

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

### DXer Editor Sought

**W**anted: NCDXC member with good-or-better English skills and a computer, willing to serve his Club and to meet an enjoyable challenge as Editor of *The DXer*. The Club will provide software and a scanner—the successful candidate will provide blood, sweat and tears. This is a highly visible and challenging position which pays the going rate—unlimited personal satisfaction and the gratitude of your fellow members.

Previous editorial experience is desirable but not a prerequisite. The current Editor will train and advise his successor. Contact the current Editor if interested.

### QST to Feature Smitty, W6JZU

**T**he February, 1997 *QST* will contain a feature article on MediShare International by our own Tom McShane, NW6P. MediShare International is a program administered under the auspices of the Medical Amateur Radio Council (MARCO).

MediShare International arose out of an on-the-air meeting in 1989 between GJØKKB, 9X5KP and Dr. Robert C. ("Smitty") Smithwick, W6JZU, of Los Altos Hills, a longtime and prominent member of NCDXC. The organization provides resources—people, equipment and information—to medical professionals who have volunteered to work in third-world countries and disaster areas.

Many in NCDXC are already aware of MediShare International and of Smitty's long involvement in this great humanitarian effort. Tom's article in *QST* will bring this story to a worldwide audience.

Smitty's long and distinguished career of professional and community service—he is a retired dentist and the founding father of Foothill College in Los Altos Hills—and his humanitarian works in MediShare International are several of the many facets of this most remarkable, generous and compassionate man. *The DXer* salutes Smitty for his good works, and Tom for bringing them to a wider audience.

—NI6T

### UPS Blues

**I**n a lifetime of dealing with Murphy, one learns to try to anticipate and forestall disasters. Of course, no matter what one does, Murphy seems to find a way around it.

In the final days before departure for Fiji and Conway Reef in March, '95, all the last-minute problems and screwups were compounded by an endless series of heavy storms. The failure of electrical and telephone service stretched my frazzled nerves

to page 5

### Inside

Minutes	—KN6BI	2
Marathon Winners	—KA6W	2
Whiskey Shots	—KA6W	3
Treasurer's Report	—W6NW	3
The Awaited Messenger		
	—WA6AUD	4
Life Members	—W6NW	4
NCCC Vanities		4
W6TI/50 DXCC	—W6TEX	4
50th Anniversary Update		
	—AA6G	5
DX Convention Update		
	—K6ANP	5
Get Well, Sam!		6
Memories of Reg	—K6RK	6
Remembrances of a Man I Never Met	—NI6T	7

## XZ1N— An Early Look

**T**he monthly meeting of the NCDXC will be held Friday, January 10th, at the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo. Socializing and/or dinner commences at 6:30. The meeting is at 8 PM.

Rich Chatelain, K7ZV and Tom Schiller, N6BT will offer NCDXC members a first look at the recent CADXA DXpedition to Myanmar. The group tenaciously battled poor propagation conditions to North America—Europe and Japan came up with most of the 26,000 QSO's logged—but came through for most callers in the end. Of particular interest to lowbanders will be the account of the 160 meter operation..

The Dunfey is located on the northwest side of the junction of Freeways 92 and 101 in San Mateo. Take the Delaware St. exit from 92. Monitor

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: Ted Algren, KA6W  
 Vice President: Doug Westover, W6JD  
 Secretary: Peter Gerba, KN6BI  
 Treasurer: Gordon Girton, W6NW  
 Director: Eric Swarz, WA6HHQ  
 Director: Lloyd Cabral, AA6T  
 Director: Al Burnham, K6RIM

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 California Award: Rubin Hughes, WA6AHF  
 Historian/archivist: Ron Panton, W6VG

Records Manager: Ron Panton, W6VG  
 Publications Mgr: Ron Panton, W6VG

**Club Repeater, W6TI/R**

Frequency/offset: 147.36 MHz, +  
 Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG  
 Comm. Chairman: Eric Swarz, WA6HHQ  
 Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)  
 Thurs. Net QTR: 8 pm local time.  
 Net Manager: Randy Wright, WB6CUA  
 DX News: Dave Pugatch, KI6WF  
 Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ  
 Swap Shop: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU  
 QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

