

# DXer

N O R T H E R N  
C A L I F O R N I A  
D X C L U B



## The Editor's Keyboard

### NCDXC Needs a Budget...Now!

The current Board of Directors is now halfway through its term, but has yet to present a budget. The Board says that it has spent a considerable amount of time discussing the NCDXC's financial condition, but has so far concluded only that "we must keep our expenses down at this time" (from BoD minutes for February). The reason for this, according to President George, WA6O, is that our cash (checking) account has been depleted. We have to take the BoD's word for this, because the only "Treasurer's Report" received and printed in *The DXer* during this editor's tenure has been a single checking account balance, which appeared several months ago. Excuse me, but that is not a Treasurer's Report!

The Northern California DX Club is *not* broke and is in no danger of going broke. Substantial sums reside in several long-term accounts, a fact well-known to the Board and membership. Net income from the 1993 DX Convention was considerable, even after the gift to the NCDXF and set-asides for the 1995 convention.

Without a budget—a one-year plan, if you will—there is no program for expenditures for such things as *The DXer*, which has resulted in considerable BoD gum-flapping over its size and publishing costs and a nasty disagreement with the Editor over petty editorial expenses. So why don't we have a budget, which would provide agreed-upon guidelines for all? WA6O says that there has been some confusion with our financial records, which were sent to our CPA by our former treasurer, but that this will soon be resolved.

I don't understand why this has stalled the process, but would certainly hope that a budget is produced before this Board leaves office next summer! Actually, the membership should expect its Board to produce a completed budget at its next meeting, and be done with it, so that it can get back to discussing more "pressing" topics, such as what to do about "Charlie."

### Discovering Cassidy

As Editor, a major concern has been how to fill *The DXer's* pages with contributions from our membership, so that I would neither have to import most of its contents from somewhere else, nor shorten the newsletter to little more than minutes and a meeting announcement. Rather than wait for stories to blow in with the wind, I have generally whined and pleaded for submissions. I am pleased recently to have received in response so many good anecdotes, profiles, letters, op ed pieces, QSL's, reviews and other material from a wide spectrum of our membership. I hope it continues!

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## DSP Filters at March Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of The Northern California DX Club will be held on Friday, March 11th, at *The Bold Knight* in Sunnyvale.

The meeting will feature a presentation by Larry Word, NF6S, on Digital Signal Processing. Larry will tell how to get the most out of using a audio DSP filter. He will have a demo tape and a Timewave DSP-59 unit to "show and tell."

Dinner selections are Prime Rib, Chicken Riganati, and a Chef's Salad, all priced at \$16. Note: No reservations in advance; pay at the door. Attitude adjustment commences at 6:00 PM. Dinner is at 7:15; the presentation and meeting follow.



N O R T H E R N  
C A L I F O R N I A  
D X C L U B

**Club Officers:**

President: George Allan, WA6O  
 Vice President: Craig Smith, N6ITW  
 Secretary: Ron Panton, W6VG  
 Treasurer: Dewey Churchill, KG6AM  
 Director: Bob Artigo, KN6J  
 Director: Jim Knochenhauer, K6ITL  
 Director: Louese Bloom, KA6ING

**DXer:**

Editor: Garry Shapiro, N16T  
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 (or via DXPSN)

Printing, Mailing: Ron Panton, W6VG

DX Ladder: Larry Bloom, KD6XY  
 2520 Heather Lane  
 San Bruno, CA 94066  
 (or via DXPSN)

Roster Manager: Garry Shapiro, N16T

**Club Repeater, W6TI/R, (147.36+)**

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Comm. Chairman: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q

Club simplex: 147.54 (suggested)

Thurs. Net QTR: 8 p.m. local time.

Net Manager: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q

DX News: Dave Pughatch, KI6WF

Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ

Contest News: Rich Hudgins, WX6M

Westlink: Craig Smith, N6ITW

Swap Shop: Ben Deovlei, W6FDU  
 933 Robin Lane  
 Campbell, CA. 95008  
 (408) 374-0372

QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

**W6TI DX Bulletins:**

W6TI Station Trustee Bob Vallio, W6RGG, transmits DX information at 2:00 zulu every Monday (Sunday evening local time) on both 7.016 and 14.002 MHz.

Club address: Box 608  
 Menlo Park, CA  
 94026-0608

The DXer is published Monthly by the Northern California DX Club and sent to all club members.

Unless otherwise noted, NCDXC permits re-use of any article in this publication—provided the DXer and the article's author are credited.

## Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors met at the home of W6VG on February 9. Present were: WA6O, KA6ING, K6ITL, KG6AM, N6ITW, and W6VG. KN6J was absent.

Meeting called to order at 7:36 PM by President George Allan. WA6O.

Correspondence from W6MKM was read and put aside for further discussion. Invoice from Moderne Plastics discussed re one missing badge for KN6SO. Letter to be written to Moderne Plastics.

Packet message from K6LLK read; a questionnaire to the membership will be available at the meeting to decide what to do with "Charlie." It is an imposition on K6LLK to maintain/oversee the operation of "Charlie," so the membership will have a chance to voice its suggestions.

The letters from W6MKM were discussed with WA6O and K6ITL handling same.

Treasurer KG6AM submitted a rough draft budget for the 1994-95 period. The board would like a more comprehensive listing of income/outgo. A discussion of club expenses included discussion of expenses of *The DXer* and also the possible loss of money if a meeting is held in the East Bay. Further exploration of the number of East Bay and Peninsula members who would attend such a meeting is needed.

March 25 is the deadline for nominations in writing for DXer of the Year.

