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President's Report

We usually have great programs at our meetings, but sometimes our best efforts can be stymied as folks are overly busy. Meeting opportunities are precious, and it is a lot of fun getting together, so this month we are going back to a time when the club members would meet in our living rooms and discuss various topics of interest. This month presents this opportunity at a time where we have many topics of interest. By the time the October meeting arrives, 2018 CQP operation will be history, but the memories will be very fresh in our minds. Sounds like a good topic to share. We also have a lot of questions from new (and old) members, once of which I touch on below - contest planning. It would be great to hear from others how they plan their operations so that we can educate new (and perhaps old) generations of contesters. In short, we have a great opportunity to get together, share war stories and enjoy fellowship.

See the meeting announcement elsewhere in this month's Jug, and plan on being there on Tuesday, October 9th! =

Now for those of you awaiting my monthly antenna project report (there must be at least one...), let me state that the antenna is up, coax run, and the system will be in operation for CQP this weekend. It will be interesting to actually be able to rotate the beam in a contest for the first time. Most importantly, I finally get to see what I did right and what needs more attention. Thanks for the encouragement, and now it's time to play!

NCCC Meeting

Saturday 9th November

Program : TBD

Cattlemen's Restaurant

2882 Kitty Hawk Rd, Livermore, CA 94551

11:30 am - 2:30pm

Continued on Page 3



Northern California Contest Club

Excellence In Amateur Radio Contesting

Officers:

President	Jack Brindle	W6FB	jackbrindle@me.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	Bob Hess	W1RH	w1rh@yahoo.com
Director	Rick Tavan	N6XI	rick@tavan.com
Director:	Bill Haddon	N6ZFO	n6zfo@arrl.net
Director:	Bill Fehring	W9KKN	bill+nccc@w9kkn.net

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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
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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
 NCCC CW Sprint
 NCCC RTTY Sprint
 NCCC Sprint Ladder
 Sprint Web master www.ncccsprint.com

Bill, N6ZFO
 Tom, N3ZZ (initially, Ken N6RO)
 Ken, K6MR
 Bill, N6ZFO
 John, K6MM.

non-NCCC:
 Thursday night Contesting Advisory Group:

Tim N3QE (Ladder Scores manager)
 N6ZFO, Bill (Chair)
 Mark K6UFO, (with W4NZ, N4AF, W9RE, K4BAI, N3BB and W0BH).
 Ken, N6RO

The Thursday night NCCC Net

Contest Planning

How do you plan your contest operation? That's a great question that many of us ask, whether we are new or veterans at contesting. Some have little planning, just walk up to the station, sit down, turn on the radio gear, wait for the contest start time and start handing out QSOs. Others spend a lot of time with the details of their operation, planning out everything from band times to when they will have QSOs with specific areas. Sounds like a lot of work just to have some fun.

So, how do I plan for contests? It depends on the contest. During my station rework I simply walked up, threw the switches and operated for many contests. Now that things are about done, I will go back to my old tried and true ways. Let's take a typical contest, in this case my favorite, the ARRL November Sweepstakes. The Sweepstakes dates and times go on the family calendar months in advance so that everyone knows not to schedule anything for that weekend. I really don't want to get surprised by having to attend a distant friend's wedding, although sometime it just can't be helped. It is really important to keep peace in the family, trading off contest weekends for others. It is also very helpful in my case to be married to a ham (KB4TGE).

Preparation starts to get serious when I sit down to read of the current rules (available at <http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes>), noting any changes from years past, when the contest starts and ends, and the exchange. Now the latter two items haven't changed since I moved to San Jose from the east coast, and only then due to the time zone change. But, rules have changed over the years, as have sections, both addition and removal. Many of us remember being able to work the Canal Zone, while more recently Ontario has been replaced with four new sections (ONN, ONE, ONS and GTA). There are important things of note in the rules, such as being able to work a station only once instead of once per band as other contests. That 30 minute off-time rule is important, as are rules covering assisted vs non-assisted operation. In short, read the rules. If you have any questions, ask on the NCCC reflector.

