

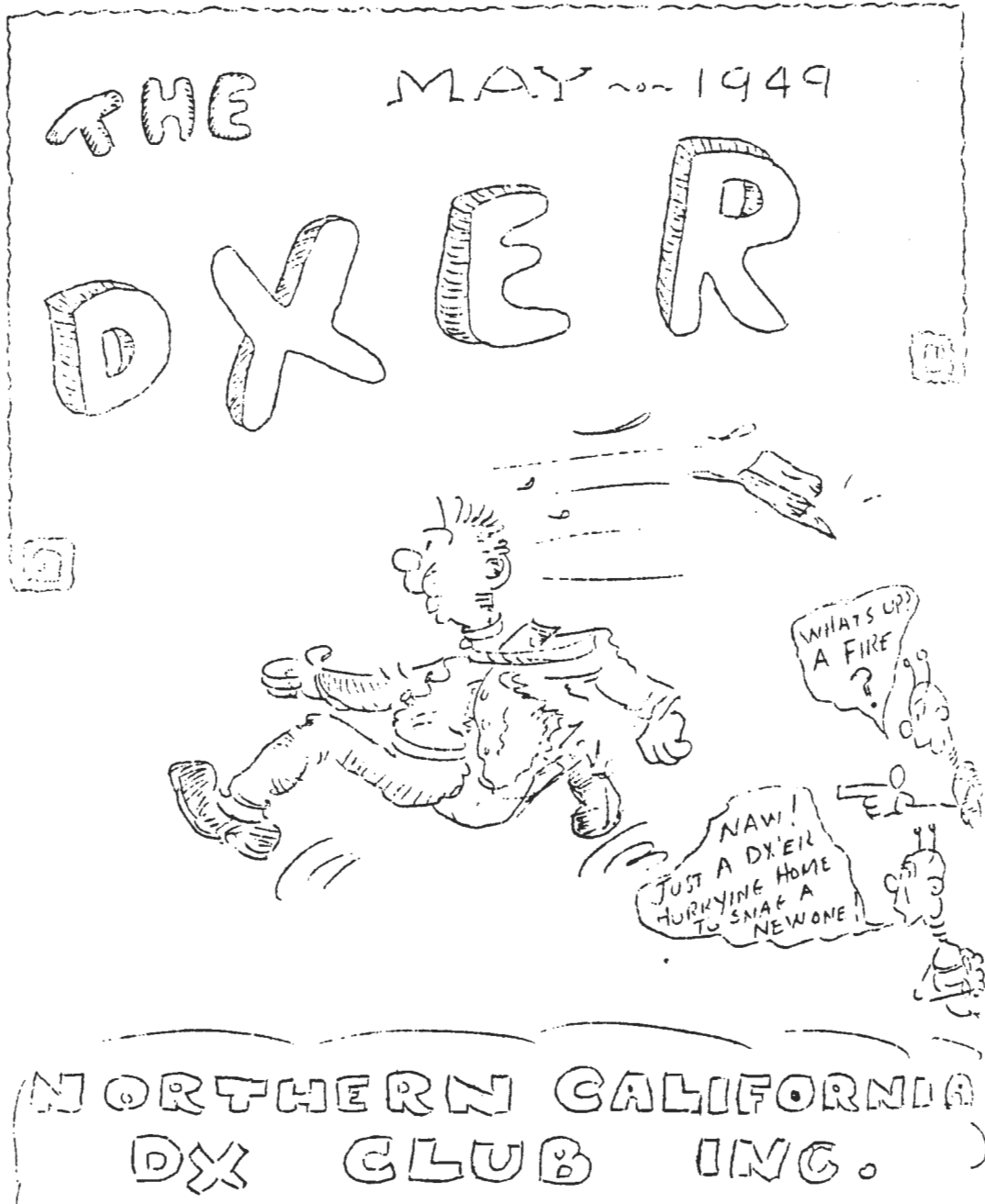
THE

MAY 1989



DXer

VOL XLII - NUMBER 5



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB INC.

The Northern California DX club DXer for MAY 1989

VOL XLII - NUMBER 5

May Events

- May 12 - NCDXC meeting, Palo Alto.
- May 13 - Electronic Flea Market, Foothill College, Los Altos.
- May 28 - Deadline for May DXer input.
- Jun. 9 - NCDXC meeting, Palo Alto.
- Jun. 10 - Electronic Flea Market, Foothill College, Los Altos.

