

N O R T H E R N  
 C A L I F O R N I A  
 D X C L U B



## The Editor's Keyboard

### Swan Song

In last month's editorial, I noted my anniversary as *DXer* editor, and looked forward to the future. Unfortunately, things have changed.

The Board of Directors met at the end of November, before that editorial was written. W6VG's minutes (page 2) recount: "Budget was looked over, and it seems the main cost to the club is *The DXer*." In fact, citing the need for cost reduction, the four directors present (a bare quorum) voted to limit *The DXer* to eight pages—it has often had 12—and to severely restrict (i.e. virtually eliminate) the use of photographs. I was neither invited to participate in that meeting nor consulted with regard to this newsletter's future.

*The DXer* is, in fact, the most costly item in the budget, consuming most of the revenue from dues. But it is also appears monthly and is the *only* club activity involving the entire far-flung membership. I share the BoD's concern about costs. But, as I wrote to our president, "the Board has made major decisions regarding *The DXer* without consulting the one person intimately and passionately involved in its creation." Knock responded "...We felt that such a reduction would not diminish the overall quality of *The DXer*" and that the Board had shown "good administrative judgement."

This is not the way I saw it. In my view, the Board eviscerated *The DXer*, and excluded and alienated its editor in the process. That left no options, and I have resigned as of this issue.

For 15 months, I truly have enjoyed crafting this newsletter. It has been great working with and for all of you...and against some of you. 73.

—SK de N16T

### A Christmas Card from WB-6ZUC

*Josephine (Clarke) Hansen, WB6ZUC, sent along this note last month. Although her many friends in NCDXC, NCDXF and FOC have undoubtedly seen it already, The DXer thought this heartwarming story should be shared with the membership.*

On 13 September, my very first boyfriend (freshman year of college) phoned from Bainbridge Island near Seattle to tell me that his wife and one daughter had died the previous December, and that he was interested in returning to Bellingham, Washington, where we both had been brought up and where I had been his very first girlfriend.

Four weeks later, after many phone calls, this man—Doug Hansen—asked if he

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### More Fun than DXCC?

I attended Ham-Com '94 and the ARRL '94 National Convention in Dallas, mostly to meet in person a large number of IOTA (Islands on the Air) people I have been hearing in the pileups. It was one of the highlights of my ham "career" and has resulted in pushing my Amateur Radio horizons out there even further.

Only one famous DX operator was there to take part in the first official IOTA session in the USA (Lucien, ON4XL), but most of the stateside big guns were there. It was great to put faces to those big signals I've been hearing. And, I must say, every one of them turned out to be a great guy. During the IOTA session, W5ZPA presented W4BAA with a sea shell confirming his QSO with Chandeleur Island, his 750th confirmed island, making Dewitt eligible for the top IOTA award.

Now why am I so excited about a bunch of islands that don't even count for DXCC? A lot of your fellow hams are at the Top of the Honor Roll, including a large percentage of the IOTA bunch. They've "worked them all" and are looking for new conquests. IOTA fits the bill

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N O R T H E R N  
C A L I F O R N I A  
D X C L U B

**Club Officers:**

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 Club simplex: 147.54 (suggested)  
 Thurs. Net QTR: 8 p.m. local time.  
 Net Manager: Ralph Hunt, AG6Q  
 DX News: Dave Pugatch, KI6WF  
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**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  
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Unless otherwise noted, NCDXC permits re-use of any article in this publication—provided *The DXer* and the article's author are credited.

## *Board of Directors Meeting*

The BoD meeting was held on November 30th at the home of W6VG. Present were K6ITL, WA6O, NQ6X, and acting secretary W6VG. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

- Correspondence from KA6ING, WA6CTA, DXer editor, and KG6LF read and discussed. Club will provide program for Pacificon 1995. The president will communicate with each of the letter writers.
- Budget was looked over, and it seems the main cost to the club is *The DXer*.
- The Board feels the present location for monthly meetings is the best so far, both financially and for attendance. The Marin, East Bay, Central Valley, & Redwood Empire areas have not come up with plans for meeting places.
- The Board discussed the task force findings and their recommendations.
- Publicity and activity are sought for the California Award and the 50th anniversary of the NCDXC.
- Procedure manual changes briefly discussed and will be on the agenda at a future BOD meeting.
- DXer of the Year chair and committee members were discussed; the President will announce the final committee and chairperson.
- Moved, seconded and passed that *The DXer* shall show Box 608 to be the only address for any Roster changes.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 PM.

