



**NEXT NCCC
MEETING
FIELD DAY/PICNIC AT
K6ZM
DATE: JUNE 26, 1999
INFO & DIRECTIONS
INSIDE
and you can *always* check:
<http://www.nccc.cc/meetings.html>
for a map and directions!**

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June Contests

IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW
QRP TAC Contest
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest
Portugal Day Contest
VK QRP Day
TOEC WW Grid Contest, SSB
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB
ARRL June VHF QSO Party
All Asian DX Contest, CW
SMIRK QSO Party
Kid's Day Contest
West Virginia QSO Party
Marconi Memorial HF Contest
ARRL Field Day

Date

Jun 5-6
Jun 5
Jun 12-13
Jun 12
Jun 12
Jun 12-13
Jun 12
Jun 12-14
Jun 19-20
Jun 19-20
Jun 19
Jun 20
Jun 26-27
Jun 26-27

July Contest Summary

RAC Canada Day Contest
Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest, SSB
MI QRP Club July 4th CW Sprint
IARU HF World Championship
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest
SEANET WW DX Contest, CW
Pacific 160-Meter Contest
North American QSO Party, RTTY
IOTA Contest

Date

Jul 1
Jul 3-4
Jul 4-5
Jul 10-11
Jul 10-11
Jul 17-18
Jul 17
Jul 17-18
Jul 24-25

Full details are on WA7BNM's up-to-date web site:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

Ruler Schuller

As I write this, CQ WPX/CW is a little more than a week away. Of course, it will be history by the time the JUG reaches our members. I hope conditions were good enough for everyone to a) have fun, and b) make a great score (maybe not in that order!) We have a good chance of beating the old Club record. I also hope that all of you got on. Please remember to put "NCCC" in the "club affiliation" space on your summary sheet!

Our next meeting will be held in conjunction with Field Day activities at the K6ZM site in Danville. The meeting will be at 1PM on Saturday, June 26. Field Day, while not a contest, is a great operating activity.

Plan to come out and make some Q's, have some good food (served up by AI, NH7A), and just have fun.

Speaking of annual activities, dues renewal time is here! You will notice this year that you can make a choice as to how you receive your copy of the JUG and annual roster: either via mail, (the traditional way) or at the NCCC WWW Page. The dues (\$24/year) support a wide range of club activities, including the JUG. By choosing the electronic option, you can help us make sure that we can continue to support ALL of our operating activities and events.

While on the subject of support, I would like to offer many thanks to Bob Ferrero, W6RJ, and HRO for their continued support of the NCCC. The recent donation that we received continues their longstanding support of our club.

In our continuing efforts to maximize our contest participation and scores, the Board thought it might be a good idea to find out who operates what. We would like to be able to match up people with stations but not a lot of operating interest (or limited time) with those who want to operate but have limited stations. Please drop a note to me (or any Board member) if you would like to host guest ops, or would like to BE a guest operator. If we generate a list, it should be possible to generate some more activity in contests.

Even though we are approaching summer, there are a lot of events in which to participate. I have always found it a great tool to participate in some of these as a casual entrant - it helps me to keep my skills up, work out bugs in any new equipment, and just make sure that everything is working right. It's also fun! You don't need to make a full scale effort out of these events... just get on and keep from getting rusty while waiting for the "big" events.

Ed, K6CTA

DOUBLE CROSS

WPX is Gonna Be Close!

As this is written, a few days before the contest, NCCC has an excellent phone total of 96.9 megapoints, close to the all-time record by itself. It appears certain we will break the old record—we hope that will be enough to win the club competition as well. We have K7BV at OH0Z, N6TJ at AM2?, and the team at HC8N. That combined with you local powerhouses, including three single-band entries from N6RO, a multi-multi at N6IJ, and the AK6L multi-single, gave us a decent shot at retaking the championship. I hope you had fun in the contest!

Scores

Here are some scores that didn't make it last time:

WPX Phone

HC8N (N6KT)6700 x1173 =25,196,040 (SO)

(updated)

ZD8Z (N6TJ) 4084 x1037 =12,284,302 (15m)

YW1A (K2KW)400 x 244 = 287,676 (SO)

CQWW CW

K1RO (N5KO + 6)2380 x162+5894,922,805(MM)

June

Looking forward, June brings us VHF contests, All-Asian CW, and Field Day. Let's hope conditions continue improving, and summer noise problems are minimal.

