



Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club



Issue 547
December 2017



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President's Report

Hello KB's,

It's the December issue, but I'll say Happy New Year anyway!

I am really thrilled with the turnout for this year's RTTY Roundup. It's too early, as I write this, to see the total count of participants, but it appears we will have a nice number, easily placing us in the Unlimited Club category. Win or lose, we're a big contest club, and this is the area we should be playing in. Last year, we won the gavel but, with only 43 logs, we ended up in the Medium Club category. I did say last year, that a win is a win, but I was really disappointed in the turnout. I'm got to thank our N6WM, VP/CC, for really motivating our members this year.

NCCC Meeting Tuesday 9th January

Time:

6:00pm schmooz; 6:30pm dinner, 7:00pm program

Venue:

China WOK, 512 Sacramento St, Vallejo, 94590

Our Reflector has had more traffic on a single subject than I think I have ever seen, and the subject has only been remotely associated with contesting. The ARRL's censure of Southwestern Director, N6AA, is the topic, and our members have certainly expressed their absolute disagreement with the League. I've got to thank Bob, N6TV, for bringing this to our attention. Bob has, frankly, been a bull-in-a-china-shop in his efforts to alert the entire amateur community to this incredible injustice.

See [Page 10](#) for Details

Continued on page 3



Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting

Officers:

President	Bob Hess	W1RH	w1rh@yahoo.com
Vice President /Contest Chair	Chris Tate	N6WM	ctate@ewnetinc.com
Treasurer	Dick Wilson	K6LRN	treasurer.nccc@gmail.com
Secretary	Ian Parker	W6TCP	secretary.nccc@gmail.com
Past President	<open>		
Director	Rusty Epps	W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Director:	Rich Cutler	WC6H	wc6h@yahoo.com
Director:	Ron Castro	N6IE	ronc@sonic.net

Volunteers:

New Member Mentor	Al Rendon	WT6K	wt6k@arrl.net
Charter Member	Rusty Epps	W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Awards Chair	Gary Johnson	NA6O	gwj@wb9jps.com
CQP Chair	John Miller	K6MM	k6mm@arrl.net
K6ZM QSL Manager	George Daughters	K6GT	k6gt@arrl.net
K6CQP,N6CQP,W6CQP QSL Mgr	Ed Muns	W0YK	w0yk@arrl.net
NCCC Email reflector Admin	Phil Verinsky	W6PK	kb-w6tqg@verinsky.com
Webmaster	John Miller	K6MM	k6mm@arrl.net
Webinars	Bill Fehring	W9KKN	bill+nccc@w9kkn.net
JUG Editor	Ian Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian@gmail.com

Thursday Night Sprint:

The Northern California Contest Club sponsors Thursday evening (NA local time) contest practice sessions of 30 minute duration.

On the Thursday (and, sometimes Friday also) prior to a major contest weekend, the practice format follows the upcoming contest.

Generally, on other Thursday evenings, a special format is followed, called NS or "NCCC Sprint". The NS began in the summer of 2004 as a snappy, concise contest occurring most Thursday nights, North American time. The power limit is 100 watts.

Thursday Night Contesting Director and Founder	Bill, N6ZFO
NCCC CW Sprint	Tom, N3ZZ (initially, Ken N6RO)
NCCC RTTY Sprint	Ken, K6MR
NCCC Sprint Ladder	Bill, N6ZFO
Sprint Web master www.ncccsprint.com	John, K6MM.
non-NCCC:	Tim N3QE (Ladder Scores manager)
Thursday night Contesting Advisory Group:	N6ZFO, Bill (Chair)
	Mark K6UFO, (with W4NZ, N4AF, W9RE, K4BAI, N3BB and W0BH).
The Thursday night NCCC Net	Ken, N6RO

Our Board has also been unanimous in our agreement that this is, indeed, an extremely questionable move on the part of the ARRL Board. Rusty, W6OAT, drafted a letter, on behalf of the Board, clearly stating our position. I sent the letter to every ARRL Director, Vice Director, and Officer. To date, I have received several responses, but none from the League's California representatives.

It was Orson Wells, who coined the phrase; We will see no wine before its time. He was the spokesman for the Paul Masson brand, back in the late 70's, and the phrase was heard over and over in a popular television commercial. Well, I'm sure Jeff, WK6I, would agree. I happen to be a big fan of his Twisted Oak wines. Forty lucky winners are the recipients of the 2016 CQP Twisted Oak Tempranillo. The bottles have been shipped to those who are not within hand delivery range. The remaining bottles will be handed out at future contest club meetings in our area. We hope to have the 2017 CQP wine, again, provided by Jeff, WK6I, shipped out later in 2018, but prior to the next CQP. When Jeff says it's time, we will ship the wine!

I want to remind our members that someone needs to step up and run for president of this great contest club. My third term expires in a few months and that's it for me. The clock is ticking!

Bob W1RH

February Meeting

Saturday 3rd February 11:30 am



Cattlemen's, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd, Livermore, CA 94551

Presentation: KB Awards Program 2.0

Small Things

Hank W6SX

I've spent a lot of effort optimizing my station for contesting. I'm a human-factors nut. Testing aircraft in the Air Force, I learned that human factors can make or crash an aircraft.

So, I'm a bit chagrined to tell the following story.

