

SCCCORE

Southern California Contest Club Operations, Results, and Enlightenment

Volume 15

January - February 1992

Number 1

Radio Ramblings

by Jim Neiger, N6TJ

Oh well, that will teach me to not show-up to an SCCC meeting: it can be hazardous to your apolitical leanings. I guess it's my turn, but I thought that we once had elected N6TR to be President-for-Life! In those good old days, we were less structured - occasional pizza and beer meetings, a bi-monthly newspaper, and a SPRINT team. Today, we have the occasional P & B meeting, a bi-monthly bulletin, and THREE Sprint teams. In other words, we've concluded that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

And that's the platform upon which I've run. It's easy to appreciate that some may get frustrated in that the SCCC isn't charging around with great notions of leading the contest world to higher levels. But we're pretty much a club of the will of the members. Contests should be fun, primarily, and of a personal nature. Oh sure, we carry the SCCC banner into SPRINT competitions, CQ WW DX team forays, aggregate club competitions, and the like. But as Southern California is essentially laid-back, so is the SCCC.

Congratulations to K5RC and the gang on the recent 20th anniversary issue of the NCJ. Best yet, I think. Perhaps its contents will inspire us to bigger and better things. K1AR has similarly presented the results of his latest survey in the February CQ Contest Column.

We, of course, can develop our own notions as to the future direction of contesting. There are some topics out there for our consideration - both big and small:

How far do we go with computers and other forms of automation (packet??). Will our sport one day be relegated to the winner possessing the best software? I hope not. But in the meantime, I'm enjoying N6TR's latest logging software, immensely.

I've heard a rumor that there's some consideration to make the SPRINT even more challenging - instead of sending your own name, you send the name of your previous QSO! Ouch.

Does the contest end when it's over, or is it OK to tape the contest and complete your log at your leisure? A somewhat controversial subject these days and one not likely to disappear until definitive rules are in place. A K1AR survey some while back seemed to indicate that most think taping is OK. Me too.

Is the contest community truly past its zenith, the graying of its members irreversible, and the long-term bleak, as some would suggest?

It so, shouldn't each of us be making an effort to tell new ops about contesting and the SCCC? One thing that is apparent, however, scores are getting bigger, and bigger, and bigger.

Congratulations to our CW SPRINT team in winning the September competition, by the narrowest of margins: 24 points out of 118K! That's equivalent to one-half QSO. And to SCCC members WN4KKN/6, K6STI (at N6ND), and K6NA for making the Top Ten. And to K6LL for his Top Ten score in the Phone SPRINT (Phone???)

The most recent CW SPRINT even bordered on FUN. 80 meters, for once, was a blast. It appears our #1 team may have demolished the previous high team score. And the #2 team was also well-represented. The #3 team seems to need some work. I trust that everyone got OX, QTPIE, BIGLID, and Tree/Trey sorted out. Are these name swappers crazy, or just mean?

As I write this column, my next departure for ZD8-land is imminent. I hope I worked many of you in the ARRL CW test, and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting. 73,
Jim, N6TJ

FROM THE EDITOR....

Another ARRL DX CW come and gone. This has always been one of my favorite contests, moreso than the 'Worldwide. There are those who would have my neck for that statement, but I've got to say, at least to me, CQWW is really an acquired taste.

ARRL, on the other hand, comes to me more naturally. I think it is because all of THEM have to work all of YOU, and can't work each other...makes it much more manageable. Keep in mind also that the SSB weekend is coming up, and that any contribution to the SCCC aggregate score is most welcome.

Bob, W9NQ, has pointed out a trend of steady improvement in the club totals over the last year, and I think he's right. He is so confident of our performance of late that he, as our Vice President and Contest Coordinator, wants to try and start fielding a real team effort in the other big contests, like Sweepstakes and, ahem, ARRL DX.

As the SCCC enters it's 16th year I say it is high time we took on the Sweepstakes, certainly, if only in one of the smaller categories (local or medium), and we have what it takes to make a legitimate showing in the ARRL DX. I will be looking to Bob, W9NQ, to analyze the Club's performance trends, and to Kevin, NC6U, for an analysis of the questionnaires regarding what we can expect in the way of member interest in concerted efforts for next fall.