**W6TI DX Bulletins:**

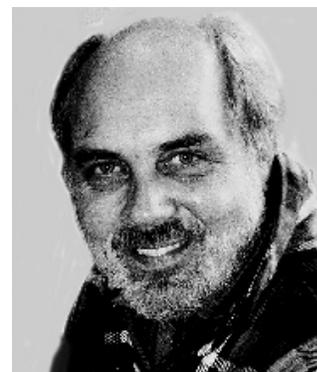
W6TI Station Trustee Bob Vallio, W6RGG, transmits DX information at 0200 UT every Monday (Sunday evening local time) on both 7.016 and 14.002 MHz.

**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 publica-

## Board of Directors Meeting

The December 18th Board of Directors meeting was held at Ted Algren's office in Los Altos. We began the meeting at 7 PM. KA6W, W6JD, W6NW, AA6T, K6RIM, NI6T and KN6BI attended.



- The minutes of the November Board meeting were read and approved. We noted the activity generated by AA6G's NCDXC/50 WEB page—several potential new members have found out about the Club via the WEB. We discussed using name/callsign badges for visitors to Club meetings. Thanks, Chuck!
- Gordon, W6NW discussed the Club Repeater fund and moving Club monies (see Treasurer's Report in this issue.) The Board approved this action.
- Ted, KA6W spoke of Convention costs and announced that Bob Ferrero, W6RJ (of HRO) will help underwrite party expenses. Thanks, Bob!
- Ted also announced that Craig, W6WL (ex-N6ITW) will be the Program Chairman for the Convention. Thanks, Craig! Ted reports that Convention Co-chairs Rich, K7ZV and Rich, W6UDS are hard at work, but that the position of Master of Ceremonies is open (*since filled—Ed.*).
- Ted and Doug, W6JD discussed possible convention programs. A "ham radio equipment only" swap meet at the Convention was discussed.
- Garry, NI6T, our award-winning *DXer* editor, announced that—after three years—he seeks relief from his duties. *The DXer* plays a large role in the NCDXC—and is, for many members, their only contact with the Club. See Garry's item on page 1.
- In response to letters from Ron, W6VG and Knock, K6ITL the Board will rigorously review the "write-in ballot" process.
- Ted initiated discussion of the imminent Heard Island DXpedition—several of whose leaders and team members are Clubmembers. The Board voted to donate \$1000 to the DXpedition.
- Al, K6RIM has pursued a Club meeting in Marin County, and has scored. The March meeting is scheduled for the SF Yacht Club in Belvedere—a very nice place. Doug, W6JD says that the Dunfey is set for the January 10th meeting. The meeting ended at 9:15 PM.

—Peter Gerba, KN6BI

## Marathon Winners

Category	Winner	Countries
First Place CW	Stan Kuhl, K6MA	113
Second Place CW	"Bip" Bachman, W6BIP	106
Third Place CW	Doug Westover, W6JD	102
First Place SSB	Steve Stephenson, W6MKM	37
First Place Mixed	Bob Pratt, AC6NF	111 (59 CW/52 SSB)
Second Place Mixed	Jerry Bliss, K6SMH	58 (51 CW/7 SSB)

## Whiskey Shots

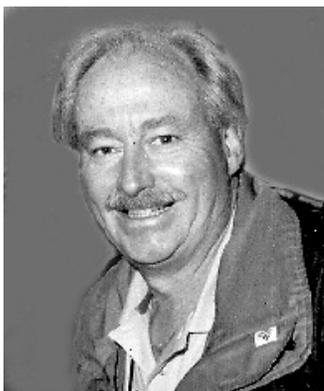
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### Heard Island

By the time you read this, the Heard Island DXpedition team should be at sea, on their way to the End of the Earth. I will be looking for the H.I. Team on Top Band and I hope your New Year's wish for working this very rare country is fulfilled.

A comment to those of you that do not need this country on a specific band: it would help all the Little Pistols if you chose not to call during the initial phases of the operation. Conditions to North America will probably be challenging, even on the "money" bands, and interest in this DXpedition is *intense*. If you need H.I. for an all-timer, go get 'em. dudes and dudettes!