Moved by K6ITL and seconded by KG6AM that all funds from the 44th International DX Convention be transferred to the General Fund, with a minimum amount of \$3500 to be held in reserve for the 1995 International DX Convention and made available to the Chairman upon request. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 PM.

—Ron Panton, W6VG, Secty.

## General Meeting

The February 11 dinner meeting of the NCDXC was held at the *Bold Knight Restaurant* in Sunnyvale. After cocktails & dinner, the meeting convened at 8:15 PM.

George Allan, WA6O, accepted a check from 1993 DX convention chairman K6ITL for \$6676. \$3500 is to be kept aside for seed money for the 1995 DX convention.

K6ITL was announced as chairman of the DXer of the Year committee. Also on the committee are W6ZKM and NG6X. Nomination forms were handed out.

The East Bay dinner meeting will be held in May, with the location to be announced.

Marathon chairman Rich, WX6M provided very fine plaques for the Marathon winners. Mixed 3rd place, N6AN; 2nd place, WB6CUA; 1st place, W6BIP. CW winners were: 3rd place, W6DU; 2nd place, W6WB; 1st place, K6MA. The North/South DX Club inter-club trophy was shown with an exhortation to the club to get high scores and keep the trophy.

Speaking for K6WR, W6ISQ reminded members of the opportunity to obtain vanity calls, and to get your DX lists into ARRL before March 31. 5 dinners were auctioned off, as we did not meet the Bold Knight minimum of 35. A fine slide/talk show was presented by Javier, AH6MM & Chris, AB6EW on the recent Wake Island and Market Reef operations. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

—Ron Panton, W6VG, Secty

## Roster Changes

### Change of Address

Ernest (Ernie) ZumBrunnen, WB6UOM (A)  
 816 N. Lake Dr  
 P.O. Box 129  
 Shell Lake, WI 54871  
 Ernie becomes an Absentee Member.

Andrew J. (Andy) Cooper, W6KQK  
 3175 Sugar Ridge Road  
 Meadow Vista, CA 95722  
 (effective 3 April)

### Upgrade/call change

Richard (Rich) Chatelain, AB6ZV (E)  
 (Rich was WB6JPY)

## By George! de WA6O

For anyone who doesn't already know, the March General meeting will be held at *The Bold Knight* in Sunnyvale. This will allow us to publicize it better and perhaps increase attendance.

As this message is written, a lot of you are working the ARRL International DX Contest. I hope everyone did well and worked some new ones in the process. Don't forget to report your scores to Rich, WX6M, for our competition with SCDXC. We would really like to keep the trophy.

As is our usual custom, we will not have a General Meeting in April. This will allow everyone, instead, to gather in Visalia on April 15-17 at the Holiday Inn - Plaza Park for the International DX Convention. The cost is \$45 if you pre-register before March 15th, and \$50 thereafter. You can save \$5 by registering early! Send your registration to:

Don Bostrom, N6IC  
4447 Atoll Avenue  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Make your check payable to International DX Convention.

Proceeds from the 1993 Convention were presented to the NCDXC at our last meeting. We received a check for over \$6,000 to help see us through the remainder of this and next year. The Board set aside \$3,500 as "seed money" for the 1995 Convention. This will relieve the next Convention Committee of having to expend personal funds on preliminary activities associated with putting on the Convention.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the March meeting. 73,

—George, WA6O

## Where Is This Place?



Here are a few clues to help you.

- In the 1954 Callbook, it had the unofficial prefix of "TT."
- It was at one time an oblast of Russia.
- Fifteen years ago Nobel Laureate (Physics) and raconteur Richard Feynman and one of his friends, Ralph Leighton, turned their search for information on this country into a real adventure, which was broadcast on PBS.
- The Capital is Kyxyl and usually the men sing khoomei.

The answer and more information are on page 5.

—from the NJDXA Newsletter, November, 1993

from page 1

## Discovering Cassidy

I have also directly solicited inputs from several likely members. Among these is Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD. This lucky swing of the editorial pick hit the mother lode: since his first piece on Sam, W6TSQ, the Professor of DX Science has accelerated his output, several examples of which appear in this issue. This issue is, in fact, a cornucopia of Cassidy. I think he was just waiting to be asked!

I met Cass (and Sam) at a DX lunch not so long ago, but members longer in the tooth know Cass as—among many other things—a former NCDXC president and the long-time editor and publisher (with his wife) of the long-gone but well-remembered West Coast DX Bulletin. One might say that—if the WCDXB was an orchestra—the Cassidys played all the instruments, composing a new opus each week for ten years. Today, Cass' old printing press resides in WA6AHF's garage, having since generated countless QSL cards.

Cass' commentaries on virtually any topic concerning DX are couched in his own inimitable style, which I edit as little as possible. Absolutely!

## Coming Events

- Foothill Flea Market, 2nd Saturday, each month, Foothill College, Los Altos, 7 AM-noon
- Livermore Swap Meet, 1st Sunday each month, Las Positas College, Livermore, 7 AM-noon
- BARTG Spring RTTY Contest, March 19-20
- Bermuda CW/SSB Contest, March 19-20
- CQ WW WPX SSB Contest, Mar 26-27
- International DX Convention, April 15 -17, Holiday Inn, Visalia
- Dayton HamVention, Dayton, OH, April 29-May 1
- West Coast VHF/UHF Conference, Sheraton Cerritos Hotel, Cerritos
- CQ WW WPX CW Contest, May 28-29

# What You Get You May not Want!

Hugh Cassady, WA6AUD

Every DXer needs something. New countries, more recognition, a higher DXCC total, more respect and more QSL cards. And many may think that certain things will help. Like running an ARRL QSL Bureau, for example. The fulfillment of the dream, the fifteen minutes of fame promised to all Deserving DXers and all those other good things from which golden memories are made came knocking on the door of the club about a quarter century back.

