



Publication of the Northern California Contest Club



Issue 543

August 2017



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Saturday September 30th

11:30 am, Lunch 12:00, Program 1pm

El Tapatio

40 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Program CQP, John K6MM



President's Report

Let the contest season begin!

It's hard to imagine, at least with the heat we have had in the Foothills this summer, that the contest season is nearly here. For me, contest season means the first rains, and cooler temperatures, and the end of fire season. Once the rains come the noise level goes down, so I always cross my fingers that we will have a good rain prior to the California QSO Party.

And speaking of CQP, we in NCCC always consider our own contest as the start of the contest season. John, K6MM, and Rusty, W6OAT, have just completed a much needed overhaul of the CQP Club Competition rules. There are many changes, but of significance is the change from one class to three: Small (10 logs), Medium (35 logs), and Large (no log limit). This applies to clubs both in and outside of California. Also of significance, and something I have been pushing strongly, is allowing the Southern California Contest Club to compete in the Club Competition.

Drilling down a bit on the three categories, I'll say that, in general, MLDXCC and REDXA seem to welcome the change. Speaking as a Board member of MLDXCC, I've always said that it's just no fun shooting fish in a barrel. In recent years, it has been MLDXCC vs REDXA. Even though both clubs have a 175 mile circle, MLDXCC recruits from a much larger area than REDXA, and that larger area has a much higher population. It's just not been a fair competition.

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
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Secretary	Ian Parker	W6TCP	secretary.nccc@gmail.com
Past President	<open>		
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Director:	Rich Cutler	WC6H	wc6h@yahoo.com
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Webinars	<open>		
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Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting



NCCCCKB



NCCC

Visit the meetings page of the NCCC website [here](#) for details of the next meeting

NCCC Net

Thursday 8 PM
Freq: 3.610 +/-

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).

The fun comes with real competition, and I'm hoping that the competition emerges this year, from SCCC, REDXA and perhaps from clubs like the San Diego DX Club, which used to participate actively in the CQP Club Competition. Who will compete in which class? That remains to be seen. I know MLDXCC is actively debating the subject.

It will also be interesting to see just what happens in the local club competition. This class was formed to give the local clubs a chance to compete. The Lodi club, for instance, has long been a supporter of MLDXCC, and that started through the recruiting efforts of MLDXCC's former president, Shirl, AA6K (now SK). Several members of the Lodi club have joined MLDXCC to contribute points and, for that club, it's almost like a second Field Day. Will Lodi compete on its own, or stay with MLDXCC? Will NCCC members of clubs in the Bay Area energize their local clubs to compete? It all remains to be seen, but one thing's for sure, it should result in more active California stations and, hopefully, bring new contesters to the State's various contest clubs.

The full rules are posted at CQP.org.

The third annual NCCC BBQ was another success. The attendance was around 55, which is about the same as last year's, at N6RO's and the previous year's, at WC6H's QTH. Oh, and was it hot! My car thermometer read 111 degrees as we were driving off. But, as I used to tell my friends on the East Coast.....it's a dry heat.



Other than the heat, everything about the BBQ was perfect. I want to thank Norm and Mary for hosting the event and allowing all 55 of us to invade their beautiful home and property. I also want to thank Ian, W6TCP, our incredible club secretary, for making most of the arrangements and Dick, K6LRN, our club treasurer, for paying the bills and offering all of the guidance from a monetary standpoint. Dick's wife, Carolyn, K6TKD, was also helping out at the event. Last, but not least, I must thank my wife, Karen (she says she will get a license when I learn how to quilt....not gonna happen!). Karen brought the salads, drinks (water and soft drinks), cookies, table cloths, ice chests, ice, and who knows what else. Oh, and I can't forget to mention Oliver, W6NV, who showed up with an ice chest full of beer and wine!

As has been the case in the past, and by design, the attendance at our BBQ's varies greatly from year to year, due to the location. This is a good thing, since our club territory is so large. Last year, it was terrific to see W6SX and W6PH make the trip to N6RO's place. This year, it was a surprise to see K6MR and some of the guys from the southern reaches of our club territory show up.

Just about everyone who attended the BBQ took the time to get a tour of Norm's tube museum. It is just awesome. If you haven't seen it, contact Norm if you're going to be in his neck of the woods (Wilton). It must be the best collection of tubes, especially transmitting tubes, in the world. The museum occupies an entire air conditioned room above Norm's shop. Truly something to behold.

