

DXer

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**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB**

February 15, 2007-Come join us for another great gathering of fellow club members which includes full range DX interest and experience! This monthly meeting presentation will be: “Ionospheric Propagation for Newcomers” by Dave Gomberg, NE5EE.

Most DX contacts use ionospheric propagation to pass signals from origin to sky reflection to surface (perhaps many times) and finally sky to destination. If you pay a little attention, you will observe that sun conditions, time of year, and time of day all influence this phenomenon. Learn about ionospheric propagation in a nutshell, in this brief talk that covers the basics. It will greatly enhance your understanding of the mysteries of propagation.

Big News for Our Club Member, Bob Vallio, W6RGG He, under the U.S. flag and a cast of operators whom you may read about on our website under “**Important Links- “Announced DX Operations”** will visit Scarborough Reef on April 20 for about 10 days. This is exciting news since BS7H is a rare one which great numbers of Dxers will be looking forward to adding to their list of countries.

Attention!! We need help at the Visalia ICDX Convention, April 27, 28 and 29th. It's fun to be a part of the whole experience! **And, we have jobs that may only be for 1 or 2 hours!!!**

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February Monthly Meeting
will be February 15th
at Harry's Hofbrau
Redwood City
Food 6:00-7:30
Meeting Follows
At 7:30
Hope to see you there!

**Deadline
For
March Contributions is
March 2nd, 2007**

See you February 15th!

February, 2007

Northern California DX Club

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Club Repeater, W6TI/R

Frequency/offset: 147.360 Mhz +, pl 110.9

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Control Operator: Robert Smithwick, W6CS

Maintenance: Peter Grabosky, W6OOL

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: Jim Abraham, W6EB

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

Hello Dxers,

What a terrific month or two for DX. I hope you were able to work one or both of the recent Lakshadweep operations, the XT2C from Burkino Faso, the S21XA Spanish Dxpedition to Bangladesh, J20MM/J20RR Djibouti team from Italy, the DX0JP Spratly Island op, ZD9BV from Tristan da Cunha and YV0 trip that will be on the air when you read this. I am just naming the Dxpeditions that come readily to mind. There were several other rare African countries such as J5 and 9Q on as well. I can't remember another time, when at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, there was such a bounty of DX on the air and workable! To top it off, it was announced today that our own Bob Vallio, W6RGG will lead an April trip to BS7 Scarborough Reef. BS7 is currently the most needed DX entity in the world and should be workable on multiple bands from Northern CA. As reported in the Daily DX, "Needed authorization has been received. A multi-national team led by W6RGG will operate from Scarborough Reef for ten days in late April 2007." This is great news. Go get 'em Bob! Visalia is shaping up to be one of the best ever. We have assembled an outstanding group of presentations of a number 2006/2007 DXpeditions as well as many fascinating technical sessions. There will be both a DX and a contest forum and a raffle featuring over \$25,000 in great prizes. Please take a look at our website at www.dxconvention.org for the latest details. The reason that we are able to put together such an outstanding convention is efforts of our dedicated staff who are working hard on all aspects of planning and executing the event. Many staffers have put tens of hours soliciting prizes, organizing the program, working registration issues, maintaining the website and planning the raffle. Recently I sent an email to club members asking for help selling raffle tickets, manning the registration table and helping with prize registration. We also need help with the Saturday Spouses Tour and with banquet table decorations. I was disappointed that only a single person volunteered to help. (See p. 5)

Editor's Reflections.....

Well, this is quite unusual but I have little to say. After composing many of the articles for this issue I am a bit talked out. Worked lots of good DX lately It has been fun with my Super Elmer, Mike, W6WZ. Also thanks John, W6YK, Gary, K6DXX, and Jim, K6AK.

73. Carolyn, WB6ABC



Welcome New Members:

1. Dave Gomberg, NESEE-Our February Speaker
2. Jim Davis, NN5EE-Avid DXer!

Our January, 2007 Meeting was a great surprise and delight for all who were present. While we had expected to view the Peter1 CD, which in itself is a great experience, an actual member of the DXpedition was present and he shared his own real life stories “live” to everyone’s pleasure who attended the January meeting. **Carlos, NP4IW/6 was an extremely enthusiastic presenter and **we all thank him** for sharing his daring and exciting experiences, which included his own photos with candid commentary. As you can observe from the photos below all members of the audience were very intensely interested. Seldom do we have a speaker with such dignity, charm and joyous enthusiasm! Lucky NCDXC January, 2007 club meeting attendees!!**



Carlos, NP4IW/6 in the midst of his unique eyeball QSO to all.



Steve, W6MKM, Mike, W6WZ, our Sec. intently listening to Carlos.



Craig, AE6RR, and Risto, W6RK our VP fully tuned in!



Jim Abraham, W6EB, enjoying this very special presentation.



Joe, N6IWJ, fellow member a regular meeting attendee.



Risto, W6RK, our VP, welcoming Carlos, NP4IW/6.



Visalia Update- International DX Convention-April 27, 8, 29.

This year this special event is sponsored by the Northern California DX Club. The conventions are shared every other year by the Northern and Southern DX Clubs. You can view the details of all kinds on the NCDXC website which includes the programs, events (banquets, etc.), raffle prizes and who's coming?

