

# DXer



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
DX CLUB**

## ***DXer Profile: K6YP, John Eisenberg***



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**General Meeting  
November 13, 2003**

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

### **Program**

**W6YD will lead a discussion  
about his plans to implement  
electronic distribution of the  
"DXer".**

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

**DXer Deadline  
for  
December 2003 Issue  
is  
November 26, 2003**

November 2003

## President's Comments



Well, it's October and the bands are beginning to show signs of improvement, though nothing like the past few years. Get your 10 and 12 meter stuff taken care of before the sunspot blight settles in earnest. By the time you read this, CQ-WW SSB will be history, but you can still gear up for the CW weekend.

Speaking of contests, the annual club marathon starts again in December. It's been a number of years since there has been much interest in this activity so why not give it a shot and get your scores into N7RC and in the process, win a beautiful plaque or certificate.

As you probably all know by now, Rolph, W6TWO suffered a heart attack several weeks ago. He is at home, I've spoken with him and despite a little bit of a raspy voice he sounds good and is in good spirits. I asked him, if there was anything we could do to help with the Christmas party and he assures me that its all lined up and under control. However, should anything unforeseen show up, we're here to help. Send your checks for reservations to his home address.

CU at the meeting.  
73,  
Doug, W6JD



### Club Officers:

President: Doug Westover, W6JD  
Vice Pres: Chuck Patterson, K6RK  
Secretary: Mike Gavir, W6WZ  
Treasurer: Dewey Churchill, KG6AM  
Director: Mitch Cipriano, AE6AI  
Director: Keith Butts, KN6K  
Director: Ron Panton, W6VG

### The DXer:

Editor: George Allan, W6VD  
719 Ruddy Court  
Los Banos, CA 93635  
w6yd@aol.com

Printing, Mailing: Dick Letrich, W6KM

Web Page: Chuck Vaughn, AA6G  
<http://www.ncdxc.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, W6TIR

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

### 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.

### 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 regular meeting held at Harry's Hofbrau Redwood City, Thursday, October 9, 2003. The meeting started at 8:00 PM. Officers present were: President, Doug Westover W6JD, Vice President, Chuck Patterson, K6RK; Secretary Mike Gavin W6WZ, Director Ron Panton W6VG, George Allan, Director/ DXer editor. Treasurer Dewey Churchill could not attend because of illness. W6JD announced that Rolph Stoddard, W6TWO had suffered a heart attack and is home recovering, per Dick Letrich, W6KM. W6VG asked if the club would consider moving the meetings to Pete's Harbor in Redwood City. Dinners there are \$15.00 including the tip and he thought the food was a step up from Harry's. An application for associate membership was read by W6WZ for Kristen A. McIntyre, K6WX and was unanimously approved by all members. K6RK asked for ideas for programs for future meetings. A film of the 1997 VK0IR, Heard Island DXpedition was shown by K6RK and was enjoyed by all. The meeting ended at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Gavin, W6WZ, Secretary.

## Marathon

The NCDXC Winter Marathon competition begins the first day of December, 2003 and ends the last day of January, 2004. The goal is to contact as many entities as possible in either the CW or SSB mode — no mixed mode allowed. The complete set of rules can be found on our website.

No doubt it will be a challenge to exceed the "100 entity" level this year - but who knows? You don't need to get to 100 - just compete and forward your tally so that awards can be presented at the yearly picnic.

Good Hunting!  
Dick, N7RC"

## It's Time to Enter the 21st Century

### *...By Distributing the "DXer" Electronically!*

For many, many years the Northern California DX Club enjoyed the enviable reputation of being one of the most outstanding DX clubs in the World. Not only did our members participate in DX-peditions, but the NCDXC made significant contributions to many of them. We attracted well known speakers and, in many instances, refunded their travel expenses in order to get them here.

