

DXer



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB**

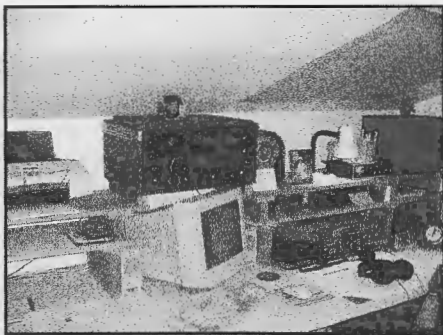
DXer Profile: N6SJ, Steve Jones



*The "Pine Tree"
Tower*



Steve Jones at the Controls of N6SJ



Another View of the Operating Position

*Story
on
Page 7*

Inside

President's Comments	2
General Meeting Minutes	3
Roster Changes	3
Meeting Program	4
DX Tidbits	4
Do You Know Who This Is ?	4
Directions to the Meeting	4
February Meeting Pictures By W6KM	5
DX Tidbits (Cont'd.)	5
NPSARC Radio Fest	6
Do You Know Who This Is? - Answer!	7
Editor's Choice	7
For Sale	7
Kudos 'n Kredits	7

**General Meeting
March 11, 2004**

**Harry's Hof Brau
1909 El Camino Real,
Redwood City
(Directions on Page 4)**

Program

**Low Band
Antenna Symposium
Moderated by
Chuck Patterson, K6RK**

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

**DXer Deadline
for the
April 2004 Issue
is
March 24, 2004**

President's Comments



Lots of DX on for the ARRL CW contest, which makes me wonder... are conditions REALLY as bad as they have seemed recently, or is there just no activity. Listening to the CW bands on "normal", i.e. non-contest days makes you wonder if there is anybody out there.

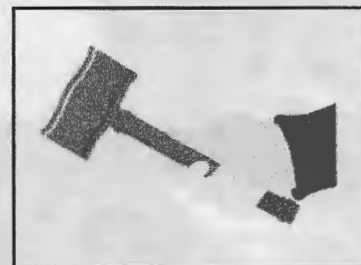
All of which leads to this observation... unless we generate more activity, LOTS MORE activity, on the CW bands we won't have them much longer. The current licensing structure only pays lip service to code and it won't be long before the "almost-no-code" hams start agitating for more 'phone frequencies...after all that CW stuff is really obsolete isn't it?



W6JD

So, come on, haul out the old J-38 or whatever and bang away... it REALLY is a lot of fun and it may help to save a truly useful mode.

Doug, W6JD



Club Officers:

President: Doug Westover, W6JD
 Vice Pres: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
 Secretary: Mike Gavin, W6WZ
 Treasurer: Dewey Churchill, KG6AM
 Director: Mitch Cipriano, AE6AI
 Director: Keith Butts, KN6K
 Director: Ron Panton, W6VG

The DXer:

Editor: George Allan, W6YD
 719 Ruddy Court
 Los Banos, CA 93635
 w6yd@aol.com

Printing, Mailing: Dick Letrich, W6KM

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

DX Ladder: John Kelly, KG6XF

9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Dick Courtney, N7RC

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: Mitch Cipriano, AE6AI

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.

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

February 12, 2004

The meeting began at 8:00 P.M. at Harry's Hofbrau, Redwood City. Officers present were Doug, W6JD; Dewey, KG6AM; Chuck, K6RK; Mitch, AE6AI; Mike, W6WZ. First time visitors in attendance were; Morris Jones, AD6ZH; Larry Kaiser, KG6TLW and Shelley Kaiser, KG6TLV. Smitty, W6CS introduced the couple to our club.



*Some of
"The Deserving"
who attended the
February NCDXC
Meeting.*

Doug, W6JD announced that we need a convention chairman for the 2005 International DX convention in Visalia. And we need a chairman for the Christmas luncheon. W6JD also announced a correction about "Charlie" digital DX announcements on the 147.36 repeater. It will be turned off on sweepstakes and turned on for major contests with a single announcement. It will continue with 2 announcements for normal times. Dick, W6KM announced that the Monterey Hamfest may be cancelled for this year. The program for the evening was a well done demonstration of PSK31 by Mitch, AE6AI. It included two 2-meter radio stations in the restaurant and a fine slide show. Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectively submitted by secretary, Mike Gavin, W6WZ.