It was the time of the Great Schism. Even today, there exists among we more deserving types those who are firm in their beliefs. Always! And always firm in believing that there are actually hundreds of undelivered QSLs floating around out there somewhere and with their own call and address on them. Something or someone or some perverse fate is preventing those cards from arriving at their proper destinations and, of a certainty, some of those QSL cards are counters for new countries. Absolutely!

Some think that if you could only run the ARRL QSL bureau you will just naturally get more QSL cards. Some think of side benefits and are positive that the real gravy comes from the postage stamps on the incoming mail, mail with those colorful and rare stamps for which those true-blue stamp collectors will take out another home equity loan so they can acquire them.

It is all true, some think, and years back the NCDXC had the opportunity to take over the ARRL 6th Call Area QSL Bureau. Was there any reluctance to take such a step? Indeed not! It was a wild stampede and the move was approved by acclamation. The pot of gold was in sight. Let there be no doubt whatsoever. For years the 6th Call Area QSL Bureau had been down in San Diego. The club there tired, one can say from a surfeit of riches, and wanted to give it up. Actually it was up for grabs and a quick response won the day. The quick and the determined took the gold.

Two of the more energetic types in the club, filled with fire and zeal and nobility of purpose, drove all the way to San Diego on a weekend to put in a bid for the QSL Bureau. They won hands down. And at the next regular meeting of the club they announced their triumph: they had acquired the 6th Area QSL Bureau, and generously offered to share their



Professor Cass

trophy and their largesse with the club. The club was ready. The members were on their feet cheering the good news. "Eureka!" they shouted, "Eureka, this is the mother lode of QSLs. And it is all ours. All ours! The incredible ecstasy did not last long.

Soon was discovered something that had not been anticipated: running a QSL bureau entailed a lot of work and a lot of volunteer time! Those who made the original move tried hard; a few more of the club members also tried hard. But it was a big job, a bit more than the small group of volunteers that came forth could handle. The president of the club at the time of the acquisition was possibly the most fortunate: his term was ending. A new leader took over and tried valiantly to make the thing work. The longer the club had the bureau, the slower things moved. In some instances they were not moving at all. Some business firms might value a backlog of work, but in a QSL

bureau it was the club's incubus, an increasingly heavy burden for those highly trained club members who were more esteemed for their thinking than for their labor. And while the club had all the big thinkers it needed, then or now, the working class was in a decline.

The president, in a forceful if somewhat desperate move, decreed that as long as the club had so enthusiastically grasped the QSL bureau to its corporate bosom, the club members of the corporate body would have to do the necessary work, willingly or otherwise. He issued a draft notice. There was handed out a schedule drafting club members for work in the QSL bureau. Forced labor it was. The whole problem came to a tumultuous climax at a club meeting at the venerable Fork and Cork in San Bruno. It was not exactly a quiet meeting: the corporate body was seething. No matter what was proposed as a solution, someone was violently opposed to it. Some still recall the meeting as one of the most memorable ones they ever attended. Real old timers—really old that is—can still give an running account of that meeting. It was one that few might forget.

In the midst of everything with most everyone shouting at the same time, the president pulled out his ultimate weapon and fired it. He resigned *ipso facto, ira furor brevis est* and *pro pronto*, stalking out of the meeting. He never came back.

The vice-president had to take over. She was in a fix: her husband had abruptly departed the meeting earlier in a fit of rage over the proceedings and she was left to face the mob. But, as it often lately comes, realization showed and it made the club quiet down to a whisper of its earlier uproar. It was quite obvious that something had gone wrong within the club and the QSL Bureau was not the second step

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### **DXER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The NCDXC may, each year, make an award to an outstanding member of the club who has most consistently and actively participated in DX and club activities during the preceding THREE years. The recipient of the award will be announced at the INTERNATIONAL DX CONVENTION in Visalia.

### **CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION**

1. Cooperation and assistance with DX efforts, maintaining liaison with or coordinating DXpeditions, participating in DXpeditions, and helping other members to work DX.
2. High standards of operating practices and ethics. Compliance with FCC regulations, exhibition of fair play, sportsmanship and good operating practices at all times.
3. Participation in club activities. Service as officer or director, *DXer* editor, or other club appointments, participation in DX contests with scores contributed to the NCDXC, support of the club repeater, attendance at club and repeater meetings, service on committees, or bringing in new members.
4. Achievements. Winning, or placing high in major DX contests, winner of awards, such as: 5BDXCC, Honor Roll, etc. Amateur-related appointments, service to the public in emergencies, promoting international goodwill. Assistance to potential or new amateur radio operators, conduct of training programs.
5. Must be an active club member for at least THREE years to be eligible.
6. No person may receive the award more than once every three years.

Nominations must be submitted in writing with complete background information on the nominee and how he/she meets the above criteria. Multiple endorsements by active members of the NCDXC may be included on each nomination.

Be sure to include the nominee's full name and callsign(s).

To be considered by the committee, nominations MUST be received by the chairman no LATER than March 25, 1994.