Back to contest season. I'm going to let our N6WM, VP/CC, elaborate on our plans, but suffice it to say that I have not been happy with the Club's performance in the NAQP Club Competition. While it's one of my favorite contests, many of our members prefer the contests with more of an international side to them. WPX is a good example of a contest that gives members a chance to work the states and provinces as well as the DX. Conditions this summer were just dreadful, making it very difficult for our club to compete from the West Coast. Many of our members know this and simply don't consider fighting the noise, static crashes and weak signals fun. As a result, they just don't show up. I get that. It is a hobby and hobbies are ways for us to have fun. Nevertheless, I was disappointed in the turnout and the Board will be taking a look at future participation in the NAQP Club Challenge.

We've been able to get a computer donated to Matt, WX5S, thanks to the new NCCC non-profit status and, as a result, he has been crunching away on automating the scoring process for the NCCC KB Competition. For now, I'm still tabulating the scoring manually, but boy am I looking forward to automating the process. You can expect to see the current rankings in the next Jug.

Bob W1RH.

Sweepstakes Award First Place San Francisco—Single Operator High Power Saraj, KU6F



I worked from Steve Koster's station in Geyserville, W6SFK. He and his wife, Catherine, were wonderful hosts.



SUMMER BBQ

Tube Museum @ N6JV





SUMMER BBQ





SUMMER BBQ





SUMMER BBQ



The 2016 Oceania DX Contest First Place North America Single Op All Band Phone Dave KA6BIM



I stopped at the post office today and found a nice surprise in the mail. A plaque from Wireless Institute of Australia & NZART for The 2016 Oceania DX Contest for First Place North America Single Op All Band Phone

It happens that the sponsor is our own N6RO. Thank You Ken!

VP/CC Report

Christopher Tate, N6WM

N6WM@largeradio.org



Welcome to the real 2017-2018 contest season. Too early? I think not!

There is a CQWW International DX contest at the end of September!

Many operators in the NCCC traditionally mark CQP as the beginning of the contest season. We had our participation in the NAQP challenge over the summer, where conditions were not the best, and of course, rabid contesters seek out various state qso parties and whatever else they can find to get their fix. Many stations have been working on off season improvements, and I am aware Kurt K7NV and his tower busters crew has made a number of visits around Northern CA this summer. But September is upon us, and its time to start focus on competitive operations.

The west coast and the NCCC is the cradle of some of the top RTTY contesters in the world. Either due to our proximity to the silicon valley, and our contiual exposure to computer tech, or just by accident, the NCCC is ripe with RTTY enthusiasts.

With that litte fact its time for me to mobilize as head NCCC contest coach, and consider this a call for a serious NCCC effort. I would like to encourage as many of you as possible, from the shores of Santa Cruz to the Western Nevada highlands to mobilize for the CQWW RTTY CONTEST either in circle or on an expedition. The contest director for this is CQ contest Hall of Fame and long time NCCC member Ed W0YK.

We have plenty of resources in the club to help with setup if you are not an expert at setting your station up for the mode. One call for help on the reflector and I am sure you will get more than 1 response, and if not.. I will find the help for you.



CQ WW RTTY CONTEST – Lets get diddling!

This contest is fantastic. Its lots of fun, and has all the categories of its CW and SSB cousins, with some multiplier enhancements that really make this a lot more fun. The ability to get points for same country contacts, as well as multipliers for W/VE QTH's can make smaller stations more competitive, offer many more multipliers for everyone and makes it a work everyone contest and the fun factor goes up exponentially! Participation is pretty good as one would expect from a CQ WW contest.

Planned contest expeditions count toward the NCCC score in this contest, and there will be Kbers QRV outside of the United States (among the usual suspects, keep an ear out for our NCCC team at ZF1A). Maybe you have a favorite spot you can activate to ensure the NCCC has some monster scores! Also equally important are good solid efforts from the CQ in circle area of the NCCC. There are so many categories to choose from, something that should fit the needs of most of you. This is a great opportunity to make a winning mark on the books for the NCCC.

So.. CQP is in October, but mark your calendars for CQWW RTTY on September 23rd-24th 2017 0000 Saturday to 2359 on Sunday.

Rules are at <http://www.cgwwrtty.com>

CQWW RTTY kicks off the real 2017-2018 contest season. Lets get ready to rumble!

