

THE NUGGET



The Newsletter of the Mother Lode DX/Contest Club

September 2020

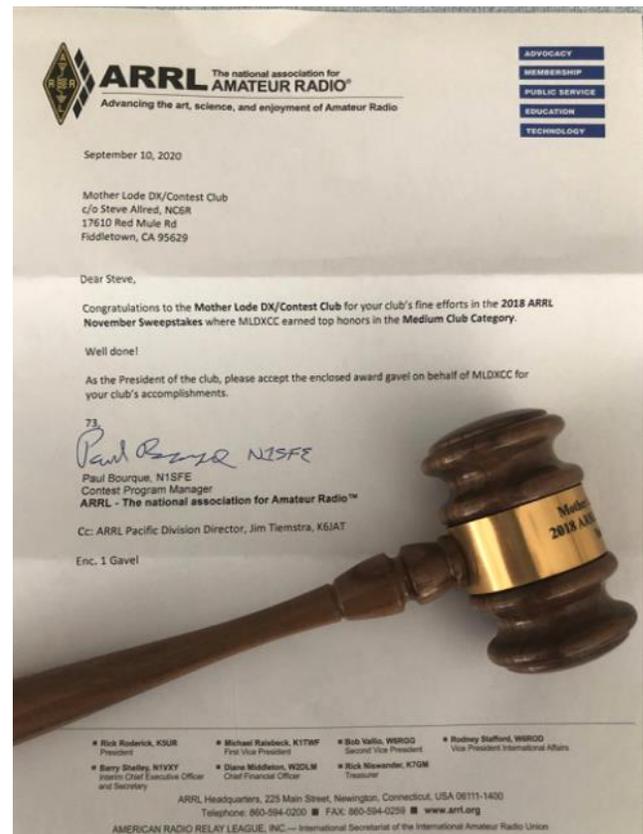
Volume 25 Number 9

From the President – NC6R

MLDXCC...I must apologize for the ragged President's report. I've been working out of town for the last 3 weeks straight at elevations between 10,000' & 11,200'. The body is tired and lungs and voice are shot due to all the smoke in the Eastern Sierra's.

Fortunately HF band conditions continue to improve. I've read reports claiming the current solar cycle is on the upswing, great news for us DX and contest types. While I was gone LoTW confirmed some DX contacts increasing my yearly Marathon score nicely. Please recall your DX contacts benefit both you and MLDXCC in the year long CQ Marathon.

Keeping you all in the loop, the board has decided that MLDXCC as a club will go for another Sweepstakes victory. The hope is can add another to year our consecutive winning streak. Speaking of, I received the SS gavel in the mail for our win in 2018; nothing like being timely there ARRL. LOL





Attention - CQP (Cal QSO Party) is just around the corner! Are you making plans and getting geared up? The date to mark down is the first weekend in October. Several of your club members were recently honored and asked to participate in CQP as a Sequoia station. Keep an ear out and make sure you work them! Go to cqpc.org to sign up your station.

Here's an excerpt from the CQP page -

CQP 2020 includes a special award that commemorates the Northern California Contest Club's 50th anniversary, while also celebrating California's state tree, the mighty Redwood.

Here's how to get your colorful commemorative certificate:

1. Participate in CQP and work a minimum of **100 QSOs**.
2. Work **seven** of the special callsigns to spell out **SEQUOIA**. Look for special 1x1 callsigns ending in the letters S, E, Q, U, O, I, and A. There will be three of each on the air, for a total of 21 call signs (see chart below) -- so there will be many ways to win.
3. Turn in your log.

I also just received our winning CQP place from 2019 –



Have you been able to participate in the Zoom meetings? It's been great to see the turnout for these presentations. During the latest one I counted 34 individuals logged on. Perhaps there were even more I may have missed, but it was really great to see and welcome you. Credit goes for the excellent presenters goes to W1RH; thank you Bob for your continued effort.

As always, here are websites to view upcoming contest and DX announcements -

Contest calendar dates are listed at - <https://www.contestcalendar.com/index.html>

DX operation announcements can be found at -
<https://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

73 & good DX,

Steve / NC6R

From the V.P. - W1RH

CQP Wine

Every year my wife, Karen, and I go through the ritual of shipping out the wine to the previous year's top 20 single operator CQP wine winners. I might add that every year I tell myself that this is the last year I'm doing this, but somehow, I keep doing it.

The process involves picking up 5 cases of fine wine from Jeff Stai's, WK6I, Twisted Oak Winery, in Vallecito, Calaveras County. This year, we picked it up shortly after it was bottled a few weeks ago. Generally, a trip south on Highway 49 means not only the drive to the Twisted Oak Winery but also shopping, lunch and wine tasting in nearby Murphys. This is how I rope Karen into the process. Alas, this year ended up being a quick trip to the winery with no side trip to Murphys due to the dreaded Rona.

If you have never been to Jeff's winery, you really should visit. Do some tasting and El Jefe may even come out of his hole in the back to say hi. If you're REAL nice, you might even be able to talk him into a tour of the wine cave. If you buy a case of fine wine (I recommend River of Skulls, one of the best Mourvèdre's to come out of the Sierra Foothills wine appellation), you then may have the right to ask for a rubber chicken but, hey, I'm not Jeff so it could just depend on if you worked him in one of the past year's contests.

