

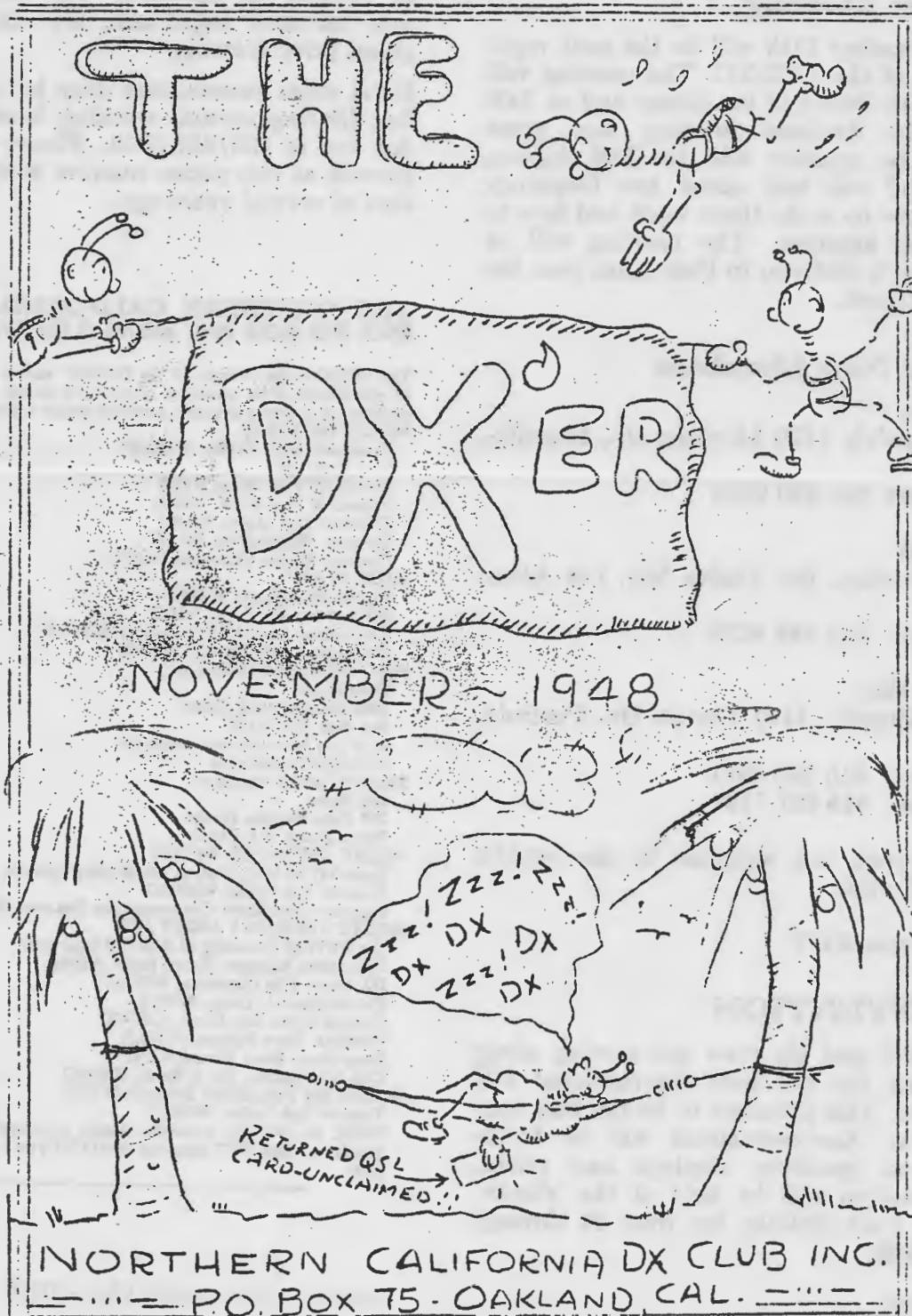
THE



DXer

NOVEMBER 1988

VOL XLI - NUMBER 11



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB INC.
— P.O. BOX 75 - OAKLAND, CAL. —

NOVEMBER 1988 VOL XLI - NUMBER 11

November Events

Nov. 11 - Regular meeting of the NCDXC, Palo Alto.