—Ron Panton, W6VG, Acting Secretary

## *Knock's Knews*

Here it is almost a week until Christmas and two weeks until New Year's Day and I still haven't made out my wish list for Santa and the baby new year. I also have a feeling that I should wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year, even though you won't get this message until well after the fact. In any event, hope you had a great visit from Santa and that the new year will bring lots of good DX, much happiness and good health.

### **January meeting**

The January meeting will be held on Friday the 13th at the Dunfey Hotel in San Mateo at the intersection of Highways 101 and 92. The Italian buffet starts at 5:30 or so, with drinks and appetizers about the same time and the meeting is at 8 PM. This arrangement has been satisfactory for both location and services, so we will continue meeting there unless and until something better comes along.

Don't forget to bring another member or friend/guest to the next meeting. Let's start the new year off with a bang!

### **Proposed club activities**

As reported last month, we would like to begin a couple of DX activities for club members in the coming year. Exact details still have to be worked out, but we anticipate a major promotion of the California award by NCDXC members in May and a year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the NCDXC, beginning October 11, 1995 and continuing through October 10, 1996. Both of these activities require several volunteers to set up the basic operations, do some publicity at the DX Convention in April and notify the various DX publications. This is not a heavy duty commitment of time or effort, so get your thinking cap on and let me know what you can do to help.

continued on next page

### NCDXC QSL cards

Almost from the beginning of the NCDXC, there have been "official" NCDXC cards with a distinctive design, color and format. The club has ordered generic cards and made them available at cost, with printing of the member's call and QTH extra. The advantage of the cards has been the easy recognition of the sender's NCDXC affiliation by the recipient. The current card inventory, printed on high gloss material, is almost exhausted and it is time to consider a new purchase. Before acting, the card design and order quantity must be resolved. Please give some thought to this and let officers and directors know your ideas. If you have a specific design that you think would be good for the club, send it to any of us for consideration.

### Contest awards

Congratulations to NCDXC members for the great showing in the competition with the SCDXC in the ARRL DX Contest, and to the winners of the Marathon. The winners of the various categories are listed elsewhere in the DXer.

—J. D. "Knock," Knochenhauer, K6ITL

## Christmas Party Album



—photos by Gordon Girton, W6NLG

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## More Fun...

perfectly, as the program is well organized, QSL checking is convenient, DXpeditions are being mounted almost continuously at only a fraction of the cost of a Peter I expedition (it's not very expensive to put Catalina on the air), and—would you believe it—newcomers are welcomed with open arms. It's been more fun chasing islands than waiting months for a new DXCC country to show up.

The IOTA program started in England, spread to the continent, and is now one of the fastest-growing DX programs in ham radio. And we help each other! There are no nets but we frequent 14260, 21260 and 28460 Mhz. Whoever has the best propagation (what is that?) usually helps the island station with the weaker ones. Italian stations are well represented in the European pileups, with France, UK, Portugal, Spain and the former USSR well accounted for.

To get started, send off for a directory of IOTA islands (\$8 postpaid from W4BAA) and then the fun begins. Your most immediate source of "ready-to-use" islands is your current stack of QSL's. I had nearly 300 sitting in shoe boxes from clear back to the 40's—all postwar contacts count. Then start checking your logs—it's like finding Easter eggs.

I will guarantee that you will improve your knowledge of islands, oceans and geography in general, if you take the plunge. Also, the QSL's you receive are quite often foto-QSL cards with views of the island that you have worked.

One negative: there are currently about 800 islands that have been activated, so you may have to get a loan to pay for the postage. And one more word to the wise: even if you're currently busy with other DX activities, don't let a new island pass you by. It may never again be activated.

—Ed Shuler, K6DT, excerpted from the Central Valley DX Club bulletin (no issue information available) via W6ISQ



# Proceedings of the DX Cordiality Council

*Professor Cass reflects upon modern DX operating problems*

*Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD*

This being January and the cold month of the year, one has learned from experience that life is a bit warmer in the shack than most any place else. When the Old Timer dropped down off the hill, we, as usual, found much to talk about. Finally the Old Timer paused a moment, then laughed. "I was talking with Sam, W6TSQ, the other noon," the Old Timer related, "and Sam mentioned that one of the benefits of growing old is that one always has something to talk about. And if you are an old DXer, you are twice blessed with garrulity." The Old Timer was right. DXers have always been known for their scandalizing conversations; the best in the hillside where the foxes have their dens, across the open glade where the deer are usually feeding, and to the QTH here where—if a car window is left open—the raccoons will nightly steal all the Butch Cassidy animal crackers out of the car's glove compartment.

