

Message from the Prez by Ken Widelitz, AB6FO

I would like to thank Don, W6EEN, for being such a gracious host for our February meeting. The food was great, the weather was great, the station tour was great, even the BSing was better than usual. I don't remember enjoying a meeting more.

The April meeting will be held in conjunction with the Visalia convention. See the back page for details. I can't make Visalia (or Dayton either), so if you're going, have fun.

After getting a positive reaction from those in attendance at the February meeting, I've decided to try something different for the June meeting. First of all, the June meeting will be held in July. Secondly, we will do some real on the air contesting before, during, and after the meeting. The meeting will be at my QTH in West Los Angeles, in conjunction with the IARU HF Championship and the World Team Radiosport Championship. The date is July 13. Mark your calendars. I'd like to see a big turnout. The shack and antenna farm (actually an antenna patch) here are considerably more modest than what we've seen at the last few meetings, but it isn't bad for a city lot.

It will be a multi-single operation, with the log to be submitted as a check log so you can compete from home if you like. I'll do a



two-radio demo, and anyone who wants to can try out the two radio thing themselves. In fact, if you aren't going to operate from home, you can use your own call from my place, be "fresh meat," and get a good rate going at any time in the contest. The contest runs from 5AM Saturday to 5AM Sunday local time, so there will be plenty of time to operate, though I'll be happy to take "reservations" for a particular time slot. It might be tough to sit and play two radio during mid day while most of the attendees will be here. I'll do a back-

yard BBQ for the lunch portion of the meeting.

I am also planning to send out an announcement that I'm having an "open shack" to the Westside ARC and the San Fernando Valley ARC to see if we can get some new blood in the SCCC. I'll post it on packet also. If you have any other ideas for making this event more successful, I'm open to suggestions.

The August meeting will be held in conjunction with the TRW swapmeet, just for old times sake. I would like to have the October meeting to the south in the interest of geographical diversity, so if you are in Orange or San Diego counties and would be willing to host a meeting in October, please let me know.

Mar - Apr 1996

W E E N C O N T E S T I N G

Southern California Contest Club Operations, Results and Enlightenment

Vol. 19, No. 2

WRTC News

WRTC-96 has announced the selection of the 52 two-man teams that will compete in the World Radiosport Team Championship scheduled for July 13 and 14, 1996. All 52 teams will be located near San Francisco Bay on flat terrain in relatively close physical proximity.

The WRTC teams will operate both cw and ssb on 40, 20, 15 and 10-meters and may be contacted once on each band-mode. The WRTC stations will be easy to identify because they will be using distinctive 1x1 callsigns specially approved by the Federal Communications Commission for the competition. Those callsigns will be W6A through W6Z and K6A through K6Z.

The 52 teams are:

Def. Champs	K1AR + K1DG
Argentina	LU6ETB + LW9EUJ
Australia	VK5GN + VK2AYD
Belgium	ON6TT + ON4WW
Brazil	PY5CC + PYØFF
Bulgaria	LZ1SA + LZ2PO
Canada #1	VE3EJ + VE3IY
Canada #2	VE7NTT + VE7CC
Czech Rep.	OK1CF + OK2PAY
Finland	OH2IW + OH1JT
France	F6FGZ + F5MUX
Germany #1	DK3GI + DL1IAO
Germany #2	DL5XX + DL1VJ
Hungary	HAØDU + HAØMM
Italy #1	IN3QBR + IT9TQH
Italy #2	IT9BLB + IT9VDQ
Japan #1	JE1JKL + JH7WKQ
Japan #2	JH4NMT + JE3MAS
Japan #3	JH4RHF + JA8RWU
Japan #4	JH7PKU + JO1BMV
Lithuania	LY2IJ + LY1DS
Poland #1	SP6AZT + SP9FKQ
Poland #2	SP9IJU + SP9HWN
Russia #1	RV1AW + RW1AC
Russia #2	UA3DPX + RZ9UA
Slovenia	S59A + S56A
Spain #1	EA4KR + EA1AK
Spain #2	EA7TL + EA9KB
Sweden	SM3DMP+ SM3CER

