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President's Report - W6FB

The September/October issue of NCJ contains a rather interesting article about one of our rivals, PVRC, written by Ken Low, KE3X. Ken points out several things about the formation and growth of PVRC, and its evolution into the multi-chapter club it is today. Founded by contesting heavyweights W4KFC and W3GRF (both now SK), the club stretches from Maryland to North Carolina and westward as far as West Virginia. This is a very large area, much larger than covered by a 175 mile circle. It is also an area that makes it very difficult for members to attend monthly meetings. So what have they done to make this work? The club is composed of 16 chapters, sub-clubs where there are enough members to hold their own meetings. These chapters are associated with local clubs in that they generally meet before or after the local club at the same venue. PVRC does hold several gatherings a year, usually at large events where members from across the club territory can get together for discussions about their favorite hobby.

Also of note is that PVRC has no dues. Rather contesters join "for life". They are encouraged to operate in at least two events each year to maintain their status as active contesters. The club events are defined as those that make up the club's 5M award. The point here is that while the club wants and needs active members, they also realize that sometimes contesting takes a back seat to work and raising families. I think most of us have been in this situation. Like NCCC, they also have their version of associate members, those who once lived within club territory, but have moved outside. These members can still contribute to club scores for contests that do not require a club circle.

These are interesting ideas, many of which have been discussed within NCCC. Let's take a look at these and a few others. First, we need to realize that as NCCC approaches its 50th anniversary this next year, we are no longer in the same club that K6VVA and friends formed almost 50 years ago. That club consisted of a small group of friends, and was more of a local club competing with other local clubs in the Bay area. As the club began to grow, its founders realized that they needed to expand their area to be able to take in many more contesters from around the region. They conscientiously moved to expand the club so

NCCC December Web Meeting

When:

Sunday, December 15, 2019
1:00 PM PST

Where:

Webinar

What:

Tower Safety with K1IR

Link to Join Meeting:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/
WN_cdHWEHkTea-my6MehpXBO](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cdHWEHkTea-my6MehpXBO)



Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting

Officers:

President	Jack Brindle	W6FB	jackbrindle@me.com
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New Member Mentor	Al Rendon	WT6K	wt6k@arrl.net
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JUG Editor (Acting)	Bill Haddon	N6ZFO	n6zfo@arrl.net

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

that they could compete on a much larger scale. This was no small task — they were initially meeting in small venues, often the living room of one of the members. Meetings were now held in larger venues, and were moved around a wide area from month to month so that many more contesters could attend. We have maintained that format to this day, holding meetings inside and out of the Bay area, encouraging members to attend when they could without having to spend too much time commuting. This has served us well for the past 40 years, but shouldn't we do more?

As chronicled elsewhere, the December meeting will be a Webinar-style gathering where we attend through our computers. This is something the original members couldn't do - microcomputers were about to be created when the club was formed, and the commercial internet was years away. At this time, however, gatherings of this sort are common place, happening many thousands of times every day. It will be interesting to see how webinar meetings themselves evolve; perhaps contesters might want to get together to view the webinar meeting as small groups...

What is the next evolution of NCCC? Might the PVRC chapter style be in our future? We are in a situation today where we have members all across Northern California and Nevada, as well as associate members outside our territory. Every one of our members would really love to attend NCCC meetings each month. The folks in Nevada and the Sierra are pretty much resigned to being able to attend only a few times each year. Even those closer in must make a special effort to attend each meeting. The Monday evening Bay area meetings that served so well for many years have pretty much fallen victim to the severe traffic and commutes that are now every-day occurrences in the Bay area. As a result, we have largely moved to afternoon meetings on weekends, making it easier for those at far distances to attend. Still, these meetings now tend to take most of an entire day to commute to and from the meeting, then actually meet, talk and eat. While this might be a short term solution, how will the club evolve to allow members to better participate? Perhaps the webinar-meeting might provide a peek at an answer. We still like to get together, share ideas, commiserate about propagation and crow about our latest contest results. Today's webinar systems provide very limited capability for this when everyone is at home connected with their own computer. Perhaps PVRC provides a peek at our future, though. We might want to consider holding several simultaneous gatherings of members, with a network meeting system tying each of them together. We have already seen many presentations provided through this medium - NCCC in fact already does this every month for individuals. There really is no reason that the individuals could give way to groups, gathered in living rooms (as was done in our early days) tied together. These groups could be individual chapters, formal or not. This also would allow associate members to attend - perhaps Rusty or Alan might host NCCC meetings at their places in WWA or KH6.