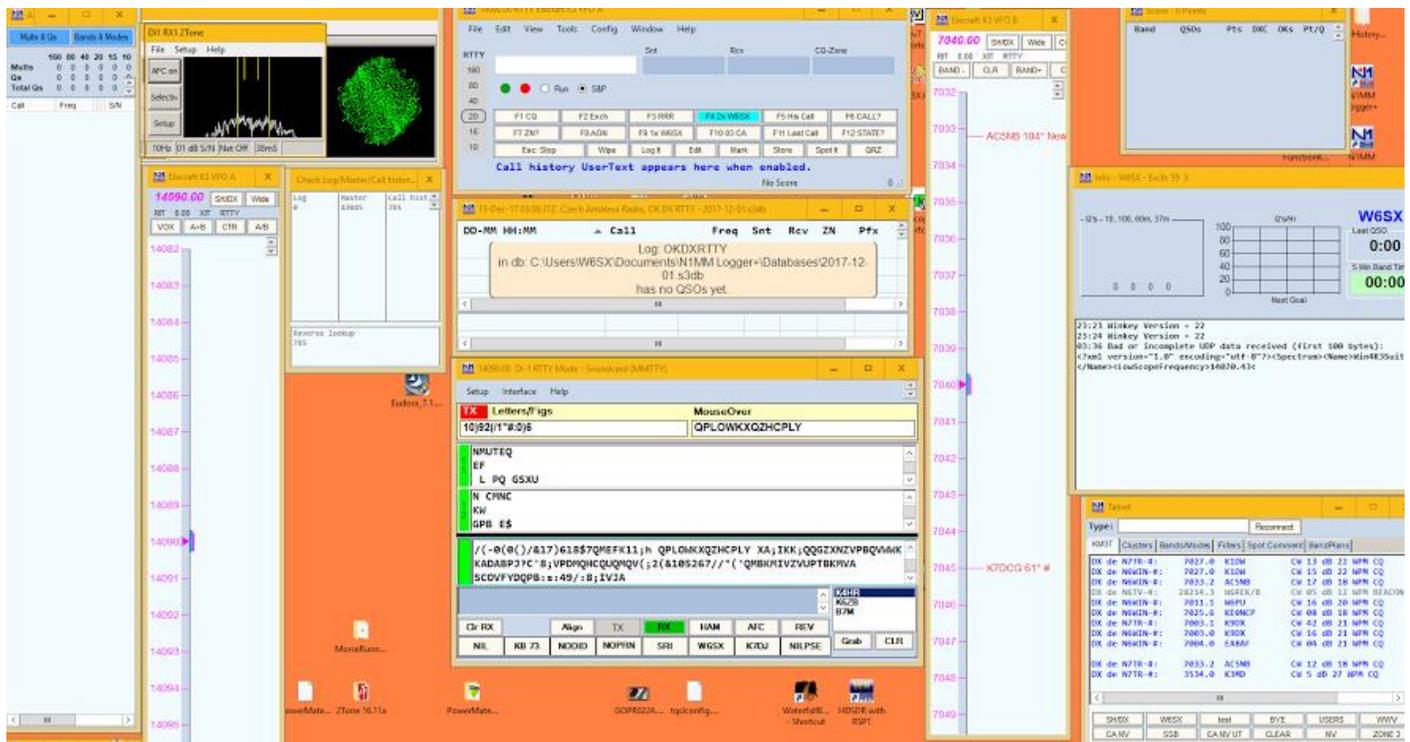
Sometime in late spring, I started having neck pain. I first thought it was because the snow had melted and I had just got back on the bike. I started paying attention to head position. No improvement.

Next I thought it might be how I was holding my head/neck doing sit-ups. I stopped sit-ups for a while. No improvement.

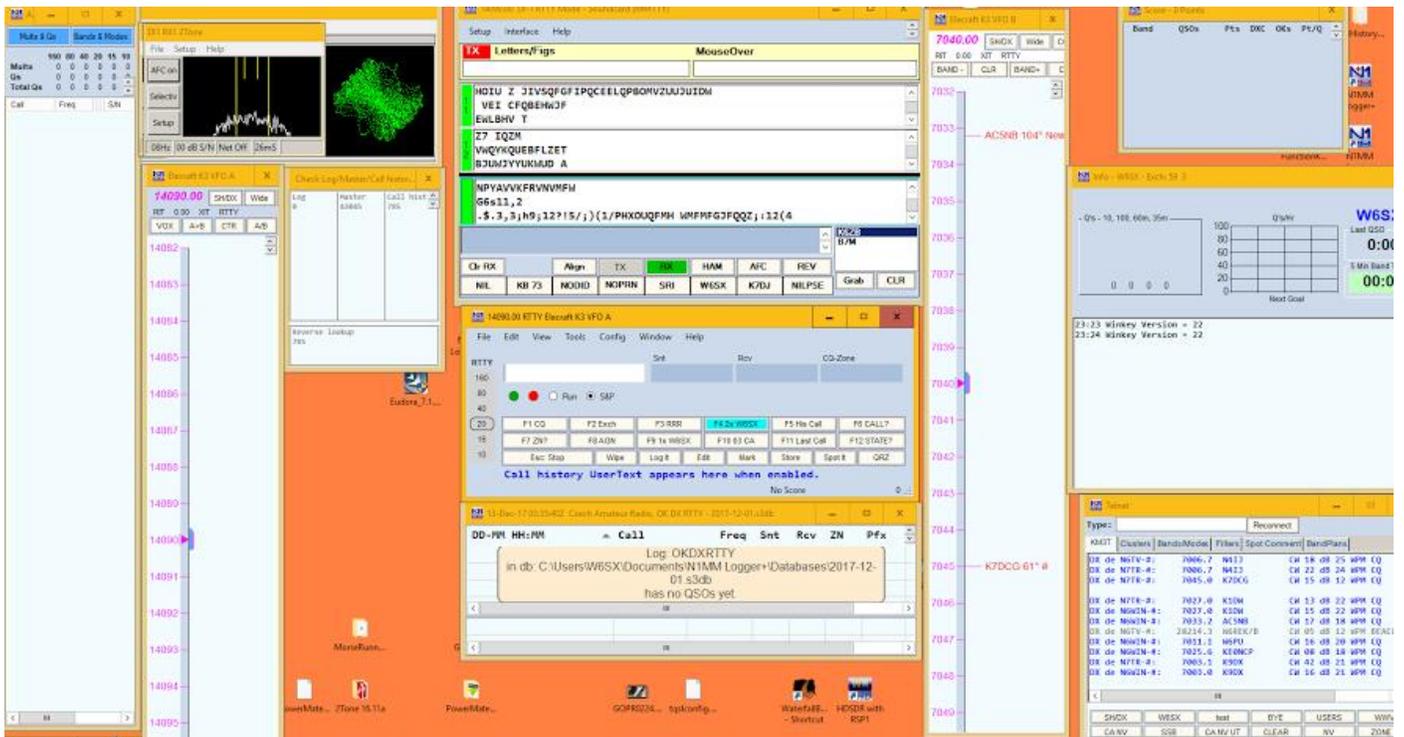
Then I wondered about my pillow and how I sleep. Fooled around with various pillows and positions. No improvement.

