

DXer



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB**

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DXer Profile: W6YD, George Allan



Above: Two Views of the KLM KT34a with the TX455 Tower.



At Left: The "Closet Ham's" Operating Position.

Below: George Allan at the Controls of W6YD.



**General Meeting
March 14, 2002`**

**Harry's Hof Brau
1909 El Camino Real,
Redwood City**

Program

**Patrick Barthelow, AA6EG
Will Present;**

**"Personal Computers in the
DXer's Shack"**

**Social Hour .. 6:00 P.M.
 Dinner 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting..... 8:00 P.M.**

No Meeting in April

**International DX Convention
Newly Renovated
Holiday Inn, Plaza Park
Visalia, California
April 26-28, 2002**

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: Jerry Griffin, K6MD
 Secretary: Ron Panton, W6VG
 Treasurer: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU
 Director: Dick Letrich, W6KM
 Director: Rolph Stoddard, W6TWO
 Director: Bud Bane, W6WB

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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

Control Operator: Robert Smithwick, W6CS

Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)

Thurs. Net OTR: 8 pm local time.

Net Manager: Randy Wright, W6CUA

DX News: Net Control Operator

Swap Shop: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU

QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

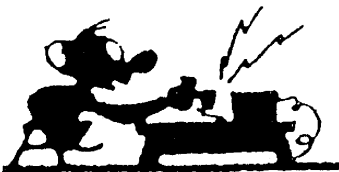
W6TI DX Bulletins:

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



We had an "interesting" meeting on Valentine's Day. Eric, WA6HHQ of Elecraft, brought in his latest "toys" and presented a lot of data on receivers. His K-1 and K-2 transceivers are right up there on top, performance wise, and Eric explained why. It was a very interesting and informative talk.

The meeting was sidetracked a bit when we arrived to find that Harry's management had pre-empted our reservation and sold our meeting room to a group putting on a Valentine's Day party. We got pushed to the far end of the dining area. It was VERY noisy and poor Eric nearly lost his voice talking over it! I'm confident that we have things straightened out with Harry's, so we plan to have our March meeting there. In the meantime, any suggestions for other meeting locations would be considered.

I'm certainly looking forward to Visalia in April, then to our picnic in Pleasanton on July 13th. Remember, Dick, W6KM needs cooks. Rolf, W6TWO has made arrangements for a Christmas party in San Jose on December 14th.

Finally, it's not too soon to be thinking about up-coming elections. At our June meeting we will elect officers & directors for 2002/2003. So get off of your butt and run for an office - we need new blood with new ideas.

73, Chuck, K6RK



NCDXC Dues Information

Full and Associate Members;

Date Dues are Paid	Member	Family Rate
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

Club Meeting Feb. 14, 2002

The monthly meeting was scheduled for February 14, 2002 at Harry's Hof Brau in Redwood City. However!! As Bobby Burns once said "The best laid plans of mice and men...". With no advance notice and the Herculean setup work already done by guest speaker Eric Swartz and our energetic treasurer, Ben Deovlet, the NCDXC was ignominiously evicted from the "reserved" room.. Despite a signed contract with Harry's and the NCDXC, a Valentines/birthday party, paying \$200, was given the room. The NCDXC had to use a very noisy end of the restaurant. However, after the liquor and food bars were visited, the meeting was called to order by President, Chuck Patterson, K6RK at 7:45 PM. Our only guest was former member WA6HHQ, Eric Swartz. With an excellent setup of battery operated transceivers and an understandable talk on equipment statistics, we all enjoyed the presentation by Eric. The club sends congratulations to member K6DY, Anthony Bryce for achieving his 100 countries confirmed. Nice work! He is re-locating in Phelan, CA (wherever that is). His zip code indicates Southern CA. Guess he is now an absentee member. We are very sorry to lose such an avid DXer in our area.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM. Your humble servant, W6VG, Ron Panton.

Open Letter from W6FDU

To my fellow NCDXC members:

My declining health requires that I no longer take an active role in the NCDXC. I regret this decision, but circumstances force me to "retire". I must now concentrate on my fight to regain my health. Never give up!

