

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



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Editor's Choice

Regarding the convention issue. I made some comments in the June issue, based on very little fact regarding change of venue. As a result, some members took exception to my remarks. That is fine, except the responses were not addressed to me, but to Ted, K6XN. I learned nothing from this experience, as the comments did not come to me. Of course, I made the remarks to attempt to get some response from this membership. Some members have proposed in the past, moving the convention to a metropolitan area in order to attract more attendees, etc. I think it is an admirable idea and worthy of investigation. At the board meeting prior to the June meeting, Ted, K6XN, distributed a letter from Knock, K6ITL, detailing his experiences while involved with past conventions. The intent, with Knock's permission, was to include his letter in the DXer. Unfortunately, I do not have the software to scan documents. I have optical character recognition function, but don't have the program to change what I scan into editable text. That's my story and I'm sticking to it! (Humor, so smile!). Knock's very informative letter is included in this issue.

The elections were:

- 1) ~~A nonevent. No one ran.~~
- 2) ~~No one showed up.~~
- 3) Were a huge success!!!

Congratulations to our new officers:

- President: Doug Westover, W6JD
- Vice Pres: Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW
- Secretary: Jerry Bliss, K6III
- Treasurer: Ted Park, K6XN
- Director: Dick Letrich, W6KM
- Director: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
- Director: Dave Earnest, K7JJ



Let us all support these folks who will lead the club through the next year. They will need our help to insure the 1999 convention is a success.

— 73, Dave K7JJ

Dues are Due

Dues are due by July 1, 1998.
 Mail your check to:
 NCDXC, P. O. Box 608,
 Menlo Park, CA 94026-0608

July 10, 1998

**NCDXC General Meeting
 Program
 TBD &
 DX Convention, 1999**

**Palo Alto Golf Course
 Attitude Modification @ 1800
 Supper @ 1900
 Meeting follows Supper**

**Take Embarcadero exit from
 101, go east approximately 1/2
 mile and turn left into the drive
 between golf course and airport.
 Talk in assistance on club
 repeater, W6TI/R, on 147.360 +
 600 Khz.**

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: Doug Westover, W6JD
Vice Pres: Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW
Secretary: Jerry Bliss, K6III
Treasurer: Ted Park, K6XN
Director: Dick Letrich, W6KM
Director: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
Director: Dave Earnest, K7JJ

The DXer:

Editor: Dave Earnest, K7JJ
15200 Monterey Rd
Morgan Hill CA 95037
(408)779-6662 ext. 203
k7jj@garlic.com

Printing, Mailing: Don Anastacia, AA6W

Web Page: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
<http://www.ncdxc.org>

DX Ladder: Dave Bernstein, AA6YQ

9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD

California Award: Ruben Hughes, WA6AHF

Historian/archivist: Ron Panton, W6VG

Records Manager: Ron Panton, W6VG

Publications Mgr: Ron Panton, W6VG

Club Repeater, W6TI/R

Frequency/offset: 147.36 MHz, +

Trustee: Bob Vallio, 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, W6BSY

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
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.

President's Comments

My sincere thanks to those who stepped forward (with perhaps a LITTLE arm twisting) to provide the club with what I think will be an excellent slate of officers and board for the coming year. And, of course, thanks to the out going officers for providing the much need leadership over the past year.

The club has many issues to address. The most immediate and pressing is to resolve the dates and venue of the 1999 convention and establish a convention committee. I intend to firm this up by the time of the July meeting. I am most encouraged by the generous offers of assistance from our own membership and from outside the club. I'm certain we'll put on a great show.

On another subject, I joined the club in 1963 at the tender age of 25...I was one of the "kids". Here I am in 1998, almost 60, and, in club terms, I'm STILL one of the "kids". Do we see a problem here? We should! We must try and encourage some new and younger blood and we need to stimulate more interest in the current membership. Hey, the sunspots are up, conditions are good and getting better...jump in and participate in the marathon, just get active! Then come to the meetings and tell lies!

All suggestions for membership enhancement/participation are more than welcome. If you have suggestions for meeting places and programs PLEASE let me know. For my part I hope to move meetings around to different (and hopefully "fun") spots, have more joint meetins with other clubs with similar interests (the meeting with the contest club was great), and try to bring in some likely new members.