One very important item in the rules is the contest target area. For Sweepstakes this is the US (including KP4, KV4 and KH6) and Canada. There are 83 sections/multipliers in Sweepstakes along with a special status (and mug) for QSOs with all. This leads us to the next part of planning - propagation. Those of us on the west coast are a bit lucky in this respect in that we can design our antenna systems to point mostly east, and the plan for propagation in that direction. Yes there are some exceptions (KL7, KH6 and Northern Territories of Canada), but it is relatively easy to work those off the side or back of a beam. The next step in propagation prediction is to obtain charts of likely openings. NCCers in the past were privileged to have N6BV create charts for us each year, and most are still available at our web site. These charts are specific to solar conditions, and with the repeating conditions from years past it should be relatively easy to match up current conditions with those from 11 or 12 years ago. These charts are made for big stations and need to be interpreted for those of us with more modest setups. For my use, I find that K6TU's propagation web site service gives me exactly what I need at the levels that match my station. His site, at <https://www.k6tu.net/> allows me to generate charts for any time of day to various locations with current conditions and my power levels in mind. My chart set will include hourly charts for each band from San Jose to the east coast. This allows me to see what areas I should expect to contact on each band, thus telling me

when I should plan to change from one band to another. It also tells me when I should plan for sleep and when to get up to get when the east coast opens up. Now the charts aren't perfect, and I will modify my operation for actual operating experience during the fray, but they do provide guidelines for planning.

In the week before the contest I will check out the logging program and make sure the interfaces are right. For most contests I will use SkookumLogger on my Mac, but for Sweepstakes I take a different approach and use N1MM+ in a virtual machine. N1MM+ gives me a more rich repertoire of features that I find more useful for Sweepstakes, especially for assisted operation. It is thus very important to test out N1MM+ with my radios, set up the contest exchange and the all-import keyer memories (both for CW and voice) that make long operation times more enjoyable. Once all this is set up I will usually enter one of the practice sessions held by NCCC and other clubs in the week ahead of each major contest. Here we not only can get used to the exchange, but also make sure things like voice levels and compression and memories are set properly.

I will also go over years past operation to give me a baseline to compete against. My goals always include beating my previous scores, and having a chart of past operation gives me something to compare with. The chart includes QSO number achieved at each hour, allowing me to quickly compare on the hour my current score against previous efforts.

Now we are getting close. The evening before the contest is reserved for family things like dinner together at a nice restaurant, then a good night's sleep. The morning of the contest is reserved for last minute details, including a review of the operating plan and predicted propagation times so that when the starting time hits I'm ready to go.

So what happens then? Try as we might there is always things that upend our efforts. For me this has included major storms (Louisiana is famous for those) that take down antennas. I have a theory that has proven itself pretty well that the best antennas are those that are put up during the night during the contest. I'm not really sure how this happens, but it has been fairly consistent over the years. There are also times when something happens to totally disrupt our operation. A storm may lead to a power outage. When this happens I get back on as soon as possible. At least I can get some practice, and I also remember that my local competitors are probably suffering through the same fate. If you simply quit there is no chance of getting a certificate, but continuing in the fray just may earn one!

That's my planning more or less, so what's yours? Let's hear more from others about pre-contest planning. It just might help others to improve their efforts!

Jack, W6FB



N6WM@N6RO 2018

VP/CC's Corner

2018-2019 season is ON... And we are off to the races!

Boy when it starts it really goes quick! Now that CQWW RTTY is in the books, and CQP just behind us, we can officially say the season is on!

I enjoyed reading all the great CQP stories from every point of California. Our president, W6FB made a very good point in noting all of the NON-CA stations calling CQ California, CQP has grown to be so much more than a state QSO party, its really a national level contest at this point. And it makes sense right? California is the worlds 5th largest economy, surpassing the United Kingdom for the position, and only the US as a whole, China, Japan and Germany are larger in this regard. It is the most populous state in the Nation, with nearly 39.5 million residents. As we drill down a bit more, California has 106,000 amateur radio licensees. That is a lot of potential testers. So CQP can be in is quite an annual event, from a nation within a nation. A big congratulations goes out to W6GJB in his season as contest manager, to N6TV and the county co-ordination team for another fully activated county list, and the entire CQP team handling all the surrounding infrastructure, log retrieval and adjudication. GREAT JOB!

