

SCCCORE

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Southern California Contest Club Operations, Results, and Enlightenment, "SCCCORE" is the official bimonthly bulletin of the Southern California Contest Club. Membership is seven dollars per year payable to the bulletin editor.

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The next meeting is Saturday, October 15 at 1:00 pm at "The Pizza Store", 1000 N. Euclid across from Henry Radio in Anaheim. Bring your CQP and Sprint scores.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Where is the club going? A good question actually; one without a good answer, unfortunately.

The club is in sort of a transitional period right now with its direction a bit hazy.

Earlier this year the membership voted to increase the dues from two to seven dollars per year in an effort to increase its participation in the furthering of contest related activities. And yet despite the approval, membership renewal has dwindled considerably.

I wonder why those who apparently disapproved did not bother to vote (only one negative vote was received). It would have been easy to defeat the proposal as only about 33 per cent of the members voted. Actually, if a sufficient number were to voice disapproval even now, we would readily consider reducing the dues once again. Don't sit there and be silent--let us know your opinion.

Membership grew last year at a tremendous rate to nearly fifty members but is now tapering off at an alarming rate. We must arrest this trend and turn things back around.

Our long time President, N6TR, has stepped down, leaving the door wide open to anyone who wishes to steer us in a new direction. Yet only one individual has expressed any interest in the position to this date.

The Area Coordinators have expressed their desire to light the fire and perhaps the time has come for a gathering of these pacesetters to get the momentum going. Southern California should be known as the trend setter, the pacesetter. But we are presently a mere shadow of our counterparts up north.

Very little communication between members exists, mostly due to the distance between a great many of us. Therefore, I am planning to initiate a SCCC net, probably on 75 meters. 3815 kHz is the logical frequency with perhaps Wednesday at 7:30 pm a good night. Let me know about that--official announcement will be in the next bulletin.

We will gather rather informally, i.e. no roll call and that sort of idiotic

baloney, to exchange ideas and see what the other guy is up to. Some on-air activities are a natural and perhaps something like a revival of the old NCCG mini contests could be initiated. It will be loads of fun and best of all, you won't have to drive for miles to share long tales with the guys. Get your antennas ready and watch for the official announcement next bulletin.

By the way, if anyone has a good two or three element forty meter beam for sale, please contact me. I am looking for one.

SCCC NOTES

In attendance the last meeting were N6AA, AI6E, AD7G, NE6I, WA6JAH, AA6RX, W6SX, N6TR, and NI6W.

N6TR reported consideration by the FCC of frequency protection of nets! The recent edition of NCJ mentions the same thing. This has serious implications and appears to be an unenforceable thing if you think about the nature of most nets. I doubt this will ever go through, but let's not let it slip by.

LOS ANGELES AREA COORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

Getting a bit bored with the lack of things to coordinate in the Los Angeles area, I have taken it upon myself to forward some comments to the bulletin. You other coordinators must not take this as a prod to get a-movin'--I know you guys haven't been sitting around doing nothing like me...

Although, as last year, our membership and activity level are not up to challenging any of the "real" contest clubs, being the new kid on the block (still) we have every right to expect to be given time to BUILD...I am overjoyed to see that our ranks number 37. More than last year (first part of the year anyway-editor), and last year was more than the year before. There may be a trend developing.

Now, why in the world could we expect a trend to continue? This question strikes me, at least, with a sharp tinge of embarrassment. What have I done to further growth(building) of my contest club? What are my plans to move the club along this year and in the future beyond? Serious questions, these. What do I want, and most importantly, what does the club want? You know, to the best of my knowledge, this club has not defined a purpose for itself, really. (I discount the old SCCC bylaws at this point as being adopted by a former contingent of contesters with very different needs for their contest club, and I don't think there's any device which could automatically forward the needs of a group which went defunct for about three years to a group that suddenly came to life again with a different core of members.)