So might this be the evolution of NCCC? Only time will tell. We have already started down the path, telecasting our meetings through the webinar format. What it would take is an effort on members part to host gatherings and set up appropriate computer meeting systems. To be sure, those systems are evolving also, and should at some point make our meeting more like gatherings where individuals can discuss things as we do in our dinner meetings. The hard part will be sharing whatever dishes are being served at each meeting location.

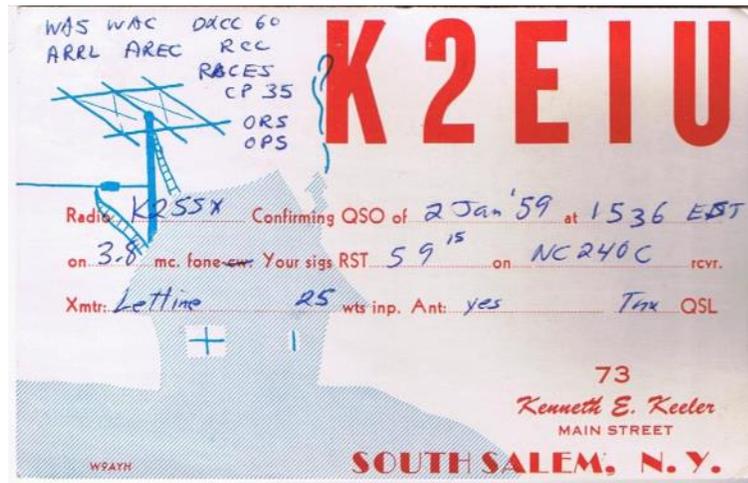
One other item of note from Ken's article. PVRC has put a large emphasis on the NA Club Challenge, in which NCCC participates. In recent years this has turned into more of a competition between PVRC and SMC, but as Ken points out this is a competition that has no club circles. That means our associate members can participate as well. We have tended to only allow in-state NCCC members on our NAQP and NA Sprint teams, but why not allow and encourage all NCCCers, no matter where they are, to participate for NCCC (whether on teams or not). For the past several years, more people have left California than have moved in, and while some of our members following this trend have stayed inside the territory by moving to Nevada, we need to make sure those who are outside the territory are welcomed in our contest efforts and encouraged to join in. Perhaps adding these contesters to our efforts might bring us back into the competition for the NA Inter-Club Contest plaque, wrenching it back away from PVRC.

73!
Jack, W6FB

Vice-President / Contest Chairman Report - W6SX

Short Contests

“The best of the best gained their winning edge practicing the basics over and over in numerous forgettable events, often using inadequate radios and second-rate antennas. Discovering how to overcome such obstacles are lessons never forgotten.” N6RO



Ken wasn't kidding when he said "inadequate." Note that 25 watts input was maybe 15 watts out. Note that this was AM, not SSB. Although the QSL is a cartoon, note that open-wire feeders were very common back then.

Malcolm Gladwell, author of *Outliers: The Story of Success*, cites the "10,000-Hour Rule" and claims that the key to achieving world-class expertise in any skill, is largely a matter of practicing for a total of around 10,000 hours. Others aren't so sure about the 10,000-Hour Rule, and I'm not so sure, but ...

Practice, practice, practice **is** the name of the game.

Which brings us to shorter, not-so-important contests.

There are a bunch of them every week. CWops Tests <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/> . NCCC Sprints, both CW and RTTY <http://www.ncccsprint.com/> . Phone Fray http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf .

State QSO parties are another great way to increase your skills.

Don't forget Morse Runner <http://dxatlas.com/MorseRunner/> .

VP/CC Report (continued)

This is what Ken meant when he said, "...practicing the basics over and over in numerous forgettable events."

Whatever your contesting goals, practice, practice, practice will improve your skills and you will have more fun.

One more plus. Even with no sunspots and poor conditions, the weekly short contests are well attended and intense. Good workouts. Good practice, practice, practice.

W6SX Prime Directive: The first rule of contesting is to have fun. Contest Exuberantly,

Hank

Editor's Comments – Bill, N6ZFO

My arm has been twisted, at least temporarily. We'll see how this goes. First, extreme thanks to Bob, W1RH, for his dedication to many aspects of JUG production, especially his frequent profiles of club members. And on top of that Bob has ably served as an interim Editor for the most recent two issues.

