

SCCCORE

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB OPERATIONS
RESULTS ENLIGHTENMENTS

MAY/JUN ISSUE

CALIFORNIA
SOUTHERN
CONTEST
CLUB

NEXT MEETING OF SCCC

The next meeting of the SCCC will be on Saturday, July 1st at the QTH of WB6OKK, starting at NOON. This will be a BBQ affair. Bring BBQ meat, chips, goodies, and BEER/WINE. Rick will supply the charcoal and ice. Rick also said to bring your bathing suits for a dip in the pool, if you are so inclined! Should be FUN! Directions are as follows: From the 91 Freeway, take the Tustin Ave offramp North for about 3 miles (Tustin Ave. turns into Rose after 2 miles). Turn left (west) onto Plam Ave., fo three blocks, turn right (north) onto Cedarlawn. (Golf course on the other side of the street.) You will easily see the antennas. Street address is, 5302 Cedarlawn in Placentia. Telephone number is 714-993-0713. Tustin Ave. offramp is 2 miles East of the 57 Freeway on the 91 Freeway.

This meeting promises to be a good one, with plenty of opportunities to share recent contesting stories and comparing of notes on band activities and station performances.

HELP

As you can see the SCCCORE bulletin is taking on a new look, thanks to access to some new software. We are now using "Ventura Publisher" by Xerox. As we learn all the capabilities of the program we will attempt to give the bulletin the look of a real professional publication. However, we need more inputs from the members. As we all know most organizations have a few who carry all the weight (active members) but when it comes to the bulletin we need to hear from all the members who might have things to share such as: contest results, items for sale or trade, operating articles and the like. No this is not a broken record, although it might sound as though it is, we just need inputs for the bulletin.

Come on guys, send us some inputs, in ASCII format if you have a computer (saves a lot of typing). The club will benefit from your inputs and you might sell some of your unwanted items.
BE RADIO ACTIVE !!

ALL ASIAN CW EFFORT

The SCCC will be firing up their rigs again this year for the AA CW contest. It has been a long standing club goal to try and have a first place finisher in every category (we are usually successful too!)

Well August is just around the corner so start planning for your effort. If you need a list of operators that are willing to help with multi-op efforts call Ray, N6VR or Ski, N6ADI. If you need a place to operate call them too! Lets continue with the tradition of the SCCC and really show our stuff!

SCCC INFO:

Pres. - Ray, N6VR; Vice Pres. - Kevin, NC6U; Sec/Treas. - Ski, N6ADI; Sgt. Arms - Jim, N6TJ; Board members - Mark, WA6OTU; Phil, N6ZZ; Dennis, NE6I; Kurt, NI6W.

Dues are \$4.00 per year and payable to M. Brozowsky, Box 62, Oak View, CA. 93022.....

Send your inputs to the above address too !

From the President:

Greetings. Hope all that attended the DX convention at Visalia enjoyed the annual bash. As usual, there was a lot of people, programs, prizes and drinks. Seems to me at least, the drinks are not going down as fast as they used to. The SCCC meeting was held Saturday at 3PM near the pool in the Holiday Inn. There were about 20 people in attendance. Hiro, JA2EZD had several of his JA friends there: JA8RUZ, JA7RHJ and JH4RHK. Biggest discussion of the meeting was a rundown by our member, Dick, NN6U and his joint effort with W6PQS and W6US concerning the DX packet cluster. We also passed the hat and collected \$45 dollars to help the NCCC with the Saturday night beer bash. Since a few of the contest type JA's were present, the President asked them if they knew why the JARL scheduled their national convention on their national contest weekend? They didn't know and were also puzzled by the conflict. The best thing to do, they say, is write the JARL and let them know about the lack of JA stations during the AA contest. Think everyone was interested in getting back to the convention so the meeting broke up early.

The SCCC has again been invited to operate Field Day with the Hughes Club. It is at the same site as last year, the Hughes picnic grounds located in Fullerton. So far, at least 8 of the more active SCCC members will be operating. For more info and details contact our VP, Kevin, NC6U. They have a talk-in repeater, K6QEH, on 146.97. Last year the Hughes Club placed second in the 3A transmitter class. They really go big at it. They had two beams for 10,15,20 and 40m each. Field Day is on June 24 and 25. This year is going to be number one!

The meeting for June will be a day late, on Saturday, July 1 at the QTH of Rick, WB6OKK in Placentia. The meeting will start at noon, with a BBQ and beer drinking to follow. Rick will supply the charcoal and ice. You bring your meat, chips, etc., and drink. Rick has offered the use of his pool and spa, so bring your bathing suit. Directions are provided else where in the bulletin.

