

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



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The Editor's Choice

OOOOoops! This covers a multitude of problems this past month. I want to apologize to Ham Radio Outlet. The monthly ad was inadvertently left out of the September issue. I promised HRO that I would let our corner of the world know they were still in business. HI! That darn word "assumed" reared its ugly head again. I will make sure this doesn't happen again.

To slow me down further this month, my PC decided it no longer had a CD drive, AFTER I had formatted the hard drive. It took a week to get H-P to the house, but finally I am regaining control of this monster. The bios decided to burp. Once again I can edit the newsletter. Very disconcerting. It seems to me the more complex and swift these machines become the more they are prone to biting me where it hurts!

I, along with a multitude of other members, missed an excellent presentation by ZS8IR on his time and operations from Marion Island. Garry, NI6T, has kindly written a piece on Chris's visit and presentation. Please read it elsewhere in this issue. My excuse for missing the meeting involves marital harmony! What's yours? The October meeting will be highlighted by a presentation by N6BT of Force 12. This will be a very interesting session, especially for those who love antennas.

The club owes thanks to Don, KO6GI, for handling the printing and mailing of the *DXer* for such a long time. Don cheerfully handled deadlines with ease and always got the 'letter to the post office ASAP. My thanks to Jerry, K6III, for taking over this very important job.

I also want to thank the many members whom have sent in items of interest for inclusion in the *DXer*. You all certainly make my job easier when you share the wealth.

73 — Dave, K7JJ

NEW AREA CODES! ARE YOU AFFECTED?
LET RON PANTON, W6VG, KNOW

October Meeting

Friday, October 10, 1997
Palo Alto Hof Brau

Program: N6BT, Force 12

Stress Relief: 1800
Dinner: 1900
Meeting: 2000 .

NCDXC Repeater: 147.360 + 600
for talk-in and directions

DUES!

Dues were supposed to be submitted by the first of September. Deadline was extended to October 31st. This means the annual membership roster will not be out until November. Please submit your \$24 or \$16 to the NCDXC P. O. box ASAP.

October 1997

QRM de K6XN

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 Park, K6XN
Vice President: George Allan, W6YD
Secretary: Ron Panton, W6VG
Treasurer: Keith Butts, KN6K
Director: Ted Algren, KA6W
Director: Gordon Girton, W6NW
Director: Garry Shapiro, NI6T

The DXer:

Editor: Dave Earnest, K7JJ
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Printing, Mailing: Jerry Bliss, K6III

Web Page: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
<http://www.ncdxc.org>

DX Ladder: Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ

9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD

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, W6CUA

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 publication—provided *The DXer* and the article's author are credited.



Short and sweet this time Here it is:

RE: BEING A DXer Its another great month to be a DXer and/or a contester....and if we dont need any *new ones* then to be or post DX for someone else. As always...to "be" is to "do"... Let's get out there and continue *doing it*.....whatever *doing it* means to you that caused you to become and continue to love being a DXer..... 73, Ted

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors of the NCDXC met September 2, 1997, in the law library of Tandem Computers in Cupertino. The meeting was convened promptly at 7:30 PM by Ted Park, K6XN, president. Present were George Allan W6YD, Keith Butts KN6K, Gordon Girton W6NW, Garry Shapiro NI6T, Ron Panton W6VG, and Dave Earnest K7JJ. The relocation of ladder editor, WA6HHQ, was discussed. It was decided to have WA6HHQ continue as long as possible until a new editor is found. Details on the 40 meter Sam Canter CW contest will be published in the DXer. Jim Duffy, W6EU, will be the administrator. The latest date for reception of club dues will be October 31, 1997. The roster will then be published in November, 1997, hopefully in time for the November club meeting. The application for Life Membership by K6GNX was approved. The 1998 DX convention in Visalia was discussed with Ted Algren, KA6W, as our co-ordinator. Apparently the room reservation situation is not clear at this time. Procedure manual changes were brought up by W6VG and some minor changes will be made. Doug Westover, W6JD, Contest chairman will be asked to truncate the numerous NCDXC contest awards. There are eight members work phones which might be changed to one of the new area codes, so please let the data base manager, W6VG, know of any changes before November 10.