Nov. 25-27 - CQ World Wide DX CW contest.

Nov. 28 - **Deadline for December DXer input.**

November Meeting

Friday, November 11th will be the next regular meeting of the NCDXC. The meeting will start at about 6:00 PM for dinner and at 7:00 PM for the business meeting and guest speaker. The speaker will be Ted Algren, KA6W. Ted will talk about low frequency antennas, how to make them work and how to build a loop antenna. The meeting will be held at Harry's Hofbrau in Palo Alto, near the Palo Alto airport.

Welcome New Members

KI6EZ, Alex

Alex Rabinovich, 1170 Mustang Dr., Danville, CA 94526

Home Phone: 415 820 9364

K6YT, Fred

Fred F. Canham, 691 Casita Wy, Los Altos, CA 94022

Home Phone: 415 948 9238

WB6OHH, Bob

Robert J. Murphy, 1172 Temple Dr., Pacheco, CA 94553

Home Phone: 415 680 6571

Work Phone: 415 827 7198

Congratulations and welcome to the world's greatest DX club.

Thomas F. Jones, K6TS

DX CONVENTION

Bill, W6TPH and his crew are moving along in preparing for the next International DX Convention. This promises to be the best convention yet. Announcements will be forthcoming on speakers, displays and prizes. The Convention will be held at the Visalia, CA, Plaza Park Holiday Inn from 21 through 23 April 1989.

Advance registration may be made through KE6ZE (David Engle, 1063 Summerwood Ct., San Jose CA 95132) and a SAE would be appreciated. Advance registration fee is \$ 40 (\$ US) until 20 March 1989. The registration fee is \$ 45 after 20 March 1989 and for on site registration. Make checks payable to "1989 International DX Convention". You are urged to register in advance. For encouragement, only advance registrants are eligible for the grand prize drawing.

Hotel room reservations may be made by calling (during normal working hours) the Holiday Inn at 209/651-5000. Please update your records as this phone number is different from that of several years ago.

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB, INC. PO BOX 608, MENLO PARK, CA 94026

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

NCDXC OFFICERS

President: Jerry Griffin, W8MEP

Vice President:

Secretary: Tom Jones, K6TS

Treasurer: Stan Kuhl, K6MA

Director: Ted Algren, KA6W

Director: Hal Godfrey, N6AN

Director: Chuck Patterson, K6RK

DXER STAFF

Editor: Dave Engle, KE6ZE

DX Ladder: Jim Hicks, KK6X

Production: Martin Oppenheimer, KB6BW

Production: Ron Pantan, W6VG

Send *DXER* contributions to:

Dave Engle

1063 Summerwood Court

San Jose, CA 95132

or, if you have internet access, to:

engle@ford-wd11.arpa

Send DX ladder reports to:

Jim Hicks

737 Vista Pacifica Circle

Pismo Beach, CA 93449

NCDXC REPEATER W6TI/R

Input 147.36 Mhz; Output 147.96 Mhz; Simplex 147.45 Mhz

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Repeater Committee Chairman: Lou Beaudet, K6TMB

NCDXC THURSDAY NIGHT NET

On W6TI/R Thursday at 8:00 PM local time.

Operations Manager: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q

DX News: Phil Garrahan, W6LQC

Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ

Contest News: Bob Dorset, K4UVT

Westlink: Dave Bottom, KD6AZ

Swap Shop: Steve Munro, KZ6Z

QSL Information: Jan O'Brien, K6HHD

NCDXC DX BULLETIN BROADCASTS

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

W6TI, the NCDXC memorial station broadcasts DX bulletins each Sunday at 1800 PST (Monday 0200 UTC) on 7.015 Mhz and 14.002 MHz.

Editorial

With the present CRPL Predictions as they are, this would indeed be a good time to get the rig working on all bands with all the bugs ironed out. Especially with the coming DX Contest which before we know it will be upon us again.

By entering the CQ Contest, many of the gang were able to find out a few things which will help in the next DX Contest. Also may we add, the Sweepstakes is a contest which of it's very nature will help our operating practises and show us some of the limitations of our rigs or our antennas or just what needs to be done to help out before it's too late.

