

DXer



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DX CLUB**

DXer Profile: K6ITL, Jim Knochenhauer



K6ITL, Jim Knochenhauer at the controls of his well equipped station. "Knock" is on the DXCC Honor Roll and has confirmed a total of 342.



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General Meeting March 10, 2000

**American Legion Post 105,
651 El Camino Real,
Redwood City**

Program

Ken, K6DB and Kay, K6KAY visited W3LPL in Maryland and have some great pictures and commentary on this superstation.

NO DINNER

**Social Hour 7:00 P.M.
Meeting at 8:00 P.M.**

Directions to the Meeting
(See Map on Page 5)

From the North or South:

Take the Woodside Road exit west off Highway 101 and turn right on El Camino Real. Drive about one half a mile to 651 El Camino Real (on the right).

**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: Dick Letrich, W6KM
 Vice Pres: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
 Secretary: Bill Fontes, W6TEX
 Treasurer: Bill Maurer, WB6JJJ
 Director: Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW
 Director: Ron Panton, W6VG
 Director: Don Anastasia, AA6W

The DXer:

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<http://www.ncdxc.org>

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9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Doug Westover, W6JD

California Award: Robert Bickel, K6FX

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: Robert Smithick, W6CS

Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)

Thurs. Net QTR: 8 pm local time.

Net Manager: Randy Wright, W6CUA

DX News: Net Control Operator

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



As I write this, we are getting lots of wind and rain. Our winter season was slow to start, but it sure has come on strong! Not too much you can do outside in this weather, so chum up to the rig, tune it up and cruise the bands.

Our last regular meeting on Friday, February 11th was a doozie. Traffic was really miserable and was crawling in all directions. The turn out for the meeting was up and I later heard from several who had started out, but could not make it in time and had to turn around and head for home. Speaking of slow starts, our sun spot cycle followed the same kind of path, but now seems to be getting stronger and stronger.

After several months of club meetings at the American Legion Post #105 in Redwood City, where we seemed to have full run of the facility, we were greeted by some God awful music coming from the adjoining bar. It kept getting louder and louder and the singing kept getting more and more off key. All of this taking place while Garry, NI6T was giving his presentation. But, like the trooper he is, Garry raised his voice level and carried on to give an excellent presentation. Our requests to have the volume of the music turned down were ignored. Later the following week, I was able to contact the Post Manager who said he would look into the level of the volume for the future. This group is planing on meeting there every Friday night. Well, our club has outgrown the small meeting room we have been using, anyway, so we will just move down the hall to a larger (and further away) room. Everyone is surely entitled to his/her own hobby and the People in the Karaoke group surely deserve to enjoy theirs. Frankly, it sounds more like they are in severe pain. I do feel sorry, however, for the Bartender, as she can't get away from it! Sure glad we can.

Rumor has it that, perhaps, by the time this issue hits your shack, Marty Lane, OH2BH and several others may have put a new country on the air. They are planning to go to the Chesterfield Island group. If you keep your ear tuned to our Thursday night 2 meter meetings you should have picked up all the scoop. The West Coast should have a good shot to that part of the Pacific. Soooo...

GUD DX es 73. Dick, W6KM

NCDXC Dues Information

Full and Associate Members;

<u>Date Dues are Paid</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Family Rate</u>
1 July thru 30 September	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00
1 October and after	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00 Plus \$5.00*

*Members who have not remitted dues by the 30 September deadline are considered dropped from the membership roles. Those desiring to renew membership must both apply for reinstatement and submit the reinstatement fee of \$5.00. Fee will be waived if paid in person.

Absentee Member Dues are \$16.00 per year.

General Meeting Minutes

Meeting commenced at approximately 8:00pm by President Dick Letrich, W6KM at the American Legion Post #105 651 El Camino Real, Redwood City, CA. Introductions of members (25) including three guests. Rune, SM5COP; Dick, N7RC; and Mike, N0LZF (N7RC & N0LZF applying for membership). W6KM reminded the membership about the DX Forum on the air Feb 24th. Randy, W6CUA will be the host, following the 147.360 Thursday net. He also plugged the Monterey "Radiofest" to be held at Fort Ord, Saturday Feb. 19th. The ARRL field checker system is changing and will now have one field checker per DX specialty club. More on this subject later..... January minutes approved as read.