—W6VG

General Meeting

Minutes of NCDXC club meeting of September 12, 1997. The meeting was held at the Palo Alto Golf course. After drinks and dinner, the meeting opened at 7:57 P.M. by President Ted Park, K6XN. After introduction of guests, it was moved, seconded and voted to dispense with the reading of minutes and treasurer's report. Chuck, AA6G, made presentations of 50th Anniversary gold mugs to K6III, W6JD, W6TEX, KI6WF, and W6KM (George, W6JD, to deliver W6KM's cup). A set was also given to our guest, Chris De Beer, ZS8IR. Garry, NI6T, introduced Chris, who gave a very fine presentation comprising beautiful slides of Marion Island and excellent commentary accompanying each view. New member, Don Anastasia, AA6W, was unanimously voted into membership. Bill Avery, K6GNX, was then voted into Life Membership. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM



Ron Pantan, W6VG

--AA6G

Treasurer's Report

As of September 1, 1997

Income:

1527.00 Dues

1527.00 Total

Expenses:

15.42 Telephone (Rptr)
1203.63 50th Anniversary Awards (cups/tiles)
86.72 Misc-W6VG
250.82 Vasona Copy-DXer copies

1556.72 Total

Cash:

21315 Great Western CD
9082 Cal Fed CD (Life Mbr Acct)
1280 Repeater
9716 B of A Checking

41393 Total

Note:

Deposits of Dues made after September 1 and closeout of Great Western CD into Bank of America checking in September, as well as bills paid after September, will be on the next report.

New Members Welcomed

New full member:

Don Anastasia, AA6W, Extra class
18811 Montewood Dr. Saratoga, CA
95070. (H)408 354-5255 ARRL yes.

New Life member:

Bill Avery K6GNX, Extra class,
PO Box 2469 Truckee, CA 95734

Chris De Beer, ZS8IR

Chris de Beer, ZS8IR, gave a superb slide show presentation on Marion Island to highlight the September NCDXC meeting. The content--about 20% radio and the remainder about the base and the island--showcased Chris' wide-ranging skills and interests. Named for Marion Dufresne, whose name now graces the research vessel prominently featured in the Heard Island saga, Marion Island is five-days' steam from Capetown. It and its sister island, Prince Edward, lie within the Antarctic Convergence. The weather is rarely pleasant in the Roaring Forties, and the wind is an almost continuous factor and challenge. Continuously manned and restaffed every 13 months, the volcanic island is a permanent meteorological research station as well as a wildlife sanctuary and biological research laboratory. Many of its species are unique to the island, including wingless moths that have adapted to the windy environment by walking instead of flying.



Chris was the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and the radio operator for his team of scientists and technicians. Relatively new to ham radio and DXing, Chris' Elmer has been Chris Burger, ZS6EZ--arguably the most prominent DXer on the continent, and Chris' QSL manager. Chris must have listened closely to ZS6EZ--his radio skills enabled him to keep his wind-battered antennas (including rhombics and a Battle Creek Special) on the air most of the time. In contrast to his immediate predecessors on the island, who primarily operated 20m SSB, Chris was interested in all bands, and was always happy to make skeds or to QSY to other bands and modes, and especially to 160 meters. As a result, he fattened the DX scores of a great many of the Deserving, including this writer. But his other interests shone through in the presentation, as well. Chris is a skilled photographer and an amateur natural scientist, so the geology, flora and fauna of the island were beautifully presented, accompanied by knowledgeable commentary. Many similarities to Heard Island were noted, especially by Bob Fabry, N6EK, who was among the attendees. Chris' visit to NCDXC was a sidetrip on the way to North Cook with the Dateline DX Association. It seems that 13 months on a wind-battered rock was insufficient to sate his thirst for adventure, so a DXpedition seemed the ticket. Chris de Beer is a most remarkable young man, and the DX community certainly hopes to see more of him. And this week he turns 25!

---Garry, NI6T

FYI: Chris De Beer, who was our guest speaker at the NCDXC meeting on September 12th, did attend a Sunnyvale VEC test session on September 13th. His New call sign=KF6NOF .Class = General.

