



NEXT NCCC MEETING
DATE: Monday, September 14
Old Spaghetti Factory, Jack London Square
DIRECTIONS INSIDE

ARRL 160-Meter Contest
 ARRL 10-Meter Contest

Dec 4-6
 Dec 12-13

de K6AW

NCCC OFFICERS

- President
 Steve Merchant, K6AW ... merchant@garlic.com
 Vice President/CC
 J.T. Utley, K7CO k7co@vcr.com
 Secretary/Treasurer
 Al Maenchen, AD6E..... ad6e@aol.com
 Directors
 Andy Faber, AE6Y ae6y@aol.com
 Ken Silverman, K2KW..... k2kw@prodigy.net
 Al Crespo, NH7A nh7a@radiomaiui.com
 Bob Wolbert, K6XX k6xx@jps.net
 ARRL CAC member: Bob Wilson, N6TV

n6tv@vnet.ibm.com

JUG Editor: George Daughters, K6GT

gdaught6@leland.stanford.edu

Contest Calendar

All Asian DX Contest, SSB	Sep 5-6
North American Sprint, CW	Sep 6
WAE DX Contest, SSB	Sep 12-13
ARRL September VHF QSO Party	Sep 12-14
North American Sprint, Phone	Sep 13
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	Sep 26-27
California QSO Party	Oct 3-4
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Oct 24-25
ARRL Sweepstakes, CW	Nov 7-9
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, Phone	Nov 21-23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	Nov 28-29

August Meeting

The August meeting was terrific, the first we have had in the South Bay for a while. Our host at the Tied House in Mountain View was NCCC member Ron Manabe, W6RN. He provided great food and drink and a covered patio for our meeting. Fifty-one people attended, including two new (old) members: Dean Straw, N6BV re-joined the club having just moved back to San Francisco from W1. Dean should be well known to everyone and will be doing some operating from N6RO this fall. Dan Levin, N6BZA rejoined after a long absence. Dan was NCCC Rookie of the Year some years ago and is looking forward to doing some multi-op ssb this season. Brad, K6WR, and Jim, W6CF briefed the group on late-breaking developments with the FCC's NPRM on Amateur Licensing Restructuring.

Our main speaker was Larry (Tree) Tyree, N6TR, (aka Bert, K7RAT.) He gave us some interesting statistics and insights into the North American Sprint. Did you know the Sprint was "invented" by a couple of NCCC guys – Tom Schiller, N6BT, and Rusty Epps, W6OAT – and two other hams, Tod Olson, K0TO, and Jeff Bouvier, K1AM (then K1IU)? There have been 41 Sprints run, not counting the upcoming September 1998 Sprints. N6TR has won 6 CW Sprints and has placed in the Top Ten 29 times. Nine NCCC members have also made "the box": N5KO (14 times); N6RO (13 times); N6TV (12 times); N6BT (5 times); K5RC (4 times); W6OAT (3 times); N6TJ (twice); and N6IG and N6XI (once.) NCCC Sprint teams have placed second several times, but have never won, something SCCC has done 15 times. In the February Sprint the NCCC

team was within about 5k points of taking first place. Let's really bear down in September, folks! Contact W6CT to register for a Sprint team now!

Tree offered a few pointers on improving your Sprint score. He suggests you consider a band change from 20 to 40 when your rate drops to 50% of your beginning 10-minute rate, usually 1 to 1.5 hours after the start of the contest. In general, try to go to 40 as late as possible vs. "the crowd." If you end up going to 40 early, plan to go to 80 early, also. To increase mults it pays to know which band they are liable to be on (or that you're liable to be able to hear them on); try slowing down your code speed to pick up some of the slower ops who happen to be mults; call a lot of CQ's; keep checking 20 for stray mults; and use a second radio to look for mults on the other band(s).



N6TR presenting SPRINT information and hints at the August Meeting.

Tree's program was very well received. Several people stayed after the meeting – some to talk to Tree and some to take a brewery tour by W6RN. We certainly will plan to have another meeting at the Tied House soon.

Upcoming Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday, September 14th, at the Old Spaghetti Factory at Jack London Square in Oakland, telephone (510) 893-0222.