Instead, the Southern California Contest Club is a group of amateurs united by a common need for a little specialized fraternalism, maybe. Obviously, since our member base is building and not diminishing, we're doing something right. I feel pretty strongly about this, too, so I would go on to say that sitting around drinking beer (including root beer) and eating pizza in order to have an excuse to trade stories, opinions, hints, kinks, and secrets about our hobby is a good thing for us all. It seems to be moving our club in the right direction.

This leads me to some important conclusions: to begin with, our club is not one that's going to insist that everyone get on in the contest to trounce the other club. I think we're destined to participate in unsolicited competition for a few years at least. It is nowhere near our intention to pressure any of our members into

the awkward position of choosing which club they are going to submit their score for. I've been forgetting all this time that Tree did in fact state our purpose in some of his very first bulletins--he from foresight, I guess and me now from experience.

As the L.A. AREA COORDINATOR, I'm going to say something I've wanted to say for a while, but up until now I've lacked enough abandon to say: I'm gonna get off my duff and do some serious coordination here, and I'll begin with the following offer: Any of you guys in the "L.A. Area" with antenna work plans coming up but you don't know where you're going to get the extra hands? Call me. My telephone numbers are 791-4811 (home) and 537-3130 x207 (work). Given at least a couple weeks notice I will try my darndest to come up with a band of fellow antenna enthusiasts of sufficient insanity for your special needs. What do we ask in return? Maybe a little pizza and beer...

Mark WA6OTU

1983 FIELD DAY REPORT
NI6W (3A ORG)
by Kurt Andress NI6W

After my last two field day outings, I decided to see if I could find a group that I had a little more in common with. More specifically, I was looking for contesters to operate with rather than those other people!

I finally stumbled onto a small Orange County organization that exists only for Field Day. When I discovered their name was the "Orange Hills Contesters", I figured this must be the real thing.

A pre-contest meeting was held and everything seemed to be accounted for. Arrangements had been made for the use of a graded construction site that was approximately 200 ft above the valley floor on a hillside facing east. The only major glitch encountered all weekend occurred a few days before the contest. We were informed that the savings and loan company that owned the land wanted us to provide our own accident insurance to cover us for the weekend. Thanks to Bill, K6CYX, the insurance was arranged. We emptied our pockets, and we were set for Field Day.

The Friday set up was the usual organized confusion familiar to all who participate in this grand and prestigious event. We quit about 9:00 pm Friday night and finished set up Saturday morning.

When the dust settled and the flag dropped Saturday at 11:00 am, the camp looked like the Boy Scout contest jamboree!

The antennae were: 402BA at 66ft, 203BA at 50 ft, 153BA at 20 ft all on a trailer mounted W-51 for CW, 80 mtr dipole at 50 ft, 5 el 10 mtr at 15 ft for Oscar and CW, 10 el 2 mtr at 15 ft for Oscar, ground mounted 4BTV for KA6TEV Novice station, 5 el 15 mtr T.E.T. on a 30 ft Hytower with 40 mtr inverted vee, 3 el 20 mtr WA6JAH special complete with a Hormel ham can matching network, and a 75 mtr inverted vee on a 40 ft T-10 tower. All for SSB. Oh yes! And enough coax to get to Pittsburgh.

The accommodations were: tent/Drake C line on 15/40 CW, tent/Drake C line on 20/80 CW, tent/TS-820S for Novice, Dodge stretch van/TS-930S on SSB, motorhome/Omni and 2mtr all mode for Oscar and 10 CW, and a tent trailer for the dormitory.

Everyone had a great time operating their favorite bands and modes. Bill, AI6E, found somebody at the other end of Oscar did exist, and rumor has it that some dyed in the wool CW ops were seen screaming into a microphone.

The participants were: Eric, WB6BGV; Ed, WD6BSB; Ken, N6CCE; Bill, K6CYX; Bill, AI6E; Mike, WA6JAH; Jess, W6LEN; Dave, KA6TEV; Herb, K3VA; Kurt, NI6W as operators and the field support team consisted of Ron Tutor, Greg Gross, and Gordy Gaude.