The SCCC has been challenged to compete in the All Asian contest CW, on August 26 and 27. Individuals or clubs are to make up three man teams to compete in the multi category (no transmitter limit). This was agreed upon at the Visalia DX convention. So far the competitors are: N6ND/K6JYO in S.D., W6UE and N6DX in L.A., K3EST in the Bay area and at least one, possibly two stations in W7 land. The offer is open to other teams, so if you have a station and the ops, let us know. We certainly have the stations and operators in the SCCC to do more. If you are not part of a m/m effort, don't forget that the SCCC will be organizing its own winning effort and will need you on possibly a single band.

I'm doing a little research into finding a supplier of name callsign badges for the SCCC. I know that in the past the club hasn't been too enthusiastic about badges. However, I'm getting tired of wearing a badge of a club that I am no longer a member of to the DX convention. There would be no cost to the club, members would purchase their own badge through a single source with a design and wording already made up. I will be checking with Gene, AA6NP, one of the Rainbow Ridge group, we may be able to get a deal through his business. Any ideas on designs?

The Rainbow Ridge gang operated the WPX-CW on May 27 & 28 using the President's call - N6VR. Conditions were only fair. We had a total of about 1850 QSOs, 20m was the best band with 710 QSOs. 15m finally opened good to Europe on Sunday morning/afternoon. Fred, AD6C was able to work 5 or 6 Europeans on 10m South American backscatter. WZ6Z, m/m from the station of N6RO did well with about 2400 QSOs. AI6V started m/m but the group got fed up with Friday/Saturday poor conditions and quit. The Rainbow Ridge station is still progressing. Hopefully, we'll get the third tower up in a week or two. It will have a 5 el 20m at 80 ft on top of a 2800 ft ridge. After the 20m goes up, we'll be working on a 2 el 80m quad! N6DX has also been quite involved with the DX packet cluster. Anyone interested is invited to help out.

The last subject that I want to mention is that of the DX packet cluster. As some of you know, the movement has been carried by basically a half dozen or so persons: NN6U, W6PQS, W6US, W6TMD, N6ND and N6DX. These guys are developing the whole DX packet system for the entire Southern California area. They are doing it for everyone, not just themselves. They have had over 50 people check in and use at one time, and the system is hardly out of the infancy stage. Once its up and running as envisioned, the word will spread and there could easily well over 150 users. There is also efforts in extending the packet to the Santa Maria area and possibly to the Bay area. What I'm working up to is: the guys need support. Just consider that each node includes an IBM compatible computer, software, FM radios and antennas, etc. The cost can easily exceed \$ 2K at each node. Now, the guys are not asking to be paid for their efforts, they just need your support. Perhaps, if you have an extra 2m or 440mhz rig, an antenna, TNC, monitor or whatever, you might consider donating it or selling it a bargain price. If you don't have equipment, perhaps a contribution would be worth it to you to show your support. Yes, there has been one cash donation, and believe me, it was greatly appreciated! There is talk of more nodes, digipeaters, etc., so there is always need for more support. The effort to build a complete system is a monumental task with a lot of learning and trials. I'm just glad that someone is doing it, I know I wouldn't have the time.....

73's
Prez, Ray - N6VR

Small Station Contesting by John Golomb KZ2S

It can be very frustrating to operate a major contest with a relatively small station. Many contesters with small stations are discouraged from serious efforts in contests because of the uphill battle against the mega stations/operators which confronts them. I have written this article to try and encourage those of you with small stations to try and give some competition to these giant stations. Let me start by giving a description of my small stations. I use two transceivers (TS-830 and TS-530) and one amplifier (SB-220 always connected to the 830) which gives me one station with about 800 watts out and one with about 100 watts out. My main antenna for 10/15/20 is a three element tribander at 30'. On 40 I use a two element phased dipole array at 40'. A dipole at 45' and an inverted L are used on 80 and 160 respectively. Two 300' beverages (NE/W) round out my antenna farm. All antennas except the tribander are supported in trees. Using this rather small set up I have had successful efforts in domestic and DX contests. (very much understated-ed.) I must credit much of the success I've had with the propagation advantage enjoyed in the northeast. However, with sunspot activity on the rise, perhaps other small stations in all areas of the country can start showing up with large scores, especially in DX contests with don't seem to be dominated by the northeast (WPX, IARU, AA, etc.) I should point out that all of my efforts have been on CW, with the higher QRM levels on phone I have always felt that I have a better chance of putting in a decent score on CW rather than on phone.