I was at a loss.

Finally I noticed that during and after an RTTY contest that my neck really hurt.



Eureka!



Moving the MMTTY window to the top of the screen solved the neck problem.

I kick myself for not figuring it out sooner, but better later than never.

Be aware of Small Things. They can make or break a contest effort.

VP/CC Report

Christopher Tate, N6WM

N6WM@largeradio.org



Competing in the Unlimited Class - It takes a village

Greetings my friends. First of all I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year! The beginning of the calendar year puts us well into the contest season and time to look forward to our upcoming club competitions.

By the time you read this, we will have already participated in our first Unlimited competition in the ARRL RTTY Roundup. I am sure you will all agree, that ensuring we can come together to put enough logs in for top club level competition is very satisfying, after falling a bit short last year.

GREAT JOB TO ALL!

On the playing field

As with any functional village, many came together to make this happen. There are several folks I wanted to thank for stepping up to the plate, completely unsolicited to help. First is Dean, N6DE. Dean was the initial person who reached out about our plan for the RTTY Roundup via John K6MM. Dean is one of our club gems. As busy as he is these days, he still keenly knows what it takes to get this club on the right foot. Next is Jeff WK6I. Jeff is all RTTY all the time. And with a serious RTTY club competition on the board, he immediately stepped forward with help in fine tuning our RTTY tips in the weeks leading up to the competition, along with advice and strategies to help make us all successful. Also jumping in was Gary NA6O, helping crunch some spreadsheets to identify additional operators we could reach out to, as well as assisting in fielding 2 efforts as well! I would also like to recognize the entire Stanford W6YX team, for fielding 3 multi-op teams and sacrificing individual win capabilities to do so. Many of these team members have the means to put themselves in the top 10 individually, yet chose to do what they could to help our common goal. There are several others that came together to put clubs effort before their own. Without these competitive sacrifices, it would be very difficult for us to truly achieve a winning edge as a club. Thanks one and all for your help and assistance.

Another big part of our functional team is all of you, our active members willing to be a team player, get on the air and put scores on the board. Hitting that 50 station commit was a good feeling to be sure, and as we moved beyond it, you can be sure it helped put us right where we want to be.

Coming together with a common cause

I would be remiss if I didn't mention all of the active members who came together to voice concern with recent issues with the ARRL BoD. It also takes a team to step up and make sure we are accurately represented, and many of you, in combination with our sitting NCCC Bod joined with other amateur clubs around the country to let our voices be heard. Regardless of the result of those efforts, I wanted to personally share how proud I am to be in service to you as VP/CC this year.

Getting the spark back and looking ahead

Both the above completely different events have a common theme as well. They required the NCCC to be a tight and cohesive team, helping one another to be successful overall. Moving back into the Unlimited class, as well as coming together with a single strong voice on a major issue that affects most of us shows strength. The winning strength of the NCCC.

We now need to look ahead to our next challenge, and its coming up fast. We will need to once again come together, and rely on each others various strengths to produce a result. We started 2018 with a bang, lets keep the momentum going!

73 and a well deserved KB!

And now for some fun.....

As many of you know, I serve as an Alpha Tester assisting with contest readiness for various Flex Radio Systems products. In the shack are two pieces of equipment, that, in my opinion, when paired together may represent a big advancement in the contest shack. I can't share too much on these items, but I am sure we will all be hearing much more about this equipment as the year progresses, and I have to say I was quite blown away with the functionality as I have been testing these new toys out! Here are a couple pics of some of the soon to market toys on my test bench!



The flex 6600M has 7th order pre-selectors on board as well as 2 completely separated Spectral Capture Units. Wait, are those buttons, knobs and an LCD touch display?



The Flex Radio/403A power genius XL SO2R Amplifier.

Paired together, 1 transceiver, 1 amp, full legal limit SO2R ready. 'nuff said.

73 all and enjoy 2018, I think its gonna be a good year!

