



Southeastern DX Club

W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB
January 2009

From the President:

I want to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. May it be prosperous, filled with love and family and improving DX conditions. See you at the January meeting!
73, Bob-K4UEE

Obviously Bob has other things on his mind. Could it be the KP5 operation?

Vice President's Report—January 2009

Things have been busy since the last SEDXC meeting. We had the fabulous SEDXC 50th anniversary party, the holiday celebrations, and the start of the new year. But there was still time for some ham radio activity. Tim Lemmon (WK4U, who will be our February speaker), K4DLI and I put up a nice flat top for Frances Doyle, AJ4JQ, who is a member of the North Fulton club. Frances is in high school and went straight for her extra class license last summer. It was a hands-on day for Frances and her younger brother.



The antenna worked fine, but there was a problem with Frances' transceiver, which went back to ICOM for repair. Today we got an update on her progress from her father:

Just to let you know that Frances is going great guns on HF with this fine loaner rig: she's contacted Mexico, Honduras, Cuba and even a ham in an airplane over Pennsylvania the night before last. (He was flying from NY to CA on some sort of ham outing and deferred some other contacts to talk to the "YL" he heard !) Last night she heard a ham in Japan very clearly, but couldn't quite punch through to him. Also, I just heard that HRO has her ICOM-718 back from the California repair facility, so I will go out and pick that up this week - maybe we can bring the loaner back to you at the Jan. 21 club meeting.

Edward has been poring over the "cheat sheet" and has passed 4-5 practice exams online already, so he's confident and raring to go on the Technician's test. I'm working that angle as well, but also reading the ARRL book and trying to really understand the difference between resistance and reactance.... Whew! I will concentrate more on the cheat sheet for now and keep acquiring the theoretical knowledge as I go along: there's a lot to learn !!

Thanks again so much for all your help on the antenna and otherwise.

I think we may see several new hams in the Doyle family soon, thanks to the Ham Cram being held by the North Fulton club this Saturday.

We have another opportunity to help a young ham coming up on January 24. Mike Almeter, W4MJA is a member of the SEDXC and one of the plaque winners in our contest this past year, and the founder of the Alpha 87A reflector. He will be putting up quite a few wire antennas with our help, and we sure could use your help at his antenna party, which has been announced on the SEDXC reflector. As the time gets closer, we'll firm up the time for the start of the antenna party.

The DXPros could use some extra heads and hands. If YOU would like to help out, please contact me.

This past weekend was the GARS Techfest. It was fun as usual, and it was nice to see so many people there. The chili was outstanding as were the many interesting tables and exhibits. Wes Lamboley presented DX101 (getting started) and Dave Johnson presented DX102, installing a tower inexpensively



Dave was planning to share some of his tower wisdom as the speaker for our January meeting but had to cancel due to a work commitment in Orlando. We are hoping to have Dave as our speaker in March. I was really interested in the gadget he showed which he uses to tension guys. Time for a trip to Northern Tool to buy one.

I want to thank Jorge de la Torre for swapping with Dave as our speaker on short notice. Be sure to get the details on Jorge's talk from the web site. Jorge recently gave a related presentation to the Collins Radio Club and has changed it to emphasize the information most pertinent to DXing. Jorge joined the SEDXC at the GARS Techfest.

The DX is out there if you look for it, despite marginal band conditions. After several days of listening, I called and work a JW on 160m—a new one for me. You could see the JW's signal marching a little further south each night., finally reaching the Atlanta area.

73
Bob W2WG

Treasurer's Report for Jan 2009

SEDXC Financial position as of month-end January 2009.

General Fund:	\$5,477.42
Packet Fund:	<u>20.15</u>
Total Balance:	\$5,497.57

Fellow Gwinettian Brian Page, N4TRB has an article in QST this month that points out an obscure connection of Norcross to Vibroplex. Interestingly enough, the old Buchanan house that he mentions in the article has a ham (inactive) living in it. Don't forget to vote for it as favorite article so that he can get that cover plaque.

I'm really looking forward to Orlando and PJ2T.

73 es DX
Mke, ND4V

Activities Report:

A BIG thanks goes out to all those who helped at the GARS Techfest & Chili Cookoff: W3WL (Wes), KB7WO (Rich), NN4ZZ (Al), K4SSU (Dave), W4GKF (Chaz), WB4SQ (Gary), K4DLI (Jim), W2WG (Bob #2). Wes conducted the DX-101 seminar in one room while Dave held DX-102 next door. And congrats to our 3 new members who joined at Techfest. Dalton hamfest coming up Feb 28th. Let's talk it up about possibly attending. Good DX & see everyone at the next meeting...

WB4SQ- Gary

Editors Note: Gary has received his tower permit and will be looking for help soon for an erection of his tower and antenna.

This month we have the biography of one of our most diversified hams in the club. It's a pleasure to present this month, Jim Stafford.