It is important to know the capabilities of your station. A small station will have strengths and weaknesses (only weaknesses?) from band to band. This is where experience from past efforts in a particular contest comes in. Which bands can you run well on? How well do your antennas work on marginal or unusual opening? Which band do you just get kicked around on? Have a plan before you start the contest to maximize the strengths of your station. For example, the one band which really works at my station is 40. In just about any contest I use 40 for all it is worth. This has been one of the reasons for my success in WPX CW during the low sunspot years. Those six pointers really add up

On the other hand, you won't hear me struggling in a large over the pole pileup on 20 because it has been my experience that if I don't get through in 3 or 4 calls, I probably never will and it would be a waste of time to try.

Having confidence in your station, large or small, is important in any contest effort. If conditions are very good, especially on 10 and 15 with current solar activity, don't be afraid to try and start a run on the first CLEAR frequency you come across. Half the battle of being loud is acting loud. During the last ARRL DX CW contest I was able to run on 28.001 for around 45 minutes with only 100 watts. Even though you don't have the biggest station around, act like you do when conditions permit. Don't hesitate to CQ high in the band either, a clear frequency is more important than anything else when you don't have a rock crusher signal. I have found that the more disturbed conditions are, the more I notice the difference between my station and a large station. It is discouraging when I can hear one of these stations running Europe on 15 and all I hear is receiver noise coming back to him. So if the bands are wide open there is no reason not to start a run of your own with rates comparable to those possible from a larger station. Right?

Just because you are not operating at a big stations is no excuse not to try some of the operating techniques used by the operators of the big stations. Using two transceivers, with stereo headphones, is an asset in any contest even if your second rig is only 100 watts to an all band vertical. perhaps the editor of this newsletter (Bill, KM9P) can write more about two radio set ups that I can, Bill uses this arrangement in just about every contest he enters. Also don't forget to pass multipliers from band to band in a DX contest as this is one of the easiest ways to build up that multiplier total. A two radio system makes this easy to do. The next time you decide to operate a contest casually take some time to listen to some of the serious competitors and try and learn something from their operating methods.

A less than average signal demands better than average operating. Some of the operators at big stations may slack off a bit at times and try and let their stations do the work. The operator at a small station can not afford to do this if he expects to remain close to the larger stations. He must remain alert and on his toes for the entire contest (easier said

than done). Being alert means that you are changing bands just as frequently and sending just as smoothly 24 hours into the contest as you were in the first hour. Also, proper zero beating in pile ups can be somewhat of an equalizer for small stations since 80 to 90 percent of the stations in a pile up fail to do this. When you find a large pile, don't just start calling blindly. Listen to him work one or two stations first and then decide where/when to call him (my RIT/XIT gets a real workout in pileups). You might even get picked out of the pile before one of those big multi-multi's do. By building up these and other operating skills, you will find that a small stations is not as much of a handicap as you thought.

The next time a contest weekend comes around don't convince yourself that you can not have a successful effort because your station may not be up to par. Instead, join in the confusion and see just how close you can come to beating one of those giant stations. The more you operate your station, the bigger your scores will become. Always keep the thought in the back of your mind that I keep in mine: "Just as David fell Goliath, someday my station will end up defeating on of the big boys!"

As promised

The new address and numbers for NE6I, Dennis, who recently moved from the desert to the San Diego area are as follows: Dennis Younker, NE6I, 9925 Jeremy St., Santee, CA. 92071. Home: 619-449-6054, Work: 660-8302.

Don Wallace Radio Ranch Foundation, Inc

For information regarding this project that is most near and dear to all of us who had the pleasure of knowing or operating with Don, please write to:

Don Wallace Radio Ranch Foundation, Inc

30930 Hawthorne Boulevard, Rancho Palos Verdes, California 90274

They will send you a brochure describing the project and explain the donation/patronage programs being used to fund the memorial station.

CQ WPX CW

N6VR M/M

3.5	14	13	546
7	248	150	158,700
14	705	345	582,015
21	581	319	471,801
28	162	123	41,451
Total	1716	580	2,673,220

NCJ, the National Contest Journal, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties. Big gun or small the NCJ provides a valuable source of information on the active world of competitive radio. Bimonthly for 6 issues (one year): US, \$10.

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Operators: AC6T, AD6C, N6DX, N6VR, WA7ZTN, WT7F, WK6V, AA6NP

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