The trip to Murphys is also something you all should do with your significant other. It's a really nice one-street town just full of shops, restaurants, and wine

tasting rooms. Twisted Oak also has a wine tasting room that is among the largest in Murphys. I believe there's something like 20 or more wine tasting rooms in Murphys, all showcasing some of the really good wine that comes out of Calaveras County.

Ah, but I digress.

Back to wine shipping.

Once I have the wine, I need to track down the names, email addresses, house address, and phone number of every one of the winners. This is the royal PIA for me. I start with the winner's list from the CQP website and then go to QRZ to see if I can find an email address. Easier said than done because not everyone puts their email addresses up on QRZ or one of the other on-line callbooks. This can mean asking other testers I know who live near this ham if they know his email address, etc.

Once I get the email addresses, I send them all an email asking them to verify their shipping address and phone number. Again, easier said than done. Some emails end up bouncing so I start all over again.

We use a wine shipper in the heart of the Sierra Foothills wine country to do our shipping. Unfortunately, it's very difficult to ship wine to a few states and anywhere in Canada, so it means that I need to contact the wine winner and ask him or her if they have a friend in a nearby state that I can ship the wine to. Craig, K9CT, who always wins a bottle,

is one of the easier ones. Craig will always have one of his multi-multi team members, who lives outside of Illinois, accept the wine shipment and then just drive it to his place when it comes time for the next contest (or so I'm led to believe!). This year, however, it appears that the wine will be shipped directly to Craig's place in Trivoli, Illinois.

Shipping to Canada has always been a really big problem. Fortunately, Art, VE3UTT, has a winter home in the States and he will always accept shipment to his place in North Carolina for the guys in Ontario. Art tells my wife, Karen, who has gotten to know him well, that he really does somehow get that wine back to the boys in ON. Just to be safe, in those rare years when Art, himself, hasn't won a bottle, he will usually find an extra bottle that somehow ended up in the shipment. Gosh, how did that happen?

After I have received all of the confirmed mailing addresses and phone numbers from the 40 winners (this year there were 41 due to a 20th place tie) we then start printing labels. This always involves doing a test printing with Karen then checking every label to find every one of the many mistakes I made. We then re-print, on non-photo paper, the 40 labels again and Karen then finds the remaining mistakes I made. Since the labels include the first name, last name, call sign and points made, there's plenty of room for error. Also, there are always several winners who use a different first name from what's listed in the FCC call sign database and I always try to verify this prior to printing the labels. Sometimes, the person will reply to my email and sign it with the name that goes on the label. W6AYC, for instance, signed his email to me as "Joe" when his name in the FCC database is "George". I may use the name someone uses in NAQP or I'll check the web to see if this person goes by a different first name in his radio life. A typical example is W6TK, who goes by Dick but has "Richard" in the FCC database.

OK, we check and re-check and then we print on quality matt finish photo paper. At this point, it's all Karen's job. She applies the labels to the bottles (which I might add have been stored safely and properly in my honest-to-goodness real wine cellar). At the same time, she makes an appointment with the shipper, in Plymouth, Amador County, and she brings the cases to them to be shipped.

All of generally happens just prior to the following year's CQP. Our shipper will not ship wine unless the shipping path shows the right weather. Too hot or too cold and the wine remains in his cellar until the time is right.

Every once in a while, I'll get an email from one of the winners asking me where the hell his wine is. Sometimes the question comes in a very nice email and sometimes it's not so nice. My usual reply is that one never drinks good wine before it's time, so chill.....it's on the way.

And there you go. The bottles are all shipped and I get ready to tell the CQP team to find another sucker to ship out the wine. Somehow, though, that email never gets sent....

One point I forgot to add is that we use a different label every year. Our custom designed label comes from Gary, NA6O, every year. Thanks Gary!



2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Alan Maenchen, KH6TU (AD6E op)
5th Place Non-California
80,910 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Doug Phillips, WE6Z
16th Place California
178,234 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Jim Singer, N6JS
20th Place California
141,288 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Fred Honnold, N6US
17th Place California
171,100 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Dean Wood, N6DE
19th Place California
152,772 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Ken Beals, K6MR
9th Place California
228,456 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com

Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Norm Wilson, N6JV
8th Place California
235,596 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com



Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Greg Glenn, NR6Q
15th Place California
186,528 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com



Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Rich Cutler, WC6H
4th Place California
290,464 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com



Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Bob Wilson, N6TV
11th Place California
201,768 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com



Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

2019
California
QSO Party

NCCC

Bill Haddon, N6ZFO
14th Place California
191,110 Points

Twisted Oak
NCCC Private Reserve 2016
www.twistedoak.com



Sponsored by
Twisted Oak Winery
Calaveras County
Jeff Stal, WK6I

Bob W1RH

Next Meeting

Date: October 17th

Time: 11:30 AM

Location: Zoom

Presentation: Speaker will be Doug Grant, K1DG, from New Hampshire. Doug is a world-class contester and will speak on what you can learn from your Contest Log Checking Report. This will include audio tracks from actual contests he has participated in so you can hear both the errors he made and the errors the guy on the other end made.