As NCCC enters its banner 50th year of contesting exuberance your ideas for future JUG articles and features, particularly relating to our anniversary year, are welcome. Please e-mail or call at any time - n6zfo@arrl.net or 415 209-3084 with your thoughts, praise, brickbats or otherwise. Maybe you'd enjoy writing a regular, or irregular, column. During the next year, a "NCCC Blast from the Past" might recall interesting moments from our history; or perhaps you have ideas for the future of NCCC.

As most of you know, I am mostly busy these days as Board President of the Taylor Observatory, a medium sized observatory and planetarium in Kelseyville CA. This photo of the M-13 Star Cluster, taken through our 16" Meade reflector, reminds us we are not the only sun in the MW Galaxy. . . but maybe it's a good thing that we *don't* live in the middle of M-13 with it's perhaps too many suns.



Point Generator Profile

N6RNO

(Interviewed by Bob, W1RH)

Rick's go-to contest over the years has been CQP, where he has participated in many multi-ops. In nearly all of these multi-ops, K9YC and W6GJB have been part of the team along with many others. Several of the multi-ops have been resulted in large scores from Tehama and San Benito Counties.

Now, with his move to Calaveras County, Rhino is getting really serious in the tower and aluminum department.

Now, more from The Rhino:

Name/Call Sign: N6RNO

Past calls: KG6KZV

Location: CM98rf (Mountain Ranch, CA Calaveras county)

How much property do you have? 10 acres

Describe your antenna system:

Lots of parts on the ground for:

Cushcraft R9,
M2 LP7 (17m-30m log periodic, might be LP8, bunch of parts) ,
Mosley TA33 (2),
Homebrew 12/17 2el

Installed:

KT34 in the air
6m-80m end fed wire
Homebrew 160m vertical.
Two towers, 50 and 70 foot crank-up, tilt over

What's in your shack? Elecraft K3/P3/KAT500/KPA500 ICOM 7100 (in truck), Alinco DR-235 (220) (in truck) ICOM 208H Yaesu FT-8800

What are your previous QTHs? CM87xj (Sunnyvale, CA Santa Clara County)

What is your career? Software engineer

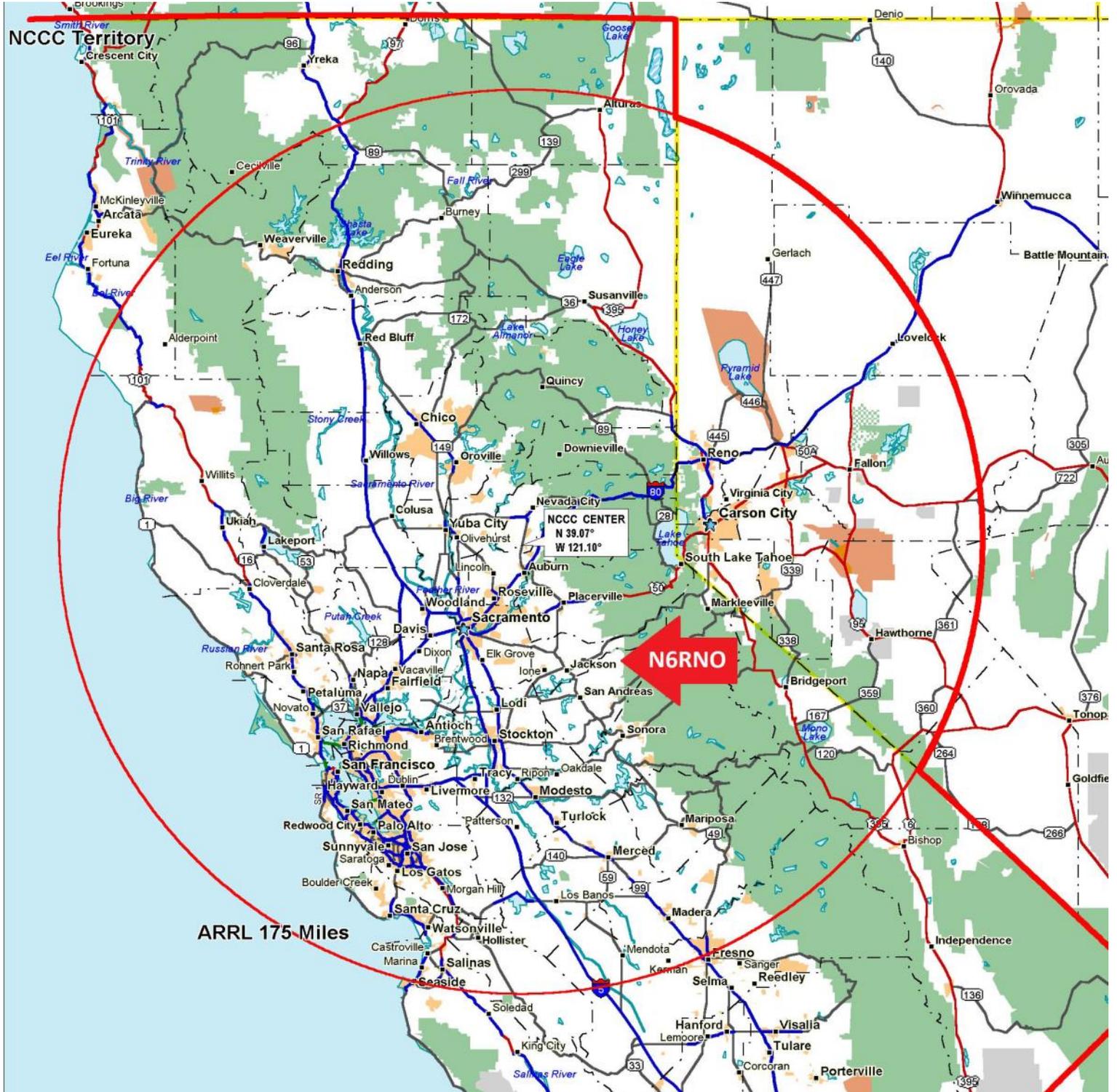
Married? Kids? Grandkids? Married (30+ years) 1 son