---Gordon, W6NW

Sixth District QSL Bureau Kudos

Jim Duffy, W6EU, sent a copy of a letter he wrote to Chris and Grace Williams, who handle the W6A category of the bureau. Jim wrote the following:

Dear Chris and Grace:

One of the many things we leave behind when we choose to apply for a vanity callsign is our current bureau "QSL Manager". I know you both have worked very hard to serve all of us in the W6A" category. Without fail, your efforts have produced regular orderly shipments to me. The small notes that you included in each shipment kept me updated on my account with you and whether you needed more labels, etc.

I hope the Sixth District QSL Bureau management understand what a great asset they have with you two handling the "A" chores for them. If they aren't using you for the training of new bureau volunteers, they should be.

Chris and Grace, thanks again very much for all your efforts in sorting and shipping my cards to me.

/s/ Jim Duffy W6EU (ex: WA6AUE)
P.O. Box 8820
Truckee CA 96162-8820
email: w6eu@juno.com

50th Anniversary Mugs

It's hard to believe, but the 50th Anniversary year is drawing to a close. I want to remind all those who have been working for the mug and matching coaster tile to send me your logs, so you can receive your awards. I would prefer to give the awards out at club meetings, but if you cannot attend I will mail them to you. Please let me know if you will be attending a club meeting in the near future or if you want your award mailed to you.

—73, Chuck - AA6G

New call signs for Gate 3

1. WA6SLO K6SLO
2. K6ASI K6WAP
3. WB6OKX W6LUX

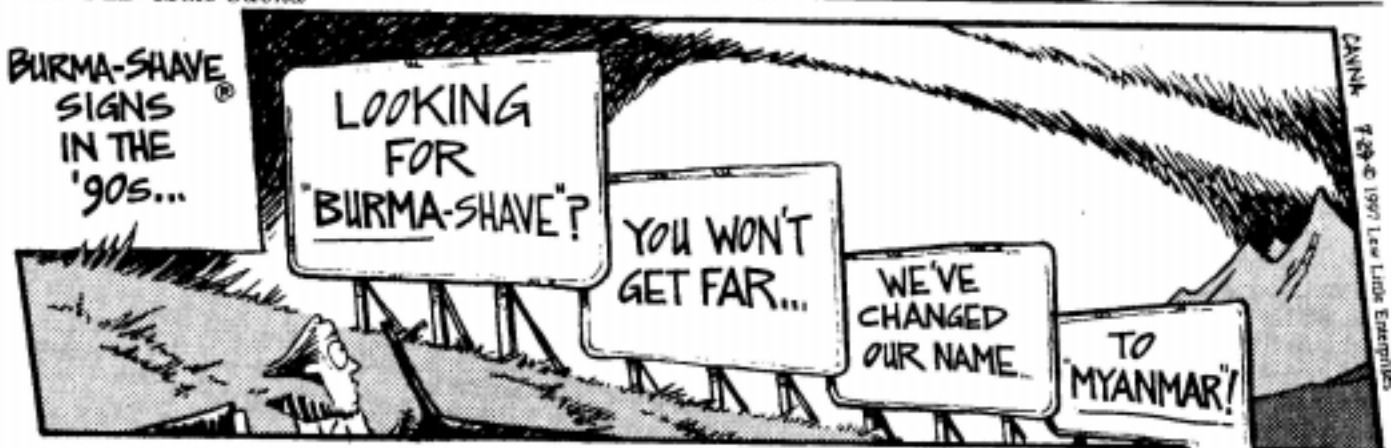
Change of call sign:
4. K6MD K6NE

—73 Gordon, W6NW

Vanity Countries (SF Chronicle 7/29/97)