The QRPer came with one of his always-interesting philosophical questions. "Tell me," this QRPer said—the smile on his face belying the iron in his voice—"why are there so many on the DX bands who have neither sense, courtesy nor consideration? Or am I expecting too much from those illogical and ill-mannered lids? Could you just give me a simple explanation why? Something easily understood, that is. And why hasn't the ARRL done something about it? Isn't that what they are here for?"

We looked at the Old Timer; the Old Timer looked at us. We nodded in his direction, he nodded in ours. Then we got up to adjust the thermostat, intending not to return until the Old Timer spoke. We had learned where some of these QRPer's questions can lead: sometimes to a far, far distant land where no deep thinking has ever trod before. It was a time of trial and we excused ourselves.

But the Old Timer was of sterner stuff: he spoke in answer. "I gather that you are a bit dissatisfied after the recent contests, and you probably missed a handful you wanted to work. Right?" And without even pausing for an answer, he plunged on.

"Let us study things together," he said, the Old Timer being fond of Lyndon B. Johnson's phrasing. "What would you think of a case where one of the bigger

beautiful Saturday morning, should decide to relax by rag-chewing on twenty meters and tunes up on the lower 25 kc of the phone band? And there he runs into a horrendous pileup, every DXer worth his salt being in there and trying to work some other DXer. This including some rather rare DX stations and all counters for his contest score as well as some possible DXCC counters. And the wide-track wheelhorse, not being a DXer and possibly not realizing that he has tuned into a major contest and right astride the DX portion of the band, is shocked beyond description.

'This could not be Amateur Radio' the heavy-duty one would later say in relating his shock. 'Absolutely not! Why, the first Article of the Amateur Code clearly states that amateurs are always gentlemen and certainly no gentleman, amateur or other-wise, could be within a hundred kaycees of that pounding and unrelenting cacophony of QRM on the lower edge of twenty meters. Never! It is a disgrace to amateur radio.' That was the verdict—a verdict without appeal.

"Then QST gets into the act. DXers are lectured: pointedly reminded that their activity is often marked by thoughtlessness and lack of consideration, that frequently the DX contest activity interferes with other 'worthwhile' activities, such as ragchews.

The editorial goes on to offer a solution that, when a rare or new country arises, or a contest is in session, that DXers should confine their activity to a reasonable section of the band and that '...10 kHz of the band strikes us as being sufficient for nearly any situation...'"

The Old Timer leaned closer to the QRPer to hold his attention while he made his point. "You are aware of such proposals popping up from time to time, aren't you?" The QRPer shook his head in response. "You're kidding," was all he could say, "it really never happened, did it? It just could not happen, could it?"

In turn, the Old Timer nodded his head. "It did happen, and it can happen again. Check the editorial in the April, 1983 *QST*. Check the comments in 'Correspondence' in *QST* for June of the same year, to see how some members responded. You might even note one letter which suggested eliminating all uninhabited islands from the DXCC country list and to require that all DXpeditions—to be accepted for credit—must be self-financed, except for a reasonable reimbursement for QSL costs. You might find it interesting. The writer of that ARRL editorial is still on the masthead of the magazine, so do not believe that the ideas expressed in the editorial are dead. Hardly!"

The QRPer was quiet for a bit, finally asking: "But what does all of this mean? What can be done when obviously there should be some thought given to the problem? What do you think?"

Again things were quiet for a bit, the Old Timer looking out the window and across the valley to the far ridge where the clouds were descending. "It probably will rain by evening," he commented, and

then returned to the QRPer. “Back forty years or so,” the Old Timer said, “DXing and DXers were considered to be a small, strange, incomprehensible clan of amateurs who had turned up the wrong road somewhere along the way. They were not the ‘usual’ amateur depicted in the pages of QST. Those nobler types were rag-chewers, traffic-men, emergency net members and the like. DXers were on a different track—sometimes hard to understand or even tolerate.”