And now for something fun and interesting to play with in the new contest season...



Many contest loggers are in a state where they are being basically maintained, with few remarkable updates. But there are a couple exceptions to this. One of those is the well known and free N1MM logger application, maintained and regularly updated by a team of dedicated and competent programmers/contesters. Tom N1MM himself has been working hard on a new CW feature to integrate with newer radio technology and features. One of the shining examples of this is the brand new N1MM Spectrum Display. The spectrum display basically takes pan adapter data on copied signals based on a noise floor of your choosing, overlays that data with telnet cluster information and logged data to produce a visible spectrum that identifies CW and RTTY signals being copied by your radio, with their call sign, and worked/not worked/etc/ that can be quickly tuned using N1MM mouse and keyboard shortcuts.

First, here is a link to the N1MM spectrum display documentation.

[http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php?page=Spectrum+Display+Window#Supported Radios REAL AMP Interfaces](http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php?page=Spectrum+Display+Window#Supported+Radios+REAL+AMP+Interfaces)

Who can use this tool?

When Tom started developing this feature, it only worked with the ICOM 7300. (why that rig? Not sure. I think he was intrigued by this SDR and its display features). But now the Spectrum Display has gone mainstream and is supported by a wide variety of platforms such as:

-Icom IC-7300, IC-7850/51, Icom IC-7610 (expected to work, not yet tested)

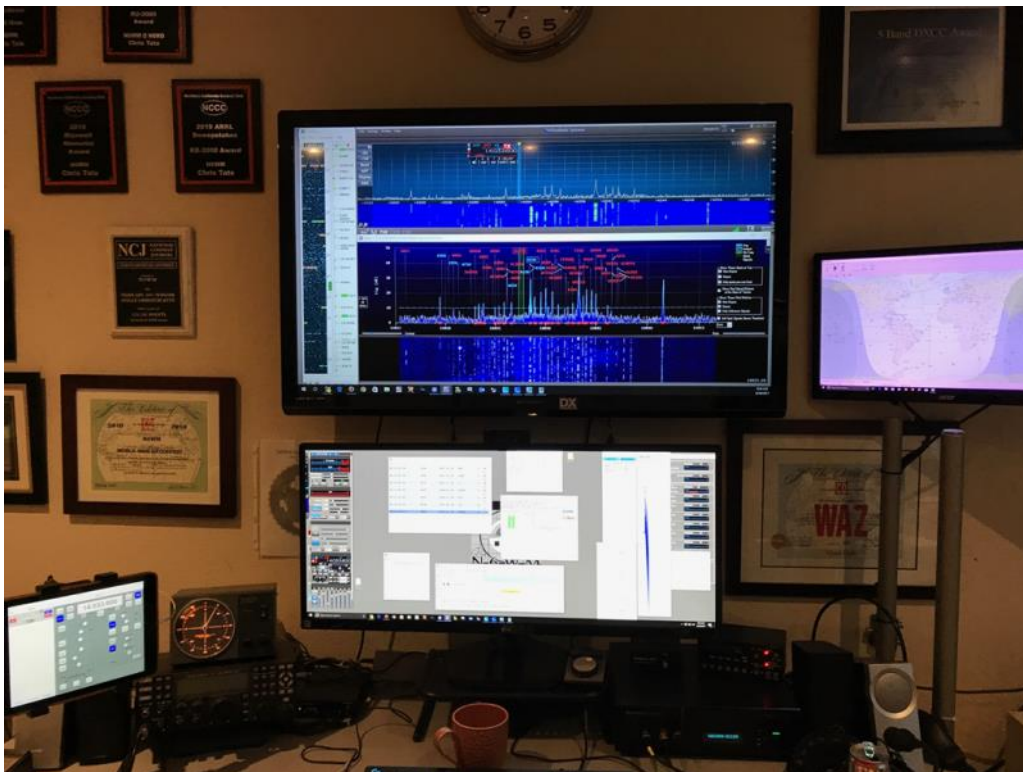
-Flex 6300/6400/6400M/6500/6600/6600M/6700 Radios Supported via CAT and UDP - requires SmartSDR V2.0 or later software

-Elecraft K3/K3S/KX3 with some added software/hardware

-Yaesu FTDX5000, FTDX3000, FTDX1200, FTDX9000 plus Win4YaesuSuite

-CW Skimmer version 2.0 (output can be sent directly to spectrum display)

Lets take a little look at this revolutionary display addition to the N1MM logger suite in the N6WM test lab at casa de Fremont. As you can see by this photo, I am running 3 pan adapters that are CW Skimmer 2.0, SmartSDR 2.0 and N1MM Spectrum display, all on my big screen. On my lower monitor are the additional contest ready N1MM logger windows.



