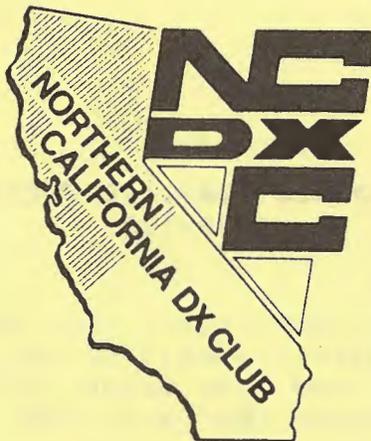


THE



DXer

JUNE 1985

VOL: XXVII NUMBER 6

THE JUNE MEETING

DATE: Friday, June 14, 1985

TIME: Cocktails - 6:00 PM
Dinner - 7:00 PM
MEETING - 8:00 PM
=====

PLACE: Harry's Hofbrau, Palo Alto. Take the Embarcadero turnoff to the Palo Alto Airport / Golf Course.

PROGRAM: 1) Nominating Committee report and ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

2) CLIPPERTON '85 an updated and expanded version of the slide presentation given in Fresno.

The Prez sez:

Once again the time has come to elect new NCDXC officers. The Nominating Committee will present its results for your consideration and voting pleasure at the June meeting. Their job has not been easy and I wish to express my thanks to the committee members for the job they have done.

The privilege of membership also involves the responsibility of taking part in club activities. And no activity is more important to the club and to you than voting for its officers. First to the club, because your inputs are needed to help select the best people available to fill the offices. And to you, because its your chance to be heard. There will be ample opportunity to make nominations from the floor, if you so desire. Its the one time when the voices of everyone in the pile-up will be heard on the first call.

Nothing would be more gratifying than to see a capacity crowd of members show up at the June meeting, all anxious to have their voices be heard. I hope to see you there.

Gud DXing,

Len, K6ANP

DON WALLACE
1898-1985

It is with deep sorrow and regret that we report the passing of Don Wallace, W6AM who died suddenly on May 25th. He was 86 and was known as "Mr. DX" and "The Grand Old Man of Amateur Radio." He had been licensed longer than any other living "ham" operator in the United States.

It is indeed difficult to paraphrase the life of so eminent a person as Don, because, in a sense, Don was larger than life itself. His life literally spanned the concept and development of Amateur Radio, in which he played such an important role.

He was born in Belview, Minnesota and moved to Long Beach with his family in 1906. He had lived there most of his life. Don became interested in amateur radio as a ten year old in Long Beach in 1909, when he built his first spark gap generator. He passed his 1st class operator license in 1912 and was issued the call 60C. In 1917 during World War I, Don joined the Navy and was assigned to station NPG in San Francisco. Soon afterwards, at the age of nineteen, he became a chief petty officer. At the conclusion of the war, Don became personal radio operator to the President serving aboard the presidential yacht *USS George Washington* for President Wilson's passage to the Versailles Peace Conference.

After the war, Don returned to Hamline College, graduated and five years later returned to Long Beach as a manufacturer's representative for E. F. Johnson and National Radio products. He acquired his Palos Verdes operating site in 1944 and the rest is history.

He had been at the top of the DXCC list for close to 30 years. He received the Hoover Cup in 1923 for having the "best all-around homemade radio station in the U.S.A." He was a member of the ARRL HALL OF FAME and the QCWA HALL OF FAME. Even though Don had won just about every award and honor in the DX field, he often stretched forth his hand to help beginners and champion their cause. Through the years, he has been an inspiration to all radio amateurs, but especially to those of us in the DX fraternity.

His key is now silent. We remember his zeal and enthusiasm. We mourn his loss.

1985 ST. BRANDON/3B7 EXPEDITION

by SMOAGD and LA7XB

Did you work a 3B7 in April this year?
If so, forget about it. You worked a pirate...

