

Southern California Contest Club Operations, Results, and Enlightments.
 SCCCORE is the official bi-monthly bulletin of the Southern California Contest Club. Membership is \$3.50 per year, Payable to Ski Brozowsky, N6ADI.

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SCCC assumes no responsibility for anything said, implied or printed as the
 SCCCORE is filled with opinions, conjecture and hearsay!

NEXT MEETINGS

MARCH/APRIL MEETING WILL BE HELD APRIL 3rd AT *8PM IN CONJUNCTION WITH
 THE 1987 "DX CONVENTION" AT VISALIA, CALIFORNIA. INSTRUCTIONS WILL
 BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK. IT WILL BE MOST LIKELY IN
 N6ADI'S ROOM AND \$25.00 IN BEER PROVIDED AND AFTER THAT YOU ARE ON
 YOUR OWN....

MAY/JUNE MEETING WILL BE AT N6IC'S PLACE 16MAY87 AND INSTRUCTIONS WILL
 BE IN THE MAY/JUNE ISSUE OF SCCCORE. IT WILL BE POTLUCK BBQ WITH ICE
 AND A HOT FIRE PROVIDED. FUN FOR ALL.....

Mar. 14-15	Maine QSO Party		
Mar. 14-15	RSGB Commonwealth CW	TREASURY REPORT	
Mar. 14-16	Virginia QSO Party		
Mar. 15	ZERO District QSO Party	BALANCE 1/87	-27.50
Mar. 15-16	Wisconsin QSO Party	RECEIPTS 1/87	122.50
Mar. 21	YLRL East Meets West	RECEIPTS 2/87	17.50
Mar. 21-22	YL ISSB Phone Party	MAR/APR BULLETIN POSTAGE	20.90
Mar. 21-22	Bermuda Contest	SCCC REAM " PAPER	7.00
Mar. 21-23	BARTG Spring RTTY	CURRENT BALANCE ON-HAND	+ 84.60
Mar. 28-29	CQ WW WPX SSB Contest		
Mar. 28-29	UBA SWL Phone Award		
Apr. 4-5	Connecticut QSO Party		
Apr. 4-5	IBM QSO Party		
Apr. 8-10	DX YL to NA YL CW		
Apr. 11-12	CARF Commonwealth Phone		
Apr. 15-17	DX YL to NA YL SSB		
Apr. 25-26	Swiss "Helvetia" Contest		
May. 2	Utah QSO Party		
May. 9	Nevada QSO Party		
May 23-24	UBA SWL CW Award		
May 30-31	CQ WW WPX SSB Contest		
July 18-19	CQ WW WPX VHF Contest		

Say You Saw It In CQ

FROM THE PRESIDENT - MARCH 1987

Tomorrow I set out on my trek to W6AQ to operate the ARRL Phone. What fun it is to operate a contest. It almost makes all this bureaucratic stuff worth the trouble.

To all of our new members, welcome. I hope you will enjoy many if not all of the good things that the Southern California Contest Club has to offer. We are quite a different club, as our Club's territory is spread out quite a ways (from Santa Barbara to San Diego, and from Ventura to San Bernardino) and sometimes it takes a loooooong time to get anything done. About the only things we do consistently are operating contests and having club meetings (and even at that we never have had more than half of the membership show up at one place at the same time, besides maybe at Visalia).

The single most important service that this club provides to it's members is an opportunity to meet with other people with the same interests on a regular basis, the fruits of which are DXpeditions, killer Field Days, Multi-singles and Multi-multis, and personal operator growth and improvement for us all.

Elsewhere in this issue of SCCCORE, the results of the membership survey from last fall are printed. Based on those results, I have come to the following conclusions:

So called "Regular Lunch Meetings", being rated the Most Important, should continue as they have, without structured programs, every two months, on a date that doesn't interfere with serious contesting, with an open-house (open-station) or barbeque meeting 2-3 times a year.

There is a high level of interest in portable operation. The club should definately organize a structure of members who like portable work and who have gear they're willing to lend. I will create the President-appointed position of PORTABLE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR to mastermind this. Applications are now being accepted.

Aggregate competition? This one has cost me more lost sleep than any other single issue before the club, and yet the results of the survey are painfully inconclusive. 45% of members responding said "the club should attempt to mount serious aggregate efforts". 55% of members responding either said no or checked the "NO OPINION" box. The problem to me is this: That 45% only represents 14 actual members who took the time to fill out the survey. More than 14 members routinely submit their scores for the club already. I'm inclined to say we should leave it the way it is, but I know I'll catch alot of flak from some members by saying that. Help! Any ideas?