Chuck, K6RK introduced Garry, NI6T the evening speaker who gave an excellent presentation of the characteristics of working "TopBand DX" (160M). Dick, W6KM presented the "Troster Award" to Garry.

N7RC and N0LZF were voted into membership.

Full Member N7RC, "Dick" Richard K. Courtway "Doreen" 8145 Hallwood Blvd Marysville, CA. 95901 HP 530-743-8309 WP E-Mail EXTRA	Associate Member N0LZF, "Mike" Michael W. O'Leary 3205 Benton Santa Clara, CA.95051 HP 408-296-4067 WP 408-919-5400 E-Mail: mwleary@earthlink.net ADVANCED
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Wilbur "BIP" Bachman, W6BIP long time member and now "silent key" was remembered in a short discussion period. He will certainly be missed at our meetings. Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 pm.

de W6TEX



"Bip" Bachman, W6BIP

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Wilbur "Bip" Bachman, W6BIP, on Feb. 2. His passing saddened Hams throughout the DXing and contesting community. He was 88 years of age.

"Bip" was a native Californian, born in Santa Rosa and living in San Francisco most of his life. An electronic engineer and pioneer in ham radio communication, he was originally licensed in 1928. He loved to travel and communicate around the world. Both his Ham Radio call, W6BIP and his name were known internationally. As a result, he and his wife of 56 years, Elsie personally met many of those DX hams he had first met over the air.

As a final tribute to Bip and his devotion to contesting, members of the Northern California Contest Club all used the name "Bip" in their exchanges during the CW North American Sprint held Feb. 12.

We were proud to call him our friend. He will be profoundly missed.

Nominating Committee

We are advised that two members have agreed to form and serve on a committee to nominate officers and board members for the upcoming (2000-2001) NCDXC Board Elections.

W6ISQ, Jack Troster and K6RK, Chuck Patterson, will be seeking others to join them in their quest for the most qualified members to fill leadership positions in the Club. Anyone interested in volunteering either to serve on the nominating committee or to become a candidate for a Club office, is encouraged to contact Chuck or Jack.

Please, consider serving the Club in a leadership capacity. You will be proud of your contribution to the best DX Club in the World.

“It’s a Friend”

The following is taken from an article which appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle last November. It was sent to us by Ben Deovlet, W6FDU. -Ed

Last November a genuine Morse code message was broadcast near and far from the foot of Polk Street.

The world was too busy to answer.

The soothing singsong of dots and dashes went forth and within moments, it was apparent why hardly anyone is sending Morse code messages any more. “CQ, CQ, K6RID, invitation to transmit, hello, hello,” said the buzzes, as tapped out by veteran radio man Tom Horsfall. Horsfall sent the message to inaugurate a new exhibit on the history of maritime radio, which opened at the National Maritime Museum in San Francisco. As part of the exhibit, called “Sparks, Waves and Wizards,” curators had transformed an old men’s room on the second floor of the museum into a World War II-era radio room. Inside was an elegant old radio, scavenged from a mothballed ship in Suisun Bay, which took up practically the entire room.

Horsfall and several other museum volunteers had dusted off the vacuum tubes and gotten the old beast up and running. Horsfall fiddled with a rheostat or two, and tapped out his message again. The transmitter was powerful enough to beam the message out over 1000 miles.

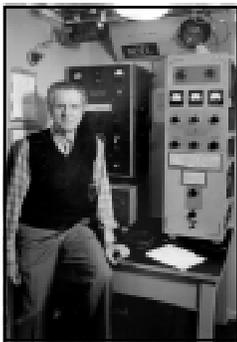
Still no answer.

“It’s archaic, it’s crude, no question about it,” sighed Horsfall, tapping the old console fondly. The only folks likely to be listening, he conceded, were ham radio operators, a breed nearly as archaic as the equipment in the radio room. As of last July, Morse code is no longer used as an official communication system for ships at sea.

Horsfall gave up on getting a reply and switched off the old machine.

