

SCCCORE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1985

ISSUE 6/85

Southern California Contest Club Operations, Results, and Enlightenments, SCCCORE is the official bimonthly bulletin of the Southern California Contest Club. MEMBERSHIP IS \$3.50 PER YEAR PAYABLE TO SKI BROZOWSKY, N6ADI..

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SAN DIEGO AREA COORDINATOR: WE NEED SOMEONE!

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The SCCC assumes no responsibility for accuracy, authenticity or content as most material is opinion, conjecture and hearsay.

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NEXT MEETING IS:

Saturday, December 7th at noon at Numero Uno's Pizza, 16545 Ventura Blvd Encino.

*note meeting in December is not at the Manhattan Beach hideout !!!!!!!!

NEXT - CONTESTS ARE:

DATES	CONTEST	PLANNED SCCC PARTICIPANTS
NOV 9 & 10	European DX Contest	
NOV 16-17	ARRL SWEEPSTAKES phone	
NOV 23-24	CQWW CW	N6VR (805) 649-9696 OJAI, CA.
DEC 7-8	ARRL 160m CW	
DEC 14-15	ARRL 10m CONTEST	
JAN 24-26	CQWW 160 m CW	

PLANNED SCCC PARTICIPANTS ARE STATIONS THAT WELCOME YOU AS A SCCC MEMBER TO COME AND JOIN IN THE OPERATION. CONTACT THEM PRIOR TO THE CONTEST IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING. BE RADIO ACTIVE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Contest season is here! Four major contests crammed into five weekends tests the stamina of U.S. contesters every year! And if that isn't enough, several other large (and growing contests) occur both before and after the five week stamina test! If you need something to stimulate you for this years contests, listen to this...Despite no coordination within our club last year for CQWW, we finished a strong third place in the world in the club category!! GOOD JOB you guys!! But don't let up! Make it your goal to improve on your score this year!

At his time last year, I was officially elected to the office of President of the Southern California Contest Club, this after a couple years as an 'interim' President awaiting a permanent one to volunteer. I accepted the position with a footnote--1985 would be my last year as President. Therefore, I will be stepping down and officially turn over the honor at our January meeting. Nominations for the new President should be mailed as soon as possible to Ski N6ADI. You may also volunteer by dropping Ski a note. The election will be held at the January meeting and mail in ballots will be included in the January bulletin for those who will not be able to attend the meeting.

Obviously, the position is quite prestigious. After all, the SCCC boasts the best operators in the world collectively. Fortunately, however, the position does not require a lot of work or time. And as outgoing President, I am available as an advisor for the new President. 1986 shall be a year of new ideas and perhaps new directions. Don't miss this opportunity to send the club in the direction you think it should go. Send your nomination to Ski promptly. And please take the time to vote for your choice of prospective President's when your ballot arrives!

Being President of the SCCC will always be a highlight of my ham activities. Thanks for providing your support!

DENNIS, NE6I

SCCC NOTES

Present at the September meeting were: N6AA, N6ADI, W8AKS, N6AW, N8BJQ, N6DLU, W6GC, N6GTS, NE6I, N6JWV, K5KT, N6NI, WA6OTU, KT6T, N6TJ, N6VI, N6VR, N6LL and two others whose calls I missed (sorry guys). Another good turnout and lots of discussion about the new club dues and coordination between Southern California Clubs (namely: SCDXC, SDDXC & SCCC). Also a slide show by N6ADI & N6VR.

No concensus could be reached regarding coordination between clubs as there are quite a few differing opinions. The only thing for sure is that the SCCC has no well defined goal in mind and many members seem content with (or insistent on) continuing as a group of individualists that pools its scores into one club score in selected contests. This topic will probably continue in 1986 as we attempt to define our goals in the contesting world.

Here is what some of the members are planning for CQWW:
N6AA-VP2VCW/phone, EA9/cw; N6TJ-9Y4VT/phone, D44BC/cw; N6VR hosting SCCC members for club effort; N6NI-W6MKB/phone, KM6B/cw; WA6OTU-W6UE/phone; N6AW-W6AM/phone&cw; K5KT-K6OKW/phone m.s. or 40mtr sngle phone/cw hme; N6DLU-W6UE; W8AKS-hme; N6JWV-N6VR's; NE6I-N6VR/phone & hme 80mtr/cw; N6ADI-N6VR/phone & ?cw.