Field Day is again a source of some question. Ranking 5 out of 7 on the priorities list doesn't speak well for it, and yet "Portable Expeditions" ranks number 2. My thoughts are that FD is a great way to smoke check the hardware you're going to take to Mexico in the Fall. Here again - those interested should go for it, but don't hold it against those who aren't interested. Applications for FIELD DAY COORDINATOR are now being accepted.

FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED) - MARCH 1987

It looks to me like any sort of Club Awards incentive program is on the shelf, too. Here's the problem. Two years ago, when the question was asked "should we have Club awards?" everyone said "yeah, that would be great." Then we set about raising the dues. Whoa, wait a minute. The Club thoroughly denounced a dues increase beyond the cost of the bulletin. When I asked the question this time around, I made sure it was understood Awards might require \$\$\$. The result was 23% YES, 55% NO, and 22% NO OPINION. Seems clear to me.

I was glad the Club decided it was time to stop messing around with the Northern California Contest Club (ranked 6 out of 7). After years of the NCCC constantly turning down any challenge we offered them, sometimes with absurd excuses, it's time to stop troubling them with our obviously inferior talent. (right.)

Well, guys, it looks like the notion of an Annual Banquet met with defeat also, ranking 7th out of 7 priorities.

So, when all is said and done, I don't see any sweeping changes on the horizon, especially when you consider that everyone who didn't fill out a survey and send it in was basically casting a NO OPINION vote on everything. By the same token, though, this survey brought approximately three times the response of any previous Club questionnaire, so I like to think we're making progress toward becoming a Club with more active members. Keep up the good work.

I am interested in hearing from anyone who has suggestions about how the Club can participate in Aggregate competition more than we do now (that seems to be what all the fuss is about) keeping in mind the following ground rule: no individual member should feel pressured into participating - that is not what our Club is for.

My two cents? If you have never operated portable with this Club, you don't know what you're missing. The Southern California Contest Club has literally re-written all the rules (and all the records) for operating with 'portable' equipment. Our club sets up a better station in the field than 90% of the contesters in the country use routinely as their home stations. We're talking towers and beams and kilowatts on all bands simultaneously, combined with mountaintop locations. Give us a try. Come out for Field Day. You won't be sorry (and you'll win).

73 for now. See you in Visalia.

Mark WA6OTU

MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS

The membership was polled last Summer and asked to prioritize a list of Club Activities and a list of Contest Types in order of importance to them. Also included were three Yes/No/No Opinion questions to find out where the club stood on some issues raised recently. 31 members responded. The results are tabulated below.

ACTIVITIES listed in order of importance. 1 = most important, 7 = least important.

1	REGULAR LUNCH MEETINGS	(averaged 3.1)
2	PORTABLE EXPEDITIONS	(averaged 3.7)
3	OPEN HOUSE / BARBEQUES	(averaged 3.7)
4	AGGREGATE COMPETITION	(averaged 4.5)
5	FIELD DAY	(averaged 5.1)
6	COMPETING AGAINST NCCC	(averaged 5.8)
7	ANNUAL BANQUET	(averaged 6.4)

CONTESTS listed in order of importance. 1 = most important, 5 = least important.

1	DX CONTESTS	(averaged 1.3)
2	DOMESTIC HF CONTESTS	(averaged 2.5)
3	OTHER HF CONTESTS	(averaged 3.2)
4	VHF / UHF CONTESTS	(averaged 4.4)
5	OTHER CONTESTS	(averaged 4.5)

CLUB AGGREGATE COMPETITION (should we do it?)

YES: 45% NO: 32% NO OPINION: 23%

PROGRAMS AT MEETINGS (should we have them?)

YES: 13% NO: 64% NO OPINION: 23%

INTER-CLUB COMPETITION WITH AWARDS (should we set it up?)

YES: 23% NO: 55% NO OPINION: 22%

HELP WANTED - APPLICATIONS FROM VOLUNTEERS FOR THE POSITIONS OF

PORTABLE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
and

FIELD DAY COORDINATOR

ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

There is a considerable amount of interest within the club in doing portable contest operations and Field Day. These activities require a considerable amount of planning and coordination, as you can imagine. The duties of these coordinators would be as follows:

1. Find out who all the interested operators are.
2. Appoint Band-Captains best suited for the jobs.
3. Coordinate aquisition of necessary equipment.
4. Provide standard log sheets and dupe sheets for everyone.
5. Arrange for an operating site and appropriate permits and licenses.
6. Make sure all the operators know how to get where they're going.
7. Oversee set-up, contest operation, and take-down.
8. Arrange for the logs to be prepared in a timely fashion and turned in.
9. Distribute the costs so that everyone shares equally.