How many DXCC entities have you worked? 44 (36 cw, 13ph, 16 digital) 160m 1, 80m 5, 40m 8, 30m 3, 20m 27, 17m 5, 15m 18, 12m 3, 10m 13

What's your favorite contest? CQP

Any tips for contesters? Get on the air (my biggest challenge)

Other Hobbies? Wood working, computer programming



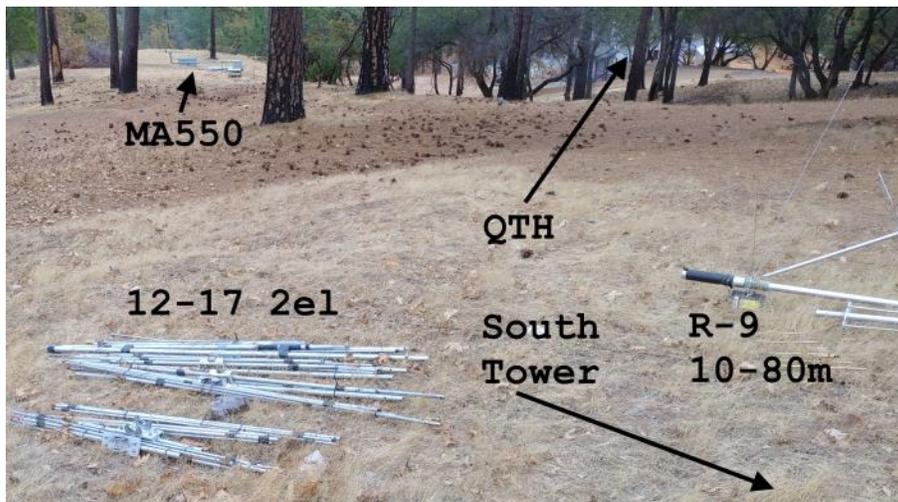
Point Generator Profile – N6RNO
(Interviewed by Bob, W1RH)



N6RNO 160m Antenna



N6RNO KT-34



N6RNO Antenna Boneyard

Point Generator Profile – N6RNO
(Interviewed by Bob, W1RH)



2019 CQ WW SSB at V26B on the Island of Antigua

David A. Jaffe WD6T

Having been badly smitten by contesting, and having heard tales of outrageous rates from the Caribbean and wondered what all the fuss was about, and having nothing to do one afternoon except work, I found myself Googling for contest station possibilities. Stumbling on the V26B web site, I fired off an email to "Team Antigua," and received a reply stating that the Big Four contests were spoken for, but others were possible. To my astonishment, I was invited to join them for CQ WW SSB as a way to get to know the station. I jumped at the chance, and despite having never met or even spoken to any of the other operators, I emptied my frequent flyer account and booked the least expensive room at the Pineapple Beach Club in the twin island country of Antigua and Barbuda. I had only the vaguest idea where it was located, having never been anywhere in the Caribbean, with the exception of a musical performance I did in Cuba in the 1990s. I learned that the correct pronunciation is "An-TEE-ga." I ordered a copy of James Michener's "Caribbean" and started working my way through its nearly 1000 pages spanning as many years.