Chris
N6WM
Vice President and Contest Chairman

First Meeting of 2018

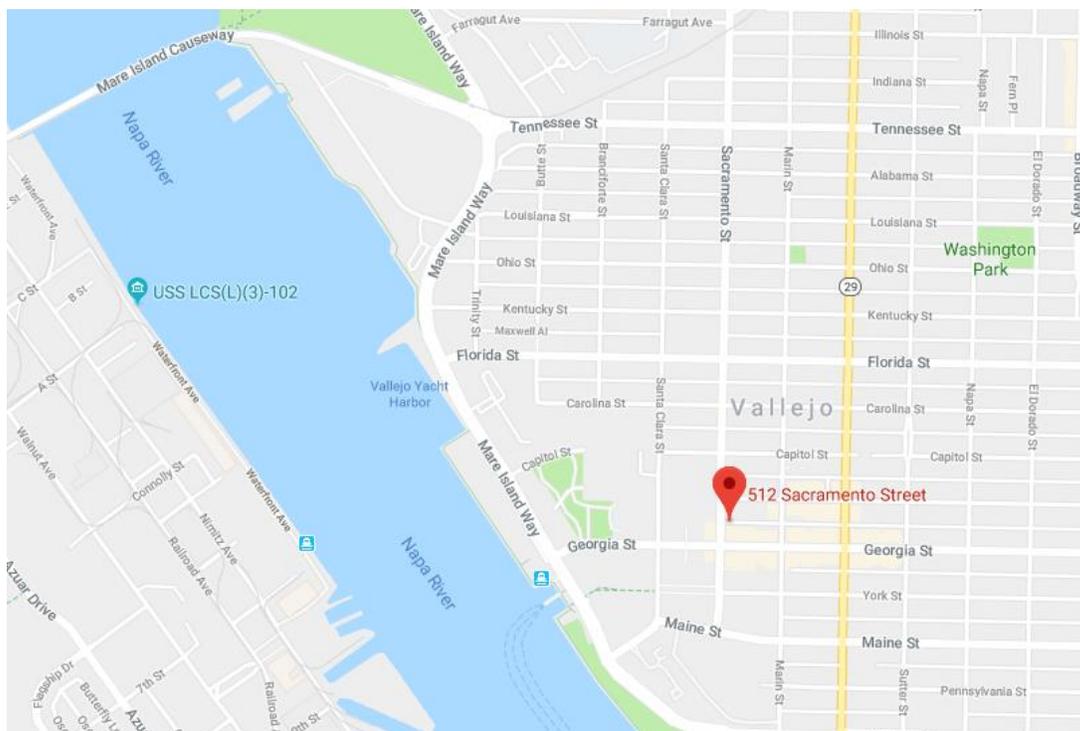
Tuesday 9th January ~ 6 pm to 8:00 pm

Presentation: CQP 2017 Overview & DXpedition reports, John K6MM & Team

Venue:

China WOK, 512 Sacramento St, Vallejo, 94590

Directions: <http://tinyurl.com/2f892nb>



Please sign up here:

https://www.memberplanet.com/events/nccckb/ncccjanuarymeeting_1

Contact Ian W6TCP if you need help/assistance.

Two Thumbs UP for the Array Solutions Power Master II meter, from Don AA6W



Well....St. Nicholas came early for me this year. As, I won the main door prize at the NCCC holiday dinner last weekend. The prize was an awesome 'Power Master II' watt/swr meter from Array Solutions. The unit is fairly compact, and sits on my radio desk very well. The package came complete with the hook-up cable for the remote directional coupler, which is placed at the output of the amplifier, and before the tuner...on the output side going towards the antenna, or load. I reviewed the directions and user manual for about 15 minutes. The display unit, is easily hooked up to an external 12VDC power supply, and the display unit only draws about .5 amp.

As you can observe, from my picture a small Astron 12 amp supply, to the left of the display unit, is powering the meter. In the center of the picture (near the back) the rectangular (gold color) box, is between my ICOM 7800, and the Palstar tuner. This is the actual directional coupler, which drives the signals to the display unit. This meter is very, very cool! With a mere closure, of the PTT, or a CW key closure - the meter displays forward power, and SWR simultaneously, on a bar graph. The capture time for the meter is only a few milliseconds. I am very impressed. And, with the SWR bargraph - I can easily adjust my Palstar AT-2KD tuner (in picture) for lowest SWR on the Watt-meter display unit. And, if the operator takes a break during a contest, well, after 10 minutes the display unit goes into sleep mode, and the display turns off. A mere brief closure of the PTT, or CW key again - magically brings the display back to life.

The meter is highly calibrated from the factory and claims to be accurate to +/- 3%....very cool. I am really having a lot of fun, with this meter. What a great addition to my ham shack. When I am in qso with my friends, on 20 meters, I can observe my ICOM-7800 is putting out, about 189 watts, and my SWR (vertical/dipole) antenna, has a tuned swr of 1.03:1...If anything goes awry...either hi-power or low-power or high SWR...I am warned with a flashing yellow LED, on the front panel of display unit. I would highly recommend this watt-meter/swr meter, to any of the MLDXCC or NCCC club members. What a great stocking stuffer! (hehe..hi...hi..)

One last note, the meter, also has optional hook-up from back of display unit, for ALC, and PTT - direct from transceiver. This also would enable alarms, and safety features, which can shut down an amplifier, due to high swr, or an overdrive condition. This meter, is great for tuning the antennas as well, because of the wealth of information provided from the display unit, which I described above. Also - the customer support for this meter, is excellent. I spoke with the company briefly on the telephone, and the phone support is great. Enjoy my photograph. KB in 2018. Have a very Merry Christmas. Thank you for reading. 73, Don AA6W

2018 Meeting Dates

Mark your calendars for the following 2018 Meeting dates, venues and presentations
Exact details to follow nearer the time.

Tuesday 9th January, 6 pm

Presentation: CQP 2017 Overview & DXpedition reports, John K6MM & Team
China WOK, 512 Sacramento St, Vallejo, 94590

Saturday 3rd February 11:30 am

Presentation: KB Awards Program 2.0
Cattlemen's, 2882 Kitty Hawk Rd, Livermore, CA 94551

Tuesday 13th March 6 pm

Presentation: TBD
Harrys Hofbrau, 390 Saratoga Ave, San Jose, 95129

Saturday, April 7th 11:30 am

Presentation: Annual Awards and Elections
Tied House, 954 Villa St, Mountain View, CA 94041

2017 ARRL June VHF Contest

Submitted by John, K6MI.