Well, excuses are a curious thing - as extraordinary as they sound sometimes, everybody seems to have one. I *still* want to apologize to everyone for the lateness of this issue - my excuse is that life is still a real roller-coaster at the moment. I want to tell you all, though, that stability is just around the corner. All I can say right now, is, uh, you'll all get a chance to meet her at Visalia and you'll understand my point.

The good news is that I'll be moving into a house big enough to accomodate publishing the SCCCORE and some radios, for the first time in 8 years.

Please take note of the following: Mike, KA6SAR, responded to my plea for a volunteer to collect scores for the bulletin. Please send all score info to him from now on. Packet is okay - he logs on and picks up his stuff at least twice a week. I would ask, also, that you quit sending it to me, either over packet or in the mail, because it just gums up the works. It has been a real zoo around here this time trying to keep everything straight, and I think it has contributed to my overall level of craziness.

I Received a note from our Colorado Posse leader, Bill, AA6TT, also volunteering to collect scores, but Mike had already been appointed the Deputy in charge of that. I have asked Bill if he would consider being the guy to sort through the 10-odd other bulletins we get and write a regular column about any gems of wisdom they might contain.

Bill also asked me if I could help dispel the unsubstantiated rumor propogated by the NCJ that he spent "a million dollars" on the AA6TT contest staion. To quote Bill, "I made a few dollars when I sold my record company to Capitol Records/EMI last year, and reinvested some of the proceeds in my life's dream -- a world class ham radio contest station. But a million dollars? NO way!"

I have contacted the NCJ about this in hopes they'll see fit to tactfully retract the comment. Everybody is always looking for a good excuse for why the other guy beat him. People seem much more willing to jump on something like this, rather than believe for a second that superior operating skills might be a factor....

For the last time, I ask anyone who hasn't taken the time to fill out the Questionnaire to do so immediately and send it in. Kevin will be needing them. I will have blank ones at the meeting on Saturday.

Also of note, Ray, N6VR, has supplied me with a rather complete list of Bureau addresses for call signs which start with "U". If anyone would like a copy of this, you can get from him or me for an SASE.

And, see what I mean about excuses? I just can't take the time to do up a little article about the 9 roster corrections and 8 new additions I have in my file. I promise-promise-promise to publish a completely up-to-date roster with the next issue, just before Visalia. IF ANYONE HAS ANY CORRECTIONS, ESPECIALLY IF YOU WANT YOUR PHONE NUMBER INCLUDED OR TAKEN OFF, please send the info to the P.O. Box.

Finally, please address any packets for me *to me* and do not send them to anywhere else, including W6UE. This is the only way we can be sure I'll actually get them. W6UE is a pretty busy club station, and some of those messages seem to be getting lost.

That's it from this end. I want to thank the *many* members who have kept me in their thoughts while I'm going through this crap. You guys are the best. I have gotten at least

10 notes in various forms, all encouraging me to hang in there and wishing an expeditious return to normal life. With support like that I'm getting along fine. Again, thanks.

Mark, WA6OTU

THE VICE PREZ SEZ....

Congrats to SCCC CW Sprint Team #1 on their crushing victory over the Society of Midwest Contesters in the Fall '91 Sprint. Actually we *only* won by one QSO or so, but what the heck! It looks like the Sprint Clinic at N6AA's paid off.

The SCCC Sported 3 teams taking first, seventh, and twelfth places. Congrats also to the August '91 NAQP SSB team for a total blowout and a FIRST PLACE finish of better than twice their nearest competition. Honorable mention goes to the September '91 SSB Sprint team for it's second place finish, and the August '91 NAQP CW team for a forth place finish.

It looks like the SCCC teams did very well again in the recent January and February '92 NAQPs and Sprints. In the CW Sprint, it looks like we may have beat our September '91 effort by 10-15K points. Preliminary score info is included in this issue.

The ARRL DX CW is behind us. Please remember to indicate "SCCC" in the club affiliation section of your summary sheet. Do likewise for the SSB portion as well.

The last thing I want to mention at this time is a "heads up" for the '92 Sweepstakes. I plan to stir up some serious interest among club members to beat the current all-time SCCC record for club competition in the SS. Who knows, we may even be able to win the gavel for high club aggregate score in the medium-sized club category.