Jim Stafford W4QO

Licensed as KN9MAF in spring of 1958 at the peak of Cycle 19 and entered my first contest in the November SS that year using a DX-40 and an HQ-100. Made 80 Qs! Been doing and loving CW contests for almost 50 years. I operated once from Guatemala during CQ WW (CW) in mid 70s with over 3000 Qs but other than that, all have been domestic contests. For past 15 years, have been mostly in the QRP category using wire antennas after my 80 foot tower and TH6 came down during a construction mishap related to my wood shop (my other interest). I enjoy the CQ WPX contest at the QRP level

and have a few top ten finishes for my effort. My rigs include the K3, FT-1000, and TS-940. Antennas: WØMHS loop at 60' and 40M EDZ at 50'. I also have about a dozen QRP rigs most of which I have built. I am a 99% CW op and promote this mode at every opportunity.

I passed my Extra in 1962 while a sophomore at Purdue (W9YB) University (EE major). Later this accomplishment would get me into the second group of 1x2 callsign applicants and in 1976 received my present call - W4QO while working in Florida. I also spent a year in Boston working W1MX as a Brass Rat. I've worked at Indiana Bell, Bell Labs (I was W2CJC in NJ), AT&T, and Bellsouth where I retired in 1994). I've operated about every mode in ham radio including meteor scatter (2M) and satellite. I am past president of the QRP Amateur Radio Club International (13000 members worldwide), the Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneer ARC, and most recently, the 225 member North Fulton Amateur Radio League. I was director of a project I called the RadioActive Schools Program taking ham radio to local area schools for 10 years with over 2000 students exposed to ham radio in the process. I also organized and managed the W4WOW station at the SciTrek Science Museum in the 1990s. I have taught many classes (still do) and very graciously received the ARRL Herb Brier Instructor of the Year in 1993. I am a rather casual DXer with 225 confirmed and yes, I have my Desecheo QSL already! I am most proud of my 150 countries at the QRP level, with 40M "DXCC" at 5 watts. I have also worked VK on 40M SSB mobile at 100 watts. I enjoy doing the oddball kinds of things!

Have been married to my very patient and beautiful wife Marilyn (K4ZOL) for 43 years and have two children and two grandchildren. Ham radio has never failed me and I have enjoyed this hobby through every phase of my life. I hope to enjoy it more by working you for my next contact.

One thing Jim did not mention was that he was one of a small group of hams that brought the North Fulton Group from a dying club of less the 10 members to its current

level of about 225 members. Well done Jim.

Mike, ND4V, forwarded to me an e-mail and letter from Dani, EA4ATI & 9M2TI, that is presented here in for your consideration. It is expected we will receive a formal application in the near future.

Dear colleagues of SEDXC,

My name is Dani, callsign EA4ATI and 9M2TI now in Malaysia.

I am preparing a DXpedition for this year to Nauru (C2) in the Pacific and I would like to know possibilities for funding from SEDXC. I have previous experience on XT2ATI, XT2TI, HP2PL, Z39A, 6W1EA, 6W1/EA4ATI, HP1/EA4ATI, HI5/EA4ATI, HI3CCP, HI3C, 3XY9B, etc.

I am still preparing the DXpedition, but tentative dates will be from third of May to 17th of May (after the cyclone season), travelling through Australia from second to 18th of May, 2009.

I am preparing the logistics with a friend from Nauru that I met in Malaysia during a ITU workshop last November, but we will probably stay in the Od'N Aiwo hotel, that has been the location of previous DXpeditions to Nauru (C21BH, C21SX, C21XF, etc).

The composition of the team is not finished yet, I am trying to have CW and SSB operators. If you have available operators they are welcome (as well as RTTY operators).

We will create a website with the assigned call sign as soon as possible.

A study of propagation with a proposed bands plan for the DXpedition will be posted of the web. This study will be done by the Technical University of Malaysia.

I have not estimated yet the target QSO's, but anyway it won't be less than 20,000.

I have myself dipole antennas, a FT857D, a HF amplifier, a satphone for data connection (BGAN) and I am looking for yagi antennas.

Thanks a lot and all the best

73's

Dani, EA4ATI & 9M2TI

PS: Attached a concept paper draft for the DXpedition

Below is the letter printed as received.

NAURU DXPEDITION 2009 (C21TI)

GENERAL OBJECTIV

To promote the HAM radio amateur activity in Nauru, to communicate with the rest of the world from Nauru, to strengthen the radio network in Nauru for disaster preparedness and to install a permanent station in Nauru under the national telecommunications authorities for promotion of ham radio after the DXpedition.

With this goal a DXpedition will be organized for Nauru, with the support of Danish DX Group, EUDX, etc (more donations are welcome).