Displaying entries for **Club=Northern California Contest Club**

Although the NCCC has never approached the SCCC in the vhf category, what with N6NB Wayne leading a pack of high scoring stations (see his rover page on the web), the NCCC came out in the middle of the middle of results.

What is important to note is that there were 27 submitted results, in various categories for our club. A is SO low power, B is high power, 3b is three band (6, 2, and 432). Several in the FM only category, and only one rover this time.

June is the biggest of the vhf contests. September and Aug. UHF results hopefully coming soon. Jan. 2018 on the weekend of the 20-21th.

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Club	Ops
1	K7XC	9,030	129	70	3B	NV	Northern California Contest Club	
2	K6MI	8,686	170	43	3B	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
3	K6HS	8,325	131	45	M	SJV	Northern California Contest Club	WA6ZTY WB6W K6HS KB6BA
4	KA6BIM	5,406	98	53	3B	OR	Northern California Contest Club	
5	K6SRZ	4,033	109	37	B	SF	Northern California Contest Club	
6	W6OAT	3,924	109	36	3B	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
7	N6ORB	3,196	91	34	A	EB	Northern California Contest Club	
8	AF6SA	2,231	92	23	3B	SV	Northern California Contest Club	
9	NU6S	1,870	81	22	B	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
10	K2RD	1,760	53	32	B	NV	Northern California Contest Club	
11	KK6DF	1,426	62	23	3B	EB	Northern California Contest Club	
12	N2NS	540	30	18	A	SJV	Northern California Contest Club	

#	Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Club	Ops
13	K6ME	527	29	17	A	SV	Northern California Contest Club	
14	KW6S	493	23	17	B	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
15	KE6QR	432	33	12	A	EB	Northern California Contest Club	
16	N6RO	400	25	16	B	EB	Northern California Contest Club	
17	AD6I	360	30	12	3B	SF	Northern California Contest Club	
18	W6JTI	360	20	18	M	SF	Northern California Contest Club	
19	K6KQV	330	38	6	FM	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
20	W6CT	92	17	4	FM	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
21	NA6O	84	14	6	B	EB	Northern California Contest Club	
22	N6DZR	63	9	7	A	SV	Northern California Contest Club	
23	K6KNS	36	12	3	A	SV	Northern California Contest Club	
24	K6AAB	36	5	6	R	SJV	Northern California Contest Club	
25	KO6LU	35	7	5	A	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
26	N6AJS	20	10	2	3B	SCV	Northern California Contest Club	
27	N3RC	12	4	3	B	SF	Northern California Contest Club	
	Totals	53,707	1,431	570				

Ham Radio and the Great Tubbs Fire of 2017

Saraj Cory, KU6F

At 11:02pm, October 8th, 2017, I answered my landline.

“THIS IS SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION – EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY – THIS IS AN EVACUATION CALL – THIS IS NOT A DRILL – EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY – THERE IS A WILDFIRE AND MARK WEST SPRINGS ROAD MUST EVACUATE”.

I don't remember the exact wording, but that robo-call really wanted me to wake up and pay attention. I had already been patrolling my driveway for an hour. There was too much smoke, thick, choking smoke, although I could not see fire anywhere. I have chronic asthma and I am always alert to such pollutants. My husband and son were traveling out of state, so this was a solo evacuation; I was on my own.

October 7th was the annual California QSO Party. My friend, Carole Whitteberry, W6TTF, had travelled up from Fresno to join me for a well needed, laid-back contest. We weren't running numbers this year, just having fun. Her husband, Jan, WA6WTF, had gone Silent Key in July. This was the CQP to have fun. We made just 90 QSO's in 24 hours. No rush, no worry, no sweep. At the end of the contest, for the first time in my ham life, I sent in our log before shutting down the computer. Good move. Several hours later, my house was vaporized. But I digress.

My dad, KU6F, moved to a skilled nursing facility in 2006. I moved his ham radio equipment to my household knowing “I can listen, but I can't press the red button”. Darn it! After 50 years of avoiding his ham overtures, he'd finally caught me. I earned my tech license in 2006, KI6TII. I earned my Extra in Oct 2009 and was granted his call, KU6F, on December 23, 2009. I had a new addiction – contesting and net control. I joined the ACS (Auxillary Communications Service), got my Sheriff's volunteer ham radio operator ID, trained in traffic control and emergency services, and learned how to stay safe in an emergency. This saved my life and those of my immediate neighbors; who knew?

After I sent in our log for CQP 2017 and sent Carole on her way back to Fresno, I settled into my evening routine. After nightfall, I started smelling wood burning smoke, and too much of it. I had feeds for the sheriff and City of Santa Rosa Police notices forwarded to my cell phone. My memory is rather blurry, I'm relying on the official sheriff and SRPD published feeds to confirm times. At approximately 10:45pm, I received a feed that Porter Creek had received evacuation orders – at which point I put both cats into their carriers and “staged” them with my briefcase, purse, phone, Rx bag, and power cords at the front door. My dog was passed out on the bed. I walked to the top of the driveway and watched the full moon go from crimson red to completely blacked out – not good. At 11:02, I received the EmComm call on my landline. I raced over to the closest neighbors and woke them up; and phoned the further neighbors, rousing them – FIRE – GET OUT NOW – EVACUATE NOW!!!

After loading both cats, my luggage, and my very old, slow walking dog into my car, I went back into the house for food. As I reached for the dog food, I heard in my head “NO!”, so I moved away towards the front door. I asked “what do I need before I leave?” and heard in my head “YOU NEED TO GET OUT NOW! LEAVE NOW!” It was actually more expletive, but you get my drift. I grabbed my flashlight and sleeping bag, locked the front door, got into my car, and drove away.