20m Stack (left), 40m Stack (rear), 160m support tower (right)

Having taken the plunge, I decided I needed to beef up my SSB contesting skills. I had the naive idea that "hey, it's just talking, how hard can that be?" but gathered there must be more than meets the eye. Bill W9KKN sent me links to several on-line videos of top SSB contesters and I started practicing quickly reading road signs out loud while commuting to work. I reached out to Ken N6RO for suggestions on how to improve my phone contesting and he launched an email thread entitled "RO Contest University," from which I received a wealth of tips from such hot shots phone ops as Bob K3EST, Chris N6WM and Matt WX5S. Of crucial importance, Ken gave me a chance to practice what I had learned at his amazing station during the North American QSO Party SSB contest (Multi-2, with four others). I pushed myself to higher rates, practiced using Super Check Partial to validate calls without an extra "over," condensed my exchange, and attempted to cultivate an inviting (albeit urgent) tone of voice.

In the weeks preceding my trip, numerous friends asked how I could travel to the Caribbean only to spend most of the time in a small hot shack, as well as why the Caribbean was so spectacular for radio contesting. "It's something about the propagation, proximity to population centers, and rarity,"

I responded vaguely, as I wasn't sure myself. Finally, on the Tuesday before the contest, I boarded an 11 PM flight from SFO to Miami then connected to a surprisingly long 3-hour flight, as Antigua is quite far to the East. Stepping out of the airport into the humid 87-degree weather, I grabbed a cab and gazed out the window at my first view of a Caribbean island. Just after passing a giant cricket stadium (Antigua was a British colony and W. Indian cricket players are among the best in the world), the young man in front of me, the only other passenger, suddenly spun around with an outstretched hand and blurted out "Vee Twenty Six Bravo?" Wondering how he recognized me, I remembered that I was wearing my CQP T-shirt, for the precise reason of hoping to find my teammates. He introduced himself with a Staten Island accent as Andy KC2GOW, another first-timer. On the way to the resort, along the main road from the airport, we both got our first view of the station towers.

Arriving at the resort, we found the others: WT3Q Sam, the founding member of Team Antigua 26 years ago; N3OC Brian, the current team leader. K3RA Rol who, along with Brian, is a frequent operator at W3LPL (I was to have very interesting discussions with him about MS operating at LPL); Roger K1DQV, another veteran of Team Antigua; and Van W2DLT, another newcomer. Looking out across the ocean to the East, I felt like exclaiming, "Europe, I can see your house from here!" That night the resort had a dinner on the beach with a large steel drum band, and we all talked into the night. On one of the musicians' breaks, I struck up a conversation and learned that every island had its own steel drum style, that children learn steel drum in school, and that the band had been together for sixty-five years (though not with the same personnel!)

Waking early on Thursday, I tried to identify some of the island birds. Among other island specialties, I discovered an Antillean Crested Hummingbird, which looks like a cross between a hummingbird and a blue jay. Birds figured prominently at breakfast as well, a combination of British food and island specialties like spiced fish, with a flock of Bananaquits making themselves at home attacking leftovers. Afterwards, we all piled into two rental cars and headed to the ham shack.



The station property is now owned by the wife of Ray V21N, who passed away several years ago. The site, like many parts of the island, was originally a sugar plantation, originally manned by slaves imported from Africa, and later by paid workers whose plight was not much better. Relics of that era remain, including an old scale, which Rol examines in the photo to below.

Dinner at the Pineapple Beach Club with Team Antigua and XYLs



The station consists of one large operating room, a small kitchen, a bathroom, a bedroom, and a storage room. The antenna farm includes five towers with Yagi stacks: 10m, 4/4/4, 15m 4/4, 20m 3/3 and 40m 2/2. For 80m, there is a choice of two 3-element wire Yagis. For 160m, there's an inverted L supported by its own tower.



Station



Front room



**Station (behind) and house (front),
with 10-meter stack.**



40-meter Stack



V26B 15-Meter Stack

Among the jobs for the first day was stringing the Beverages, one pointed to Europe, the other towards the US. The groundskeeper, whose name is "Blood," helped string the US Beverage through the jungle. The EU Beverage ran along a dirt road.