Send all nominations to:

J. D. "Knock" Knochenhauer, K6ITL  
Chairman, DXer of the Year Committee  
133 Sylvan Avenue  
San Mateo, CA 94403

## **Stepanenko Sells QSL Rights**

Noted DXpeditioner Romeo Stepanenko recently sold QSL rights to all his DXpeditions to financial mogul Donald Trump for an undisclosed sum. Rumors on Wall Street say the Don King organization made the highest bid but that Stepanenko felt Mr. Trump would handle the heavy work load more efficiently. For the convenience of DXers, Mr. Trump is planning a special junket to Atlantic City—a weekend of combined gambling and QSLing.

—from 'The Clod Harris DX Bulletin, Special Hamvention Edition'—an anonymously produced flyer that was passed out at the Dayton Hamvention.

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## **Where Is This Place?**

The map is of Tuva, UAØY, oblast 159, zone 23.

A group of Monterey hams, led by Pat Barthelow, AA6EG, have established relationships with Tuvans and are actively involved in promoting amateur radio there. Among their projects is the construction of a large rhombic antenna beamed toward Tuva, using the light towers of the athletic stadium at Monterey Peninsula Junior College!

—NI6T

## **Axioms from an Old Timer**

*Rule 1.* The Science of DXing holds the answers to all the scientific questions of Amateur Radio.

*Rule 2.* Any amateur who does not believe Rule 1 is neither scientific nor a DXer.

*Rule 3.* Any evidence of intelligent operating in a DX contest is not scientifically sound.

*Rule 4.* Any person who believes or supports any sign of evidence of intelligent operating in a DX contest is not a scientist.

*Rule 5.* DXers know for a fact that DXing matters are all that matter.

*Rule 6.* Anything which is not about DXing does not matter.

—WA6AUD

# Why is That One a DXCC Country?

Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD

A good question! And that may mean that the answer may not be readily available or even understood, but if you listen long enough you will be so confused you will forget the question asked. But let us give it a try.

The question often comes when the knowledge comes to a DXer that maybe Wales, Scotland, Corsica, Sardinia, the Balearics or similar places don't exactly meet the DXCC country criteria. Some are not even close! If these are countries—the question is asked—why are not other, similar places DXCC countries? Over the years this question has often been raised, sometimes even in the hallowed halls of a convention DX Forum. If one can remember the occasion, maybe one can remember the answers that at times are given. At times it ends up being even more confusing. One often is fortunate to escape from a DX Forum unscathed.

The DXCC came into existence in 1937. It was the unrecognized giant leap forward in amateur radio. Every DXer should know and remember that fact. Before the DXCC there was only WAC. That and nothing else. It was a time for DXers that was without life, without hope and without meaning. Without DX and DXCC, a DXer is nothing. Sometimes even less.

At the time the DXCC was born, the ARRL was working on another time-shattering project: a world map for amateur radio operators. A map that would help them quickly identify the geography they had worked. If one worked Liechtenstein, one could go to the ARRL Map of the World and locate Liechtenstein, heralding the find with little animal cries of joy. In another back room at the ARRL storefront office in downtown Hartford, DXCC was being born. And when things settled down and second thoughts took front-row consideration, questions began to be asked. "Well, we got something on our hands," one of those responsible said, "but how do we administer it? Just how are we

to determine what is DX meriting our credit and approval and what is just another piece of unrecognized real estate, strange places with perhaps only the Bar Sinister flag waving over them? What do we do and how do we do it?"

It was a good question, calling for good thinking. Good thinking has always been noted at the ARRL; after all, look at all the years when the ARRL was (1) The Communications Department; (2) QST; and (3) Nothing Else. Good thinking and clean New England living triumphed again. "We shall use the new ARRL World Map," was the brilliant suggestion, and everyone stood and cheered.

It was a good decision, and everything was clearly and exactly put. There was England, there was Scotland, there was Wales and there was the Isle of Man. And if you wanted something else, there it was. And there it still is. Thus, should the question ever arise as to why Wales is a DXCC country, there are two good answers, and both are right. First, Wales is a country because the people that live there think of Wales as a country. Second, Wales is a DXCC country because it was on the new ARRL World Amateur Radio Map, the sacred scroll that came down from Mt. Hartford. This was the way it started.

It took a couple of decades of trial and error before the criteria that we have come to revere were formed and they are still evolving. For years the map was the criterion and the word and there was no other word in the DX firmament. And Wales, Scotland and a few other places are still listed as DXCC countries, no matter what the criteria might now be. And rightfully, so you will say, once you understand. Just think right. In short: I was, therefore I am. And Wales was, therefore it is. And that is the law: immutable. Respect it! All right-thinking DXers do.



# Mystery Photo



A CW operator, avid fisherman, golfer, ballplayer, ARRL SCM, respected DXer and former W6 QSL manager. Who is he? See page 8 for answer.

# Need a Human Fly?

Garry, NI6T, recently installed antennas—including a Force 12 tribander with a 24' boom—on a tall redwood adjoining his Santa Cruz Mountain home. The key player at this well-attended event was Barney Wagner of *Summit Tree Service* in Los Gatos. The job required limbing and topping of nearby trees, as well as installation of a side-mounted tower, rotor, mast and antennas. Barney's performance was—in a word—outstanding, and his price quite reasonable for the amount of effort expended in completing this unusual installation. Barney can be reached at (408) 353-2085.

Tom, NW6P, recently hired Skip Patten, of *Foliage Unlimited* to perform tree maintenance at his home and business in Cupertino. He does tower work as well as treetop installations. Tom found him competent and his rates reasonable. Skip is reachable at (408) 446-4804.

**Product Review**

# The Heil Proset™ Headset

John Farber, KG6I

After searching for and experimenting with different types of combination earphones and boom-microphone—always seeking the “perfect” combination—I purchased the new Heil Proset™.

