

DXer



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB

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NCDXC Member of the Year: W6KM, Dick Letrich

Dick Letrich, W6KM was named the NCDXC Club Member of the Year at the 54th International DX Convention in Visalia. In presenting the award (formerly the DXer of the Year award) Club President, Doug Westover, W6JD cited both Dick's operating activity and his service to the Club as the salient criteria on which the selection was based.



Dick joined the NCDXC in October of 1978 when his call was WB6WKM. He later changed it to his current call, W6KM. He is on the DXCC Honor Roll and needs only Palestine and Glorioso to have them all.

Dick has been a very active member and a tireless worker for the Club. He has served twice as President and once as Club Treasurer. He has been Registration Chairman for both the 2001 & 2003 International DX Conventions and has Chaired the Club picnic every year since its resurrection. He is the "semi-official" Club photographer and is a constant contributor to the DXer, travelling far and wide to get pictures and input for the "DXer Profiles" that appear on a regular basis. Finally, he picks up the DXer every month from the printer and then posts and mails it to our members.

Please, join us in congratulating Dick Letrich, W6KM on being selected the 2002 NCDXC Club Member of the Year.



**General Meeting
June 12, 2003**

**Harry's Hof Brau
1909 El Camino Real,
Redwood City**

Program

**Election of Officers
&
Visalia 2003 Convention
Review & Report**

Social Hour ..	6:00 P.M.
Dinner	7:00 P.M.
Meeting.....	8:00 P.M.

**DXer Deadline
for
July 2003 Issue
is
June 25, 2003**

President's Comments



Club Officers:

President: Doug Westover, W6JD
 Vice Pres: Chuck Patterson, K6RK
 Secretary:
 Treasurer: Dewey Churchill, KG6AM
 Director: Rulph Stoddard, W6TWO
 Director: Keith Butts, KN6K
 Director: George Allan, W6YD

The DXer:

Editor: George Allan, W6YD
 719 Ruddy Court
 Los Banos, CA 93635
 w6yd@aol.com
 Printing, Mailing: Dick Letrich, W6KM

Web Page: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G
<http://www.nedxc.org>
 DX Ladder: John Kelly, KG6XF
 9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC
 Contests: Dick Courtway, N7RC
 California Award: Robert Bickel, K6FX
 Historian/archivist:
 Records Manager: Ron Panton, W6VG
 Publications Mgr: Ron Panton, W6VG

Club Repeater, W6T1R

Frequency/offset: 147.36 MHz, +
 Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG
 Control Operator: Robert Smithwick, W6CS
 Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)
 Thurs. Net OTR: 8 pm local time.
 Net Manager: Randy Wright, W6CUA
 DX News: Net Control Operator
 Swap Shop: Mitch Cipriano, AE6AI
 QSL Information: Mac McHenry, W6BSY

W6T1 DX Bulletins:

W6T1 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.

Those of you who didn't make it to Visalia missed a good one. George and his helpers did a fantastic job of putting on a great show and keeping every thing running like clockwork.

Despite the fact that it rained almost all day Friday and Saturday the rain managed to hold off for the US Tower luncheon barbecue which was tasty as ever. Many thanks to Bruce, Bob and all the US Tower gang. This year admission was by ticket only, which kept away the freeloaders.

At the Sunday morning breakfast Ward Silver, N0AX, and Jim Niger, N6TJ, gave a both humorous and touching remembrance of Jim Maxwell, W6CF.

Dick Letrich, W6KM, was our Club Member of the Year and a special award was presented to Bob Ferrero in recognition of the many contributions to DX and the convention that Bob has made over the years. Unfortunately Bob was unable to attend the convention so we will need to find a suitable place and time to present it to him.

And, now, for something completely different....June meeting....elections! It's no secret that we haven't been terribly good getting someone, anyone to run for office. In fact this year we have gone the entire year without an elected secretary. It is only through Ron's good graces and commitment to the club that we had the secretarial post manned. I've identified several people who will run for office but we need more! I, frankly, would prefer not to run for president again and will do so ONLY if I have a full slate of officers. So, think it over, think about who YOU want to run the club, not just someone who has had his arm twisted to the point of dislocation!

