

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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Editor's Choice

A FEW GOOD MEMBERS

Didja notice (and read) the article submitted by Bud Bane for last month's DXer? If you did, perhaps you noticed that the entire list of NCDXC members occupied no more than a quarter of a page! I counted them; there were, if I counted right, 59 members listed. What interests me is; they MUST have all been "DX Evangelists", because the NCDXC grew and flourished. It also, struck me that a large percentage of these people probably took an active part in either club leadership and/or day-to-day club activities.

What a blessing it would be for this Club, if a similar percentage of our current members took an active role today! Think of it! Never having to recruit officers or chair positions by the "guilt & arm twisting" methods. When a job needed to be done, someone would step up and volunteer to take on the responsibility. Then, the Club's work would be spread out among many members and no individual member would become overloaded and ultimately "burn out".

In his message this month, W6KM challenged us to become DXing "evangelists" by going to general interest clubs and spreading the DX "Gospel". To that I say, "Amen"! But, I would also add that we need to become good stewards of the Club's business and operations. So, if you see or hear of a job that needs to be filled, jump up and volunteer for it! You'll be surprised how good you feel when you do! By the way, if you turn this page, you will see a list of people who are committed to the Club and its business. Ask anyone of them and they will tell you about the sense of satisfaction they get from what they do for the Club.

A FEW GOOD MEMBERS? NO!!! INSTEAD, MANY GOOD MEMBERS!



W6FDU & AA6W

DUES ARE DUE!

July Meeting:

Saturday, July 17th

Club Picnic

at Amador Valley Park

See Page 6 for Details

Upcoming Meetings

August

No Meeting - Take a Vacation!

September

Temotu Island DXpedition

October

3B9R by NI6T

**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: Dick Letrich, W6KM
Vice Pres: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
Secretary: Bill Fontes, W6TEX
Treasurer: Bill Maurer, WB6JJ
Director: Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW
Director: Ron Panton, W6VG
Director: Don Anastasia, AA6W

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Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD
California Award: Robert Bickel, K6FX
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: Net Control Operator
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

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President's Comments



Here we are, ready to start another NCDXC year. I know that the last twelve months have just flown by. I wonder how past presidents got so much accomplished in their terms? I know that I still did not achieve all of my goals, but thanks to the membership, I am allowed another year in which I may complete a few more tasks.

If you read the last BOD minutes, you will see that I proposed limiting an ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP to one year. The Board felt that this was not in the best interest of the club. I have no problem with that, but my personal thought was that if the ASSOCIATE term was limited to one year and then required proof of 100 countries, it would stimulate the member to work toward that goal. It would also encourage his or her sponsors to give more assistance and support in DXing. I know that this is the goal desired by most of the ASSOCIATE members and as a matter of fact, several recently obtained that enjoyable achievement of 100 confirmed, while others are almost there and are working hard to become a FULL MEMBER. If you are currently an ASSOCIATE member and need some help, contact your sponsors and let them know, I feel sure you will get some good advice and help.

For those of you who could not make the last meeting, I want to repeat what I expressed to the club upon my re-election. I want to encourage NEW membership, not for the sake of numbers. Heck, we are already a large club! But, all too many of the current members are at a stage where they are not excited enough for one reason or another, to take an active position in club functions. That's OK, but the club needs not just new, but excited members. We are lucky as we picked up several new DXers just last year and already they are bringing enthusiasm to the meetings. Folks, that's what we need! We must visit local Radio Club meetings and let the budding DXers know that we really are not a stuffy bunch of old F---S! We need to invite them to attend one of the meetings and hope they like what they hear and see. Somehow all too many just think that to be a DXer you have to have a new \$5000 Rig, a 100' tower and a California Kilowatt. Boy, oh boy, what a let down they would have to see my station! Only goes to show you that, to be a DXer, it has to be in your heart! Let's work on getting the word out and about! Starting with the September DXer, we are going to feature a club DXer and get some pictures and a brief bio of one of the club members. It has been in the works for some time, but the time is right to start it with the new term.

I hope that many of you will take advantage of the upcoming club picnic, to not only bring your family, but to include some prospective members and their families. Other details are elsewhere in the DXer.

In closing this month's article, I want to say a big THANKS to all of the club for a fun term. I have to admit that it looked pretty bleak at first, but so many (too many to single out) came to the club's rescue, that it has started back around the corner. As we start the new Century, I feel that the club will enjoy the next 50 years----too bad some of us old timers will miss the 100th Year Club Celebration, oh well so what---we are having a ball right now and the sun spots for all of us are on the rise.