Many club members have already indicated a desire to pour on the steam for this one. Start making plans now and help the SCCC "take the gavel." I will be publishing more info on this subject in the future along with a compilation of past SCCC Sweepstakes scores, etcetera. See you at the next club meeting. 73 es GL,
Bob, W9NQ

SCCCORE

is the official Bulletin of the
Southern California
Contest Club

President - Jim Neiger, N6TJ
Vice President - Bob Selbrede, W9NQ
Editor - Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU

Membership in the club is open to anyone. Dues are \$5 per year. Please use the membership form located on the next page to join or renew.

SCCCORE is published 6 times a year.
Deadlines for submission of bulletin material:
April issue - March 30
June issue - June 8

Anyone may leave bulletin related messages at any time for any officer or the editor via the Southern California DX Packet System. They may also be mailed:

Southern California Contest Club
c/o Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU - Box 4
Sierra Madre, California 91025-0004

SCORES

Welcome to the SCORES page of the bulletin. This month these numbers were collected by several different members including KA6SAR, W9NQ, and WA6OTU. Many of you members mailed in your scores - thank you very much indeed.

For future issues will you please telephone, mail, or Packet your scores to KA6SAR? This is the only way to assure they will get onto this report in the future.

Asterisks (*) denote personal bests

NA SPRINT CW -- FEBRUARY 1992

| TEAM 1 | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| N6AA | 324/47 |
| N6TR | 329/43 |
| K6NA | 326/43 |
| N6TJ | 309/46 |
| N6ND (N6CW) | <i>12,560</i> - 314/40 |
| W6YA | 299/44 |
| N6ZZ* | 299/43 |
| K6LL | 297/43 |
| W6AQ (WA6OTU)* | 294/42 |
| N6VR | <i>12,328</i> - 268/46 |

| TEAM 2 | |
|--------|--------|
| NC6U | 262/42 |
| N4EA | 236/44 |
| W6UQF | 226/41 |
| W6MVW* | 218/42 |
| KVOI | 214/38 |
| KA6SAR | 47/19 |

| TEAM 3 | |
|--------|------------------------|
| KY7M | <i>12,054</i> - 294/41 |

| TEAMLESS | |
|----------|--------|
| AC6T | 268/40 |

NA SPRINT SSB -- FEBRUARY 1992

| | |
|-------|--------|
| K6LL | 325/47 |
| NC6U | 296/44 |
| N6HC | 241/44 |
| W6HAL | 157/32 |
| W9NQ | 111/30 |

NA QSO PARTY -- JANUARY 1992 CW

| TEAM 1 | |
|----------------|---------|
| K6LL | 669/227 |
| W6AQ (WA6OTU)* | 624/214 |
| W6UQF | 579/180 |
| K6XO | 493/160 |
| WE7B | 493/ ? |

| TEAM 2 | |
|--------|---------|
| AB6FO | 545/191 |
| W9NQ | 250/137 |
| W6HAL | 84/ 50 |
| N6AA | 28/ 20 |

NA QSO PARTY -- JANUARY 1992 SSB

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| W6UE (KA6SAR) | 1262/214 |
| W9NQ | 50/ 20 |

CQWW CW (Some additional scores)

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| S/O | |
| HC1OT (W6XD) | 4.7 M |
| K6OY | 919/166/406 = 1.2 M |
| N6LL (160) | 72/ 12/ 15 = 2.9 K |

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| M/S | |
| AA6TT | 1517/155/384 = 2.3 M |
| KI6X | 380/113/200 = 310 K |

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| M/M | |
| N6ND | 3092/178/512 = 5.9 M |
| N6DX | 3170/181/493 = 5.6 M |
| W6BA | 2252/166/406 = 3.7 M |

CQWW SSB

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| S/O | |
| V29W (KD6WW) | 6915/130/439 = 9.3 M |

| | |
|--------|----------------------|
| M/S | |
| AA6TT | 2593/160/432 = 4.1 M |
| WA6IET | 1613/112/290 = 1.5 M |
| KI6X | 1055/135/342 = 1.3 M |