Confession time...I, your Hon. Prez, blew it big time. Somehow plans for our traditional July picnic just feel through the cracks. (Translation...I just plain forgot). So, we will not have a picnic in July but are aiming for sometime in September, perhaps at another venue. I'm looking at the availability of Palo Alto Foothills Park or a similar spot in Woodside/Menlo Park. At least the weather should be cooler in September. Bottom line, we will have a regular meeting in July and take August off, as usual.

73, Doug, W6JD

NCDXC Dues Information

Full and Associate Members:

Date Dues are Paid	Member	Family Rate
1 July thru 30 September	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00
1 October and after	\$24.00	Plus \$15.00

*Members who have not remitted dues by the 30 September deadline are considered dropped from the membership rolls. Those desiring to renew membership may do so anytime, but will not be included in the new issue of the NCDXC Roster.

Absentee Member Dues are \$16.00 per year.

General Meeting Minutes

Minutes of NCDXC meeting April 10, 2003

The club meeting was held at Harry's Hof Brau in Redwood City. After the usual drinking & eating, the business section of the meeting was called to order by President, Doug Westover, W6JD, at 8:00 P.M. Guests were introduced, then items of interest were brought up and discussed. A reminder was made of the upcoming June election of officers. The details of the upcoming DX Convention were presented by W6YD, George Allan. George is by now, known as the head guru of this annual convention. Volunteers were thanked by George. Dick Letrich, as usual, was taking his fine pix of our group, and I hope will be taking pix at the convention. The upcoming convention is dedicated to the memories we have of Jim Maxwell, W6CF. There being no meeting or minutes in the month of May, these minutes are now old. Back to the April meeting, a very interesting presentation was given to us by Bob Parks, K6SDX. Subject with beautiful pix of the development of an airplane capable of taking close pix of the planet Mars. Meeting closed by President Doug at 9:30 P.M.

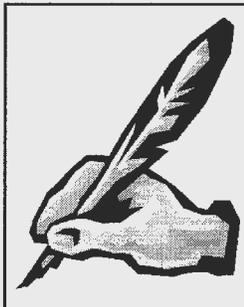
Respectfully submitted, Ron Panton W6VG.

Board of Directors Meeting

MEETING OF NCDXC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting was held May 24, 2003 at the home of W6VG, Menlo Park. Present were: president Doug Westover W6JD, vice president Chuck Patterson K6RK, secretary pro-tem W6VG Ron Panton, treasurer Dewey Churchill KG6AM, Rolph Stoddard W6TWO, & W6YD George Allan. Meeting was called to order by president W6JD at 1002 A.M. Then followed a long discussion on the different possibilities for officer positions in the club. Election of officers takes place in June each year. The club picnic this year will find a new venue, possibilities being Huddart Park, Shoreline, & Cuesta park. K6RK and others agreed that perhaps each member should bring his/hers own sandwiches or things to BBQ. This will be given more discussion. There will be no club meeting in August. The July meeting is being considered, and places named are Tide House, Michaels at Shoreline, & Pete's Harbor. A very fine report on the DX convention was given by George Allan, with a very comprehensive, detailed list of income, and outgo prepared by board member Keith Butts. Looks as though this was a very fine convention put on by George Allan, W6YD, Dick Letrich, W6KM and convention treasurer Keith Butts KN6K. Congrats and thanks from all of us. George has made arrangements with the Holiday Inn in Visalia for 2005 and 2007. George Allan made a proposal to the board re lowering the dues. Met with varying success. Proposition is being evaluated by the board members. The Xmas luncheon/meeting (same place as last year) reservations are in place thanks to work of Rolph Stoddard, W6TWO. Date will be December 13, 2003, and Rolph would like some help this year. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 A.M. by President Doug Westover, W6JD.

Respectfully submitted, Ron Panton, W6VG.