At 11:26pm, I left my driveway, two-tenths of a mile north-east of Riebli Road. Driving down Mark West Springs Road was surreal. I knew there were fires at Riebli and Sky Farm, visible from the road, but all I could see was dark smoke, like an inverse valley fog. There was no one on the road with me till I got to Old Redwood Highway where the sheriff had set up a road-block. I drove south on 101, again finding no one on the road with me heading southbound. I was in a between-evacuations bubble, for which I am grateful. Emergency vehicles sped north on 101. I drove to our shop in Roseland where I spent the night watching the emergency feeds, talking with various friends “yes, I am safe”, helping other friends figure out what was going on. What a crazy night that was. How thankful I had my office in Roseland with both cats and the dog.







KPA500



Fast forward to November 18th. Alan, K6SRZ and his wife, Carole, have put my family and pets up in their home in Penngrove while we search for our new home. We are safe, we are loved, and Alan and I are working single station multi-op for North American Sweepstakes – it's a perfect book ending of ham radio; how it keeps me happy as a hobby, how it prepared me for this emergency. Thank god for ham radio.

I am also grateful to my quilting guild, synagogue and temple, RSCDS, the greater Sonoma County community, and my friends Margaret & Chet, who we are with in December while waiting to close escrow. I used to think I had too many hobbies! Thank goodness for them all. It takes an extraordinary community for such mega-disasters. I'm also grateful for my studies in Kaiju. This fire definitely qualified.

Here is my house several weeks after the fire. How the hell the antenna stand and rotor are still up I have no idea. The pole the rotor is attached to was stainless steel, but the chimney cap was aluminum, thick aluminum, true, but it should have melted! There are rolls of LM-400 coax in the backyard – they shrunk by about 400% and shattered. Weird.

Saraj Cory, KU6F
12-22-2017
Santa Rosa, CA



My term as NCCC president ends this Spring. It has been an unprecedented three years as president of this great club, but three years is enough. We need new blood...new leadership. We need someone to step up and volunteer to run this club.

So just what can you expect to do, as President? With a good leadership team, the job is pretty easy.

- We have monthly Board meetings, always via conference call, and led by our Secretary, Ian, W6TCP.
- We have a budget, approved by the Board and assembled and maintained by the Treasurer.
- We have a contest plan, approved by the Board and assembled by our VP/CC.
- We have a number of very qualified and energetic volunteers who keep things like CQP, and the Sprints going year after year.

If you've read down this far, it's pretty obvious that a lot of the hard work is distributed among the officers and members. As President, you lead. You come up with new ideas. You try to attend most meetings, but you don't have to attend all of them. You try to motivate the club to have fun and win contests.

For me, the past three years have been a lot of fun. Together with our Board:

- We have established a life membership category.
- We have automated and outsourced our membership process via Member Planet. This has taken a huge load off of the Treasurer and Secretary.
- We have established the KB Competition as a way to honor and recognize our members for their contesting efforts.
- We have brought back the holiday party and made the NCCC BBQ an annual event.
- We have made NCCC a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, making it possible for members to write off dues, donate plaques, and make donations to causes that we support.

- As part of the 501 (c) (3) process, we have incorporated NCCC. As a corporation, the club officers and members generally will not be on the hook for the Club's debts or liabilities. This is very important to me, and one of the reasons I pushed for incorporation and non-profit status for NCCC.

Being the President of NCCC is somewhat like running a business filled with good people. If you like what you're reading, I urge you to think about volunteering to lead this club in 2018/2019. You do not have to be a world-class contester, nor is it required that you have prior experience on the Board. I am certainly not a world-class contester and I never served on the Board prior to running for President. I know we have many in the club who are managers, run businesses, and know how to lead and motivate people. At least one of you needs to step forward and accept the HONOR of being the President of the best contest club in the world!

For Sale AI6V's estate

I am helping Sue AI6YL sell the remaining equipment from AI6V's estate. Carl was a past president of the NCCC.

For Sale Yaesu FT1000D loaded with 4khz roofing filter and TCXO-1 oscillator. Looks like brand new out of the box. Comes with manual, but no

mic or box. This is from the estate of AI6V. The radio is now in Los Vegas, but will be delivered to the Bay Area in early November. Asking price is \$1295, or best offer, this includes delivery with in 100 miles of San Francisco, as needed.

Interested parties should contact Russ K6KLY at [510-852-0002](tel:510-852-0002) or Email k6kly@sbcglobal.net

Thank you Russ K6KLY

NCCC Annual KB Competition Rules



Purpose: To provide a means of rewarding NCCC members who are DX contesters, sprinters, VHFers, and especially active contesters.

Time period: The contest year starts March 1. ARRL DX SSB is the first contest of the year. NAQP RTTY is the last.

Eligible contests: Currently, points from 35 contests are counted. See the table on the next page

Scoring: Score = number of contests in which you participated * sum of (points for each contest * each contest's multiplier).

NCCC weekly sprints are special. Points for the entire year are added up, but it is only counted as a single contest.

Multi-ops: Points = total score divided by the number of operators.

Station owners: A station owner who does not participate in a particular contest receives 25% of the points.

Only scores posted to 3830scores.com are counted.

Paid NCCC members may receive awards.

Current Scores

An up-to-the minute list of current scores is available on the NCCC website at <http://nccc.cc/awards.html> For those who want to calculate their own scores, there is also a link to the raw data. Thanks to Matt, WX5S, for doing all the programming to automate the scoring **process**.