The band breakdown was as follows:

10 CW---46 QSOs	Oscar----1 QSO	
15 CW--520 QSOs	15SSB--632 QSOs	Bonus points---710
20 CW--697 QSOs	20SSB--537 QSOs	
40 CW--369 QSOs	40SSB---59 QSOs	<u>Final Score---10,260</u>
80 CW---73 QSOs	75SSB---17 QSOs	

The general consensus was that enough fun was had by all that we ought to do it again next year.

P.S.--What did the rest of you guys do last June???

A CONTEST TIP OR TWO FROM KA5CHW
reprinted from NCJ Vol. 8 No. 5

FREQUENCY CONTROL

The following are a few tricks I use in CW contests that may be useful to others in the club. CW operating, in my opinion, offers a much better opportunity for a good operator to "finesse" the enemy rather than simply overpowering him with big antennas or shouting louder like one does in phone contests.

SCENARIO

Let's say that you are operating or wanting to operate on a very crowded band. An example would be 20 in the evening hours when 10/15 are dead and 40 is not usable yet because the East Coast boys are still working each other. Your receiver is set for its most narrow selectivity--typically 500 Hertz. You newer fellows will recognize this band situation as what appears to be almost one solid signal all the way across the band. Everybody seems to be S9 plus 10 or better.

PROBLEM

You have found a reasonably (?) clear frequency up around 14.070 MHz and let go with a CQ TEST. Booom! Here comes your run of stations calling you. For ten minutes they're calling and showing no sign of letting up. Fantastic! Then it happens...you call CQ again and standby to take another call. Out of nowhere some Turkey starts calling CQ right on top of you. What the heck are you going to do to hold what was previously an excellent frequency for you?

SOLUTION ONE

Immediately start calling CQ again and maybe give your call a few more times than normal. He now has to make a decision. One decision would be to CQ again. If you are still calling CQ at this point, he may start thinking about the chance

page five---

that he is too weak to bother you and if you are stronger than him, he won't make any contacts so he might as well QSY. The other decision he may opt for would be to call more CQs just like you are doing. He may do that because actually when he came on frequency, he did not hear you and now thinks you are the criminal! The other reason he may continue to call CQ is to attempt to get you to QSY by "pressuring" you off the frequency. If the Turkey does QSY--fine--away you go again. If he stays...now you have to finesse him into submission.

Try another CQ. Timing is very important! Be sure you start your CQ before he ends his CQ. Remember, you do not want him to know he is QRM for you and for that matter you want him to know that actually he is really quite insignificant to you. In this situation, my transmitter stays on the air almost constantly because now is the time to keep as much RF as possible on the air to keep him from establishing contact. I keep his ears full of my call. I guarantee if you hesitate any time during this battle, you lose. Even at that, I never spend more than 60-90 seconds at this solution before moving onto another tactic. More time than that and you start to hurt your contact simply to massage your ego by trying to blow the guy away and he may be too dumb to know that he is beat. He may be trying to massage his ego too!

SOLUTION TWO

This next trick is my "ghost" tactic. It's good for a few laughs sometimes, especially after the contest when the troops gather for the telling of war stories. Start this solution by calling CQ. Next--start working stations...even if there aren't any calling you. Sound strange? Read on. I usually go back in my log five QSOs or so and pretend to be working these guys again. Sometimes I even pretend I am telling one of them I have worked him before and let go with a QRZ. I work them as though they are new contacts giving them full exchanges. After I send my exchange, I stand by for the "ghost" to send his information. I allow about the correct time (maybe a little less) before I QSL the contact and lay out a QRZ. And so on for about three QSOs before I move on to another tactic. I time by sending such that I am sending about the time he would be listening for an answer to his CQ or getting his exchange from some poor slob that called him without knowing what a hornet's nest he stepped into.