Silent Keys

N6DAC

N6DAC, NCDXC member, SK, Norman Peterson, died May 20 2003.

My friend, whom I helped get his ham license in 1930 (W6FZR) has passed on. Through all the years, since 1930, Norm and I have kept schedules. Norman only worked for one company (G.E.) until he retired, moving to Santa Cruz, after New York and Pennsylvania. His XYL, Beth, is also a ham. Her call being W6RYL.

Rest in Peace, Norm.

88, Ron, W6VG/W6CBE.

N6TNW

Shirley, N6TNW, became a Silent Key on 16 May, at Mark Twain St. Joseph's Hospital in San Andreas.

She was a charter member, past secretary/vice president/president/director and previous newsletter editor of the Mother Lode DX and Contest Club. She was a member of the Northern California Contest Club and the Northern California DX Club (and a great help at the registration desk at two of our conventions); a former member of the Amador County Amateur Radio Club; and the XYL of Dick, N6TNX.

July Meeting Change

Instead of a July Picnic, the July meeting will be held at the Tied House in Mountain View. We will have their outdoor patio area for the meeting. There will be a fixed menu with a choice of:

- (1) Chicken sausages
- (2) Grilled mustard chicken
- (3) "Traditional" fish and chips.

Price of \$15 includes tax, tip, appetizers and soft drinks.

The Tied House is located at 954 Villa Street, Mt. View just off Castro St. one block from the RR tracks.

I can attest to the quality of food, it is excellent and the Tied House is owned by a Ham, Ron Manabe, W6RN.

Please give it a try... we need to explore some different meeting spots.

Stanford Music Dept. Honors W6FDU

Ben Deovlet is awarded Stanford's Outstanding Achievement Award

Ben Deovlet was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Stanford Associates in a ceremony on Saturday April 5, 2003. The award was presented by Stephen Hilton, Chair of the Stanford Music Department, in a weekend long celebration of the Stanford STARS. The award is signed by Stanford President John Hennessy.

As presented in the program...For being a mainstay of volunteer efforts for the Department of Music; for serving as Membership Chair and as a leader and member of several committees of the Music Department's support group, the Friends of Music at Stanford; for welcoming visitors at every post-concert reception, acting as host for the Stanford Jazz Workshop, ushering, coordination mailings, and for stopping by the office just to see if anything needs to be done; for always being willing to lend a hand for any job, large or small; for concert organization, especially on short notice. We consider Ben to be a part of the Music Department Staff. He has a passion for music and for music education.

Marathon By N7RC

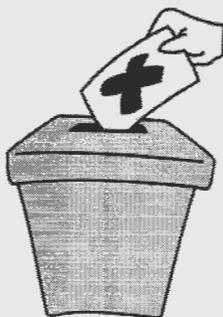
Howdy, George. Here's the result of the Dec/Jan marathon.

Walt Del Conte, W6EKR, had the highest total for the **SSB** category - total of 148 DX entities contacted. Congratulations to Walt, who had to work very hard for that total as the band conditions this year were not good to any one.

Dick Courtway, N7RC, had the high total for the CW category - total of 111 DX entities contacted.

This is one win - two more to go for the plaque.

Thanky! You will hear me in the pileups.
Dick/N7RC



**Election of
Officers
June 12th
*Be There!***

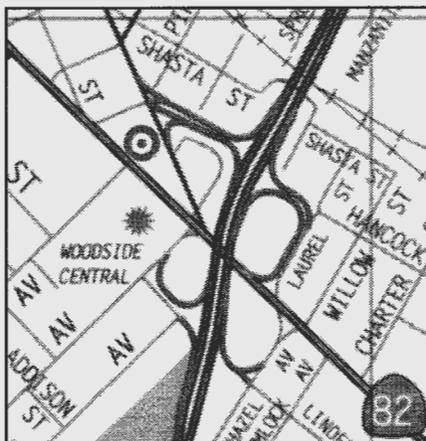
Map and Directions to Meeting

Harry's Hof Brau is fairly easy to find. It's on El Camino Real, just north of Woodside Road (Highway 84).