Looking ahead!

Our first club competitive focus effort for the season will be the ARRL RTTY Roundup coming up in a few months, but there are major contests coming up as we work our way into the season that all should be looking forward too. Lets take a closer look at some of them

Makrothen RTTY contest

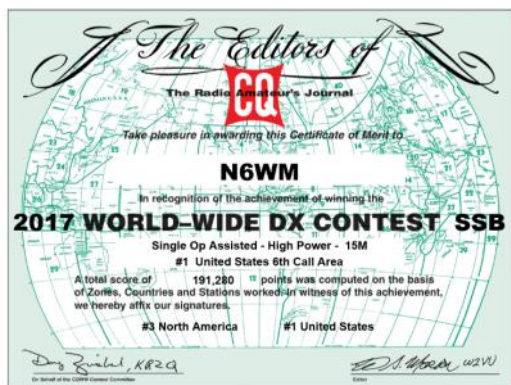
0000Z-0800Z, Oct 13 and 1600Z-2400Z, Oct 13 and 0800Z-1600Z, Oct 14, 2018

Sponsored locally by the Silicon Valley local small club, PL-259 who took it over saving this fantastic test from cancellation, it's a distance based scoring rtty contest that is well received by the entire contest community. Please support this very fun contest that can be effectively operated from stations big and small

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB

0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28, 2018

This is a big contest, with contest-peditioneers near and far activating entities all over the world to see how many entities and contacts from all points can get in the log. This one is lots of fun to do from a multi-op station, or if you are an "Iron OP" you can go for the long haul SO/AB version. There are also single band opportunities, so some of you folks that are still learning about contesting, or if you are time limited, pick a band and have a go at it.. you may be surprised what results you can produce. For example here is my time limited effort from last year.. 1st in the United States from the K6LRG remote hilltop!



So give it a go and see what you can do!

That will wrap up October, and then with the Month of November, the ARRL contest series begins in earnest with the two ARRL Sweepstakes contests. Although the NCCC is not going for the Unlimited win in these, they are still LOADS of fun, are fantastic opportunities to train new operators, and many of our surrounding small and medium clubs compete in those categories for a win. If you are part of any of those groups, or just love these contests like I do, make sure you plan to be on the air and have some fun!

CW: First full weekend in November (**November 3-5, 2018**).

Phone: Third full weekend in November (**November 17-19, 2018**).

Contest Period: Begins 2100 UTC Saturday and runs through 0259 UTC Monday.

I will look forward to seeing you all after my DXpedition QRX along with KBers W1SRD and WA6O, which will force us to miss the beginning of this years contest season. But we will be back next month.. and be ready to take on the world with you all for the rest of the season. Once again, thanks to Bob, W1RH for covering important VP-CC issues in my absence. Bob is great, enthusiastic and always willing to help.

Until next time, 73 and hope to work you in the pile up

Chris, N6WM

VP/CC

WRTC guys for CQP



What a great time at N6O this year. WRTC helper DG1CMZ was able to join us for the day, and of course our WRTC CW champ, WA6O, is always lurking in the background :-)

Gary NA6O

Tower Anyone? - Bob W1RH



In September, Tyler (K6TLR) and I drove down to the US Tower factory, in Woodlake, which is northeast of Visalia. We picked up two heavy duty 38 foot crankup towers. One for me and one for Ken, N7KD, a good friend who lives in Gardnerville, Nevada.

This will be tower #3 for me and will be supporting a SteppIR 4E (10-20 meters, 4 elements, 32 foot boom). 38 feet might not sound like a very high tower, but it really is about optimum for 10-20 meters from my location, just below the top of a very steep north-south ridge.

Jim, K6OK, a licensed engineer will be doing the engineering for the tower permit process and for my own peace of mind, since the tower will be on the edge of a very steep drop off.



September produced two nice hardware awards from the ARRL 2017 November Sweepstakes and 2018 7QP. I am very fortunate that both of these were fun supported events. 7QP especially so, with great the folks activating counties and being mobile, and mostly pointed east! Good ears and a friendly hello.