73.....Dick, W6KM

General Meeting

Minutes of the NCDXC, 11 June 1999

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm by the President, Dick Letrich, W6KM, at the Redwood City American Legion Post. There were 35 members present. Two guests present were AD6FK & KQ6RS. Pizza and beverages were provided by the NCDXC.

The May minutes approved as printed in the DXer.

W6KM announce that the July meeting will be the Picnic on 17 July at Pleasanton. There will be **no August meeting**. The **September meeting program will be the Tomuto Xpedition by W6OPS**. The **October meeting program will be the Rodriguez Island DXpedition by NI6T**.

W6KM presented special mugs to the Officers, Directors, Dxe staff for services rendered during the past year.

Election of officers for the next year was conducted by W6RGG. The elected officers are:

President – W6KM
Vice President – K6RK
Secretary – W6TEX
Treasurer – WB6JJJ
Director – N6VAW
Director – W6VG
Director – AA6W

New Associate Members, AD6FX, Jon & KQ6RS, Ron were approved.

W6KM promoted the 17 July Picnic at Pleasanton, Amador Valley Community Park. He requested RSVP to him so he can get the necessary vitals and beverages. Details are in a mail out and will be posted on the NCDXC web site. Guests and prospective members are encouraged to attend.

W6CF discussed the BOD minute 6 speaking in support of a donation from NCDXC to the NCDXF. W6CF made a motion that a unrestricted donation of \$1,000 be made to the NCDXF. Seconded by W6JD. Discussion followed.

W6VG made a motion to table the motion until such time as the NCDXC budget was in place. Seconded by K6LM. On a vote of 16 Yea, 8 No, the motion was tabled.

AA6G discussed establishing a DX Reflector on the web for the exclusive use of NCDXC members. AA6G made a motion to set up such a reflector. Second by W6OAT. This motion was approved by majority voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Faithfully submitted,
Jerry Bliss, K6iii
Secretary, NCDXC

Member Mail

At the June 1999 meeting of the NCDXC, it was proposed that we establish an internet mail list for club members only. Those in attendance unanimously supported the idea. Now it is a reality.

The NCDXC mail list is open to members only. Subscription requests must be approved by the moderator. The list is for discussion of club and DX related issues. It is not a list to make DX announcements and is not intended to replace packet or the W6TI repeater. Less time dependent announcements like, "7O1DX will be on 80M tomorrow morning" are acceptable.

For more information see the NCDXC Mail List web page at:

http://www.ncdxc.org/Ncdxc/mail_list.html

Please subscribe!

73, Chuck - AA6G



W6CS (Nee W6JZU)

Iota NA-169 by Hillar Raamat, N6HR

(The forwarding note from Hillar, N6HR to Jerry, K6iii has been left intact, as part of this article. It adds flavor to the story that would otherwise be missed. Ed.)

----- Begin forwarded message -----

From: Hillar and Elsie Raamat <hraamat@whidbey.net>
To: k6iii@juno.com
Cc: suntees@maui.net
Subject: ON A RAINY TUESDAY
Date: Fri, 25 Jun 1999 16:09:46 -0700

Hi Jerry!

Thanks for the e-mail. I think I sent all the VY1DX QSLs via bureaus... Man, do you ever have a unique call! The only thing EVER I've heard equivalent was the Missouri Mining College - WA0EEE! And these guys were good testers, too!

I wrote this one for the local and WWDXC newsblurbs. I am remiss in trying to remember who the NCDXC Editor is these days, so perhaps you could forward this to him as a blurb from a 'foreign correspondent'.

But, no kidding - I have the Makahs and everyone else's permission to put NA-169 on the air! It's a done deal! And gad, am I getting chaff - anti and pro-whalers! That's nothing to me - I'm for putting something on the air that no one has been able to do for 17 years! This will be only the SECOND operation EVER from NA-169.

73, Hillar N6HR

ON A RAINY TUESDAY

de N6HR

It was a cold and foggy morning here on the island. Last Tuesday. Decided to see if the weather was better at Neah Bay. Got on the ferry and was there by noon. No improvement. Still foggy and rainy. Decided that as long as I was there, I might as well look around. Got a set of waterproof boots and by 1 pm hitched a ride on a US Coast Guard patrolboat churning towards Waadah Island...

Got to Waadah. The approach is simplicity itself. Jump off the boat to a vertical steel ladder which goes up-up-up to a wooden rickety pier. If you miss the ladder - one saltwater bath coming up! Once on top... you are now ON THE ISLAND!

