

MARCH 1991

Building the thinking of the radio amateurs of Norco and Corona.
Photo free to provide inspiration for the theater of the mind.
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Vice President..Luis Diaz, KP4DX, 736-0789 Treasurer.....Rich Blackburn, N6TAX, 785-5658

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -de W6TKV

Last month, a survey was mailed to every club member. It was to check on the interests of the membership, and the surveys will be available at the meeting for review. The main interests seem to be DX and Antennas, so we will try to have most meeting programs in these two specific areas. There was also the desire for a more social orientation to our meetings, but the location was fine. We will aim toward an extended break rather than just one of 10 minutes or so. And, of course, anyone who wants to schedule a CNARC Pizza Party is welcome to stand up and announce it at the meeting!

Some newer hams expressed a desire for some close support and assistance. Although we don't have a formal program to offer, every CNARC member, whether a brand new ham or an old timer, should realize that every club member is ready, willing and able to provide assistance. All you need to do is ASK!!!

Whether it's understanding how to operate a new rig, assistance with putting up an antenna, help with the code, or trying to figure out what radio to buy ... there are CNARC members ready and willing to help. You just have to stand up at a meeting and ASK! To do so, just stand up and say, "I need help on Who can help me?"

MARCH 4th PROGRAM
The DX Packet Cluster ...

LAST CALL FOR 1991 DUES

Any club member who doesn't pay his dues will be dropped from our list of active members. Individual members \$10. each, or family members \$15. for the family. Please fill out the renewal form (Pg. 5), attach your check, and mail them to the club box, or give them to N6TAX at the meeting.

K6LEF ... THE BIG WINNER

K6LEF, the big winner of our annual SUPER RAFFLE and HRO Gift Certificate, decided to choose a Cushcraft R-5 multi-band vertical antenna. Looks like the plans of a big DXer.

JOIN RACES NOW!!!

MARCH MEETING

This month's program will be on the DX Packet Cluster. Anyone interested in DX spotting, will find the DX Cluster ample reason to rush out and buy a TNC and get on packet immediately if not sooner.

NEW EDITORIAL INPUTS

Starting this month, N6TAX will highlight interesting articles published in the latest ham publications, AF6F will provide highlights from the last meeting, and KP4DX will give offer youth-oriented items of interest.

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DXCC/QRP de W6TKV

In May 1989, a DX contest was underway one weekend, and several Italian stations were pounding in. Signals were Q5/S9+20, and I wasn't especially enthused about working more I's (to me, "working" meant using my kilowatt linear). I briefly thought about trying to work them with the basic 100 watt transceiver, and then I wondered if I could work them with the power turned all the way down on the TS-940. This turned out to be 3-4 watts.

The net result? In 2 hours, I worked IO3MAU, IO4UFH/4, EA3JE, IO4TJE, IK2CFH, IV3KYQ, IK5GFC, HA9RE and I1NRF on SSB. And, I even beat other guys to some of the DX. What a kick!

Well, that started me on my casual pursuit of DXCC/QRP. My last country was the U.S., and a QSAO with W3NQC in Maryland. Was he ever surprised to learn he was my country #100!

I found contests, the DX nets, DX-Peditions and just DX stations running a pile-up to provide the bulk of the contacts. Most were on 20M, with a lesser number on 15M and still fewer on 10M. The Marshall Islands was my sole 40M contact. My rule was that I never announced my power level (or that I was operating QRP) until I received my signal report from the other station.

I still chase DX using the kilowatt, particularly when there is a big pile-up ... but I also run QRP. Try it sometime. You'll be astonished at how well you can do. I am now thinking about trying DXCC with the rig turned off, but ... naa-ahh.

My three suggestions for chasing DX/QRP are: 1) a good antenna, 2) a good set of lungs, and 3) patience.

REMEMBER YOUR XYL AT EASTER

Things to buy your XYL for Easter:

- a new HT
- a Triband Beam
- a Kenwood TS-950SD
- a Lifetime Membership to ARRL
- Easter dinner out

IF YOU DIDN'T RENEW WITH CNARC
... THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST ISSUE

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR CODE SPEED

Many newcomers to ham radio believe the way to increase code speed is to use code tapes. For some, perhaps that's an effective way, but there is a way that's a lot more fun.

That's to bite the bullet and get on the air "Well," you say, "I can't copy fast enough." When you call CQ, you are setting the speed of the QSO. When someone comes back to you and sends too fast, just send QRS (that means SLOW DOWN). And, if he doesn't slow down, just send QRS again ... and again ... and again. Either he'll slow down and you'll have a nice chat ... or he will sign with you and you can call CQ again. Eventually, your code speed will increase ... and that will happen a lot quicker than you think.

For general information, the first transmission is always something like: N4ABC DE KC6XYZ TNX FOR CALL BT UR RST 599 599 BT NAME HR IS BILL BILL BT QTH KNOXVILLE, TN ? KNOXVILLE, TN BT SO HW COPY? N4ABC DE KC6XYZ KN. And, then the other ham will send the same information is the same sequence. ¹² he needs to copy is 599, BILL and KNOXVILLE, TN and he knows everything you sent ... and the same goes for you. Try it, you'll like it! You might even get to like CW!



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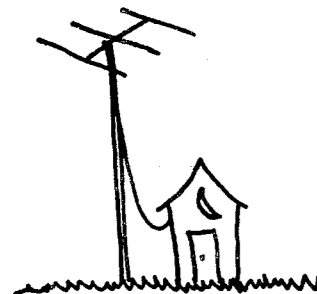
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