Last year, the club finished **THIRD** nationally in the ARRL DX Contest which is not too bad for a club but two years old. Our score in the last contest was double that of the year previous and we did not have a couple of our key men on the air.

The next contest should see us all better prepared and with a greater number of stations in there pitching away. Even if we do not finish on top we at least will let a few of the other clubs know that they cannot let up for one minute as we fully expect to be right in there punching.

So Gang, now is the time to get going. For Heavens sakes, don't try to rebuild a week before the contest. And be sure all the guys are tight so the sky hook doesn't come down at an inopportune time. **BE PREPARED.** Which reminds us of one of the club members whose wife was expecting. She was asked to please have it either **BEFORE** or **AFTER** the contest. Being a nice gal, she obliged. It happened **AFTER** the contest. HI.

W6PB - Editor, November 1948

de KE6ZE

Well how many of you figured out the editorial (above) was from the November 1948 *DXER* before getting this far? Future *DXERs* will try to carry something from the first year or so of the *DXER*. The covers of the past *DXERs* are rather clever and will be used as covers on each issue as possible. The old covers will be reduced and inset under the

currently used *DXER* banner. Alternatively, the whole cover could be used as is from the originals. A page footer and header can be added to update the information contained on the header, although it may be confusing. Let the editor know what you prefer.

Best regards and good DX, Dave

Well folks, its time for the truth. W8MEP has been found out. He has been sending a ringer to the meetings. Be on the look out for the real W8MEP. His self portrait follows.



Has anybody actually seen this guy?

Lighten up, Dude, or Take a Chill Pill

Or so my offspring would tell me when I got too close to the real problem, just to throw me off the track! I have said many things in the last several months concerning a host of subjects and problems, and my points of view are known to them. I wanted to take some time away from those concerns and let some time (tincture of time?) pass by so we can all relax and sort things out and perhaps get another perspective.....Sooooo, jetzt ist es Zeit ein bischen Schnapps und Gemuetlichkeit zu geniessen! Where are those new DXCC countries--let me at 'em! My neighbors are on vacation-- can run the amplifier! As soon as

the 4W or 3D2XX are on, I KNOW they'll be back.....

I think Dave, KE6ZE, did an outstanding job with the last DX'er--I can't wait for the next one! Other kudos: Steve, W6MKM, with his continuing excellent support as the Club raffle and special events coordinator; W6TPH and his gang of renown on their marvelous progress in planning what will be the most truly outstanding event of the year--VISALIA, 1989; W6GO & K6HHD, Jay & Jan, with their continuing availability after Club Net with timely and valuable QSL info; AG6Q and his quiet but superbly effective net management crew: (Anyone interested in taking over Swap Shop? KZ6Z has had it for over 3 years, has done a herculean task and is getting ready to pass it on to the next 'trader?'); I could go on and one, but suffice it to say, WE ALL DEEPLY APPRECIATE all the efforts by everyone in the Club. Your efforts make us truly what we are today. The BOD also does a great job of keeping me awake and on the righteous path at the BOD meetings-hihi

The PICNIC was last month at Coyote Point, and boy, was it fun! About 50-60 people were there, and a great time was had by all! A lot of prizes were raffled off, with special prizes for the YLs. The White Elephant Auction was a success, with all getting into the spirit of bidding. And we all know how difficult it is to get money from hams (blood from a turnip?). Uncle Vern went home with an empty wallet but trunk filled....KB6ZV, our august Pacific Division Director was there also, and ate charcoal along with the rest of us.....but no one found the transmitter! What happened?

KG6GF, Larry, was presented to you all at the October meeting for ratification as Vice President.....He has promised exciting programs for our meetings, and is anxious to get into the swing of things.....

Ssssoooo, was this light enough? Ganz bestimmt, you say-OK! Pay your dues, join in, give me and the BOD your ideas and support--we need each other. See you at Harry's!

