

Hank Garretson, W6SX

Hank was first licensed at age eleven as KN2SSX in 1956. He spent twenty years as a career officer in the Air Force, most of the time flight testing aircraft. He is a flight-test-engineer graduate of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, and was in charge of the flight-test-engineering program at the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School. He logged 1563 hours as an airborne flight test engineer. He retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel in 1986 and went to work for Northrop Corporation. At Northrop, he was a lead flight test engineer for the B-2 Stealth Bomber. Once for the Air Force, and once for Northrop, he was in charge of large outdoor antenna ranges. Hank retired to Mammoth Lakes, California in 2004. His major ham-radio interests have always been traffic handling and contesting. He characterizes himself as a journeyman contester who enjoys doing the best he can with the antenna-hand he's been dealt. Hank is known for his "Contest Exuberantly" approach to ham radio.