ARRL 2017 November Sweepstakes – Pacific Division Winner, SO Unlimited LP Phone
7QP 2018 – Outside 7th Area SO Unassisted LP Phone

Now on to CQP – KB and enjoy the pileup!

73, de Don K6GHA



September BBQ

The September BBQ took place on Sunday 23rd September the meeting venue was Twisted Oak Winery, owned by Jeff Stai WK6I.

There were 51 attendees:

Scott AF6RT, Stefan AF6SA, Emi AF6SA XYL, Tom K5RC, Tom K6EU, Liz K6JME, Karen K6KSO, Dick K6LRN, Sue K6SZQ, Carolyn K6TKD, Tyler K6TLR, Dave K6TQ, Vina K6VNA, John K6YK, Joanna K6YL, Midge K7AFO, Mike K7QDX, Keri KB1DZM, Vivian KI6HFS, Emilia KI6YYT, Michele KK6KPW, Alex KK6VIX, Thomas KW6S, Barbara KW6S - XYL, Norm N6JV, Rich N6KT, Dave N6LHL, Rick N6RK, Richard N6RNO, Bob N6TCE, Mike N7MH, Steve NC6R, Dennis NJ6G, Bob W1RH, Karen W1RH XYL, Jack W6FB, Oliver W6NV, Ann W6NV XYL, Bob W6RC, Rick W6SR, Bill W9KKN, Jim WB6BET, Karen WB6OKK, Rich WC6H, John WD6EIW, Doug WE6Z, Jeff WK6I, Steve WL7YQ and Felicia WL7YQ YL





2018/2019 Dues

Dues renewals for 2018/2019 are \$24 for full members and \$12 for associate members (outside of the club circle). Dues are not mandatory. However, like every club, we have expenses that need to be paid and awards are only issued to paid members so please consider a paid membership. It's only \$24!

Member Planet is used to collect dues and you will shortly receive an automated reminder that dues are payable. You don't need a Paypal account and you can use a credit card to pay dues.

You can also pay for dues by check. Please mail \$24 to the NCCC Treasure, K6EU Tom Carney, 1545 Elwood Dr, Los Gatos, CA 95032

As we are now a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization your dues might be tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. However, check with your tax professional for advice on your specific case.

To log in to Member Planet : Go to <http://nccc.cc/membership.html>

Scroll to the sign in button



Log in using the credentials you signed up with

Log in to MemberPlanet

Log in »

[Forgot your password?](#)

Select the Blue Renew Button



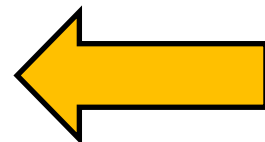
Ian Parker
w6tcpian@gmail.com

My member levels

 Northern California Contest Club

Due date: 7/1/2019

Renew



If you need help, contact Ian W6TCP w6tcpian@gmail.com

Point Generator Profile Bob, W1RH

Tom, KW6S, is our featured Point Generator this month. This all came about following a nice chat with Tom and his wonderful wife, Barbara, at the NCCC BBQ, in Murphy's a few weeks ago. Tom told me about his station. We discussed contesting. We discussed growing grapes. All good stuff! At that point, it dawned on me that Tom has yet to be featured, so here we are.

Tom is, indeed, a generator of points for the KB Club. He's helped us out several times, getting on the air for our "focus contests" with RTTY and SSB. Tom's original license goes back to the days when CW was required, so I imagine he's got a bit of Morse left in him too.

With that said, let's hear more from Tom, KW6S:

Name/Call Sign: KW6S

Past calls: AE6XQ (short term!) WB6QHF (1972~2006)

Location: Santa Cruz, cm96ax

How much property do you have? 50X150 feet city lot.

Describe your antenna system:

Current: 50' Rohn 45G house bracketed, with A3S tribander, HB 80/40 Trapped Sloper (35 degrees), HB 12M/17M/30M/60M trapped sloper, HB 80M/40M/20M/15M/10M trapped sloper (120 degrees), HB 80/40 sloper (300 degrees). Modest antennas for 222 MHz, 2 Meters, 432 MHz, 1296 MHz, 6 Meters, 2M /440 MHz side mounted dipole, 222 MHz side mounted dipole. Tower has gamma feed with L network for 160M. Front yard has Hustler 5BTV, with some radials. Receive only Pixel loop, 2x PA0RDT active short whips, low (4') 40 Meter vee dipole. Yes, there is interaction and coupling at damaging levels! Most are locked out in antenna controller.