DON'T FORGET MARK YOUR LOGS SOUTHERN CAL. CONTEST CLUB & SEND COPY TO NE6I !
Log forms available from any club officer! CQ requires you send a copy of your summary sheet to NE6I. GOOD LUCK IN THE TESTS AND DON'T FORGET ELECTIONS!!!!

NORTH COUNTIES REPORT by Ski N6ADI

Murphy was with us for CQWW phone and all we have learned from previous operations was thrown out the door because of it. On Friday N6VR was called off-shore, NE6I & N8BJQ didn't come because Ne6I had to work, W6TKF had lost his voice, N6HK had to work the weekend and of course N6ADI is still suffering with broken right thumb and had the latest flu that has been getting us all down. None the less we went ahead with a very limited operation utilizing: crippled N6ADI, contest newcomer N6JWV, AI7J, limited NS6X (couple hours), limited N6VR (couple hours), limited N6HK (4 hours) and Japanese operator N6GUC. We managed to keep the station up for 48 hours but missed tons of QSO's and multipliers due to our limited participation. Seiji, N6GUC did however run JA's on 40 meters like no-body's-business, with a total of around 800 QSO's on 40 meters. He was our saving grace for the weekend. The final score looks like it might approach a million. No Big Deal considering the fantastic conditions that were available for CQWW phone. The BEST I've heard in quite some time. Sorry more members couldn't make it. We sure could have used YOU!

N6VR is planning for CW now and we all hope the conditions come even close to what they were for the phone portion. I heard 39 zones on 15 and 20 meters during the weekend. (Notice I said I heard I didn't work them all) Zones 16 and 17 seemed a little scarce though. I heard J5WAD on 40 phone trying to work some of the caribbean dxpeditioners but didn't get through, he was 5-7 on the west coast and I never heard him listen up for stateside. I still need him. Any band or mode call me collect (805) 649-3339.

40 meters was outstanding but the same old proplems EU not listening up for stateside and when they did they couldn't work many. Those guys must run 25-30 KW into dipoles. They can't hear but they sure can broadcast LOUD!!!!

If any of you active SCCC contesters are interested in a multi-single operation for CQWW CW call N6VR (805) 649-9696 and Ray also knows of a KILLER station that is available for a guest operator if you are interested in Single op, single or multi-band call him !!! CU in the contest.....

ELECTIONS NOTICE

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF SCCC !

Send your nominations to N6ADI as soon as possible so he can get the ballots printed for the next issue of SCCCORE and you can vote either by mail or at the January meeting. The January meeting will be the 25th, the same day as TRW Swap Meet and at the regular place.

NOMINATE SOMEONE THAT WILL GIVE US ALL DIRECTION AND ISN'T AFRAID TO SPEAK OUT BECAUSE THE SCCC NEEDS SOME STRONG LEADERSHIP THAT CAN FORCE THE ISSUES OUT INTO THE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION!

IF YOU ARE THAT PERSON YOU CAN VOLUNTEER TOO! JUST REMEMBER THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE A POPULARITY CONTEST BUT IT SHOULD BE A THOUGHTFUL SELECTION OF THE BEST PERSON FOR THE JOB.

NOMINATED PARTIES WILL BE CONTACTED REGARDING THEIR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT AND THEN ALL NOMINATED PARTIES WILL BE PRINTED IN THE JANUARY ISSUE OF SCCCORE FOR YOUR SELECTION. MAIL IN BALLOTS WILL BE SENT TO A DIS-INTERESTED PARTY FOR TABULATION AND WILL BE ADDED TO THE IN PERSON VOTE AT THE JANUARY MEETING AND BY THE END OF THE MEETING WE WILL KNOW THE OUTCOME!

ALL MAIL-IN BALLOTS WILL HAVE TO BE IN PRIOR TO JANUARY 25th

CQWW SCORES-

N6VI	single op AB					N6VR multi-single
	80	40	20	15	10	
160						1.5million rough
6	14	23	32	27	12	
5	21	39	66	57	19	
8	69	277	298	334	39	928,974 rough score

CONGRATULATIONS to Dave Bell W6AQ, who won an "Emmy" award for his tv production, "Do You Remember Love?", about a woman suffering from Alzheimer's disease. Nice going, Dave!

CONTEST ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT by Marty Woll N6VI Oct. '85

With the move of Randy Thompson K5ZD to Boston, chairmanship of the CAC has been assumed by Doug Grant K1DG (an excellent choice, in my opinion). Meanwhile, W1OD has apparently left his position at ARRL, leaving the CAC temporarily without a staff liaison. However, this should not stop us from getting our opinions across and discussing the issues of the day. On that subject, input from SCCC members (that's YOU), is noticeably lacking! A short note or postcard to me will insure that your views are seen by the Committee members and will help me better represent the Southwest Division.