NCCC Annual KB Competition Table (Updated 9/30/2017)

Contest	Month	Multiplier
ARRL RTTY Roundup	January	50
NAQP Winter CW	January	50
NAQP Winter SSB	January	50
NA Sprint Winter CW	February	100
CQ WPX RTTY	February	2
ARRL DX Contest CW	February	5
NAQP Winter RTTY	February	50
ARRL DX Contest SSB	March	5
CQ WPX SSB	March	2
NA Sprint Spring SSB	April	100
JIDX CW	April	20
7th Area QSO Party	May	10
New England QSO Party	May	10
CQ WPX CW	May	2
ARRL June VHF	June	200
All Asian CW	June	10
IARU HF World Championships	July	5
NAQP Summer RTTY	July	50
NAQP Summer CW	August	50
NAQP Summer SSB	August	50
NA Sprint Fall CW	September	100
CQWW RTTY	September	1
CQP	October	20
JARTS RTTY Contest	October	5
CQWW SSB	October	1
ARRL Sweepstakes CW	November	20
NA Sprint Fall SSB	November	100
ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	November	20
CQWW CW	November	1
ARRL 160 Meter Contest	December	50
10 Meter RTTY Contest	December	100
ARRL 10 Meter Contest	December	10
NCCC Sprint CW	Weekly	100
NCCC Sprint RTTY	Weekly	100

WRTC 2018 is coming - 250 days to go

There are now just 250 days to WRTC 2018 in Jessen/Wittenberg. A lot has already happened - but there is still a lot left to be done and time flies. In recent months, important subprojects have been finished.

- The qualification stage is completed with the applications received from and invitations sent out to the participants.
- At the IARU Contest, several WRTC 2018 participants visited Germany and have already evaluated propagation routes and station equipment.
- During the big test day, 100 volunteers at 15 locations tested the WRTC 2018 technology and logistics.
- Here as well as at "Ham Radio" in Friedrichshafen you could feel a great deal of the Ham spirit, which carries us along the way to WRTC 2018.

The most important aspect of the WRTC is of course the sport. Meanwhile, the participants are confirmed (see [Participants Page](#)). To mark 250-days out from the event we asked the participants a few questions and asked them to tell us about their enthusiasm.

Generation-Connecting Sport

Looking at the age structure of the WRTC 2018, a picture emerges that makes amateur radio sport something special. The youngest participant is Bryant, KG5HVO, at the age of 14. The oldest is the well-known Contester [Maryyn](#), N5AW, at the age of 77. In between, all age groups are represented almost equally, so that we will experience amateur radio not only as a global sport but also as a generation-connecting one. All participants compete in the same competition and on the same level.



Very Young Competitors: [Tamas](#) -HA8RT), Bryant - KG5HVO, Xenia -ZL4YL



PRESS RELEASE

WRTC 2018 e.V.
c/o Michael Höding, DL6MHW
Phone: +49 39201 20779
E-Mail: dl6mhw@wrtc2018.de



Very experienced Competitors Marvin- N5AW (77), Alan - N3AD (75), Dale VE7SV (73)

Start Young for a lifelong Sport

Another view point shows a very uniform picture. Almost all of the participants started amateur radio as teenagers, i.e. they acquired their first license as a teenager and continued into a lifelong radio sport passion. The survey showed an average age of 13.3 years when the competitor's first amateur radio license was achieved. Starting young - teenager contesters from five decades



Starting young - teenager contesters from five Decades

Great Expectations

Asked about the sporting goals, there were a number of interesting answers. There were clear announcements, for example, from reigning World Champion Chris, KL9A "To Win!", Vice-champion Tonno, ES5TV with "Gold", or Stefan, DL1IAO, (bronze at WRTC 2014) with "To do the best within my limits and get on the Podium!". However, there were also cautious



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remarks such as those of Bud, AA3B, "To be competitive." Or Ingo, SM5AJV, "To have our best competition position ever.", also show clear sporting ambitions.

Asked about who was expected to be on the podium, the reigning World Champions N6MJ / KL9A were mentioned several times. Several answers favored the medalists of the previous two World Championships. There were also calls such as "It's time for the German team!" Or "EU teams" from the participants. It's going to be exciting.

The expectations of the German organizers were pretty much the same. K5WA writes: "TNX a lot for all you are doing to make WRTC 2018 a success. You have my respect! ". With this motivation, the organizing team and the many volunteers will continue to work hard for the next 256 days, so that on July 16, 2018, we can select the next World Radiosport Champion.

NCCC Life Membership

NCCC Life Membership is available for a one-off payment of \$250.00

If you would like to apply for life membership, please submit your request using this link [here](#)

Each request will be reviewed by the NCCC BOD at the regular monthly BOD meeting.

For further information, contact Ian W6TCP

NCCC December Meeting

The NCCC Holiday Party took place on December 16th at Michaels at Shoreline. With 38 Members and guests attending. The program was "The Cursed Paradise Of Palmyra Atoll" by John Miller, K6MM.

The grand prize, was a power meter won by Don AA6W. Twelve other Amazon Gift certificates were handed out as prizes.

All photos By Bob N6TV



W6OOL, KU6F



N7MH, W6RGG



AE6Y, N6WM, Veronica



W6TCP, K6SYL



N6TV, K6YL



W6OPO, W1RH, W6OAT



Celestine, K6MM, K9YC



Paula, N3ZZ





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TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

2C39

During the late 1930s and through WWII, great advances were made with tubes that would operate into the UHF range. They were usually small receiving types with very short leads to cut down on inductance. In 1946, Eimac produced a tube that didn't have leads, the 2C39. This tube was a "planar" triode in that its parts were stacked. The grid is a disk and the plate was placed very close to it. The original tube was glass insulated and rated at 25 watts up to 500 MHz. Later versions were rated at 100 watts and 2.5 GHz+. They came with both glass and ceramic insulators. The military liked them for pulse operation so they were made with longer ceramic insulators to handle the high voltage. The most common use for them commercially was in 450 MHz 2-way radio. The first FCC type approved 2-way radios were Motorola units that had two of the 2C39A tubes mounted in cavities. In later years, hams would remove the driver and final cavities and incorporate them in their 440 MHz ham gear. Surplus cavities with several tubes could be converted to 1296 operation with inputs of up to a KW. If you wanted to push the dissipation, the anode cooler could be removed and a small water jacket attached. Some military types were made with "pin" coolers that could be immersed in oil or hit with high air pressure in an aircraft. Many varieties of the 2C39(A) were produced by several companies and in many countries. Currently there are 45 different type numbers or manufacturers in the Transmitting Tube Museum collection. The "oil can" tube is still in production today under the designation 7211 and many others.