Many of these tasks can be delegated to people best suited to do them. All of these tasks require lots of planning. The sooner you do them, the less time they take and the better prepared they are. It is not too soon to be preparing for Mexico 1987, and it is definately not too soon to be preparing for Field Day 1987. Are there brave souls out there with organized minds and a fierce desire to be at the head of a contest winning operation? Now's your chance. Interested parties apply to WA6OTU.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO 1986 XE2SI PARTICIPANTS

Some of the participants in the SCCC expedition to Mexico in 1986 have still not submitted a list of their expenses. We all agreed to keep track of our expenses, then total them up and split the costs evenly between us, remember? If you don't send them in right away, the book keeper will assume you had no expenses and will bill you for your entire share of the expenses. Some ops put up quite a bit of front money for that shindig, remember? Feel guilty? Good. Send your expenses today to WA6OTU. Statements will go out at the end of March.

CONTEST ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEWS

by Marty Woll N6VI

The ARRL Awards Committee has received and acted on the report of the CAC which contained various recommendations emanating from the questionnaire circulated the last year. Actions include:

* Establishment of a QRP category (5 watts output or less) in November Sweepstakes (precedence = "Q").

* Addition of Yukon (VY1) as a separate multiplier in ARRL DX Contest (states, etc. are multipliers) but not for Sweepstakes (sections are multipliers).

* Deletion of "no telephone" rule from VHF / UHF contest rules (it was never intended to apply to VHF / UHF by the CAC).

* Forwarding to ARRL Membership Services Committee the CAC's recommendations re. retention of the 3-tier club competition system and inclusion of foreign clubs for club aggregate entry eligibility.

The Awards Committee is also leaning toward retaining the present date for the ARRL DX CW Contest (as opposed to moving it one week earlier).

By the time you read this, SCCC charter member N6TR should have completed his move back to the L. A. area. Welcome home, Tree!

I look forward to seeing you all in Visalia!

73, Marty N6VI



2ND 87 SCCC MEETING AND THE DX-CONVENTION

THE NEXT SCCC MEETING WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL GREAT DX CONVENTION IN VISALLIA, CALIFORNIA. IT WILL BE HELD 3 APRIL, FRIDAY NITE AT 8PM AND INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK. IT WILL PROBABLY BE HELD IN N6ADI'S ROOM OR SOMEONE ELSE'S. IT WILL BE (AS USUAL) AN INFORMAL GET TOGETHER OF CONTESTERS WITH NO PROGRAM AS THE CONVENTION WILL HAVE ENOUGH OF THOSE. IF YOU CAN MAKE IT, IT SHOULD BE FUN. IF YOU'VE NEVER BEEN TO THE DX CONVENTION YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE MISSING. A CHANCE TO: SEE SOME SUPER PRESENTATIONS, SEE PROGRAMS, MEET ALL YOUR COMPETITION AND OF COURSE SOME FAMOUS DX'ERS.

MAY MEETING AND BBQ Mark Your Calendar 16MAY87

THE MAY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE QTH OF N6IC, DON, WHO HAS GRACIOUSLY OFFERED TO HOST THE ANNUAL SCCC BBQ THIS YEAR. YOU WILL RECEIVE A SCCCORE BULLETIN PRIOR TO THE MAY MEETING WITH FULL INSTRUCTIONS OF HOW TO GET THERE AND WHAT TO BRING. IT WILL BE A POT LUCK AFFAIR WITH ICE AND A HOT FIRE PROVIDED. IF YOU MADE IT TO LAST YEARS BBQ AT THE W6AM SITE YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS GATHERING OF THE SO. CAL. CONTESTERS.....

SPRINT 87 CW

N6TR/7	338/39	K7SS	313/39	K6NA	313/39	N6CQ/3	185/31
W6UE	277/38	N6GG	165/33	N6VR	236/36	W6MKB	247/36
NE6I	272/36	W6HAL	60/25	K6GXD	185/36	N1EE/6	263/34
N7BG	267/41	W7CB	192/34	(By K6WI)		K5RX	331/37
W6UQF	213/39	N6XI	239/34	N6VI	275/38	N6RO	307/39
NC6U	186/31	KA6W	199/34	N7NG	249/32	K6LL	295/38
W0UA	307/37	N5RZ	308/36	WK6V	121/32	KC8C/3	236/35
KM1C	159/32	AH2U	239/36	K8AZ	276/34	K5GN	308/37
NR5K	202/34	K1KI	276/38	K8BNS	218/36		

SPRINT 87 PHONE

N6ADI BLEW IT AND LOST THE SCORES HE GATHERED FOR SPRINT PHONE.... ACTIVITY WAS LOW DUE TO IT BEING VALENTINES DAY!!!!