Several major issues (Field Day, VHF scoring, DX contest, 160 meter dx window) have been presented for your consideration in prior issues of SCCCORE. Here are other things being discussed from time to time:

- * 10 GHz contest or qso party (rules have been drafted)
- * "Seniors" category for graying contesters
- * Use of spotting nets by single-op's (now close to a final decision against, thus maintaining status-quo)

Please copy me on any letters you send to the ARRL regarding the threat of reduced League contest support. Thanks to NI6W for his excellent letter.

73, Marty N6VI

Several SCCC'ers were among those on hand last month up in Canyon Country to help Jim Stevenson KM6B put up a 140-foot tower with 30- and 40-meter yagis. N6VI spent 7 hours strapped to the top, and the ground crew included N6AW, NE6I, N6NI and N8BJQ. Watch for Jim's big signal in future contests.

N6VI has completed installation of four Fox-Tango filters (2nd and 3rd i.f., 'phone and cw) in his TS-930 and reports very good results. Marty has documentation on the process for anyone who may want to look it over.

SCCC HISTORY AND DIRECTION

THE FOLLOWING PAGES (3 of them) ARE REFLECTIONS OF THE FORMULATION OF THE SCCC AS RECALLED BY BOB WA6TLV. THE REASON FOR BRINGING THIS INTERESTING INFORMATION OUT OF THE PAST AND INTO THE 1980's IS THE FACT THAT THE CLUB SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN ITS PURPOSE AND ROOTS. IN ORDER TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT AND TRY AND DETERMINE WHETHER WE AS A CLUB WANT TO CONTINUE WITH THESE GOALS THAT CAUSED THE CREATION OF THE CLUB OR TO CONTINUE TO ROLL ALONG AS WE HAVE FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS WITHOUT A CLEARLY DEDICATED EFFORT TO CONTINUE TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS.

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS THE SCCC HAS BEEN DOING RATHER WELL IN THE CONTESTS WITHOUT A DEDICATED KICK-BUTT EFFORT. WE HAVE OUR DEDICATED TRAVELERS DOING THEIR THING AND HELPING THE CLUB GREATLY WITH THEIR SCORES FROM SUCH PLACES AS 9Y4, VP2V, V3 AND NUMEROUS OTHERS, WE HAVE A VERY LIMITED FACTION OF GROUP EFFORTS, AND THE REST OF US GENERALLY DO OUR OWN THANG! WE HAVE HAD THE MEXICO EXPERIENCE THAT WAS GREAT! AND SHOWED WHAT A CONCENTRATED CLUB EFFORT COULD DO IN THE WAY OF SCORE AND OVERCOMING ADVERSITIES. WE GENERALLY HAVE AT OUR DISPOSAL SOME SUPER STATIONS THAT RECENTLY HAVE BEEN PRIMARILY USED FOR THOSE DO OUR OWN THANG EFFORTS. WE HAVE A BASE OF STATIONS, OPERATORS AND EXPERIENCE TO MAKE A REAL SHOWING IF WE AS A CLUB INDEED WANT TO CONTINUE TOWARD THOSE GOALS THAT WERE SET FORTH IN 1976 THAT RESULTED IN THE FORMATION OF THE SCCC.

THE NCCC HAS STATED IN THE PAST AND RECENTLY THAT THOSE SOUTHERS "ARE JUST A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALISTS THAT CAN'T EVEN DECIDE TO DECIDE!" "THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SMOG HAS CLOUDED THEIR MINDS" THIS MIGHT INDEED BE THE CASE AS EVIDENCED AT THE LAST MEETING AND OUR INABILITY TO DETERMINE OUR CURRENT CLUB GOALS AND DIRECTION. AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OUR POLL OF THE ATTENDEES ABOUT CQWW PLANS NETTED ONE OPEN CLUB EFFORT, ONE CLOSED MULTI EFFORT AND THE REST OF US WERE DOING OUR OWN THANG!