This new tech definitely brings in the need for multiple monitors! But look how I have leveraged an inexpensive 42" hdtv to be used as a pan adapter display console. The 8/20 CWT is qrv here, and you can see the spots on the display. Lets take a closer look at it.



You will probably recognize the familiar CW skimmer interface on the left. On the top is the SmartSDR display controlling the 6700 (a maestro could also be used eliminating the need, but I like it.)

Below that is the N1MM Spectrum display window. Here you can see the morning CWT in action. Notice the spots overlaid over the signals to identify that particular copied signal. The horizontal dotted line is the point where N1MM will identify relevant signals (notice the red dots on the bottom) and is adjusted using the wheel of a mouse to your desired copy strength/noise floor level. The right panel helps define the behavior, such as the ability to only display spots of stations "heard" by your transceiver. It is another tool to screen out anomalous spots and make good use of all this new technology.

So.. take a look at the documentation I provided in the link above and see if you may be able to leverage the N1MM Spectrum display to help improve your contest scores. This feature is maturing at a remarkable rate and I expect it to continue to change and mature.. Not a bad feature for a free contest logger.. maybe its worth giving it a look if you are still sticking with Writelog or WinTest.

Until Next Time..

73 es KB
Chris N6WM
Vice President and Contest Chair

Epic Fail... Gary, NA6O

Dint yo daddy tell you, "Boy, never use PVC for structural purposes!" or something like that?

Apparently someone (that would be me) decided to give it a go anyway, and here's the result. A 35-foot vertical neatly snaps off 1-1/2 inch schedule 80 PVC in a mild wind. PVC is about the wimpiest plastic one could choose. As a bonus, it loses half its strength when the temperature goes from 70 to 110 deg. I replaced it with heavy-walled pultruded fiberglass, a material nearly ten times as strong. That oughta do!



**7QP First Place HP CW unassisted
Radio Amateurs of Canada, Canada Day 2016 top scoring
Single Operator, foreign entry**

Alan K6SRZ



Usher the Dog in foreground. FT8 on the monitor

Alan/K6SRZ

7QP Plaque for 1st place Outside 7th Area Single-Op (Unassisted) Low-Power Phone

Don K6GHA



I want to also thank Ronnie KK7YC in Lupine, OR (ORDES) for sponsoring this category and plaque. It is truly appreciated. Sorry, only 2 bands this year.

The Phone group is especially fun for me in finding multi-states, multi-county's, mobile ops, line sitters, and genuinely friendly QSO exchanges. Spinning the dial and making or missing mults is always a challenge.

By the end of the contest it is great to have your call recognized, and often kind words exchanged with the contact.

Making this contest more appreciated is in knowing all the coordination and hard work that goes into one of the most fun, and largest multi-state QP's.

Thanks for a fun, post Cinco-de-Mayo event! I am looking forward to next year.

NCCC Meeting Dates ~ 2017

Saturday September 30th, 11:30am, El Tapatio 40 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
Program CQP, County DX-peditions

Tuesday, October 10th Sneha 1214 Apollo Way, Ste 404B, Sunnyvale, CA 94085
Program, TBD

Tuesday, November 14th, 6PM, Tied House 954 Villa St, Mountain View, CA 94041
Program, TBD

Saturday, December 16th, 11am, 2960 Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View, CA 94043
NCCC Holiday Party (Michaels at Shoreline)

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 \$1500, or best offer, this includes delivery within 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.

NCCC Annual KB Competition Table

Contest	Month	Multiplier
ARRL RTTY Roundup	January	50
NAQP Winter CW	January	50
NAQP Winter SSB	January	50
NA Sprint Spring 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	TBD
Ontario QSO Party	April	TBD
7th Area QSO Party	May	TBD
New England QSO Party	May	TBD
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
NA Sprint Fall SSB	October	100
CQP	October	20
JARTS RTTY Contest	October	5
CQWW SSB	October	1
ARRL Sweepstakes CW	November	20
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

Honorary Life Membership (80/20)

The BOD met and discussed having an Honorary Life Membership.