Meeting Notice: Friday the 12th of May will be the next regular meeting of the NCDXC. The meeting will start with dinner around 6:00 PM Friday afternoon, and the evening's entertainment will start at 8:15. ~~The subject will be announced on the Thursday evening net.~~ *FLASH: Dave, W6QMS will give an extended version of his talk on High Wind Survival Antennas. A super presentation. - RE.*

DXer of the Year

Kip Edwards, W6SZN, was selected as the NCDXC 1988 DXer of the Year and was awarded a handsome plaque at the International DX Convention, Visalia, CA, April 22, 1989.

Kip, who joined the Club in 1979, has been an integral part of the NCDXC continually serving, participating, and providing assistance when needed. He served as Club President during 1985-86 and as a Director during 1986-87.

During the period when jammers were rampant on the Club's two meter repeater, he worked closely with the local FCC office providing legal advice which resulted in the detection and subsequent enforcement action against the perpetrators.

Kip has been an inveterate DXpeditioner. In 1981, he operated from Tahiti as F00KP, in 1982 from Turks & Caicos as VP5KP. In 1983 he was part of the record setting TI1C contest operation and in his spare time operated W6SZN/TI2. The same year he crossed the Atlantic and operated as G4/W6SZN. In 1984, he operated as FM/W6SZN. He provided logistic support to the 1985 Clipperton DXpetition and in 1986 he went to Clipperton as one of the F00XX operators. In 1987, he was one of the P40V gang in Aruba and found some time to make some contacts as P40KP. His crowning achievement to date is the DXpedition to Rotuma, 3D2XX, where he and three other operators made 34,000 QSOs and more importantly put a new country on the air.

He has participated in major DX contests as an operator in the multi-multi category. He was Vice Director of ARRL Pacific Division. He currently is a Trustee in the Northern California DX foundation and for a period of time was editor of the NCDXC Newsletter.

With credentials such as these, it is easy to see being chosen DXer of the Year is an honor richly deserved.

Hal N6AN, Chairman, DXer of the Year Committee

ARRL DX Bulletins

Here are the ARRL DX bulletins from the last month, edited for QSL and current info.

Belau. JF1WQC operation as KC6MJ from May 1 through 6 QSL to his home call.

Conway Reef/Fiji. 3D2CR QSLs for SSB QSOs go to DL9KX, while CW QSLs go via DJ9ON.

Marion Island. ZS8MI is on the island and has been worked by Europeans. He plans to become more active in a month or so, using a north pointing rhombic antenna. QSL via ZS6PT.

Mozambique. The license of C9MKT expires in June. He plans to be active May 12 to 14 and May 19 to 21. QSL via SM5DKM. These may be their last operations if their license is not renewed.

MV Island, MV Island, 4J1, will be active the weekend of the CW WPX Contest, May 27 and 28.

Nepal. Members of the Japan UNICEF Ham Club are hoping to operate 9N9ITU May 12 through 16. QSL to JH8GAB.

New Caledonia. Norman, YJ8JS plans to activate Banks Island from May 8 to 12. Then he will be on from Torres Island May 14 to 18. QSL via N4EVS.

Ocean Island. Jim, VK9NS, and Bob, KN6J, plan to operate as T33JS and T33RA from April 30 to May 16. QSL T33JS to VK9NS and T33RA to KN6J. They have applied to DXAC for separate country status.

Revilla Gagedo. The XF4L QSLs go via OH2BN.

Rhodes. N200, with SV0AA, QSL via N200.

Rotuma/Fiji. QSL cards may be submitted for Rotuma credit on or after June 1, 1989. Cards submitted before that date will be returned without credit. There are a few DXCC members who have been given Fiji credit based on a 3D2XR or other Rotuma QSO. They may resubmit this QSL card for the proper Rotuma credit, along with a Fiji card for Fiji credit, on or after June 1, 1989.

Somalia. I2JSB returns to Somalia soon. He may use the callsign T53SJ or T50DX.