MLDXCC Treasurer - K6SZQ

MLDXCC Treasurer's Report -August 2020

7/31/2020 Opening Balance		\$2,271.36
Income		\$25.00
2020 Dues - Paypal	\$25.00	
Expenses		\$0.00
8/31/2020 Ending Balance		\$2,296.36

From the Secretary - KI6YYT

MLDXCC September 19, 2020 Meeting Notes

By Secretary, Emilia Seiferling, KI6YYT

The September meeting, on Zoom, was called to order by President Steve Allred. There were approximately 36 members and guests attending online. The secretary thanks all of you who signed into the meeting using your name and call sign.

The minutes and treasurer's report were in the last newsletter. A vote was taken to approve them as published in the last newsletter and it was passed. Dues are due, so check the newsletter or the website on how to pay them.

There are no new member applications.

Member Achievements

Several members, (Steve, Bob, Norm) are continuing to progress with the 2020 marathon. WB6BET & KI6YYT did a personal best as rover in the VHF contest.

Upcoming events: All Africa DX, RTTY Sprint, QSO parties; IA, NH, NJ, CA. WA Salmon Run.

Bob, N6TCE, announced a 2M simplex VHF Sprint Contest, Oct, 17 at 11 AM for 1 hour. Please check the Stockton-Delta ARC website for more information.

The California QSO Party is coming up. Please follow the Covid rules on how to do a multioperator station.

Our program for the afternoon was given by John Miller, K6MM, from San Jose, CA. His topic was "The California QSO Party". Please save the date, Oct.3-4.

Remember to get on the air, "You are the DX".

The next MLDXCC meeting is Oct. 17, The program topic "Log Checking" by Doug Grant, K1DG.

CLUB Dues

2020 dues are due!

The Dues period runs from Jan 1 to Dec 31. Dues are \$20.00 individual, \$30.00 family

PayPal – Send to: MotherLodeClub@gmail.com.
Use the Friends and Family option.

Cash or Check - Given to a club officer at a meeting. Or mail to the Treasurer - Sue Allred
K6SZQ, 17610 Red Mule Rd. Fiddletown, CA
95629

Club Log Standings

Overall

1	N6JV	Norm Wilson	189
2	K6YK	John Lee	173
3	WU6W	Rick Palio	160

CW

1	K6YK	John Lee	163
2	N6JV	Norm Wilson	141
3	WC6H	Rich Cutler	112

Phone

1	NC6R	Steve Allred	118
2	K6YK	John Lee	96
3	WC6H	Rich Cutler	92

Data

1	K7QDX	Michael Steiner	149
2	N6JV	Norm Wilson	143
3	K6OK	Jim Varney	136

Club Log Standings are based on worked entities during the calendar year.

In the news



Credits: NASA/Solar Dynamics Observatory

Cycle 25 is here!

The end of cycle 24 was calculated to be in December 2019, where the smoothed sunspot number fell to 1.8. We are now in Solar Cycle 25 and peak sunspot activity is expected in 2025.

Member Reports

This is a VHF Sprint Contest on VHF. Please note the Group sponsoring this event. Shirl was a member of the MLDXCC. This looks like a fun event

Bob, N6TCE

Doug's SX-96 Project

Here is the project that I've been working on for the last month, a Hallicrafters SX-96.

It took a lot longer to restore than I anticipated because I ran into a few snags.

Here's what I did: I replaced the power cord, all bumblebee capacitors, the power supply caps, fabricated a new dial cord, modified a spring to fit the dial cord, fabricated a band stop post that had been broken off, and checked and replaced any weak tubes.

