

DXer



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB**

DXer Profile: CW Keys from WE6V

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General Meeting
No meeting this month.
Instead, we'll see you at the
International DX Convention
April 20-22, 2001
at the Holiday Inn
in Visalia, California

Program

Go to www.ncdxc.org and
follow the links to the
Convention Web Page

May Meeting
Fiday, May 11th
at
American Legion Post 105,
651 El Camino Real,
Redwood City

Program
History of Ham Gear
Gary Halverson, WB9MZU

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: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
 Vice Pres: Don Anastasia, AA6W
 Secretary: Keith Butts, KN6K
 Treasurer: Bill Maurer, WB6JJJ
 Director: Dick Letrich, W6KM
 Director: Bud Bane, W6WB
 Director: Rolph Stoddard, W6TWO

The DXer:

Editor: George Allan, W6YD
 719 Ruddy Court
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Printing, Mailing: Dick Letrich, W6KM

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DX Ladder: John Kelly, KG6XF

9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD

California Award: Robert Bickel, K6FX

Historian/archivist:

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: Robert Smithwick, W6CS

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

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.

President's Comments



Yesterday (March 24th), I attended a meeting of the convention staff. I am impressed with the fine job being done by George, W6YD and his staff getting ready for Visalia on April 20-22.

Something new has been added - a welcome session on Saturday morning to greet all foreign visitors and to welcome all those attending this affair for the first time. This will take place in the Birch room from 7:45am to 8:45 am. There will be coffee and pastries. The ncdxc membership will serve as hosts and I urge all of you to rise and shine and make this new event a success. Oh yes, the new attendees will be recognizable by a red dot on their badges.

The convention programs sound great. There's a great list of prizes and I am looking forward to once more meeting all my friends and making some new ones.

Last month I mentioned my foothill QTH. I received an e mail inquiry which I intended to answer but- somehow I managed to delete it and I can't recall the name or the call of the sender. So, if you read this, try again. I'm sorry and I promise to send you some details. 73, Chuck, K6RK.



Dick, W6KM receiving his distinguished service plaque from Chuck, K6RK

NCDXC Dues Information

Full and Associate Members;

<u>Date Dues are Paid</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Family Rate</u>
1 July thru 30 September	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00
1 October and after	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00

*Members who have not remitted dues by the 30 September deadline are considered dropped from the membership roles. Those desiring to renew membership may do so anytime, but will not be included in the new issue of the NCDXC Roster .

Absentee Member Dues are \$16.00 per year.

General Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING NCDXC

The usual rag chewing and indulging of libations took place in the bar before the meeting. Date was 9 March 2001. Gathering took place starting around 6:45 P.M.

Formal NCDXC club meeting called to order at 8:01 P.M. by president Chuck Patterson, K6RK. The meeting place of the NCDXC was the American Legion Post, El Camino Real, in Redwood City. There were no guests to be introduced, and the published minutes of the February meeting were approved. Treasurer Bill Maurer gave a brief note on the good financial standing of the club. In the absence of Visalia Convention Chairman W6YD, George Allan, Dick Letrich, W6KM gave a rundown on the latest status of the convention. Rusty, W6OAT spoke on the plan to use the red dots on new and foreign convention attendees. There will be a coffee and doughnut open house for all attendees to meet the new and foreign attendees. Old time member N6JV re-instatement application was read by the acting secretary and approved by the membership. K6RK told of the interference on W6TI repeater by an unsanctioned repeater, heard mostly in the hills. Any member hearing this interference should report it to K6RK. A magnificent plaque was presented to Dick Letrich, W6KM, for his tremendous amount of work on behalf of the NCDXC (too many items to list here). President, K6RK mentioned the club election coming up in June. We will need applicants for all positions. Club picnic in Pleasanton will be July 14th. All are invited. The club held a moment of silence in honor of member Marvin Juza, W6FGD who had just passed away.

The guest speaker for the night was our own renowned member Tom Jones, K6TS. Tom spoke on all aspects of working DX including QSLing. The talk was given with very good overheads. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted: Ron Panton, W6VG, acting secretary.