As most of you already know, I relinquished my position as the Swap-Shop coordinator/moderator for the Thursday night nets. I've served in this position continuously for slightly over 15 years. During that time, I've never left the Swap Shop un-represented. On the few instances when I was unable to fulfill this role, I provided an alternate moderator.

I've also relinquished my participation as one of the Net Control operators and as the Roll Call/Round-Table-of-the-Air moderator.

Circumstances also forced me to relinquish my position as Prize Committee leader for the Visalia DX Convention in 2003, general Prize chairperson, "assistant" to the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary Support person, Christmas Party 2002, Picnic 2002, and other smaller responsibilities. I will try to continue as Treasurer until the next general election of Club Officers.

I am also scaling down my Amateur Radio activities in general. Save for a few select pieces, I am selling my collection of Vintage Ham gear. I will, however, remain on the air to a limited extent. I do intend to retain my membership in the NCDXC. I deeply appreciate the friendships that I've made through this Club, and I appreciate the support that members have given me during times of difficulties. In a limited way, I will always be a part of this renowned organization.

TNX and 73,

Ben, W6FDU (a.k.a. FO0DB)

Two Make Honor Roll

The *DXer* is pleased to announce accomplishments and milestones in DX-ing, which were achieved by the following NCDXC Members:

KG6I, John Farber: John qualified for DXCC Honor Roll on September 27, 2001 after about ten years of pretty serious DX chasing. We're pleased to report that John now has the plaque on the wall.

W6ZX, Alex Meyer: On March 1st Alex received the final QSL card required to qualify for DXCC Honor Roll in RTTY mode. Alex is already on the Honor Roll in SSB mode. That, in itself, is a significant achievement. But to make it in RTTY mode is an even greater accomplishment, because fewer hams operate RTTY.

On behalf of the NCDXC, please accept our congratulations. We, on the *DXer* Staff, salute you for your achievement.



DX Ladder Updated

John Kelly, KG6XF has been busy updating the NCDXC DX Ladder. John informs the *DXer* that the updated, February 2002 version is now available for viewing on the NCDXC Web Site at www.ncdxc.org.

The DX Ladder actually has three listings. One listing is by DXCC entity and another lists the top ten participants in each band and mode. The third listing is by ITU Zones and lists participants' activity by band and mode.

Check it out! It's interesting and you can see who has been active by the bold typeface used to show recent changes.

Meeting Pictures by W6KM



Assembly of the "Deserving"



Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ makes a point



Eric Addressing the "Deserving"



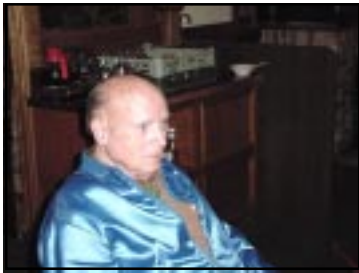
Tony, K6DY; Steve, W6MKM; Bob, KE6HKK(?); & Ron, W6VG



The Elecraft K1 (QRP) & K2 (100 Watts) Transceivers



W6FDU & AA6G Relax before the Meeting



Harry, K6JTC

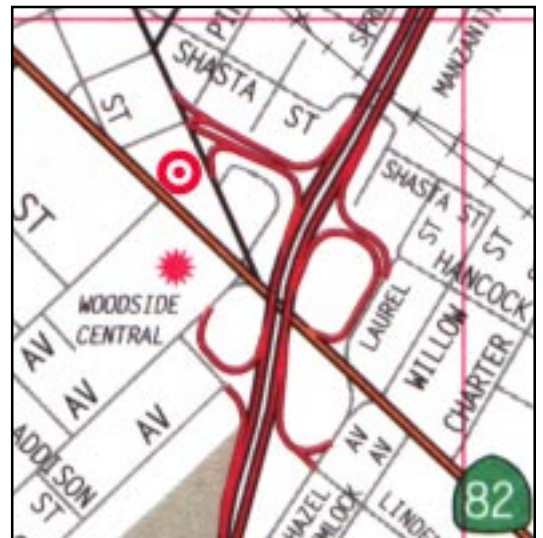
Map and Directions to Meeting

Harry's Hof Brau is fairly easy to find. It's on El Camino Real, just north of Woodside Road (Highway 84).