We are particularly proud to note that the participants include our own Bob Schmieder, KK6EK and Bob Fabry, N6EK. Glenn, W6OTC and myself were originally part of the team, but had to withdraw for business reasons.



## Treasurer's Report

November, 1996

*Income:*

Dues	\$18.00
Badge(s)	73.00
Christmas Dinner	836.95
HP Scanner rebate (K6OP)	72.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1000.45</b>

*Expenses:*

DXer	
Copy Cost	\$320.60
Postage	171.00
Christmas Dinner	1126.90
AA6T	10.30
Badges	235.00
Trophies	106.43
Heard Island DXpedition	1000.00
PO Box 608	58.00
W6VG Misc.	87.37
W6BSY-CD ROM	37.08
KI6WF-QRZ, 2 yrs	72.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3224.68</b>

*CD*

1st Nationwide Bank 6%	5000.00
Great Western Bank 6%	\$20407.21

*Checking (B of A):*

DX Convention	\$3500.00
Chub	9943.14
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$33850.35</b>

*Club Members as of 12/25/96*

Charter	4
Honorary	10
Life	32
Family 6x2	12
Associate	5
Absentee	24
Full	229
<b>Total</b>	<b>316</b>

### We Need a Contest Chairman

This is our 50th Anniversary Year, yet we are not ready to take on the Southern California DX Club! It says right here in front of me, in the Bylaws & Procedures Manual, that our President (*me!*) shall appoint a Contest Chairman.

I have tried to solicit a volunteer, to no avail. Do we, or do we not, wish to continue the rivalry between our Club and the SCDXC? What is your choice? Is there anyone out there who will take up the sword (key/mike) and organize our efforts to retain the perpetual trophy? Check out the Bylaws and Procedures Manual, page 48 to see what is required of the Contest Chairman. I leave the matter for all to ponder and/or squander.

### Kudos to ya!

- Here is the (growing list) of volunteer committee chairpersons and members for our upcoming 1997 DX Convention.

K6LRN, WB6TKD, W6TEX, N6YEU, W6NW, K6ANP, N6TV, WA6IME, KG6XF, N6VAW, W6ISQ, W6UDS, K7ZV, N6BT, W6WL.

With calls changing and more team members being added, I apologize to anyone I might have left off this list. That said, my friends, more help is needed! Those of you that can help, *please* contact your co-chairmen: Rich, W6UDS and Rich, K7ZV to volunteer your much-needed assistance.

- To Don Berticvich, KO6GI, our DXer Printing & Mailing co-ordinator who makes sure we all receive our monthly DXer.

—Ted Algren, KA6W

—Gordon Girton, W6NW



# The Awaited Messenger

It can be cold in January in North Africa in Algeria's bare tableland was in the headquarters of the Air Force. He issued uniform protective clothing. The dawn had brought the light of a new day but little warmth. Sitting on his motorcycle with the engine softly running, a courier was ready and waiting to be called.

The morning photo flights were in; the photos of the enemy lines in Tunisia and eastern Algeria were ready. It was early 1943, and Erwin Rommel, the Desert Fox, was retreating across Libya. U.S. troops had stalled in the mountains along the Algerian border and the general heading the U.S Army II Corps was not satisfied with the progress of things. The general wanted front line information, and he wanted it early and often. The soldier on the motorcycle would bring it as fast as his wheels would carry him.

With the morning intelligence report lashed tight, the motorcyclist thundered across the high flatlands, trailing a long tail of dust from wadi to wadi. Past columns of army trucks, along the tracked lines of tank battalions, slowing to avoid the occasional donkey pulling a wobbling cart or even a man on a horse (his own speedy means of transportation), the motorcycle courier raced across that landscape, far from familiar skies. Through, around, sometimes under, the olive drab motorcycle sped, the goggled driver low over the bars, the throttle usually wide open.

His mission was important to the war effort, the information vital to those planning to push the German Panzer units into the sea—and there was little time left. Rommel was already nearing the Mareth Line.