UK	G3OZF + GIØNWG
Ukraine	UT4UZ + UT1IA
USA #1	K1KI + K3UA
USA #2	K3LR + WA8YVR
USA #3	K4BAI + KM9P
USA #4	K6LL + N2IC
USA #5	K8CC + K5GO
USA #6	KF3P + KR2J
USA #7	KRØY + K1TO
USA #8	N6TV + K7SS
USA #9	W2GD + WØUA
USA #10	WX3N + K5ZD
Yugoslavia	YU1RL + YT1AD
Wildcard #1	5B4ADA + S53R
Wildcard #2	9A9A + 9A3GW
Wildcard #3	DJ6QT + DJ2YA
Wildcard #4	I2VXJ + I4UFH
Wildcard #5	K4UEE + N6IG
Wildcard #6	NP4Z + WC4E
Wildcard #7	RU3AA + RV3AJ
Wildcard #8	UN2L + UN4L
Wildcard #9	WN4KKN + N6TR
Wildcard #10	ZS6EZ + ZS6NW

The Editor Says...

by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM

Now that spring is here, it's time to reflect on the past HF contest season. Conditions went from unexpectedly good for CQ Worldwide Phone to pretty bad for the ARRL DX Phone. I had erroneously believed that the 1994-95 contest season represented the bottom-of-the-barrel conditions and that this season would be better with increasing solar flux. Wrong. I thought the news last year was that we had officially started a new sun spot cycle and that conditions would start improving. Wrong again. Now I can only hope that this season really did represent the low point in conditions.

During the past three WPX Phone contests, I've entered single-band, low power, 15-meters. My results aptly demonstrate the waning solar flux. In 1994 I worked 366 Asian QSOs, in 1995 282 Asian QSOs and in 1996 27 Asian QSOs. Now I suppose I

could work zero Asian QSOs in 1997, but I sure hope not.

The poor propagation conditions of this past season also heightened the conflicts between contesters and non-contesters on the HF bands. When we enjoy reasonable solar flux, contesters can spread out across the ample bandwidth of 15 and 10-meters. When we are at the bottom of the cycle, 20-meters must absorb most of the daytime operation. Unfortunately, 20-meters is also the most popular HF band, particularly on phone. This results in contesters constantly butting heads with the regular denizens of 20-meters: ragchewers, SSTVers, DXers, pontificators and nets of every variety. Then, when nightfall arrives, we get to do battle on 40-meters with either Packet/RTTY/digital modes during cw contests or 40 dB over 9 broadcast signals on phone. If we move to 80-meters, we are confronted by the hams who give pig farmers a bad name.

Some contesters and some non-contesters have suggested that portions of the HF bands be set aside as non-contest frequencies during contests as a way to reduce conflicts. I don't believe this offers a real solution. First of all, I believe the conflicts are cyclical. They follow the sunspot cycle for the reasons previously stated. These conflicts primarily occur in the phone portion of the bands. When the cycle is at a low point, 20-meters is wall-to-wall with overlapping signals from 14.150 to 14.350. Many of the conflicts on 20-meters occur with net operations that always use the same frequencies or with ragchewers who meet every weekend on predetermined frequencies. Who will use the frequencies set aside for the exclusive use of non-contesters? The net operations will not move to a different frequency. Many ragchewers seem to

continued on page 3

Editor (from page 2)

have no idea that a major contest is scheduled for a particular weekend. The bottom line is that a few non-contesters will use the areas set aside, while the conflicts will continue in the rest of the band. Even worse, I fear that the intensity of the conflicts will increase because contesters will feel that non-contesters should move to the areas set aside for them.

Others have suggested that non-contesters should use other modes or one of the WARC bands, particularly 17-meters. In an ideal sense, these sound like effective solutions. Unfortunately, the reality is that non-contesters are not going to suddenly conduct their ragchewing using cw. If getting non-contesters to move to another portion of 20-meters is difficult, then getting them to move to 17-meters will be almost impossible.