Our esteemed VPCC JT, K7CO will run the meeting, the topic being CQP. There will be lots of facts and figures and probably quite a lot of talking about county expeditions. Don't be surprised if folks start asking you about your Sweepstakes plans, too. Our nemesis PVRC wants to have 200 logs this year; we want to have at least 150!

Directions to Meeting

Take I880 to down town Oakland. From the NORTH, exit at Jackson, then go right on Jackson,

right on 4th street, left on Webster, and ahead 2 blocks to corner of Webster and Embarcadero.

From the SOUTH, exit at Oak Street, go left on Oak Street, right on Embarcadero, and ahead 4 blocks to the corner of Webster and Embarcadero.

Schmoozing will begin at 6:30, and dinner at 7:00 for those who RESERVE. There will be No dinner for those who do not reserve. The menu choices are the "Manager's Special," (Spaghetti with multiple sauces) or Chicken Parmagiana. Twelve dollars (\$12) includes sourdough bread, salad, coffee, (or tea, etc), and spumoni ice cream. To reserve, email AD6E@aol.com with your dinner selection. (If you don't have email, please call Al at (408) 725-3534. Al must have all reservations no later than Friday, September 11, without exception!

Upcoming Contests

The Fall Season has begun! There are 14 September contests listed in WA7BNM's contest calendar. The NA Sprint CW and SSB are coming up very soon. Plan to get on. If you'd like to participate on an NCCC Sprint Team, just contact Scott, W6CT for details (scott73@best.com). You don't have to be a Top-10 contender, just interested and serious about having fun! At the end of the month is something a little different, the CQWW RTTY Contest. If you haven't tried digital contesting and are interested, send me an e-mail. It's easy and fun.

CQP ("California SS")

A week after CQWW RTTY is the California QSO Party (1600Z 3 Oct – 2200Z 4 Oct.) This is the number one state qso party in the world! NCCC'ers love this one – it's like being DX without leaving home. Everyone wants to work *you*!

NCCC has been managing CQP since 1974. Each year it has grown in size and popularity. There are many DX stations who work the contest and claim it's one of their favorites. This is a great contest! Plan to be there.

If you have plans to do a county dxpedition, contact N6TV (n6tv@kkn.net) or if you're looking to go somewhere and just want to join some other folks, come to the next meeting and meet up with them. You can also put a note on the NCCC e-mail reflector (nccc@contesting.com) to ask about county dxpedition possibilities. And to see the last three or four year's worth of activity, scores, records, etc., check out the CQP website at its new location, <http://www.cqp.org>.

NCCC Reflector on the Air

The club now has an e-mail reflector, at nccc@contesting.com.

This is a members-only reflector. You must be an NCCC member to subscribe and you must be

subscribed to send mail to it. To subscribe, send an e-mail to nccc-request@contesting.com with the word subscribe in the body of the message. In the short time the NCCC reflector has been in operation it's been able to help these club members:

- o N6XI gets antenna helpers for last weekend
 - o N6XI gets help finding AK6L to make offer to buy his Alpha 87A
 - o K6KM locates hard-to-find relay for his amp
 - o K6KM gets antenna helpers for this weekend
 - o N6TV gets lots of "Reserve Your County" responses
- It's been very gratifying to see it become useful to so many people in such a short time.

The board will no doubt use it, as will K6GT and W0YK to let people know when the latest JUG is posted on the club's web site, <http://www.nccc.cc>.

See you on the radio!

73, Steve, K6AW

Help Wanted -- CQP

We're looking for a little help calling club members and reminding them of CQP (and also chatting them up for Sweepstakes.) If you can spare some time and don't mind talking with 10 or so NCCC members, please contact our VPCC JT, K7CO at jt@vcr.com. We'll try to select folks in your local calling area.

Early CQP Results

The NCCC co-managed the CQP in 1974, and took it over from the North Hills Radio Club in 1975. In 1974 there were 70 logs and 42 counties represented (per the writeup - I'm not sure if this means county logs submitted or on the air.) In 1975, NCCC's first year of managing the contest, there were 222 logs, and all 58 counties were on. In 1976 there were 201 logs and all 58 counties. In '77 it was 224 logs and 58 counties. And 1978 shows 222 logs and 58 counties.