The expedition was on site but never came on the air. We spent five days at St. Brandon impatiently waiting for permission to operate, but never got it. Pirates seldom have license problems, so while we were waiting, a group of Brandon-Slims enjoyed themselves on the bands using a variety of 3B7 call signs.

In Dec. '84 we sent applications to authorities on Mauritius asking for permission to visit and operate from Mauritius, Agalega and St. Brandon. 3B8CF, Jacky was supposed to join us. He had operated from the all the islands before and saw no reason why he shouldn't again get permission.

In March SMOAGD received a letter from Telecommunications Dept. on Mauritius saying that a provisional license was granted and should be issued after our arrival to Mauritius.

We arrived on April 7th and visited the Telecomm's. Office the day after. Then they would only give us 3B8 licenses. We were told that visitors are not allowed on Agelega or St. Brandon.

With help of the Swedish Consul in Port Louis we were allowed to meet the Vice Prime Minister of Mauritius. We tried to explain all aspects of amateur radio, especially DXing, and why we came all the way just for this. He seemed to be understanding and promised to give us a reply within a few days. But days passed and we heard nothing from the authorities.

We met the skipper of an Australian yacht named AURA II. He had been to St. Brandon several times with scuba-divers of different nationalities and was planning a new trip with departure from Mauritius on April 21st. There was room on board also for us. We checked with the Immigrations Officers and they had no objections to our visit at St. Brandon. We thought Jacky should be able to operate as 3B7CF without involvement from the Telecomm's people. But on the last day before our departure, Jacky realized that not even he was authorized to operate from 3B7 without special permission. So he decided not to go. Thor, LA7XB and Erik, SMOAGD went. We were still waiting for a reply from the Prime Minister's office and if it was favorable, we wanted to be somewhere near St. Brandon ready to go ashore.

But time was getting short. We had to be back at Mauritius on May 2nd in order to catch our return flight to Europe. NCDXF and other organizations, also private hams all over the world sent telegrams to Mauritius asking the authorities to consider our application. Thank you, everybody. It was wonderful for us to learn about your support.

We arrived to St. Brandon after 77 hours onboard the yacht. We went ashore, but there was no permission waiting for us. We were able to operate from the boat "7MM" and got some information about a meeting in Port Louis. Hopefully, we should have a reply by Friday, April 26th. This gave us new hope. We went ashore and installed an antenna; a vertical 18AVT. We wanted to be QRV without delay if the permission should come. But nothing was heard.

Thor was considering staying another two weeks at the island and return on another boat, should the permission come in the last minute.

But on Monday, April 29th all hope was gone. We had to return to Mauritius.

We were very much disappointed. But we had met wonderful people at St. Brandon and we made many friends among the fishermen there. We learned a lot about their life and were able to participate in the daily activities just because we didn't spend all the time at the radio.

Thank you, everybody, for your interest in our expedition. Sorry we couldn't make it this time. We hope we will be able to work you another time.

73 de

LA7XB
Thor Rasmussen

UAGC

SMOAGD
Erik Sjolund

George

73 de

Erik

Rumors are that OH2BH, Martti Laine has again applied to operate from ZA ... operation to begin sometime in June if approved ... rumor has it, the new regime may smile favorably on his application ... As always, hope springs eternal.

ZC4CZ has been showing up regularly on 7020KHz at 0300-0400 UTC from the UK Sovereign Bases. Also, ZC4AB has been showing up with ZC4MR on the W7PHO "Family Hour" at 1600 UTC. The following is a list of valid ZC4 callsigns good for UK Sovereign Bases credit:

- ZC4:
- AB, AK, AKR, AM, ASG, AU, BI, BSG, CB, CI, CN, CS, CT, CW, CZ, DA, DY, EPI, ES, ESB, ESG, FE, GB, GM, HC, HMS, HS, ID, IK, IO, JB, JE, JH, JK, JU, JV, KF, LC, MR, MT, NL, PC, PM, RAF, RB, RM, RM, RP, SC, SJ, SS, TEN, TI, TX, UHF, VHF, WD, WW and ZN.
- (Txn WA6AHF, Rubin)

Word is that YA1KBL and UB4XWK/YA are reported to be showing up from Afghanistan ... no mention of time or freq.