From Highway 101, take the Woodside Road (Highway 84) West exit to the El Camino North exit. Follow that exit (a short distance) toward El Camino to the stop sign at Main Street. You will practically be in Harry's parking lot! It will be right across the street on your left.

From Highway 280, take the Woodside Road East exit and follow it to the El Camino North exit. Harry's will be on your right just past the underpass.

There are parking lots on both sides of the building. So, if one lot is full, just try the other one.



Fanny CW Test By W7SW

The Fanny CW contest was instigated by Jim Maxwell, W6CF. The idea is simple - have a BIG key and send CW with your FANNY! I had a great time playing in the contest in 1991 at Visalia and was pleased to see the key back in Visalia at this year's DX convention. I was asked to be a referee for the contest which took place on Saturday evening between 11 PM and Midnight - just as inhibitions were being liberated - thanks to a couple of Kegs of beer!

Yes the FANNY CW Contest was GREAT fun and a success.... Over 30 Brave Hams (somewhat stronger after the Brew from the Kegs started sloshing around in their brains) gave-a-go at the fanny key between 11PM and Midnight on Saturday night. There was no advanced notice for this event so I am sure that there would have been more activity - only those who came to the social activity after the convention banquet (with all the presentations) found out about this crazy fun!

The smoothest CW (and First place winner) was STEVE N6SJ. Not only did he do a GREAT job tapping out MISSISSIPPI with his "Tush" on Saturday night - but he also was called up in front of the whole gang by N6TJ -Jim Neiger on Sunday morning and did an outstanding job send-

Continued on Page 6

9 Band DXCC Award Standings By K6WC

9 Band DXCC Award Standings

Callsign	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
K6CBL				200	150	200	150	150	150
K6DY					100				100
N6EK			200		280		250		200
WD6EKR					250		200		150
K1ER		100	150	100	250	100	200	100	200
AA6G			250	200	280	250	280	200	280
N6HR/7		100	200	150	300	100	200	100	150
KG6I	150	200	250	200	300	200	200	250	200
KA6ING									250
W6ISQ				150		200		150	100
W6JD			200	150	300	150	250	100	200
N6JV	100	150	200	200	300	260	290	200	260
W6KQK			100		260	100	260		200
AI6L	100	200	300	270	300	280	290	250	270
K6MA		100	250	150	300	200	300	150	270
N6OM					150		150		100
K6RK	150	100	250	100	250	150	200	100	200
DJ6RX	200	280	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
K6SIK					150		150		150
W6TEX			100		250		200		100
KI6T		100	200	200	300	270	290	200	260
K6TMB					150		100		100
K6UM		100	150		300	250	290	200	270
K6UT		150	280	100	300	280	200	200	100
K4UVT					200		200		150
K6VX	150		300	250		300	300	270	290
K6WC			100		100				
KI6WF		150	150		300	100	300		270
W6YHM			200	100	300	100	260		150

Gary Stilwell, KI6T and Steve Lund, K6UM increased their standings this year. Their totals are coming along quite nicely. Participation was not too strong this year possibly due to the fact that I was not able to keep the ball rolling during my move.

I hope to hear from many more of you later this year when we next update the standings.

73, K6WC

***DUES ARE DUE
JULY 1st !***

W6KM Sez...

You will notice that there is no "Member Profile" this month. This is because this is a special issue that highlights the 2003 International DX Convention held at Visalia. For those who were unable to attend, sorry you missed a good time. Let's hope you can put it in your plans for next year.

All paid and current members will get a physical copy of the DXer this month. Inside it you will find a self addressed envelope. The reason for it is simple: it's there to remind you that dues are due July 1st and to provide you with a convenient means to send them in. It's also a convenient way to assure that you can get them in, in time to be included in the 2003/2004 Roster. Be sure to update email and phone numbers along with your check and for Pete's sake, do it right away. If by some error, you've received this and you're a Life Member, don't fall apart. Just use the envelope to "pigeon hole" all the money you've saved over the years and buy a new rig. But if not a Life Member — stuff it right away and send it in!