*More of
"The Deserving"
who attended the February
NCDXC Meeting.*

Silent Keys

Lee Williams, K6IME

Long time Club Member, Lee Williams, K6IME of Pinole, CA succumbed to a long illness on January 9th. He was eighty years of age. Lee joined the NCDXC in May of 1986 as WA6IME and changed his call to K6IME in February of 1997. He was a member of REDXA, a charter member of the Pampanito Amateur Radio Club and a Life Member of NCDXC.

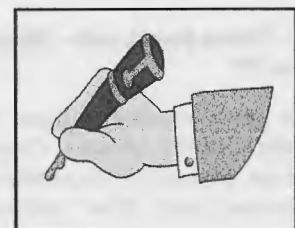
Jim White, K4OJ

We sadly note the passing of Jim White, K4OJ who passed away on February 12th due to complications after heart valve replacement surgery. He was the son of Bob White, W1CW (SK) and Ellen White, W1YL. He was a member of the Florida Contest Group (FCG) and the First Class CW Operators Club (FOC). Our condolences go out to Ellen White and her family.

Roster Changes

J. Mark Gang, N6SF
645 Eastview Way
Woodside, CA 94062

email: n6sf@arrl.net
hm phone: 650-261-9438
cell: 415-336-8024



Meeting Program

The program for our March meeting will be a Low Band antenna symposium. It will be moderated by Low Band enthusiast, Chuck Patterson, K6RK. Chuck brings a wealth of experience (including his successes and frustrations) to this discussion.

The program will cover:

- How to do it on a city lot.
- How to do it if you have space.
- What works.
- What doesn't work.
- Where to find more information.

Come bring your questions (and answers) and enjoy a lively discussion of Low Band DXing.

DX Tidbits

The following items were gleaned from the pages of The Weekly DX. If you haven't seen it, you should try a free sample copy of it. Go to www.dailydx.com/weekly2.html to get your sample copy. -Ed.

V8 - Brunei -- March 8th to 15th

Those of you needing Brunei will be happy to know that a group from the UK will be mounting a multi-mode Dxpedition from there between March 8th and 15th. The group will use the special callsign V8JIM and plans to be active on all bands from 10 to 160 meters. They also plan to work CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL to G3SWH.

R1F - Franz Josef Land -- March 17th to 25th

I'm pretty excited to learn that Members of the Moscow Contest Club are planning a Dxpedition to Franz Josef Land. (Yes! I still need that one!) As noted above, their op-

Continued on Next Page

Directions to the 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.



Do You Know Who This Is ?



Some of you (with good eyes) may be able to read the sign in the background. If so, you will know whose shack this is.

But, can you tell who the chap on the right is?

The answer can be found on page 7.

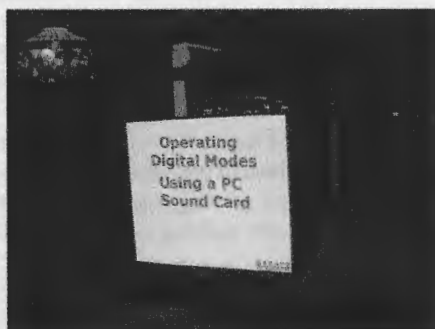
February Meeting Pictures By W6KM



KG6TLW, KG6TLV & W6CS



KE6HKL, AE6AI & AD6ZH



Program Title Slide



Shelley, KG6TLV and Larry, KG6TLW



K6WIF, AE6AI & W6OAT



PSK 31 Demo Screen

DX Tidbits (Cont'd.)

Continued from Page 4

eration will be from March 17th to 25th using the call R1FJ. They're planning to run CW, SSB and RTTY on the usual DX frequencies. They plan to use some major transceivers, amplifiers and antennas for their operation. So propagation permitting they should be pretty easy to hear and work if, of course, we can make it thru the "East Coast Curtain". QSL's go to DL6ZFG.