I hope to see all of you at the K6ZM field day operation/meeting. It's Field Day at its finest—no insects, no generator noise, no (or, little) antenna work, and great food. What could be better?

Don't forget to keep those scores flowing. Let the rest of us see just how much you've improved.

73 de Bob, K6XX

NCCC Budget Proposed

But first, CU in WPX CW as WT6V, SOSB 15m!

	'98-'99 Actual thru 27 May	'99-'00 Proposed Budget
Income:		
Memberships: Full	170	170
Family	13	13
Associate	15	15
Student	1	1
Honorary	1	1
Jug Only	1	1
Dues:	\$4,361.00	\$4,200.00
Donations:	\$369.51	\$350.00
Ads:	\$300.00	\$300.00
Yearly Income:	\$5,030.51	\$4,850.00
Expenses:		
JUG:	\$(2,381.65)	\$(2,000.00)
CQP:	\$(259.81)	\$(250.00)
Awards:	\$(1,820.01)	\$(1,825.00)
Visalia:	\$(64.22)	\$(200.00)
Website:	\$(175.00)	\$(175.00)
Miscellaneous:	\$(569.18)	\$(400.00)
Self-Funded:	\$(197.96)	\$0.00
Yearly Expense:	\$(5,467.83)	\$(4,850.00)
Gain (Loss):	\$(437.32)	\$0.00

In fiscal year 99-00 we hope to collect another \$350 in uncollected CQP plaque pledges. We also have

one more month of JUG expense to go, at about \$150 and about \$300 in CQP expenses. We thus expect to finish the year with about a \$540 loss, about the same as last year and the year before. This year's shortfall was mainly due to 1) setting the holiday award banquet fee deliberately low to avoid a large year to year increase, 2) rising CQP award shipping costs, and 3) a doubling of club awards expense.

The trend of losing \$500/year must be corrected! The '99-'00 proposed budget projects that JUG expenses will go down a bit as more members choose to receive their copy quicker via the website, but domain name registration fees will continue. The proposed budget also reflects the new board's consensus policy of aiming to cover all self-funded programs (CQP awards, dinners, banquets) by 1) expeditious requests for pledge fulfillment and failing that, replacement donors, and 2) rounding up projected expenses to determine user fees.

Respectfully submitted: Tony Becker, AE0M
 becker@sprintmail.com - Silicon Valley, USA

WPX CW Pledges

(Taken at the May meeting)

K6AW, N6TV	30Meg from HC8N
AB6WM	1.1M
AE6Y	1M
K6GT	1M
N6XI	1M
K6XX	750k
K6CTA	200k
N6RO	Hosting 3 single-band
AE0M	1M from N6RO
AA6EG, K6EP, AC6GY	On from N6IJ
W6CT	M/S from AK6L
Now guys that will be on, but were too shy to commit:	
AD6EN	1M
K6RB	1M
K6XN	1M
KF6BNI	1M
KN6WW	1M
N2ALE	1M
N6BZA	1M
N0BBS	1M
NI6T	1M
W6ISO	1M
W6OAT	1M
W6PLJ	1M
W6WS	1M

See?! If you "sandbag", we'll make up a commitment for you!

Field Day at K6ZM

Once again the NCCC will be having its June meeting and Field Day at the official home and club station, K6ZM, at 44 Toyon Terrace, Danville, (925) 837-6894. There will be a barbecue around noon Saturday and enough food to keep people satisfied! The cost is \$9.00 for all you can eat and drink.

For those not eating and sitting around rag chewing, there will be 4 stations available to operate. The antennas at K6ZM, 4 element monoband yagis on 40 and 20, and 5 element monoband yagis on 15 and 10, put out very big signals. The evening hours usually produce the higher rates, and contesters love high rate, so plan to pull up a chair and stay as long as you want.

Last year had a big turnout, and this year should be even better with the help of a few more sunspots to perk up the bands. It is also a great time to catch up on old friendships and tell tall contest stories.

