

Northern California DX Club DXer



Volume XLIV - Number 7

July, 1991

RON'S COMMENTS

Lame Duck presidents like to look back and see if anything actually got accomplished during their term. I think a lot of accomplishments happened and here are some of the ones that come to mind:

1. New country petition for North Korea. Rusty headed up this effort and we've just learned that it has been approved by a unanimous vote of the DXAC. More details later.
2. A very successful DX Convention at Visalia. Many say it was the best ever . . . thanks to W6MKM, K6ITL and all the rest of the crew.
3. Implementing "CHARLIE", the Packet announcer, thanks to all the work by K6LLK and assistants.
4. A spectacular meeting and attendance in Sacramento thanks to K6DR and his committee.
5. Getting back to Harry's for meetings; now you may not have to eat before you arrive.
6. Solving the Club's logo dilemma. Thanks to Larry, KD6XY, logos will now be available to any club member that wants them.

A FEW THINGS WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND

- A. The DX Packet Net has nothing to do with nor does it answer to the NCDXC.
- B. Harry's gives us our room out of courtesy, other groups pay hundreds of dollars for it.
- C. The NCDXC runs on volunteer management. If you said "no"; others who said "yes" are doing your share for you.
- D. Everyone will be happy to give you their opinion on how YOU should work DX. Remember, opinions are like armpits, everyone has some and most of them stink. Do it your way. . . it's worked so far. Thanks for your support. . . it's been fun.
73 Ron NG6X



CONTENTS

Ron's Comments . . .	Page 1
NCDXC Information . . .	Page 2
Meeting Minutes . . .	Page 2
New addresses . . .	Page 3
"Charlie" . . .	Page 4
Letters . . .	Page 5
More letters . . .	Page 6
Trivia . . .	Page 7
FINI . . .	Page 7

NEXT MEETING

Harry's in Palo Alto. 6:30 Friends of Bill W meeting, 7:30 dinner. Program will be a Russian participant in the Spratley expedition speaking to the subject. These are usually fine entertainment, and quite informative. Someone with the gumption to go to the ends of the earth is worth hearing.

CLUB INFORMATION

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. Unless otherwise
noted, permission to use any portion of this publication is
hereby granted, provided credit is given to the DXer.

NCDXC OFFICERS

President: Ron Rasmussen, NG6X
Vice President: Bill Fontes, W6TEX
Secretary: Stan Kuhl, K6MA
Treasurer: Bob Wilson, NQ6X
Director: Morris Brown, N6DJM
Director: Rusty Epps W6OAT
Director: Larry Souza, KG6GF

DX'er STAFF

Editor: Doug Beck, K6ZX
Production: Ron Pantan, W6VG
DX Ladder: Larry Bloom, KD6XY
Data Base: John Cronin Jr., K6LLK

Send DX'er contributions to:

Doug Beck
995 Lundy Lane
Los Altos, CA 94024
-or- dbeck@unix.sri.com

Send DX ladder reports to:

Larry Bloom
2520 Heather Lane
San Bruno, CA 94066

NCDXC REPEATER W6TI/R

Output 147.36 Mhz, Input 147.96 MHz
Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG
Repeater Committee Chairman:
Ralph Hunt, AG6Q
Suggested simplex freq.: 147.54 MHz

NCDXC THURSDAY NIGHT NET

On W6TI/R Thursday at 8:00 PM local time.
Operations Manager: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q
DX News: Bob Artigo, KN6J
Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ
Contest News: Rich Hudgins, WX6M
Westlink: Craig Smith, N6ITW
Swap Shop: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU
933 Robin Lane
Campbell, CA, 95008
408/374-0372
QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

NCDXC DX BULLETIN BROADCASTS

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG. General interest broadcasts
at 1800Z Sunday or 0200Z Monday on 14.002 MHz and
7.016 Mhz

MEETING MINUTES

NCDXC B.O.D. Meeting, 4 June 1991

1- NG6X presiding at Harry's Hoffbrau, Mt. View.
Present were NQ6X, NG6X, W6OAT, K6LLK, N6DJM,
W6TEX, & K6MA.

2- "Charlie" report. 90 day trial period ends early
August. Very good reception by NCDXC members to
date.

3- There will be several rebuttal letters in DXer to
Dick's WB6WKM complaint on contest DX announce-
ments. Lively discussion expected at the next mem-
bers meeting.