73/DX, Jerry, W8MEP

NCDXC Notes

During the October 14th Meeting, the NCDXC raffle winners and prizes were:

Heil Headset with Mike -- K6MA
ARRL Antenna Manual -- K6MA
1000 NCDXC QSL Cards -- WG6P

The NCDXC Memorial contributions to the Northern California DX Foundation in the amount of \$425.00 each for Silent Key NCDXC members Bill Webb, NK6H, and Howard Sweezet, W6TZA, have been made. Additionally, their families have been notified by Foundation letters of the NCDXC's donation.

K6TS, Tom, NCDXC Secretary

Picnic

To those of you who missed the Club picnic at Coyote Point in San Mateo on September 25th, you missed an afternoon of good food, good will and a lot of eyeball QSO. At last count, there were more than 40 in attendance--members, families and friends. The Bar-B was hot, and oh that smoke sure made the salivary glands flow.

Plenty of liquid refreshments helped to wash down the good food. The afternoon was moderate with little wind so everyone was comfortable.

The highlight of the day was when Uncle Vern, W6ERS, hid the 2-meter transmitter so effectively that after an hour no one found it. Vern showed where it was hidden just to prove one was there. I want to thank Don Seymour, W6WRV, from the San Mateo Radio Club, who with his XYL watched over the transmitter location for security reasons. Don even won the ARRL Handbook in the raffle.

Speaking of the raffle, we had bunches of prizes, a dozen or more, if I recall. Ticket sales came to over \$150. Some, but not all winners in the raffle (my apologies to those who are missed) were: Uncle Vern, N6AN, KG6XF, KA6W, K2ITG, K16WF, KG6GF, K6ITL. Ladies prizes went to XYLs of K6ITL, W6BIP, and W6VR and others to whom I apologize for missing.

Our thanks to HRO for the donation of the YAESU world clock, which incidentally was to be the hidden transmitter prize but wound up in the raffle. To Rod Stafford, the ARRL PAC, DIV, DIR, for his donation of several league publications. To N6AN for the donation of a pair of 4-65's. To W6BIP for a goodly length of high quality coax.

Our trusty Pres, W8MEP, did a yeoman job opening up the pockets of some members for the White Elephant Auction. All of the proceeds from the Auction went to the Club treasury.

Good DX and 73, W6MKM

Treasurer's Report

October 1 - 31, 1988

Checking Account Activity

September Check Balance	\$5,300.31
Deposits from Dues	1,190.00
Other Receipts	542.00
Subtotal	\$7,033.31
Accounts Payable	-1,747.36
Current Balance	\$5,285.95

Bank of America Savings 10/19/88 \$10,982.17
(Includes reserve for QSL Purchase)

Certificate of Deposit \$7,481.51
American Savings & Loan - One
year @ 7.4% Annual Yield

Both the Federal Form 990 Exempt Income Tax Return and the California Exempt Organization Annual annual return for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1988 were completed by Vince Chinn, K6KQN, signed by the Treasurer and mailed this month.

San Kuhl, K6MA, Treasurer

ARRL DX Bulletin

The following DX bulletin was pulled off the net and is being used as is, even though some of the operations are now history the QSL routes are still of interest. Your editor has heard most all of these QSL routes being asked for on the W6TI repeater.

HR DX BULLETIN NR 42 ARLD042 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS NEWINGTON CT OCTOBER 21, 1988 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

THANKS TO KB1BE AND THE CONNECTICUT DX ASSOCIATION FOR THE FOLLOWING DX INFORMATION.

VIETNAM. A POSSIBLE MULTIOperator HUNGARIAN OPERATION FROM VIETNAM, BEGINNING OCTOBER 21 OR 22 AND LASTING FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, IS THE NUMBER ONE HOPE OF MANY DXERS THIS WEEK. QSL 3W8DX TO BOX 271, VIENNA, AUSTRIA 1140 AND 3W8CW TO BOX 131 WITH TWO IRCS PER CARD FOR RETURN POSTAGE.

NIGER. BALDUR, DJ6SI, WILL OPERATE FROM OCTOBER 24 TO NOVEMBER 6 WITH THE UNUSUAL COMMERCIAL CALL OF 5UV386, WHICH CAN COUNT FOR DXCC IF HIS LICENSE MENTIONS AMATEUR RADIO, AS HAS HAPPENED WITH BALDUR PREVIOUSLY. THE OPERATION WILL BE MAINLY ON CW. QSL TO BALDUR DROBNICA, ZEDERWEG 6, D 5010 BERGHEIM, WEST GERMANY.