South Shetlands. CE9AP has been active. Look for him around 14200 to 14250 kHz. QSL via CE3ESS.

Spratly. UL7FAE plans to return to Vietnam, 3W, in the fall. If he can get enough funding he will attempt to operate from Spratly.

St. Peter and Paul's Rocks. A three man operation using the callsigns ZY0SS, ZY0SW and ZY0SY will be active on all modes including RTTY from May 7 to 10.

Svalbard. JW7FD will be active starting June 1 for five months. Also a separate operation by Kirsti, VK9NL and Laila, WA4ZEL operating portable JW beginning June 3.

Tunisia. 3V8QS has been worked on 40, 20 and 15 CW with QSL info via KB2BF. KB2BF states he is not the QSL manager.

UI8T, Oblast 052. UI8IAY, UI8IAQ, UI8IF, UI8QZ and UI8QU signing /UI8T QSL via UI8IAJ.

Vanuatu. Five members of the Japan Radio Company are expected to be active /YJ0 May 2 through 8. QSL to home calls.

Wallis Island. Ron, ZL1AMO, is active as FW0BX and has been worked on CW, SSB and RTTY. The length of his stay is undetermined. QSL to Ron at his home callsign, ZL1AMO.

Western Caroline Islands. Toru, JG1RVN/AH2CE will mainly operate RTTY from the Western Carolines May 23 to 26.

de KE6ZE

Welcome back everybody from the annual DX convention. In the next article Tom, K6TS gives a brief synopsis of the goings on at Visalia this year. A good time was had by all, especially your editor who was fortunate enough to win a new Yaseu FT-411 2m HT.

Each year as the convention winds down and the next crew gets ready to plan the following years convention the question of where to have the convention comes up. This year your editor was also part of the convention committee (as advance registration and drayage). As a result I was part of some of these discussions and also made some observations regarding attendance. Maybe sharing these observations will help you, the membership, advise the NCDXC BoD as what to do in the future.

The convention is at the capacity limit of the Holiday Inn in Visalia. Absolute maximum banquet capacity is around 625-630. In 1988 and 1989 the Banquet dinners were sold out. However, we were not turning down anybody for seating because we sold out all the Hotel space for several miles around. This says we are at a good equilibrium for the Holiday Inn. The question then becomes do we move the convention? Hmm, not so easy to answer.

First issue is what city to hold the convention in. At the present, attendance is about 1/3 Northern CA, about 1/3 Southern CA, and 1/3 outside California. Move the convention to LA or SF and it now becomes necessary to take an extra day to make the convention from the alternate area. Will local area attendance make up the difference for those who may not come? Only gradually will out of state attendance grow. So, what city to hold it in? CA coastal cities have some facilities but those investigated don't always meet the convention needs.

The convention works where it is. It is a successful formula. What happens if you move it? In a small hotel the convention captures all the facilities. The next flavor of hotel seems to be about 2,000 capacity and up. In a Hotel this size the convention would share the facilities with another group. Not everybody in the halls would be DXer then. At other Hotels the convention may have to utilize hotel supplied Bar and Bartenders for the present DXer run hosted cocktail parties, this would curtail these parties somewhat (or increase the cost of the convention).

Interesting issues, what is important to you? Don't forget the convention makes and spends about \$25,000 and isn't supposed to make or lose any money. Ask W6TPH how he felt making guarantees to spend \$12,500 for a banquet of 600 people when the treasurer has \$8,000 in the bank. If we didn't have 100 walk-in registrants, we would not make it. Incidentally, as of this writing we don't know if we did break even.

Regards, Dave

VISALIA MEETING

Short Notes from DX Convention/Visalia 89.

Your NCDXC Secretary does not wish to steal any thunder from the 1989 DX Convention Committee. However, I wish to express my gratitude to all the workers who performed their tasks with great expertise. The comments received from other visiting DXers was great. Additionally, the comments heard on 40-meter SSB this AM indicated a lot of people were pleased with the presentations given and smoothness of Committee operations.

This was my first ever DX Convention and I hope I live long enough to attend 50 more.

