



**Publication of the
Northern California
Contest Club**



Issue 487

December 2012

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Guests are always welcome at the NCCC!
Please join us.

Annual Holiday Dinner

Date:

Monday 10th December

Time:

6:30-7:15 pm Dinner

7:15 pm Program begins

9:15 Closing Comments and Meeting Ends

Location:

Michael's at Shoreline,

Address:

2960 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA 94043

More Information ? [See page 3](#)



From the President...

One of the many great things about NCCC is the willingness of folks to step forward and help with different aspects of the club's activities. I'd like to showcase some of these Kbers with grateful thanks!

Joanna K6YL and Rebar N6DB both stepped forward and became the Awards Co-Chairs – handling the analysis and logistics behind the March Awards Banquet isn't a light task and both Joanna and Rebar cracked this like a contest pile-up!

John K6MM, Rob K6RB and Chris N6WMM again volunteered to conduct an "Introduction to Contesting" workshop at Pacificon this year. K6MM also wound up heavily involved in the W1AW/6 coordination and control operator role. Many (and I mean many!) other Kbers stood in for booth duty and also took spells keeping W1AW/6 on the air.

Alan K6SRZ stepped into the role of CQP Chair for this year with Dean N6DE, Alan AD6E, Kevin K6TD, Bob N6TV and John K6MM helping to coordinate the schedule and different activities to keep the schedule moving forward. There are some 14 folks I will highlight in the January JUG who have volunteered to pitch in for the log checking process. CQP mentions would not be complete without S9+ kudos to George K6GT for taking logs submitted in formats like CT, Excel, ADIF – oh and the PDF of an Excel spreadsheet (!) – and turning them all into Cabrillo logs. George handled 50+ logs this year.

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Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting

Officers:

President	Stu Phillips	K6TU	stu@ridgelif.com
Vice President	Dean Wood	N6DE	cqden6de@gmail.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Dave Ritchie	W6DR	nccc.treasurer@gmail.com
Past President	Chris Tate	N6WM	ctate@ewnetinc.com
Director	Kevin Rowett	K6TD	kevin@rowett.org
Director	John Miller	K6MM	k6mm@arrl.net
Director	Ira Stoler	K2RD	k2rd@arrl.net

Volunteers:

New Member Mentor	Al Rendon	WT6K	wt6k@arrl.net
Charter Member	Rusty Epps	W6OAT	w6oat@sbcglobal.net
Awards Chairs	Joanna Dilley	K6YL	joanna.k6yl@gmail.com
	Rebar Rebarchik	N6DB	rebar@hamilton.com
CQP Chair	Alan Eshleman	K6SRZ	doctore@well.com
CQP Certificates	Andy Faber	AE6Y	ae6y@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
JUG Editors	Ian Parker	W6TCP	w6tcpian@gmail.com
	Stu Phillips	K6TU	stu@ridgelif.com

Thursday Night Contesting:

NCCC—Sprint	Ken Keeler	N6RO	kenkeeler@jazznut.com
NS Ladder	Bill Haddon	N6ZFO	haddon.bill@gmail.com
Slow NS (SNS)	Chris Tate	N6WM	ctate@ewnetinc.com

NCCC Net

Thursday 8 PM
 Freq: 3.610 +/-

NCCC

Monthly meetings
 take place on the
 second Monday of
 each month !

Details [here](#)

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. ([PDF application form](#))

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).

Next NCCC Meeting

Annual Holiday Dinner

Monday, December 10, 2012

Evening Schedule

6:30 - 7:15 Dinner
7:15 - 7:30 Welcome and Introductions (Stu, K6TU)
7:30 - 7:50 History of NCCC (Rusty, W6OAT)
7:50 - 8:15 Auction (Bob, N6TV)
8:15 - 8:30 Music Magic: Not Just Another Black Box (John, K6MM)
8:30 - 8:45 Holiday Karaoke Sing-A-Long (All)
8:45 - 9:00 Raffle Prize Drawings (Stu, K6TU)
9:00 Manualism Send Off (Bob, N6TV)
9:10 - 9:15 Closing Comments and Meeting Ends

Raffle Prizes include:

- (1) \$1000 Elecraft Gift Certificate useable for any Elecraft Product
- (1) \$500 Elecraft Gift Certificate useable for any Elecraft Product
- (1) \$500 HRO Gift Certificate useable in person or online at any HRO Store
- (6) \$10 Amazon Gift Certificates
- (5) \$10 Home Depot Gift Certificates