MORE NIGER. ALAN, TU4BR/5U7 IS STILL ACTIVE ON SSB AND CW, ESPECIALLY ON WEEKENDS, ON 10, 15 AND 20 METERS. QSL TO KN4F.

...

MOZAMBIQUE. C9MKT, KEN, IS SCHEDULED TO BE OPERATIONAL OCTOBER 21 THROUGH 23. QSL TO SM5KDM.

SOUTH GEORGIA. TONY, VP8BRR, IS STILL ACTIVE AROUND 2200Z ON 14236 KHZ SEVERAL TIMES A WEEK, BUT WILL BE LEAVING THE ISLAND SOON. BUT STEVE, VP8BUB, WILL BE ON BIRD ISLAND IN THE SOUTH GEORGIA CHAIN FOR OVER A YEAR. CONDITIONS ARE GETTING BETTER, WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTS ON BOTH 15 AND 10 METERS. EARLIER THIS WEEK, THE U.S. WEST COAST DID GET THROUGH. ALL QSLs GO VIA HAZEL, G4YLO.

AMSTERDAM ISLAND. DANNY, FT5ZB, IS OPERATIONAL DAILY ON EITHER 28027 OR 28527 KHZ STARTING AROUND 1245Z. QSL TO F6ESH.

OMAN. THE ROYAL OMANI AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY REPORTS A NEW PREFIX STRUCTURE FOR OMAN. A41 CALLS WILL BE LOCAL OMANI STATIONS, A43 WILL BE SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS, A45 WILL BE EXPATRIATES AND VISITORS AND A47 WILL BE CLUB STATIONS.

WALLIS ISLAND. OH1RY AND OH2BAZ WILL OPERATE FROM FW8 TROUGH OCTOBER 31.

ECUADOR. NE8Z WILL BE ACTIVE FROM QUITO AS HC1MD. HE WILL OPERATE SOME RTTY AND OSCAR. QSL VIA K8LJG.



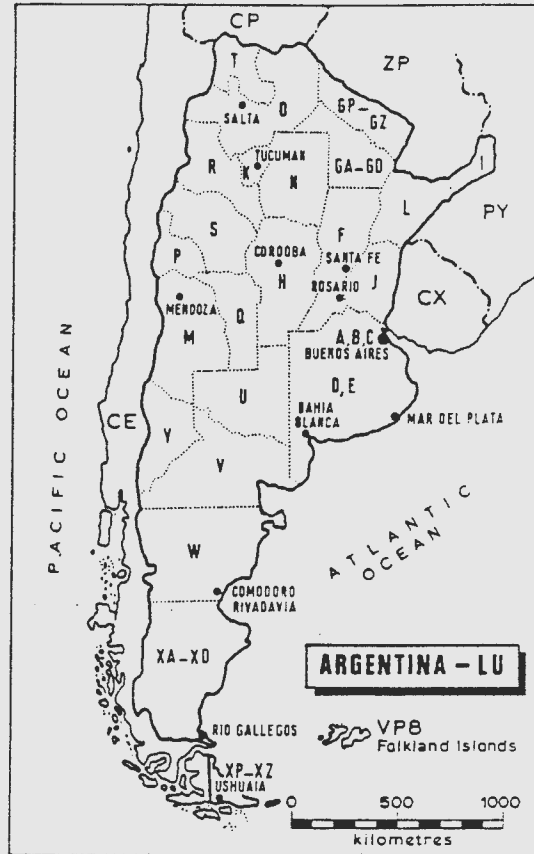
Run across this guy in any pile ups recently?

1989 Callbooks

The cover price for the two books is \$55. For \$50, we will send you both in a packing crate for a Sherman Tank (well, almost) so they will reach you in pristine shape. We want you to be the first on your block with a set of new callbooks, so send your check NOW so that yours will be in the first shipment in late November. Add \$9 (\$59 total) if you want the supplement sent to you in June 1989. This is also a good time to start or renew your subscription to the W6GO/K6HHD QSL MANAGER list. Add \$20 for one year or \$40 for 25 issues. All prices are for USA addresses.