In Algiers, the motorcyclist headed to II Corps headquarters. "Here comes the Green Hornet" was the usual observation by the M.P.'s when the thunder of the approaching motorcycle was heard—there could be no delay at the gate. The Green Hornet was waved right through—everyone knew that the general was waiting.

Hardly hesitating at the cordon of guards around the headquarters, the courier leaped from his heated motorcycle, it steaming in the cold day, and strode swiftly into

the sergeant who blocked the entrance to the General's office. As soon as the courier started to speak, the general's voice sounded from the other room. "Is that Rubin?" roared General Mark Clark. "Send him right in." And Rubin entered, ending another daily headlong race to get the morning's vital military intelligence into the hands of the general who was running the war in North Africa, the general waiting for Rubin to arrive.

All that was long ago, more than a half-century, and much has happened since then. But along the way, many have heard that voice that General Clark waited to hear and those in the headquarters would say again that which was often echoed in other times and other modes: "When Rubin speaks, people listen!" The history of that goes back a long way. And when you hear WA6AHF on the air, remember again that many before you, including four-star generals, have listened for his voice. They knew it well, and they recognized it easily. And what DXer couldn't?

—Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD



## W6TI/50 Ops Near DXCC

Let's get DXCC for W6TI/50! Operators using the club call have bagged 88 countries, 4 on SSB and 84 on cw. They have also made 61 contacts on the club repeater. Not all logs have been received and the count may be higher. Sign up to keep our station on the air. Contact W6TEX

# Life Members

Tired of missing that membership renewal deadline every summer? Consider Life Membership! Pay your dues once and forget about them forever. You need to be a Voting Member and to make a single payment according to the age chart below.

31-35	\$660.	61-65	\$290
36-40	\$600	66-70	\$240
41-45	\$530	71-75	\$195
46-50	\$465	76-80	\$155
51-55	\$405	81-85	\$120
56-60	\$345		

You may obtain an application from Gordon, W6NW; submit the completed application to Peter, KN6BI.

—Gordon Girton, W6NW

# NCCC Vanities

## Northern California Contest Club

Old Call	New Call	New Call	Old Call
AA6KX	N6NT	AH7G	WR6R
AA6MC	K6KR	K2KW	WM2C
AB6YL	K6GT	K6AW	N4TQO
AC6AH	N6JT	K6AW	W6EMS
AC6XO	N6DE	K6BL	KK6QM
K6PJY	W7DR	K6GT	AB6YL
KC6EZR	N6DE	K6KR	AA6MC
KE6BER	KE1FO	K6PJ	KJ6PJ
KI3V	N7TR	K6ST	WB6UTY
KJ6DL	NT6K	K6UM	WA8LLY
KJ6PJ	K6PJ	K6XX	N6IP
KK6QM	K6BL	KE1FO	KE6BER
N1EE	W6CT	KT6RA	WA6TKV
N4TQO	K6AW	N1CS	WA6YVS
N6IP	K6XX	N5KO	WN4KKN
N6XI	N7TN	N6DE	KC6EZR
NB6L	N6ZM	N6DE	AC6XO
NG0X	N6NZ	N6JT	AC6AH
W6EMS	K6AW	N6NT	AA6KX
W6NLG	W6NW	N6NZ	NG0X
W6PYX	WX6V	N6ZM	NB6L
W6QHS	W6NL	N7TN	N6XI
W6YKM	W6YM	N7TR	KI3V
WA6AUE	W6EU	NT6K	KJ6DL
WA6BXH	W7BX	W6CT	N1EE
WA6TKV	KT6RA	W6DI	WB6YRN
WA6YVS	N1CS	W6EU	WA6AUE
WA7NIN	W7TO	W6NL	W6QHS
WA8LLY	K6UM	W6NW	W6NLG
WB6UTY	K6ST	W6YM	W6YKM
WB6YRN	W6DI	W7BX	WA6BXH
WM2C	K2KW	W7DR	K6PJY
WN4KKN	N5KO	W7TO	WA7NIN
WR6R	AH7G	WX6V	W6PYX

# 50th Anniversary Update

The CQWW CW DX contest last month provided a great opportunity to work 50 DXCC countries in 50 hours and even 50 DXCC countries on one band. This means that some members who have also worked 50 club members on the Club repeater already qualify for the 50th anniversary mug and even the second, as-yet-to-be-determined award.