From Highway 101, take the Woodside Road (Highway 84) West exit to the El Camino North exit. Follow that exit (a short distance) toward El Camino to the stop sign at Main Street. You will practically be in Harry's parking lot! It will be right across the street on your left.

From Highway 280, take the Woodside Road East exit and follow it to the El Camino North exit. Harry's will be on your right just past the underpass.

There are parking lots on both sides of the building. So, if one lot is full, just try the other one.



Doug, W6JD; George, W6YD; Dewey, KG6AM; & Jerry, K6MD

Ducie Island Operating Plan

The following information comes from the Ducie Island Web Site and gives the plan of operation for the DXpedition which will activate this new DXCC entity. Complete details of the operation can be found on the Web Site at www.qsl.net/wd4ngb/ducie.htm.

The plans for the Ducie Island DXpedition of 2002 are now complete, and the group is in the final countdown phase.

Expected departure date from Mangareva, French Polynesia is March 12. They will go to Pitcairn first to pick up supplies and equipment left there from the first attempt, then on to Ducie for (only) a week's operation.

Mac, JA3USA, has had to leave the team because of unforeseen business conflicts. Jim, N9TK, has replaced him.

21.020 Mhz (CW) and 21.295 Mhz (SSB) will be QRV 24 hours each day. This is to allow more individuals to find and work the group, depending upon propagation to their area. The CW site will use a Yaesu FT-1000MP with Alpha amplifier, manned primarily by Vince, K5VT and Mike, K9AJ. The antenna will be a 2 element HB9CV. The SSB station will be a Yaesu FT-100D with an Acom amp, with primary operators Jin, JF1IST and Jim, N9TK. This 21 Mhz priority operation will take place with two stations active until demand falls.

Two other stations will activate other bands, a Yaesu FT-1000MP+ FL2100Z primarily on 20 meters with a 4 Square vertical, and a Yaesu FT 100D primarily on 28 Mhz. An additional FT 100D will be active on 50 MHz. All other operators will man these stations on a rotating basis. Any lower band operation will take place on the later days of the DXpedition.

28.495 Mhz, and 14.195 Mhz will be the prime SSB frequencies, and 14.020 Mhz will be the prime CW frequency other than 15 meters.

It is planned that there will be some operation on all bands, 160 through 6 meters, and RTTY in addition to SSB and CW operations. It is expected that Low Band and WARC operations are more likely to take place in the last days of the operation, as concentration from the beginning will be to allow as many operators as possible to work this rare IOTA and new DXCC Entity.

The Braveheart was contacted in Port Stanley, Falkland Islands by sat phone. They were enroute to Gambier via Puntas Arenas, Chile, and were to arrive in Chile on February 15, then a 24 day voyage to Gambier, arriving on March 11. The charter will be \$68,000 US, and support would be appreciated. Donations may go to the group's treasurer, Kan Mizoguchi, 5-3 Sakuragaoka 4 Chome, Tama-city, Tokyo 206 JAPAN.

QSL Manager is VE3HO for all bands except 6 meters. 6 Meter cards go to JA1BK. Pilot stations will be WA2MOE and JE2EHP.

DXCC NEWS

Bill Moore, NC1L, DXCC Manager, reports the following: "9Q0AR (Democratic Republic of Congo) has been on hold awaiting supporting documentation. This has been received and upon review it is now being accepted for DXCC credit. Anyone who had this rejected during a recent submission can contact DXCC at dxcc@arrl.org for an update

to their record. Or, it can be sent with the next submission for credit."



Dates to Reserve

SET THESE DATES ASIDE FOR NCDXC FUN TIMES

Planning is underway for two fun events for all club members. Both will be Saturday events and both will be held during daylight hours to facilitate attendance by members who either have some distance to travel or who may have problems with night driving.