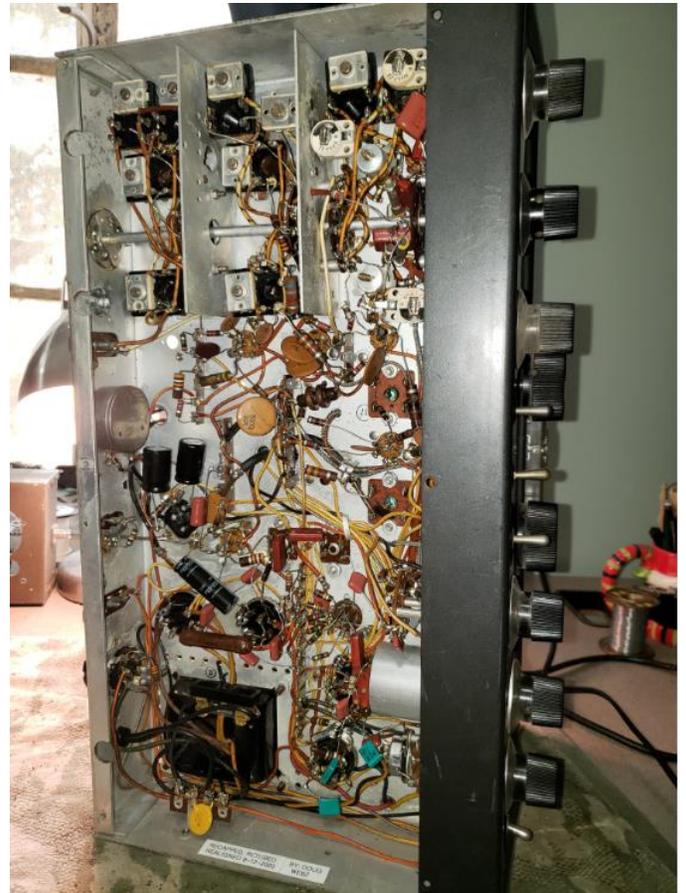


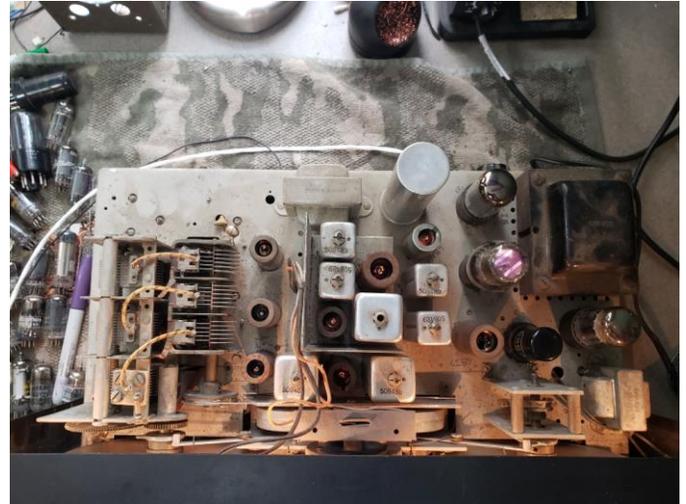
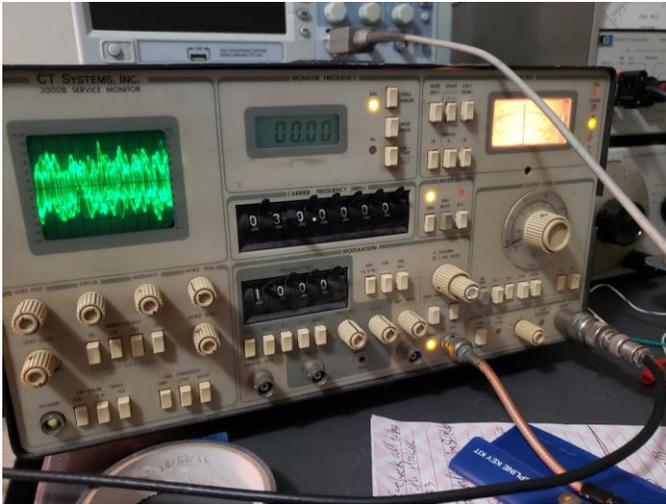
Then I did a full IF alignment of both the 50.5 KHz and 1650 KHz IF's. Then I did an RF alignment. The alignment itself took over 15 hours because I had to hunt down two failed components.

I probably have 40 hours of labor in the restoration of the radio. However, it has been very rewarding getting this radio back into shape and restoring it to its former glory (Circa 1955).

Here's a video of it tuning around on 20 meters.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INAFa0MljZI>





Doug WE6Z



ARRL Contesting Certificates

If you have participated in ARRL Contests by submitting your log, enter your call sign and see your available certificates. You can view and

download them. The certificates show where you placed in the contest.

<http://contests.arrl.org/certificates.php>

Awards Checkers ARRL

Ken Anderson, K6TA

(DXCC, WAS, VUCC, 160M)

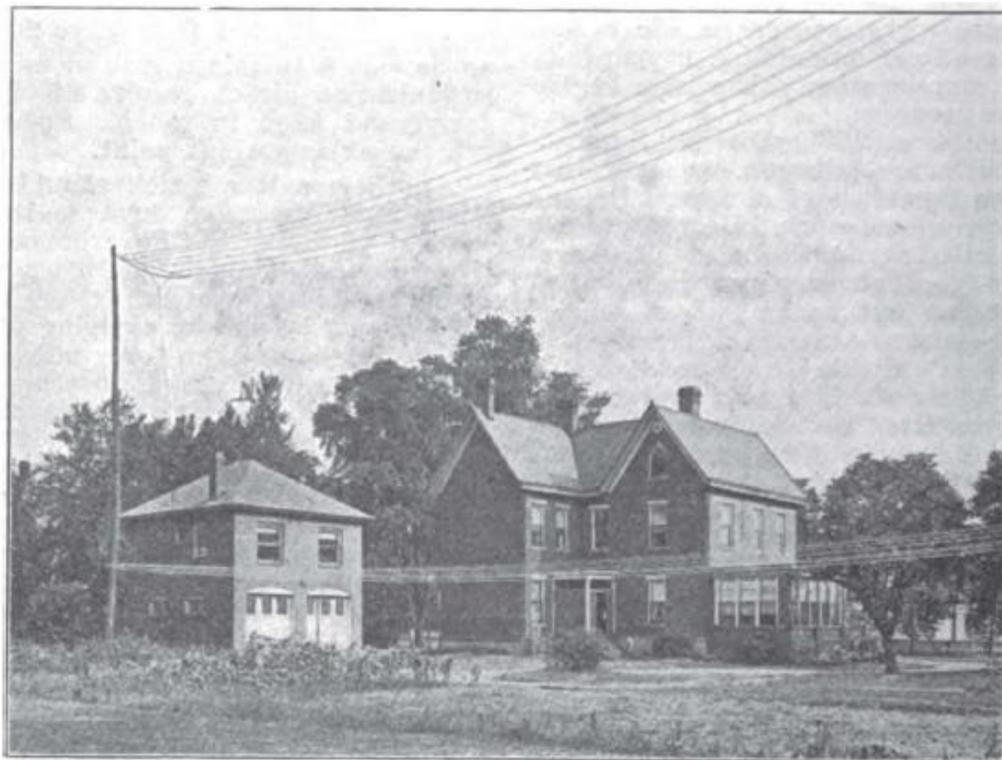
Rick Samoian, W6SR

100 years ago



8XK, PITTSBURGH, PA.