5V - Togo — March 4th to 12th

This one is already upon us, but you still may be able to jump into the pileup and work 5V7C. They have a Web page at http://5v7c.free.fr/les_newseng.htm, which has pictures of the group, etc.

7Q - Malawi—April 18th to May 1st

All you 160 meter buffs, start sharpening your CW skills. The good news is; the upcoming DXpedition to Malawi will include an operation on 160 meters. But, it will be CW only. Purists will find this to be good news. But, if you're looking for a phone contact, it can't be had here. The bad news is; this DXpedition spans the Visalia DX Convention weekend. No info on licenses, yet. The group plans to announce *that* info on their Web site at www.malawi.digital-crocus.com. Good luck on this one.

5A - Libya

Late last month the U.S. lifted a 23 year old ban on travel by U.S. citizens to Libya. Anyone wanta do a DXpedition to Libya?

**DX
IS**

NPSARC Radio Fest

Once again, George Allan, W6YD and I ventured over to the Radio Fest, held this year at the Del Rey Oaks Moose Lodge Family Center. George talked with one of the club sponsors who told him that the move to the new location was the result of the powers that be at Fort Ord having raised the rental fee much too high. What a shame! What with free admission and all the work they put into it, I can't believe that the NPS Amateur Radio Club actually makes any money on this event.

The move to the Moose Family Center proved to be a bit more crowded, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the event or those in attendance. There was only one commercial vendor and they were selling Ham related books, but the swap tables were abundant as usual. A few bargains were to be found, but frankly not as high a caliber as in the past.

History repeated itself, however, as I came home with my annual treasure find — a nice KENWOOD TS-120S. I am now tweaking and cleaning it up. I will

be putting this gem back on the market soon. In the meantime, it occupies the spot where my TS-130S usually sits. This will allow me to give it a good workout and get it back into "as good as new" condition.

We ran into Scottie Rathjen, W7SW and Bob Wolbert, K6XX, who were both enjoying the event. Maybe it was because we only stayed a couple of hours, but we surely missed seeing some of the NCDXC members that we usually see there. We missed seeing Jerry Griffin, K6MD who is on active military duty overseas. We also missed other regulars such as Walt Del Conte, W6EKR and Phil Nunez, AC6HY. And I have to admit — it just wasn't the same without Jim Maxwell, W6CF, our past ARRL Director and club member. But I somehow have the feeling he may have been somewhere up there, smiling down on the event.

This Radio Fest certainly wasn't nearly as large as those in the past. But, George and I enjoyed getting together to visit and we're both looking forward to the next one.

73.....Dick, W6KM



"The move to the Moose Family Center proved to be a bit more crowded, but it didn't dampen the spirits of the event..."



"This Radio Fest ... wasn't nearly as large as those in the past..."

"We ran into Scottie Rathjen, W7SW..."



"... and Bob Wolbert, K6XX..."

Radio Fest

February 26th in Monterey, CA

DXer Profile: CALL, NAME

Steve Jones, a relatively new (one year) club member is by no means a newcomer to Ham Radio. He was first licensed in 1961 with the (novice) call WV6SVY and soon, thereafter, as a General with WA6SVY. Work took Steve to Salt Lake City for a few years where he was issued the call WA7SVE. Along the way he also picked up WA6CFJ and as an extra who works contests on CW, K6XB. As Steve pointed out "try to send and receive XB in static and arctic flutter." As a result, he obtained N6SJ.

Steve lives at 2,200 above Sea Level and on a clear day he can see the Pacific Ocean. In fact, Steve says he can see New Zealand! His antenna is a Qubex Quad for 5 bands and it rests at the top of a 120 foot pine tree. This brave soul climbs the tree to install and repair it himself! As you might imagine, he has no close neighbors or power line noise. It's a dream location. I might add that it's quite a trip to reach his QTH for us city dwellers. His other HF antenna is a 136 foot dipole, center fed with twin lead. With his MFJ tuner he can load up on most Bands. Currently, his main rig is an Alinco DX-70. He has a Kentwood TS-930 that he is about to repair and when he wants to SWL, he has a beautiful Hallicrafters SX28A, Super Sky Rider in pristine condition. Someday a Heathkit Collector is going to get lucky as he has a "new in the box", never built SB-220 amplifier with a new pair of Eimac 3-500Z's under the bench. By the way, Steve informed me that he has no plans to ever use a linear.