To see how this works, sit back a second and think about what is going on in this guy's mind right now. You are right--he is concerned! First off, you must be stronger than him, because you are working stations and all he is doing is CQing into the blue. Secondly, he will stop sending a moment while he beats his receiver, checks antenna connections, tunes around the frequency and questions his abilities as a contester because he cannot find the stations you are working. This solution has been known to drive good operators (but ones without finesse, of course) out of the contest in disgust. At the very least, it will create a cloud in his mind and he will usually QSY to remove the mystery from further consideration.

Let me point out that this same "ghost" ploy works if he gets lucky and does get a QSO started. If he makes a contact, call CQ while he is sending his exchange. When the other fellow starts sending his exchange, start working your "ghost". With luck, you have created real havoc for the two of them and one or both will QSY when it becomes apparent that is going to take a loooooonnnnggg time to fill the holes created by the QRM. The "ghost" ploy is more effective than CQing on top of him. If you CQ, you would do what 90% of the operators will do in a situation like this and the Turkey is really going to get hot under the collar! He will think you are deliberately QRMing him (which, of course, you are, but why give him the satisfaction of even acknowledging his existence). Now if the guy gets hot and is

the emotional type, he may sit on the frequency for days to show you that you can't do that to him. But, if you are making QSOs (?), he will think you are simply carrying on with the business at hand and that mother probably really isn't as bad as he originally acclaimed to himself. I leave interpretations of FCC rules relative to this solution up to you but recommend you let your desire to win be your guide.

SOLUTION THREE

If the Turkey is right on your frequency or anywhere in your receiver slot, you can generally get him to QSY by QSYing yourself. Whoa--not too far! We are talking about 100-300 Hz. Let's assume for this example that your rig is USB in CW (though the same principle works with LSB rigs). This finesse starts with moving your receive frequency up until the Turkey just disappears. Next, you move your transmitter to the receive frequency such that you can copy it. Now, let go with your CQ TEST. You should now be clear and those calling you should be in the clear. But what do you think the Turkey is hearing? He's got the very unfortunate problem of hearing nothing but your high pitched signal. This tone of QRM is tough to copy through, I guarantee. I sometimes mix this tactic with Solution Two if no stations call right away. Remember, you cannot hear him, but he sure can hear you.

In reality, if the band is all that crowded, you may be getting a little flack from the guy who was up just a tad from you. In this case, you are praying that the Turkey gets the message and does QSY soon so you can QSY back to the original frequency. A word of caution--I have had sharp operators recognize what I have done to them and pull the same game on me. This, I am sure you can see, leads to what I call the Leap Frog Affect.

Remember that if both of you have good narrow slots, each kHz can occupy 2-4 of these moves. Your tactic here is to leap frog the Turkey up the band a bit and then quickly return to the now clear frequency!

A big signal is not required for this tactic to work. The high pitched QRM seems to get a few dB of gain in the guys ears simply because of the frequency he is getting down the slot.

BONUS TIP

If you think about it, you will see that all the above solutions can be applied to get going on a crowded band. Pick some poor chap whose signal is not too strong, slide up a few Hz, and strap it on him! Nobody said that contesting was always intended to make friends and influence enemies...

CLOSING

Occasionally, some Turkey will want to call you a LID or debate your origin. Don't give him the satisfaction of acknowledging that he even has enough smarts to remember his own call. Ignore him--just keep going--CQing or QSOing. Preferably, start sending before he completes his obviously misguided insult.

Rule One--A contester who doesn't know when he is beat in one small obscure battle cannot win the war.

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Sept 18	NA Sprint CW
Sept 25	NA Sprint Phone
Oct 1-2	California QSO Party
Oct 29-30	CQWW DX Phone
Nov 26-27	CQWW DX CW

TIME TO RENEW??? CHECK YOUR
MAILING LABEL FOR EXPIRATION.