

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



As usual, it seems weird to be writing the December editorial on a bright, warm day in late November. This is the issue where I wish you all a very happy holiday season and the best for the year. This will be my last issue as your editor.

I had hoped I could introduce the new DXer editor, but so far no one has jumped at the chance to become rich and famous! HI! I will be moving from the SCV to someplace before the end of the year; either San Diego or Texas. It just depends on which company comes up with the best package. Alabama was in the running for awhile, but I decided working for a government contractor is no longer satisfactory.

I have enjoyed my membership in the NCDXC very much and have met many outstanding DXers. It has been great to meet folks I have worked over the years from various QTHs. In a couple of instances, I was lucky to meet and speak with DX icons who have now become Silent Keys.

My only regret is I never got involved with the NCCC, as well, as I enjoy contesting very much.

I hope Sue and I are still here to attend the Christmas Party.

I will keep in touch via email. I do plan on being an absentee member.

Please support your club and BoD during 1999. The next year should be an exciting and fun year for the club. I wish you and yours,

“Fair winds and following seas.”

Oh, yes....Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a Happy New Year - 1999!

73 es Best DX! de Dave, K7JJ...SK AR

1999 DX Convention Pre-registration

There may or may not be a registration form inserted in your copy of the *DXer*.

If there is not, go to Gordon's website and print out your own by copying the form at: <http://www.amateur-radio.org/ncdxc.htm>. Click on the Pre-reg form and print it out to your printer.

DXer Editor Needed Now!

Please don't trample each other, rushing to fill this most important position!
Call or e-mail Dick, W6KM

December 10, 1998

NCDXC CHRISTMAS PARTY

Martinelli's Steak Pit

1180 El Camino Real, Millbrae

See Pages 6 & 7 for party details and directions

Don't miss this great family affair. Bring the wife, the kids, grandkids, significant other.....

N O R T H E R N
C A L I F O R N I A
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Club Officers:

President: Dick Letrich, W6KM
 Vice Pres: Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW
 Secretary: Jerry Bliss, K6III
 Treasurer: Ted Park, K6XN
 Director: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
 Director: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
 Director: Ron Panton, W6VG

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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, 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

MERRY CHRISTMAS, have you make your Christmas list up yet? Does it have everything you want for your SHACK? Well, here is a gift from the NCDXC just for you because you are one of the deserving. This DXer contains an insert of all the required tags to indicate your years in the NCDXC and enough to keep you up to date for 50 years. Some members will require a special edition. Now arrange them on your Membership Certificate (I know you have it on the Shack wall proudly displayed for all to see and admire), in any manner that suits you. You mean its been so long since you joined that you have forgotten the date and it's not on the Membership Certificate~~~~~no problem~~~~~thanks to Ron W6VG, I have a list of all members since day one and it has the date that you joined. Call and I will be proud to pass it on. When finished place the remainder behind the Certificate and when you do your yearly (well in my case about every five years or so), dusting you can put yourself up todate——Merry Christmas from the NCDXC Officers and BoD.

I want to thank Chuck AA6G for an excellent presentation for the November Program. Also thanks to Chuck (keeper of the Web, that sounds spooky), for putting on the club web site a few of the pictures taken at the last meeting. No pictures of Chuck as he is camera shy! I hope to try and make this a regular feature on the club web site each month. If I can I will try to add pictures to the future DXers. But we need a new Editor ASAP, Dave K7JJ, has come to the rescue again for the December issue, with this (perhaps) his last effort. Looks like our fellow DXers in the SCDXC are under the same pressure, as we are because their Editor Harvey Laidman, W8DX, has produced his "final outing." We are not going to let the DXer die, but it may only be a one or two page bulletin. We need help ASAP!

