

Dxer

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



Editor's Choice

The March NCDXC meeting was **FUN!!!** President Ted, K6XN, led a very lively round table. The theme was "The State of the NCDXC." There was a "crowd" of about 25 at the meeting. I believe every one of the guys there contributed good suggestions and positive criticism regarding what could be done to make the NCDXC a fun club and the meetings worth attending. Everyone who spoke up received a NCDXC coffee cup and/or coaster. Of course, Ted, kept handing out place mats, but by the end of the meeting he was finally calling them coasters! Ted will be summarizing the inputs he received and will include them in this month's Dxer. After reading Ted's column and you have an idea or a comment, please send them along to me, to Ted or to any club officer for action.

I was trying to beg off this job as editor and was underwhelmed with the response I got when trying to find a replacement. I am going to continue as long as I receive the support of the club members.

This really is a great club with many enthusiastic and committed members, but there are still too many members sitting on their "laurels" and doing nothing other than saying "been there, done that." This club, along with ham radio in general, is going from grey to white haired OF's. One of the topics brought up at the meeting was how do we seek out and recruit new members (no matter what their age or DXCC totals (if any)). Folks, this club is aging, membership is falling off and we need to do something about it. We need more than 25 guys at a general meeting. We need more people joining the Thursday night 2-meter net. The club needs your participation and it needs it now. Come to the meeting and bring a friend. If you need a ride, tell someone. If you know of some member or friend that would attend, but cannot drive — offer to bring him or her with you. Quit procrastinating and participate in this club you love to brag about belonging to.

A nomination committee will be formed shortly to suggest candidates for the upcoming elections. Some people said "maybe" last year in regards to running for office. Do you remember who you are? Being on the nominating committee could be the kiss of death, as last year Ted and several others wound up taking on the leadership of the organization when nominees could not be found. Lots of folks at the election meeting had lots of comments, but stayed in their seats when it came time to stand up and volunteer to lead the club. Surely, this is not going to happen this year.

I am going to begin making up an email list of club members, which I will use to get late breaking news out between meetings. At the March meeting, a poll was taken of those in attendance as to how many used email. Looked to me as there was about 80% that are using the internet to pass messages. If this percentage is valid across the membership, then I can reach out and touch quite a few with such a list. I will start with the club roster to make my list. If your email address is not listed in the roster, please forward it to Ron and to me. My address: k7jj@garlic.com.

See you at the April meeting. Remember, the club's vibrance is your responsibility.

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FLASH!!

Late Breaking News!!
FCC to Limit 20 Meter Power
See Page 5 for details

General Meeting
Friday, April 10, 1998
Palo Alto Hofbrau

Program

**"Rocky Point and the Development
of Modern Radio (and Television)."**
Garry Shapiro, NI6T

Happy Hour: 6 PM
Dinner: 7 PM
Meeting: 8 PM

Directions: From US 101, Palo Alto, take the Embarcadero exit. Drive EAST on Embarcadero approximately 1/2 mile. The golf course and the Hofbrau are on the left by the airport. Use 147.36 (+600) for assistance

ARRL Pacific Division Update

APRIL, 1998

by Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director, Pacific Division, ARRL
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WWW Pacific Division Home Page — <http://www.pdarrl.org/>

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:

President: Ted Park, K6XN
Vice President: George Allan, W6YD
Secretary: Ron Panton, W6VG
Treasurer: Keith Butts, KN6K
Director: Ted Algren, KA6W
Director: Gordon Gorton, W6NW
Director: Garry Shapiro, NJ6T

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DX Ladder: Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ
9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC
Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD
California Award: Rubin Hughes, WA6AHF
Historian/archivist: Ron Panton, W6VG
Records Manager: Ron Panton, W6VG
Publications Mgr: Ron Panton, W6VG

Club Repeater, W6TIR

Frequency/offset: 147.36 MHz, +
Trustee: Bob Vallo, W6RGG
Comm. Chairman: Eric Swarz, WA6HHQ
Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)
Thurs. Net QTR: 8 pm local time.
Net Manager: Randy Wright, W6CUA
DX News: Dave Pugatch, KI6WF
Propagation: Al Lotze, W6RQ
Swap Shop: Ben Deovlet, W6FDU
QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6B8Y

W6TI DX Bulletins:

W6TI Station Trustee Bob Vallo, W6RGG transmits DX information at 0200 UT every Monday (Sunday evening local time) on both 7.016 and 14.002 MHz.