IT IS REALIZED THAT WE HAVE SOME LIMITATIONS: GEOGRAPHICAL, FAMILY OBLIGATIONS AND OF COURSE THERE'S THAT OLD SMOG FACTOR! MOST OF THESE CAN HOWEVER BE OVERCOME! THE GEOGRAPHICAL PROBLEMS CAN BE TACKLED BY HAVE A NUMBER OF PLANNED EFFORTS IN GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS CLOSE TO MEMBERS THAT ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING. FAMILY OBLIGATIONS ARE PURELY POLITICAL AND I HANDLE MINE BY TAKING THE YL AWAY A WEEK-END BEFORE OR AFTER CONTESTS. EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN SOLUTION TO THIS ONE!

SCCC ONLY ACTIVELY (AS A CLUB) PARTICIPATES IN A FEW CONTESTS EACH YEAR

EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN UNIQUE SITUATIONS AND IF YOU CAN'T FIGURE OUT YOURS NOBODY CAN FOR YOU. IT IS REALIZED THAT THIS IS A HOBBY (TO AT LEAST 98% OF US) AND THAT HOBBIES ARE AROUND FOR ENJOYMENT. TO THE OTHER 2% IT IS A PROFESSION OR ADDICTION AND WE'LL BE THERE NO MATTER WHAT!

FINALLY THERE IS THE SMOG FACTOR AND THIS IS THE HARDEST ONE TO OVERCOME. MAINLY CAUSE IT SEEMS TO BE INCURABLE. I GUESS IT IS THE AIDS OF THE SCCC AND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA! THE POINT BEING THAT AS A CLUB WE MUST HAVE GOALS AND DIRECTIONS, OTHERWISE WE ARE NEVER GOING TO SATISFY THOSE OBJECTIVES THAT THE SCCC WAS FOUNDED ON, WIN! THAT'S RIGHT THE SCCC WAS FORMED TO WIN A FEW CONTESTS AND IN THE PROCESS HAVE FUN DOING IT! WINNING! TO WIN TAKES TEAM WORK IF YOUR OBJECTIVE IS TO WIN AS A CLUB (CLUB IS MORE THAN ONE PERSON). IF OUR GOAL IS TO WIN AS INDIVIDUALS IT IS MUCH EASIER BECAUSE IT THEN TAKES LESS PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION BUT AS A CLUB IT TAKES EXTENSIV PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION! BEING AN OLD MOTO-CROSS AND SPEEDWAY RACER I KNOW THE MEANING OF TEAM WORK, PLANNING AND CO-ORDINATION. IT REQUIRES ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED AND MORE TO WIN. CAN WE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIVIDUALISTS WITH OUR SMOG FILLED MINDS DECIDE TO DECIDE?

UPON THE EVE OF THE SCCC'S 10th BIRTHDAY WE ARE ABOUT TO ELECT NEW OFFICERS AND IT WOULD BE NICE TO LET THEM KNOW IF WE AS A CLUB WANT TO REACH FOR THOSE GOALS THAT SPURNED THE BEGINING IN 1976 OR DO WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO BE A COLLECTION OF INDIVIDUAL CONTESTERS THAT TWICE A YEAR COMBINE OUR INDIVIDUAL CONTEST SCORES FOR A CLUB SUBMITTAL? MOST SUCCESSFUL CONTESTERS ARE GOAL ORIENTED PEOPLE AND WE AS A CLUB NEED SOME GOALS AND DIRECTIONS SOON!

SCCC MEMBERS LIST FROM DEC. 13, 1976 some calls might be wrong!

WB6AIT	WB6AKR	W6AM	W6ANB
W6AQ	K6BCE	WA6BCO	WB4BGY
W6BHY	W6CCP	WB6CEI	WA6CUM
WA6CXX	WB6DJP	WA6DNM	WB6DOI
W6EE	W6ET	WB6FFE	W6FRZ
WA6FWH	KØGJD	WA6HQQ	W6HX
WB6JOS	WB6JYQ	WA6KAC	WB6KJI
WA6LBP	K6LKD	K6LL	WB6MXM
WB6NCL	W6OEO	WB6OLD	WA6OTU
K6OVJ	WA6OWM	WB6OYN	K6PDA
WB6PKA	WB6PXP	K6QPH	WB6RMG
K6RR	W6RR	W6RTT	K6SDR
K6SE	WB6TDE	W5TES	WA2THV
WA6TLV	W6TSW	WA6TVC	W6UFJ
WA6VBS	WB6VZI	WA6WZN	WA6WZO
W6YB	WB6YBL	K6YNB	WB6ZGL
WB6ZVC			

(notice all the N-calls and 1x2's & 2x1's)

For many years the contest operators of Southern California have had a dream: a large, contest-oriented radio club in the Los Angeles area. After the 1976 Fresno DX convention, a few enthusiastic contest operators decided it was time to organize. They had seen the Northern California Contest Club members in their Halloween orange and black T-shirts proclaiming "NCCC #1 in SS," and it made their contest blood boil. It was time to play "trick or treat," Southern California style.