Prize winners.. Wow - what a nice bunch of prizes.. The winner of the Alpha 86 nearly fell apart with joy and disbelief of his winnings.. Congratulations to N6AHU, Joe Merdler of Van Nuys, CA. To W2KVA, Tom Geiger of Santa Maria, CA. Congratulations on winning the TS-440S Pre-Registration prize. It's an outstanding rig. To W6AOA, Frank Cuevas, of Santa Monica, CA., who won the TL-922 linear amplifier..use it well in the pile-ups.

The members of the NCDXC wish to thank all the Electronics/Radio Equipment Suppliers for their donations and assistance in making the DX Convention a huge success.

Of note was Mr. Marti Lane, OH2BH's induction into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. A well deserved award for Marti for his DXing efforts. The Southern California DX Club DXer Award of the Year went to WB6PSY, Mr. G. K. Presselt of Reseda, CA. The Northern California DX Club DXer of the Year went to W6SZN, Kip Edwards, of Belmont, CA. CONGRATULATIONS TO MARTI, G. K. AND KIP.

Additionally, the Contest Cup was returned to the Northern California DX Club for their latest effort of over 8 million pts as compared to 1 million from the Southern California Club's effort.

Jim, W6CF, presentation provided an insight to the various number of individuals who have been the DXers of this nation. Therefore, we wish to dedicate this Convention to one great DXer, W6QD. Tnx Jim.

With this, I close hoping that some of this material will be etched in stone for those behind us to follow. DXing--the art of which is fashioned for Hams and Ham RADIO. 72/88, Tom (Tango Sierra).

Thomas F. Jones, K6TS, NCDXC Secretary

NCDXC Board of Directors Meeting

The NCDXC BoD Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm April 20, 1989, at the home of W6VG. Present were Club officers W8MEP, K6MA, KG6GF, K6TS, N6AN, W6VG, and W6JZU who resented the W6TI Repeater Group.

Agenda items considered by the BoD were:

Review of a Proposal for Procedures Manual changes submitted by N6AN. The BoD agreed with the proposed changes to clarify intent by deletion or addition of words/paragraphs to assure proper

meaning or function. These changes will be published in the DXer when final review and approval by the Board is obtained. A copy of the new Procedures and By-Laws Manual will be given to Board members for final review and approval.

The BoD discussed presentation of special awards to members of the NCDXC that provided the Club with special services. These Certificates or Plaques will be awarded during the next Club meetings.

The BoD received a briefing by W6JZU on the W6TI Repeater Up-Grade. Installation of the New Controller Board is progressing smoothly. Bench test operations are being conducted and it is hoped that actual installation will occur soon weather permitting. A minor problem has surfaced with possible new user station located in Redding (or Mt. Shasta). This station could or may cause interference with our transmissions from W6TI repeater. W6JZU will contact the 2-Meter Repeater Frequency Coordinator and try to resolve this possible problem.

W8MEP discussed the up-coming NCDXC election of officers which occurs in June. He will select a chairman and one other member who will be responsible for obtaining possible candidates.

W8MEP adjourned the NCDXC meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas F. Jones, K6TS Secretary

Treasurers Report

April 1-30, 1989, Checking Account Activity:

March 1989 EOM Balance	\$3470.56
Deposits from Dues	0
Other Receipts	<u>69.00</u>
Sub Total	\$3539.56
Accounts Payable	<u>671.11</u>
Current April EOM Balance	\$2868.45
Savings:	
B of A as of 4/18/89	\$11285.41
includes QSL Reserve	
American Savings (3/26/89)	\$7878.85
one year CD due 7-18-89	

Stan Kuhl, K6MA, NCDXC Treasurer

ARRL International DX Contest 1989

Below is a list of scores submitted by members of the Northern California DX Club for the 1989 ARRL International DX Contest, for both the CW and SSB weekends. These stations are eligible to submit scores for club affiliation with the NCDXC.

Entries submitted in this club entry have been verified by me, via copies of their summary sheets to the Contest Chairman of NCDXC, as final scores submitted to ARRL on behalf of NCDXC. Based on these returns, the claimed NCDXC scores, in the Unlimited category, are:

CW 15,039,546

SSB 13,870,589

Total 28,910,135

*Sincerely yours, Daniel R. Dorsey, Jr, K4UVT/6,
Contest Chairman, NCDXC*

Tom Jones, K6TS, Secretary, NCDXC

ICOM 725 Review

Here is an equipment review your editor picked up off an E-mail system:

I bought an IC-725 about one month ago. I chose that rig because I live in a place which is not well suited for HF operations (lots of large buildings in the nearby vicinity) and therefore cannot expect too much from HF.