ARRL 160 METER CONTEST

S/O
 AA6TT 615/79
 N6LL (WA6CDR) 587/77
 K6NA 171/58

ARRL 10 METER CONTEST

S/O
 AA6TT 2481/223
 K6SVL (Low Pwr SSB Only) 1499/128

M/S
 N6LL (+WA6CDR) 705/122

CQ 160 METER CONTEST CW

S/O
 WOZV 900/75
 W7XR 700/80
 N6LL (WA6CDR) 560/66
 KG7B 535/63
 N6ND 446/60
 KVOI 300/38

M/S
 WOUN 882/73
 N6DX 656/72
 W6UE 212/46

ARRL DX CW

S/O
 W6UE (KA6SAR) 1724/281
 WA6IET 869/279
 N6AV 750/205
 NE6I 162/82

SCCC OBLAST TOTALS by Ray, N6VR

| CALL | WKD | CFMD |
|--------|-----|------|
| NG6W | ALL | ALL |
| W6KUT | ALL | 168 |
| N6ND | ALL | 158 |
| N6VR | 181 | 178 |
| AA6AA | 175 | --- |
| W6UQF | 174 | 171 |
| W6YA | 172 | --- |
| K6LPL | 170 | 150 |
| K6YRA | 176 | 143 |
| K6ZH | 171 | 142 |
| WA6IET | 167 | --- |
| K6JYO | 149 | 117 |
| AA6TT | 142 | --- |
| K6XT | 101 | --- |
| KG6AR | 85 | --- |
| KF6HI | 69 | 19 |

ALL = 182

For additions or corrections contact Ray, N6VR at the following numbers:

H (805) 649-9696
 W (805) 982-5778

Shame on the rest of you for not turning in your score for this list.

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The December meeting of the Southern California Contest Club was post-TRW Swapmeet style held at Coco's Restaurant very conveniently located about a mile from the Swapmeet. It was a rainy day at the Swapmeet, so several members gathered early. Further discussion netted the fact that 11am would be a fine time to schedule the meeting under non-rainy circumstances. We will repeat this exact same meeting format for the next meeting to be held on February 29.

Those present were:

N6AA - DICK
W6AE - RED
N6AV - JERRY
KOBGL - DALE
KD6BTD - CHARLENE
AB6FO - KEN
K6GXO - KEITH
W6HAL - LEON
W6HX - TED
K6JEY - DOUG
K5KT - JOE
W6MDH - JERRY
W6MKB - TERRY
W9NQ - BOB
N6NW - NEAL
WB6OKK - RICK
WA6OTU - MARK
K6OY - BRUCE
NC6U - KEVIN
WK6V - BILL
N6VR - RAY
W6XD - ART
WA7ZTN - MIKE
N6ZZ - PHIL

Most of the members present dined out of an unrestricted menu and the service was quite good in spite of the fact that we had a single waitress; she did an outstanding job and we made arrangements to make the next time go even more smoothly.

The meeting was one of the most stimulating and memorable in recent memory. Not only did we enjoy our usual dose of Contest-related tall tales (and short ones), we did, in fact, actually get around to some serious business. We elected a slate of officers to head up the SCCC for the next two years. Elected in his absence, as the last issue warned, was Jim Neiger, N6TJ, to serve as President (Just kidding, really, Jim

had agreed to his nomination in October). Bob, W9NQ, agreed to serve the next term as Vice President, the office which he only recently inherited when Morgan, N6JW, resigned in August.

Also occurring in Jim's absence, and about which we will not hear the end to be sure, the members present agreed to a dues increase from \$4 per year to \$5 per year. This was due largely to an eloquent plea from the Bulletin Editor/Treasurer (de facto) Mark, WA6OTU, who pointed out that after 6 issues and a whole annual cycle had passed, the treasury had about \$40 in it and SCCCORE issues cost more like \$50. A lot of people argued with Mark, but he won. (nya - ed.)

There followed a lively discussion headed by outgoing President Kevin, NC6U, about several of the trends made obvious by a cursory look at the Questionnaires (if you haven't sent yours in, shame on you). Discussed were things like: Should the SCCC sponsor awards? On a scale from 1 to 7 how important is a Club Banquet? (answer: 99). Many are interested in Field Day, but many are not as well. Should the SCCC lead the way toward a national coalition of contest ops for establishing proper judging standards? The sentiment was mostly along the lines that the independent informal (and extremely professionally administered - ed) system of judgement by peers initiated by N6TR, N6AA, and N6TJ had managed to accomplish this already, with the number of serious operators not participating approaching zero this year and the error rates of all the participants getting better and better as our system of analysis gets cleaner and cleaner.