To qualify for the 50th anniversary mug, work 50 club members on the repeater and 50 DXCC countries on any one band during one calendar month, through October 10, 1997. To qualify for the additional award, work 50 DXCC countries in a 50-hour period on any band and mode through October 10, 1997. *These must be two different sets of 50 contacts.*

Send copies of your logs to the NCDXC club address. QSLs are *not* required—include standard QSO information, and your name and callsign. If you qualify for the mug but not the second award, please hold your logs for the time being—you may decide to pursue the second award. The ARRL DX Contests are coming up and are good opportunities to work 50 countries in 50 hours.

We have received our first application from a DX station, PT2TF, for the 50th anniversary certificate for DX stations. Teresa made 50 QSO points by working 40 club members and the club station W6TI, which counts for 10 points. In response, I have designed the certificate for DX stations. The DX 50th Certificate is shown here: to view it in color, please visit

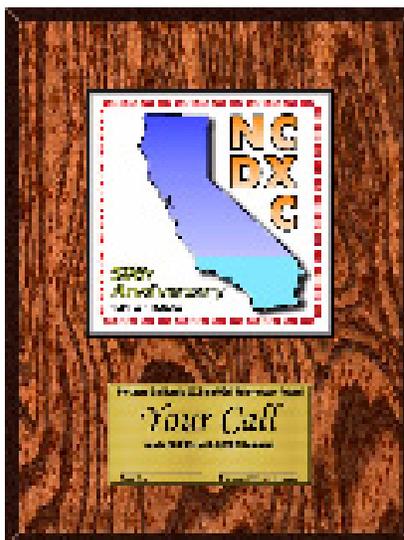
<http://www.aa6g.org/ncdxc.html>

from which it may be downloaded. I am currently working on designs for the W6TI QSL card and the 50th Anniversary mug—thanks to N6AN and W6TEX for their design suggestions. If anyone else has ideas, please send them to me.

We need more people to sign up to use W6TI from now to October 10. A contact with W6TI counts as 10 member QSOs so DX stations will be looking for W6TI on the bands to help them achieve their 50 QSO points. Please contact Bill Fontes, W6TEX to sign up for your week.

Please contact me within any questions about the 50th anniversary award program. I frequently monitor W6TI in the evenings.

—Chuck Vaughn, AA6G



from page 1

## UPS Blues

to the limits. The frequent power outages that accompany life here in the Santa Cruz Mountains—even during good weather—finally combined with the memories of March, '95 and drove me to purchase two uninterruptible power supplies (UPS's). So, today—New Years Day—while struggling to complete *The DXer* to free myself for a vacation in Cancún, I thought I could sneer at a power outage. The UPS on the Mac would sustain me, it says here, until the Honda generator could be fired up.

Sure enough, the power failed in mid-afternoon—Happy New Year—and the UPS beeped its warning. The generator was deployed, the UPS plugged into it, and we were running with minimal down-time and no files lost. “One for the Gipper,” I thought.

I was therefore nonplussed to hear the UPS begin beeping; so did its sister unit when substituted. After the usual head-scratching and plug-pulling, I noticed that a rear-panel ground-fault light was lit on both units. Measurements at both ends then disclosed the cause: although the generator outputs are three-wire receptables, *both* sides of the AC output float relative to the generator frame. Whether or not Honda did this deliberately, this is definitely unacceptable to the UPS units. The computer is now plugged directly into the generator, and I am saving my files every minute or two.

Devious lad, that Murphy. And the power was out for ten hours.

—N16T

# DX Convention Update

tion check, please indicate your choice of banquet meal. The choices are Prime Rib, Salmon, or Grilled Breast of Chicken. I'll recap the previous message.

- The Convention dates are April 4th thru 6th.
- The location is the Centre Plaza Holiday Inn, Fresno, California.
- Pre-registration is \$60.00 (cut off date is March 3, 1997). After March 3, registration will be \$65.00.

In my earlier posting concerning the Convention, I said I would pass along additional information as it was made available to me.