The Assembly of the "Deserving"

Treasurer's Report

As of 3/25/2001

Income:

Income from CDs	\$ 37.64
QSL card printing	98.76
HRO - Roster printing	600.00

Total Income **\$ 736.40**

Expenses:

DXer Printing	\$ 217.04
DXer Postage	170.00
Repeater Phone	26.49
Toner cartridge for DXer Printing	32.09

Club Officer's Expenses:

Postage	37.20
Treasurer - Postage	34.00

Total expenses **\$ 516.82**

Checking Accounts:

Club acct.	\$ 7,600.57
Repeater acct.	2,000.00
Convention acct.	23,270.80

Total Checking **\$ 32,871.37**

9 month CD acct.	\$ 10,848.02
6 month CD acct.	10,592.72

Current

Club Total **\$ 54,312.11**

Roster Updates

K5GS

Gene Spineli, K5GS
P.O. Box 189
Divide, CO 80814-0189
Telephone:
(H) 719-686-8250
(W) 303-914-2792

W6ZKM

Frank Holst has been moved to the V.A. Hospital. The address is;

Frank Holst, W6ZKM
Veterans Administration Hospital
Main Building, Second Floor,
Ward Section 1002C, Room 147
3801 Miranda Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304.

Phone: 650-493-5000, ext. 63537.

DXer Profile: CW Keys from WE6V

This month we focus on the CW key collection of Jim O'Keefe, WE6V. What a nice way to bring back the fond memories of bygone days, when most of us started our Ham careers by having to learn the code. For some, it was the opening of a new horizon. Many found the hobby would lead to a lifetime of fun. Some dropped CW from their main mode of operation and spent almost all their air time on SSB. I find I do it, myself.

For some others, like Jim O'Keefe, operating CW has been like a wonderful relationship. So much so, that in his ideal to preserve this part of the hobby, he became a key collector. Many of them are not truly rare (at least today) and many are custom made and not really used, except for show. But, they do represent a period when the magic electric wireless was just coming into use as a new and modern method of communication. Shown here, are just a few examples out of Jim's excellent collection. I think you will enjoy them and I thank Jim for sharing them with the club.

The first two pictures show a WWII Standard German key, which was called a "JUNKER." They were designed to be used in harsh environments in all branches of the services. The 3rd key is really a mystery, but some have suggested that it was used as early as 1870.

The 4th picture is of a BIG HEAVY KEY that was used by British ops. It isn't really old, but is typical of those used around British stations. Number 5 is a real sought after key. It is one of the many famous McELROY keys that were fairly common in the 1930's. Number 6 is the only semiautomatic key that I have pictured. It is, of course, the Vibroplex famous BLUE RACER of the 1950's. This one has had an additional weight added to help slow it down to be used at about 25 WPM (thats slow for a dedicated CW OP). The next one is really a bit of a novelty, as according to Jim, it does not handle well at all. It was made in the Balearic Islands (EA6 land) and about all it has going for it is, it's pretty. The last two should not need any written identification to old timers. The first is a US Navy GE Key and the other is the J-38 key that was used by every branch of the service. It is considered the "Model A" of straight keys.

Jim is currently undergoing cancer treatment and was kind enough to allow me to visit him and Murphy, again. You may recall that Murphy is his Ham buddy dog. Also, he now has Max! He is never alone. Great seeing you again, OM and keep pounding the brass! CW will flourish as long as you, and others like you, keep up the tradition.

73, Dick, W6KM.



Ron, W6VG & Chuck, K6RK



Tom, K6TS

CW Anyone?

The following article was picked off the internet and forwarded to us by W6ISQ, Jack Troster.

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office. The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet. They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in

Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This man did. The job is his."

A Tribute to W6FGD by Ed Radlo, AJ6V

The following tribute to Marv Juza appeared on the NCDXC List. It speaks for all of us who knew and loved Marv. Thank you, Ed. George, W6YD.

I just got back from the funeral of Marv Juza, W6FGD. Like all funerals, it was sad. There were a number of hams there. Marv would have liked that. Apart from his wife, four adoring daughters, and three grandchildren, his love was amateur radio.

Marv was a crackerjack CW operator, although he didn't much like contests. He could cruise along easily at 50 WPM using a paddle and electronic key (not a keyboard). During World War II, he taught the code to naval officers at the University of Colorado. He operated outside the country a number of times, including from HZ, VK, ZL, and in a plane over 5A. He was a great machinist and a talented engineer.

I first met Marv around 1980. We were introduced by another beloved amateur radio operator, Ron Chiappari, N6AUV. (Ron passed away around 1985.) Ron thought that Marv and I had something in common, because we both had the same tower: a Wilson MT61B crankup. I still have that tower. You can see it from 280 when it's erect. Marv and I became good friends. Marv was the best man at my third wedding, in 1989. I'm still married to the same person, so that was a good omen.

Over the years, Marv helped me with my antenna work innumerable times, well into his seventies and well past the point where someone with his health problems should have been doing antenna work. It got to the point where I stopped telling him I was going to fix an antenna, lest he would have shown up to volunteer yet again.