Rusty W6OAT made a proposal to make NCCC members who reach 80 years young and 20 year's membership to the NCCC will upon receipt of a request for Life membership request be awarded Honorary Life Membership to the NCCC after review by the BOD.

This was discussed by the BOD and the motion passed.

AV Support

We are looking for a AV / Webex volunteers to help run the AV and webex for the meetings.

Please contact Bob W1RH if you are interested....

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



WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP JULY 12-16, 2018



Our way to 2018

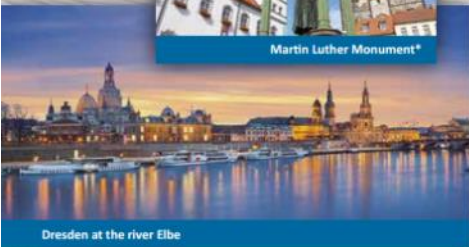
Having been elected to host the WRTC 2018 in Germany is a great honor, a thrill, and a big challenge for us. The critical tasks have been clearly defined. Dedicated and highly motivated teams are addressing the challenges.

For the competition itself we have chosen the Jessen area south of Berlin for its flatness providing level playing fields for all competitors. Jessen is strategically situated between the German capital of Berlin and such fascinating historic cities like Dresden and Leipzig.

Nearby you find important cultural attractions, e.g. the historic city of Wittenberg where Martin Luther launched the Protestant Reformation in 1517. Additionally, the scenic countryside and a lot of entertainment will make the WRTC an exciting experience for families and friends as well.



Martin Luther Monument*



Dresden at the river Elbe

* Source: Lutherstadt Wittenberg Marketing GmbH ©

We need your support!

You need deep pockets to finance such a huge event. Our preliminary cost estimates add up to close to half a million US Dollars and cannot be shouldered by the German contesting fraternity alone. We need substantial financial support of contesters from all over the world, from contest clubs, individuals and business. Any amount is welcome! We will do our level best to translate this support into an event that is worth to take part in - be it as a competitor or spectator, either on the spot or remotely via Internet. You are welcome to donate via PayPal to:

spende@wrtc2018.de

or to use wire transfer (see Web Page for details).

For US taxpayers

The World Wide Radio Operators Foundation (WWROF) is recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt public charity. In order to be eligible for Income Tax treatment of your donation to WRTC 2018 just contribute to WRTC2018 in one of the following ways, either via PayPal to:

WRTC2018@wwrof.org

or by check - remit and mail to:

WWROF Inc. - WRTC2018 Fund
P O Box 10424
Midland, TX 79702



Note: It is important that mailed contributions include notification that the donation is specifically for WRTC2018.

Contact the WRTC Team

www.wrtc2018.de
contact@wrtc2018.de

E-Mail: contact@wrtc2018.de | Web: www.wrtc2018.de | Facebook: [wrtc2018](https://www.facebook.com/wrtc2018) | Twitter: [wrtc2018](https://twitter.com/wrtc2018)



WORLD RADIOSPORT
TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

Welcome to Germany!



Proud bronze medalists at WRTC 2014 - Manfred Wolf, DJ5MW and Stefan von Baltz, DL1IAO (Foto: DK9IP)

Competition with Friends

Lifetime Experience

Make it happen!

Contesters' Olympics



WORLD RADIOSPORT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP JULY 12-16, 2018



Welcome to Germany

Germany has been awarded to stage the WRTC 2018. The Federal Republic is subdivided into sixteen federal states such as Bavaria or Saxony. Some 80 million inhabitants share a plot of less than 140 thousand square miles, about the size of the US state of Montana. Sometimes the German language is criticized for its harshness; however, a countless number of students around the world start learning German every year as it offers an insight into a fascinating culture and a world ranked economy.

Radiocommunications in Germany



Heinrich Hertz

Here the fundamentals of wireless communication have been developed as young Heinrich Hertz has proved the existence of electromagnetic waves and Nobel Prize Winner Ferdinand Braun introduced the closed tuned circuit as part of the radio transmitter. The German Hams were late bloomers after all, as only after WWII a more liberal legislation made a wide ham culture possible. Today Germany is the home base of the world's second largest contest community hosted by two notable clubs: the Bavarian Contest Club (BCC) and the Rhein Ruhr DX Association (RRDXA). That is why you will find such a great number of German call signs in your log as well as multipliers from German radio activities like CR3L or VK9LM.