The first is our annual Club Picnic, which will be held JULY 13th in PLEASANTON. The second will be our Christmas Party to be held in San Jose on DECEMBER 14th.

The price for the Picnic is \$ 0.00!! Yes! That's not a misprint! It's FREE for all club members, their families and prospective members!

The Christmas Party Chairman is Rolf, W6TWO, who has arranged for a very reasonably priced luncheon to be held at the Wyndham Hotel, a first class hotel in San Jose. We will have music and entertainment to boot. We have firmed up the famous Hank Vlcek, MASTER OF MYSTIFYING MAGIC and I promise you that you have never ever seen a more enjoyable magic act in your life! I swear he will be your favorite Magician and you will talk about this great act forever. It will rank with the famous Brandy act of years gone by. (Well, maybe not THAT good! -ED.) So before you do anything else, pull out your calendar and set these dates aside! CU there... Dick, W6KM



DX Digest

P5, NORTH KOREA (From the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin)

Ed, P5/4L4FN will be travelling around North Korea and not able to get back home as well as a trip to China. No operations until the middle of March. It was reported.... Bruce, KK5DO was heard saying he had a good feeling that all of the P5/4L4FN contacts will count for DXCC. However, this is not official yet. He mentioned North Korea doesn't issue any license so any written permission to operate will suffice. Government officials have checked his station on a few occasions and the North Korean government obviously knows he is operating there. His current contract with the United Nations World Food Program is good until June and if it is renewed he will be there for another year.

Ed continues to be active on 15 meters SSB when possible. However, he has been practicing some RTTY and CW and should be on those modes soon.

YA, Afghanistan (From the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin)

Nick, G4KUX, has been active as G4KUX/YA and usually on 20 meters. Reports indicate that he is there working and setting up an international communication network. Also reported is the ARRL has NOT received any documentation from Nick. So WFWL. He is expected to be here for a while. Watch 14198 kHz after 0330z.

*Major DX-Peditions & Operations with dates of activity in March and April
From NG3K's Web Site (<http://cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Misc/adxo.html>).*

Afghanistan, YA5T - Until Mar 31 - By S53R; limited activity; low power levels; QSL to KU9C.

Laos, XW3QBR - Until Jul 31 - By IN3QBR from Vientiane.

Midway Island, KH4 - Until Mar 16 - By DL2VFR, DL2RUM as KH4/homecall; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL home call - OK direct or via DARC Buro.

Ducie Island, VP6 - Mar 12 to Mar 30 - By VP6TC, VP6DB, VP6AZ, VP6MW, VP6BK/JA1BK, JF1IST, JA3USA, K9AJ, K5VT; 160-6m; SSB CW RTTY; beacon on 50.110 mHz; QSL HF via VE3HO and 6m via JA1BK; exact dates of operation are uncertain. (See <http://www.qsl.net/wd4ngb/ducie.htm>).

San Felix Island, XR0X - Mar 12 - Mar 30 - By NP4IW + 11 international ops - QSL to N7CQQ. (For more info see <http://www.cordell.org/SFX/>).

Vietnam, 3W - Mar 14 to Mar 16 - By F6BUM from Tam Is (AS-157); CW SSB.

Vietnam, 3W - Mar 21 to Mar 23 - By F6BUM from Cham Is; CW SSB.

Vietnam, 3W - Apr 03 to Apr 05 - By F6BUM from Cat Ba Is (AS-132); CW SSB

Temotu, H40 - Mar 28 - Apr 12 - VK1AA - By VK1AA; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY (For complete info see <http://www.qsl.net/vk1aa/temotu/>).

Midway Island, W4M - Mar 30 - Apr 06 - By G3RTE fm OC-030; 40-10m; CW SSB; focus on Europe - QSL to G3SWH.