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“Things have changed over the years. But what DXers need is an awareness and understanding of acceptable operating procedures. To expect such wisdom to leap forth full blown is to ask too much. At times, some DX bulletins have pointed the way but, admittedly, this is a delicate and complex area to probe. Often, efforts to promote some better paths were marked more by indirect statements than by strident edicts. In short, movement was by nudging, not by confrontation. Unfortunately, you do not see too much of this gentle persuasion these days. I think it is needed

“One can be sure that, eventually, something will be done. What I worry about is whether it will be initiated by DXers themselves, but by those who are not DXers but who are supremely confident that they know everything necessary, and a bit more. It might not be the thing to hope for—someone other than the DXers making the rules. I think the DXers ought to examine their own navels before someone else does it for them.”

We could see that the QRPer was absorbing some of this, but it would be too much

to hope that one exposure would assure a lifetime of clean living and dedicated DXing. But one can live in hope: one always should. One might even help to get the seed implanted. Then the Old Timer spoke again. “Why are we always so ready to criticize some offensive DXing when the offender in question is often in a distant state and not a local problem? How often are such matters brought up in a local club meeting for airing? My guess is that it would be a hard item to find on any club agenda. Yet most active DXers will acknowledge that at times it is a grievous problem and something should be done. Done by someone else, that is.”

The QRPer was quiet for a bit; this one was *thinking*. But the Old Timer was not yet finished. “Look up those QST issues I named,” he suggested. The ‘Correspondence’ item I mentioned begins with the heading: ‘The Good, the Bad and the Ugly DXer.’ It should ring a bell—or something.” It was enough.

The QRPer did not tarry long, but later we were to wonder how he might respond to the Old Timer’s admonitions. The Old Timer had given the message very clearly: DXers must either set acceptable operating parameters or someone else might do it for them. And these “improvements” may include some that DXers will learn they neither needed, wanted or should have been blessed with.

We tell this tale because it might be interesting not only to note what happened a decade or so back but also to note how, in other areas and other states, some DXers—even in these best of times—lack consideration and sensitivity and that there are even some who believe their “rights” have priority over the rights of others. Fortunately, this is not true in this western edge, the land of eternal summer and unlimited DX fraternalism. As always, we are different. Naturally.

## DXer of the Year Nominations Now Open

Now is the time to put on your thinking cap and nominate the DXer of the Year.

### Eligibility

The award is based upon consistent and active participation in DX and club activities during the preceding three years.

Only voting members who have been club members for at least three years are eligible.

No person may receive the award more than once every three years.

### Selection Criteria

1. Cooperation and assistance with DX efforts, such as: maintaining liaison with or coordinating DXpeditions; participating in DXpeditions and; helping other members to work DX.
2. Must have high standards of operating practices and ethics. Compliance with FCC regulations; exhibition of fair play, sportsmanship and good operating practices at all times. Use of ethical practices in working new countries, and obtaining QSL cards.
3. Participation in club activities. Service as officer or director, *DXer* editor, or other club appointments, participation in DX contests with scores contributed to the NCDXC, support of the club repeater, attendance at club meetings and repeater meetings, service on committees, or bringing in new members.
4. Achievements. Winning, or placing high in major contests, winner of awards, such as 5BDXCC, Honor Roll, etc. Amateur radio appointments, service to the public in emergencies, promoting international goodwill. Assistance to potential or new amateurs, conduct of training programs.

All nominations shall be in written form and submitted to Jerry Griffin, W8MEP,



The DXer Interview

# Refugee!

Continuing our conversation with Enes Ceric, T94EC. Part 2 of 2

by Garry Shapiro, NI6T

(In part 1, Enes discussed the outbreak of the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina, how it uprooted his family, and how his work for the UN led to an opportunity to emigrate to the USA.)

*So there are Muslims in Croatia, also? Most of the Croatians are Catholic!*

Yes, like 60 percent, 70 percent are Catholics. You have the Muslims, of course. You have the Jewish, also. *There are some Jews there?*

Yes. In Sarajevo there is a big Jewish community.

*Really!*

They immigrated when the war started. Mostly elderly people and children being transferred to Belgrade and after that to...

But no one treated them badly.

...So I was in Split for that interview. The guy looked at my file while I told my story. He said okay and he stamped it, which means that I got a green light...

*That was your approval to go to the United States.*

Yes but everything depended on the medical exam. If you're HIV positive or if you have some disease like TB, you're definitely not going. So I passed, and they called me and told me "you're flying out on May 24."