Steve's DXCC count is 332. He works lots of CW and was rightly proud to show me the three CW Sweepstakes Contest Awards he has won. In 1988 he won the Pacific Division. Steve has a most impressive Ham location and is an OP who knows how to use it all to the Max. I wish I could have taken a picture of his World Map in the entry to his shack but the hallway is just too narrow to permit it. The map is surrounded by 100 QSL cards, each one being mounted at its respective point of the compass. It is a neat display that some of you out there with the room to do so, might want to consider emulating in your shack. It's a great eye catcher and a good way to show DX to non-ham guests.

This was a fun visit and additional thanks to Steve for all of his help at the Visalia DX Convention.

73, Dick, W6KM

Do You Know Who This Is? - Answer!

So, how did you do?

The picture at the right, shown full size on page 4, was taken in 1984. The fellow in the chair was 0N4NC and was number 5 on the top of the Honor Roll with 365 confirmed at that time. His son, standing in the rear, has his call now. That's WB6KJE (now W6WZ) on the right. Note the "armstrong" antenna rotator, front left.

73, Mike, W6WZ



Editor's Choice

I've always been a bit fascinated by 160 meter operations, mainly because I know so darned little about it and partly because the people who are devoted to it are just *that*. They have a certain mystique about them that goes beyond the normal dedication to the hobby. When they have sufficient space, they put up huge antenna arrays and "beverages" for receiving. When they don't, they erect exotic looking antennas with huge capacitance hats and the like. Our March Meeting will focus on such things.

If you're "one of them", come take part in the discussion. If you're not — come anyway to learn what it's all about and see what makes 160 meter guys so weird.

Hope to see you there.

George, W6YD

For Sale

**Kenwood TS120S W/ CW filter
Very Clean - Works Good**

Only \$225.00

Contact Dick Letrich, W6KM

Tel: 408-267-2624

Email: dlw6km@aol.com

Kudos 'n Kredits

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

**W6JD, Doug Westover
W6KM, Dick Letrich
N6SF, Mark Gang
The Weekly DX
N6VAW, Marilyn Bagshaw
W6WZ, Mike Gavin**

Thank you, one and all!

George, W6YD

ANAHEIM, CA
(Near Disneyland)
533 N. Euclid St., 92601
(714) 532-7373
(800) 854-6046
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.
anaham@hamradio.com

BURBANK, CA
2416 W. Victory Bl., 91506
(818) 842-1786
(800) 854-6046
Eric, KA6IHT, Mgr.
Victory Blvd. at Buena Vista
1 mi. west I-5
burbank@hamradio.com

OAKLAND, CA
2210 Livingston St., 94606
(510) 534-5757
(800) 854-6046
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
oakland@hamradio.com

SAN DIEGO, CA
5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123
(858) 560-4900
(800) 854-6046
Tom, KM6K, Mgr.
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa
sandiego@hamradio.com

SUNNYVALE, CA
510 Lawrence Exp., #102
94085
(408) 736-9456
(800) 854-6046
Howard, KE6PWH, Mgr.
So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

NEW CASTLE, DE
(Near Philadelphia)
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720
(302) 322-7092
(800) 644-4476
Jim, KA3LL, Mgr.
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295
newcastle@hamradio.com

PORTLAND, OR
11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.
97223
(503) 598-9555
(800) 854-6046
Leon, N7LX, Mgr.
Tigard-99W exit
from Hwy. 5 & 217
portland@hamradio.com

DENVER, CO
8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231
(303) 745-7373
(800) 444-9476
Joe, KD8GA, Mgr.
John, N5EHP, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