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To put on the air a call sign from Nauru during two weeks
- To communicate with at least 20,000 ham radio amateurs from the rest of the world
- To donate a HF station to the DM agency in Nauru (if the DXpetition gets any) in order to support telecommunications during disasters.
- To get a permanent callsign from Nauru after the DXpedition with the engagement of permanent use.
- Integration in the process for:
 - DX Group, EUDX, etc
 - RonTel (Telecommunications authority from Nauru)
 - DM agency of Nauru

Local HAM radioamateur

INDICATORS

A DXpedition is done from 3d to 17th May, 2009

More than 20,000 people are logged in the C21TI station

A HF is donated to the DM agency of Nauru and a MoU is signed (if we get donation)

A C21xx callsign is allocated permanently in the island

A website is created mentioning all donors and supporters to the DXpedition

PLANNING

Selection of operators

Selection will be made by EA4ATI, team leader for the DXpedition.

EA4ATI will make the selection and will decide the final candidates.

Here is a letter from an Australian Ham about QSLing practices.

Vatley, N.S.W. Australia

Preparation of the DXpedition

All the information will be edited in the C21TI website. Any comment should be sent to the team leader (Daniel Bolaños, ea4ati@hotmail.com)

A person has been identified in Nauru to support with the logistics of the DXpedition in the island.

Sponsors DX groups and association will be mentioned on the websites, articles, publications, banners and other visibility material, coordinated by EA4ATI.

Danish DX Group and EUDXF will support this DXpedition (more sponsors are welcome).

Other recognized operators will be invited to this DXpedition

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

Organization, administration and relationship with the sponsors will be made by Dani, EA4ATI.

Sponsors are asked to cover the costs for flight tickets, material, and hosting. If there are not donations, operators should cover all expenses.

Flight tickets will be emitted from each operator.

Material will be prepared by the C21TI team.

OPERATORS' SKILLS

Operators need to have previous experience in other contests and/or DXpeditions.

The person should already have a good knowledge of operation during DXpeditions and have a good understanding of team working.

Proposed candidates should send an email to EA4ATI

DXPEDITION to Nauru.

Operators should be there the third of May in Nauru and leave the 17th of May.

Mike, ND4V, has sent then the SEDXC application.

Editor, QST:

In the last American mail, I received a number of QSL cards. On two of these were added messages asking me to write local hams who had neglected to QSL, while another complained, "What is wrong with you chaps, don't you ever QSL?" In regard to the first, I happen to know two out of the three chaps mentioned have been off the air for two years. It cost us about \$XX.XX a year for our amateur license and a lot of the boys have had to do without their hobby owing to present conditions, but that does not stop those parasites who use a fellow's call as soon they know he is off the air. I have received cards from numerous hams whom I have never worked, some of them complaining bitterly about the time it takes me to QSL!...

In regard to cards, I have sent to W's, when they have not been sent direct they have always been sent to the District QSL Managers, so perhaps a stamped, addressed envelope sent to the local QSL Manager would clear up a lot of the misunderstanding.

On looking up my log I find I have worked 72 W stations in the last three months and so far I have received 12 cards to prove it. So it is easily seen that the QSL problem is an international one.

Had I sent all my W cards away separately it would have cost me roughly \$XX.XX in stamps alone—quite an item—but by making use of the QSL Bureaus it only amounts to a fraction of that cost.

The regular publication of the addresses of QSL Bureaus is the only solution applicable to all countries... If local radio publications could be induced to publish or reprint this information it would be a great help to the ham who is willing to QSL but cannot, owing to lack of information.

A. P. Reynolds, VK2AP

This sounds like a common complaint that is heard very often these days. If you are wondering why I did not put in the dollar amounts it will soon be evident. This letter was written by VK2AP and published in the September 1933 issue of QST. Are we doing any better in 2009 then we were in 1933? Thanks to the LOTW we may be making progress. Incidentally, this issue of QST was published the month and year I was born.

The \$ amounts were \$7.50 and \$3.50. A tidy sum for your hobby in 1933.

Jim K4DLI

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The SEDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southeastern DX Club . All opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, officers, or club. We welcome your opinion

DX PACKET FREQ. (Corrections, 1/2/04)

N4XMX off line(2400) 144.91 (direct, Vinings),
off line(2400) 145.65 (direct or ATLDX)

Note: ATLDX is down right now, direct OK.

KS4Q (2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw3'

(2400) 145.63 MHz; 'c saw4'

(1200) 145.69 MHz; 'c saw5'

Once you get a connect on any of the three above frequencies, enter 'c saw1'. Once you get a connect to saw1, enter 'c ks4q' or simply 'dx'. or telnet dx.ks4q.net

NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75
K4UGA (Athens)(2400) 145.67 (SE Megaclst)
(telnet 128.192.52.40 599, must put in port 599)

DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.

Simplex 147.54

K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz) 147.195+

SEDXC WEBPAGE

www.sedxc.org

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