ARRL CW & PHONE

NO SCORES SUBMITTED !
YOUR SCORES COULD BE HERE IF YOU SENT A CARD TO THE CLUB PO BOX.

FIELD DAY 87

IF NO ONE STEPS FORWARD BETWEEN NOW AND THE NEXT MEETING APRIL 3RD AS THE FD COORDINATOR WE WILL GO FORWARD WITH WHAT WAS DISCUSSED AT THE JANUARY MEETING IN REGARDS TO THIS YEARS FIELD DAY ACTIVITIES, TO JOIN FORCES WITH THE HUGHES CLUB IN FULLERTON, CALIF. FOR FD 87. THE SCCC HAS NOT OFFERED ANY FD ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST 3-4 YEARS AND WE DECIDED AT THE JANUARY MEETING IF A COORDINATOR DIDN'T STEP FORWARD THE SCCC WOULD JOIN THE HUGHES CREW. THEY HAVE A SUPER SITE IN FULLERTON AND ARE WELL EQUIPTED TO DO IT UP RIGHT. SO IF YOU ARE INTO FIELD DAY AND WANT TO PARTICIPATE, HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.....

1. Volunteer as the SCCC Coordinator before April 3rd, the SCCC has access to all the necessary equipment to do a good FD, generators, tower trailers, mono-band beams etc. etc..... or
2. Contact NC6U or AB6R or drop a line to the SCCC Club box and I will forward your info to them. They need to know how many SCCCers are interested in joining them so appropriate plans can be made. They are experienced at this (as exhibited by their XE2SI contributions) and already seem to have it dialed in but might need some additional support equipment (radios and amps or ?) I think they said that they already had monobander beams, rotators, generators etc. If you are interested PLAN AHEAD AND LET THEM KNOW YOU WANT TO JOIN IN THE FUN.....

IN SEARCH OF A SITE
by Ski N6ADI

During the SOCC's trip to Mexico, I had the opportunity to meet Wally Cook, XE2GAU (N6J2B), who came up to the SOCC site to see what was going on and offer his help. In talking to Wally, I learned that he lived in La Playas on the beach below our CQW CW site and Wally offered to open his station for future operations. I was pretty interested in that, as it would possibly eliminate FD style operations, so I made arrangements to visit Wally for ARRL CW to check it out in hopes of operating WPX Phone with a MS gang from La Playas. Wally only had inverted vees up but when working him from home on 40 and 75, he had a killer signal with only 100 watts and the vees. I packed up my IC740, an all band verticle, contest keyer, benchner and misc. hardware and took off for Mexico prior to ARRL CW. On Friday, I found Wally's place, it was nestled between some two story structures to the North and South and I set up the verticle and station (with hopes that the buildings wouldn't absorb my modest 100 watt signal). I got everything tuned up and things sounded pretty good on the bands. Prior to the contest I worked some mid-west and east coast stations and things looked promising..

Then the contest started! It started as you would expect with lots of activity but my rate was terrible 21 QSO's in 31 minutes on 20 meters. Yuk! I had figured even with a moderate signal (100 watts) and a verticle that people would hear me and seek me out. Such was not the case. I would get on a clear freq. and call CQ and work a station or two and then be covered up by some W calling CQ and then no-one heard me and I would have to move and so it went. Much to my dismay by Friday evening I had pretty much given up on the site so I got a good nites sleep and evaluated the situation on Saturday over some cool "Coronas".

Wally was a super host! He made tacos, had beer in the ice box and was very accomodating but unfortunately his site was not productive. Needless to say I bid fairwell to Wally and found a tri-bander at another site that was more productive on Sunday with my meager 100 watts. What was learned? 100 watts and a verticle don't always cut it. It is hard enough with 100 watts and a beam to be heard amongst all the CQers. I always thought that the DX could survive with a modest antennae and 100 watts and that they would be searched out. Such is not the case when operating from a shadowed location close to the US. I was continually moving to be heard and not covered up by CQer's from Stateside who obviously had better transmitters than receivers! So I'm still looking for an existing site in Mexico that could be supplemented with some antennae and made to be productive. Maybe some of the San Diego guys can aid in finding this place. K6JYD ? I am looking for a site with commercial power that either has antennae up or could accomodate a tower trailer with tribander and vees for 40, 80 and 160. Maybe someday I will find it? I still think that we have a potential FUN contest gold mine at our door step in Mexico. Even for me its only a 4 hour drive if I avoid the GRID LOCKED LA FREEWAYS. It seems that the TJ club or some XE in the vicinity would welcome the activity because it would improve their station and would be lucrative in other areas also.... I have asked Wally to try and seek out some alternate sites for investigation and trial. So thats my report on ARRL CW and the fun I had....My rate with a tribander was in excess of 120 Q's PH.