Fast forward to 1997 for 491 logs, all 58 counties, 4,536 calls (no uniques) and over 8,000 calls total. Be sure to get on and make your presence felt in CQP.

CQP County Sign-Ups

If you have not already done so and are planning a county dxpedition for CQP, please contact N6TV, NCCC CQP County Coordinator (n6tv@kkn.net) with the following information: Your callsign; callsigns of other operators in your group; the callsign you plan to use; the county(ies) you will activate; and your planned hours of operation.

JT's Corner

Next month is the California QSO Party! I cannot believe a year has passed since the '97 CQP. Some of you know I was in Napa last year, where we made a humble 865 QSO's and worked every multiplier except for NNY. I heard K2NNY working others but it was never his frequency, so we never caught him. We were the only Napa county station that submitted a score. I hope to work all 58 multipliers this year. This contest is one of my favorites. It is the only contest where in California even a little pistol station can get some pileup experience from the other side of the pileup. Having North Americans calling you is enjoyable, but when you throw in a couple European pileups, now you are *really* having fun. Who in the club is going to be **numero uno** this year? Last year K6NA (K6LL op) took the top honors at Single Operator with a very impressive 323,988. He made 748 CW and 1671 phone contacts. The top expeditioner was Bruce, N6NT, from Glenn County with 823 CW and 733 phone contacts.

So who out there wants to set a CQP record? Here is a list of counties where you may have a chance to do so:

1. Del Norte	94,360 (792 QSO)	1992	AA6UN
2. Napa	105,393 (735 QSO)	1990	W6FSJ
3. Inyo	128,336 (1234 QSO)	1979	WA6DZM
4. Lassen	131,254 (1017 QSO)	1986	K6AAW
5. Mendocino	135,945 (1116 QSO)	1982	NA6T
6. Sonoma	136,287 (1194 QSO)	1981	KB6ZA
7. Yolo	136,416 (1108 QSO)	1993	N6YKL
8. Monterey	145,000 (1250 QSO)	1989	KI6CG

Once you decide where you are going, please email n6tv@kkn.net or snail mail him at:

Bob Wilson, N6TV
51 Cheltenham Way
San Jose, CA 95139-1257.

I invite any of you to operate from N6IJ, the famous Fort Ord station. Pat, AA6EG welcomes one and all to operate from this fine location. Contact aa6eg@tmx.com.

Finally, you'll find the '98 rules for CQP, and a summary sheet for your entry in this JUG!

73 es hpe to cu on the bands, JT,
K7CO/6

Reflections

(Gleaned from the BVRC Reflector)

Dear Mr. Contest,

This is in response to your request for additional information regarding my question, "Can allegations of sub-optimal equipment operation by disgruntled competitors disqualify someone from holding a contest record, even if he produced a record-setting score?"

Since I was tired of obscurity, I checked the Beetle Valley Contest Club records, and noticed that the "assisted" class records presented a reachable chance for fame since the "record" scores were lower than those for unassisted Single Operator.

I don't know much about this modern packet stuff, so I asked one of the local old-timers for help. He told me recent advances in technology had changed the nature of packet interface boxes, and he installed a strange looking one for me at my station.

I had to put two pieces of bread in slots at the top of the interface and depress a lever on the side. After a minute or so, the now-somewhat-brownish pieces of bread would pop up, and I was supposed to look at them to find calls and frequency information.

I couldn't get the knack of it until I had gone about 42 hours without sleep. Then I could occasionally see call signs, but when I'd tune to the frequency, the spots usually seemed to have QSY'd. I did work a station with a similar prefix on a nearby frequency though, so this proved it was working.

The old-timer smiled when I told him that I had apparently won the assisted category with a new record score, and was now headed for glory. A few other guys had higher unassisted scores, but that doesn't mean anything.

However, some members of the local packet club claimed that they had checked, and I wasn't "connected to the network" or something. They said therefore I wasn't distracted enough to deserve an "assisted" victory, and had essentially cheated.

Since there was no rule about sending in your packet spots, I had eaten the bread, and can't include it with my log.

There was no technical requirement to understand every nuance of this modern technology when I took my license exam. I believe that I was truly assisted, fair and square.