Raffle Rules -Tickets will be drawn for the small prizes first and the big prizes last. Once picked a raffle ticket is spent and will not be re-entered in the drawing. Enter as often as you like. You need not be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$1.00. Since we are subsidizing the raffle, only NCCC members who have paid Dues through at least June 30, 2013 are eligible for the Raffle Prize drawings. You have until 5pm Tuesday December 4, 2012 to become current by paying your dues on or before then. Also, any member not attending the dinner can participate by purchasing raffle tickets online using a credit card. Payment can be made with VISA, Mastercard, AMEX, or Discover to the club's PayPal account paypal@nccc.cc. We will write your callsign on the # of tickets you purchased and deposit them in the Raffle Bowl for you.

Date: Monday, 10 December 2012

Time: 6:00pm schmooz, 6:30pm dinner, 7:15pm program

Location: Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, CA 94043 ☎ (650) 962-1014

Directions: [Michael's at Shoreline](#)

Dinner Choices:

1. Entrecote of Beef, Bordelaise Sauce \$45.00
2. Breast of Chicken, Marsala \$35.00
3. Broiled Salmon, Lemon Beurre Blanc \$40.00
4. Grilled Vegetable Brochette with Wild Rice \$30.00

Each entree is served with seasonal greens, intermezzo pasta, fresh vegetables, potato du jour, French rolls and coffee and also includes dessert - Cheesecake. The per-person price includes tax and tip. There will also be a No Host bar for alcoholic beverages and sodas you may desire.

Since Michael's gives us no wiggle room, **we are requiring that everyone pay in advance** either by check to our treasurer (**David Ritchie; 15901 Ravine Road; Los Gatos, CA 95030-3043**) -- or by Credit Card to paypal@nccc.cc. Along with your payment, please specify the number attending and the choice(s) of entree. **The deadline for signing up is 5pm December 4 - actually received - please do not mail your checks on December 4.**

NOTE: Be sure to email your choice ASAP to NCCC.TREASURER@GMAIL.COM and send payment by check or Paypal (paypal@nccc.cc) so it arrives before December 4 (as your Treasurer will be at V2 for the ARRL Ten Meter Contest after that).

David, W6DR Email: nccc.treasurer@gmail.com

Tom NS6T and Steve W1SRD pitched in and helped write the software and database system that we are slowly implementing to streamline the CQP log processing. With their help we are on track for getting the CQP logs scored by the end of the year! Well in time for getting CQP awards out in March at the Banquet.

Speaking of Banquets, Tom NS6T also volunteered to be the Chair for this year's Holiday Dinner meeting – we're collecting feedback to shape the format of the 2013 dinner so please send your thoughts to Tom or one of the board members.

I also want to thank Tom ND2T for his efforts as the Chair of this year's Dues Drive. We beat the goal of 200 dues paying members – thanks to Tom AND everyone who contributed their dues.

Many other club members volunteer and from the board, fellow members, and me: a sincere THANK YOU to everyone!

Best wishes for the Holidays and may 2013 bring prosperity, good times and more sunspots!

Stu K6TU

Update on K6TU.NET

Stu Phillips – K6TU

So far about 70 NCCC members have signed up for their complimentary accounts on K6TU.NET – as a reminder, these are available to any NCCC member within the NCCC circle who has paid their full dues for the current contest year.

If you haven't yet taken advantage of this, visit <http://www.k6tu.net> and click on the link to create a new account. All accounts have to be approved to keep the spammer community out so it may take me a few hours to approve the account. At that point, you'll get an email with a link to login and set your password.

Here are some tips for getting the most of out of the service:

Selecting the right transmit and receive configurations

Picking the transmit configuration is straight forward – it's the power level and antenna configurations that match your station. You can create a custom configuration for your station or select one of the pre-configured configurations.

Selecting the receive configuration needs a little more thought...

If you are competing in a contest, you want to pick a configuration that most closely resembles the majority of station you expect to work. For example; if space and HOA permits, a lot of serious con-

testers will have a tri-bander and wires for the contest bands. So it makes sense to pick a configuration like Tri-bander & Wires for the receive end of the link.

I often see stations with a Vertical/Dipole configuration select this for both transmit AND receive. Although the resulting prediction is still valid, its likely to be pretty pessimistic compared to what you will likely experience on the bands.

Have you tried the different prediction types?