Our host, Peggy Frazier, KF6NIA, welcomes the NCCC to bring their families as well as new or possible hams to K6ZM this year for Field Day. So come on down and join the NCCC and have some fun!

Date and Field Day Period: Always on the fourth full weekend of June. It begins 1800 UTC Saturday, ends 1800 UTC Sunday (June 26-27, 1999).

73, A1, NH7A

REPORT FROM FRESNO

This column was due last issue but got delayed -- think of it as coming via the long path!

NCCC was well represented at the 50th Annual International DX Convention in Fresno this year. Bob Wilson, N6TV, conducted the Contest Forum program with his usual elan, and featured NCCC'ers Jim Neiger, N6TJ, and Bob Cox, K3EST, plus Dick Norton, N6AA. K2KW and N6BV presented two programs on different aspects of the record-setting CQWW CW effort by 6Y2A. We had an NCCC hospitality suite open both nights this year, with terrific Tied House beer supplied by Ron Manabe, W6RN. On Saturday evening we co-hosted the Contest Pileup CW Copying Contest with SCCC.

One completely new event this year was the Friday night Contester's Dinner. This was a sit-down dinner modeled after the Contester's Dinner held in Dayton. Many of us had felt there must be a better way to gather like-minded contesters on Friday for a meal and socializing. The old way of letting people fend for themselves just wasn't working out.

Judging by the attendance of 104 people, plus the number of people we had to turn away because we were out of food, we believe the event was a success. Tom

Schiller, N6BT was the master of ceremonies. Our main speaker was Paolo Cortese, I2UIY. Among other things, Paolo is the QSL manager for all of Italy. He also manages many of the Italian contests for ARI (Italy's ARRL) and was the founder of the European Sprint. He gave a very interesting talk on his perspective on unique call signs in contest logs, based on the thousands of QSLs he handles continuously.

We were very fortunate to have had several wonderful door prizes donated for this event from HRO, Force 12, Productivity Resources, InRad, Datom Engineering, N6TR, CQ-Contest Magazine, and Champion Radio.

Look for early announcements of next year's Contester's Dinner at Visalia!

73 de K6AW

June VHF Contest

Saturday, June 12, 11:00 AM

to Sunday June 13 8:00 PM

Local time in California

By now most of you have one of the new radios that has 6 meters or 2 meters and maybe 430 MHz SSB on it. Now's your chance to try these bands out in the biggest of the ARRL VHF contests. Even if you only have a 2 meter FM radio, you can make a lot of contacts and have a lot of fun in this contest. All the rules are on page 94 of the May QST. Here are the frequencies most used in California where you will find the most action.

SSB / CW

SSB 50.125 calling freq to 50.225 on 6 m. CW 50.095

SSB 144.200 calling freq +/- 50 khz CW/SSB mixed

SSB 222.100 calling freq +/- 50 khz CW/SSB mixed

SSB 432.100 calling freq +/- 50 khz CW/SSB mixed

There is not much activity on 903 mhz in this area.

SSB 1296.100 calling freq +/-50 khz CW/SSB mixed

On higher bands there is little activity; normally only the most experienced multiop stations get on 2304.100, and 10368.100 MHz.

FM

6 meters 52.525

2 meters 146.550, 146.580, 146.490, 147.540

1 1/4 meters 223.500

3/4 meter 446.000

1/4 meter 1294.500

Most of the big guns stay on SSB on Saturday then come over to FM on Sunday when most of the locals on SSB have been worked. If you have more than one radio always keep one radio on 6 meters as the band can open at any time.

The exchange is your grid square, in the Bay Area the west bay is in CM87. The south bay is split in two : west of Lawrence Expressway is CM87 east of

Lawrence Expressway is CM97, the line is the 122 degree line which goes right up through the center of Fremont. In Hayward or north you are still in CM87 until you get to Hwy 4, and north of that you are in CM88. In Marin county south of San Rafael is CM87, and north is CM88. If you are to the east of the 122deg line you are in CM 97 if you are south of Hwy4, and in CM98 north of Hwy 4, which is the 38deg north line.

On the Vhf bands SSB and CW use horizontal polarized antennas and FM is on vertical polarization. Even if you do not have the correct polarization or even no antenna for a certain band connect up what you have and try it. The 17 meter antennas work great on 6 meters.