Doug Westover, W6JD

General Meeting

The NCDXC June meeting was held at the Palo Alto Golf Club, and a new president and slate of officers were elected.

The list follows:

President-W6JD, Doug Westover:

Vice president N6VAW, Marilyn Bagshaw;

Secretary-K6III, Jerry Bliss:

Treasurer-K6XN, Ted Park;

Directors-

K7JJ. Dave Earnest:

W6KM-Dick Letrich;

AA6G, Chuck Vaughn

New member K6YR, Rob Griffin was voted into membership, and re-instated was N6NG, Dennis Jacobson.(formerly known as WB6CQY) The "State of the Club" situation was given by president K6XN, with interspersed statements by Al Burnham K6RIM. Al assured the assembled club members that assistance (if needed, or wanted) would be forthcoming for the 1999 DX Convention from the Redwood Empire DX Club. Member Steve Mercahnt, K6AW, president of the NCCC and Bob Wilson, N6TV, conveyed the willingness of the Northern California Contest Club to help NCDXC with the Convention. Knock, K6ITL spoke of the liaison between the SCDXC and the SDDX Club. After a round table discussion on active or better attended clubs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

— Ron, W6VG Secretary

Don Anastacia, AA6W New DXer Mail Coordinator

Don Anastacia, AA6W, has accepted the very important job as the printing and mailing coordinator for the DXer. Don succeeds Jerry Bliss, K6III, who did a super job of getting the DXer out ASAP each month. Jerry was elected club secretary at the June meeting.

Thanks, Don, for stepping up and volunteering to do this job.

Dave, K7JJ

Dues are Due

Dues for the 1998-99 year are due and payable by July 1, 1998.

Regular Dues: \$24.00
Check by-laws for other rates

Mail check to:
NCDXC
P. O. Box 608
Menlo Park, CA 94026-0608

FO0FI and FO0FR

With thanks to San Diego DX Club Bulletin)

Bob, W6RJ and son Robert, W6KR, recently completed a very successful DXpedition to two new "entities" expected to be added to the official DXCC list. Both operations were from the French Polynesia group, but qualified under the new mileage rules.

The operating time was approximately six and a half days from each location. FO0FI was from the island of Tubuai in the Australs. FO0FR was from Nuku Hiva Island, one of the Marquesas. Both were successful under sometimes poor band conditions.

Equipment used were Icom 706MKII's driving Finn FET amplifiers (500W). Antennas were miscellaneous verticals. The entire DXpedition was sponsored by HRO and the two operators.

During part of the operation, Kanta As Bu, FO0FI total 22,691, and 24,011 for FO0FR. QSLs will be handled by K6SLO (ex-WA6SLO).

DAYTON 1998

by Dave Earnest, K7JJ

I finally made it to Dayton Hamvention after procrastinating for many years. Everyone goes for a different reason, other than just going. Mine was to meet old and new friends from HZ1AB, the Dhahran Amateur Radio Club. I got reacquainted with several fellows I worked with the oil company. What was neat as well was meeting with other guys that I have met via email and on the air, since opening the HZ1AB web site last year. (see <http://www.garlic.com/~k7jj/hz1ab.html>). In all there were 15 of us who worked or served in Arabia over the past 40 odd years. Dayton was a great place to have such a reunion and most of us sat together at the DX Dinner.

It is indeed nearly overwhelming to tour the HARA arena and the fleamarket outside. Every manufacturer of ham gear, accessories, software, clothing, hats, antennas...you name it, it was there. Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, et al, showed their product lines. I came away with a hat from Yaesu and a pencil from Kenwood. I owned two FT-101's in the past, so I guess that is o.k. I do have 2 Kenwood rigs, so a pencil was good pay back, right?

There was plenty of good junk to be seen and bought at the fleamarket. Man, they are still peddling WWII command sets. I did not get misty eyed when I spotted a guy with a BC-610! Those things caused me a lot of grief - - easy to operate, hell to lift or move! There were quite a few groups peddling and/or showing Collins equipment, mostly S-line. I did come away with a couple of goodies, both of which I could carry in my carry on bag. The XYL was very relieved I didn't further hock our retirement. I didn't tell her that UPS and the Postal Service had booths in the HARA arena! I did not make use of their services. Perhaps next time.