Tropical plants grow voraciously. The oddly shaped tree, on closer inspection, reveals itself to be a crank-up tower that has been completely inundated by vines.



Team Antigua has been active in every CQ WW SSB since 1993, perhaps the longest running such group. However, on November 18, 2012, the station was totally destroyed by fire.



Station after fire

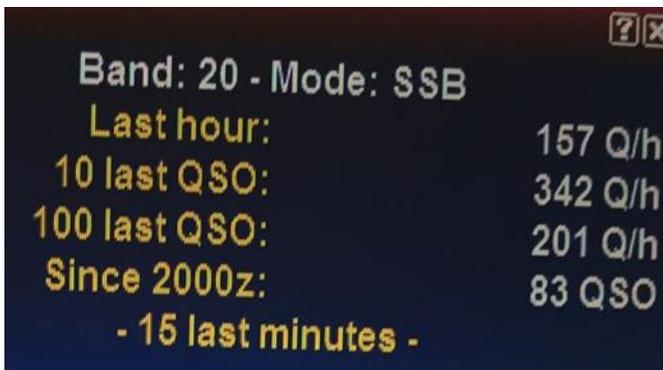


V26B Plaque Honoring Contributors to the post-fire station rebuild in 2013
Andy, AE6Y/P49Y was among the donors (middle right on plaque) Ed.

With the financial support of numerous members of the DX'ing and contesting community, a new building was constructed, this time of fire-resistant materials, which houses the current station. A plaque hangs in the station that lists all the donors.

We were competing in the M/M category, with three stations running high power. Due to the meal schedule at the resort, the operators were divided into 12-hour daytime and nighttime shifts. I was part of the day crew: 8AM to 8PM (Antigua is an hour ahead of the EST, but is the same as EDT, as they do not observe daylight savings time). Rol generously suggested that the two of us alternate between 20m and 15m every hour. This turned out to be the best arrangement I could have hoped for, as it gave me an opportunity to sample both bands throughout the day and experience the highest rates of the contest.

The MLB World Series notwithstanding (N3OC is a huge Nats fan), the contest started with a bang and the day crew headed home to get some rest. In the morning, we wolfed down some food and headed over to relieve the exhausted night folks. I started on 15 meters, which was already hot, and we began our hourly alternation. This was not only my first time operating from the Caribbean, but also my first time operating from *any* DX location. The European pileups were fierce. The most plentiful callers were Italians and Germans, but there were numerous Spaniards, Frenchmen, etc. I did my best to pick out whole calls or, failing that, partial calls. I soon realized that I needed to be more disciplined about sticking to my guns when I called for "ending in alpha bravo" and a station with none of those letters called me. It was tempting to work him to keep my rate up, but that only encourages the other stations to ignore my requests. While it was not feasible to work split, operating below the US frequencies on 20m proved fruitful. Later, on 15m, I encountered S8 power line noise in the direction of the US, which made it difficult to pick out the quieter stations. Still, I managed to work a couple JAs, beaming nearly straight to the north. The highest hourly rate was 258 on 15m, though smaller time windows peaked at 360, as during a US run on 20m. Finding a frequency



was brutal in the 20m US part of the band. At one point, I called CQ and a Brazilian came back to me with a lilting accent. . . "V26B we like you very much, but it's my frequency." When they ask that nicely, you have to QSY! Eventually, it was dig in your heels and fight for your little piece of turf with the neighbors attacking from above and below. We're all familiar with that syndrome, but with stations blasting in from Europe, South America and North America, it was bedlam. Left is the Wintest rate meter during one of my 20m US runs.



We had a few issues with amps faulting, but otherwise were lucky; the power remained on the entire time and there was no need to switch to the generator. Who would have thought that we would have more reliable power than my family back in California, with PG&E outages.

As we were in the tropics, the wildlife didn't always remain in its designated niche, as when I found a lizard in the wine glass. Here is one checking out the shack computer's power supply.

In the last couple hours of the contest, the night crew returned so as to be there at the closing bell. At the end of the day we had over 10,400 Qs and more than 18,000,000 points. Looking at the continental breakdown, we had 5866 North American contacts, 3962 European contacts, and a smattering of others: 332 SA, 139 AS, 108 AF, 68 OC.