8XK, owned by Mr. Frank Conrad, of Pittsburgh, is one of the star A.R.R.L. stations of this summer's season and will unquestionably continue among the top-notchers this winter. The signals of 8XK during the QSS tests have been received in New England with terrific intensity, and, taken all around, its whole performance is a splendid argument in favor of C.W. transmitters. That being our favorite topic this season, it is with the greatest pleasure that we present the following description of Mr. Conrad's station, feeling that A.R.R.L. men who want constructional hints for building a C.W. set capable of long distance relay work will find a world of aid therein.—Editor.



AS its call indicates, this station is primarily devoted to experimental work in connection with radio transmission and reception. The various sets are simply assembled on the table from the available stock of parts, such as condensers, inductances, etc. The antenna consists of an inverted "L", used in conjunction with a counterpoise in place of a ground. The flat-top of the antenna consists of six wires, two feet apart,

one hundred and five feet long, and fifty feet high. The counterpoise is a duplicate of the antenna, except suspended at a height of twelve (12) feet. This arrangement gives a very high ratio of radiation resistance to losses, and also permits of operation at short wave lengths without the use of a series condenser. The resistance at 250 meters is 8 ohms.

The transmitting apparatus, as shown in the illustration on our cover, comprises

a radio telephone set, a spark set, and an I.C.W. set.

The telephone set, at the right of the photograph, uses two 50 watt power tubes, the plate circuit of which is supplied by a 1000 volt D.C. generator, a 5 watt tube being used to amplify the audio-frequency

of the usual D.C. generator. The set comprises two vacuum tubes, operating in parallel, and direct coupled to the antenna inductance, the connections being as shown in diagram, Fig. 1. A condenser of .006 M.F. capacity is interposed in the plate connection to prevent short circuiting of the

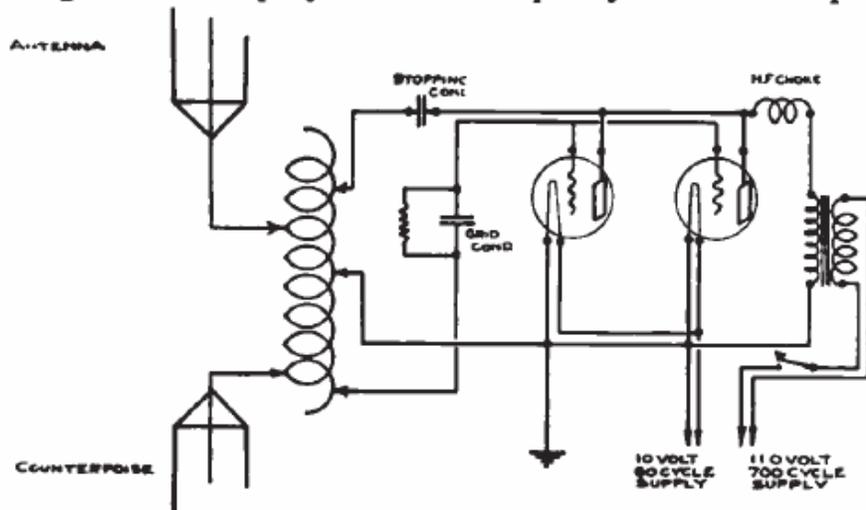


Fig. 1.

current delivered by the telephone transmitter. This set gives an antenna current of 3½ amperes, when connected for telephone operation,—one of the tubes operating as oscillator and one as modulator. When connected for CW transmission, both tubes operating as oscillators, the antenna current is 5 amperes.

The spark set, in the center of the photograph, consists of the usual arrangement of power transformer, condenser, rotary spark gap, and oscillation transformer. The power transformer steps the supply voltage up to 7300 volts and is 1 K.W. capacity. The comparatively low secondary voltage is made possible by adjusting the transformer and condenser circuit to resonance to the spark frequency. The condenser is a Dubilier Mica of .01 M.F. capacity. The spark gap has eighteen stationary contacts and a rotating arm which runs at 3600 R.P.M., thus giving approximately one thousand (1000) sparks per second. As now adjusted for 250 meters, the set gives an antenna current of 7½ amperes with a decrement of about .05, the power input to transformer being about 960 watts.