NCDXC FRESNO CLUB CHAPTER

by Dick Letrich, W6KM

The NCDXC FRESNO CLUB CHAPTER has been meeting the first Saturday of every month for a breakfast get together meeting at Denny's Restaurant in Fresno for many years. I thought that it would be important to make a visit on behalf of the club, so on Saturday, October 3rd, I was at Denny's at 7:15 AM. I was really hoping to meet many members from the Fresno-Madera area. I had sent out 18 letters several weeks in advance to those people I thought were close enough to attend. The result was that two members attended the breakfast. A rather disappointing number, but of the 18 letters sent out at least two responded that they would be unable to attend. Our past ARRL director of the Pacific Division, Chuck McConnell, W6DPD, and his son John. K6ESL, were there, as well as a pretty good number of members of the Central California DX Club. They were Charles McConnell, President, John McConnell, K6ESL, Jim Haynes, W6PXM, Jerry Chandler, K6PKO, Dick Wilson, W6GV, Lloyd Burns, W6SRU, Arlen Van Fossen, WB6VAF, Ken Holden, WA6OIB, Pat Fennacy, W6YEP, Vic Rosenthal, K2VCO and myself. A nice gathering and fine bunch of fellows. The usual ham related topics were discussed. Pat Fennacy, W6YEP, has several repeaters at a mountain site and has agreed to implement a link to our repeater in the near future! So we may have actually hear some additional repeater activity and that is really encouraging. After a fine get together, the group broke up and I had a chance to talk to Charles McConnell, W6DPD, for awhile. He offered to help in some way with the convention and was good enough to retrieve the list of hams that showed up, as I either left my list behind or lost it. Thanks, Chuck. I have not given up on my efforts to try and activate chapters in at least 3 other areas. I feel that back in the days of members being able to take part in the club from afar because of the repeater links is a worthwhile project to try and reestablish. The only real reason that it fell out of favor was because of the jammers. I think we may be beyond that problem at this time. I would like your input. In the meantime, I will be sending out letters to those that might be able to form a Sacramento Area Chapter.

General Meeting

Minutes of the NCDXC, 13 November 1998

The meeting was called to order at 8:05pm by the President, Dick Letrich, W6KM. There were 30 members present and 5 guests. Guests were introduced. Some noted were K2VUI, AA6AD & XYL and others.

A first reading for Associate membership was conducted for Norman Peterson, N6DAC. Associate Membership was approved by unanimous voice vote.

K2VUI inquired about membership criteria. A short discussion followed.

Vice President, Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW, introduce the program and speaker. She also previewed upcoming programs:
January: WA6LNV on the International Space Station
February: WA6HHQ on a new HF rig kit he has designed and is marketing.

The program was presented by NCDXC member, Chuck Vaughn, AA6G. The very interesting subject on Astro-Photography include many celestial photos of objects beyond our solar system. It put a whole new meaning on 'What is DX?'. Fascinating!

A short business meeting was conducted:

1. The minutes approved as printed in the DXer.
2. W6WL gave a DX Convention progress report. Inquiries to W6WL@AOL.COM and W6YD@AOL.COM.
3. The President reiterated the need for someone to step up as Editor for the DXer. The current Editor, Dave Earnest, K7JJ, is relocating to AL in the near future.
4. The President mentioned that he is looking into obtaining a new inexpensive NCDXC QSL Card.
5. The President urged members to use the repeater.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Faithfully submitted,

Jerry Bliss, K6iii
Secretary, NCDXC



N6VAW



NQ6X



KN6K

AA6AD & XYL



K6III



W6WL & Fiancee

W6YO Rembered by WA8MOA

Follows a note I received from my old friend, Bob Walsh, WA8MOA. Bob and I worked in Saudi Arabia together. Bob received word of W6YO going SK and shares the following with us:

Sorry to see that Jules, W6YO, passed away. I saw him in Nepal, in the lobby of the Yak & Yeti hotel. We were both going out to meet Father Moran, 9N1MM. I just couldn't place him. We both hired a cab and turned up at the same time. Had a great lunch, visit with Fr. and shared a cab back to the city. Jules did not know much about Fr., so I asked a few leading questions at lunch. "Fr.", sez I, "Didn't you get Mother Theresa started?"

Silence. FR. - "Well, yes. She was a school teacher in Calcutta. I was in charge of the school and hospital at Patna. She wrote to ask if she could train with us for a year. I found funds for this and she came up and stayed for over a year." (by now Jules is about to faint).

One of the priests chimes in " Oh, yes, and now there is a brass plaque in the cell where she slept that year" Son of a gun.

"So", sez I, "what about the rumor that you and Boris organized the counter coup in the early 50's that put the Kings family back on the throne??"

"Oh," sez Fr., "why that is just a story...lots of talk." "Well," I replied, "we are having lunch in the former country estate of the Prime Minister that deposed the King".....long silence....

"Ohhhh," sez Fr., "just coincidence..."

Note that Jules was not making much progress with his soup with his chin down on the table...

That night we had dinner with Fr. Gene Watrin. He used to come to Dhahran as pinch hitting priest during the year end holidays and beat everyone in tennis. This was not gambling. It was fund raising, he was that good. He told me his tennis winnings would run one of his clinics for a year. When Gene told how he saved Sherpa Tenzig's life just 6 months before he took Hillary to the top,

Jules dropped his chin again.... A great guy... glad to have known him, and glad to have the chance to introduce him around in Nepal...

de WA8MOA ... -.-

CHARLIE UPDATE

This should bring everyone up to date as to the status of Charlie. After 4 different email address's I finally got through to John, K6LLK. He advised us that he will try and get "Charlie back on after the Christmas Holidays."