Rol and I churned out 3365 on 20m and 3416 on 15m. Roger manned 10m and squeezed out 206 contacts. Sam, a 160m specialist, worked 432 on that band, and the rest of the night crew managed 2037 on 40m and 1025 on 80m. Brian N3OC processed the log, dividing the points proportionally between the various clubs of our ecumenical group: FRC, PVRC, and NCCC. No blood was shed.

Our closest competitor, PJ2T, had fewer Qs and fewer mults, but higher score, as they are in South America, despite being only five degrees further south, which means they got three points for every two that we got for US contacts. Of course, it's no news to the W6s that the CQ WW rules aren't fair!

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After spending Monday disassembling the station, I rented a jeep to drive around the island, to do some site-seeing and look for more birds, driving on the left, of course. My exploits included an attempt to climb the former "Mount Obama," renamed after the president was elected, and recently renamed again, as the political winds change. The plaque reads "Named in Honor of the First Black President of the United States of America, by the Government and People of Antigua and Barbuda."

After passing through dense forest and nearly at the top, the trail seemed to disappear completely. I slipped on some moss-covered rocks and grabbed a plant, which turned out to be covered in ferocious thorns.

With my finger bleeding liberally, I abandoned my mission and retraced my steps. (Later, back at the resort, I asked for an isopropyl alcohol wipe and was given something that looked very much like one, but when I opened it and applied it to the cut, I winced and realized that it was an ammonia packet for fainting spells. This was my only complaint about the resort.)

I picked up a hitch-hiking agricultural worker who helped me navigate to my next destination, a water bird hot spot, but first we had to negotiate the narrow streets of the island's largest city, Saint John's.



I noticed a large sign, "DSP," which stood for "Department Store Products." After finding several more bird species, I continued my trip around the island, driving through the highlands rain forest. I passed a group of well-dressed young Antiguan, practicing in formation for the upcoming Independence Day (November 1st), as the national bird of Antigua, the Magnificent Frigatebird, flew overhead with its spectacular 7-1/2 foot wingspan.

On the flight home, I tallied the birds I had seen, which included thirty species, and six "life birds" (ATNOs). As for the ham radio. . .

The best 60 minute rate was 436/hour from 2005 to 2104

The best 30 minute rate was 462/hour from 1524 to 1553

The best 10 minute rate was 564/hour from 1534 to 1543



V26B team with Antiguan flag

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 secretary.nccc@gmail.com

80/20 Rule:

Members who have reached 80 years young and been a NCCC Member for 20 years are eligible for Honorary life membership. Contact secretary.nccc@gmail.com

Previous NCCC Meeting:

The November NCCC General meeting was held on 10 November 2019 at Cattleman's Steak House in Livermore.

Topic: *Extreme RFI – Neighbors, ARRL, FCC, and Me*

Presented by Gary Johnson, NA6O Link:

Attended by about 25 members and friends.

Link: http://wb9jps.com/Gary_Johnson/RFI_files/Severe_RFI_NA6O.pdf

Donate to NCCC with your Amazon.com purchases.

From Tom, K6EU, NCCC Treasurer — When NCCC members make purchases on Amazon.com, ham related and otherwise, NCCC can receive a 0.5% cut. Use the following link to support NCCC. You'll be asked to designate NCCC as the charity.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-5010617>

BoD meeting minutes

The monthly minutes from the NCCC BoD meetings are available in the members only section of the NCCC website. See <http://nccc.cc/members/minutes.html>

JUG Articles Wanted!

Without your help we cannot produce 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 Bill, N6ZFO at n6zfo@arrl.net. Don't worry about the formatting, we can take care of that if necessary !