The I.C.W. set, shown at the left of the photograph, is the one which was used as transmitter for the Bureau of Standards—A.R.R.L. Fading Tests, during the months of June and July. This is a vacuum tube set, in which modulation of antenna current is obtained by supplying the plate circuit from a 700 cycle generator, in place

of the usual D.C. generator. The set comprises two vacuum tubes, operating in parallel, and direct coupled to the antenna inductance, the connections being as shown in diagram, Fig. 1. A condenser of .006 M.F. capacity is interposed in the plate connection to prevent short circuiting of the 700 cycle power supply through antenna inductance, and a condenser of .0005 M.F. capacity, shunted by a 7000 ohm resistance, is used in the grid connection to give the necessary negative grid voltage. The tubes are similar to the standard Navy type 50 watt size, except that the plate connection is brought out at the end of the tube opposite the base, in order to provide adequate insulation for the plate voltage used, which is 3000 volts effective, it being

supplied by the step-up transformer shown. This type of tube is usually operated from a 1000 volt direct current supply, but by increasing the voltage as above, it is possible to so increase their efficiency as to about double their output without any reduction of life. A ground connection is shown tapped to the antenna inductance. This tap is made to a mid-potential point, between antenna and counterpoise, and no

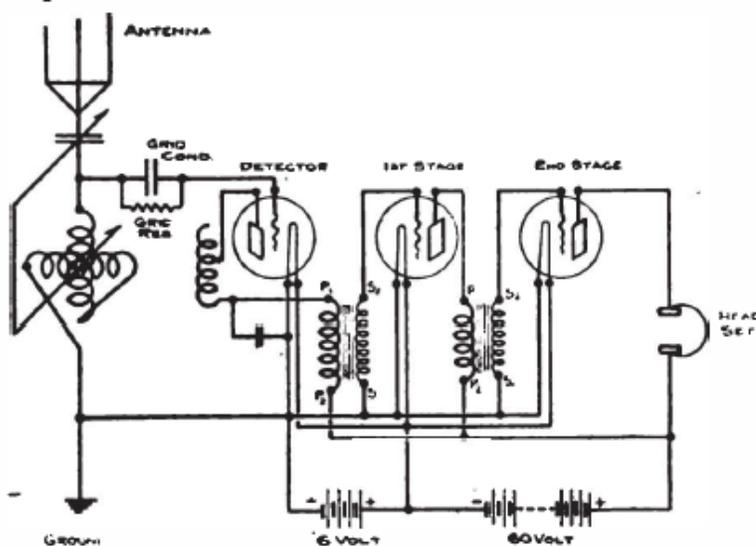
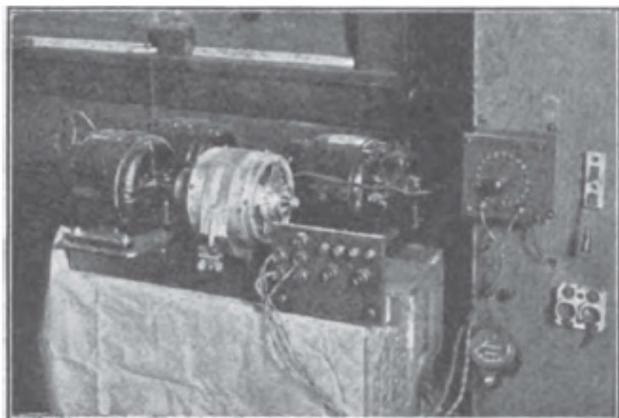


Fig. 2.

current flows through this connection. It insures that there is no radio frequency voltage between filament supply and other low voltage parts of set and ground, thus eliminating any losses from this source. This connection is not necessarily the middle of the inductance coil, as the lead-in from antenna and counterpoise form part of the total inductance, and the tap is made to the middle point of the total inductance,

which, owing to the much longer lead-in from antenna than from counterpoise, brings this tap very near the antenna end of inductance.



The 700 cycle generator, which supplies the plate circuit, is rated at 300 watts, and is driven by a $\frac{1}{2}$ H.P. induction motor. A single layer inductance is included in the secondary circuit of the step-up transformer, in order to prevent the high frequency current being by-passed through the distributed capacity of the transformer windings. This inductance and the leakage inductance of the step-up transformer, are, in connection with the .006 M.F. plate circuit coupling condenser, adjusted to 700 cycle resonance. It, of course, would be

possible to operate the plate circuit from the 60 cycle supply, in which case, however, the received note would be 120 cycles and would be of very low audibility, unless beat reception was used.

The power for filament supply is taken from the 60 cycle power circuit through a step-down transformer, which delivers 10 volts to filament terminals.

As adjusted to 250 meters for the Bureau of Standards—A.R.R.L. Fading Tests, this set delivers to the antenna a current of $6\frac{1}{2}$ amperes, with an output from the 700 cycle generator of 450 watts.

The receiving equipment is mounted on a table, which is normally in front of the transmitter, but which was removed before photographing, in order to show the transmitting apparatus. As in the case of the transmitter, it consists of a table assembly of parts to make up the particular scheme desired. The equipment generally used for ordinary short wave reception consists of a single circuit receiving tuner, used in connection with a detector and a two-stage amplifier. The scheme of this set is shown in diagram, Fig. 2. Having but one tuned circuit, the operation of finding a station of unknown wave length is reduced to the minimum, while the selectivity and response to weak signals is fully equal to that obtained by the more complicated circuits in general use.