If you are interested in participating in the major contests from somewhere other than home and want to help with establishing a site in Mexico that is fairly productive, easy to get to and requires little supplement contact me and we will work together to develop one. It FUN and my trip this time only cost me about \$30-40 for the weekend! Pizzas in Mexico are \$7.50 for a large with everything on it and beers are cheap too!!!.....

RAINBOW RIDGE UPDATE

N6DX is rebuilding Rainbow ridge with fastabiiity in mind this time, using crank-up towers in place of 100+ft poles. In talking to Daryl the Ridge might again host some activity for club members who aid in its rebuilding. I hope so, as it is one of the best sites in So. Cal. and should be back on the air. Daryl will be looking for help in the future and I for one plan on helping to put this KB site back together for lasting activity!!!

SOCC DIRECTIONS commentary

THE SOCC WILL ONLY CONTINUE TO BE AS GOOD AS WE ALL MAKE IT. IF YOU DON'T LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING AND WHAT SCORES YOU HAVE ACHIEVED IN YOUR CONTEST EFFORTS WE CAN'T LET THE OTHER MEMBERS KNOW. THE CLUB IN THE PAST HAS BEEN CARRIED BY A FEW MEMBERS WHO ARE DEDICATED TO MAKING THINGS HAPPEN.

THE CLUB NEEDS YOU !!!

NEEDS

1. THE PURPOSE FOR AREA REPS IS TO GIVE INPUTS TO THE BULLETIN. THE CLUB IS SPREAD OUT GEOGRAPHICALLY AND THESE REPS HELP OVERCOME THIS HURDLE. THE CLUB HAS NEEDED A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE LOS ANGELES AREA FOR 18 MONTHS THAT IS ACTIVE IN BOTH DXING AND CONTESTING TO PROVIDE INFORMATION EVERY TWO MONTHS TO THE BULLETIN ON HIS AREA AND WHAT IS HAPPENING. WHO IS PUTTING UP ANTENNAES ETC. IT IS VERY SIMPLE AND CAN BE HAND WRITTEN NOTES, RUMORS FROM THE REPEATER OR ? THE CLUB ALSO NEEDS ARTICLE SUBMITTALS PERTAINING TO CONTESTING OR WHATEVER YOU WANT TO SAY.

2. AS YOU HAVE READ IN THE PRESIDENTS REPORT THE CLUB IS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE ON THE POSITION OF "PORTABLE OPERATIONS COORDINATOR". DELEGATION IS THE KEY TO THIS POSITION, NOT DOING IT ALL YOURSELF!

3. THE CLUB NEEDS A CONTEST COORDINATOR TOO! OR IS THE VICE-PRESIDENT TO DO THAT?

AGGREGATE SCORE QUESTION

IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE MEMBERS ARE IN FAVOR OF AGGREGATE SCORE. FOR SURE IN THE CASE OF THE CQW DX CONTESTS, SPRINTS (TEAMS), AND MAYBE CQ WPX. AS FOR ARRL, AT LEAST IN THE PAST, MEMBERS HAVE BEEN GIVING THEIR SCORES TO THEIR LOCAL CLUBS LIKE SDCXC & SDOXC ETC. THIS QUESTION SEEMS TO BE THE MOST TALKED ABOUT TOPIC IN THE CLUB. THE CLUB IS 99% ARRL MEMBERS (POLL TAKEN AT THE JANUARY MEETING REFLECTED THAT FACT). FOR CQW DX AND CQ WPX I AM IN FAVOR OF A MASS AGREGATE SCORE PUSH FOR SOCC. I KNOW THAT OUR VP AND MANY OTHER MEMBERS ARE TURNING IN THEIR ARRL SCORES FOR THE DX CLUB, I AM TOO!!! IF YOU DON'T COMMENT ON THIS PENDING ISSUE IT WILL NEVER BE ADDRESSED. GET EXCITED ABOUT IT IF YOU FEEL STRONGLY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. WE WILL PRINT YOUR COMMENTS GROWTH AND SUPPORT

THE CLUB IS GROWING RAPIDLY, FROM LESS THAN 25 MEMBERS 3 YEARS AGO TO NOW ALMOST 90 MEMBERS. ITS AN INFORMAL CLUB. ITS EASY TO BE A MEMBER AND CHEAP TOO! ITS RESPECTED IN THE CONTEST AND DX COMMUNITY FOR ITS ABILITY TO PERFORM, BUT THERE ARE ONLY A FEW PEOPLE CARRYING THE CLUB ORGANIZATIONALLY AND WE HAVE TO START DISTRIBUTING THE LOAD MORE EVENLY AMONG EACH OTHER. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEVER MEET TO DISCUSS CLUB DIRECTION AND THE BY LAWS CALL FOR A BI-MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD. IF THE BOARD IS NOT GOING TO MEET AND GIVE DIRECTION THEN THE BY-LAWS SHOULD BE CHANGED ACCORDINGLY.