Upper Volta, XP2BR has been showing up on 14227 MHz at 2100 UTC. Other operations from the African Continent are:

TR8DR	Gabon	14.198	2030 UTC
TZ6FE	Mali	14.185-188	0030 UTC
TL8KH	Cent Af Rep	14.210-215	2000 UTC
TU4BR	Ivory Coast	14.227	2200 UTC
A22DP	Botswana	14.153	1300 UTC
9Q5MA	Zayre	14.183	1900 UTC
9X5WP	Rwanda	14.163	1800 UTC
"	"	14.270	2030 UTC
5H3HM	Tanzania	14.200	1800 UTC
"	"	3.780	0300 UTC
JY9RW	Jordan	14.130-150	1400 UTC

A month long operation from TT8 is scheduled for July ... details sketchy ... reportedly a group from the U.K. ...

The Egyptian Amateur Radio Society is QRV most Fridays and Saturdays from 1700 to 2100 UTC on 14.175 or 14.275 ... other bands as propagation dictates ... this from SU1ER via WD6EKR, Walt. Txn.

Other hot DX currently QRV is;

UA1OT	Franz Jos Land	14.180-185	1200 UTC
FR5DX	Reunion Is	14.203	2030 UTC
ZD8KM	Ascension Is	14.050	2100 UTC
CE0FQV	Easter Is	14.190	0100 UTC
CE0ZIG	" "	7.010	0300-0800 UTC
FKOAE	New Caledonia	14.270	0730 UTC
FKOAT	" "	14.020-030	0600 UTC

The full story of the ill fated 3B7 DX-pedition appears on the preceding page.

NCDXC 1985 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The 1985 membership survey is now history. Only 98 responses were received from the 400 surveys mailed. And not all questions were answered on those. The demographics of the respondents are:

Average years as a member.....10.3
 5 to 9 yrs..... 33%
 10 to 14 yrs..... 15%
 15 to 24 yrs..... 19%
 25 or more yrs..... 8%
 Average no. of mtgs attended in last 12 mo's... 4.7
 Average no. of nets listened to last 12 mo's... 23

The following is a summary of responses to each survey question, "1" being low and "10" being high;

<u>QUESTION</u>	<u>NO. OF RESPONSES</u>	<u>AVERAGE RATING</u>
1. Effectiveness of Board leadership & direction.....	98	8.2
2. Board communication with general membership.....	97	8.0
3. Programs at monthly meetings....	83	8.1
4. Club repeater operations.....	92	8.4
5. Thursday night net.....	86	7.9
6. Club activities:		
a. Picnic.....	49	7.9
b. Xmas party.....	48	7.4
c. Contesting.....	76	7.1
7. Monthly club meetings.....	84	8.0
8. How do you rate the DX'er?.....	98	8.5

Interpretation of the above is left to the reader. And there will probably be as many interpretations as there are readers. Have fun with the statistics and please feel welcome to discuss your interpretation with any member of the board.

SUNNYVALE VEC

W6NLG, Gordon advises your DX'er Staff that a meeting of all VEC's will be held in Gettysburg on August 9, 1985. If you have anything you want conveyed to the FCC, please let him know. Another item of interest is the latest call signs issued:

TECH/GENERAL.....N6LZK.
 ADVANCED.....KG6TI.
 EXTRA.....WG6T.

**DEADLINE FOR THE JULY DX'er IS;
 JUNE 28, 1985.**

HEARD ON THE REPEATER

1st voice: W6TI, this is ... can anyone tell me the basic unit of overseas airmail postage ... ?
 2nd voice: Forty-four cents...
 1st voice: Was that forty-four?
 2nd voice: Roger! Four-four; four-four.
 One, two, three, four.
 One, two, three, four.
 QSL?
 1st voice: I QSL the four-four. You are also four-four. Back to Net.
 3rd voice: That's a good contact...