Spratly Islands, XV9TH Apr01 2002 Apr30 By Vietnam ARC from AS-051; during April, exact dates not yet known

Sierra Leone, 9L1JT Apr12 - Apr15 By K4ZIN; 40 20 15 10m; CW SSB; dates are tentative and may change

Mellish Reef Apr12 - Apr22 By VK4GL + Team; 160-6m; CW SSB

Laos, XW3ZNR Apr 20 - May 10 By IN3ZNR from Vientiane.

Baker & Howland Island, KH1 Apr 30 - May 10 By YT1AD and others; QSL SSB via RZ3AA; all other modes via YT1AD.

DXer Profile: W6YD, George Allan

The pictures of George Allan's ham radio station, tower and antenna are proof of his dedication to our Hobby. After years of being off the air due to limited conditions (small lots,....etc.), George and his XYL, Sylvia bought a home in Los Banos where he has been able to finally rebuild his station. Using the same rig, a TS-940S and his same antenna, a KLM KT-34A, he is back on the air, just knocking off one new country after another. His antenna is mounted on a motorized US Tower, TX 455 that can be run up to 60 feet. You can see it from the main highway as you pass through Los Banos heading over to the Convention in Visalia. It may soon be declared a State Landmark for its ability to break up DX pileups and create international good will.

George was first licensed in 1956 as KN9GAZ followed by W9CTV (1962) and W6EJX (1964). He has been an NCDXC member since May of 1982 with his then call of KA6GJW, followed by WA6O. Today we know him as W6YD (YANKEE DOODLE). His current country count is over 250 with many more worked and waiting for the QSL's. His preferred mode to operate is SSB. His station is built around the TS940 with a Collins 30L-1 linear, a Murch tuner and several 2 meter rigs. Right now he can't get into the club repeater from Los Banos, but when conditions are good, he can sometimes hear W6TI/R.

Although, he was off the air for many years, he never lost his desire for DXing. To fill the in-between years, he has been extremely active in the DX club in many, many ways. Not many members can make the claim of having served the NCDXC with such loyalty. He is a Past Club President, Past Vice President, active BOD member and is finishing his third term as DXer Editor. However, his dedication does not end there. He Co-Chaired the North South International DX Convention in 1995 and was the Full Chairman in 1999 and 2001. He is currently Co-Chair of the 2003 DX Convention.

George continues to drive all the way from Los Banos to attend Club Meetings, BOD meetings and other club functions. He is also a very active member of the Los Banos Amateur Radio Club. I am proud to say that George is a real HAM and a good friend.

73, George.....Dick, W6KM

Editor's Choice

It occurs to me that the Ducie Island DXpedition is one whale of an effort for a rather limited operation. The crew will set sail for the island on March 12th and arrive there in about a week. Then they will operate in some cases, 24 hours a day . It's a monumental effort to activate a new DXCC entity. It will cost the team \$68,000 for the boat alone.

So, I hope we all get a chance to work this "new one". Pity the poor soul who has to make a business trip and be away from his rig during this operation. Who knows when it will be back on the air after the initial effort. Although, in some cases, it may not make a difference. I'm hearing a great deal these days about a way to work one's rig remotely, via the internet. That sounds intriguing and could be the topic of an interesting program for a club meeting.

Speaking of programs, the program for the March meeting is one I've been anticipating, but will have to miss. I'll be making a swing up through the Pacific Northwest to see our new great-grandson. We'll be back in time for Ducie Island, though!!

Hope to see you all in Visalia. Don't forget, it's April 26-28, 2002.

73, George, W6YD

Radiofest Pix by W6KM



Estate Sale
↔

W6FYA & KA6SHE



"Junky" at work →



← *Elecraft K2*



Kudos 'n Kredits

This month's issue was made possible by articles and input from the following sources:

- ARRL DX Bulletin**
- NG3K, Bill Feidt's Web Site**
- OPDX Bulletin**
- QRZ DX**
- W6FDU, Ben Deovlet**
- KG6I, John Farber**
- W6KM, Dick Letrich**
- K6RK, Chuck Patterson**
- W6VG, Ron Pantan**
- W6ZX, Alex Meyer**

Thank you, one and all!

George, W6YD

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