In 1985, when the City of Los Altos Hills threatened me with life imprisonment for putting up my 61' crankup tower, Marv was my staunchest supporter. Over the next two years, he attended all of the Planning Commission meetings and all of the City Council meetings where my case and antenna ordinances were discussed. Many of you attended the first few meetings, when we jammed city hall with 70 or so hams. Marv was still there two years later, when just four of us went to the final meeting. This from somebody who didn't even live in Los Altos Hills. The result of course was a new ordinance that we can live with. Ironically, Los Altos Hills has since given me the key to city hall and assorted accolades for being a respected ham radio volunteer. Go figure.

Marv, I'm going to miss you and a lot of other people are going to miss you as well. May you rest in peace.

73, Ed Radlo, AJ6V

STOP Approved

The following was brought to our attention by Jack Troster, W6ISQ via Bernie McClenny, W3UR.

We just approved STOP for DXCC credit. It was on the bad list for lack of documentation since the middle of last year. The documentation has been reviewed and it is OK. People can now

receive DXCC credit. Anyone who has submitted it and had it rejected can contact us and we'll be able to update their record without having to submit the card again. If not, it can be sent in the next submission.

73,
Bill Moore NC1L
DXCC Manager

Marv Juza, W6FGD



Marv Juza, W6FGD

Long-time active (until quite recently), NCDXC member Marv Juza, W6FGD passed away Tuesday evening, Mar. 6, 2001, at his home in Sunnyvale.

Marvin had been in failing health for some time. He leaves behind his wife, Miriam, and four daughters - Elizabeth, Carol, Susan and Louise and assorted grandchildren. He was 87.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, March 10th at the Lima Family Mortuaries in Sunnyvale.

Cards can be sent to the family at;

1025 Havre Court,
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-4031.

Sonoma Hamfest

SMALL HAMFEST

The Valley of the Moon ARC Hamfest to be held on 28 April 8AM to NOON in Sonoma, CA. Admission is FREE.

Check your WORLD RADIO Magazine for details. Or contact Darrel, WD6BOR at 707-996-4494.

Dick, W6KM

The 1977 Fresno Flyer

The following bit of nostalgia was resurrected and sent to us by Gary Cervo, K6DXX. It will bring back memories for some and reminds us of a different time in the NCDXC. Can you imagine the camaraderie? -ED.

WELCOME ABOARD THE '77 FRESNO FLYER! In as much as this is a "list operation" all the way, here's another list - a passenger list with a brief introduction:

- WB7ABK - BILL - rose to instant fame as a super DXpeditioner last year, and will be our Guest Speaker at Fresno. A really FB operator.
- W6BIP - BIP - enters all the contests, phone or CW, and has his own contest machine. Went on his own DXpedition to VQ9 a few years back and had a ball.
- WB6CCV - DAVE - strictly phone, but has started building the Accu-memory keyer, so a whole new world should unfold for Dave!
- W6CF - JIM - SCM of Santa Clara Valley, and your Activities Chairman on the Bus. Very active in all phases of ham radio, including DXing and contests.
- K5CIT - JOE - who is Joe? None other than KH6IGJ who walked off with the Oceania Award in the CQ WW Contest 2 years ago - that's who! Good job, Joe!
- K6CN - GUY - recently retired from Lockheed and the Coast Guard. One of the stalwarts at the Lockheed Club station, WA6GFY, in the contests.
- WA6DJI - HENSLEY - a good CW man, known best for his multi-oping with W6BIP.
- W6ETR - KENNY - enjoys CW DXing at the Sacred Heart Jesuit Novitiate in the hills of Los Gatos where he works. A beautiful QTH.
- WB6EXW - GARY - had a FB DXpedition to F08 a few months ago, and got his pix in the latest CQ Magazine. Also helps keep the Lockheed station, WA6GFY, hopping.
- VE3FXT - GEORGE - back from a super expedition in Central Africa just 2 WEEKS ago! Hope he remembered to kiss his wife as he passed thru his house to get here!
- N6GG - RICH - ustabe K6QZ, your Host and arranger of this bus-load. If you have ANY problems with the Bus, please fill out the complaint form at the tail-end of this list. I'd like to see THAT!
- KH6GQW - PAT - SCM of Pacific Section, had a tremendous signal from KH6 land during the last DX Contest. Sounded like "ONE KILOWATT - AT LEAST"!
- N6HR - HILLAR - ustabe WA6HRS, is one of our perennials on the Bus. Sometimes operates from KX6 to stir up a little excitement.
- KH61J - NOSEY - just about the best known ham in the world. A physics prof. at Univ of Hawaii, a contest master without peer, author of numerous QST articles, and one of the FIRST to trade in his 3 letter call for a 2 letter one!
- K61TL - KNOCK - great organizer and man-behind-the-scenes in many ham activities, and a FB DXer to boot.
- WOIYP - TOD - a contest enthusiast, and founder of the National Contest Journal, joining us again all the way from Minnesota. Glad to have you aboard, Tod!
- W6KDK - STEVE - a newcomer here - so, welcome to the Fresno Flyer!
- W6KG - LLOYD - King George is back from his fabulous DXpeditioning in the Caribbean, and will be on the Sunday morning program with Iris and some of his slides. It's just great having you back, Lloyd!
- W6KJG - MAURY - strictly CW, and really knows his way around the pile-ups.
- WB6LOH/JR3N2H - TOSHI - another first timer. Welcome aboard, Toshi!
- W6LP - AL - another pure CW guy and with a FB fist. Recently retired from Eimac. Al gets on occasionally to show us how its done.
- K6MA - STAN - ustabe W6JKJ, right up there on the DXCC Honor Roll. Always seems to be there when the rare ones show up.
- K6MA/XYL - HAZEL - Glad to have you aboard!
- W60AT- RUSTY - SCM of S.F. needs no intro. Will be the Contest Forum Chairman at the Convention. Recently passed the Bar examination - so be careful when you say "ONE KILOWATT - AT LEAST!"
- K6OJO - STEVE - Always in the big pile-ups on 20M phone. I'm sure everyone has heard, "Ocean, Japan, Ocean", including even Sam!
- N6OM - JOHN - ustabe K6YGS, mostly CW, and having a ball with his new call.
- N6OO - CLAUDE - ustabe WB6OZJ, one of our newest members, now has a fun-call to play with, OH - OH!
- W6QL - IRIS - Queen Lady of the Lloyd and Iris expeditions. During the DX contest Iris was right in there, picking out calls in those MASSIVE pile-ups, and she would stay right there with it, hour after hour. Good show!
- W6SP - JOHN - known also as W6ASA, gets lots of help on the 2M box regarding phonetics for his new call, like; Stewed Prunes, Sour Puss, Speech Problem,....etc.

The 1977 Fresno Flyer (Continued)

W6SP/XYL - MARY - welcome to the Fresno Flyer!

K6SSJ/XYL -LIDIJA - Bob had to get to Fresno early to help install the big antennas on the Hotel roof, so we get to keep Lidija company. Glad to have you with us!

W6TSQ - SAM - Super-Sleuth of ALL the HF bands. Haunts the 2M box during the day, with remarks, like; "Get back to work, you slaves!", and at nite announces DX that no one can hear. Does he ever sleep?

K6ZM - PHIL - our California Award Chairman. Been hitting the contest circuit with a roar - turning in huge scores as a multi-op station. Big Sig!

K3ZO - FRED - was guest speaker at Fresno a couple of years ago. LU5HFI and W9SZR are just 2 of the calls he used to have. FB op and a GREAT CW man!

VE7ZZ - STU - came all the way down from Canada to help WA6DQM multi-op a tremendous score in the recent ARRL CW DX contest. FB operator!

JA1KSO/WB6NLH - NOB

JA3ELY - TOSHI

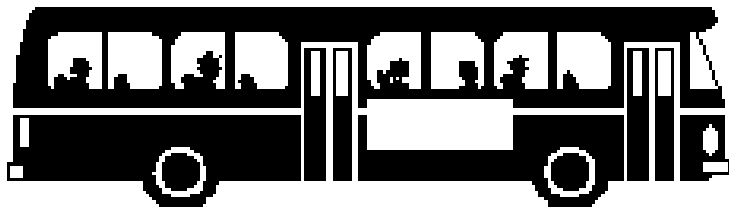
JA1ETQ - CHAO

JE1FFW - NOB

J11HXR - EI

Welcome to our Japanese Contingents who've been touring the Western states these past few weeks. JA1KSO, Nob, was our FB guest speaker at Fresno last year. We've come to know the Japanese hams as GREAT operators, and the most polite in the world.

1977



Fresno Flyer

COMPLAINT FORM

PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMPLAINT IN BOX BELOW

WRITE LEGIBLY



Convention Hotels Announce Surcharge!

The Visalia Holiday Inn has announced that they will add a surcharge of \$ 2.75 per room per night to their published rates. We're told that this is to offset increased energy rates announced earlier by the California Public Utilities Commission. Other hotels in the area can be expected to follow suit, if they haven't already done so.