Tnx, Bill, W6TEX

WARPED Mike Canna



The "New" RFI

If you're like me and live in a metropolitan subdivision RFI has grown from year to year. I'm speaking of RFI, that is, signals from my neighborhood interfering with me. Computers and electronic gizmo's in nearly every home. To listen to a quiet band in the evening and hear all the strange tones and bleeps that are obviously local makes me wonder what's really out there. One of the most serious problems of RFI is the new generation microprocessed mega-tubed(31"++) televisions. If you have a rough sounding ac note approximately 16 khz apart that's what your hearing. This is due to the microprocessed horizontal sweep signal that is digital in nature, square wave, and busting out with harmonic energy that will easily travel into the ham bands. What makes matters worse is the poor construction, non-existent shielding that easily enables coupling of this harmonic energy with the cable system, outside antenna and even the electrical wiring. Another words, they have great antenna's to radiate into the neighborhood. Due to the very short pieces of wire in the TV not much is actually radiated from the cabinet. So what do you do about it? First find it. Using a portable shortwave receiver works great. Next is to convince the neighbor of the problem. That may take a little sell job. One interference book indicated that a high pass filter at the input of the offending TV would eliminate the trouble. Honestly, I've never experienced any positive results from the use of a high pass filter. What I have found very effective is the Radio Shack type snap-together toroids with at least 4 together and 3 wraps of the cable through it. I've seen this arrangement reduce this rfi from s-5 to non-existent. This is common-mode toriod choke. What has this to do with DX'ing. Plenty. Having a dx-pedition show up within the video blip is aggravating and down right frustrating. With the use of a portable Sony shortwave receiver, 30 bucks from Radio Shack and a little investigating my RFI has been eliminated. If you can't relate to this problem consider yourself lucky.

73 good DX, Randy WX5L

wx5l@I-10.net

WP2Z Dx-pedition Announcement

Long time DXpeditioners Doug, W3CF; and Dick, K3MQH; will be active from Windwood, WP2Z, from October 22-30th. During their stay, they will participate as a Multi/ Something entry in the 1997 CQWW Phone Contest. These members of V26B will focus on WARC bands and RS-12 during free time.

QSL W3CF/KP2 to his QSL Manager KK3S.

QSL K3MQH/KP2 to his home call, K3MQH.

QSL contest call "WP2Z" for THIS and ALL FUTURE QSO's UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE to KU9C.

Windwood (WP2Z) is a rental property and in the past many different routes have applied. Steve, KU9C, agreed to assume QSL responsibilities for WP2Z from here on out so the confusion will be eliminated.

For information on Windwood, visit:

<http://www.qth.com/windwood>

on the world wide web.

2 New NCDXF Board Members

The Northern California DX Foundation is pleased to announce the addition of two new members to its Board of Directors. They are Glenn Vinson, W6OTC; and Al Burnham, K6RIM. The complete list of Officers and Directors is as follows:

K6ANP	President
W6RGG	Vice-President
NW6P	Secretary
W6OSP	Treasurer
K6TMB	Director
K6RIM	Director
W6OAT	Director
W6DU	Director
N6ST	Director
W6OTC	Director
W6ISQ	Director

The Board of Directors receives counsel on various issues from these appointed Advisors:

W6WB
WZ6Z
K6KR
N6EK
W6RJ
W6NL
W6RQ
W6CF
K6DC
K6KEO
N6OJ

Beacon Project Manager is W6ISQ
Webmaster is K6KR

A bi-annual newsletter, edited by Steve Thomas, N6ST, is mailed to all Foundation members. The Foundation maintains a library of DXpedition and operating slide and video shows, which may be borrowed by clubs for presentation at their meetings. For information on their availability, please contact Ron Steiner, K6KEO, at 3154 Dominic Drive, Castro Valley, CA 94546-1938. The inclusion of an SASE will hasten your receipt of his reply. For further information on the Foundation, and to send e-mail, please check out our web site at:

<http://www.ncdxf.org>

Mail may be sent to:
NCDXF
P.O. Box 2368
Stanford, CA 94309-2368

Bob Vallio - W6RGG

Incoming / Outgoing Presidents



Ted Park, K6XN Ted Algren, KA6W

Surprise! The camera did work! Better late than never. At the July meeting, incoming president, Ted, K6XN, receives the gavel from Ted, KA6W. Congratulations!



DXer Editor: Dave Earnest, K7JJ

YAESU

HAM RADIO WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

Call For Autumn Special!

FT-279R 20W 2-Element VHF/UHF YAESU Transceiver

FT-3000M 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-820 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-3000MP 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-900CAT 5W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-500R 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-9100R 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

YX-1R VHF/UHF Handheld Transceiver

FT-170R/17R 5W VHF Handheld Transceiver

FT-3000M 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-3000M 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-3000M 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

FT-3000M 100W VHF/UHF Transceiver

DXer

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

FIRST CLASS