WRTC 2018 in Germany

World Radiosport Team Championships (WRTC) are being held every four years. More than 60 of the best 2-OP-teams from all over the world meet for a competition. Quite different from other radiosport contests, competitors in WRTCs operate with identical power and antennas on level playing fields from the same geographical region eliminating all variables except their own operational skill. Previous WRTCs were held at Seattle/USA (1990), San Francisco/USA (1996), Slovenia (2000), Finland (2002), Brazil (2006), Russia (2010), and New England (2014).

To participate in WRTC 2018 teams have to qualify in up to 28 different HF contests during 2015 and 2016. Qualification started with the ARRL-DX-CW contest 2015.

To watch your own qualification standings and those of all of your competitors or friends at any time, have a look at our website www.wrtc2018.de. The standings are regularly updated after receiving the results from the contest organizers of each qualification contest.

WRTC 2018 Qualification Standings

Standings in NA #1 area

Area rank	Operator	Qualification points	Qualified contest entries	Quality mark
1	DL2 KSL	788	8	98.6%
2	DL2 GRT	742	10	88.0%
3	DL2 KXW	726	8	88.0%
4	DL2 SP	673	8	83.0%

WRTC - Fieldday Style



Catch the organizers

The members of the WRTC 2018 Organizing Committee are active in many contests using special event call signs like "DLØWRTC" or "DKØWRTC". They are active on all bands from 160m up to 3 cm from various locations in Germany. They hand out the special DOK "WRTC" for DARC awards.

Enjoy the award program

WRTC 2018 sponsors the "Worked WRTC Qualification Regions" award. You can apply online for the WWQR Award via dci.darc.de. It can be worked on an annual basis in 3 classes, in different modes and on different bands. It shows European radio pioneers on a background in black, red and gold representing the colours of the German flag. Your application will support WRTC 2018 with a small donation.



Germany calling!

Competition with Friends

Join the Fun

Point Generator Profile

By Bob, W1RH

Our featured point generator this month is our Treasurer, Dick, K6LRN.

You can always count on Dick to be in the hunt. His scores are always respectable and contribute significant points to both MLDXCC and NCCC. I believe Dick is also a REDXA member.

Dick says the antennas and shack are not in the best condition right now, so he's holding off on pictures. I'll tell you, however, that the shack is a ham's dream....a separate structure near the house, with all of the comforts of home. The QTH is on a wonderful ridge top, and hosts one of the El Dorado County Amateur Radio Club's voting receiver sites. He has two towers and a nice antenna farm.

Name/Call Sign: K6LRN

Past calls: KN6LRN in 1955

Location: Omo Ranch, El Dorado County

How much property do you have? ~11 acres

Describe your antenna system: 4 el SteppIR on 70' crank-up, 2 el shorty 40 on 55' crank-up, dipole 80 M

What's in your shack? .Old MP, AL-80

What are your previous QTH's? SF, Marin, Clovis, Concord, Martinez

If you're working, what is your career? If not, what was your career?

Retired Glazier, 34 years...Bus operator 5 years

How many DXCC entities have you worked? 338 mixed (need Glorioso), 336 CW (need No. Korea, Glorioso & Marion) 239 RTTY, 325 Phone