If you have only a 2 meter antenna up you can use it on 430 MHz no problem and with a little vswr on 222 MHz. I have even worked some one who was using a 2 meter antenna on 1296 MHz.

If you like contesting on SSB and you are on 6 meters when it opens, if you did not look at the frequency readout you would think you were on 15 meters. Now it your turn to get on. If you like contest action, this is the contest. Just ask some of the big guns who started on the June VHF contest like AI6V, or W6OAT, N6TU, or N6NB.

DX that you can expect: 6 meters: mostly Caribbean stations like C6, CO, J6, KP4, KP2, 8P6, P40. On 2 meters and above: for most working stations in Oregon or Nevada will be the highlight, but big guns will work into Canada to the north, Colorado to the east, and Mexico to the south, unless they are moon-bounce equipped, then there is no limit.

There will be lots of mountain top portable stations and some expeditions. Watch on 6 meters for W6JKV/?

That's it for VHF contesting 101 in California! Have fun and see you in the pile ups.

73, Russ, K6KLY

PS. This year I will be W6YM in the contest.

July meeting

On Saturday, July 24, we will have a joint meeting with the Mother Lode DX/CC in Jackson, CA. It will be a BBQ/potluck format with a demonstration of the 6Y2A vertical antennas by N6BT.

Dayton's Man of the Hour

(Excerpted with permission from the ARRL Pacific Division Update, June 1999, by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL)

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, exhorted a standing-room-only crowd at the Dayton Hamvention to "read over the basis and purpose of Amateur Radio and the rules in Part 97" and to operate as if youngsters and overseas stations might be listening in. He made

the remarks Friday, May 14, during the first of two FCC forums in Hara Arena.

Calling Amateur Radio "an American institution," Hollingsworth said, "Ham radio is not about the First Amendment, it's not about slandering somebody you don't like, it's not about ridiculing somebody who's operating 10 kHz away, it's not about jamming or obscenity." Nor, he said, is it intended to be a talk show, an "electromagnetic forum for hate groups" or "an audio version of The Jerry Springer Show."

Hollingsworth called the on-air activities of some hams "childish and stupid--20 years ago we called that CB" and said the hobby does not always present its best face to the world. He also said hams need to understand that demand for HF spectrum in countries outside the US is increasing.

"Too many in our service take the allocations for granted," he said. He suggested that Amateur Radio can do just as much damage as good. "Some of the Third World countries would love to have 75 meters as a national telephone system," he said. What does transpire on some amateur frequencies "is often an international embarrassment."

"Having a right to do something doesn't mean it's right to do it," he said, advising the hams on hand to "look at the big picture here and save our service." He asked hams to not retaliate against hams who are offensive on the air or who break the law, but to shun them instead. He challenged each ham to recruit a newcomer into the hobby or to help another licensee to upgrade. "And don't forget about young girls!"

He also emphasized that Amateur Radio still has a major public service role to play providing emergency communication. "Every ham in America has a decision

to make: Are you going to be a part of the problem or are you going to be part of the solution?" he said.

Commercial interests are eyeing amateur frequencies, he said, and hams should not lose their bands by default. "Amateur Radio has survived world wars, depressions, all the incredible explosions in technology, and if it's lost, we're going to be the ones who will lose it," he said. Hams themselves will determine the fate of Amateur Radio. "We have an awesome responsibility."

Hollingsworth delivered similar remarks at a second FCC forum on Sunday, May 16, where he shared the podium with Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and also at a Drake collectors group on Saturday. He received an enthusiastic reception at all three venues and was accosted by those who wanted to thank him for renewing the FCC's amateur enforcement program. Some even sought his autograph.

Read the related enforcement stories in June QST "Happenings" pages 79 to 82. The ARRL Members Only section of the ARRL web site at www.arrl.org contains late-breaking enforcement reports.

Conan's Notebook:

Send a polite note to the people you hear mispronouncing this word:

nuclear : (pronounced "new-klee-urr") If you hear it pronounced "new-kew-lurr" it's probably by a senator or a media person... you know, someone who is supposedly a professional communicator!

73, Conan the grammarian

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I'd like to get my JUG at the NCCC website each month, and donate the savings to the general fund!

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