Randy W6CUA and Jack K6CBL, sent a new TNC to replace the one that went down. So there you are. Hope that this information can be passed along as folks inquire about it. For your records if you should need it here is John Cronin, K6LLK's current email address: Cronin95@ix.netcom.com I sure had hoped that we could get enough interest on our repeater so that we did not have to listen to "Charlie" ever again. Its kind of strange that there is so much desire to have it back yet few who hear it actually work the call outs and confirm that they did with an on the air comment. Who can figure?

TNX es 73 Dick W6KM

NCDXC Club Marathon Results

I received a total of 4 logs for the marathon:

CW	PHONE	MIXED
K6MA 121	W6DPD 171	K6SRZ 131
KA6C 48		

Plaques for K6MA, W6DPD and K6SRZ will be presented at the December Christmas party or January meeting.

73, Doug, W6JD

Fresno Parking and Security Update

(I somehow managed to "lose" this info and failed to get it in the November issue, sri....Editor)

A meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Centre Plaza, in Fresno, October 12, 1998, with the 1999 Convention Chairman George Allan, W6YD, Dick Letrich W6KM, NCDXC President and Robert Long, Director of Catering. Many details about the upcoming 50th International DX Convention were discussed and plans made. Quite a few DXers from both the North and South had expressed a deep concern about the PARKING FACILITIES. It had been rumored that many were concerned about the safety of the vehicles and their contents, in addition many voiced concerns about the areas set aside for RV vehicle parking. The first issue discussed was the rumored vandalism of vehicles at the last convention. Hotel records reveal none were reported at the last convention nor have I been able to substantiate any actual incidents. Mr. Long assured me that there have been no problems since 1990. It is true that the adjacent high rise parking lot owned by the city, has been condemned it is adjacent to the Hotel and was used by many guests. The parking garage in question is scheduled to be razed and rebuilt within the next 6 months. If completed on time, this parking would once again be available for the convention. In the interim the Hotel has contracted with the adjacent City Owned Convention Center for exclusive use of a sufficient number of spaces to accommodate all expected registered guests. They will block off all entrances to the Hotel Parking and will have a Security Guard assure that only Hotel guests will be allowed to park. In addition RV's will be allowed to parking the rear west side as before. A 24 hour walking Security Guard will be provided to Police all vehicles at the Hotel and its set aside area at the convention center parking lot across the street. They will be on duty from Thursday afternoon until Sunday afternoon. Actual driving time from Visalia to Fresno on Highway 99 was between 20 to 25 minutes as George and I drove the distance to Visalia from Fresno and back in able to answer several who insisted that this time was to be anywhere from 45 minutes to One hour. George, W6YD has made arrangements with Mr. Long to visit again in Mid-January. If you should have any questions, please contact George, W6YD.

Video Tape Meetings Suggestion

I had a request from a club member that lives too far away from the Bay Area to make many meetings. He has passed on this idea and frankly I think that it could be a useable one. This is it. Video Tape the meetings and presentations and send the tape to members that will view it and mail it on to the next on the list. It would be very inexpensive to do. The tape could be sent by the club for \$3.00 via U.S.P.O. PRIORITY mail and each member would view it and then at their expense mail it on to the next on the list. I have a VCR Camera and would set it up and send it out myself. To attempt this we need no less than 4 members to sign up and no more than 8 in order for it to be moved around in a timely manner. Are you interested? We already have one, so we let's hear from you out there. Mail your request to me directly and we will pick the names from a hat in a random manner sending the list to all who sign up. Be sure and respond right away.

Dick Letrich, W6KM, at the roster address.



NCDXC Christmas Party Pages



**The Christmas Party is Thursday 12/10/98 at Martinelli's
Steak Pit in Milbrae**

Festivities:

Where: Martinelli's Steak Pit, 1180 El Camino Real, Millbrae (Black dot, with line, on map below marks the location.)

Cocktails: 6:00pm

Dinner: Entrees are choice of 8oz Prime Rib, Filet of Sole, or Chicken Saute Sec. Each dinner includes wine, vegetables, potato (rice with fish), cheese french bread, coffee or tea and ice cream.

Price: \$20.00, kids 16 and under \$10.00. Includes tax and tip.

Entertainment: A magician to astound and amaze you!

Who May Come: Bring yourself, the XYL (or OM), kids, grandkids.

You **MUST** send your check and entree selection(s) by December 5 to:

Doug Westover, W6JD
717 Los Robles Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94306



Location of NCDXC Christmas Party

The big black dot marks the location.

From the north on Hwy 101 take the 380 exit west to El Camino Real and south about 2 miles to Center St. Turn left on Center and then right into Martinelli's parking lot.