So, what's the answer? I don't know that there is one! As long as one group of hams uses the same frequency 365 days per year, or 52 Saturdays per year, they are going to feel that they "own" that frequency. Of course the regulations state that all hams have an equal right to a frequency, but human nature doesn't necessarily follow rules. I ride my bicycle over a

similar route through a major public park every Saturday and Sunday morning (when I'm not contesting). Several times a year my ride is disrupted because my route is blocked so that runners can have a sponsored competitive 10k. It makes me grumpy. I want to ride my usual route. Who do these runners think they are? In this case, I'm the non-contester.

The answer is that this too shall pass. The sunspots will return, and we'll be too busy trying to decide how high in the 10-meter band to search for those rare multipliers. 28.9? 29.0?



W6EEN's 20-meter antenna and tower.

SCCCORE

is the official bulletin of the Southern California Contest Club.

President: Ken Widelitz, AB6FO
10519 Lauriston Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 474-1355
kwidelitz@delphi.com

Vice Pres: Will Angenent, KN6DV
and 43150 Sixth St. East
Publisher Lancaster, CA 93535
H: (805) 949-9833
W: (805) 948-8800
KN6DV@QNET.COM

Editor: Bruce Horn, WA7BNM
4225 Farmdale Ave.
Studio City, CA 91604
H: (818) 761-4563
FAX: (818) 761-4563
W: (818) 502-5180
bhorn@netcom.com

Membership in the SCCC is open to anyone. Dues are:

Domestic: \$5 per year
Mexico/Canada: \$8 per year
Other countries: \$10 per year

SCCCORE is published six times per year. Please submit scores and other bulletin material to the editor.

New/Membership/Renewal (return to Will Angenent, 43150 Sixth St. East, Lancaster, CA 93535) Cut here

Call _____ Name _____ Date _____

Internet Address: _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Dues: \$5.00 domestic, \$8.00 Canada/Mexico, \$10.00 elsewhere Make check payable to SCCC.

If you would like a club badge, check here and include an additional \$6.00.

SCCC Calendar

April

- 12-14 Japan Int. DX Contest, 20-10m
- 13-14 Int. HF Gridloc Contest
- 15 ARRL 144 MHz Spring Sprint
- 20-21 SP DX RTTY Contest
- 23 ARRL 222 MHz Spring Sprint

May

- 1 ARRL 432 MHz Spring Sprint
- 4-5 Texas QSO Party
- 4-5 ARI International DX Contest
- 11 ARRL 902 MHz Spring Sprint
- 11 ARRL 1296 MHz Spring Sprint
- 11 ARRL 2304 MHz Spring Sprint
- 11-12 Volta WW RTTY Contest
- 18-19 ARRL 50 MHz Spring Sprint
- 25-26 CQWW WPX Contest, CW

June

- 8-9 ANARTS WW RTTY Test
- 8-9 TOEC WW Grid Contest, Phone
- 8-10 ARRL June VHF QSO Party
- 22-23 ARRL Field Day

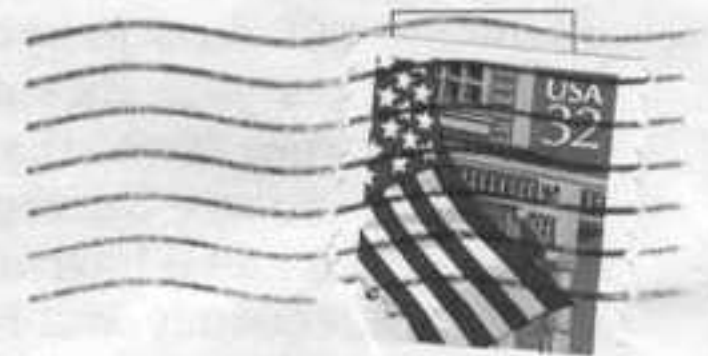
Next Meeting: Saturday, April 20
Time: Noon

Visalia International DX Convention

Visalia Holiday Inn
On the terrace,
adjacent to the sandwich bar

SCCCORE

Southern California Contest Club
43150 Sixth St. East
Lancaster, California 93535



First Class Mail

N6VR MEMBER THROUGH 02/96

Ray Benny
160 Brandt Ave.
Oak View CA 93022