Does this crybaby claim by the losers have any validity or do I deserve my place in the record books?

73, New Record Holder (?)

ARE YOUR DUES OVERDUE?

Look at your mailing label. If the expiration date is highlighted in orange, then your dues are OVERDUE!

Go to the last page, fill out the form, and mail it and your check to AD6E, now, so you don't forget it!

BIG Rules Changes Ordered by the FCC

An Open Letter to NCCC Members,

Bob Wolbert, K6XX, and I have volunteered to see if there are NCCC members interested in studying the ARRL licensing proposal.

By now we have all heard of the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making, Docket No.98-143. In it we (amateurs) are asked to provide comment on two items:

1 - Ideas for improving enforcement processes as they relate to amateur radio.

2 - Changes to the telegraphy requirements for the amateur radio service.

The FCC also proposes several license class changes and pretty much leaves it open to us to tell them what the license structure should look like in the future.

The ARRL has submitted a plan which may or may not be in agreement with your ideas. Please see page 48 of the September QST.

A similar thing occurred in the mid 1950's. They wanted to wipe out incentive licensing altogether, as I recall. At the time, I was a member of a small club of maybe a dozen people. We submitted an incentive plan which was actually expanded and became the basic structure for many years. The point is, *they listened!* That is their job. It may not seem like it sometimes, but they do work for us and want to be responsive to our wishes if they can.

The FCC has asked for us all to comment. If you wish to make your ideas known, please give me a call at: 650-366-7813 or e-mail me at: w6iso@juno.com.

73, Kit Kohlmoos - W6ISO

Recent Scores

NAQP SSB

Call	Class	Q	Mult	Score
W6XK	SO	478	130	62,140
AD6E (W6CT)	SO	185	70	12,950
K6BZ	SO	330	100	33,000

WAE CW

K6III	SO20M	75	42	3150
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IOTA MIXED

K6III	SO	50	29	17806
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SARTG RTTY

N2ALE	SO	7		600
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CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY (CQP)
Sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club (NCCC)

CALL: _____ CA County/State/Province/Country: _____

Operator(s): _____

Club Competition (5 logs minimum, NCCC/SCCC ineligible):

QSOs		Class (check all that apply)	
Band	CW Phone		
160		Single Operator	
80		Multi-Single	
40		Multi-Multi	
20		Calif. County Expedition	
15		Mobile	
10		Novice/Technician	
6		Total	Power level: _____ watts
2		Combined	
		QSOs	
QSO			\$10 Enclosed for CQP T-shirt
Total			and results (100 QSOs min.)
	X 3	X 2	T-shirt size: M L XL XXL
QSO			\$1 Enclosed for copy of
Points			results
		Mults.	Final Score
Tot.		X	=
Points			
	X	(58 max)	

Name: _____

Tel # _____

Addr: _____

Age: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

1998 California QSO Party (CQP)

Sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club

Begins: 1600 UTC - 3 October 1998 Ends: 2200 UTC - 4 October 1998

OBJECT: Stations outside California work as many California stations in as many CA counties as possible. Stations in California work anyone.

EXCHANGE: California stations send QSO number and county. Stations outside of California send QSO number and State, Province, or Country.

QSO POINTS: Each complete non-duplicate Phone contact is worth 2 points. Each complete non-duplicate CW contact is worth 3 points. No partial contact credit. Duplicate contacts must be clearly identified in log.

MULTIPLIERS: California stations count states (50) and Canadian Provinces (VO/VE1-7 and VY1/VE8) for a possible total of 58. All others use California counties for a maximum of 58. CA stations on a county line may be claimed as a multiplier for any or all of the counties they give in their exchange. Number each multiplier as worked.

SCORE: The total score is the total number of QSO points multiplied by the total number of multipliers (58 maximum).

FREQUENCIES: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 Meters. WARC band contacts do not count. Suggest CW on 1805 and 40 kHz up from band edge, phone on 1815, 3850, 7230, 14250, 21300, and 28450 KHz. Novices 10 kHz up from band edge and 28450.

- o Try CW on the half hour.
- o 160 meters at 0500 UTC; 80/75 meters at 0300 and 0700 UTC.
- o Try 147.54 MHz at 2000, 0000, and 0400 UTC.