One flight up, in the main exhibit area, are more ships’ radios, along with Morse code keys for the public to try its hand. Already curators had heard enough practice SOS signals (dih-di-dit dah-da-dah dih-di-dit) to last forever, and the exhibit was not to officially open until later that week.

Also on display are ships’ blinker lights, steering wheels and radios from the turn of the century. And under a magnifying glass was a single, tiny, modern computer chip the gizmo that rendered all the beautiful stuff obsolete.



John De Meo

Standing beside one of the old consoles was veteran Navy radioman John De Meo. His 1950’s era single-side band radio was the same one he had used to broadcast an emergency message at the end of the Korean War, after a collision sent a boatload of American service men into the Yellow Sea.

De Meo’s prompt message, sent from the radio room of the troop ship General Pope, led to a rescue message that saved dozens of lives. Last November was the first time he had seen his old radio in decades. “It’s a beautiful thing”, he said, twiddling a dial for old-time’s sake. “It’s a friend.”

For the complete story of the San Francisco Maritime Radio Exhibit, go to the National Parks Web Page at www.nps.gov/safr/sparks.html. There you will find many pictures and a complete story of the Equipment. - Ed.

Treasurer’s Report

Below is the Treasurer’s Report for February 2000.

The expenses include the reinstatement of the club liability insurance that was allowed to lapse last year. I’m glad no one stubbed their toe on club time. It also includes the “CQ WW DX Contest Trophy” sponsorship per the club by-laws. Early this month I opened two accounts for the club. One was for the “Convention Account” for the 2001 convention and beyond The other was for a six month CD savings account at 5.25%. There was no sense in keeping such a large balance in the club checking account.

73,

Bill Maurer, WB6JJJ

Income:

Dues	\$	24.00
Fees & Badges		26.50
Total Income	\$	50.50

Expenses:

DXer Printing	\$	268.18
DXer Postage		67.70
DXer Mailing Labels		43.28
Repeater Phone		11.73
CQ WW DX Contest Trophy Sponsorship		50.00
Club Liability Ins.		327.00

Club Officer’s Expenses:

Director		30.84
Total expenses	\$	798.73

Checking Accounts:

Club acct.	\$	12,098.15
Repeater acct.		1,807.34
Convention acct.		3,500.00
TOTAL Checking	\$	17,405.49

Savings Accounts:

9 month CD acct	\$	10,380.38
6 month CD acct.		10,000.00
TOTAL Savings	\$	20,380.38

Current Club Total \$ 37,785.87

Visalia 2000

March 15th, the deadline to pre-register for IDXC 2000 is fast approaching! You can get a registration form by going to the NCDXC web site and following the links to the convention site. Alternatively, you can go directly to the the convention web site.

Either way, you need to act quickly to take advantage of the reduced pre-registration rate. URL's for the web sites follow;

NCDXC: www.ncdxc.org

IDXC 2000:
www.scdxc.org/dxconv2000.html

Anyone without download capability should contact Don Bostrom, N6IC at the following address;

4447 Atoll Avenue
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

And, as the saying goes, "See you in Visalia".

