

National Contest Journal (ISSN 0899-0131) is published bimonthly in January, March, May, July, September and November by the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, Connecticut, and at additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: National Contest Journal, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494, USA.

Publisher

American Radio Relay League
225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111
tel: 860-594-0200
fax: 860-594-0259 (24-hour direct line)
E-Mail: hq@arrl.org
Web: www.arrl.org/

Editor

Kirk Pickering, K4RO
k4ro@k4ro.net

Managing Editor

Rick Lindquist, WW3DE
ww3de@arrl.org

NCJ Web Page

Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, Webmaster
www.ncjweb.com

ARRL Officers

President: Kay C. Craigie, N3KN

Executive Vice President:
David Sumner, K1ZZ

Contributing Editors

Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT—Contest Tips, Tricks & Techniques
Ralph Bellas, K9ZO—Contesting on a Budget
Jon Jones, N0JK—VHF-UHF Contesting!
Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA—Propagation
Don Hill, AA5AU—RTTY Contesting
John Miller, K6MM—NCJ Profiles
Bill Feidt, NG3K—DX Contest Activity Announcements
Bruce Horn, WA7BNM—Contest Calendar
Don Daso, K4ZA—Workshop Chronicles
Kirk Pickering, K4RO—Contesting 101

North American QSO Party, CW

Bruce Horn, WA7BNM
4225 Farmdale Ave, Studio City, CA 91604
cwnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com

North American QSO Party, Phone

Bruce Horn, WA7BNM
4225 Farmdale Ave, Studio City, CA 91604
ssbnaqpmgr@ncjweb.com

North American QSO Party, RTTY

Mark Aaker, K6UFO
300 Berry St, Unit 1009, San Francisco, CA 94158-1668
rttynaqpmgr@ncjweb.com

North American Sprint, CW

Boring Amateur Radio Club
15125 Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009
cwsprintmgr@ncjweb.com

North American Sprint, Phone

Jim Stevens, K4MA
6609 Vardon Ct, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526
sbsprintmgr@ncjweb.com

North American Sprint, RTTY

Ed Muns, W0YK
PO Box 1877, Los Gatos, CA 95031-1877
rttysprintmgr@ncjweb.com

Advertising Information Contact:

Janet Rocco, tel 860-594-0203;
fax 860-594-0303; jrocco@arrl.org

NCJ subscription orders, changes of address, and reports of missing or damaged copies should be addressed to ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 and be marked **NCJ Circulation**. ARRL members are asked to include their membership control number or their *QST* mailing label.

Submit articles, letters and club newsletters to NCJ, Kirk Pickering, K4RO, Editor, 4502 Scenic View Dr, Pegram, TN 37143 USA

The NA Sprint and NA QSO Parties are not sponsored by ARRL.

Yearly Subscription rates: In the US \$20

US by First Class Mail \$28

International and Canada by airmail \$32

All original material not attributed to another source is copyright © 2012 by The American Radio Relay League, Inc. Materials may be excerpted from the NCJ without prior permission provided that the original contributor is credited, and the NCJ is identified as the source.

In order to insure prompt delivery, we ask that you periodically check the address information on your mailing label. If you find any inaccuracies, please contact the Circulation Department immediately. Thank you for your assistance.

- 2 Editorial *Kirk Pickering, K4RO*

FEATURES

- 3 Designing a Flexible SO2R Receive Antenna Distribution System
Eric Tichansky, NO3M
- 6 A “Wired-Wireless” Remote Receive Antenna Switch
Pete Smith, N4ZR
- 9 A 10 Band “Stealth” Attic Antenna System for Contesting and DXing
Jeff Blaine, AC0C
- 14 The Gremlin in the Shack: The ICOM CI-V Bus
James A Michener, K9JM
- 16 Contester and DXer — John H. Thompson, W1BIH/PJ9JT, SK
Pete Chamalian, W1RM
- 17 Maximizing Your Rate While Running or Searching and Pouncing
John Pescatore, K3TN
- 18 NCJ Photo Gallery
Henryk Kotowski, SM0JHF
- 19 Single Operator, Three Radio RTTY
Mark Sihlanick, N2QT
- 20 The FCP: A 160 Meter Counterpoise for a Postage-Stamp Lot
Guy Olinger, K2AV

COLUMNS

- 26 NCJ Profiles:
Bud Trench, AA3B
John Miller, K6MM
- 28 NCJ Reviews: W2IHY 8 Band
Audio Equalizer and Noise Gate
and EQplus
Scott Wright, K0MD
- 30 Contesting on a Budget
Ralph Bellas, K9ZO
- 33 RTTY Contesting
Don Hill, AA5AU
- 36 VHF-UHF Contesting!
Jon K. Jones, N0JK
- 37 Contest Tips, Tricks and Techniques
Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT
- 39 Propagation
Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA
- 41 Workshop Chronicles
Don Daso, K4ZA

Contests

- 42 ARRL Field Day Records
Through 2011
Denis Catalano, W4DC
- 45 Results: North American Sprint,
RTTY — March 2012
Ed Muns, W0YK

ADVERTISING INDEX

- Alfa Radio Ltd.: 40
Array Solutions: COVER II
Bencher: 38
Clark Electronics: 38
DX Engineering: 41
Elecrafft: COVER III
Expert Amps: 15
Green Heron Engineering LLC: 48
Idiom Press: 40
- InnovAntennas America, Inc: COVER IV
International Radio INRAD: 35
Jim George, N3BB: 25
K0XG Systems: 48
RF Parts: 11, 13
SuperBertha: 8
Top Ten Devices: 32
Unified Microsystems: 47