ELECTIONS

THE TERM OF OFFICES FOR THE CURRENT STAFF IS UP IN JANUARY 1988. THATS ABOUT 9 MONTHS FROM NOW! NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM MAY TIL SEPTEMBER 15th FOR THE OFFICES OF: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER AND TWO BOARD MEMBERS. IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD BE A SELF STARTER AND WOULD FILL ONE OF THESE SLOTS SEND HIS NAME AND CALL TO THE CLUB BOX. PO BOX 62, OAKVIEW, CA. 93022.....VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO MOST WELCOME TO RUN.....

DUTIES & PURPOSE

MARK, OUR PRESIDENT WILL AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A BOARD MEMBER FOR THE NEXT TERM AS HE WILL BE THE EX-PRESIDENT. BEING AN OFFICER OF THE CLUB IS RELATIVELY EASY DUE TO THE CLUBS INFORMAL NATURE. THE PURPOSE OF THE CLUB IS TO GATHER CONTESTERS IN THE SO. CAL. AREA TOGETHER FOR INFORMAL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS MUTUAL INTERESTS IN CONTESTING AND TO BE AN ACTIVE CONTEST CLUB PARTICIPATING IN CONTESTS TOGETHER AS A UNIT (STATED IN THE BY-LAWS & HISTORICAL DOCUMENTATION), BE IT SINGLE OP OR MULTI-OP FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING OUR SCORES AS ONE IN CLUB COMPETITIONS. THE BOTTOM LINE PURPOSE OF THE CLUB IS RADIO-SPORTING. WE ARE THE STREET RACERS OF HAM RADIO.....INFORMAL BUT ORGANIZED TO THE POINT THAT WHEN WE DECIDE TO PUT AN EFFORT TOGETHER WE ARE A FINE TUNED MACHINE THAT IS SUCCESSFUL IN ITS MISSION. IN ORDER FOR THIS TO HAPPEN IT TAKES A JOINT EFFORT OF MEMBERS DOING A LITTLE RATHER THAN A VERY FEW MEMBERS DOING ALOT AND CARRYING THE CLUB WITH REGARD TO ORGANIZATION AND LEADERSHIP. LIKE A TUG OF WAR: TEAM EFFORT PRODUCES RESULTS A WINNER!! JOIN IN THE WINNING TEAM AND DO WHAT YOU CAN TO MAKE THE SOCC A WINNER.....

Propagation, ETC, .

Even the big stations like N6RO cannot make this stuff, so here is a refresher course taken from notes on a talk given by an expert contester, W3LPL, given at the 1986 Dayton Homeveition Antenna Forum as well as hints about being just plain louder!

During the evening hours, the D-layer disappears so that source of absorption goes away and signals increase in strength. On the other hand, the E-layer never goes away, but the MUF goes down during high solar years to around 2 MHz, which produces absorption on 80 and 160 meters. During the low sunspot cycle, the MUF can go lower than 160 meters, and signals can go way up.

As we all know seasonal changes effect the bands. For example, 20 at night during the summer and daylight hours during the winter are the prime hours for this band. Why? The reason is absorption. In June on 20 at 8:00 AM the absorption is equivalent to what it is at noon in December. The reason for this is the angle of the sun- it's higher in the sky and therefore the ionosphere overheads receives greater radiation, and thus more absorption.

In the summer at night, the absorption goes away. The D-layer goes away and the E-layer MUF drops down to around 2-3 MHz. The F-layer has enough ionization in it so it will normally refract signals on 20. This makes signals on that band strong. What is good news is that summer months on 20 are not affected by the solar cycle, it just every other band that seems to be at the mercy of old sol! As such, 20 during the summer months will be just as good this year as it will be in the next three years.

The bigger the antenna and the higher you can get it is and old slogan that is not always useful for contesting. On 10 meters, the MUF really effects this band; absorption and the LUF are rarely problems. What happens is that for tall antennas, each "hop" is very long, which produces a signal in Europe, but little into the Caribbean. Thus for SS, if you are on 10 with a high antenna, you will skip over the most of the U.S.A. and have a poor score compared to the same antenna at a lower height.