4- Treasurers report distributed by NQ6X.

5- June meeting -Election of club officers for
91/92
-Program W6CF on DXAC
-7 Second readings.

de K6MA

NCDXC Members meeting 14 June, 1991

1- NG6X, Ron presiding at Harry's in Mt. View. Palo
Alto Harry's not available this time.

2- Ron announced that Phil Frazer, K6ZM is now a
Silent Key. He was an accomplished Ham and greatly
admired. Phil was the California Award manager for
20 years. We will miss his presence and valued
contributions.

3- Elections.

Slate presented by Ted, KA6W and Frank, W6ZKM:

President - Bill Fontes, W6TEX
V.P. - Bob Artigo, KN6J
Secretary - Stan Kuhl, K6MA
Treasurer - Bob Wilson - NQ6X

No other nominations presented from the floor. The
above 4 officers were elected by acclamation.

Directors presented:

Eric Edgerg, W6DU
Ray Griese, K6FD
Marv Juza, W6FGD
Steve Stephenson, W6MKM

An additional nominated from the floor:
George Alanl, WA6O

Elected 2 directors:

Eric Edberg - W6DU
George Alan - WA6O

Continued on Page 3.

Still more Meeting Minutes . . .

4- Application for membership:

First Reading:

Joseph Mastroianni, AA6YD

Second Reading:

MarilynBradshaw N6VAW

Art Gibney KK6AV

Robert Chorter AA6VB

Dave Bernstein AA6YQ

Scott Townley NX7U

Stan Goldstein N6ULU

Omri Serlin AA6TA

All 6 above were voted into NCDXC membership.

5- Rusty, W6OAT, announced NCDXF elections which include W6DU, Eric, as new NCDXF President.

6- Program - DXAC Committee by W6CF.

New applications for DXCC:

North Korea, voting in process.

Jarvis, Petition finally received, being reviewed by DXAC.

Tartar Republic (USSR) pending.

4U1VIC issue discussed. Application rejected several times. No League response to last 1988 application.

Jim, W6CF, queried the club on this and several other DX issues.

7. Open and lively discussion on WPX contest announcement on W6TI repeater by WB6WKM, WA6O, AA6KX, K6LLK, W6TEX, NI6T, KA6W. Differences were aired and generally resolved.

de K6MA.

SK

DXer Phil Frazier, K6ZM, passes away at his home on May 20, 1991. Phil was a rare combination of skilled operator and talented technician. He was one of the last Gentleman DXers, and will be very much missed. He was custodian of the California Award for 20 years and had many friendships around the world. 73 es SK. de NG6X

NEW ADDRESSES

Marilyn Bradshaw N6VAW

94 Lovell Ave

Mill Valley, CA 94941

415.383.8218 H

415.445.5501 W

Art Gibney KK6AV

Box 711

Fairfax, CA 94390

415.457.4278 H

415.435.3838 W

Robert L. Chorter AA6VB

2342 Price Way

San Jose, CA 95124

408.371.1491 H

408.286.5800 W

Dave Bernstein AA6YQ

252 Delphi Circle

Los Altos, CA 94022

415.949.1612 H

415.496.3600 W

Scott Townley NX7U

715 Jeffrey Ave.

Campbell, CA 95008

408.378.6427 H

408.738.2888 W

Stan Goldstein N6ULU

791 Calabasas

Watsonville, CA 95076

408.722.0588 H

408.722.3844 W

Omri Serlin AA6TA

P.O. Box 1450

Los Altos, CA 94023

415.948.4516 H

415.948.4516 W

Changes:

Ken H. Day W6YK

5211 Crystal Fall Ln.

Bakersfield, CA 93313

Bill Schmall WD6AFC

39652 W. Idylwild

Bass Lake, CA 93604

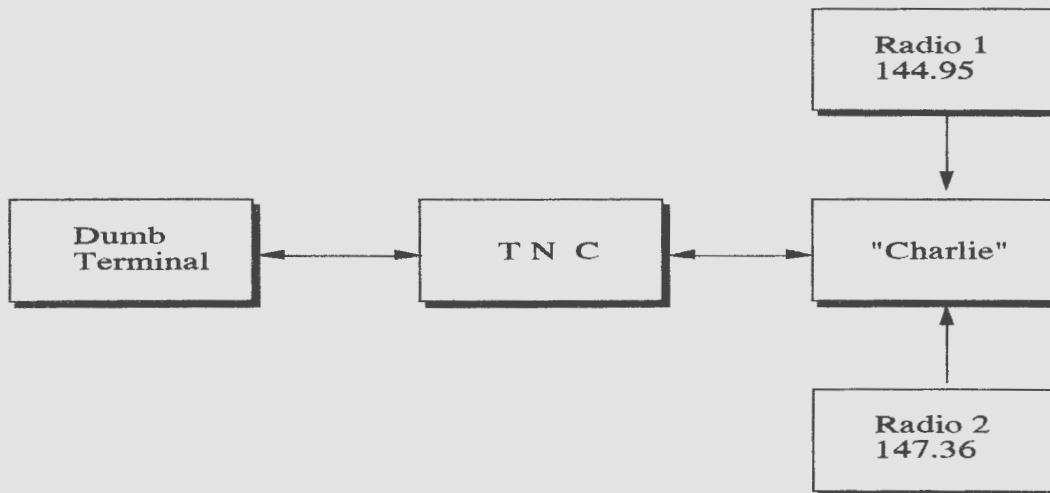
209.642.3220 H

FEATURE

You've all heard by now "kilo six lima lima kilo" over the repeater. That is our digital to voice converter nick named "Charlie" by Sam W6TSQ after Charlie McCarthy the wooden dummy.

What is "Charlie"? The DX-Alert digital to voice converter is the brain child of Tim Pearson KU4J of DX-Solutions. Our "Charlie" is a beta test version of Tims product. We put "Charlie" into service³ on May 5, 1991 as a 90 day trial voted on by the club membership. "Charlie" receives his data input from the local DXPSN (DX Packet Spotting Network).

Contrary to popular belief "Charlie" is no "dummy"! He is a very sophisticated piece of electronic technology that converts ASCII text to voice right off the computer screen automatically. Of course he has a very limited vocabulary and will not answer your questions unless he is asked to do so by tone signaling. What else does it take to make "Charlie" run, can he operate stand alone? No unfortunately, there is more equipment needed to make "Charlie" function. (See simplified diagram)



And of course there are two antennas and a 20 amp 12 VDC power supply. Radio 1 monitors the packet announcements and is connected to the packet network. Radio 2 receives its information from "Charlie" and re-transmits the translated digital packet announcements to the W6TI voice repeater.

What is it going to cost to make "Charlie" a complete member of the DX Club? As you know the club authorized up to \$450 to purchase "Charlie" as associated needed equipment for the 90 day trial period.

To date the club has spent \$295 to purchase "Charlie" and if the club elects to keep "Charlie" after the 90 day trial period the support equipment now being used will have to be purchased.

How much is that going to cost? See the estimate.

Dumb Terminal	\$ 75
TNC (PK88)	\$115
Radio 1 (IC-27A)	\$250
Radio 2 (FT-212RH)	\$325
Power Supply	\$ 85
Total	\$850

At present all the equipment being used with the exception of "Charlie" for the trial period belongs to K6LLK. John has agreed to let the club use his equipment until a decision is reached as to whether "Charlie" will become a permanent member of NCDXC.

BTW John tells me that Tim, KU4J has a new voice and more engancements planned for "Charlie" in the future so he should just get better. Please come to our August meeting and cast your vote.

73 Ron, NG6X

BRIEFLY NOTED

RADIO STATION WWV AND WWVH SCHEDULE CHANGE

For those who obtain information from radio stations WWV or WWVH, please note that the solar radio observatory responsible for measuring the 10.7 cm radio flux has been moved from the Algonquin Radio Observatory (near Ottawa, Canada) to the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory (DRAO) in Penticton, British Columbia, Canada. As a result of this move, the daily 10.7 cm radio flux measurements are now taken at 20:00 UT instead of 17:00 UT as was the practice at ARO. This has shifted the schedule for updates on WWV and WWVH. The new daily data on WWV and WWVH is now provided at 21:18 UT instead of 18:18 UT. This change was adopted in early June and is now permanent.

WE GET LETTERS

Editor, DXer:

I was really surprised to read the letter from LY2BZ printed in the June, 1991 DXer.

I worked Vaidas twice in 1990, 2 Feb on 20 meters and 16 July on 15. I sent a QSL for each QSO via the bureau and I have his QSL's for those QSO's via our bureau. I don't know about the other club members mentioned in the letter, but I do know that since 1932 I have answered every QSL ever received (except SWL ones) and have sent thousands FIRST and never received replies.