THAT "LEAP SECOND"

For a couple of months now, WWV has been announcing that on June 30, a "Leap Second" will be added to their time markers. This one-second addition will bring Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) into closer agreement with Universal Time (UT1).

Universal Time (UT1), or astronomical time, can be called mean solar time at the Greenwich Meridian. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) runs at the rate of what is known as International Atomic Time (TAI). Because the Earth's rotation is slowed by tidal friction, UT1 loses about one second per year relative to UTC. "Leap Seconds" are inserted into UTC on June 30 or December 31, so that the difference UT1-UTC never exceeds 0.7 seconds.

This difference, in tenths of a second, is coded into WWV's time ticks. If UT1 is ahead of UTC, double ticks begin at the one-second mark of each minute. If UT1 is behind UTC, the double ticks begin at the nine-second point. The double ticks increased from three to four (the 9, 10, 11 & 12 ticks) on May 1. After June 30 (when WWV will transmit a 61-second minute - between 23:59:00 and 00:00:00) double ticks will start appearing on the 1 second mark again.

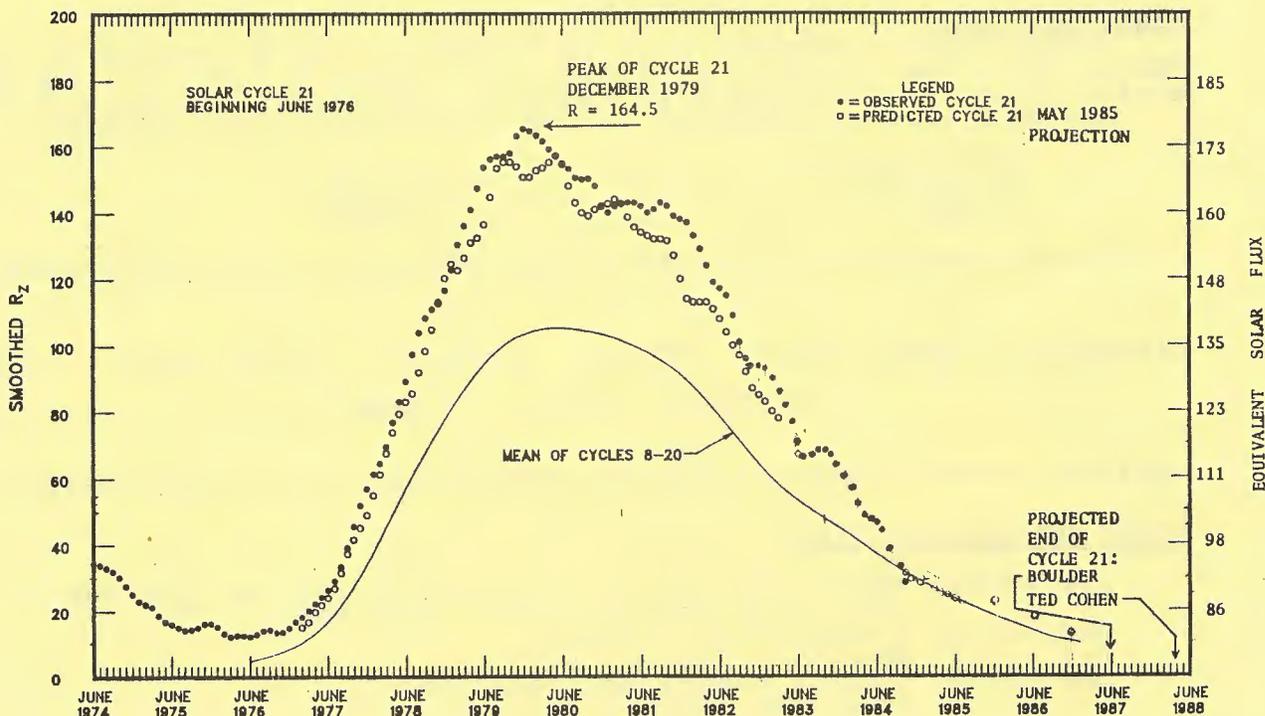
When listening to WWV on 15 MHz, we often hear other Standard Frequency stations. RID, Irkutsk, and BPM, at Xian, have been heard recently. Their double tick format agrees with ours, but they also insert some additional noises.