There are several different prediction types that you can choose from... these are all accessible from the New menu on the right hand side of the page.

Contest Strategy: this plots 4 bands to a page with 80-15 for night hours and 40-10 for daylight hours. This gives you a very handy reference to compare hour versus hour either for switching bands or running SO2R.

Log Analysis: After a contest, you can upload your Cabrillo log and run this type of prediction to plot all your contacts overlaid on the prediction maps. This is very useful for comparing actual results versus the predictions. Note; its not uncommon to see differences – remember that the predictions themselves use a model of the ionosphere that is statistical in nature – sometimes better than actual, sometimes worse!

On-Demand: Want a quick – tell me now – prediction? The On-Demand prediction gives you a single band and hour map but in 2-3 seconds rather than the minutes required for generating a full prediction set.

Here's a teaser of a new feature I'm working on...

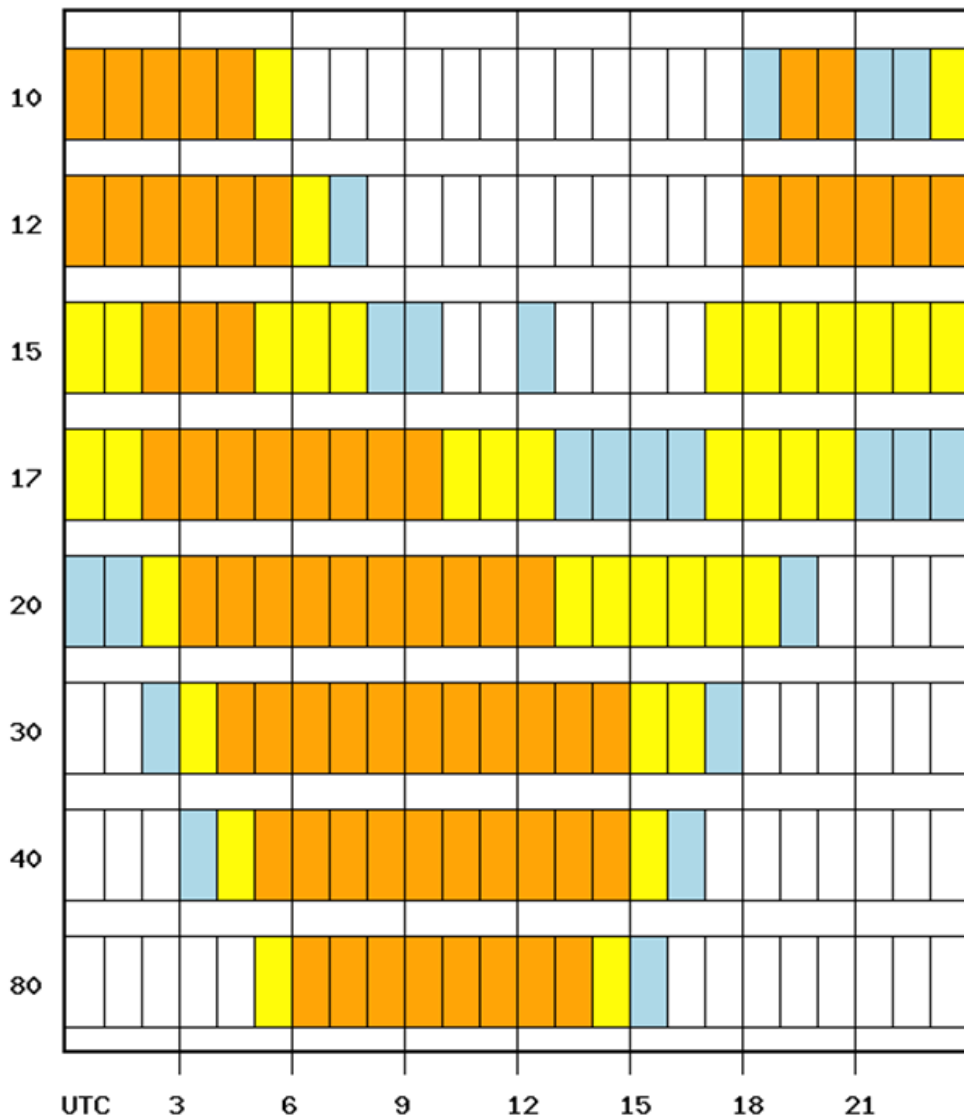
Like the On-Demand prediction, this new prediction is designed to give you a useable prediction customized to your station in a couple of seconds. However, instead of giving you a map of a single/band hour across the world, this prediction runs a point-to-point prediction for all hours.