Last but not least, setting off some excellent exchanges was the question: Should sponsors require top level competitors to keep audio tapes of their operations? Several members present thought that it was too much to ask, but most of those disagreeing conceded that you should if you were vying for the top ten, which is all we really meant in the first place. Those going for all the marbles should be able to justify their entries if push should come to shove.

Many present were interested in finding out how those who did keep audio tapes did it, nuts- and bolts-wise. We went around the room and everybody who tapes their operations then gave a brief description of the recorder they used, how many cassettes they needed to do 48 hours, and how they picked up the audio from their rigs. This discussion proved to be of such great interest that it was agreed a feature article should follow in SCCCORE detailing all this information with a listing of suppliers and prices. Stay tuned (so to speak).

The meeting adjourned around 2pm after 3 hours of good times, decent food, and a sweet but harried waitress, Krissie, to whom we owe a round of thanks.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Dues are \$5 per year. Gifts are appreciated. New Members fill out the following:

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

Everyone: Check here if you would like a club badge - include an additional \$5.
Current Members: Check your mailing label on the back of this form. If everything is current, fine. Just send this in with a check. If there are changes, note them.

Mail to: SCCC c/o Mark, WA6OTU - Box 4 - Sierra Madre, CA 91025-0004

SCCC CALENDAR

Following is a list of dates close to the hearts of SCCC members:

FEBRUARY

29 - Club Meeting after TRW - see announcement to Right >

MARCH

7, 8 - ARRL International DX Contest, Phone
30 - Deadline for April issue

APRIL

10, 11, 12 - 1992 International DX Convention (Visalia)
11 - Club Meeting at Visalia

MAY

2, 3 - The ALL NEW Texas QSO Party

JUNE

8 - Deadline for June issue
13 - June VHF Contest
20 - Club Meeting, location TBA
27 - Field Day

NEXT MEETING

The next SCCC Club
meeting will be held:

February 29, 1991
11:00 am

at:

The Jolly Roger Restaurant

707 N. Sepulveda Boulevard
El Segundo
on the West side of Sepulveda
North of El Segundo Boulevard
South of Imperial Highway

DIRECTIONS:

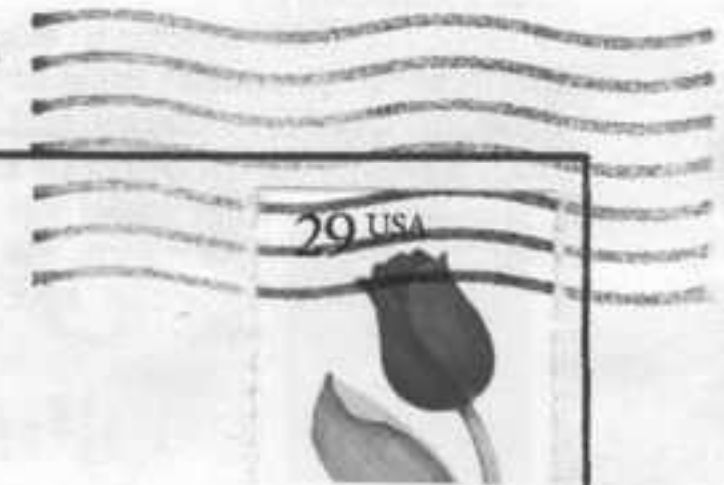
From the TRW Swapmeet, go west on Marine
approximately 1 mile to Sepulveda. Turn right. Go North
past El Segundo Boulevard. Restaurant will be on your left.

From the 405 freeway, exit at Imperial Highway and go
West to Sepulveda Boulevard. Turn left. Go South to the
restaurant which will come up on your right.

(Thomas Guide 56C5).

We have a Banquet Room reserved.

Southern California Contest Club
c/o Mark Beckwith, Box 4
Sierra Madre, California 91025-0004



N6VR MEMBER THROUGH 02/94

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