Remember, your station clock gets set back one second on July 1st. I seem to remember that, at times in the past, the power company has somehow winkled in 60 extra cycles to do the adjustment for us. Of course, if you have your own quartz clock, the power company won't do this adjustment for you.

This "Leap Second" thing seems to be a useless sort of bother, but if we didn't put them in regularly, we'd someday find the sun straight overhead at 10:00 p.m.!

W6RQ

OBSERVED AND ONE-YEAR-AHEAD PREDICTED SMOOTHED SUNSPOT NUMBERS



12-MONTH RUNNING AVERAGE PLOTTED
THROUGH OCT 1984 (Apr 1985 $R_z = 16.1$)

5-17-85 W6RQ

*World Data Center A for
Solar-Terrestrial Physics*

NCDXC MEETING OF May 10, 1985

Held at Harrys Hof Brau, Palo Alto

OFFICERS: Pres., Len Gerald, K6ANP; Present

V.P. , Lou Beaudet, K6TMB; Absent

Sec. , Dick Letrich, WB6WKM; Present

Tres., Lyle Meek, N6BLN; Present

Meeting was opened at 7:49 PM by the President. Guests were W6REC-Duane, and the XYL of Bob Thompson.

Len relayed that the latest Extra call sign just received was "WG6H".

The program was the Club Survey. It was reported that over 400 were mailed out and that only 98 were returned, about 25%. A very detailed presentation along with excerpts was shown by slide. Len has put forth many hours to prepare this. Details of the returns were discussed by all present. (See details elsewhere in the DX'r) Many good comments and suggestions were offered.

The first reading for prospective member W6TJM-Dave Angel was read and Dave introduced himself. Dave presented with his application a copy of his 61.9 WPM Certificate of Achievement, awarded by the "The Connecticut Wireless Association" !

Ham Radio Outlet donated a set of call books and they were won by our guest W6REC-Duane.

KR60-Steve asked that the PL be turned off to allow non-members to announce DX, this was followed by a number of ideas. W6DU-Eric then suggested that it be passed on to the board. Steve agreed.

K6LM-Jim suggested that the Thursday nite net be moved up to 9:00 PM for the summer months. It was then given to the board to look into.

N6ST-Steve has many souvenir mugs left over from the DX Convention in Fresno and is making them available at a reasonable price..Steve says "make me an offer that I can't refuse".

The meeting then adjourned at 9:38

Submitted by Dick Letrich, WB6WKM Sec.

NCDXC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING of May 14, 1985 was held at the home of W6VG-Ron.

Officers: Pres. Len, K6ANP; Present, V.P. Lou; Present, Sec. Dick, WB6WKM; Present, Tres. Lyle, N6BLN; Present, Sr. Past Pres. Chuck, K6RK; Present, Dir. Pete, WB6OOL; Present, Dir. Bob, K6SSJ; Absent, Repeater Chair. Charlie, W6ZYC; Excused.

The meeting started at 7:15 PM. The first topic was the Preliminary report of the International DX convention. N6ST-Steve passed on the following numbers. Net profit is expected to be \$1340.22 and that 436 were pre-registered, aprox 60 were registered on site. Cost of prizes \$2661.00 and the cost for the cocktail partys were:- Friday nite \$1400 and Saturday nite \$1600. The Board thanked Steve and his helpers for a fine job.

Pres. Len then requested the status of the Non Profit club mailing. Dick then reported that he hoped to have it firmed up by the end of May.

The entire club membership including old and new calls as well as anyone that has ever been a member has been reduced in print size and is now printed on a small piece of paper that will go into a QSL without adding weight, copys will be available from the club at no charge by sending a S.A.S.E. to the club P.O. Box and requesting same.