Overall, I like the more rugged construction of this unit compared with the older Heil headphone/mic unit. The earpieces have very soft foam-filled pads, which provide considerable comfort when worn. They also effectively muffle most—but not all—ambient noise in the shack. In other words, you can wear them and still hear the dinner call! Earpiece isolation seems between that of the simple open-ear styles of inexpensive headphones and the “aviation style” phones which—while almost completely silencing ambient sounds—can give some wearers a headache from pressure on the ears.

I opted for the HC-4 mic element, the “DXer” model. In use for just a week, the on-the-air reports so far have been good. The earphones work well, if not of “audiophile” quality. The Proset™ comes with a single 7-foot cord, which splits out about 6 inches from the radio end, into two plugs. One, an 1/8 inch male plug, carries the mic lines to the rig via a mic connector

wired for your rig. The other, a standard 1/4 inch phone plug, fits the headphone output jack on your rig, or DSP filter unit. To accommodate the various rig families, Heil uses separate adapter cables, for Kenwood, Icom, or Yaesu radios, one of which, about 9 inches long, is included with the Proset™. It also includes a separate 1/4 inch phone jack wired to the PTT line, to accommodate a foot-switch.

I have several minor complaints about the unit. First, the length of the split-out cables is too short. If you run a DSP unit, as I do, you may not be able to reach the DSP unit with the provided cable, necessitating an extender cable. A molded rubber piece limits cable separation on the cord. Second, to accommodate different users, the earpieces have detents to set the position of each ear cushion. I found that these detents lack sufficient friction to hold their position. Just picking the Proset™ off the operating bench caused my settings to change. Reports from other Heil users have varied on this point. A coiled cord would be nice! Finally, I think the price is rather steep, at close to \$140 “out-the-door.”

## Blarney Time

Should you feel in a mood to try some old curves, keep in mind that St Patrick’s birthday comes in March. I got a lot of mileage out of the assertion that the Irish invented radio. I also got a lot of challengers who went down in flames when it was pointed out that Marconi’s mother was a Jameson from County Wexford, the Jamesons being the ones with that national treasure, the Jameson Irish Whiskey Distillery. That treasure is still found on all first-class liquor stores, even these days.

It was the Jameson money which financed Marconi, and it was his cousin Drake Jameson who took over the Marconi company and made it a powerhouse in those early days of our youth.

There was enough truth in the statement that it was hard to refute. Actually, it was impossible to do so unless one was steeped in the early history of radio and, even then, it would be a most inconclusive rebuttal effort. You can hardly discount the hand that rocked the cradle.

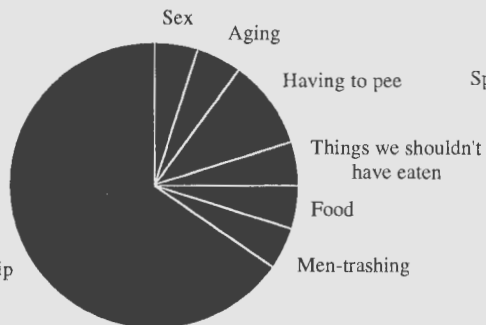
—Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD

My overall impression? While not perfect, the new Heil Proset is the best overall choice for DXing and contesting I’ve found so far.

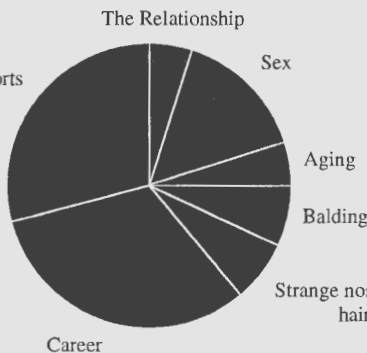
# Relative Thought-Frequency Pie Charts

Ron Rasmussen, NG6X shares the latest scientific findings with readers of The DXer.

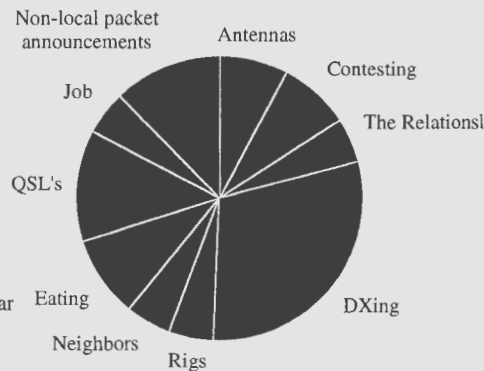
Women



Men



DXers



## A Letter From 1B/KUØJ

Following are excerpts from a letter addressed to "Dear Fellow Hams" and forwarded to The DXer by Dick, W6KH. The DXer takes no position on the issue but reminds readers that only Turkey has recognized the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

Many times I've been asked: "is this a new one?"...I would rather call it "a young one"... Before my departure, I heard that 1B was being considered for a separate country... Upon my return I found out that ...Cliff, KR4M has tabled his petition for 1B new country status, since "Greek and Turkish Cypriots were to meet in mid-January to resolve their differences."

As much as, as a human, I would love to see everything resolved, as a realist I do not expect a centuries-old conflict to be resolved that quickly and, as a ham, I fail to understand why all the problems need to be resolved before the country is recognized by DXCC. Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has been in existence for many years, has its own government, is represented by its Consulate in Washington, DC, has its own army, customs and immigration offices, police, issues its own stamps, etc.

The world is full of political problems, and if we let them interfere with our

hobby, our Countries List will probably shrink from 300 to 30. East Germany and South Africa used to be recognized without diplomatic relations with the U.S., Bosnia was recognized while the conflict (a war!) was still in progress... Let us be consistent. You should tell the DX Advisory Committee what to do. After all, you are the taxpayers, they are only the government elected by you to serve you.