At the DX Dinner, I saw and spoke to Bob, W6RGG, and Wayne, N7NG, from NCDXC. I'm sure there were others from California DX clubs. I also ran into a couple of fellows I had not seen since I was KS6DY in Samoa in the early 1970's.

It is all there and I didn't see it all. Perhaps next time. If you have not made it, you must do so before you head for the old ham boneyard.



New Orleans International DX CONVENTION



In the heart of the historic French Quarter!

August 14-15, 1998 ~ Royal Sonesta Hotel

See our web page at <http://www.gnofn.org/~w5ru/>

DXERS GATHER IN NEW ORLEANS FRENCH QUARTER!

The seventh annual ARRL-approved **New Orleans International DX Convention** will be held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in the heart of the French Quarter of New Orleans, Louisiana, USA on August 14-15, 1998. Featuring DXpeditions and technical presentations, as well as a gala banquet (not just food - excellent cuisine), this convention is all in ONE PLACE! All events are held at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, one of the finest hotels in North America. Located at Royal & Bourbon Streets, the hotel is within walking distance of more fine restaurants and family entertainment than you will be able to see in one weekend. This meeting offers fun and DX with plenty of room, no swap tables, and free hospitality suites each night with a Bourbon Street balcony overlook. It is a DX gathering without equal.

BRING THE FAMILY - IT CAN BE A VACATION FOR ALL!

Bring your family and friends and enjoy a great weekend in one of the greatest all-around fun cities. The Royal Sonesta is rated in the top 10 hotels in North America (see reverse for reservations information). Explore the French Quarter shops and jazz clubs, visit the Aquarium of the Americas, ride a 19th century streetcar down St. Charles Avenue and stop off for a stroll through one of the finest zoos in the USA. Eat at one of the many world-renowned restaurants. Tour the Superdome or try your luck at gaming in one of the riverboat casinos. It's all here and much, much more. See reverse side for more. Join us for a DXing experience that you will not regret. Advance Registration: \$60 (\$40 for banquet-only non-ham guest). At the door: \$70 (\$50 banquet-only non-ham guest).

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday 14 August 1998 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
 Registration Desk (1 - 4 PM); QSL checking - Bill Kenamer, K5FUV, ARRL Membership Services Director
 K7K Kure Island 1997 - Frank Smith, AH0W
 HK0/KB5GL Providencia Island 1998 - Silvano Amenta, KB5GL
 TT8JFC Chad 1997 - John Cantrell, WB4MBU
8:00 PM - 11:00 PM Hospitality Suite, Bourbon St. Balcony, & open bar sponsored and hosted by Carl Smith, N4AA, DX Publications.
Saturday 15 August 1998 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM
 Registration Desk (8 AM - Noon). Complimentary coffee & tea
 QSL checking - Bill Kenamer, K5FUV
 Welcome & Introductions
 ARRL DXCC Update - Bill Kenamer, K5FUV
 Temotu Islands 1998 - Bruce Butler W6OSP
 KH5/KH5K Palmyra, Kingman 1998 - Chuck Brady N4BQW
 SSTV DXing - W5ZR, Bert Beyt
 ZK1XXP N. Cook Island 1997 - Tom Harrell, K8XP
LUNCH BREAK 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM
 DXCC2000 Update - K5UR Rick Roderick, Delta Division Director
 6-meter EME DXing - K6QXY Bob Magnani/ WA6MXI Allen Ferrera
 5A28 Libya 1997 - OE2GRP, Recep Guersoy
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM DX ragchew and cash bar
7:15 PM - 10:30 PM Gala Banquet Program
 Dixer of the Year Award to Frank Smith, AH0W/OH2LVG
 Featured presentation: XW30 Laos 1998 by Frank Smith, AH0W
 Note: Evening dress (coat & tie).
10:30 PM - Midnight Hospitality Suite, Bourbon St. Balcony, & open bar sponsored and hosted by Carl Smith, N4AA, DX Publications.
SUNDAY 16 AUGUST 1998 On your own - Enjoy!
 73 & DX de NOIDX