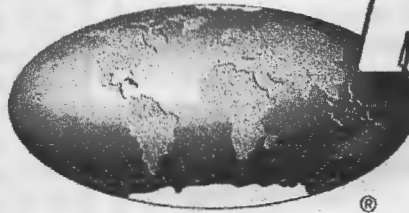
PHOENIX, AZ
1939 W. Denig Ave., 85021
(602) 242-3515
(800) 444-9476
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.
1 mi. east of I-17
phoenix@hamradio.com

ATLANTA, GA
6071 Buford Hwy., 30340
(770) 263-0700
(800) 444-7927
Mark, K4JVO, Mgr.
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285
atlanta@hamradio.com

WOODBRIDGE, VA
(Near Washington D.C.)
14803 Build America Dr. 22191
(703) 643-1063
(800) 444-4799
Steve, N4SR, Mgr.
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1
woodbridge@hamradio.com

SALEM, NH
(Near Boston)
224 N. Broadway, 03079
(603) 898-3750
(800) 444-0047
Chris, N1HC, Mgr.
sales@hamradio.com
Exit 1, I-93
28 mi. No. of Boston
saalem@hamradio.com

12 STORE BUYING POWER



HAM RADIO OUTLET

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

KENWOOD



TS-2000 HF/VHF/UHF TCVR
• 100W HF, 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM
• 10W 1.2 GHz w/optional UT-20 module
• IF Stage DSP • Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
• Backlit Front Key Panel

Low Intro Price!



TH-D7A(G) 2M/440

• 2M/440 Dual Band
• Built-in 1200/9600 Baud TNC
• APRS Compatible
• DX Packet Cluster Monitor
• 200 Memos, CTCSS
• VC-H1 Messaging Control

Low Pricing!



TH-D700A 2M/440 Dualband

• 50w VHF 35w UHF • Opt. Voice Synthesizer
• Receives 118-1300 MHz (cell blocked)
• Remote Head Inst. only (kit included)
• 200 Memories • Built in 1200/9600 baud TNC
• Advanced APRS Features
• DX Packet Cluster
• Tone Scan • GPS/VC-H1/PC Ports

COAST TO COAST FREE SHIPPING
GPS - Most Items Over \$100

Rapid Deliveries From The Store Nearest To You!

ICOM



IC-706MKIIG HF/MHF Transceiver

• All mode HF/6M/2M/70CM
• 100W HF/6M, 50W/2M, 20W/440 Mhz
• AF-DSP • Plug and Play Filters - No Soldering
• Easy-to-Navigate menus

Low Pricing!



IC-756 PRO II All mode Transceiver

• 160-6M @ 100W • Enhanced Rx performance
• 32 bit IF DSP • SSB/CW Synchronous tuning
• Enhanced 5 inch color TFT w/spectrum scope
• Selectable IF filter shapes for SSB & CW
• Multiple DSP controlled AGC loops
• Advanced CW functions
• 101 alphanumeric memories

The Ultimate Radio!

ALINCO



DJ-196T 2M/HF

• 5 Watt out
• 40 memories
• Alphanumeric display
• CTCSS + DCS built in
• "S" meter
• Auto Dialer

Low Pricing!



DR-135TP 2M mobile

• 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
• 100 memos • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
• Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
• CTCSS/DCS Encoder/Decoder built in

Low Pricing!

YAESU



VX-7R 50/2M/220/440 HT

• Wideband RX
• 300 Memories
• 5W TX (300mw 220Mhz)
• Li-Ion Battery
• Fully Submersible to 3 ft.
• Built-in CTCSS/DCS
• Internet WIRES compatible

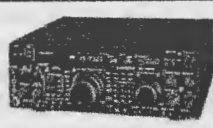
Great Price!



FT-100D HF/6M/2M/70CM Trans.

• Compact Transceiver w/detachable front panel
• Rx 100kHz to 9700kHz (cell blocked)
• Tx 100W 160-6M, 50w 2M, 20W 70CM
• Built-in DSP, Vex, CW keyer
• 300 Memories

Low Pricing!



FT-1000MP MKV HF Trans.

• Enhanced Digital Signal Processing
• Dual RX
• Collins SSB filter built-in
• 200W, External power supply

Low Pricing!