We had an outstanding repeater (we still do!) that was in constant use for making DX announcements (it still is, but "Charlie" does it, whether or not they're relevant) and our club newsletter, the "DXer" was sought after by member and non-member alike. But it was ONLY sent to NCDXC members. I'm not too sure the "DXer" is as sought after as it once was, but it is certainly more available. In fact it's available to the whole World on the Club website. No longer is it a benefit of membership in the NCDXC.

Publishing and mailing the "DXer" is the single largest cost item in the NCDXC's annual budget. In an effort to curtail rising costs, Club leaders have actively solicited members to simply access the copy that's posted on the website. While that's okay, it still doesn't give our members exclusive access to the "DXer". And the fact remains that there ARE those among us, who refuse to learn to make full use of their computers and the internet. Hams have traditionally, been at the forefront of innovation and on the leading edge of technological advancements. So, I fail to understand the reluctance to advance those skills.

Let me quickly point out that I'm not advocating that everyone in the Club should get the "DXer" from the Club website. Instead, I'm proposing that we distribute the "DXer" electronically! Once implemented, our Club, will step up to and join the 21<sup>st</sup> Century! It's an idea whose time has come. It's not MY idea, but you can see the concept happening all over the internet.

A prime example is Bernie McClenny, W3UR who makes a living by publishing and e-mailing his "Daily DX" and "Weekly DX". Bernie regularly e-mails his publications to his many subscribers in PDF format for viewing on Adobe's Acrobat Reader. And there is no reason in the World that the "DXer" couldn't be sent out

in a similar manner. So, here's my proposal, which I plan to implement in the near future:

First, we will build and maintain a database of email addresses for all current Club Members. The database will be built from the data available in the current roster. If your correct e-mail address doesn't appear in the current roster, you will need to send it to me at w6yd@aol.com.

Then, beginning in January, 2004 and each month thereafter, I will send you an e-mail with the current issue of the "DXer" attached in PDF format. When you download the attachment, it should simply "pop up" in the Adobe Acrobat Reader. If you want a hard copy, you simply print one out on your printer. It's that simple!

One caveat is this: you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader (software) on your computer. If you don't already have it, it's available for downloading free, from Adobe's website. The URL for that site is [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).

Another point to be considered is this one: we should avoid posting the current issue on the website. If anyone wants to view the current issue, he or she should become a member. THAT "exclusivity" should be one of the benefits of membership.

See "It's Time..." on Page 5

## 9 Band DXCC Award Totals Of Record

from John Brand, K6WC

It's time to submit your request for new endorsements on your 9 Band DXCC plaque or request a new plaque if you are just beginning.

If you are not already familiar with the award, rules may be found in your copy of the Club's Procedure Manual. Otherwise, you may write or email me for instructions.

Please remember that endorsements (Tags) are only issued in increments of: 100, 150, 200, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290 and 300. To complete a band, all 9 tags must be applied, 100 through 300.

I am sorry to say that engraving costs have risen steadily over the years and up until now I have been able to average the cost with metal endorsements on hand. I am up against the wall now and must pass on the cost presently charged me. Please note the increase below.

- 9BDXCC Plaque (one time)     \$40.00
- Shipping/Mailing:
  - Surface - US                     10.00
  - Surface - Foreign               15.00
- Band Total Tag, each            2.10
- Shipping/Mailing:
  - Postage Included - US
  - Foreign add extra \$1 only

Send your request and check in US funds payable to the NCDXC within the next 45 days from publication. Mail to:

John Brand, K6WC,  
16100 N. Hwy 101, Space 21,  
Willits, CA 95490.  
Phone: (707) 459-0139  
Email: k6wc@jps.net

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	290	250	280	200	250
K6TMB					150		100		100
K6UM		100	150		300	200	280	200	260
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



## Memories... By Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD

*This article came to us some time ago, with the advice that we should use it sometime when the input is meager! That time is now and we thank Cass for the article. -ED.*

Hi George:

In digging around on the lower level of the house here, I often come up with memories and artifacts of the other days. Here is one of them...

This photo is of an early member of the NCDXC, though later moving to the south.