Advance Registration Form (Advance Registration Deadline is 31 July 1998)

Advance registration is \$60 including all sessions, banquet, and registration prize tickets. Banquet-only admission for non-ham guests is \$40. Evening dress for banquet (coat & tie). Please indicate your preference for the entrée: Beef Fish

Name _____ Call _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Name _____ Call _____ Amount Enclosed _____

Address _____ Total Enclosed _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Visa/Master Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Enclose check or money order payable to:
New Orleans International DX Convention
 c/o Michael Mayer W5ZPA
 5836 Marcia Avenue
 New Orleans, LA 70124 USA
 Fax: (504) 524 2129

For further information, call Wendy, K5KR (504) 837-1485



The Western Washington DX Club Inc.
Is proud to present:

The 1998 Pacific Northwest DX Convention

Dates: July 17-18-19, 1998
Place: Doubletree Inn - Southcenter
205 Strander Boulevard
Seattle, WA 98188

Reservations: (800) 222-8733 (Ask for "Convention Rates" - valid until June 26)
Single \$105 US Double \$105 Triple \$115 Quad \$115

Saturday Night Banquet: KØIR, Ralph Fedor: "The Southern Ocean - A DX Odyssey"
Sunday Morning DX Breakfast: VE7SBO/WA6SBO, Bill Rindone: "DXpeditions, Famous and Infamous"
Other Programs:

- KG7GA, Garth Hitchins: "Hi Performance Remote Stations and Their Operation"
- N6MZ, Mike Mraz: "DXpedition Antennas the Work"
- NØAX, Ward Silver/K7LXC, Steve Morris: Antenna Testing and Results
- NS1L, Bill Moore: DXCC Forum
- NM7M, K7LA, and others: Low Band Forum
- Others still to be finalized...

Seminars Saturday Morning &
Saturday Afternoon

Door Prize, *A BIG ONE!!!*
Awarded at Banquet

Raffle Prizes, LOTS!!!
Announced at DX Breakfast

DXCC Desk QSL Card Check

New Equipment Displays

ARRL Publications Available

Register Early! Early registrants get five extra raffle tickets if you beat the June 18th deadline.
Thanks, and hope to see you in July in Seattle. In the meantime drop by our homepage for program updates.
<http://www.wwdx.org>, WWDXC Repeater: 147.00 (-600)

----- cut here -----

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ City/State (Prov)/Zip _____

Phone/Email _____ Costs: Program \$20 x _____ = \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:
Western Washington DX Club
P.O. Box 395
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Banquet (Salmon) \$25 x _____ = \$ _____

OR
Banquet (Chicken) \$25 x _____ = \$ _____

Breakfast \$12 x _____ = \$ _____

Package Deal, including
Program, banquet, breakfast:
\$55 x _____ = \$ _____

NOTE: \$5.00 Late Registration Fee after 7/1/98

Phone 206-784-1089, W7QN, Joe Gregory, Convention Chairman Total Enclosed: \$ _____



**1998 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
San Diego, CA, August 14-16, 1998 at the
Town & Country Convention Center**

**Sponsored by SANDARC, Inc.
(San Diego County Amateur Radio Council)**

**Convention Sites Town & Country Convention Center
500 Hotel Circle North, P.O. Box 80090
San Diego, CA 92128**

**Special Hotel Rates for ARRL Convention Call 800-77-ATLAS
NO PARKING FEE**

How Many?	Cost	Amount
_____ Early Bird (before May 5) Special Drawing for Early Birds (Free Logo Panda pin included)	\$10.00	_____
_____ Pre-Registration (May 5 to Aug. 1, '98) Special Pre-Registration drawing	\$12.00	_____
_____ Registration at Door (Aug. 1 to show)	\$15.00	_____
_____ Saturday Night Banquet	\$35.00	_____
_____ Saturday Ladies' Luncheon	\$22.00	_____
_____ Sunday DX Breakfast	\$20.00	_____
_____ Extra logo pin	\$5.00	_____
Total enclosed		\$ _____

Badge Information (Print or Type)

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Make checks payable to: SANDARC, Inc.
Free admission to Youngsters, 16 years and under accompanied by an adult.