Courtesy September 1920 QST

LEARN WIRELESS AT HOME

The Demand for Good Wireless Operators Far Exceeds the Supply

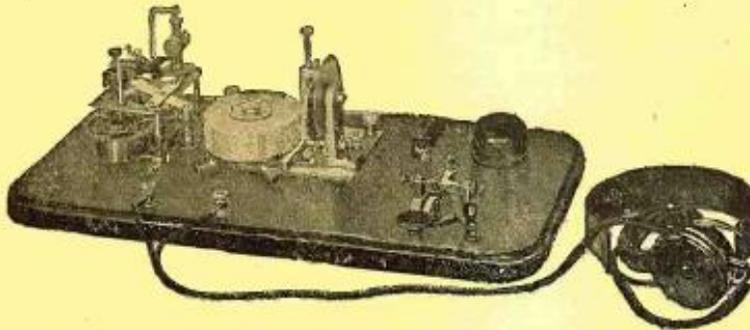
The New York Wireless Institute will make you an operator—AT HOME—in your spare time—quickly, easily and thoroughly. No previous training or experience required. Our Home Study Course has been prepared by Mr. L. R. Krumm, Chief Radio Inspector, Bureau of Navigation, N. Y. Radio experts able to impart their practical and technical knowledge to YOU in an *easy to understand* way, will direct your entire Course. The graded lessons mailed you will prove so fascinating that you will be eager for the next one. The instruments furnished *free*, will make it as easy to learn the Code as it was to learn to talk. *All you will have to do*, is to listen.

Big Salaries

Wireless operators receive excellent salaries ranging from \$125 to \$200 a month and it is only a stepping stone to better positions. There is practically no limit to your earning power. Men who but yesterday were Wireless Operators are now holding positions as Radio Engineers, Radio Inspectors, Radio Salesmen at salaries up to \$5000 a year.

Travel the World Over

A Wireless Operator can visit all parts of the world and receive fine pay and maintenance at the same time. Do you prefer a steady position without travel? There are many opportunities at the numerous land stations or with the Commercial Wireless or with the Steamship Companies.



This wonderful Set for learning the Code furnished free with our Course

The Transmitter shown is the celebrated *Omnigraph* used by several Departments of the U. S. Government and by the leading Universities, Colleges, Technical and Telegraph Schools throughout the U. S. and Canada. Start the *Omnigraph*, place the phone to your ear and this remarkable invention will send you Wireless Messages, the same as though you were receiving them, through the air, from a Wireless Station hundreds of miles away. When you apply for your license, the U. S. Government will test you with the *Omnigraph*—the same model *Omnigraph* as we furnish to our students. Ask any U. S. Radio Inspector to verify this.

FREE Post-Graduate Course

A one month's Post-Graduate Course, if you so desire, at one of the largest Wireless Schools in N. Y. City. New York—the Wonder City—the largest port in the World and the Headquarters of every leading Wireless and Steamship Company.

FREE Instruments and Text Books

We furnish free to all students, during the course, the wonderful receiving and sending set exactly as produced in the illustration. This set is not loaned, but given to all students completing the Course.

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Send me free of charge, your booklet "How to Become an Expert Wireless Operator," containing full particulars of your Course, including your Free Instrument offer.

Name

Address

City or Town.....State.....

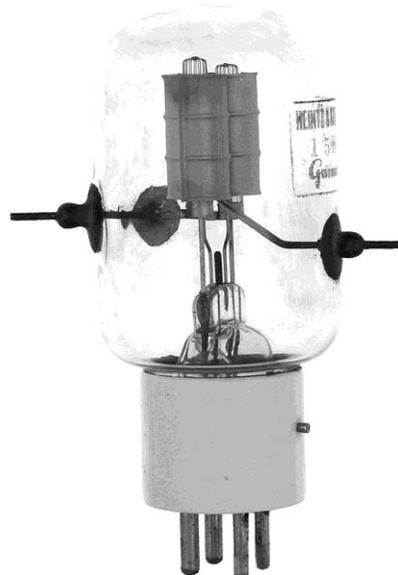
Tube of the Month

HK-158 X 46

In the years 1942 and 43, the tube data lists in radio handbooks, showed the parameters for the HK-158 triode. It also showed up in Heintz and Kaufman advertisements, but it was never illustrated. I found an advertisement in a 1942 Radio magazine for tungsten filaments that featured the tube. The tube is obviously a pair of triodes mounted in parallel to increase dissipation. I never have found one, but picked up a tube marked HK-158 X 46. I have no idea what the "X 46" means, but the tube is a 158 with the plates in parallel and the grids exiting the envelope separately. At first, I had no idea why anyone would build a tube like this. What was its purpose?

Over 60 years ago, I built my first transmitter. It had an oscillator, a driver/multiplier and a push-pull final. I was using 2E26 final tubes because that is what I had. All the crystals were on 40 meters. Doubling to 20 was easy and tripling to 15 worked, but drive was minimal. These were the days of plug in coils. I remembered reading Christmas poems written by hams only wishing to have "more drive on 10" and I could now understand. Using the final amplifier as a multiplier was discouraged as it became a harmonic generator and efficiency wasn't good. There was a circuit that was efficient and repressed the third harmonic. It was the push-push doubler. That circuit had the plates of two tubes in parallel and the grids in push-pull. Since the grids were on one frequency and the plates on the second harmonic, there was no need to neutralize the tubes as it wouldn't oscillate. It was simple, clean and as efficient as a regular amplifier. You could get to 10 meters with a 20 meter driving signal where you had plenty of power. This tube was rated at over 100

MHz so a 5 meter (later 6 meter) amplifier would be easy. This tube wasn't made for the ham market and I have been looking for years to find the military gear that used it.