NCCC Life Membership!

The NCCC Life member program was introduced for a flat fee of \$250. If you are interested in becoming an NCCC Life member, please contact Ian W6TCP at w6tcpian@gmail.com

Members who have reached 80 years young and been a NCCC Member for 20 years are eligible for Honorary life membership. Contact Ian W6TCP at w6tcpian@gmail.com for details.

CQP T-Shirts 2016

We have a small number of T-Shirts left for anyone that wants one. They are \$15 each, available on a first come first served basis.

Available sizes:

2XL

XL

M

CQP T-Shirts 2017

2017 CQP T-Shirt color will be **BLACK**. Place your order for a T-shirt by sending an email to shirts@cqp.org stating the sizes and quantities for each size (M/L/XL/XXL), the call sign of the CQP operation, the call sign of the person placing the order, and the address to ship to.

Send payment, \$15 (\$20 for DX entries), either via PayPal [using this email address: paypal@nccc.cc] -- or a check to: NCCC, c/o Dick Wilson K6LRN, P.O. Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273. All orders are due by January 15, 2018.

JUG Articles Wanted!

Without your help we cannot reproduce a quality newsletter so please consider submitting a suitable article!

We welcome any and all relevant articles for inclusion in the JUG.

Deadline is 7 days before month end. Preferred format is MS Word, Arial 12 point and pictures should be full resolution. Send your material to Ian, W6TCP at w6tcpian@gmail.com Don't worry about the formatting, we can take care of that if necessary !



Contest Calendar— January page 1

AGB New Year Snowball Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1
IQRP Quarterly Marathon	0800Z, Jan 1 to 2000Z, Jan 7
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jan 1 (432)
QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	1500Z-1800Z, Jan 1
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 2
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 3
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 3
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 3 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 3 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 4
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 3
AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest	2300Z, Jan 3 to 2300Z, Jan 4 and 2300Z, Jan 6 to 2300Z, Jan 7
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Jan 4 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 4 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Jan 4 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Jan 4 (Dig)
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 5
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 5
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 5
PODXS 070 Club PSKFest	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 6
WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 6 to 1200Z, Jan 7
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jan 6
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 6 to 2400Z, Jan 7
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 6 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 7
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 10



Contest Calendar— January page 2

Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 10
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 10 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 10 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 11
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 12
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 12
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 12
YB DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jan 13
Old New Year Contest	0500Z-0900Z, Jan 13
UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	1200Z, Jan 13 to 1200Z, Jan 14
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jan 13 to 2400Z, Jan 14
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 13 to 0559Z, Jan 14
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0530Z-0730Z, Jan 14
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0800Z-1000Z, Jan 14
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 14
Midwinter Contest	1000Z-1400Z, Jan 14
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jan 15
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 17
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 17
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 17 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 17 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 18
NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 18
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 19
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 19
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 19
LZ Open Contest	1800Z-2200Z, Jan 19
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 20 to 1159Z, Jan 21
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 20 to 0559Z, Jan 21
ARRL January VHF Contest	1900Z, Jan 20 to 0359Z, Jan 22



Contest Calendar— January page 3

WAB 1.8 MHz Phone	1900Z-2300Z, Jan 20
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2359Z, Jan 20 (EU-AF) and 2300Z, Jan 20 to 0259Z, Jan 21 (ENA-ESA) and 0200Z-0559Z, Jan 21 (ENA-OC-AS)
Classic Exchange, CW	1300Z, Jan 21 to 0800Z, Jan 22 and 1300Z, Jan 23 to 0800Z, Jan 24
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 24
NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 24
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 24
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 24
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 24 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 24 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 25
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 26
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 26
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 26
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 26 to 2200Z, Jan 28
Montana QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 27
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 27 to 1800Z, Jan 28
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 27 to 1200Z, Jan 28
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 27 to 1300Z, Jan 28
Winter Field Day	1900Z, Jan 27 to 1900Z, Jan 28
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 31
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 31
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 31 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 31 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 1
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 31



NCCC Membership Information

If you wish to join NCCC, you must fill out an [application for membership](#), which will be read and voted upon at the next monthly meeting.

To join, you must reside within [club territory](#) which is defined as the maximum of:

- Northern California, anything north of the Tehachapi's up to the Oregon border, and
- A part of north-western Nevada (anything within our ARRL 175-mile radius circle centered at 10 miles North of Auburn on Highway 49).

JUG Articles Wanted!

Without your help we cannot reproduce a quality newsletter so please consider submitting a suitable article!

We welcome any and all relevant articles for inclusion in the JUG.

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Northern California Contest Club Reflector—Guidelines

This reflector is devoted to the discussion of contesting.

This includes contests, station building, dxpeditions, technical questions, contesting questions, amateur radio equipment wants/sales, score posting, amateur radio meetings/conventions, and membership achievements.

This does not include personal attacks, politics, or off-subject posts which will be considered a violation of the Guidelines.

Violations may result in removal of the violator from the reflector and possibly from club membership in good standing.



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IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

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IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanker • USB Port for PC Control



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery

KENWOOD



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio



FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan

YAESU
The radio



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band



- RETAIL LOCATIONS – Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE – Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- ONLINE – WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- FAX – All store locations
- MAIL – All store locations

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Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.