Mail this form and check to: 1998 ARRL S.W. DIV. Convention
Bob Boehme, W6RHV, Registration Chairman
10340 Everell Place, Santee, CA 92071

For additional information, call Sybil Allbright, W6GIC, at (619) 278-4284



CHECK # _____ Amount _____ Pin Given_Y__N__ Call of person taking regis. _____



J.D. "Knock" Knochenhauer *K6ITL*
133 Sylvan Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403-3327
(650) 345-9511

May 7, 1998

Ted Park *K6XN*
President
Northern California DX Club

Dear Ted:

Just after leaving Visalia on the way home from the DX Convention, I was pleased to hear you say that the decision to hold the **50th** International DX Convention in Fresno was not absolute and that several NCDXC members and other attendees had spoken to you about reconsidering the location for next year and that there would be further discussion about this at a future club meeting.

First off, I have spent countless days and weeks over the past ten or twelve years looking at various locations to see if there is any location which would offer more, or better, conditions than the current location in Visalia. These include every city on the coast from Santa Barbara to Santa Rosa and from Bakersfield to Sacramento. Second, I have been Chairman, Assistant Chairman or a member of the planning committee on more than six successful conventions sponsored by the NCDXC, so I do speak from considerable experience in the planning and management of the convention. Third, I have attended the last 29 International DX Conventions sponsored by either the NCDXC or the SCDXC, many of the Dayton Hamventions (including the first and second in 1951 and 1952), the Northwest DX Convention and countless other general as well as DX related conventions, so I have seen the good, the bad and the ugly!

Those who demanded a change in location for the 1997 convention may well remember that I proposed that a prospectus be sent to every Chamber of Commerce in the most likely places that might meet our requirements, and to select from a list of hotels those which on the surface could possibly meet them. Only in this way could we obtain adequate information on which to make a decision. Unfortunately, this was not done.

Before making any recommendation to you, it is advisable to identify some of the major requirements for this convention to succeed year after year. First, we must look at the traditional attendance. Over the years, even as attendance has grown to over 600 for most years, we find that fewer than 10% come from out of state on average; almost 60% come from the Southern California/ Arizona region; and only 30 to 35% come from north of Bakersfield. This means that easy access is a necessity, not by air not by boat, but by private vehicle, and should be fairly close to the mid-point between Los Angeles and San Francisco. This could be modified by having a spectacular location such as Santa Barbara! (Although I dearly love Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, Morro Bay and Monterey, none of them really could meet our expectations.) Second, we must consider the amenities that we have all come to expect, ie; adequate rooms (425), large informal meeting areas for socializing, meetings and banquet rooms, good exhibit space(s), dedication of hotel staff and facilities to **our** convention not other competing meetings, adequate parking for all attendees, not just those staying at the headquarters hotel, and a location where families will feel comfortable and safe when leaving the facility. We must also consider that no other hotel will permit us to have our open hospitality hours without using their bartenders and house furnished refreshments. This adds considerable cost to the convention.

With all the above in mind, let me say that there are precious few hotels between Los Angeles and San Francisco that came close to meeting our occupancy needs. In fact, the only one that I have found that could handle us without utilizing other facilities is the Fess Parker Resort and Convention Center in Santa Barbara. It is, unfortunately, horribly expensive and would increase the registration fee to well above \$100 per person! None of the others, except for some in the metropolitan areas of LA/SF have the number of rooms required, and they don't have the necessary parking, let alone a reasonable nightly rate for the attendees, or charges that the convention could absorb. They cater to professional, industry or other

types of conventions for which the attendees are reimbursed for their expenses, so price is no object, in contrast to the average DXer who attends our convention at his/her own expense. Like it or not, the DXer may have \$7,000 amplifiers, \$6,000 exciters and \$25,000 antenna systems, but will really wonder if the expenditure of \$700 or \$800 for a weekend is worth it! For those who balance such an expenditure against the family budget, probably most of us, the total price is a major factor even if the facility is a 5 star hotel or resort. We go there to meet old friends, as well as make new ones, and to socialize with those who have the same interests, not to be entertained by chorus girls, magicians, animal trainers or hip singers! Those we can get in Las Vegas or Reno/Lake Tahoe when we aren't interested in talking radio.