Since many contesters are also avid DXers, I got the inspiration for this new graphic from Rusty W6OAT who asked me the quickest way to figure out when and which bands to work NH8S... the answer was quick to arrive – the coding less so! A long trip back from VU2 land provided plenty of time to hammer on this...

Look for this to be integrated into the service in the next week or so. In the meantime, here's a sample of the graphics.

Continued on page 6

P2P: London => K6TU



VOACAP	
Signal Strength	
S9+20	Red
S9+10	Dark Red
S9	Orange
S7	Yellow
S5	Green
S3	Light Blue
NIL	White

User: K6TU
Copyright: K6TU

Hope you enjoy this benefit of NCCC membership and my opportunity to give back to the club!

Stu K6TU

NCCC members help smash Zone 40 CQ WW DX Record!



This heads up from Óskar TF3DC...

NCCC members Tom N3ZZ and Mike WA6O participated in the recent CQ WW CW DX Contest from Iceland as members of the Multi-2 team activating TF4X. Together with G3SWH, UA3AB, TF3Y and TF3DC, Mike and Tom helped obliterate the previous Zone 40 record in crushing fashion!

The current record is held by OX5AA with 4,927 QSOs and 4,909,240 points. The TF4X team wracked up 7,771 QSOs and a claimed score of 9,478,440 points! Wow!

You can read Óskar's account of the contest team's challenges at his blog at:

<http://tf4m.com/when-the-going-gets-tough-the-tough-get-going/>

You can also find a gallery of great pictures of the team efforts... including some of our intrepid Contesters "soaking up" some RR time during the trip!

Congratulations Tom and Mike!

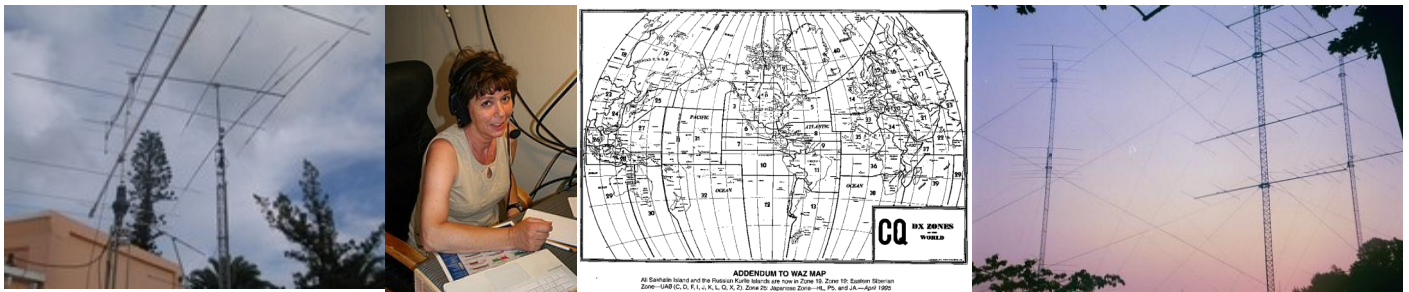


Please consider writing an article for JUG !

January 2013 Newsletter Deadline—December 28th

This is your newsletter so lets make it something we are proud of. I hope you will consider writing an article for the JUG! Whether its about your station, recent contest experience or a technical article we would appreciate hearing from you.

Send your articles to Ian W6TCP w6tcp@comcast.net and Stu K6TU stu@ridgelift.com



ADDENDUM TO WAZ MAP
At Sanhoku Island and the Russian Pacific March use Zone 18. Zone 18: Eastern Siberian
Zone 14M (C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z) Zone 20: Japanese Zone—14, 15, and 1A—April 1999

12 STORE BUYING POWER



HAM RADIO OUTLET
WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



IC-7000 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-10M/6M/2M/70CM
- 2x DSP
- Digital IF filters
- Digital voice recorder
- 2.5" color TFT display
- 503 memory channels
- Remote control mic



IC-7700 Transceiver.
The Contester's Rig

- HF + 6m operation
- +40dBm ultra high intercept point
- IF DSP, user defined filters
- 200W output power full duty cycle
- Digital voice recorder



IC-7600 All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver
- Dual DSP 32 bit
- Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz
- 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display
- Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7800 All Mode Transceiver

- 160-6M @ 20W
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