**Lodging.** The Centre Plaza Holiday Inn, Fresno is now full. However, if you call them at (209) 268-1000, they will refer you to alternative available lodging. Also the Visitor's Bureau, (209) 233-0836 will assist in meeting lodging needs.

**Banquet.** When you send your registra-

Send your checks to:

Gordon Girton, W6NW  
P.O. Box 60307  
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0307

Gordon's e-mail address is:

[gordon@svpal.org](mailto:gordon@svpal.org)

Len Geraldi, K6ANP  
Publicity Chairman

# Memories of Reg

Chuck Patterson, K6RK

I first met Reg Tibbetts in 1931. I lived at 1926 Monterey in Berkeley, and Reg lived at 1924 . I was W6FCN but Reg was not yet licensed. He was already studying Electrical Engineering at Cal and I was just starting—Reg graduated in '34 and I in '38. He obtained his license with the callsign W6ITH around 1933. He and his parents moved up the hill to 750 Spruce St. Later, Reg built his ham shack/ house at 165 Purdue on the crest of the Berkeley Hills. By 1939, he had moved to Moraga where he built his rhombic farm. He was still living there when he died.

While still living next door to me, Reg came up with the idea of using radio communication to facilitate the construction of the Bay Bridge. Radios would be placed on tugs and on barges where caissons were being sunk. Radios were also placed in the onshore offices. We demonstrated the idea using 5 meter radios, which I built in my basement. These radios used 2-volt tubes and so-called "air cell" batteries.

One of the demonstrations was from Yerba Buena Island to the Oakland headquarters of Bridge Builders, Inc. We used heliograph tripods to support vertical antennas and I was stationed at dockside on the southeast side of the island. We were all set up—and then disaster struck. A gust of wind blew the antenna and tripod over the side into the bay! It sank clear out of sight! Frantic with despair, I found a length of heavy 3-conductor wire in a nearby shed. I fanned the ends out to form a grappling hook, made one pass alongside the dock and up came the antenna *et al.* The subsequent demonstration was successful!

The radios built for permanent use were designed by Frank Jones, W6AJF and built by Charlie Watson, W6DW of Western Wireless in San Francisco. They were self-excited AM oscillators, and the receivers were superregenerative. They operated from 6 Volt storage batteries and banks of Burgess "B" batteries. (I had an endless supply of partly discharged "B" batteries to put in the trunk of my Model A Ford to run my 5 meter radio.) The bridge

radios oper-ated on about 42 Mhz, and were licensed as W6XT, W6XC, etc. Similar radios were used up in the foothills at various mining oper-ations. Land lines were too expensive!

After moving up to Spruce St., Reg built his first big rig—a pair of 450T's in push-pull. He phoned one day and said "come on up and we'll fire this thing up for the first time." The rig was in a relay rack with a big plate-glass window in front. Behind the glass were the two Eimac tubes with the plate tank between them. The coil was made from coil stock with the plastic strips that maintained the wire spacing. Reg hit the switch, the plates turned pink and the plastic strips burst into flame! Reg killed the power, but the flames roared on. He had a carbon tetrachloride fire extinguisher but could not decide whether to risk breaking the tubes. Finally he used the extinguisher and the fire went out, with no damage to the tubes. The stuff probably vaporized before it hit the glass. Exciting! Needless to say, Reg went on to build many more California Kilowatts.

Somewhere along the line, Reg, Holman Lenhart, W6ACO and I started dating student nurses at Highland Hospital in Oakland. Reg married Louise, Holman married Olive but I—being younger—did *not* marry Mickey.

After Reg moved to Moraga and built his rhombics, we went our separate ways. I saw him on and off over the past ten years and bumped into him on the air once in a while, especially on 160. His health had not been good lately—he had had bypass surgery and had suffered a stroke at the same time.

We have lost a legend!