March Meeting Program Information

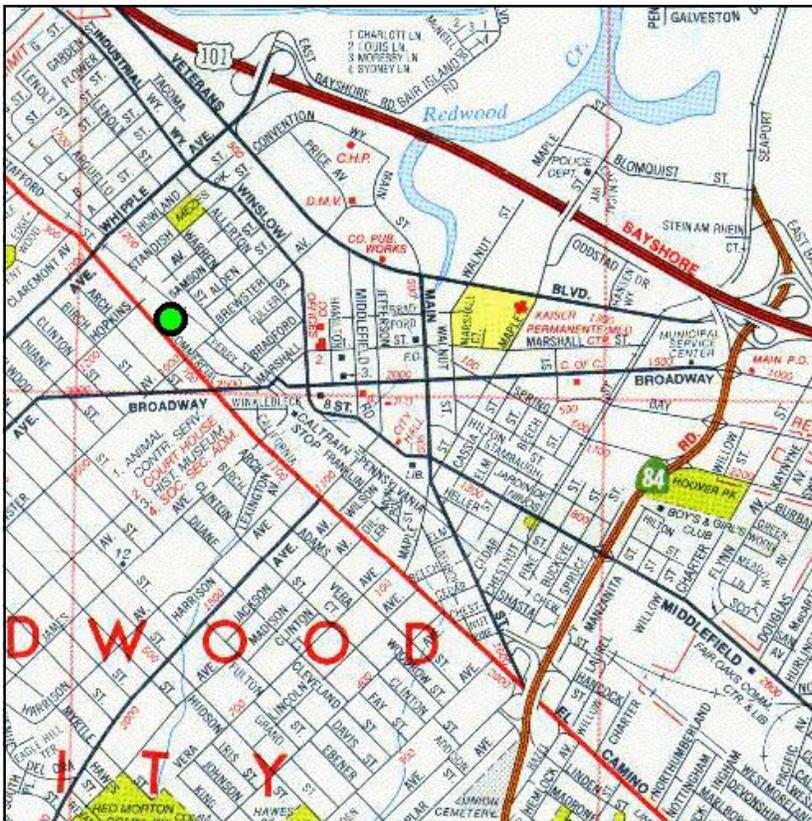
The Andersons (Ken, K6DB and Kay, K6KAY) have agreed to be the presentors at our March 10th meeting.

Ken and Kay visited the superstation of Frank Donovan, W3LPL in Glenwood, Maryland. They will show some slides of Frank's station and speak about their visit.

Please, be sure to take in this very interesting talk and have an "eyeball QSO" with Kay and Ken, who will be coming down from Pine Grove to give this presentation.

See you there!!

Map to Redwood City Meeting Site



**Dick,
N7RC**



**Mike,
N0LZF**



**Carl,
AI6L**



**Garry,
NI6T**

NPS Monterey Radiofest by W6KM

I told you so last month and by golly I was right! The Naval Postgraduate School ARC put on their Radiofest again this year and moved it to a new and bigger location and it was a real good show. This year it was held on the old Fort Ord base in the General Stillwell Community Center. Parking was no problem and the facility was very nice. Lots of good exhibits covering all aspects of our great hobby and a little indoor flea market thrown in. In fact I found another version of my Brown

Brothers Dual Paddles. I think I now have all three versions...



Eric, WA6HHQ

Anyway, George Allan, W6YD and I have made this little trip for quite a few years and, as usual, it was great. We got to see quite a few DX Club members who live down around Salinas and Monterey.

Now don't forget; if they throw this Radiofest again next year, be sure to put it on your calendar to attend.

73 Dick, W6KM



Ressie, W6EKQ, Jerry, K6MD & Walt, W6EKR



Jim, W6CF & Jerry, K6MD

Visalia Restaurants

Here are some restaurants I thought it would be good to list in the *DX'er* prior to going to Visalia. I haven't eaten in the ones with no price. 73, Ron, K6OP

- Las Palmas – Mexican - \$7.50 range - 309 E. Main - 734-5405
- Hong Kong – Chinese - \$6.00 range - 417 Center St. - 734-5393
- Rosa's – Italian — \$13. 00 - 314 S. Johnson - 732-6707
- Wagon Wheel – Ribs - \$9.00 & up — 400 N. Willis - 627-8325
- Double LL – Steak - 401 Center — 627-1126
- Sizzler — You know — Caldwell and Mooney — 625-1290
- Tokyo Gardens — 3320 S. Fairway — 625-1290
- Cafe 225 — Calif. Cuisine 325 w. Main — 733-2967
- Depot — Continental Cuisine — 225 W. Main — 733-2967

Editor's Choice

To me, it is altogether fitting and proper that this issue should be resplendent with references to CW and Morse code. Bip, you would have loved it, since your love for CW was legendary.

When I first met you, you were wearing your trademark CW sending badge, it sending out "CQ DX de W6BIP...". That was in Visalia – my first trip to that Mecca for DXers. You were already a legend among the DXers who were in attendance. Now you take your place among the DXers who have passed through those halls – never to return again.

We will miss seeing you at all of our functions, Bip. But somehow, I know you will be there among us – urging us to "...try working him on CW".