Jay & Jan O'Brien
 The W6GO/K6HHD List
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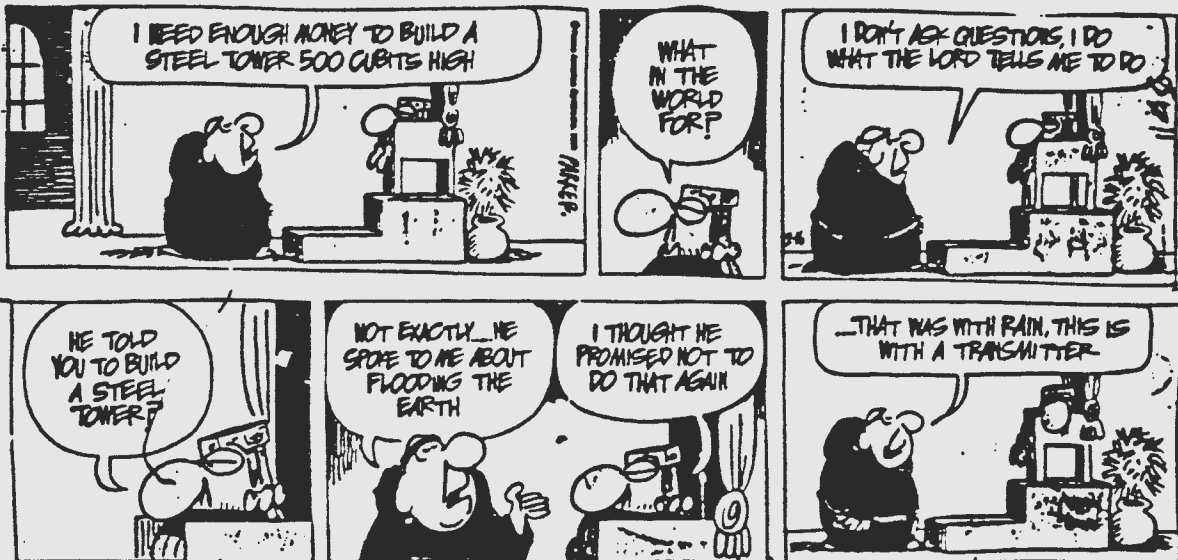
Where Was That Guy?

Another question answered about the DX on the other end of that last QSO. What the location of that guy within his country? or how much power he could run? Well thanks to the RSGB here is another answer.

ARGENTINA (Argentine Republic)

ITU allocation: L2A-L9Z, AYA-AZZ, L0A-LWZ.
 Callsign system: LU1-9 fixed stations, LU0 mobile stations. For call areas see map (letters shown are the first serial letter(s)).
 Licence notes: Five licence classes: Special: all bands, 1kW dc input. Superior: all bands, 1kW dc input. General: all bands, 1kW dc input. Intermediate: vhf, restricted hf, cw only, 100W dc input. Novice: 3.5MHz and vhf, cw only, 50W.
 Foreign amateur operation: Call is OWN CALL/LU. Countries: USA, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Peru, Chile, Uruguay.
 National society: Radio Club Argentino, Carlos Calvo 1420.24, 1102 Buenos Aires.
 Licensing administration: Direccion Nacional de Telecomunicaciones, Seccion Radioaficionados, Sarmiento 141, 1000 Buenos Aires.

THE WIZARD OF ID



*"The Time Has Come,"
the Walrus Said,
"to Talk of Many Things ..."*



Letters to the Editor

Facts, what facts? These are opinions expressed here. Any clod can have the facts, it is an art to have an opinion.

Herb Cain, with some liberties taken.

The Adventures of Jerry and Larry

Episode: The Ugly Duckling

Dateline: Harrogate, North Yorkshire, England

Jerry and Larry set out to construct a facsimile of a rubber-duck antenna for 160 meter work (as seen in recent issue of Ham Radio Magazine). Not having the exact components specified in the magazine article, we set about

to make-do with what was at hand.