To those few who called me a pirate without identifying themselves, and to anyone who has a concern about the legitimacy of my operation, I would like to say that my license was issued by Telecommunication Administration of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, the logs were kept, and my passport was stamped upon entry and exit.

With your help, it has been a very enjoyable operation, and I am already looking forward to doing it again...

—Igor Zdorov, KUØJ

continued form page 4

## What You Get...

to DX Nirvana that had been anticipated. When the rage subsided, there was little argument about dumping the QSL Bureau as soon as possible. And it was. Thank goodness!

In retrospect the whole matter was a fiasco doomed to failure. For while a DX club might thirst for the glory and gain in having a QSL Bureau, the concentration of members to supply a pool of willing volunteer workers did not exist then and does not exist now. Unfortunately, it took a long time for the club to heal its wounds from this event, and some of them never will be healed.

That was a time when what looked good and was strongly sought and wooed was not the joy anticipated. But the lesson should not be forgotten. Understand what you seek and seek not the fantasy you imagine. You might just get it. Of course, we are speaking only about QSL Bureaus. Obviously!

## SCDXC '94 Officers

The Southern California DX Club has elected its 1994 officers.

President	Bob Selbrede, W9NQ
Vice President	Harvey Shore, K6EXO
Secretary	Will Angenant, KN6DV
Treasurer	Sharon Garvin, WB9UXR

Membership Chairman	Paul Garvin, KF6TC
Director	Jim Zimmerman, KG6VI

Director	Keith Hoyt, K6GXO
Director	Rick Samoian, WB6OKK

—from SCDXC BULLETIN, (Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, Editor), February, 1994

from page 6

## Mystery Photo

The photo is of the late NCDXC member Horace Greer, W6TI.

—Elliott Pisor, K6ILM

## New CIS Prefixes

Dave Pugatch, KI6WF, garnered this information from several sources. While most of the changes are *supposedly* in place now, some are clearly not, and DXers should use this list with extreme caution!

Country	Old Prefixes	New Prefixes
Azerbaijan	RD, UD	4K5 - 4K9 (4J?)
Georgia	RF, UF	4L
Armenia	RG, UG	EK (4J?)
Moldava	RO, UO	ER
Belarus **	RC, UC	EU, EV, EW
Kyrgyzstan	RM, UM	EX
Tajikistan	RJ, UJ	EY
Turkmenistan	RH, UH	EZ
Russia	RA, UA, RV, UV RW, UW, RZ, UZ 4K, ETC.	R, UA - UI (4K0 - 4K4?)
Ukraine	RB, UB, RT, UT RY, UY	RZ - UZ, EM, EN, EO
Kazakhstan	RL, UL	UN, UO, UP, UQ
Uzbekistan	RI, UI	UJ - UM

\*\* Belarus changes not valid until June 1, 1994.



CALL	HONOR ROLL			DX TOTALS			RTY	DX BAND TOTALS						OTHER BANDS			
	MIX	PH.	CW.	MIX	PH.	CW.		10m	15m	20m	40m	80m	160m	06m	12m	17m	30m
W6BSY	328	328		373	367												
W6ISQ	328	328	328	367	360	335		257	250	250	262	179		43	67	43	
W6RJ	328			362				200	200	300	200	294					
K6MA	328	327	326	361	349	332		261	270	301	237	135		170	205	115	
K6PU	328	328	318	359	350	327		200	200	300	200	100					
K5YY	328	328	327	357	354	334		174	239	346	222	274	168	42			
W6ZKM	328	328		352	352			268	261	290	169	141					
W6LQC	328	328		348	348	89		100	100	100	100	100					
WA6SLO	328	328		331	331			303	317	331	233	236	7	18	172	139	1
W6KH	327			370				130	159	327	138	115		35			
W6CF	327			355	294	185		204	239	306	178	138					
W6OAT	327		323	353	332	343		275	316	340	284	216					
W4RIM	327	327		348	348												
K6KM	327	327		347	347												
W6XP	327	327		347	347												
K6RK	327	321	321	344	337	326		100	100	100	100	100	103				
N6JV	327		327	341	326	334		270	252	302	259	210	84		156	185	156
WB6CUA	327	325	320	339	335	325		100	100	100	100	96					
N6ST	327			335	313	275		209	244	307	149	84	2		4	1	1
AJ6V	327			335	238	276		153	177	268	139	63	6				
WX6M	327	327		334	334	155		174	172	216	133	112	17				
W6ZM	326	326		366	361			149	157	322	101	120					
W6DU	326		318	347	310	334		231	267	322	166	114					
K6LQA	326			347													
NB6L	326			339	267	242		144	180	255	145	132					
WG6P	326	326		330	330	324	173	230	266	330	226	128	14		38	91	30
WA6AIF	325	325		347	347		254	100	100	100	100	100					
K1ER	324	319		342	336	264		209	246	334	188	113	1		82	129	74
W6NPY	324			339	200	300		100	100	100	100	100					
W6FAH	324	321		329	327	298		244	286	320	226	158					
W6YWII	324	324		329	329			146	195	266	172	128	5				
K6RQ	323			362				120	197	310	130	90	5				
W6MUR	323			361													
K6DT	323	322	322	352	336	328		295	315	349	253	162					
K6OZL	323			350				100	100	100	100	100					
W6BJH	323			349	192	313		120	117	187	117	100					
N7NG	323			348				244	273	315	244	163					
W6TC	323		320	339		326		252	231	273	263	175	1		110	103	89
K6XT	323			339		160		100	100	100	100	100					120
K5GOE	323			338	329			211	100	100	100	96					
K6XJ	323	323		338	338												
W6GO	323	323	323	336	336	328		290	302	328	291	222	60				
W6IEG	323	323		333	333			17	33	290	3	3					
K6LM	323	322	322	331	330	325		100	100	100	100	100	6				
W6DPD	323	323		330	330												
W6OSP	323			328													
WB6WKM	323			328	100	100		100	100	100	100	65					
W6TEX	323			327		301	127	100	100	100	100	100					
W6HXW		323			323												
AF6S	323			323		319		270	294	308	228	149			145	205	120
K6WR	322	322		354	354			100	100	100	100	100					
W6KOE		322			341												
K6KLY	322	322		330	330	16		240	212	227	130	110		70	3		
W6RGG	321	321		349	346												
W6JD	321			338	237	321		109	166	329	197	46					
WB6ZUC	321		321	335	1	327		189	258	316	169	111					
W6NLG	321	319		326	324	100		100	100	100	26	6					
AG6Q	320			326	312	228		179	226	309	169	143					
K16WF	320	320		324	324	135		258	295	322	176	114	4		26	59	2
KX6C	319																
K6VD	319			333		281		100	100	100	100	65					
NQ6X	319	319		323	321			100	100	100	100	100					
KG6AM	319			321	310	227		195	252	277	57	29					
W6PHF	318			350	336												
N6AN	318			339	288	287		281	281	307	177	118			68	100	41
W8MEP	318			321		141		100	100	100	50	35	1				
WN6R	318	317		318	317	200		215	300	317	155	150					
N6IR	316			343				100	100	100	100	100	4		3	6	81
W6TSQ				363				288	300	300	327	258					
K6DC				359													
W6CTL				341	4	297		223	194	339	97	11					
W7XA				339				277	298	309	174	137					
W6QL				337	263	69		114	161	201	111	103					
DJ6RX				336				215	271	303	227	185					
W6JZU				331				75	115	255	22	12					
W6FGD				330	275	289											
N6OJ				329	275	105											
K6OJO				328	327			187	250	309	17	12					
W6AED					325				100	100							