Essentially, we have but two areas which can logically be considered for the convention; Visalia and Fresno. For 17 of the last 19 years, we have met in Visalia and have become familiar with all its smiles as well as its warts! The other two years we met in Fresno at the same hotel and suffered in both years from a much lower attendance, as well as difficulties in obtaining adequate sleeping rooms, parking, and informal areas for socializing. The location of the Holiday Inn in Fresno is very poor in that the immediate neighborhood is unsafe after dark, it has very limited parking (which will be even more so as the existing parking structure is now condemned as unsafe and is due to be razed), and there are no nearby motels for the overflow. The Holiday Inn, Fresno, has 75 fewer rooms than the Holiday Inn, Visalia, and is inadequate for general socializing. (We were chased out of the small lobby, the only place that had chairs, by the bartender of the small bar in the sunken lobby and there was no other place outside the meeting rooms to just kick back with old friends.) In contrast, there is ample space at the Visalia Holiday Inn for socializing; the lower lobby, the upper lobby, the poolside patio and, usually, the Plaza Room, as well as the long hallway in the rear.

In comparison, we should note that the Fresno facility does not dedicate its entire staff and facilities to just the DX convention, but repeatedly has held competing, though smaller, meetings at the same time, to the detriment of the convention. The Visalia Holiday Inn has never held competing meetings on either Saturday or Sunday, and rarely even a small dinner on Friday when we are there! This ensures that what we need we will get, as there is no one else competing for attention.

One of the loudest complaints a couple years ago had to do with the quality of service at the banquet and, to some extent, the limited menu that was offered. First, let's be honest, none of us attends any large meeting in which a meal is an integral part and expects a gourmet meal! Preparing over 600 meals is a large job and one which requires that the food be prepared well in advance then "flash-cooked" just before serving, unlike Stars which prepares no more than ten meals in advance! Slow service is one of the frequent gripes, "I didn't get my entree until others in front got their desert", "the coffee wasn't blistering hot" and, "my ice cream was frozen and took forever to thaw out". Again, when 600 or more people are being served, it is virtually impossible for everyone to be served at the same time; some will be first and some will be last but that's the way the world turns. In contrast, one comment often heard about the 1997 convention in Fresno was "It wasn't so crowded at the banquet" and "the service was faster". Well, of course, there were about 150 fewer people at the banquet there!

We should also note that the Holiday Inn, Visalia, is adding 80 new suites to their existing 245 rooms, and a new hotel is to be built across the highway, both of which will make it easier for many to stay at the "headquarters Hotel".

Obviously I am predisposed to the Holiday Inn, Visalia, mainly due to the total dedication of the staff and facility to the convention, the more than adequate parking, the ease of access from north and south, the openness of the hotel for socializing, and the overall physical layout. One important concern in evaluating the two locations is the proximity of U.S. Towers and its hospitality at the barbecue! This cannot be overlooked as an attraction to many! My experiences with both facilities is such that I have never had any problem with the staff at the Holiday Inn, Visalia, in furnishing, even at the last minute, whatever we required. True, a couple years ago they had a complete change of management a month before the convention and some who wanted a room were unable to do so, but that has all been corrected.

One other intangible, but one that is crucial to a successful convention, is the participation and cooperation of the SCDXC and SDDXC in the planning process. This has always been considered a joint operation by the NCDXC and the SCDXC although hosted in alternate years by each club. The SCDXC has traditionally shared all information, from number of registrants, costs, address lists, participation of vendors and providers of door prizes, to active on-scene assistance. Regrettably, the NCDXC always seems to want to "go it alone" and does not keep the door open for their help. This is unfortunate as the success of the convention depends to a great extent upon the complete cooperation of all involved...it is not a contest! The abrupt manner in which the decision to move to Fresno made in 1996 alienated a great many of the SCDXC members and partially destroyed the rapport that had been built up over the years.

Next year will be the **50th** International DX Convention and marks what I believe is the longest continuously running ham radio event in the world. The NCDXC should go all out to ensure that it will be the best of the best and a celebration for all to enjoy.