The organizational meeting of the soon-to-be-formed Southern California Contest Club was held on July 17, 1976 at the home of W6RTT, in Arcadia*. All in all, over 40 interested testers and DXers from San Diego to Bakersfield attended the meeting/BBQ in Peter Grillo's back yard. After a period of getting acquainted, the business of forming a club was begun.

Mr. Grillo began by explaining the process by which a club becomes affiliated with the ARRL. I won't bother you with the details, but basically 51% (?) of the charter members of a club must be members of the ARRL. These people must submit a club charter to the League for approval. Jim Neiger, W6BHY, then went on to express his belief that a Southern California Contest Club should be formed, and he went on to explain what events had led to the formation of the NCCC (he was a charter member). A great deal of discussion ensued and it soon became obvious that there was enough support from those present to justify the formation of a club. A motion was made and it was officially voted that this new club would

*Note: The Spanish Civil War began exactly 40 years earlier on July 17, 1936.

be known as the "SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB!" Several people volunteered to be members of a committee which would draft the club charter, and a final proposal was made by Jim Neiger, the SCCC officially challenge the NCCC in the upcoming All Asian CW contest. A new civil war in California began on July 17, 1976.

The first SCCC "board of directors" meeting was held on August 1st at the home of WB6VZI^{4w36ZvC} in Sepulveda. The volunteer authors of the SCCC charter were: Warren Davis, W6EE (formerly K6NA); Bob Wilson, WA6TLV; Peter Grillo, W6RTT; Brad Fisher, WB6YBL; Leigh Jones, WB6OLD; Alan Toothaker, WB6DOI; Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU; ^{IC#4, KH6BZF} and Larry "Tree" Tyree, WB6ZVC. A few others had also volunteered but were unable to make the meeting.

In order to be eligible for Sweepstakes competition, the club needed to submit a charter to the League by early August. Since time was getting short, it was decided to use the NCCC constitution as a basis for the SCCC constitution. After three hours the modification was complete. WB6ZVC would type up the final copy and submit it to the ARRL. On the following Tuesday Tree read the finished charter during the SCCC net and it met with almost unanimous approval.

In order to generate interest in the SCCC net, a pre-net contest was created. Known as the "QRZ Contest" contest, it takes place every Tuesday night between 8:25 and 8:30 PM on 3.810 - 3.820 MHz. Activity in this contest has improved steadily ever since the beginning; at last count there were over 25 testers across the nation who participated.

The first official meeting of the Southern California Contest Club took place on September 1st at the California Federal Savings and Loan in Arcadia. This date was chosen because it was the only one the bank could spare. Everyone in attendance

at this meeting automatically became a charter member of the SCCC.

At the meeting it was announced that the SCCC had successfully defeated the NCCC in the 1976 All Asian contest. We won every category except 40 meter single band! There's no longer any doubt in my mind that the SCCC will soon have the power (er, um...man power that is) to defeat the NCCC in every contest.

Temporary officers appointed and approved at the meeting were: WB6ZVC president, WB6OLD vice president/contest chairman, and W6RTT secretary/treasurer. In addition the entire text of the SCCC charter was reread and unanimously approved by the attendees. The SCCC will officially meet six times per year, and the meeting place will vary between three different locations in the Southern California area. This means that a club member need only travel a long distance once per year in order to attend the minimum three meetings per year currently required by the ARRL for club aggregate purposes.

As a final note, it was announced at the meeting that the SCCC will be publishing the National Contest Journal. It will be mailed free to all members of the SCCC and to anyone in the world for a mere \$4.00 per year. This publication promises to be the true voice of amateur radio contesting in the years to come.

So there you have it! The entire history of the SCCC as well as I can remember it. With your help, Southern California will soon be competing for the top spot in every major amateur radio contest in the world. It is up to you to write the future of the SCCC, but right now, "I have a dream:..." SCCC #1 in SS!!!

73,
Bob WASTL!