It was asked by K6LM-Jim to consider changing the on the air Thursday night meeting to 9:00 PM during the summer months. The Board decided to put it up for a mailing vote via the DXer. This will test the response and make it fair to all as well as find out if mail in voting in the future is practical. Details elsewhere in the DXer.

The B o D voted to change the annual picnic date up to Sept. to see that the WX is more predictable. We are lucky again to have the services of W6TEX-Bill as the Chairman.

The topic of the Repeater PL was churned about again, the pros and cons along with the fact some members are not willing to purchase PL units and feel that we should turn it off so "visiting DXers can use the repeater. Non members can make DX announcements" etc. After a long discussion it was voted by 100% of the Board to leave it on.

Len has decided to create a long term advisory committee to work on the input of the membership survey It will consist of 5 members.

Len had hoped to leave office with the picnic and Christmas party chairman in place in order to help the next President, but no one who has been asked to assume the Xmass party has accepted. If you are willing please contact Len ASAP.

Due to the ever increasing costs of mailing and handling club benifits, it was moved by Dick to increase the Absentee membership dues to \$15.00, This was passed 100% by the Board.

Submitted by Dick Letrich, WB6WKM

PROPOSED NET CHANGE

A suggestion to change the starting time of the Thursday night net from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM while daylight saving time is in effect is being put up to a vote of our members. This time, however, we'll be trying a new way to vote. On this page you will find a ballot. All you have to do is enter your vote and your callsign (so we know you're a voting member). Then clip it out and mail it in. It's as simple as that!

Please be sure to vote on the issue, since this will be an indication of how successful this voting method could be for future applications. It could be an important voice for those of you in remote locations. Ballots should be postmarked on or before JUNE 28, 1985 to be valid.

NCDXC BALLOT

Shall the starting time of the NCDXC Regular Thursday Night Net be changed to always begin at 0400 UTC?

YES **NO** **CALL** _____

Mail ballot to:

NCDXC
PO BOX 608
MENLO PARK, CA 94026

ANNOUNCING

DUES DUES DUES DUES



Your 1985-86 DUES are NOW due. Help us avoid the problems of late dues: take the time to complete the form below and mail it with your \$15.00 to:

NCDXC
P.O. Box 608
Menlo Park, CA. 94026

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP: _____

make checks payable to NCDXC: be sure your CALL is on your check

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB INC., P.O. Box 608, Menlo Park, CA 94026

The DXer is the bulletin of the NCDXC and is published monthly for the benefit of the club members, Permission to use any portion of this publication is hereby granted, provided credit is given to The DXer.

NCDXC OFFICERS

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VICE PRES	LOU BEAUDET	K6TMB
SECRETARY	DICK LETRICH	WB6WKM
TREASURER	LYLE MEEK	N6BLN
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Santa Rosa, CA 95405

NCDXC REPEATER:W6TI/R

TRUSTEE	BOB VALLIO	W6RGG
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REPEATER COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:	CHARLIE KUMP	W6ZYC
Input Frequency:		147.96 MHz
Output Frequency:		147.36 MHz
Suggested Simplex:		147.54 MHz

NCDXC THURSDAY NIGHT NET

On W6TI/R Thursday at 8:00 PM

NET CONTROL:

DX NEWS:	Phil Garrahan	W6LQC
PROPAGATION:	Al Lotze	W6RQ
WEST LINK:	George Allan	WA6O
CONTEST NEWS:	Ted Algren	KA6W
SWAP SHOP:	Dick Letrich	WB6WKM
QSL INFO:	Jay O'Brien	W6GO

NCDXC DX BULLETIN BROADCASTS

W6TI, the NCDXC Memorial Station broadcasts DX bulletins each Sunday at 1800 GMT or Monday at 0200 GMT on 14.002 MHz

W6TI Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG



P.O. Box 608,
Menlo Park, CA 94026

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