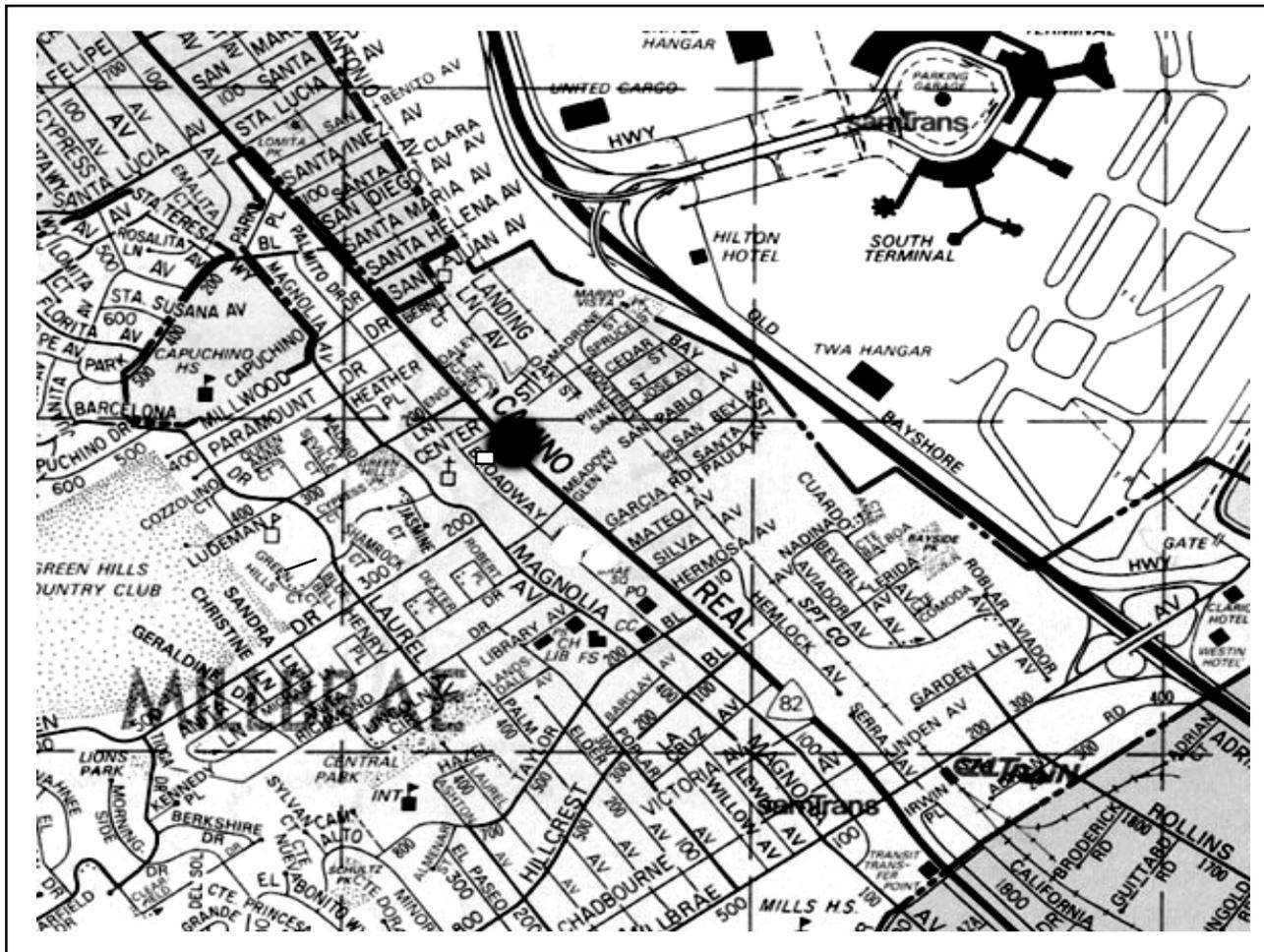
From the south on Hwy 101 take the Milbrae Ave. exit west to El Camino Real and north to Center St. Turn right on Center and then right into Martinelli's parking lot.

From Hwy 280 take the 380 exit east to El Camino and follow directions above.



Christmas Party Show!

Blashek the Magician has been doing magic for more than 30 years, using a variety of props. He will demonstrate the art of magic for us in a part "stand up" and part close up show. He will demonstrate to small groups, so there will be opportunity for audience participation. Bring your family, wife, girl friend, grand kids and yourself to the first really big Christmas Party for the family in years!



12 Store Buying Power!

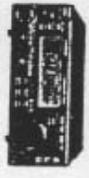


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FIRST CLASS



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!