Routinely I receive QSL's from the USSR for QSOs from one to four years back. Perhaps some of the problem is with Box 88 Moscow?

Second Subject:

I am becoming weary of the constant yakking about the club repeater. What ever happened to DXing such as existed when there was no club repeater, just members who were personally listening for and working DX without having to be spoon fed?

73, W6CTL

Sadly, that mode of DXing went away years ago. Time pressures from work and family mitigate against a laid back style any more, and the repeater and packet cluster permit many more amateurs to enjoy DXing than would be possible otherwise. Ed.

Board of Directors

NCDXC

Hi fellows,

I was bitterly disappointed that the June '91 issue of the DXer did not make a single word mention of the death of none of my best friends, Phil Frazier, K6ZM, on May 20th '91.

I was notified of Phil's passing that same evening by my old friend Bill Bradshaw, K6LQA, who had heard the sad news over the NCDXClub repeater. Some of you must also have heard it.

How you guys could fail to announce this sad news in the following issue of the DXer is something that I cannot understand. There must have been at least 10 if not more days before the closing date for articles in the June DXer. Even so, a special note could still have been attached to the DXer.

I believe you owe the Club and especially foreign readers of the DXer that knew Phil an explanation and apology for this oversight.

Phil was an enthusiastic DXer and booster of the Club. We all have lost a fine man, a well known DXer and an excellent radio engineer. I was probably the last amateur to work Phil on our regular Sunday schedule that we had been keeping for the past 30 years. On May 19th he told me of his plans to make extensive repairs to his fine antenna system in the coming months. I shall miss Phil very much, and I hope some of you will also.

Sincerely, J.M. Ruys N6ZX

It has been the policy of this editor to not publish rumors off the repeater. Death notices are only published when authorized by a family member, club officer or responsible club member. In other words, a real person putting something on paper. In this case and two others to my knowledge, no notice was sent. That is the explanation. No apology offered. . . Ed.

EVEN MORE letters!

Hi NCDXC

Hello from Northern Iraq! I'm having so much fun. I wish you were all here. I have been assigned to the 40th Commando Royal Marines in the U.K. sector, taking care of the Kurds. It's hot here, it was 110 degrees 2 days ago. Not good for the kid from Monterey. It's also not very safe, civil war is only a matter of time.

I was on the air at 4I0EP for 2 weeks with a dipole - good EU pile-ups, some SA but no propagation to the U.S. at all. Hope to back in Germany by mid-June. Possibly see you all at Harry's in July or August.

73 Jerry Griffin W8MEP/4I0EP

Dear DXer,

The next DX-Ladder will be inserted in the September 1991 issue of the DXer. There will be a change made to the ladder by popular request. The next issue will include a new column for RTTY contacts. Some figures have already been received, so if any other members want to have their contacts included, please forward them to me via Packet (care of KA6ING) or by mail at the address listed elsewhere in the DXer.

I have been asked again how a new member can get the numbers listed. All figures must be sent to me for each of the Modes and/or Bands. This is the only input I receive. DXCC contacts will increase for each member as time goes on. Honor Roll figures will fluctuate up and down according to the Accepted countries List and Deleted Countries List. The Total DXCC Country Count is published periodically in QST. The figures are not automatically updated. I must be advised on any figures you want changed.

I like to get the figures in my hands about two weeks before the DXer is mailed out to the members to allow time for the reports to be worked up and mailed to the Editor. He has to have some leas time also.

73 Larry, KD6XY

County Hunters Alert!

Kalavao County on the island of Molokai, Hawaii will be put on the air during the 4th of July weekend - July 3rd to 7th. Richard LaChance AH6IO is again heading a group from Honolulu, to be joined by others from Molokai.

Honolulu amateurs joining LaChance are C. Burch AH6IN, John Chalauskas KJ9U and Pat Guren NH6UY. Participants will use their own calls. All more of operation will be used - phone, CW, Oscar, 6 meters and FSTV.
de KH6IJ

TRIVIA

The Radio Bug

We have warned you before of the radio bug
and how baleful it is to be bitten.
Now recent research has uncovered new facts
ab out ways that a victim is smitten.

As this bug takes ahold, the ham burns with fever
to buy a small box that he calls a transceiver,
and in this grave condition, his wife only sees him
when he needs nutrition.