Tube Of The Month

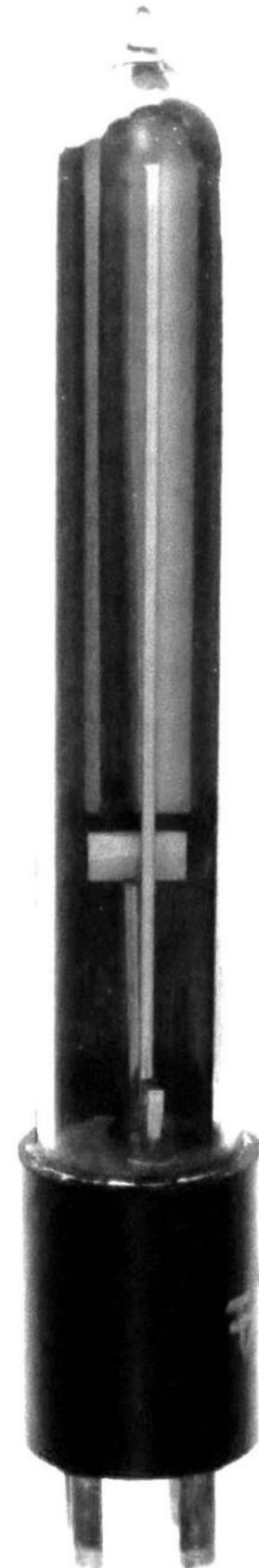
Norm, N6JV

Visit the Museum: www.n6jv.com

Tune-A-Lite

If you went into an electronics store and ordered a Tune-A-Lite, you would probably be referred to a nearby restaurant as they didn't serve any low-cal fish dishes there. You were about 80+ years too late for the electrical version.

In about 1931, a Professor Senauke of New York University invented a neon tube that could be used as a tuning device. Senauke made a bulb that contained a very long cathode and a very short anode. As you applied voltage, the neon would start to glow at the bottom and extend up as the voltage increased. The new AC powered sets were equipped with automatic volume control (AVC) which could supply a varying voltage as a station was tuned in. Duovac of Brooklyn initially produced and marketed these tubes and Atwater Kent built several sets that used the lamp. When Duovac failed, the production was taken over by another Brooklyn company, Amplex, which failed soon after. Some of the European tube companies developed additional features for the tube and variants were produced for several years. One interesting variant used a wire inside a small probe that ran up the inside of the bulb. When a strong station produced enough voltage to bring the glow level to the top of the probe, it would conduct and turn the audio on. No more tuning across any weak stations that would just make noise. Some tubes were calibrated up the side and these became some of the original S-meters. The applications were largely filled when they invented the "magic eye" tube in the mid-1930s.



Contest Calendar for December, 2019. See <https://www.contestcalendar.com/> for full details.

December 2019

ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 3
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 4
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 4
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 4 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 4 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 5
QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0300Z, Dec 5
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Dec 5 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 5 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Dec 5 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Dec 5 (Dig)
SKCC Sprint Europe	2000Z-2200Z, Dec 5
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 6
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 6
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 6
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 6 to 1600Z, Dec 8
UFT Meeting	0500Z-0800Z, Dec 7 and 1500Z-1800Z, Dec 7 and 0700Z-1000Z, Dec 8
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Dec 7 and 0630Z-0659Z, Dec 7 and 0700Z-0729Z, Dec 7 and 0730Z-0800Z, Dec 7
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Dec 7 to 2400Z, Dec 8
PRO CW Contest	1600Z, Dec 7 to 1559Z, Dec 8
International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 7 to 1559Z, Dec 8
FT Roundup	1800Z, Dec 7 to 2359Z, Dec 8
EPC Ukraine DX Contest	2000Z, Dec 7 to 1959Z, Dec 8
QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2300Z, Dec 8
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Dec 9
NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 11
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 11
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 11
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 12
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 13
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 13
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 13

PODXS 070 Club Triple Play Low Band Sprint	0000Z, Dec 14 to 2359Z, Dec 16
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 14 to 2400Z, Dec 15
TRC Digi Contest	0600Z, Dec 14 to 1800Z, Dec 15
CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	2100Z-2259Z, Dec 15
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 16
NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 18
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 18
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 18
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 18 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 19
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 20
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Dec 20
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 20
AGB-Party Contest	1600Z-1700Z, Dec 20
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 20
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 21
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 21
Gedebage CW Contest	1200Z, Dec 21 to 1159Z, Dec 22
Padang DX Contest	1200Z, Dec 21 to 1159Z, Dec 22
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 21 to 1400Z, Dec 22
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	1800Z-2359Z, Dec 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 25
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 25
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 26
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Dec 27
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 27
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 28
Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Dec 28 to 1500Z, Dec 29
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 28 to 1500Z, Dec 29
RAEM Contest	0000Z-1159Z, Dec 29
QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Dec 30 and 1900Z-2000Z, Dec 30 and 0300Z-0400Z, Dec 31
Bogor Old and New Contest	0900Z-2359Z, Dec 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.

Deadline is 7 days before month end. The preferred format is MS Word, Arial 12 point. Pictures should be full resolution. Send your material to Bill, N6ZFO at n6zfo@arrl.net Don't worry about the formatting, we can take care of that if necessary !

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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KENWOOD



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TM-V71A
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TH-D74A
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FT-450D
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FT-60R
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