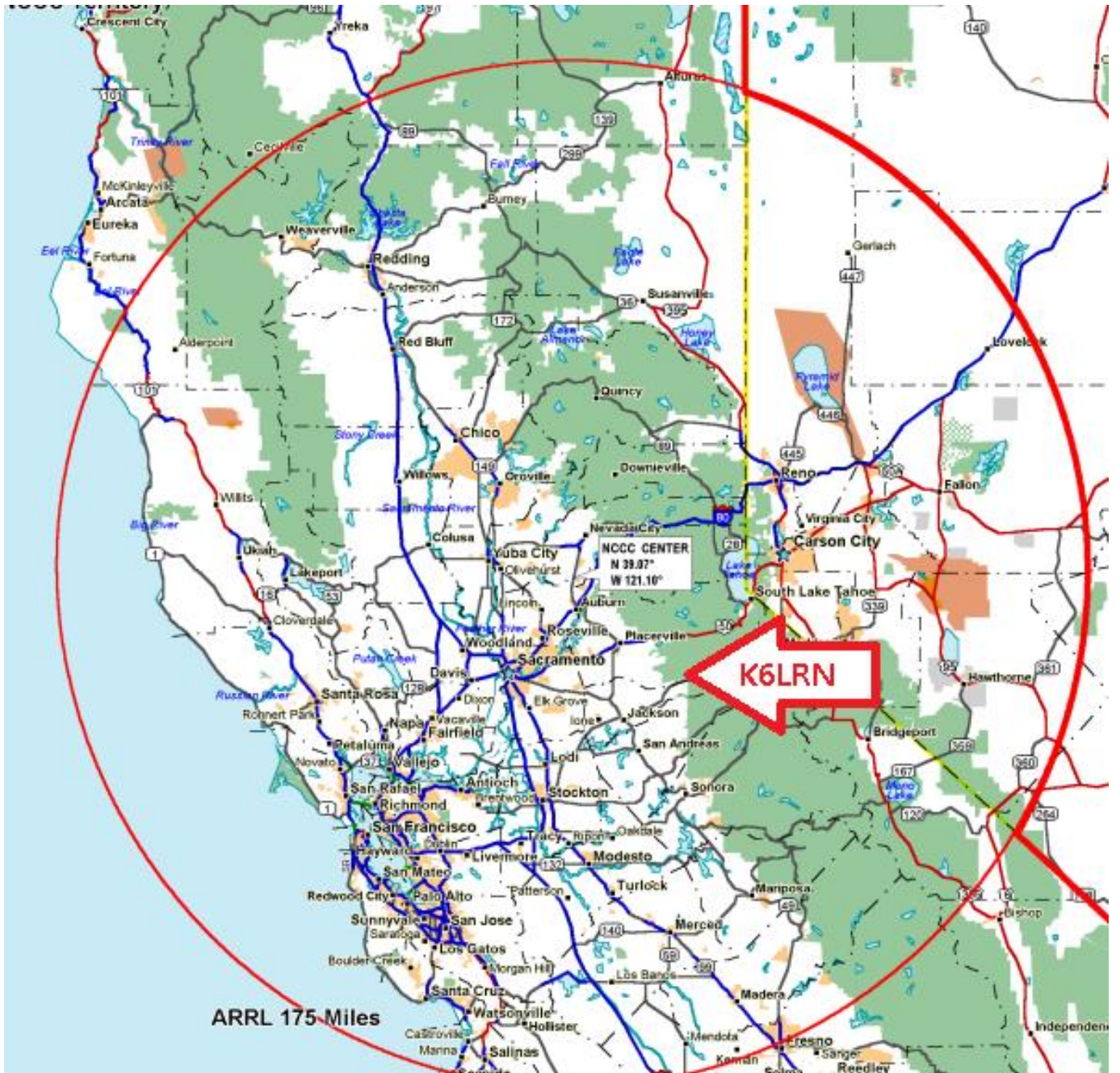
What's your favorite contest? Probably CQP, but enjoy most CW & RTTY events

Any tips for contesters? Don't do as I do...get sleep the night before so one can stay awake in prime time. Try to keep up with latest practices, s/w & technology.

What would you like to see changed in NCCC? A little more to get 'little pistols' & such improved scores.

Any other hobbies besides ham radio? Genealogy & 'landscaping' (actually trying to create 'defensible space' & get rid of beetle infested trees..)

Point Generator Profile—K6LRN



TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

HK-55

In a previous article, I described the development of the gridless gammatron by Heintz & Kaufman back in 1929. With the break-up of the RCA monopoly, the reasons for this technology went away. About 1934, H&K produced what I think was the last of the gridless gammatrons type tubes called the HK-55. A first glance, this tube looks like a "50 watt" size rectifier. The previously forbidden features that H&K was able to use included an enclosed anode and the use of internal insulators. Gammatrons always had their filament mounted near the "gamma" plate. With an enclosed anode, the filament and gamma plate had to be in the middle of the enclosed anode. The HK-55 had an oval anode made of graphite. A porcelain insulator supported the gamma plate and filament. The gamma plate was a flat sheet of metal with a "V" shaped opening cut into it. The filament would fit into the gap so that the filament and gamma plate would be in the same plane. The field produced by the bias on the gamma plate would affect the electron flow from the filament and the tube would operate as a traditional gammatron. The 55 has a dissipation of 75 watts and a mu of 3.5. The 55 appears to be more efficient with its higher mu than the older gammatrons.