Future: Always in planning! The same 80/40 sloper is always the best, the other two should be improved or removed.

What's in your shack?

Radio 1: Kenwood TS-2000X, Dunestar 600 filters, ALS-1300 amp, MFJ-998 auto antenna tuner, shared Swan Mark 6 amp (6M).

Radio 2: Icom IC-7610, Dunestar 600 filters, AL-1500 amp, shared Swan Mark 6 amp (6M).

Station Control: MicroHam MK2r+, HB auto antenna controller and switch, HB Receive antenna controller and switch, control for Yaesu antenna rotor, control for Pixel loop rotor. Computer with two monitors for N1MM, and WSJT-X.

Local FM covered by FT-8900, and Yaesu FT-311.

Second computer with two monitors for display of Icom R2500, or various cheap SDR receivers, usually displaying band activity on unused bands.

What are your previous QTH's?

Fresno, farming and operating mostly VHF, and a little light CW on 40 Meters.

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

Started farming grapes in Fresno (1965), started a sideline Two-way radio business (1971), moved to Santa Cruz and bought local electronic parts business (1978). Worked at several local electronics companies, then went to full time consulting in electronics (1984), mostly un-manned aircraft. Retired in 2013; still managing vineyards in Fresno.

Married? Kids? Grandkids?

Married to Barbara for 42 years! Perfect companion, surprises me with new radios, dug the hole for the tower, and encouraged me to renew my license when it expired. Very enthusiastic about WRTC after reading "Contact Sport", and attending WRTC 2018 in Wittenberg, Germany.

Three wonderful daughters, easy to be proud of.

Teen Grandson and Granddaughter in Colorado, new Granddaughter in Santa Cruz.

How many DXCC entities have you worked?

Unknown, I have never been into tracking or QSL's. My interest in Ham Radio has always been technical education, and mostly VHF up, neither generating many DXCC entities. Contesting was introduced to me when I returned to radio about 2009, attending the Contest Academy at Visalia in 2010. I still remember K6RB explanation of what contesting was about, K6MM on logging programs (mm's sticking together), and the K5RC "ramp chart" that showed me I already had most of what was needed. Now that I am home more, I'll do a lot more contests, and tracking of DX.

What's your favorite contest?

WPX SSB was my first contest, so high on the list. CQP is the one I always miss due to being away to celebrate my Dad's birthday (95 years, N6JAE) and this year is full effort! The June ARRL VHF is fun when 6M opens. I enjoy Sweepstakes, always hoping some of the "one contest a year" crowd will get the "contest bug".

Any tips for contesters?

Number One: Attend Contest Academy every year.