Okay, what height should the antenna be for contesting. Well, the lowest angle of radiation that is useful is about 3 degrees. On 10, that means a height of 140 feet. Don't run away yet! If you have the same antenna at merely 50 feet, a common height for tribanders, you will be 6 dB down from the same antenna at 140 feet. If you now have a linear with 500 watts output, and replace it with a 1000 watts output linear, you will now be down only 3 dB from the 140 foot antenna. Remember that the lower antenna will be stronger than the higher into the U.S.A. and Carribean- this causes N6RO to switch to a low antenna to work the Caribbean.

For 15 meters, 6 dB down from the 3 degree radiation angle occurs at 60 feet. What easier to be louder, a 150 foot tower in your backyard or a KW output linear sitting on your desk hooked up to an antenna at 60 feet?

On 20, useful angles are between 8 to 15 or 20 degrees with optimum heights around 80 to 100 feet.

Keep in mind that the difference between a 3el tribander (like a TH-3) and a large tribander (like a TH7DXX) is greater than 3dB, and you only get 3dB when you go from 500 watts to a kw output! So power is not the only way to be loud.

On 40 where absorption is a serious factor during daylight and less at night, to produce high angles in order of 25 degrees you need an antenna at about 80 to 100 feet. At night, 140 to 200 feet is not too high.

You can see why those designing antenna systems that cannot put up antennas higher than 100 feet use verticals to get low angle radiation on 40 and 80- it's cheaper too!

FCC NEWS

The ARRL will write the FCC to request information concerning the new FCC policy under which amateurs may be placed on "reduced power hours" in cases where RFI has been reported. The letter will ask the Commission specifically about the regulatory foundation for the new policy." (ARRL Letter, 09/02/86).

Denial of ARRL's petition to require labeling of home electronic devices as to their susceptibility to Radio Frequency (RFI) was upheld by FCC Action on 10/06/86. The implication to the public that such labeling would be an assurance of the proper functioning of such devices was one of the reasons given for denying the League's petition.

Novices and Technicians on ten-meter phone, RTTY, and packet?

Novices using FM repeaters?

The FCC has said YES to both questions. Effective 0001 UTC March 21, 1987, Novice and Technician licensees will enjoy these new operating privileges, and more.

When propagation conditions are good, the ten-meter band provides worldwide communication with low power. Even when conditions are not so good, the band often provides pleasant surprises. Novices and Technicians will be able to use 28.100-28.300 MHz for CW and digital modes (RTTY, AMTOR, and packet) and 28.300-28.500 MHz for SSB (and CW) maximum power 200 watts output.

There is a world wide beacon network now operating at 28.190-28.300 MHz which eventually will be consolidated in a smaller band segment. In the meantime, ARRL recommends that 28.100-28.150 MHz be used for RTTY, AMTOR, and packet; 28.150-28.190 MHz for CW; and 28.300-28.500 MHz for upper-sideband SSB (remember to keep your carrier frequency below 28.497 MHz so your upper sideband will be inside the band!).

For many Novices, the prospect of using FM repeaters and other modes, including packet communications, in the 222.01-223.91 MHz (25 watts maximum) and 1270-1295 MHz (5 watts maximum) bands is even more exciting than the new horizons opening on ten meters. Hand-held, mobile, and fixed station equipment is now available for the new bands, and there are many repeaters available — with more to come, for sure! Novices can't establish their own repeaters, but they can use repeaters licensed to and controlled by others. Of course, FM is not the only mode permitted in these bands; some amazing distances, far beyond line-of-sight, can be achieved using SSB and CW, and even television is permitted at 1270 MHz!

SCCCORE

AGGREGATE SCORE PROPOSAL

IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED THAT A DISCUSSION TAKE PLACE AT THE APRIL DX CONVENTION MEETING AND THE MAY BARBEQUE MEETING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF JOINT EFFORTS OF THE SCDXC AND THE SCCC. THIS HAD BEEN PROPOSED PREVIOUSLY AND SHELVED BUT HAS BEEN PROPOSED AGAIN BY SOME SCCC MEMBERS THAT HOLD DUAL MEMBERSHIP IN BOTH SCCC & SCDXC. IN REVIEWING THE SURVEY TAKEN LAST YEAR AND IN TALKING TO NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF THE SCCC THE THOUGHTS ARE: THAT THE SCCC IS PRIMARILY INTERESETED IN CQWW DX CONTEST AND POSSIBLY CQ WPX, THE SCDXC IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE ARRL DX CONTEST. SINCE THE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF THE TWO CLUBS IS PRIMARILY THE SAME AND SINCE A NUMBER OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SCCC ARE ALSO MEMBERS IN THE SCDXC AND A NUMBER OF THE CONTESTERS IN THE SCDXC ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE SCCC IT IS BEING PROPOSED THAT THE CONTESTERS FROM THE SCDXC SUPPORT THE SCCC IN CQWW DX AND POSSIBLY CQ WPX AND THAT THE SCCC HELP THE SCDXC WITH ARRL DX. THIS WILL BE VOLUNTARY ONLY AND WILL, IF APPROVED, ONLY BE PROMOTED BY THE TWO SEPERATE CLUBS, NOT MANDATED, BUT ONLY ENCOURAGED. WHAT IS TO BE GAINED? BIGGER AGGREGATE SCORE.....IT IS BEING DONE ALREADY BY A NUMBER OF THE MEMBERS OF BOTH CLUBS BUT NOT OFFICIALLY PROMOTED BY EITHER....