The IC-725 is a much simplified version of the IC-735. However the simplification went quite far:

No RF gain control, although the 10 db preamp and -20 db attenuator are still present. However the rig performs well enough that you will rarely miss it.

No VOX control.

No full break CW.

Moderate filter performance. Mainly due to the fact that the circuit was reduced to a double superhet, with only one single filter fighting the QRM in the second IF stage.

AM reception quality is very poor; lots of interference, heterodyne tones and intermod. Local strong station can be heard several 10 kHz off frequency. This is probably due to the use of a supercheap ceramic filter in AM mode. On the other hand, CW/SSB performance is great and comparable with the performance of the IC-735.

Noise blanker performance is poor. Neither level nor width can be adjusted. The placement of the NB circuit at the first IF causes it to trigger on any pulse shaped signal within several 10 kHz of the reception signal, including local quality CW and SSB signals. On the other hand, it fights true pulsed noise like ignition interference quite well.

Hope that helps.

HB9CTB, Markus Mueller, Switzerland

First WAC

Herewith is a copy of the first WAC certificate ever issued.

The recipient was Brandon Wentworth (later W6OI), who had a ham station on a hill at Stanford University, where he was a student at the time. He was a member of the Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association, which was founded in 1921 and charged with "control" of the air in the county. (A ham wrote to J. I. Dillon, the radio inspector, inquiring why his license hadn't come through, was told he would have to have a letter of approval from the San Jose Radio Club, later SCCARA.)

The idea of a WAC was conceived by Col. Clair Foster, W6HM, of Carmel, who hoped to be the first winner. Foster was an officer of the Corps of Engineers in World War I who achieved wealth in civilian life as a mechanical engineer with a patented method of scaffold construction for building projects. As a ham, he was active in the Transpacific Association which handled a large volume of traffic between the U.S. and the Philippines, which were then an American dependency.

When WAC was inaugurated, Foster had all the requirements except for a card from a Swedish ham he had worked, one he never received, and this let Brandy Wentworth into the No. 1 spot. He turned in cards from Melbourne, Australia; Rio de Janeiro, South America; Saigon, Asia, and Essex, England. The last one was the clincher because Europe was difficult to work from California then. Because some hams did not consider England as a part of Europe, Brandy submitted a back-up card from France. Whether the signature of "Henry Ford,:" as "Grand Wacker" on the certificate was the inspiration of F. E. Handy in Hartford, or the Colonel himself, is unknown.

Clair Foster went on to become the second director of the Pacific Division, when A. H. Babcock, who was with the Electrical Department of the Southern Pacific, was ousted in a west coast revolt against

the ARRL, led by SCCARA and Foster. One point of contention was headquarter's revocation of voting privileges of Philippine members of the Pacific Division on the ground that ballots could not be received in time to be counted in Hartford. Foster's view was that they could be counted in Manila and the results radioed to headquarters. Stalwarts like Frank Quement, Harry Engwicht and others campaigned for the ouster of K. B. Warner, Secretary of the League, for this and other reasons, but the Westerners were regarded a wild resolutionaries in the East and there were too many votes back there to overcome.

Foster and Brandy were good friends, and with Harry Engwicht, Orrin L. Brown and Phil Scofield, made headlines by working the world (except for Europe) from Lick Observatory in the spring of 1926. Scofield joined Brandy in operation of the Stanford station as "engineer".

Brandy died March 9, 1987. His wife sent me this copy of his WAC certificate with a letter dated April 4, 1989.

Dick Barrett, W6CFK

Silent Key

CT1UA, Jostino Ramiro Santos, passed away at the end of March 1989 from complications following major surgery. In March, he underwent surgery for abdominal problems, the reports indicating the possibility of ulcers. When problems developed, there were subsequent operations but his condition deteriorated.

His funeral was reported as taking place on April 1st. He is survived by a wife and two children.

Miro was an active DXer, well known throughout the world and a frequent visitor at conventions. Along with his friend, Luis, CT4NK, Miro was at the 1988 International DX Convention at Visalia. He was 47 when he passed away.

Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB, INC.,
PO BOX 608, MENLO PARK, CA 94026

The *DXer* is the bulletin of the NCDXC and is published monthly for the benefit of its members. Permission to use any portion of this publication is hereby granted, provided credit is given to the *DXer*.

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Director: Hal Godfrey, N6AN
Director: Chuck Patterson, K6RK

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San Bruno, CA 94066

NCDXC REPEATER W6TI/R

Input 147.36 Mhz; Output 147.96 Mhz;
Simplex 147.54 Mhz
Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG
Repeater Committee Chairman:

Smitty Smithwick, W6JZU

NCDXC THURSDAY NIGHT NET

On W6TI/R Thursday at 8:00 PM local time.

Operations Manager: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q

DX News: Bob Artigo, KN6J

Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ

Contest News: Bob Dorse, K4UVT

Westlink: Dave Bottom, KD6AZ

Swap Shop: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU

933 Robin Lane

Campbell, CA, 95008

408/374-0372

QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

NCDXC DX BULLETIN BROADCASTS

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

W6TI, the NCDXC memorial station broadcasts DX bulletins each Sunday at 1800 PST (Monday 0200 UTC) on 7.015 Mhz and 14.002 MHz.

	A	B	C	D
1	Station	SSB	CW	Station Total
2				
3	AF6S	95175	501228	596403
4	AJ6V	55296	122625	177921
5	AK6T	1251360		1251360
6	K2ITG/6	646272	370182	1016454
7	K6CXT	167754		167754
8	K6DR	170391	248979	419370
9	K6HNZ	1071990		1071990
10	K6ILM	62244	26487	88731
11	K6ITL	154062		154062
12	K6MA	139200	252234	391434
13	K6RQ	208656	128112	336768
14	K6SIK	729195	32706	761901
15	K6TS		18894	18894
16	K6WD		15264	15264
17	KA6BIM	311976		311976
18	KE6OT	101790	85500	187290
19	KG6AM	6300	918	7218
20	KG6GF		1014972	1014972
21	KG6XF	15912		15912
22	KI6YB	11520	6138	17658
23	KJ6V	1638	165075	166713
24	N6AN		316470	316470
25	N6CCL	177606		177606
26	N6EK	409200	443020	852220
27	N6GG		201120	201120
28	N6JM	23940	27	23967
29	N6JV	341682	826344	1168026
30	N6QR		1522719	1522719
31	N6RO	4725405	4597800	9323205
32	NC6S	74730	19032	93762
33	NT6G	1200	6762	7962
34	NV6O	6726	7956	14682
35	W6BIP	170739	385398	556137
36	W6BSY		131100	131100
37	W6FDU	12324		12324
38	W6FGD	44082	53856	97938
39	W6MZO		2160	2160
40	W6NKR		169623	169623
41	W6OAT	40992	211248	252240
42	W6QHS	927072	244038	1171110
43	W6REC	947375	1052058	1999433
44	W6TWO	858	504	1362
45	W6VG		173040	173040
46	W6YHM	46464	176484	222948
47	W6YVK	89385	43737	133122
48	W8MEP	546		546
49	WA6AHF	556470		556470
50	WC6I	21384	129792	151176
51	WD6EKR	51678		51678
52	WR6R		1330944	1330944
53				
54	Club Totals	13870589.00	15039546.00	28910135.00

ARRL Contest Summary, claimed scores



Greetings:

Whereas, Brandon Wentworth of W6OI has held two-way communication with amateur stations in all six of the continents, and,

Whereas, he is a loyal member of the A. R. R. L., be it known to the whole world that he is accepted into the order of WAC this thirteenth day of April 1926

This certificate of proficiency in the art of Short Wave Radio Telegraphy has been given to the owner of this station in recognition of his splendid amateur work, after records of said station owner have been carefully verified.


Grand Wacker.

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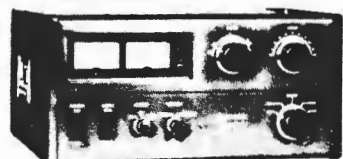
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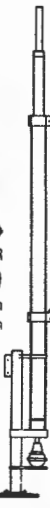
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