Because this is a large issue and space is at a premium, I will close by saying, thank you for allowing me to be a member of this Great Club and for honoring me as your 2002/2003 Member of the Year.

73 Dick, W6KM

Resources...

Here is another DX news information point that comes out weekly from DARC (Germany)

<http://www.ng3k.com/Dxnl/>

JIM, K6LM

Fanny CW Test

Continued from Page 4

ing it again. Steve added great crowd-pleasing replies to Jim's questions. Steve and Jim were VERY entertaining!

Jim awarded the "Viagra racer mouse" prize to Steve on Sunday morning.

Jim announced the 3rd place winner, Chip, K7JA, who stood up on his chair and showed his fanny motion to the applause of the crowd. Chip made the point that we are in the digital age and that he was really sending "ASS-key".

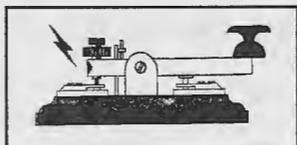
Jim also announced the 2nd place winner, Tom, KG6AO, who received a deserving round of applause. It was a fun hour on Saturday night - and not a very difficult contest to judge since only a handful of hams were able to send MISSISSIPPI without a mistake.

I must point out that MANY of the hams skipped one or both of the letters P near the end of the word because their legs and knees were just plain TIRED!!!!

Rusty, W6OAT, was a great help in planning this event. We chose the word MISSISSIPPI, since MISSISSIPPI was the word that the inventor of the fanny key, W6CF, Jim Maxwell, had first chosen. Also we thought that fewer hams would participate if we used the word CZECHOSLOVAKIA! As you can imagine there were many ways to spell MISSISSIPPI late Saturday night.

The Fanny Key is now being looked after by Dave, N6NZ. Dave was the FIRST one Saturday night to have the courage to "Give it a go". Unless someone soon gets the key away from him - maybe to plan a fun time at some ham club meeting - I predict N6NZ will be next year's winner!

73, Scotty, W7SW



April Meeting Pictures By W6KM



Convention Pictures



Convention Pictures



Convention Pictures



Editor's Choice

As expected, we received many pictures of the Visalia Convention this past month from many sources, including some from Southern California, courtesy of Don Bostrom, N6IC. There's no way we could include all of them in this issue. But, since we didn't have a May issue, I thought we could "splurge" a bit and add a couple of extra pages so we could include more than the usual number of pix. I hope everyone enjoys them.

I also hope everyone plans to attend the June meeting and volunteer, nominate and vote for Club officers. I know — it's the same old familiar refrain and you've heard it before. But, please, take an active part in running the Club. It would certainly be refreshing to see more than one person running for each office. I'm certain there is enough diversity in the club to foster different points of view. Why not make them known and get involved? The Club needs you and your fresh ideas.

Perhaps your ideas are the ones that will get the Club moving ahead again. I honestly think the only way that's gonna happen is when we decide to bite the bullet, leave our comfort zones and come out of the dark ages with some ideas that will propel us into the 21st Century. What about: *no paper copies of the DXer?* How about: *lowering the Club dues to \$10.00 per year?*

I plan to attend the June meeting and I would *love* to hear *your* ideas about how to do this, no matter how crazy they sound. If you live outside the area or if you're otherwise unable to make the meeting, you can email those ideas to me at w6yd@aol.com. Either way, let's work together to make the NCDXC the *best, most modern and most vibrant* DX club in the World.

73, George, W6YD



Kudos 'n Kredits

This month's issue of *The DXer* was made possible by articles and input from the following sources:

- N6IC, Don Bostrom**
- W6ISQ, Jack Troster**
- W6JD, Doug Westover**
- W6KM, Dick Letrich**
- K6LM, Jim Golden**
- W7SW, Scott Rathjen**
- W6VG, Ron Panton**
- K6WC, John Brand**
- W6ZX, Alex Meyer**

Thank you, one and all!

George, W6YD