UP CLOSE W/N6IC

Sept. 17, 1985

Good to get the SCCCORE and find out what is going on. Sometimes with three kids etc. it is hard to find the time to contest. Especially when you add the preparation before and after the contest. This summer I worked on the computer a fair amount. I got an Apple Macintosh which is turning out to be an excellent machine. Even tho things like the C-64 are cheaper, this machine has a certain contest appeal. Everything is in one box that you need for a contest; it has a small footprint; I couldn't detect any RFI to the rig or the computer. Well, no one had generated any contest software specifically for the Mac so I bought a copy of the H6NB book and spent time converting his programs for the Mac. I now have four programs: Duping, Dupesheet Printing, General Contest Logging, and Log printing. During the All Asian CW in August, I set up the Mac and did the contest single op, 14 Mhz. The Mac watched for dupes, kept track of multipliers and kept stats on rates. Too bad conditions couldn't have been better. I made 132 QSO's in 16.5 hours with 47 multipliers for a score of 6204. Now, I am no great contester but the machine did make it easier and the logs were in the mail the next day. At this rate I may be able to put in more contest time. Anyone who has a Mac with Microsoft Basic is welcome to a copy of the program.

One other interesting item is that I received some feedback from the 1984 CQM contest. I placed second in six land single op, 14 Mhz. However that was 29 QSO's and W6TFO was the first six with 63 QSO's. One of the neat things for this contest is that after 20 QSO's for an entry you receive a very nice commemorative pin. I now proudly own an 82 and 84 pin.

Equipment wise not much is changing. I have been working on a secret antenna but it will not be ready to unveil for a while. I am expecting to get a copy of the mininec program for antenna analysis and will be running my first ideas thru the Mac while modeling at 144 Mhz.

Well Ski, I hope this gives you some update. We'll see you in the contests with maybe my second op and son Scott-W6LUD helping. Although he prefers SSB right now. Then again, my 10 yr old Sharon likes CW and has her Novice code credit.

73's *[Signature]* N6IC

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N6VR CQWW phone

m/s AB		<u>80</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>	
	z	20	22	24	25	12	
	c	16	42	60	50	14	
	q	40	770	228	275	21	1.5Mil

LOS ANGELES AREA COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Well, here we are once more headlong into another contest season. My personal schedule is plenty full with other career-type things, but I am finding time this year for the CQWW SSB and SS CW. Although at this writing the CQ SSB is a thing of the past, plans are going great for the Sweepstakes from W6AQ. The Worldwide was a bit of a wash for several reasons, the most prominent of which are that I overslept both nights (Saturday morning I woke up four hours later than I planned with a poor defenseless little battery-powered alarm clock clenched in my fist) and my 'noise' was with me in force. In fact, the noise was so bad this year that I stopped operating the contest and went out to find it.

Now for the good news - I found the noise and fixed it. Sweepstakes is going to be great. I'll actually be able to hear for the first time in about two years! I expect my competition to be pretty thick in Los Angeles section this year, too. Rumor has it that NE6I, N6TJ, AA6RX at W6UE, and I at W6AQ are all going for the Gold. There hasn't been this kind of activity out of Los Angeles since 1975-76, so it promises to be a real butt-kicker.

Oh, well - by the time you all read this it will be all over and the smoke will be clearing.

Another item of note. The Caltech Amateur Radio Club wants me to mention a couple of things: firstly, they will be hosting a Tektronix sponsored HF Tune-Up Clinic with scopes and generators and SPECTRUM ANALYSERS and all that razzamataz. The date isn't set yet, but all the SCCC members are invited to come up and tweak up the ol' 930s. (Rumor control reports a strong tendency toward Saturday December 7th, but notice will go out as soon as Tektronix settles on a date for sure - free Spectrum Analysers are kind of hard to come by. If you hear nothing, call (818) 449-7371 and leave a message of inquiry about the clinic with your phone number, and the club will contact you). Secondly, the guys at Caltech, W6UE, are proud of the fact that the club has prospered independent of a cent of Institute money for over five years, by gaining the support of the private sector, and that's YOU. Here's how they do it: They'll take your surplus electronic stuff gathering dust in your garage as a tax-deductable donation, and liquidate it. For substantial donations you can get them to come over and pick it up and give you an IRS-approved receipt. Very painless and highly recommended.

Remember the West Coast Score Collection Frequencies: 7171kHz and 3815kHz after the contests. So far, we've had someone there to take your raw numbers and forward all the results to the NCJ for prompt publishing of how everyone did even before the logs have been turned in. Support the National Contest Journal - the only paper which is just for contesters. Support the SCCC - your promise of pizza and beer (uh, sorry, Dick - Root Beer) and good clean fun.