He went to Europe in 1919 with the naval crew handling communications for President Wilson, who was going to Geneva for the planning for the League of Nations.



He later worked just about all the DX that ever existed, an early exponent of working DX while cruising down the Los Angeles freeways, using a key fastened to his knee.

One local connection is that WA6AUD, a club member, went to Europe on the same ship as did this top level DXer — going on the USS George Washington.

It might be of interest to club members to see a photo of Don Wallace, W6AM (SK), a club member even after he moved south.

If you have come this far you might be wondering. Just how old is that old geezer with his wild tales anyhow?

Actually it did happen just as narrated above. Don Wallace was also perplexed for a time when hearing the tale, not wanting to dissent but not exactly believing that my initials were carved into the deck railing right alongside his.

Everything fell into place — finally. I told Don: “Same ship, different war”. And that did happen. On a visit, Don did

see the photo of the USS George Washington, that big liner confiscated from the Germans in WWI, burning up at an anchorage outside Baltimore late in the 1940s.

Ah! Those were the days, my friend. We thought they would never end. Times change, but the memories linger.

Cass, WA6AUD

## FSDXA to go to 3B9

The Five Star DXers Association has announced plans to go to Rodrigues Island, 3B9 next March/April. They will use the call 3B9C, which has already been assigned for the operation.

This is the same group that brought you the very successful D68C operation (and the great talk at the Visalia DX Convention) in 200. Principal sponsor for the DXpedition will be Yaesu, who will provide ten complete state-of-the-art stations consisting of FT1000MP MkV Field transceivers and Quadra VL-1000 linears. They will monobanders on all HF bands and phased verticals on LF. With this impressive lineup, they should be heard!

The full story is available in their press release, which can be found on the Five Star DXers Association web site at [www.fsdxa.com/3b9c](http://www.fsdxa.com/3b9c).

Good hunting!

## It's Time...

Continued from page 3

What will all of this do for the Club? It means WE WILL SAVE A HUGE CHUNK OF MONEY — so much so, that it might be possible to go back to funding a DX-Pedition or two. Or, perhaps, we could attract speakers who would improve attendance. Barring those things, we could simply reduce the annual dues, although I don't favor doing that.

What does it mean to me? It actually means a little more work for me. But I'm willing to do it, because of what it means to the Club. In my opinion, implementing this concept is a step in the right direction and it will bring us into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

I plan to attend the Club meeting on Thursday, when I will be more than happy to answer any questions anyone has about this.

73,  
George, W6YD

## Directions to the 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.



**DXer**

**NCDXC  
GALA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

12:30 - 3:30 PM  
Main Floor

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13th**  
**SAN JOSE WYNDHAM (old LeBaron) HOTEL**  
1350 North 1st Street (at I-880)

Ballroom  
Next to the Bar

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By  
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**Fantastic**  
**Accordianist!**  
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(Requests Accepted)

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Cranberry Compote  
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Assorted Holiday Desserts  
Pecan Pie  
Coffee, Tea, Wine

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139 Old Orchard Dr, Los Gatos, CA 95032  
408-356-7084

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DXer FRIENDS!

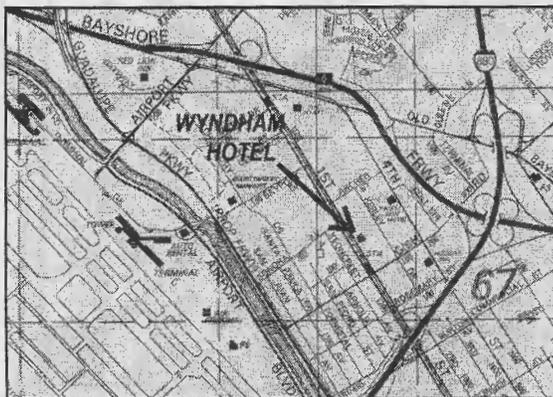
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**DRAWING!**



## DXer Profile: K6YP, John Eisenberg

This month, our featured DXer is a newer member to the club (Jan 2003), but one who has been Hamming for a long time. This month we feature John Eisenberg, K6YP, who is by no means, a "Johnny come lately". John has a long and colorful background in Ham Radio. Beginning in 1957, he has held the following calls: WV2EGR, WA2EGR, WA8PFR & WA6AMJ. He let his license expire, but in 1998, while on a business trip to Germany, he pulled out the books and came back to reactivate his hobby. He then got the call KF6TPD, upgraded to KQ6ZD and finally, his current Extra Class call, K6YP.