At this point we have 135 plus who have registered, but we expect between 600-700 attendees. **Be sure** to join us if you are a member of either club, but especially the NCDXC. We want and need everyone's participation to ensure others to rally to our enthusiasm and join together for this very special event!!!

All new members who may have not experienced the excitement of talking to countries all over our globe, this is your year! Our theme is "Helping Newbies is our Number 1 Job!" Many of our programs are directly aimed at the newcomer and we offer our help to "Get you on the air, especially on HF!!!" Check the NCDXC(Northern California DX Club) Websight for the:

1. Registration Form
2. Program of Events
3. Raffle Prizes-\$25,000 worth from of radios, antennas, etc.
4. Hotel information

Wow! Just writing this article arouses my enthusiasm and memories as I have attended 5 of them and I was never disappointed about my decision to join the fun. It's also a cool getaway from the daily mundane and at the same time meet for the 1st or 15th time a ham contact you originally met on the air. See you in April. This is no secret, but Martti Lane will be there and you can meet him "up close and personally."

73! See you in Visalia.....

Loyal DX Reporters are very welcome by all HF operators. I'd like to take this opportunity to give thanks to 3 Dxers who can be counted on by all fellow Dxers. First of all, John , K6YP, who notifies fellow hams both on the Thursday net, in person, and on the repeater.

Gary Cervo, K6DXX, is the "star of the show". He can be heard announcing repeatedly so as to remind others of his find every time he works a good DX contact and will even call on the phone to share the wealth. He has called WB6ABC numerous times to let her know that she better hit the airwaves to gnab a good one. Thank you Gary .

Jim Rice, K6AK, is not only hot on the motorcycle track (He's a past world champion motorcycle racer.), but he also shares his jewels with great speed as soon as he works a well sought after station. He is very clear and precise when he lets Mike, W6WZ and WB6ABC in on the catch of the day or evening! Thanks, fellow raffle guy.

President's Message-continued from p. 2

This is your club. Many of your friends are putting in hours of work to bring us all a great convention at Visalia. If you have a few hours to spare before the convention we could use your help. We especially need you help at the convention. Please support your club and join the Visalia team. Please contact me at k6yp@arrl.net if you can support the Visalia effort. Thanks and 73, John, K6YP

Right in Our Backyard-Am-Tech Day Probably Unique to almost any place anywhere in the ham world:

1. Occurs every month on a Saturday for 13 hrs. 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM, so that even if you have other events happening on the 1st (usually) Saturday of the month it may very well blend with those occurrences.
2. There is no better place for “newbies” to be “elmered” or well seasoned hams to elmer!
3. There are always stations set up for both HF and 2 meters, so you can enjoy either.
4. IT IS FREE!!!!
5. The site is beautiful! If it is cold, go inside and it is heated. If is hot, go inside and it is air conditioned!
6. You may bring your lunch and even enjoy it barbecued. There are lawns and beautiful trees so bring your children along.
7. Each month offers fellow hams with special knowledge, experience or just plain enthusiasm share their A beautiful auditorium is there for our use and they often have a presentation.

Go to the FARS Website for the most updated information. A quick link is www.am-tech.info. A map to the site at SLAC and the suggested equipment you may bring along with you is available.

Below are pictures of Am-Tech Day on Feb., 3rd, 2007 where a “free barbecue lunch” was served to 75 plus to celebrate the 29 previous Am-Tech Days as the 3rd Year at SLAC began on February 3, 2007.



Sophia, daughter of Rob, N2RAG, has joined us since she was 2-3 months.



Vic, AB6SO, and Don, N6MCE do some across the table DXing.



The lunch line formed about 12:15 All were very pleased.



At right, Dave Cooper, KE6PFF is greatly responsible for starting and maintaining Am-Tech Day!!!



Part of fellow hams greatly and graciously enjoying the lunch in honor of 24 months at SLAC!!!



Three Smilers. Peter, K6WEB, and Doug, KG6LWE, the COOKS. Mike, W6WZ, a regular.



When: Thursday, February 15, 2007

Food and Socializing from 6:00-7:30

Where: Harry's Hofbrau-Redwood City

What: Dave Gomberg, NE5EE: "Ionospheric Propagation for Newcomers"

What else?: Here are our current prizes for our February Raffle!!

1st Prize-HEIL Quiet Phone - Active Noise Canceling Headset-Soft leatherette cushions, High Fidelity Dual Channel Audio, Folds Flat

2nd Prize-Radio Shack Projection Weather Forecaster-Wireless-Projects both indoor and outdoor temperature. Predicts local weather patterns.

3rd Prize- Solar Power Flashlight-Energy Saving-It will last up to 12 hours after 10 hr. charge-On/off switch.

4th Prize- Workman HF Mobile 20 meter Hamstick Antenna

5th Prize- Electronic Sudoku-Enjoy the mental challenge on a neat wide screen.

3 Door Prizes-All meeting attendees receive a free raffle ticket at the door for the following 3 prizes:

1. 8 LED Metal Pushbutton Flashlight with Batteries
2. Handy Keychain Light
3. Kenwood Log Book

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