Club address: Box 608
Menlo Park, CA
94026-0608

The DXer is published monthly by the Northern California DX Club and sent to all club members. Unless otherwise noted, NCDXC permits re-use of any article in this publication—provided The DXer and the article's author are credited.

FCC News Relating to Amateur Radio:-

ARRL visits FCC Commissioners and staff — On Monday, March 9, ARRL President Rod Stafford, W6ROD, and ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, “told the Amateur Radio story” to key officials in Washington, D.C. Four of the five Commissioners are new in the last few months. Rod and Chris called on Commissioner Ness, Commissioner Powell (new) and Rick Chessen, the Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Tristani (new). Rod and Chris were also able to call on Richard Lee, the relatively new Chief of Compliance and Information Bureau (CIB), who is charged with enforcement and with D’wana Terry, the Acting Chief, Private Wireless Division of WTB. The WTB is the group which has oversight of Amateur Radio.

The visits were cordial and informative. Only time will tell of the outcomes, but significantly, these calls were made at the top level.

FCC Chairman Kennard comments on enforcement — Kennard made an interesting comment before the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary, Appropriations Committee of the Senate on the FCC FY 1999 Budget Estimates. Of particular interest was the part on enforcement and on the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. While, the enforcement perspective is not directed at amateur radio it does show a renewed interest in the subject on Kennard’s part; something he has noted several times in print in the 4.5 months he has been Chairman. Maybe there is hope for real enforcement!

Proposed new licensing procedure — On Mar. 20, the FCC released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making, Docket WT 98-20, “To Facilitate the Development and Use of the Universal Licensing System in the Wireless Telecommunications Services.” The proposals will be open for public comment for 30 days starting on their date of publication in the Federal Register. The date is unknown as of March 20, but will likely occur within the next few days. The NPRM apparently proposes no changes in privileges or qualifications for any class of license.

Key goals appear to be:

1. Replacement of the venerable Form 610.
2. Elimination of the Form 610-A, thus providing paperless reciprocal licenses.
3. Proposed privatization of club licensing.
4. Require use of Taxpayer Identification Numbers (usually Social Security numbers).

The document is available at the FCC Web site, www.fcc.gov. A link to the document can be found in the Headlines section, the first section following the Home Page banner. Comments must be in hard copy format. No e-mail comments will be accepted.

New ARRL Section Managers in the Pacific Division:-

In the Pacific Section, Ronald Phillips, AH6HN, of Keaau, HI, will take office on April 1 as the result of an uncontested election. Phillips will succeed current Pacific SM Dean Manley, KH6B, who chose not to run again.

In the Santa Clara Valley Section, Geoffrey Ellis, KD6MFM, of Santa Cruz, CA, will take office on July 1 as the result of an uncontested election. Ellis will succeed current SCV SM Kit Blanke, WA6PWW, who chose not to run again.

Thanks Dean and Kit for your service. Welcome Ron and Geoff to the team!

Pacific Division Hams in New York Times Article:-

There was a great article in the Mar. 5 issue entitled, “Ham Radio, Version 2.0 for the Silicon Era” by John W. Verity. The premise is that there’s a new generation of hams “reinventing” it for the digital era. In the article several hams were interviewed including Pacific Division hams — Dwayne Hendricks, WA8DZP, Assistant Director, and Geoffrey Baehr, N6LXA. The article can be found at URL <http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/98/03/circuits/articles/05ham-radio.html>