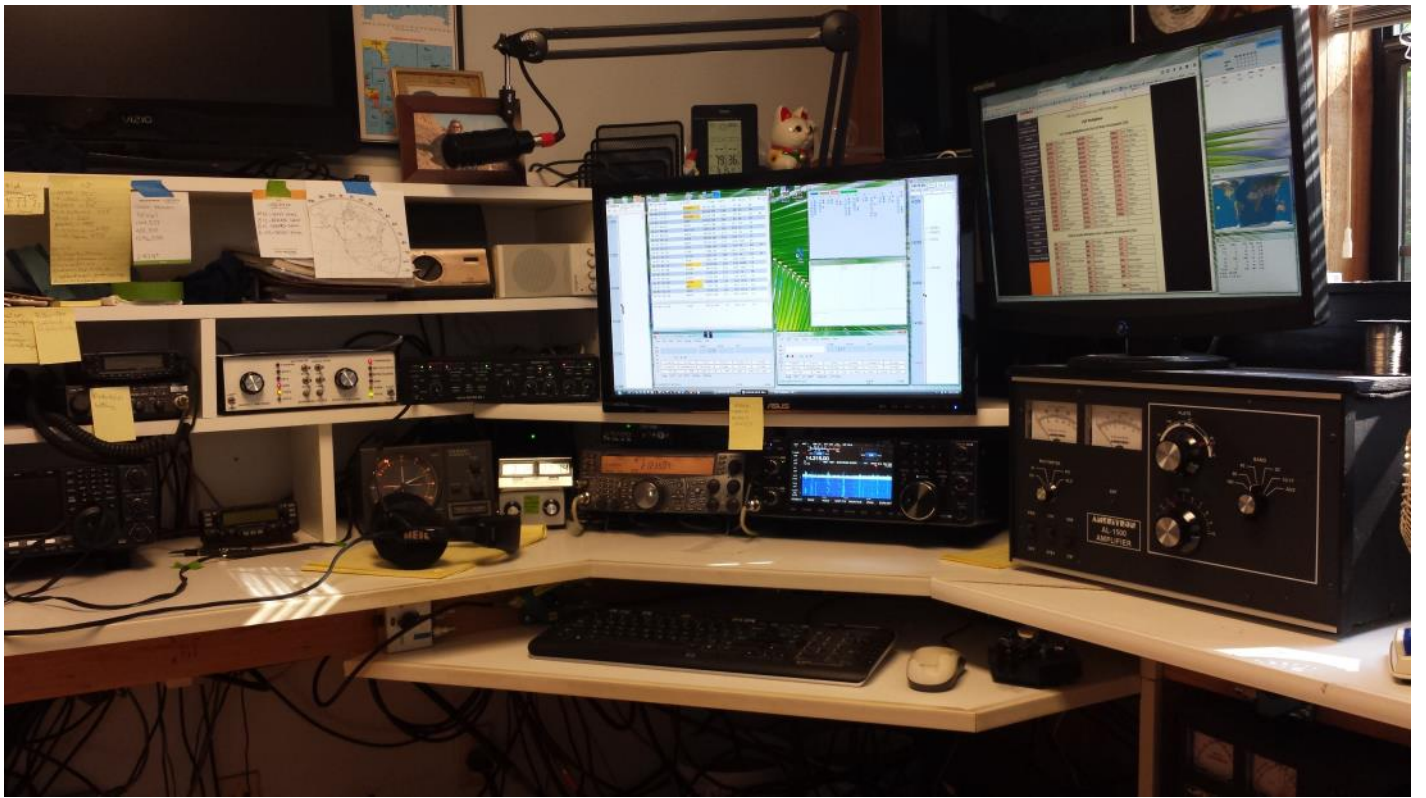
Number Two: Read the rules. Each contest is different, and sometimes rules change. Match the contest, contest strategy, and personal interest.

What would you like to see changed in NCCC?

All meeting held in Santa Cruz, with all members present, on dates I have open. Since that is not reality, I think the club is doing a good job to meet the needs of the members. I would like more talks with usable information including applicable technology, individual contest strategy, and the station features that make operating more fun and productive. For me, masking tape to keep headphone cord on the desk out of my way, and an extra fan on my face made a difference.

Any other hobbies besides ham radio?

I have had Lotus cars for many years, and enjoy all aspects of car construction, racing, and repair. I have one left, and toy with selling, but never seem to carry through. Barbara and I have interest in wine, and would like to try our hand at making some, always gets pushed off to "next year"





NCCC Annual KB Competition Rules

Revised February 25, 2018



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

Time period: The contest year starts at 0000 March 1 UTC. ARRL DX SSB is the first contest of the year. NAQP RTTY is the last.

Eligible contests: Currently, points from 38 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.

Valid scores: Only scores posted to 3830scores.com are counted.

Brackets: There are four independent brackets for the purpose of awards: 1-Platinum, 2-Gold, 3-Silver, and 4-Bronze. Brackets are assigned at the beginning of the contest year according to your final position in the previous year's standings.

Awards: Paid NCCC members may receive awards.