CLASS ENTRY: Single Op, Multi-Single, Multi-Multi, California County Expedition, Mobile, and Novice/Tech.

- o Single Operator entries are limited to 24 hours maximum; off times must be clearly marked in the log and be a minimum of 15 minutes
- o Multi-Operator entries may operate the full 30 hours.
- o Multi-Single entries must work only one band/mode for at least 10 min. before changing band or mode.
- o Stations may be worked once on CW and once on phone per band.
- o Single Operator and Multi-Single entries are allowed only one transmitting signal.
- o CW contacts must be made outside the Phone sub-bands except for 160 meters. MCW is not permitted.
- o All contacts must be simplex.
- o California stations that change counties are considered to be a new station and may be contacted again for point and multiplier credit.
- o California stations operating on a county line may be counted as only one QSO.
- o Mobile is a station that is self-contained, capable of legal motion (street, water, or air) while operating, but motion is optional.
- o A County Expedition is an operation from a temporary location using temporary antennas installed for the contest period, using temporary antenna supports (natural supports like trees permitted).
- o A Novice/Tech entry must use a Novice/Tech callsign, and operate exclusively within the Novice/Tech bands.

ENTRIES: Entries must be submitted no later than November 15. Entries of 200 or more QSOs must include duplicate check lists.

Logs may be submitted via postal mail to: NCCC, c/o Al Maenchen, AD6E, 3330 Farthing Way, San Jose, CA 95132. Entries may be submitted in CT Version 8 or 9 format with .BIN, .SUM, and .ALL files on 5-1/4 or 3-1/2"

diskettes (no 2.88M diskettes) with a signed hard-copy summary sheet. Label each diskette with call entry category and state/county/province/country. Electronic logs may also be submitted by E-mail to cqp@contesting.com. Electronic logs should be named with your call (e.g., AD6E.SUM, AD6E.LOG, etc.), and preferably all files zipped into a single file such as AD6E.ZIP.

A \$1.00 donation to help defray costs of printing and postage is encouraged. For a CQP paperwork package containing log and summary sheets, county abbreviations, and contest records, send a business size SASE to Andy Faber, AE6Y, 16321 Ridgecrest Ave., Monte Sereno, CA 95030. For a copy of the two member supported IBM contest logging programs for CQP, send \$1 for postage and diskette to AE6Y. A Macintosh program is also available commercially. For software downloads, try the CQP Web Site, www.contesting.com/cqp.

AWARDS: T-shirts: Entries with 100 or more QSOs qualify for the special CQP T-shirt; Please specify your size (M/L/XL/XXL) and \$10 if you qualify and would like this special award. Like the wine, each year is a special vintage.

Certificates: To top Single Operator entry in each CA county, state, province, country, and stations with 100 or more QSOs.

Plaques: To top three non-CA Single Operator entries, top three CA Single Operator, top CA Multi-Single, top CA Multi-Multi, top Single, Multi-Single, and Multi-Multi CA County expeditions, and the Mobile Single Operator and Multi Operator with the most QSOs.

Special CQP Wine Award: The top 20 CA and top 20 non-CA Single Operator stations will receive a personalized bottle of NCCC Private Reserve California Wine. Winners under the age of 21 will receive a nonalcoholic personalized award.

Special Awards: To the CA and non-CA Single Operators with the most QSOs, the most CW QSOs, the most Phone QSOs, to the top three CA and non-CA Single Operator low power entries (200 watts or less output), to the top CA and non-CA Single Operator Novice/Technician entries, to the top scorer outside of the USA and Canada, and to the top club in California (5 entries minimum -- NCCC and SCCC are ineligible.)

DUES ARE DUE

USE THIS FORM TO PAY DUES FOR 1998-1999 (July 98 through June 99)

Name _____

Full Membership..... x \$24 = _____

Call _____

Family Membership... x \$12 = _____

Address _____

Associate / Student.... x \$12 = _____

Donation to General Fund..... _____

Donation to Repeater Fund..... _____

email addr _____

Total enclosed..... _____

Home phone _____

Cut out this form and mail (with check) to:

Work phone _____

**Alan Maenchen, AD6E
3330 Farthing Way
San Jose, CA 95132-1908**