John's main rig is an IC-775 that drives a homebrew 8877 amplifier. His backup rig is also an ICOM - the IC-746, which drives an Alpha 89. These work into a nice Force 12 C3SS antenna mounted at 45 feet. John has worked upwards of 286 countries. He isn't too worried about getting QSL's, but he does have a sizable stack of 'em ready to send to the ARRL in Newington. While John prefers SSB, his previous ham tickets (which required code proficiency) are testimony to his CW abilities. When he is not on the air DX'ing or at work, he is building an Amplifier of his own de-

sign. The layout and workmanship are just outstanding! I'm hoping John will write an article for the DXer at some later date to describe his project in detail. Until then, you will have to settle for the picture of it, as it is still under construction.

John pitched in and was a great help (along with many others) at the International DX Convention in Visalia this year. The club is very fortunate to have John and several other new members, who are digging in and getting active in Club functions. This will keep the club fresh and in good hands.

73... Dick, W6KM

## Visalia 2004

For those who haven't already seen it, pre-registration is now available for the 2004 International DX Convention in Visalia. You can download a pre-reg form at [www.scdxc.org/visalia](http://www.scdxc.org/visalia) for the annual event, which next takes place on April 23, 24 & 25, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Business and Conference Center in Visalia.

It's conceivable that The Rodrigues Island DX-Pedition could be on the program. 73,

George, W6YD

## Bio of Jim ("Buc Butane") Giovanni

Actor-Comedian-Impressionist-Singer-Songwriter: A veteran entertainer, Jim has performed with major stars such as Frank Sinatra, Robin Williams, Ray Charles, James Brown, Merle Haggard, Reba McEntire, Kris Kristoffersen, Conway Twitty, Wayne Newton, Loretta Lynn, Willie Nelson, Kenny Rogers, Crystal Gayle, Neil Sedaka, Buddy Rich, Earl Scruggs, Whoopi Goldberg, Eddie Arnold, Harry James, and Jeff Bridges. In his many years in the business, Jim has appeared on "Laugh In", in movies such as "Tucker: A Man and His Dream," and performed in the main room at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. This versatile comedian with an ever-changing show is now taking the accordion world by storm. Guaranteed to warm the heart, bring down the house, and plaster a smile on your face!



## Editors Choice

This month we had some challenges putting the DXer together for you. Sometimes we get just the right amount of input and other times we get an "awkward" amount. This month was one of those -- too much for 6 pages and too little to fill the full 8 pages.

Actually, that's good! It presented an opportunity for me to share an idea I've had about distributing the DXer each month as an attachment to emails. Please see the article "It's Time to Enter the 21st Century". There are those in the Club, who are vehemently opposed to such an idea. There are also those who view it as a very viable and cost effective alternative to incurring the printing and mailing costs every month.

So, if you have feelings about it, either way, now would be a good time for you to make them known. This will be the topic for discussion at the November meeting. And, if you don't get involved in the discussion, you don't have a right to complain when things don't go your way.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

73,  
George, W6YD



## Kudos 'n Kredits

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

**WA6AUD, Hugh Cassidy**  
**W6JD, Doug Westover**  
**W6KM, Dick Letrich**  
**N7RC, Dick Courtney**  
**W6TWO, Rolph Stoddard**  
**W3UR, Bernie McClenny**  
**K6WC, John Brand**

Thank you, one and all!

George, W6YD