Contact: Gary, NA6O. gwj@wb9jps.com

NCCC Annual KB Competition Table (Updated 2/25/18)

Contest	Month	Multiplier
ARRL DX Contest SSB	March	5
CQ WPX SSB	March	1
NA Sprint Spring SSB	April	100
JIDX CW	April	10
Florida QSO Party	April	20
7th Area QSO Party	May	20
New England QSO Party	May	30
CQ WPX CW	May	1
ARRL June VHF	June	200
All Asian CW	June	10
RAC Canada Day	July	10
IARU HF World Championships	July	5
NAQP Summer RTTY	July	50
NAQP Summer CW	August	50
NAQP Summer SSB	August	50
Kansas QSO Party	August	20
NA Sprint Fall CW	September	100
CQWW RTTY	September	2
NA Sprint Fall SSB	September	100
CQP	October	20
<u>Makrothen</u> RTTY Contest	October	10
JARTS RTTY Contest	October	5
CQWW SSB	October	1
ARRL Sweepstakes CW	November	15
JIDX SSB	November	20
ARRL Sweepstakes SSB	November	15
CQWW CW	November	1
ARRL 160 Meter Contest	December	50
RAC Winter	December	10
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	1
ARRL DX Contest CW	February	5
NAQP Winter RTTY	February	50
NCCC Sprint CW	Weekly	50
NCCC Sprint RTTY	Weekly	100

Platinum	Gold	Silver
AD6E	AJ6V	AI6JZ
AE6Y	K6AW	K6AAM
AF6SA	K6DAJ	K6CSL
K2RD	K6DGW	K6ELE
K3EST	K6IJ	K6JS
K5RC	K6NV	K6KLY
K6GHA	K6RIM	K6KR
K6LRN	K6TLR	K6RB
K6MM	K6UFO	K6ST
K6MR	K6XN	K6TQ
K6SRZ	K6XV	K6UM
K6XX	KH2TJ	K7GK
K7XC	KH6LC	K7MKL
K9YC	KM6I	K7NV
KA6BIM	N0KQ	KA6W
N6EE	N2NS	KD6WKY
N6IE	N3RC	KE8FT
N6JV	N3ZZ	KI6OY
N6RO	N6KT	KM9R
N6TV	N6PN	KO6LU
N6WM	N6XI	KX7M
N6ZFO	NC6R	KZ2V
N7MH	NJ6G	N1DID
NA6O	NQ6N	N5KO
W0YK	NW6P	N6AJS
W1RH	OH1VR	N6DE
W1SRD	W6DR	N6DW
W2SC	W6EU	N6GEO
W6NV	W6FA	N6JS
W6OAT	W6JTI	N6NU
W6SX	W6NF	N6RK
WB6JJJ	W6RC	N6VV
WC6H	W6SR	N9YS
WK6I	W9KKN	ND2T
WX5S	WA6O	NF1R
	WU6X	NK7U
		NR6Q
		VY1JA
		W6LD
		W6NL
		W6RGG
		W6SC
		W6SZN
		W6TCP
		WE6Z

KB Award Brackets - New for 2018

There are four independent brackets for the purpose of issuing awards: 1- Platinum, 2- Gold, 3-Silver, and 4-Bronze.

Your bracket is assigned automatically at the beginning of the contest year according to your final position in the previous year's standings. New members or those who have never posted a score to 3830 default to the Bronze level.

On the left, is an alphabetical list of the current assignments to the top three brackets.

If your call is not listed, you are in Bronze. If you believe your current bracket is incorrect, please contact NA6O.

TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

Visit the Museum: www.n6jv.com

Coolidge Dental X-Ray Tube of 1919

A few years before the invention of the vacuum tube, work was being done with gas discharge cathode ray tubes (no filament). In 1895, W. K. Roentgen noticed that an unknown ray was being emitted from his CRTs screen. The ray wasn't affected by magnetism and it would pass through other objects. He set up an experiment to see what it would do to human tissue. He had his wife stick her hand into the beam along with a photographic plate. All the bones and her ring were visible. This unknown radiation he called "X-radiation". It is unknown what his wife called him.

X-rays were an exciting scientific subject and within a few months many people were experimenting. Thomas Edison was one of the first to warn of the danger caused by x-rays especially to the eyes. Eye protection was tried when taking dental x-rays. The early days of x-ray experimentation were marked by skin burns, blindness, death, deformed frogs and of course law suits.

In 1913, William Coolidge, who worked for General Electric (later Vice President), invented an x-ray tube that had a tungsten target and a hot cathode. This tube made modern x-rays possible, as the results were predictable. The rays could be channeled in a beam and the exposure time reduced. The electron beam was projected onto an angled tungsten target that was surrounded by copper for heat dissipation. Many different tubes were produced but in 1919 the first dedicated dental x-ray tube was made.