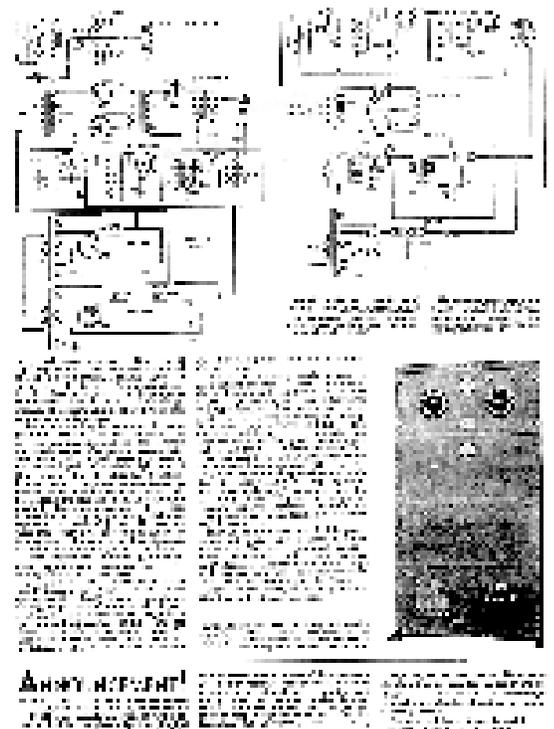
—Chuck Patterson, K6RK is a former President of NCDXC.

## Get Well, Sam!

Sam Canter, W6TSQ has recently been hospitalized and, at this writing is home in Marin awaiting some surgery. It is said that the hospital staff was greatly relieved to see the back of one of our most lovable—if difficult—members, but they will be seeing him again. The Board and membership wish Sam the best and

## 5 Meters... and the World's Largest Bridge

How a Bridge of 5 Meters... and the World's Largest Bridge



(Left) The cover of Radio for January, 1934 featured Reg Tibbetts, W6ITH and the 5 m radios used in the construction of the Bay Bridge (Right) The article by Fran Jones, W6AJF. (With thanks to Bud Bane, W6WB)

Reg Tibbetts made from his Part 68 business, but at one point in the mid-80's—when he certified some demo modems containing the modem chip whose development I had led—he confided to me that he had already done 4000 certifications!

To this day, every time I see the Part 68 label on a telephone, FAX or answering machine, I think of Reg Tibbetts and his money factory—and I rue never having gotten my Professional Engineer's ticket.

# Remem- brances of a Man I Never Met

Garry Shapiro, NI6T

I never met D. Reginald Tibbetts. I had planned to ask him for an interview in light of the Club's 50th Anniversary and his being one of but five remaining Charter Members, but it was not to be. When Reg, 85, became a Silent Key just before Thanksgiving, the opportunity was lost forever.

I had, however, spoken with him on many occasions in the '70's and '80's—mostly before I was relicensed and long before

I was born again as a DXer. These were business conversations, and it never occurred to me that this was the same man who, when I was a teenager, had been FS7RT *et al.*

In the mid '60's, it was illegal to connect non-telco equipment to the telephone network, despite the privately-owned monopoly being nominally regulated "in the public interest." The Carterphone decision changed all that—henceforth private suppliers, as well as "the" telephone company, could connect equipment such as telephones, PBXes, FAXes and modems. This landmark decision had a catch: non-telco equipment had to interface via a "protective" coupler, supplied by the telephone company.

Eventually, AT&T opted out of the protective coupler business, and non-telco equipment could now direct-connect. This also had a catch: under the new Part 68 of FCC Rules, the burden of proof of network protection was now on the supplier. Certification would be available through

private testing laboratories.

The intent of Part 68 was to protect the telephone network—not the customer's equipment. Hence, it was OK if a lightning bolt fried the customer's equipment—as long as the telephone facility suffered no ill effects.

To become a certification facility required only a Registered Professional Engineer's license and a few pieces of test equipment. The now-burgeoning market for telephone equipment created a huge demand for Part 68 certification. And into that vacuum stepped Reg Tibbetts.

Reg charged \$1500 for a basic certification, which required no more than several hours of rather straightforward (read "simple") testing and filling out forms. As with smog testing today, some units inevitably were "coaxed" to pass. And, since few others had as yet jumped in, it was a seller's market—and a license to print money.

I have no real idea how much money

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F I R S T  
C L A S S

---

P. O. B O X 6 0 8  
M E N L O P A R K, C A  
9 4 0 2 6 - 0 6 0 8 U S A

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