In place of a 4-inch diameter PVC pipe 20 feet long, we found a 12-foot piece of 6-inch diameter NON-METALLIC(?) sewer pipe. So begin reasonably astute, we calculated the length of wire from the original design, guess-ti-mated at the inductance, and wound on the same amount of wire onto the larger pipe (a little amateurish, but sounds good, anyway).

The original article required 16-gauge wire, but we found a large quantity of 24-gauge and used that instead (well, wire is wire, isn't it?). Capacity top-loading hat...requires copper screen 2-feet by 4-feet. We can make ours out of some old aluminum angle stock from the junk box...only need a few pf, anyway.

Radials?...lots of long ones are required. We found some old telephone twisted-pair, shielded stuff in the junk box, so that ought to do...right? So we laid out two long wires in a couple of directions...real long...longer is better...length doesn't matter, does it?

Let's see...the magazine article says that the antenna should be erected in a clear area so as not to be detuned by surrounding elements... ummmmm, next to the shack ought to do just fine...never mind all the other metal junk laying above and below the ground.... Time to get the whole contraption in the air. Damn rain and electrical storm... 'Hey, Jerry, got your brawley?' Up she goes! OK, let's hook up the coax... 'where's the coax, Jerry?', 'Uh, look in the old junk box, OM.' OK, found some surplus coax, 350-OHM stuff, that ought to do. Hey, its got a funny connector already on it. Use an adapter...about six adapters in series and we finally get from the funny one to a PL-259.

To the fanfare of trumpets, we finally hook it to the rig... 'Let's see...160 meters, right?...Funny, don't hear anything...well try loading it, anyway.' Hmmm, doesn't seem to load on 160, let's try another band...80, nope.... 40, yea! I can hear a weak signal...must be far off from the sound of it....

FB COPY OM - RIG RUNNING 400 WATTS HERE ES MY QTH IS HARROGATE DE G0... K

ummm 'Must be some weird band conditions.....let's try another band.'

And so it went... Yes, we did finally make one contact, and it was on 40-meters, too, all the way to Germany! So I asked for a signal report comparison between the vertical Ground Plane and the Rubber Duck....GP-599, RD-239... 'I just don't understand, Jerry, this thing ought to really get out FB...do you suppose we did something wrong?

73 de Jerry, GOCLY, Harrogate, England

220

September 24, 1988

Representative Edward J. Markey Telecomms and Finance Sub-committee Room 316 H. Annex II, Attn: Jerry Salemme Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Markey:

The FCC, against almost all advice and against over 6000 comments submitted to the commission, has ruled for a narrow commercial interest and against over 500,000 Americans. On August 4 of this year, in a "Notice of Proposed Rulemaking", the FCC proposed to remove from the Amateur Service a large part of its radio spectrum (on the 220 Mega-Hertz band).

This band, and the others in the VHF range, are used for short-range communications which are indispensable in local emergencies, of prime public interest when it is needed. The band is also an important resource for the latest in high-technology developments in high-efficiency communications, "packet radio", thus continuing a long history of developments by amateur radio operators which are of eventual use to the general public and which cost the public nothing.

Please look into the subject. If you need more information, contact the American Radio Relay League in West Hartford, CT. PHONE: 203/666-1541. If you agree that the FCC should enforce the existing Amateur Radio Service frequency allocations, please attach an amendment to an appropriate bill along the following lines:

"The FCC shall enforce the regulations, rules and policies in effect as of August 3, 1988, as

they relate to the Amateur Radio Service in the 220-225 MHz frequency band as defined in 47 CFR Section 2.106 (Table of Frequency Allocations)."

Thank you very much, Sir.

Very best regards,

/s/ David M. Barton

cc: NCDX Club

Working by District?

Editor, The NCDXER

One hears comments on the bands when DX stations work by districts. It seems that someone is always dissatisfied. Not enough time for the sixes - too much time for the sixes - and so on.

Out of curiosity, I checked the amateur populations as shown in the Call Book and rounded the numbers off in increments of five. Here's how the ideal list would go:

W1 5
W2 10
W3 5
W4 20
W5 10
W6 15
W7 10
W8 10
W9 10
W0 10

Maybe a scheme such as this is worth a try?