General Meeting



Ron Panton, W6VG

Minutes of NCDXC meeting of March 13, 1998. Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Golf Club, and after libations and dinner, the business meeting was called to order by president K6XN, Ted Park at 7:58 P.M. The very few guests were introduced, notably our former member Rogef Gearhart, W6PKB. No new members were forthcoming, so Ted went right into the business of the evening. Many good ideas were advanced, some suggestions for improving the Thursday night net, more usage of the repeater other than just the net. Xyl names in the roster, the absence of club officers on the net, DXer editor K7JJ volunteered

to be on the net. Better rapport with other clubs around the United States, i.e.: exchanging bulletins, ideas, articles. Showing old re-runs of DXpeditions, as maybe new members would like to see. Expand Web Page. Many good ideas were forthcoming, hope we can implement them, too many to list. Meeting adjourned at 9:31 P.M. W6VG secretary.

Board of Directors Meeting

The NCDXC BoD convened Wednesday, March 11, 1998, at the home of K6XN. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M. by president Ted Park. Also in attendance were: Ted Algren KA6W, Keith Butts KN6K, Gordon Girton W6NW, George Allan W6YD, Garry Shapiro NI6T, Ron Panton W6VG, & our ex officio member Dave Earnest K7JJ. Dave is the editor of our club bulletin, the DXer, and Dave was given a hearty vote of confidence by the board. He is doing a fine job, but can use more input from the membership.

The papers are all signed for the DX Convention for 1999. Will be held in Fresno April 9 through 11. Chairperson is yet to be decided, but Craig Smith W6WL will be the program chairperson, & Gordon Girton W6NW preregistration.

George Allan W6YD will be meeting with other members of the DXer of the Year Committee. Lunch meeting date to be announced.

The April meeting of the NCDXC will feature a presentation by Garry Shapiro on old time radio inventors.

The election committee is being put together, nothing definite at this date.

Discussion of club dues date. It looks as though the treasurer will be sending out dues notices. Logistics still to be worked out. It was suggested by Gordon Girton that the fee for reinstatement of delinquent dues paying members be dropped from \$10 to \$5. Gordon is rewriting the pertinent page for the procedures manual. The board will, after reading, then act upon this motion.

The logistics of the SAM 40 meter contest award will be discussed at the next meeting by Peter Gerba, KN6BI.

The numerous changes necessary for the procedures manual must be held over for a later meeting of the board.

--Ron Panton W6VG secretary

ARRL Pacific Division (continued)

Mike Albov, KC6TUV, New Volunteer Counsel: I am pleased to announce that Mike Albov KC6TUV, of Monterey CA has been appointed a Volunteer Counsel in the Santa Clara Valley Section. Welcome, Mike!

Nominees are welcome for the seventh annual Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award, a chance to honor the ham who did the most to promote Amateur Radio in 1997. The McGan award was named for journalist Philip J. McGan, WA2MGQ (SK), the first chairman of the ARRL Public Relations Committee. It goes to the ARRL member who demonstrates volunteer public relations success on behalf of ham radio at the local, state or national level, and who best exemplifies the volunteer spirit of the award's namesake. Public relations (as opposed to public service) activities are those specifically directed at bringing Amateur Radio to the public's attention in a positive light—typically through the media (newspapers, TV, radio). Nominations for the seventh annual award are due May 29, 1998 at ARRL Headquarters, Newington, Connecticut, by 5:00 PM Eastern Time. Entry forms for the Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award are available from Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, e-mail jgagne@arrrl.org or call 860-594-0328. Send completed forms and supporting materials to Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award, care of Jennifer Gagne, N1TDY, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111.

April Meeting Program

Garry Shapiro, NI6T will offer "Rocky Point and the Development of Modern Radio (and Television)." Garry's talk will spotlight RCA's historical transatlantic communications and R&D facility on eastern Long Island, and the incredible achievements of its staff, which included Beverage (the Wave Antenna), Alexanderson (high-powered LF alternators), Hansell (whose patent total may be exceeded only by Edison.) and Carter (folded dipole, vee antenna, conicals, bowties).