Farewell es 73, OM de W6YD



Forum on the Air

Remember to join the forum on the air following the Net on the last Thursday of the month. This month, the FOTA will be on March 22nd. The topic will be; what topics do we want to address in future forums?

Be there or be square!



Dave, NT6K & Dave, KA6BIM

DXer Profile: K6ITL, Jim Knochenhauer

This month's Ham profile is the first Ham in our series, who really operates out of a HAM SHACK. As you can see by the pictures Jim "KNOCK" Knochenhauer, K6ITL has a real Ham shack. One thing I have enjoyed about doing this series is the pleasure of seeing how each Ham sets up his rigs in his/her own special way. It is really fun to look around.

Knock has worked all but the P5 for a total of 342. He has been hamming since 1949 when his first call was W8HOK. He has also held W7TJW, K6ITL (twice), W4GZM, W8GZM and K5HYX. He obtained these calls as he was promoted and transferred around the US, while working for the Public Health Service, from which he is now retired.

Knock first joined the club in August of 1971. He is a Past Club President and has served as a Treasurer, Vice President and has been on the BOD 4 times. He has been International DX Convention Chairman in 1991 and 1993. He was honored by being named "DXer of the Year" in 1993.

His current station consists of many neat accessories, but his main rig is a Kenwood TS-830S with matching VFO, speaker,....etc. His AMP is a Henry 2KD2 running a pair of 3-400Z's. He has a couple of Heathkit SB-220's as backups. His antennas are on a 60 foot crankup and sitting on top is a TH6DXX. He also has what he calls, "my rotatable G5RV"! He can move the legs, as it is not in an Inverted Vee configuration. All he has to do is run out into the back yard and move the two legs. I'm sure that the pictures will show you all the details.

Tnx, Knock for a fun visit and glad you're starting to feel like your old self again.

73 Dick, W6KM

Pacific Northwest DX Convention

Dear NCDXC Member;

On behalf of the BC DX Club and the Fraser Valley DX Club, I would like to invite all members of the NCDXC to come up to Vancouver, BC July 28-30, 2000 for the Pacific Northwest DX Convention - DX2000. This convention has been going on for many years and rotates annually between Portland, Seattle and Vancouver. This year Vancouver is hosting and we hope to rejuvenate this gathering with a fresh new program and a new hotel site that will appeal to non-hams as much as DXers. We are working on the details and will be posting info to our web site at www.bcdxc.org.

Vancouver is a great place to be at anytime but this millenium year promises to be even more interesting. Why not make Vancouver a destination this coming summer for you and your spouse?

The demand for hotel space will likely be very high this summer. So, if you plan to attend, please, book your room early at the new Hilton Vancouver Metrotown. Special rates are in place and will be honored from July 26th to August 1st, 2000. Call 1-800-hiltons and ask for the DX Convention rate.

Meet the top DXers and contesters from the northwest, meet old friends and make some new ones. DX2000 promises to be a great time. Come on up and help make it happen.

DX2000 Organizing Committee.

Roster Updates

Mailing address change:

W6NUC, David Rice
P.O. Box 3193
Redwood City, CA. 94064

N6TV, new phone numbers:

H: 408-629-9480 (old number in roster has been wrong)
W: 408-777-8301 (new)
Fax: (delete)

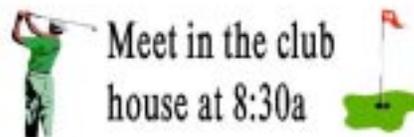
New club members;

Full Member;
N7RC, EXTRA
"Dick" "Doreen"
Richard K. Courtway
8145 Hallwood Blvd
Marysville, CA. 95901
HP 530-743-8309
WP
E-Mail

Associate Member:
N0LZF, ADVANCED
"Mike"

Michael W. O'Leary
3205 Benton St.
Santa Clara, CA.95051
HP 408-296-4067
WP 408-919-5400
E-Mail mwoleary@earthlink.net

VISALIA GOLF **FRIDAY APRIL 14th**



Calloway scoring system, keep your own score and turn in at completion of the round. Nearest the pin will be awarded in the club house. First place winner will be awarded at the dinner.

de W6TEX/W6MWY