*From where?*

From Croatia.

*Weren't people going to other countries as well as the United States?*

Oh, yes. Denmark, Germany, Sweden. Almost all my friends are in Sweden. They were in Croatia. The Swedes opened the door and said we take 10,000 refugees and that's it. So they accepted them. They are okay, but first of all you must learn Swedish to get a job. It's the same thing in America. If you don't speak English...

*Well, there are more people in the world that speak English than speak Swedish. Of course, even the Swedes speak English...How did you family feel about your leaving?*

Oh, that was very hard. I told my mom and father that I'm just going to go and I explained it to them in a letter. I had a chance, an opportunity to go to see them a couple of times, like three or four times. I

would stay and visit them. They said to me "yes, we understand that you want to have your own life, but you must understand us: we are depending on you," because I was the only one who was getting money. I had \$500 salary, which was great money over there.

*So you were sharing your money with...*

Right. I was covering myself, my expenses and other stuff. The rest of the money I was sending to my family.

*Were they telling you not to go?*

Yes. They tried to convince me. But I always had a very good relationship with my family. They taught me that way. It was very, very hard for them. So they tell me, "okay, you have decided to go. But before you leave you must stop by and see us and take a couple of pictures so you have memories for yourself...I knew that if I went out there that would be very hard. So I didn't go.

*Oh, you didn't go?*

I didn't go. That was, like, a week before I left.

*That must have been very hard.*

Yes, it was. But I decided it was better that way because if I showed up, there would be crying and other stuff. Convincing me not to go.

*You said you were the only child?*

Yes. So that was a huge problem.

*You're not only an only child. You're a son.*

Yes. So I left and showed up in the United States on the 24th of May.

*You write to them a lot then?*

Actually, I didn't write. I just phoned up people in Croatia and Bosnia and passed a message to a lady who is a good friend and knows my family. So she passed the message. She came to Croatia on vacation, rang me on the phone and said "tell



me everything about you. How are you doing? What are you doing? Your job? Tell me as much as you can so I can talk to your family."

My roommate from the university is in Germany right now, and got married. He rang up me the other day and said "can you give me a phone number? I can try to reach your family by phone from Germany. I gave him a phone number for the IRC over there. So he called, over and over, and finally he gets through and talks to my father.

Now every week he talks to my father. He tells them I'm okay. Don't worry about me. He asks him if he needs something, if he needs money.

*You have a job here...*

Yeah. That's true. I was lucky. I got a phone call from the organization that said I got an interview and I got job after a week. *That's incredible.*

*I have a roommate. I never met this guy before, but we are okay. He was in a concentration camp. He is a Muslim, too. His father is Muslim and his mom was Croat but his mom was killed by the Croats.*

I got a job after a week. I didn't have my Social Security card yet. I had a receipt from Social Security. I showed up at the factory and they said "no problem, it will show up."

In my factory there are five Bosnian people, three Russians, two Chinese and the rest of them are American and the one girl, the secretary, she is from Philippines. She was adopted 12 years ago in the United States.

*It sounds like Silicon Valley.*

You know that better than I. So I am here.

There is actually a deal about the ticket. The ticket cost around \$700. So after a certain period in the United States, they send you a bill every month. You pay like \$35 for about three years to pay the money back. The reason is so they can bring in other people, which is okay.

*You're very lucky.*

I can tell that. It's better to be here than over there.

*Well, you not only came to the United States, you came to a great part of it and you got a job in a time when many people are out of work. How did you wind up in San Francisco?*

An American who used to work for IRC over there was from Inverness. When I talked about it with him about over there in September of last year, he said why don't you go to San Francisco? I had thought about New York, but most of the people said New York is too big a city. All the people who had been in New York said New York is nice for the night life, but you must commute a lot because everything is outside of the heart of the town. So you must travel two or three hours to get to the job and back.

He said if you need somebody for a sponsor just say my address. So I gave his address. He met me at the airport. I spent my first night in America at his place. He is really a good friend of mine. That guy is writing a story about Bosnia right now.

He was there. He knows the story.

*You're living in the City?*

Yes. I have a roommate. I never met this guy before, but we are okay. He was in a concentration camp. He is a Muslim, too. His father is Muslim and his mom was Croat but his mom was killed by the Croats. He didn't see his father and brother for almost three years. They were in the same camp but they didn't see each other. His brother is in Turkey. His father is in Italy, and he is here.