CALL	HONOR ROLL			DX TOTALS				DX BAND TOTALS					OTHER BANDS					
	MIX	PH.	CW.	MIX	PH.	CW.	RTY	10m	15m	20m	40m	80m	160m	06m	12m	17m	30m	
WB6UOM				324	319	5		46	51	224	3							
AI6L				321														
WB6OTB				321														
KR7Y				320	303	290		170	212	286	154	122						
WR6R				319	307													
WZ6Z				319	306	233		255	250	304	239	151	14					
WD6EKR					318			214	270	313	109	89						
K6UD				318	306	207		240	244	244	176	147						
K6ANP				316	199	211		133	144	199	110	105						
K6HHD				316	311	23		209	176	223	43	40						
NW6P				316														
WB6GFJ				314	300	70		203	225	285	125	62						
K6LRN				314	225	264		106	138	273	133	40	10					
N6ULU				314		294		139	153	219	122	85	6				1	
AA6YQ				314	289	268		179	185	264	151	97						
K4UVT				313	249	175		65	112	293	88	24	2			8		
N6JM				310	299	256		212	232	277	135	87	17		2	1	5	
WA8LLY				310	297	279		242	265	265	119	25		57	140	124	1	
KN6J				309	301	287	245	218	210	200	152	165	108					
WB6KJE				308	308													
K6PKO				308	301			270	175	185	97	112						
K6TMB				308	304	248		215	245	292	140	116						
KG6LF				306				181	145	213	37	67	2					
W6TUI				306	305	1		109	125	187	125	116						
KD6XY				306	289	54		124	137	226	8	3						
KN6EL				305	161	269		128	139	167	32	6	2					
WA6BSS				290	304	3		134	167	249	58	26						
WB6EXW				303				100	100	100	50	11						
N6OC				303	300													
N6GG				301														
KG6I				301	282	269	82	200	223	278	178	103	24	13	101	143	110	
AA6MV				300	293	259		183	196	264	127	44						
K6FD				296	271													
K6ZUR				294	85	290		139	189	265	176	79						
WA6CTA				291		239		135	145	204	74	9	1			22	41	
K6INZ					290			209	242	254	125	107						
N6RR				289				116	210	176	129	88						
K6SIK				286	282	140		183	186	262	128	120						
NG6X				285														
KE6WL				282	254	250		217	243	267	170	60	8					
N6RC				281	129	161	3	25	49	193	24	3						
KK6X				281	227	255												
N6EK				277	225	247		184	219	245	155	54	9					
K6FO				277	185	239		134	164	235	125	102						
K6XC				276	186	219	38	121	117	192	61	9	8					
KA6ING				273	272	93		272	2					52		11	26	9
AA6AD				271	181	252		109	176	258	54							
W6NA						271		140	190	251	192	109						
K6RUW				270	242	120		100	100	100								
W6TER				269														
N3AIA				268	243	154	1	129	160	194	58	20	3			14	1	
K6XM				267	209	222		163	179	246	144	68						
K6KQN				265	260													
N4QJ				260	187	184		121	125	135	112	64	8		1	4	6	
WD6EKR/M					259			88	207	160	4	3						
KD6GC				258	42	216												
N6OND				254	202	52		160	124	111	19	3			1	2	2	
WA6TOO				251				58	84	167	6	6						
W6YVK					251			160	198	173	56	42						
WA6BYA					249			248						105				
WW6D				248	121	225		84	134	188	93	40						
K6DR				248														
AD6E				245	2	245		117	134	178	116	32	3			3	1	
W6SYL						245												
WA6O				235				89	52	144	3	19						
WA6OEY				227				71	60	170	20	8						
K6BWX				225	1	224												
K6AFL				213	195	18		31	16	110	36	6			2	12		
N6LTN					213													
AB6EQ				212	200	96		104	60	173	36	1			16	13	8	
AA6TA				208	200	20	45	93	54	97	1				3	11		
KA6BIM				196	190	59		108	131	141	33	8						
KC6ESL				189	189			189										
AA6LF					186			93	79	149	10	1						
N6VAW				183	166	85		40	34	99	2							
AA6TD				178	95	125		90	55	101	39	3	1					