73, Ray, K6FD

Lloyd and Iris

Dear DX Club:

FLASH! The YASME DXpedition is on the road again.

Iris Colvin, W6QL, and Lloyd Colvin, W6KG, announce that they will operate from Cyprus followed by other DX spots in Asia and Africa. They should be in Cyprus by the time you read this.

They expect to operate from now until next spring from as many rare spots as they can obtain permission to operate.

They operate all bands, half SSB and half CW. They prefer the lower ends of all bands. Please no duplicate or insurance QSO's on the same bands.

They use only one call in a country although both of them always hold a license. They will use Iris's call in one country and then use Lloyd's call in the next country.

79 /s/ Robert B. Vallio, Secretary, YASME Foundation

The Treadlemaster

There appears to be some controversy over the use of packet radio for DX announcements over the club's two meter repeater.

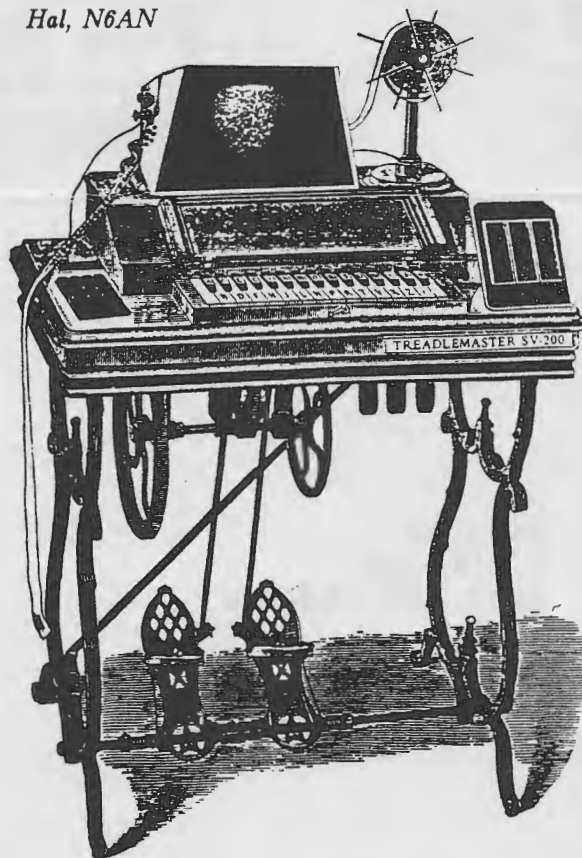
While this conflict rages, still another innovative piece of packet equipment has hit the market. This newcomer is known as the Treadlemaster SV-200. It is a self-contained, foot operated packet unit that not only conserves electricity but provides much needed exercise to sedentary ham radio operators. This revolutionary piece of gear has been well received by the amateur fraternity. A mid-western ham advises that after three months of operation he no longer has nagging lower back pains, but grudgingly admits to greater pain in the cervical region. The latter he attributes to the frustrations of packet radio operations. Ms Dos, a yl operator from Silicon Valley reports she has given up jogging in favor of the Treadlemaster.



The TM is certainly a versatile machine. However, the complexity of the controls necessitated a cautious approach to packet operations for a few months, until one can memorize the various commands. For the duration of the learning period, TM has provided a handy 875 page synopsis of operating commands that may be taped to any convenient place.

The advent of this new piece of packet equipment, in the short term, will not solve the club's current repeater-packet problem. However, TM advises they are working on a version which will automatically convert packet into synthesized voice. This will enable simultaneous transmissions of DX and related information by packet and the two meter repeater. This, no doubt, will satisfy all the club members.

Hal, N6AN



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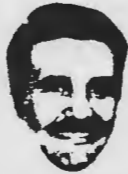
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17N-5th Ave / 17S-16th Ave.



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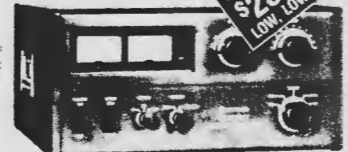
YAESU FL 7000



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November 1988