73 es 88 to Iris Colvin, W6QL -- sk

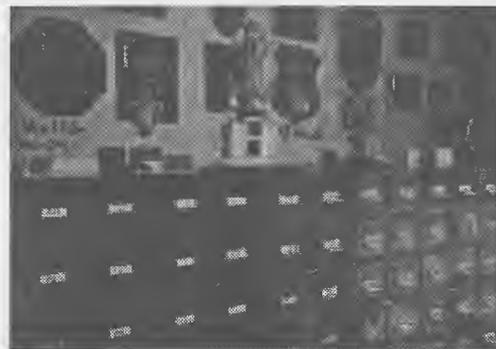


Iris Atterbury Colvin

Born 15 April 1914
Ashland, Oregon

Died 18 February 1998
Richmond, California

Iris was a woman with accomplishments in many areas of life. She graduated from the University of California in 1938 with a major in Art. Later she studied brush painting in Japan and did many Japanese style watercolors. She was married to Lloyd Colvin, Lt. Col. U.S. Army, from 1939 until his death in 1993. Iris held the radio call W6QL and shared with Lloyd (W6KG) a passion for amateur radio. Together they traveled in 223 countries, operating radio in over 100 of them. Iris was a member of ARRL, a member and past President of the Northern California DX Club, and President of the YASME foundation for the promotion of international amateur radio. She was a California licensed general contractor and real estate broker. As Vice President of Drake Builders, she built numerous houses, apartment buildings and hospitals in the Bay Area. She is survived by her daughter, Joy Gilcrease, granddaughters Justine Gilcrease and Vanessa Baccarat, and her great granddaughter, Sophie Baccarat. Her remains will be scattered at sea and there will be no public ceremony.



The QSL Collection



The Colvin's QTH



Iris with Garry, N16T, at THE Convention



Jim, W6CF, with Iris. Colvin's Open House

FCC to Limit 20 Meter Power

An immediate change to Amateur Radio rules regarding output power on 20 meters was announced today. Beginning April 1, 1998, stations on that band will be limited to 5 watts of output power.

This action was requested by the Tele-Signal Corporation of Cove Fort, Utah, a major manufacturer of highway traffic signals. The next generation of computer controlled traffic signals is subject to RFI from stations operating in the 20 meter band, with the traffic signal lights being forced to display green, yellow and red simultaneously for all directions of travel.

For more information, call 1-800-555-GOTU, or see the website: <http://www.fcc.gov/imaaprfool>

(tnx SCDXC & WorldRadio)

Wanted: Your Most Memorable Radio Experience

In an attempt to make the *DXer* more interesting to our members, I solicit everyone to submit their most memorable DX experience. Whether picking up a new one, busting a pileup, being part of a DXpedition, or meeting a famous *DXer* on the air, send your story to me and I will include it an upcoming issue.

I know I have had lots of exciting contacts on the air and in person. For instance, I remember a QSO with **Captain Kurt Carlson (W2ZXM)** of the Flying Enterprise adventure. I QSO'd him while his Flying Enterprise II was sailing through the Red Sea. This QSO took place in 1954 while I was stationed in Saudi Arabia.

I remember my QSO with **General Curtis LeMay**. In 1955, I was stationed on a radar site in North Dakota and was working 40 CW one night and contacted a guy named Curt in Omaha. He asked me how I like the Air Force and stuff like that. Imagine my surprise when I received his QSL card and saw his full name. I think (hope) I told him I loved the Air Force!

With the hundreds of members in the NCDXC, there have got to be many, many interesting operating and radio related experiences the membership can share. No one can tell a story like a ham. What is the most treasured QSL card you have in your collection? Did Murphy ever strike you at the wrong time? Ever work a station and then discover you had not switched back to the antenna from the dummy load? Come on folks, share the wealth! Help me share your stories with the group.

Thanks for your support!

de K7JJ (k7jj@garlic.com)

Photos Needed

Do you have any club or DX related photos or QSL cards you would like to share with the deserving? Perhaps you took some photos and forgot to send them in to the *DXer*. I can scan them and return them ASAP. I will also pass a copy on to Chuck, AA6G, to see if he can include the picture in the web pages. How about a picture of the most messy ham shack? The most squared awayradio room? You must be proud of that antenna installation, so share a photo with us.