NOTE: The WAZ report will not appear this issue.

Top Honor Roll figures now stand at 328. To remain on the Honor Roll requires at least 319 confirmed, except CW, which is 1 to 9 less than the top figure. If required, please update your figures.

Larry, KD6XY (03/94)

# The DX Dragon

Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD

Talk to an Old Timer, perhaps one yet with good memory, and you can learn again of the great days of DX Chivalry. That time of struggle against the always-insurmountable odds and the threat of some of those dragons that lived once but have long been gone. You might even ask him if he fought the Russian Woodpecker.

The Russian Woodpecker? It did exist, devouring broad areas of the twenty meter band. You could hear it coming, roaring up from nowhere, its fiery breath blotting out everything, leaving only that fearful and maddening TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP. It came when it wanted, it took over the bands when it wanted, it cleaned out anything in its way.



*DX faculty and humble student: W6TSQ, WA6AUD, NI6T*

The Russian Woodpecker was mangling twenty meters and DXing. It came out of central Russia. It was identified as an Over-the-Horizon Search Radar, one that sought out and monitored vessel movements in the Atlantic. It was one of those huge curved block-long radar arrays that could scan areas thousands of miles away and far over the normal radio horizon. It was said that it was possibly fatal for anyone to stand anywhere close in front of such a giant array when it was operating at full power. A second Russian Woodpecker was heard from Sakhalin Island, north of Japan.

Their search through the amateur bands was maddening. The DXers howled, a White Knight was called for, but in vain. It was a time for great suffering among DXers. Some even said it was the winter of their discontent, perhaps even as bleak as the time of the Maunder Minimum. Things were bad.

Some things were obvious. One was that the ITU Treaty and its frequency allocation table were being violated. The Woodpecker was flouting the 'graved-in-stone frequency assignments. It just should not have been in the twenty meter band. But it was. One DXer asked a visiting pilgrim about this, a pilgrim with a high security clearance from the Defense Department and fresh from a high level meeting at White Sands. Why didn't the U.S. take up this matter with the international agencies? The answer was simple.

One could go that route but one had to come with clean hands. Unsaid but intimated, the U.S. itself was using some frequencies somewhat improperly and not in accordance with the ITU frequency allocations. One had to be circumspect.

In the midst of all the sorrow and travail, a DX bulletin came up with some startling information. The Woodpecker radar pulses were the same as sending dots in CW at the rate of 25 wpm. Thus, if an amateur were to set his key to send at 25 wpm and called his Uncle Louie at HH5HH down in fair Haiti, he might get through the Woodpecker interference. It was worth a try. There might be other relatives or friends to be worked; just as long as they had calls with a lot of dots and no dashes, the chances of getting through were good. HS5SS was sought; IS5SH was another lost uncle. The possibilities were endless. The DX Bulletin published the helpful news, and it was quickly recopied worldwide.

What happened? The Russian Woodpecker would appear on twenty, a good number of amateurs would zero-beat the signal and start calling Uncle Louie on CW at 25 wpm and things just simply fell apart.

Apparently what was happening—but of course was never officially verified, only strongly suspected—was that the CW signals wrought havoc with the radar return signal. The radar screens were showing ship targets in places where ships have never been seen in the memory of

any living DXer, places where large vessels should never even think of venturing. The screen was showing them hundreds of miles inland and at elevations of thousands of feet. And coming from all directions.

The Woodpecker was sensitive in this matter. At times it would shut down and lie doggo for long periods. Other times it would shift quickly up or down

frequency as soon as the spurious returns started to show. Shifty DXers followed, calling Uncle Louie. This was all sub-rosa. Everybody knew about it, a lot of DXers were doing it but no one worried much about it.

The ARRL was possibly in an ambiguous position. It knew both sides of the story; any effort on one side might jeopardize relations on the other. The only thing ever noted coming out of Newington was a somewhat mild remark that deliberate interference might be in violation of International Treaties. Having said that publicly, the ARRL lapse back into silence. It had done its duty.

The Russian Woodpecker is not being heard these days. It has not been heard for a long time. The White Knight that DXers prayed for came and drove the dragon back to its lair. The lance that did the monster in was a key set at 25 wpm and sending nothing but dots.

It has been said that only DXers understand DXing, and that only one DXer ever really understands another DXer. One thing for sure: DXers also are good at handling their own problems without any outside urging or help. And that's the record. Every DXer should know and remember it. Remember the Russian Woodpecker! Remember the Maine!



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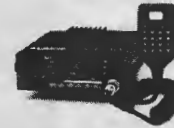
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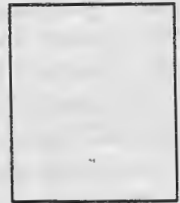
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FIRST CLASS

March 1994