THE CURRENT SITUATION, AS IT STANDS NOW, IS THAT A NUMBER OF OUR (SCCC) MEMBERS ARE SUBMITTING THEIR ARRL SCORES FOR THE SCDXC FOR THE ARRL CONTESTS AND A NUMBER OF THE SCDXC CONTESTERS ARE DOING THE SAME FOR US (SCCC) FOR CQWW DX. THEY ARE, OF COURSE, MEMBERS OF BOTH CLUBS..... AND HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE THEIR SCORE..... THIS IS BEING DONE WITHOUT THE PROMOTION OF EITHER CLUB, OTHER THAN THAT, THEY PUT IT IN THEIR NEWSLETTER THAT THEY NEED A MAXIMUM EFFORT FROM THEIR MEMBERS FOR CLUB AG-SCORE.

IT IS REALIZED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE SCCC ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF ANY JOINT EFFORTS FOR PERSONAL REASONS BUT THE SCDXC IS LOOKING AT THIS AND WILL BE PUTTING SOME PROPOSALS ON THE TABLE FOR THE SCCC TO RE-ACT TO AND THE SCDXC MEMBERS WITHIN THE SCCC WANT IT TO BE CONSIDERED. EVERYONE INVOLVED UP TO THIS POINT FEELS THAT IT IS TIME TO SHELVE THE BAD FEELINGS THAT EXIST AND THAT THE PROPOSAL WILL BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF BOTH CLUBS. ONE OF THE TOPICS DISCUSSED TO THIS POINT WAS ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE SCDXC AND THE FACT THAT THE SCCC HAS SOME REALLY HOT OPERATORS THAT GUEST OPERATE AND NEVER USE THEIR OWN CALL AND THEREBY COULD NOT MEET THE SCDXC MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS EVEN THOUGH THEY WORK OVER A HUNDRED COUNTRIES EVERY TIME THEY SIT DOWN AND CONTEST. THE SCCC HAS NO ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS (ONLY AN INTEREST IN CONTESTING AND \$3.50 A YEAR AND YOU'RE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING). THIS SEEMS TO BE THE MAJOR HURDLE FOR ANY PROMOTION OF JOINT EFFORTS OR PROMOTION OF JOINT MEMBERSHIP. PRILIMINARY DISCUSSION WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE DX CONVENTION AND BY THE MAY B9Q MEETING SOME SORT OF PROPOSAL WILL HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE SCCC FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION AND DECISION OR COUNTER PROPOSAL.

EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS AT VISALIA OR SEND YOUR COMMENTS IN TO THE CLUB BOX, ALSO INCLUDE YOUR FEELINGS ON AGGREGATE SCORE AND WHAT YOU FEEL SHOULD BE PROMOTED (SHOULD THE SCCC PLAN TO GO FOR THE GOLD IN CQWWDX OR NOT? SHOULD THE SCCC GO FOR THE GOLD IN THE ARRL CONTESTS TOO? OR ARE WE NOT INTERESTED IN THE ARRL CONTESTS?) IF YOU CAN'T MAKE VISALIA AND FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT THIS SUBJECT GET YOUR COMMENTS IN THE CLUB BOX BY 2 APRIL AND THEY WILL BE AIRED AT VISALIA. IF YOU DON'T CARE DON'T DO ANYTHING. IF THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SCCC DO NOT WANT TO DO A CLUB SCORE THEN THE CLUB WILL PROMOTE THE FACT THAT MEMBERS HOLDING JOINT MEMBERSHIP IN SCDXC AND SCCC SHOULD SEND IN THEIR SCORES AS THEY ARE SO INCLINED. IF WE WANT TO SHOW OFF OUR CAPABILITIES AS A CLUB THEN WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE MEMBERS TO SEND IN THEIR SCORE FOR SCCC IN THE CONTESTS THAT ARE DETERMINED TO BE IMPORTANT TO THE CLUB (SOME, ALL OR ?) WHAT DO YOU THINK? LET US KNOW.....