THE ISLAND

Think of Waadah as the top half of a football sticking out of the water, with the long axis running NW-SE. Its about a mile long and 1/3 mile wide, with a jungle plateau about 250-300 feet above sea level. On the NW and SE ends are the only two signs of civilization: two 'navigation markers' - i.e. radio beacons, lights and FOGHORNS! Tuesday afternoon the foghorns were working fine! As to the rest of the island, think of a jungle to which no one has been for 50 years. A top canopy of alders, firs and hemlocks 50-80 years old and an underbrush of 8-10 feet anywhere you want to go. There are two 'paths' - someone hacked these out of the jungle to get to the navigation markers... Oh well, I've seen a few of these - Ennugerat in Kwajalein Atoll, Nan Madol in Pohnpei, and one of the 'rocks' off Guam... No biggie here. Enough!

THE LOCALS

Back to Neah Bay. Meet the natives! Great!

The locals categorize people as soon as they see them:

- 1) Local. You're OK.
- 2) Not local but a relative of a local. Still OK.
- 3) Member of another Indian Nation. OK, depending...
- 4) Tourist!!! AHAAA! Sell you beads, whalewatching trips, bottom-fishing charters, ancient artifacts (made in Taiwan), arrowheads (made in India), fresh rockfish, parking spaces... Anything goes!
- 5) Environmentalists... Bad news. If you order a vegetarian burger instead of local fish and chips - look out! You may get some funny mushrooms with it for garnish.
- 6) Protesters. REALLY BAD NEWS! If you show up in a VW bus with 'peace' and 'save the whale' signs, best you turn around quickly. .50 caliber makes BIG HOLES in a VW bus even for target practice.
- 7) ... and then there's us: Ham radio operators.... BUT, careful! "operator" is a bad word - like spy. "Ham" - yes, its something like spam... 'who did you say you were?'

THUS - WE ARE DOING RADIO PROPAGATION RESEARCH!

"Hey, you guys are ok!"

A vocabulary drill might be of order:

RADIO: Everyone understands that! Marine radio. Channel 16, channel 21B, Harbormaster, ship-to-ship
...NO PROBLEM!

PROPAGATION: Well, that is less understood. It means the dam' radio doesn't work!

RESEARCH: Ohhh, another set of university types here measuring worms and digging for bone fish hooks
...Researchers are considered harmless to natives and since these guys never have any money
anyway there is no use trying to sell them anything...

CONCLUSION

So that's what we will be doing on Waadah Island: Radio Propagation Research! Under the **call-letters W7W** from 22 thru 27 July, including the IOTA Contest 24/25 July. **NA-169 Waadah Island will be ON THE AIR!**

----- End forwarded message -----

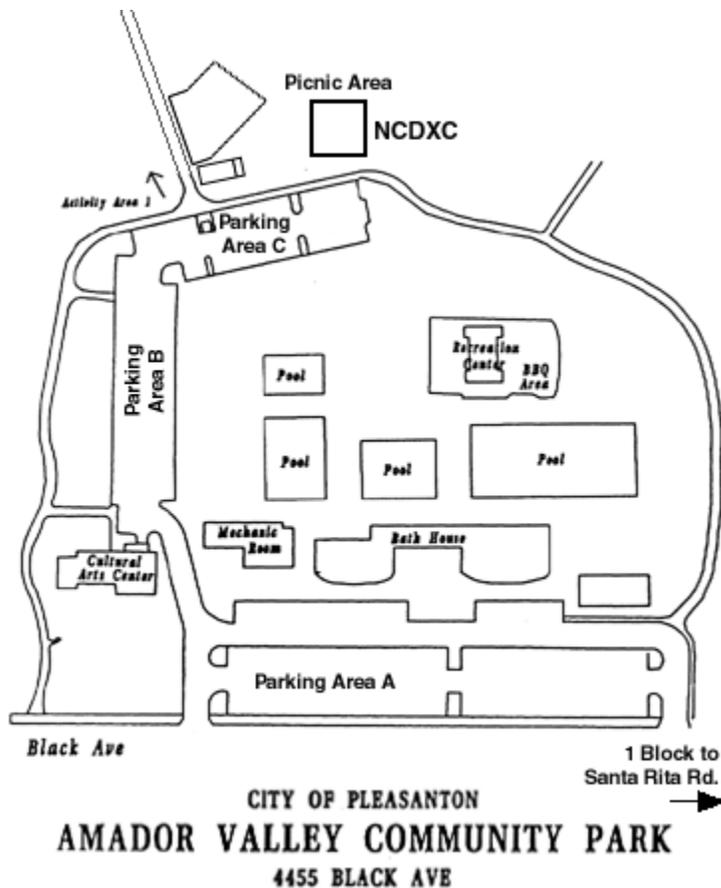


W6CF



K6ITL

Directions to Club Picnic



KB6LT & K6RIM



N600