*Where did you learn to speak English?*

In high school, two classes a week. First it was because I was in the electronics department. If you are taking electronics, you must know English. I studied German six years, but I forgot almost everything. The best school was the IRC for 16 months, conversation about everything, all kinds of issues, things from electronics, electricity, water supplies...everything. And before that, ham radio: a lot of contacts on all bands. Even if I just knew how to say 59, my serial number, and my name is...

So I came here and got a job and I'm still in San Francisco. I get bored a little without radio!

*So you're only been here a couple of months.*

Next week is three months.

*You're young, so you're adaptable.*

*You speak English. You've had a lot of experience in dealing with different situations, and you've been fortunate.*

*But you've taken advantage of your opportunities.*

That's true. You just have to try. I mean, I was alone in the family. My parents used to work all day. I took care of myself. When I came back from the university, my father had just retired. Mom was on layoff. I worked in a coffee bar for three years to get money for us. Working hard is not strange to me. It's hard to be far away from my own country, from my own people, but I speak English and I can do things much

more easily. Then I asked the lady at the IRC "are there any ham radio operators around here or anything like that?"

*Here?*

Here in San Francisco. She said she didn't know but I could go to the library...

So I went there and found *CQ* Magazine. I took some addresses and called WB2JKJ on the phone and he gave the phone number of Fred, WA6WZO, who gave me the phone number for Brad, K6WR. I went with Brad to the DX Club meeting—where I met you—and he also gave me a list of phone numbers in the area.

I called N6ST looking to go to an NCCC meeting, but he was busy, so I called AE6Y and had a talk with him and wound up coming to the NCCC meeting in San Francisco...

And here I am...



## Lunatics

"DXing is the lunatic fringe of amateur radio," says Chod Harris, editor of *The DX Magazine*. "And the DXpeditioners are the lunatic fringe of the lunatic fringe."

—Jonathan Weisman, "Gooooo Mooooorning, Ends of the Earth!" in *Outside magazine*, Nov, '94, courtesy of Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW

# NCDXC/SCDXC Competition

—It's that time again!

In 1950 the gauntlet was thrown down and the NCDXC and the SCDXC accepted the challenge to compete against each other for High Club Score in the annual ARRL DX Test. A perpetual trophy was established and has been awarded to the winning club each year since then.

Over the years, the NCDXC has maintained a considerable edge over the SCDXC and has retained the trophy since 1988. However, intelligence reports from NCDXC South, 1,500 points each, (they're 33 QSOs going all 0000Z on Monday).

members to participate in the 1995 ARRL test, to enable the club to retain the trophy. Last year, 43 members reported their scores and provided us a sizeable margin over the SCDXC. However, we may well need more active stations due to the change in propagation, which always favors those down south.

So, for those who don't think they can compete, here is a little table to show you how easy it is to get a score of 100,000, 150,000, or 200,000. This means only a few hours of operating, but if we can amass 75 stations with 150,000 points each we stand a real chance of retaining the trophy.

Here's how it works:

Goal	QSO's	x Pts.	x Countries
75,000	200	3	125
75,000	300	3	83
100,000	400	3	84
100,000	300	3	111
150,000	500	3	100
150,000	600	3	125
200,000	500	3	133
200,000	400	3	166

Each DX station worked is worth 3 points on each band and mode. Each multiplier is worth 3 times the number of QSOs (*i.e.* 100 QSOs at 3 points each times 50 countries = 15,000 points). Therefore, if you work at least 200 stations and 50 multipliers in the first four hours of the contest—not an unreasonable figure if both 15 and 20 are open at all—you can take a rest until Saturday morning at 1500Z, work several hundred more with an additional 20 multipliers before the bands go slightly dead, then mow the lawn, take the family to the movies or partake of any other enjoyable activity. (Mowing the lawn in February is an “enjoyable activity?” —N16T)

That evening, from about 0100Z to 0400Z, chase a bunch of multipliers worth

25 countries), take a break until about 1500Z the next morning, work another 100 or so with about 20 multipliers and *Zingo*, still time to go to church or read the New York Times Sunday edition. So far, no real interruption in your weekend schedule.

Sunday afternoon, if nothing else gets in the way, take several hours, from 2100Z to 2300Z, and work everything you can, perhaps another 75 QSOs and 10 multipliers. Without too much difficulty you have amassed a total of 625 QSOs at 3 points each and 125 multipliers for a great score of 234,375 points!