Visit the museum at N6JV.com

Norm N6JV

MLDXCC Focus Contests

The following lists all contests in which MLDXCC would appreciate your efforts.

ARRL SS CW/PH
ARRL DX Phone*
ARRL DX CW*
ARRL 10M*
ARRL 160M*
California QSO Party

*Proposed and approved at the November 12, 2016 MLDXCC general meeting.

Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) announced their focus contests at their August 2018 meeting. This list can be found in the Aug 2018 NCCC newsletter.

ARRL RTTY RU
CQ WPX RTTY
CQ WPX SSB
CQ WPX CW

MLDXCC – Outgoing ARRL Bureau

The Mother Lode DX/Contest Club will provide Outgoing QSL Bureau services to current paid club members. The policy is as follows:

The club will cover packaging, shipping, and the \$7.00 ARRL fee. Members will be responsible for the \$1.15 per ounce fee, payable to the club. A scale will be provided at the designated meetings to weigh the cards.

Twice per year, at the March and October meetings, members may bring their outgoing cards (or have delivered by another club

member) to the meeting for collection and collating.

All regulations set forth by the ARRL must be met, including:

Members must be ARRL members to use outgoing bureau.

Must provide proof of membership (QST mailing label, ARRL membership card)

Cards need to be sorted according to ARRL requirements when brought to club.

The after-meeting program at those meetings would be dedicated to weighing, merging the cards, and making sure the paperwork is in order.

For more information regarding the ARRL Outgoing Bureau, please visit <http://www.arrrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service>

QSL bureau rates have changed.

Outgoing QSL Service
QSL Service Fee Structure (effective May 15, 2019)

ARRL members — including foreign members, QSL Managers, or managers for DXpeditions — should enclose payment as follows:

Effective May 15, 2019, the rate structure is:

\$2 for 10 or fewer cards in one envelope.

\$3 for 11-20 cards in one envelope, or 75 cents per ounce, for packages with 21 or more cards.

[For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards -- 24 ounces, or about 225 cards -- will cost \$18.]

Under the new fee structure, there are no transaction service fees.

You should use an accurate scale to weigh your cards. Most post offices have scales that you may use. Please pay by check (or money order) and write your call sign on the check. Send cash at your own risk. DO NOT send postage stamps or IRCs. Please make checks payable to: "The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service." Packages received with insufficient payment will not be processed until the balance is paid in full. The outgoing QSL bureau does not keep money on account.

The NOAA Solar Update

Click the link below to display the latest NOAA solar predictions.

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/products/weekly-highlights-and-27-day-forecast>

UPCOMING Events

For the latest contest info, click on the following link:

<http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcalendar.html>

UPCOMING DX and DXpeditions

Click the link below to display upcoming DXpeditions.

<http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

MLDXCC Reflector

The MLDXCC reflector is maintained at groups.io. Visit <https://groups.io/g/mldxcc>

We also maintain a spotting reflector at <https://groups.io/g/MLDXCC-Spots>

We are also on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com>

Classifieds

Members are requested to review their classified ads each month for accuracy and to resubmit their ads or confirm their desire to keep it running in the next issue.

New! "[The Serial Box](#)" (SBOX) by N6TV – Combination Serial Port Splitter, ACOM / Elecraft / SPE Amplifier Interface, FSK/CW/PTT keying interface, and Breakout Box

<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13971>

Serial Box



Serial Box

"[The Y-BOX](#)" by N6TV – 4-way Elecraft K3/K3S ACC port splitter, Elecraft Amplifier Interface, and Breakout Box

<https://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/13296>



Y-Box
N6TV

Need QSL cards, business cards, club banners?
Contact Vina K6VNA vina@sign-tek.com

Area Clubs

Northern California Contest Club -
<https://www.nccc.cc>

Lodi Amateur Radio Club -
<http://www.lodiarc.org>

Stockton Delta Amateur Radio Club -
<http://www.w6sf.org>

Pizza Lovers 259 -
<https://www.pl259.org>

El Dorado Amateur Radio Club -
<http://edcarc.net>

2020 Meeting Dates

January - 25
Feb - none
March - 14
Apr - 18 Zoom
May -9 Zoom
June - 6 Zoom
July - 25 Zoom
August - 22 Zoom
September - 19 Zoom
October - 17 Zoom
November - 13
Dec - 20

*Dates are arranged to accommodate major contest dates.
Meeting dates are subject to change. MLDXCC
traditionally holds a mid-year combined meeting with
NCCC.*

Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club -
<http://www.w6ek.org>

Redwood Empire DX Association -
<http://www.redxa.com>

Calaveras Amateur Radio Society
<http://calaverasars.org/>

Please contact the editor to have your club listed here.

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The MLDXCC Newsletter

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