM Scott Williams Box 257 Gualala, CA 95445 (H) 707-884-3287

Dennis, WB6CBJ, is 26 years old and has an Advanced Class license. He's set up for 160-10 meters SSB, CW, and AM, and VHF and UHF FM. Contest experience includes SS, DX contests, and Field Day. Dennis operates 50% CW and 50% phone.

N6KL, Dave, is 19 and holds an Extra Class license. Station equipment includes a Kenwood TS-510, TR-22C, and 100' long-wire. Dave has operated in CD Parties, Novice Roundup, Field Day, SS, and IARU Radiosport. His old call was WB6ITN.

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RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED



A1, K6XO (ex-K6QPH and KH6EVT), is 34 and holds an Extra Class ticket. He operates with a Drake TR-3, 2B, SB-200, quad, vertical, and various dipoles. Al prefers CW to phone 80% to 20%, and has been SS, DX contests, Can-Am, and CD Partic.

SS, DX contests, Can-Am, and CD Partices Scott, WA6DNM, is a 31-year-old Advanced Class licensee. He runs an FT-101B, homebrew 4-1000 amp, 2-el tribander, and wires on 80 and 160. Scott has operated in ARRL DX, CQWW, AA, and Russian contests. He operates 75% CW and 25% phone, and holds CW-DXCC and WAZ.

Welcome to the NCCC!

HOT OFF THE NCCC WIRE SERVICE...

Eric, WD6DBM, has upgraded from Novice to Advanced....NCCC members K6ITL, K6CCY, and W6BIP lost their towers during the storm which occurred near the end of the first phone weekend of the ARRL DX Contest. The winds also did in WA6JUD's 2 element 40 meter beam....N6TU and K6RM are the new residents at the Hotel DeMille in San Jose. Former occupant N6RO has moved to Oakley, CA (about 10 miles east of Concord), where he is planning big things antenna-wise Here's an excerpt from a letter received last month by your JUG Editor from Jeff. K'7M. President of YCCC: "...Congrats (to t. NCCC) on your FB effort as a club in SS! You guys really deserve a lot of credit for the aggregate you ran up--although you seem equally aware of the existence of YCCC. Nary an issue of the JUG goes by without a swipe or lambasting in some fashion toward YCCC! (HI) Einterpret that to mean we must indeed have arrived ..." Jeff also writes that any NCCCers who can make it to the Dayton Convention this year are invited to the YCCC Hospitality Suite....73