The tube was angled so the equipment could get close to the patient's face. With an anode potential of 50,000 volts, precautions needed to be made. The 13-inch tube was encased in lead glass and had a funnel like aiming tip. The anode was protected with Bakelite and some rods were formed to make a screen guard. The filament had a focusing reflector to direct the beam. Like most early x-ray tubes, the filament voltage was applied through a standard light bulb assembly. Some fins were attached to the anode end for heat dissipation.

TUBE OF THE MONTH

Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV



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

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 Ian W6TCP at w6tcpian@gmail.com

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

Contact Ian W6TCP at w6tcpian@gmail.com for details

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!

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Contest Calendar— October page 1

IQRP Quarterly Marathon	0800Z, Oct 1 to 2000Z, Oct 7
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 2
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-1000Z, Oct 3
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 3 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 3 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 4
432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 3
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Oct 3
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Oct 4 (CW) and 1800Z-1900Z, Oct 4 (SSB) and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 4 (FM) and 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 4 (Dig)
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 4
SKCC Sprint Europe	1900Z-2100Z, Oct 4
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Oct 5
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 5
TRC DX Contest	0600Z, Oct 6 to 1800Z, Oct 7
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 6 to 0800Z, Oct 7
Microwave Fall Sprint	0800 local - 1400 local, Oct 6
Russian WW Digital Contest	1200Z, Oct 6 to 1159Z, Oct 7
YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest	1400Z, Oct 6 to 0200Z, Oct 8
International HELL-Contest	1600Z-1800Z, Oct 6 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 7 (40m)
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 6 to 2200Z, Oct 7
FISTS Fall Slow Speed Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 6
SKCC QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 6 to 1800Z, Oct 7
RSGB DX Contest	0500Z-2300Z, Oct 7
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-0900Z, Oct 7
Peanut Power QRP Sprint	2200Z-2359Z, Oct 7



Contest Calendar— October page 2

RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 8
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Oct 10
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 10
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 10 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 10 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 11
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Oct 12
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 12
QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Oct 13
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0800Z, Oct 13 and 1600Z-2400Z, Oct 13 and 0800Z-1600Z, Oct 14
Nevada QSO Party	0300Z, Oct 13 to 2100Z, Oct 14
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 13 to 0800Z, Oct 14
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	1200Z, Oct 13 to 1200Z, Oct 14
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Oct 13 to 2400Z, Oct 14
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 13 to 0600Z, Oct 14 and 1400Z to 2400Z, Oct 14
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 13 to 0500Z, Oct 14 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 14
FISTS Fall Unlimited Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 13
South Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 13 to 1800Z, Oct 14
PODXS 070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint	2000Z, Oct 13 to 2000Z, Oct 14
UBA ON Contest, CW	0530Z-0800Z, Oct 14
UBA ON Contest, 6m	0800Z-1000Z, Oct 14
4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 15
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 15 to 2359Z, Oct 19
Telephone Pioneers QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 15 to 0300Z, Oct 16
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 17
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 17 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 17 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 18



Contest Calendar— October page 3

RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 17
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Oct 19
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 19
Zombie Shuffle	1600-2400 local, Oct 19
JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 20 to 2400Z, Oct 21
Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest	0000Z, Oct 20 to 1600Z, Oct 21
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 20 to 2359Z, Oct 21
Argentina National 7 MHz Contest	0930Z-2230Z, Oct 20
New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 20 to 0200Z, Oct 21
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 20 to 1459Z, Oct 21
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Oct 20 to 1500Z, Oct 21
Feld HELL Sprint	2000Z-2359Z, Oct 20
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 21
UBA ON Contest, 2m	0700Z-1000Z, Oct 21
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 21 to 0100Z, Oct 22
RSGB RoLo CW	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 21
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 24
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 24
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 24 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 24 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 25
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 25
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Oct 26
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 26
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Oct 27 to 2359Z, Oct 28
Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 31
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 31 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 31 and 0300Z-0400Z, Nov 1
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Oct 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).

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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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