To accomplish this, there are several things that must be done soon. There needs to be an open discussion with the club members as to the determination of the convention site. Many may not like the ultimate decision, whatever it may be, but it will give them a chance to comment and feel that they at least tried to play a part in the decision. You, and probably the Chairman-to-be, should meet with the Sales Manager of the Holicay Inn, Visalia, to see what is available in order to compare it with the Holiday Inn, Fresno. Someone should be named as liaison with the SCDXC and keep them informed of our progress and obtain whatever assistance may be desired from them. Likewise, someone should serve as liaison to the hotel, whichever it may be, to ensure continuity of thought and keep on top of the ever changing needs that will occur. (This is a continual effort and requires personal contact every six weeks or so right up to the convention.) The problem of crowded banquet facilities was easily taken care of this year by limiting the number of banquet tickets to 625. Latecomers were encouraged to eat in the hotel dining room and paid a reduced registration fee. There was adequate room even with that many!

And finally, one of the reasons the SCDXC has an easy job of hosting the convention is the continuity between convention committees from year to year. They have a core group headed by Don Bostrum, N6IC, that is constant from year to year so they don't have to re-invent the wheel for each convention. The NCDXC has never done this and it makes it very difficult for the committee to get the job done smoothly and efficiently when they have to start from ground zero each time. After the last time I was chairman, I put together a Convention Manual which gave all the many tasks and responsibilities, a planning calendar, sources of supplies (patches, etc.), cost analysis for each category of expenses for planning purposes, and persons to contact for everything but a glass of water. I believe it ended up in the club archives and has not seen the light of day since then!

I strongly urge you to keep an open mind and discuss all possible locations prior to making a firm commitment. Review all the advantages and disadvantages of each place objectively, then consider that the **50th** International DX Convention should be a memorable event for all.

If there is anything I can do to help, let me know.

Vy 73,


"Knock" K6ITL

Incorrect EMail Addresses

NOVEMBER SIX MIKE

The following Special Event announcement will appear in July QST, and also in an upcoming issue of World Radio:

“Mountain View, CA: Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, N6M, 1600-2400Z, July 12. Honoring the men and women of the 129th Search and Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard. 7.250, 14.250, 21.350, 28.350.

SASE for certificate:
PAARA, P. O. Box 911,
Meno Park, CA, 94026”

Special event 1X1 call:

NOVEMBER SIX MIKE

Rigs for the above frquencies, plus 6 meters and VHF/UHF, will operate at the recreation and picnic area south of the former Navy housing tract, Moffett Federal Air Field. Come and enjoy the fun, meet the troops, and help demonstrate ham radio.

from the PAARAgaphs, June 1998

When making up my DXer on-line notification email list, the following addresses did not compute. Mail to these addresses were bumped back by the internet service providers. If you recognize an address as having been yours and it is changed or I mistyped it, please send me email with cc to Ron Panton, W6VG, with an update. I will correct my DXer email list and Ron can update his mail label lists.

I use this email list to notify you when the DXer is ready for downloading off the club web site each month.

duffy@ix.netcom.com
bill_maurer@ix.netcom.com
rtfriess@ix.netcom.com
dhb@ix.netcom.com
mgvinyon@ix.netcom.com
neimo.kinnari@pp.kolumbus.oi
jerryd@hpdsia.sid.hp.com
n.wilson@ix.netcom.com
nh7a@gte.net
kc6esl@aol.com
w6dpd@aol.com
sayer_robert@mail-gateway.tandem.com
dbleeson@mcimailcom
74670.2630@compuserve.com
wdh@uui.com
jim_murch@wdl.lmco.com
joe.mastroianni@.internetmci.com

Thanks for your help.

—
73,
Dave Earnest, K7JJ (ex-W7KJJ)
email: k7jj@garlic.com
<http://www.garlic.com/~k7jj>

ELECTRONIC EDITION FOR NCDXC WEB SITE

[HTTP://WWW.NCDXC.ORG](http://www.ncdxc.org)

DXer

FIRST
CLASS

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M E N L O P A R K, C A
9 4 0 2 6 - 0 6 0 8 U S A



DUES ARE DUE NOW!!

July 1998