I can find no evidence that this tube was very popular and is scarce today. Tube data was still being printed for this tube as late as 1938 in The Radio Handbook.

More photos at <http://n6jv.com>.

TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV



NCCC Life Membership!

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

CQP T-Shirts

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:

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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 !

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.



Contest Calendar— September page 1

QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Sep 1
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 1
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 1
G3ZQS Memorial Straight Key Contest	2300Z, Sep 1 to 2300Z, Sep 3
CWOps CW Open	0000Z-0359Z, Sep 2 and 1200Z-1559Z, Sep 2 and 2000Z-2359Z, Sep 2
All Asian DX Contest, Phone	0000Z, Sep 2 to 2400Z, Sep 3
Russian RTTY WW Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 2
Wake-Up!QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, Sep 2 and 0630Z-0659Z, Sep 2 and 0700Z-0729Z, Sep 2 and 0730Z-0800Z, Sep 2
RSGB SSB Field Day	1300Z, Sep 2 to 1300Z, Sep 3
AGCW Straight Key Party	1300Z-1600Z, Sep 2
IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	1300Z, Sep 2 to 1259Z, Sep 3
Colorado QSO Party	1300Z, Sep 2 to 0400Z, Sep 3
PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint	2000Z, Sep 2 to 2000Z, Sep 3
WAB 144 MHz QRO Phone	1000Z-1400Z, Sep 3
Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 3 to 0300Z, Sep 4
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	2300Z, Sep 4 to 0300Z, Sep 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 5
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 6
CWOps Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 6 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 6 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 7
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 6
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Sep 7 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Sep 7 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 7 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 7 (Dig)



Contest Calendar— September page 2

NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 8
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 8
Kulikovo Polye Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 9
FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 9
WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 9 to 2359Z, Sep 10
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Sep 9 to 2359Z, Sep 10
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Sep 9 to 1000Z, Sep 10
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Sep 9 to 2400Z, Sep 10
Ohio State Parks on the Air	1400Z-2200Z, Sep 9
Russian Cup Digital Contest	1500Z-1859Z, Sep 9 and 0600Z-0959Z, Sep 10
ARRL September VHF Contest	1800Z, Sep 9 to 0300Z, Sep 11
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 10
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 10
Classic Exchange, CW	1300Z, Sep 10 to 0800Z, Sep 11 and 1300Z, Sep 12 to 0800Z, Sep 13
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 11
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 11
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 13
CWOps Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 13 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 14
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 15
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 15
AGB NEMIGA Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Sep 15
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 16 to 2400 local, Sep 17
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Sep 16 to 1000Z, Sep 17
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	1200Z, Sep 16 to 1200Z, Sep 17
All Africa International DX Contest	1200Z, Sep 16 to 1200Z, Sep 17
SRT HF Contest SSB	1300Z, Sep 16 to 1300Z, Sep 17
Iowa QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 16 to 0200Z, Sep 17
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 16 to 0700Z, Sep 17 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 17
QRP Afield	1600Z-2200Z, Sep 16
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 16 to 0400Z, Sep 17 and 1600Z-2200Z, Sep 17
New Jersey QSO Party	1600Z, Sep 16 to 0359Z, Sep 17 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 17



Contest Calendar— September page 3

Feld Hell Sprint	1800Z-1959Z, Sep 16
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 17
BARTG Sprint 75	1700Z-2059Z, Sep 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Sep 18
144 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 18
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 20
CWOps Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 20 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 20 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 21
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 20
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Sep 21
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 22
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 22
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 23 to 2400Z, Sep 24
Maine QSO Party	1200Z, Sep 23 to 1200Z, Sep 24
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 23 to 0200Z, Sep 24 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 24
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Sep 23 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Sep 23 (432)
220 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 26
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 27
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 27
CWOps Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 27 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 27 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 28
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 27
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Sep 28
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 29
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 29
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Sep 30
UK/EI DX Contest, SSB	1200Z, Sep 30 to 1200Z, Oct 1
Russian WW MultiMode Contest	1200Z, Sep 30 to 1159Z, Oct 1

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- 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

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TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

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TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

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TM-V71A | 2M/440 Dualband

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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

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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



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



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