What, you can't play during the evening on Saturday? Not to worry. Just take a few hours around midday and work Central and South American stations, plus the Caribbean and—voilà!—you've got it!

During the first three or four hours almost everything you work will be a new multiplier, but then it goes downhill and you will find only about 3 multipliers for each 10 QSOs. Once you reach 333 QSOs, each subsequent multiplier will be worth at least 1,000 points so you can concentrate on the new ones. Don't get hung up on the pileup for a rare or semi-rare country, though, since a KL7 is worth just as much as a ZA!

Any score is worth submitting as we will need all we can get. Only have a few hours? Just work what you can, total up your log and send it to the ARRL, with a copy of the summary sheet to Rich, WX6M. Who knows? Your score, no matter how small, just might be the winning margin over those scalawags down south.

So get ready to meet the challenge! The CW portion starts at 0000Z on Saturday (that's 4:00 PM PST Friday), February 18 and ends at 0000Z on Monday (4 PM Sunday). The phone portion begins at 0000Z on Saturday March 4 and ends at

This year, let's go over the top and set a new record!

—J.D. “Knock” Knochenhauer, K6ITL

## Antes/

AL RECIBIR TU Q.S.L.



ANTES DE RECIBIR TU Q.S.L.

## Después

This cartoon was included with a card from a Spanish-speaking QSL manager.

## Proud Papa

Paul, N4QJ, recently was bragging to friends that his son Marco—age 9 months—had spoken his first letter: dah dah.

—N16T

## Marathon and NCDXC-ARRL Award Winners

Congratulations to all who won awards for their participation in the 1994 NCDXC Marathon Contest and the 1994 ARRL DX Contest.

The awards will be presented at the January meeting of the NCDXC on Friday, January 13 at the Dunfey Hotel.

The winners are:

### 1994 NCDXC Marathon

First Place Phone	AB6LJ, Danny Hayes	203
Second Place Phone	KG6LF, Jerry Boyd	113
Third Place Phone	WD6EKR, Walt Del Conte	109
First Place CW	N6EA, Bob Schmidt	128
Second Place CW	W6BIP, Bip Bachman	116
Third Place CW	W6WB, Bud Bane	92
First Place Mixed	WG6P, Denny DuGal	236
Second Place Mixed (tie)	WB6CUA, Randy Wright	198
K6MA, Stan Kuhl	198	

### 1994 ARRL DX Contest

Single Op CW	AA6MC, Dick Dievendorff
Single Op CW Low Power	N6JM, John Minke III
Single Op assisted CW	NI6T, Garry Shapiro
Single Band (15M) CW	W6BSY, Mac McHenry, Jr.
Single Op Phone	WC6H (NU6S, Tim Coad, Opr.)
Single Op Phone assisted	N6CCL, Larry Lemas
Single Op Phone low power	K6ITL, "Knock" Knochenhauer
Multi-single Phone	W6REC, Duane Ausherman
Single Band (15M) Phone	W6BSY, Mac McHenry, Jr.



from page 1

## WB6ZUC Christmas Card

could come down to visit. I said yes, and he arrived on 22 October. We talked all that day, telling each other about ourselves and what had happened to each of us during the past 60 years. The following day, we talked all day again, after which he asked me to marry him, and I said "YES!"

...On 2 November...we flew to Reno to get married. (The State of Nevada Commissioner of Civil Marriages performs a very fine, serious ceremony—which was a surprise after what I had heard of Reno marriages.) We stayed in Kentfield several

days to introduce Doug to a few people here and then flew to Seattle-Bainbridge Island for me to meet his side of the family—four children—and then took the ferries up to Bellingham to meet his two brothers and their families, as well as my sister and brother-in-law. We looked at a few possible homesites but decided we were really not ready to settle on one. So look for news of where we settle next year.

In the meantime, we are camping out at 207 Evergreen (POB 788), Kentfield, while Doug tries to sell his lovely home on Bainbridge. Daily walks and a heart-

healthy diet plus the excitement of discovering more about each other occupy us as the days go by...

*Jo added in a separate note that Doug had served as a PT-boat commander in the Pacific in WWII, had been seriously wounded, and had endured a long recuperation.*

—Garry Shapiro, NI6T



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P. O. B O X 6 0 8

M E N L O P A R K, C A

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FIRST CLASS