The Original Trap Dipole



**NOW AVAILABLE
\$39.95 Plus Tax**

**Order From:
California Antenna Systems Handlers (CASH)
7188 Ruane St.
San Diego, CA 92119
(Make checks payable to CASH)**

Coming soon -- a Boomless Yagi!

1998 International DX Convention Update

The DXer received the following update information from Fried, WA6WZO, and Sandi, WA6WZN, the publicity chairmen for the 1998 DX Convention. The convention takes place in Visalia, May 1-3, 1998, and is hosted by the Southern California DX Club.

The Saturday Night banquet will feature a presentation by the 9M0C group on their recent Spratly DXpedition.

The Sunday breakfast will have a program on operating from Laos, presented by Zorro, JH1AJT.

The master of ceremonies for both events will be Dave Bell, W6AQ.

The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Visalia. Preregistration deadline is April 15, 1998 (postmark). Preregistration is \$55.00. \$60.00 after deadline. Meal ticket or convention only tickets are available -- contact Don Bostrom at Home (818) 784-2590 or Work (310) 334-8717 for information. The SCDXC has a web site for the convention:

(www.primenet.com/~scdxc/dxconv98.html)

The web site includes hotel information and a registration form. In the near future, the web site will include the list of programs. For more information contact the program chairman, Harvey Shore, K6EXO, (818) 716-5681.

VISALIA GOLF



FRIDAY 5/1/98 - TEE TIME 9AM
(MEET IN THE CLUBHOUSE
8:30)

VALLEY OAKS GOLF COURSE
1800 S. PLAZA DR. VISALIA, CA
(209)-651-1441

\$28.00 per person (includes
mandatory carts) Tee prize, closest
to the pin(2), low gross, low net

Contact

W6TEX 510-

538-5134 or E-

mail:

w6tex@best.com

Please confirm early to assure tee
times.

ST0, Southern Sudan Deleted

The ARRL, DXAC and Awards Committee have voted to delete Southern Sudan, ST0, from the DXCC list. That word this week from ARRL Membership Services Committee.

While the status in Southern Sudan changed in 1983, QSOs made before January 1, 1995, will count for the deleted entity. There are two reasons for this. First, there have been accredited operations since 1983, thus raising a fairness issue. Second, the DXCC Desk processed cards from those operations -- many of them onto paper records. The DXCC Desk says that, because each ST0 credit would have to be individually checked, it would be very costly and time-consuming to search and remove post-1983 ST0 QSOs from the records, and a complete and accurate job might not be possible.

The DXAC and Awards committees have agreed to make no change in the status of Fernando de Noronha, PY0, and Kure Island, KH7K.

--DXCC Desk

The April meeting of the Northern California DX Club will be held on

Friday, April 10 at the Hofbrau at the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course.

Garry Shapiro, N16T will offer "Rocky Point and the Development of

Modern Radio (and Television)." Garry's talk will spotlight RCA's historic transatlantic communications and R&D facility on eastern Long

Island, and the incredible achievements of its staff, which included

Beverage (the Wave Antenna), Alexanderson (high-powered LF alternators), Hansell (whose patent total may be exceeded only by Edison.)

and Carter (folded dipole, vee antenna, conicals, bowties).

Let's Try Something New This Year!

by John Brand, K6WC

Commencing October 10, 1987 and continuing thereafter, the club will sponsor a Nine Band DX Achievement Award. The purpose of this award is to promote interest and participation by club members to work DX on all HF bands and to recognize individual operating achievement.

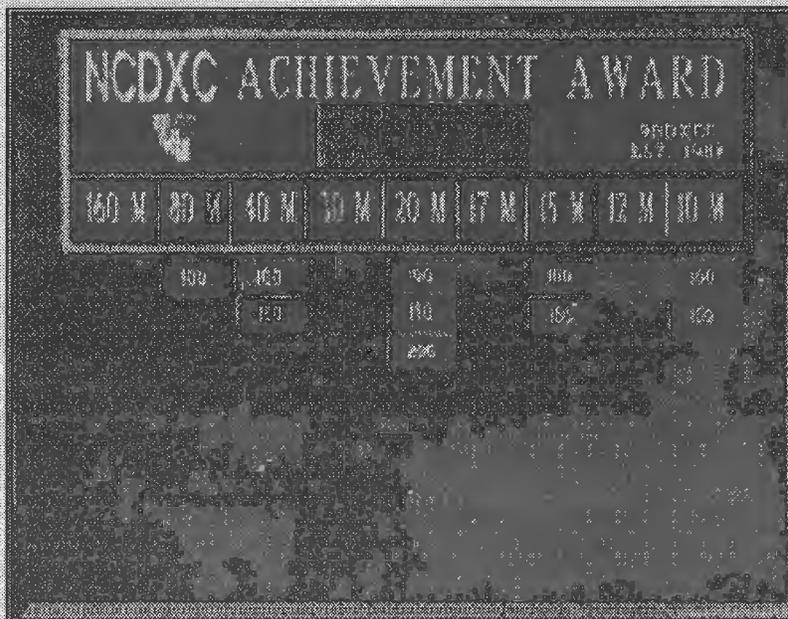
This idea and the design of the award was conceived and implemented by Chuck Vaughn, AA6G over 10 years ago. A handsome award it is! Requests for the Award are normally submitted in October of each year with presentations during the following January regular meeting.

Let's Try Something New This Year!

With our bands beginning to show some life, let's loosen up a bit. At least this year! Between the time you read this and October 1998, feel free to submit your requests for the Award at any time. Request a new plaque with its associated endorsements and you will receive them as soon as they can be made and delivered. No waiting until October/January. Keep in mind that I am only speaking of a new plaque with first time endorsements. In October of this year, we will revert to the normal request and presentation procedure.

What's Needed

The award is available to all club members including honorary and absentee members. All DX contacts must be made since October 10, 1987 using the call sign and operating privileges indicated on your valid amateur radio license. The award includes operation on the 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17,



15, 12 and 10 meter amateur bands. The object is to work as many countries as possible on each of the nine HF bands. The entry level for this award is 100 countries worked on any one band. The ultimate goal would be to work 300 countries on all nine bands.

Countries worked shall be in accord with the current ARRL Countries List. Deleted countries shall be stricken from the awards totals. Credit for countries worked does not require QSL verification. The honor system shall be used to report countries worked.

At a minimum, the award is a plaque with at least one endorsement of 100 on any band. Additional endorsements will be affixed if requested with the plaque application. Endorsements in the form of tags will be issued for every 50 countries worked on each band between the 100 country entry and the 250 country level. Above the 250 country level, endorsement tags will be issued for every 10 countries worked up to and including 300. Each participating club member will pay a one time fee to cover the cost of the basic plaque. A Fee will be charged

for each endorsement tag.

To determine the number of endorsement tags you need, consider the following. First review the increments in which they are issued. Let's assume you worked 130 countries on 10 meters, 150 countries on 15 meters and 175 countries on 20 meters. You would need to include \$5.00 for endorsement tags when you apply for the award. That includes a 100 tag for 10 meters, two 100 and 150 tags each for 15 and 20 meters.

The Really Important Stuff

Here is a summary of the costs:

9BDDXCC Plaque(one time)	\$35.00
Endorsement Tags(each)	1.00
UPS Shipping - USA	5.00
Surface Mail - Foreign	13.00
Airmail - Foreign	23.00

Send your request and check payable to the NCDXC (in U.S. Funds) to:

John Brand, K6WC
9055 Tanglewood Circle
Orangevale, CA 95662.

Note: If you are on the Internet and want to see a very nice picture of the club's Nine Band Award, check out the club web site at: <http://www.ncxdc.org/> go to NCDXC Sponsored Awards and Com-petitions and finally 9 Band DXCC Achievement Award. I'm sure after seeing the award, you will want one!

73 es Gud DX