This transceiver, reputed as state of the art,
no sooner obtained, it starts falling apart.
Distracted, frustrated and in a delima,
ho now seeks the cure in a higher antenna.

He calls in some friends, who all have the disease,
and soon we can see them ascending tall trees.
Where resedent squirrels, both children and dams,
take a very dim view of arboreal hams.

The lofty antennas don't answer the question,
it seems that this rig has acure indigestion.
Then he finds out, what we know all along,
he can't get it fixed except in Hong Kong.

His condition at this stage is too sad to tell,
we very much doubt if he'll ever get well.
We'll keep you informed of the signs symptomatic,
of this dread disease, stay tuned for more traffic.

de SCDXC BULLetin de W6ORD de RARA Rag de
VE3MB's YL de Quinte ARC de the TAC via the
Groundwave

CLASSIFIED

WANTED (Standing Order)

Ideas for future club programs. Provide topic,
contact name and telephone number. Forward to
any club officer. Thank you. de W6TEX

WANTED

Feature items for future DXer issues. One to two
pages of text plus illustrations is the best size. If
you don't come through, you will be faced with
more ARRL Letter reprints. de K6ZX

FINI

So, we come to the end of the issue. Sadly, it will be
the last issue produced by K6ZX. I am compelled to
withdraw as editor, for personal reasons, effective
with this issue. If a new editor will step forward, I can
assure them lots of good times, lots of support and a
newtorking opportunity beyond compare. If you
have a Mac, and would like to continue this format,
the PageMaker master for the DXer pages will be
available. A special thanks to Cas, WA6AUD for the
good humored articles, and to the many others who
made it possible to do the DTP job with ease. Good
luck and good hunting.
73 es SK de K6ZX

All MFJ Packets Stocked !



MFJ-1278 Multi-mode

- All 9 digital modes
- Easy Mail™ Personal Mailbox
- 20 LED Precision Tuning Indicator
- Includes free power supply
- Includes free eeprom upgrade

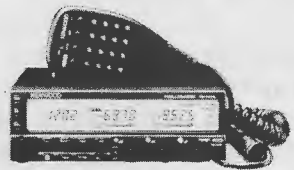
Call now for all MFJ products...
wattmeters, dummy loads, coax switches, keyers, clocks, speaker and mics, software, books and more!

ONE YEAR UNCONDITIONAL GUARANTEE



**KENWOOD
TM-741A**

2 Mtr/ 440 Mhz
Deluxe Transceiver



- Optional 3rd band available
- Up to 303 memories, 101 per band
- PL Encode Built in
- Detachable front panel

CALL FOR LOW, LOW PRICE

**ALINCO
DJ-120T**

2 meter HT, LCD Display

- 2.5 watts (Standard Battery)
- 6.5 watts (Optional Battery)
- Easy to use

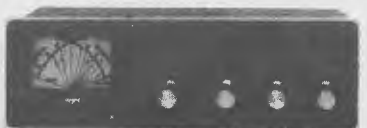
REG. \$245.00 SALE \$209.95



MFJ

Full MFJ line stocked in depth !

MFJ... making quality affordable



MFJ-949D 300 Watt Tuner

- Built-in dummy load
- New peak and Average Lighted 2-color Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter
- Built-in antenna switch, balun
- Covers 1.8-30 MHz

CALL TOLL FREE WEST
NOW! Toll free in California! 1-800-854-6046

Bob Ferrero W6RJ
President/Owner
Jim Rafferty N6RJ
Vice President

ICOM IC-781



The Ultimate 150W, All Band HF Transceiver

SPECIAL PRICE!
\$4,999.95

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

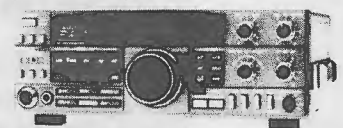
HAM RADIO OUTLET
LARGEST HAM OUTLET IN THE WORLD

ANNOUNCING a NEW STORE!! HRO is now in PORTLAND, OR!!

11 STORE BUYING POWER!

KENWOOD

TS-440S HF Transceiver



- 160m to 10m Amateur Bands
- 100-KHz to 30 MHz Receiver
- Available with optional built-in Antenna Tuner

CALL FOR PRICE

THE DXer
P. O. Box 608
Menlo Park, CA 94026
U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS