



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

*THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB*

September 2003

Next meeting: September 16th, 7:30 PM at the Fuqua Heart Center Classroom at Piedmont Hospital.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

-Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE, Pres.

The last meeting was a good meeting. This was the first meeting back after the brief summer break. Wes Lamboley, W3WL provided us with a tape (uncut "home video") of the VK0IR DXpedition held in 1997. Parts were a bit "rough" due to no stabilization device (or anti-motion) on the camera. The content was very good and gave us a different perspective of the 1997 DXpedition to Heard Island. Come to the next meeting for another interesting program.

NEXT PROGRAM:

Wes will give us a "heads up" on the content of the program for the September meeting. If you have an idea for a program, please let Wes know your thoughts and ideas.

IMPORTANT ISSUES:

I had the pleasure of attending the Shelby Hamfest for the first time this past weekend (Labor Day weekend). It is about 10 times bigger, perhaps more, than the Atlanta Hamfest. The bone yard is reminiscent of Dayton but about one fourth to one third the size. This Hamfest is large by any means. It appears to be quite a camping/social event as well as a formal ham event. We saw some ham items that are rarely seen even at Dayton. For example, there were two (not just one) Ten Tec 253 automatic tuners. These are rare as "hen's teeth"!

I traveled there with Harry Saunders, W4KJ.

He was my guide since he had been there before. We went to two forums. The first was the ARRL forum. Unfortunately we were late for this one and they had already covered the most important item, BPL, or Broadband over Power Lines. I will present more on that later. The "official" presenters of the DX Forum did not show up and an impromptu program was given by a representative from Headquarters, Dan Henderson, and Carl Smith, N4AA, editor of QRZ DX and the DX Magazine. They briefly discussed the need for hams to be involved in opposing BPL. A large part of the hour was spent discussing Logbook of the World (LOTW). LOTW is slated to begin on September 15, 2003. Once it is up and working properly we should expect to save a lot of money and hassle involved with obtaining credit for our QSO's. If you want the card, you will still need to send your card to the DX as you have been accustomed to doing.

BPL

There has been a lot of coverage of BPL, or Broadband over Power Lines, on many of the ham radio list servers. There is a large source of information regarding this on the [ARRL website](#). I suggest you become familiar with it and help oppose BPL as it will be no good for Ham Radio. It will be especially deleterious for DXers.

BPL can be recognized by several other acronyms. Power Line Telecommunications (PLC) and Power Line Broadband (PLB) are two examples. BPL, PLC, and PLB are all described on the ARRL web page as, "carrier-current" systems, a term used to describe systems that intentionally conduct signals over electrical wiring or power lines".

There are three types of BPL; access, in-building, and control. Only the first, or access BPL, is deleterious to the ham radio operator. Because their wiring is physically large and, often overhead and extends across entire communities, access BPL systems pose a significant interference potential to over-the-air services. As such, Amateur Radio is not the

only potentially affected service. This fact should increase our lobbying efforts to be sure BPL is not implemented. It is unclear whether the present power lines are adequate to facilitate this and unclear whether the Power companies really want it.

I encourage all of you to become "experts" on BPL, PLC, or PLB, however you wish to reference it. Testing has shown that it can add up to 70dB of noise to our HF signals at the receiver. Perhaps we can find an expert on this subject to give us a presentation at one of our meetings. If you know of anyone with this expertise let us know.

NEXT MEETING DETAILS:

The September 16, 2003 meeting will be held at the usual QTH, the Heart Center Classroom of the Fuqua Heart Center (Piedmont Hospital). There is **free parking**. Check the SEDXC website for directions and instructions. We will meet at Panera Bread just North of the hospital around 1800 for a good dinner with Club members then go to the meeting QTH around 1915.

Check out the web site. You can find it at: www.sedxc.org. Send any ideas to sedxc@kauten.com. Send email to w4te@arrl.net if you have any new business to present for the August meeting.

GUD DX and see you at the meeting.

73, Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE, Pres.

FROM THE VP

-Wes Lamboley, W3WL, VP

Not a whole lot to say about ham radio this month – we have been gone for a month following Lewis and Clark and the Oregon Trail and other points of interest out in the West. Got to Glacier, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain, Craters of the Moon and the North Roosevelt national Parks/Monuments. Had a great time as expected!! Did one hike of 14.6 miles to Lake Solitude in the Tetons – bloody near killed me-but it was worth it! Also did my very first mobile operation from our campervan. I still have a few refinements to make yet, but it did work!

CU at the meeting

Best, Wes - Whiskey Three Whiskey Lemur

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Harry Saunders, W4KJ, Tres.

SEDXC Treasury	\$ 3548.84
Packet Fund	\$ 610.15
Total Balance	\$ 4158.99

We have received a number of renewals this past month as we get closer to the deadline. It is still not too late to get your 2003/2004 dues in so that you will remain an active member, be able to vote at the meetings and receive the Bulletin. If you have not renewed please do so NOW and send your \$ 20 dues to me at the Club's P.O. Box address listed here in the Bulletin. I will be at the next Club meeting so you can bring your dues then.

We want to welcome a new member to the Club. He is George Nicholson, N4GRN. George lives in Fariburn and is working on his DXCC. Welcome, George, to the SEDX Club!

Harry Saunders, W4KJ Treasurer
hpsaunders@mindspring.com

ACTIVITIES

-John Tramontanis, N4TOL

The days are getting shorter, and the weather will soon be getting cooler. Signs that the DX contest season is approaching. For the September meeting we will discuss the possibility of another SEDXC contest challenge.

The Lawrenceville hamfest is less than two months away, so some club planning for the event will be in order also. I received a nice pack of bureau cards today – ah the spoils of DXing.

73 – John N4TOL,Activities

**REMINDER!!
PLEASE RENEW AND SEND
IN YOUR DUES TO THE
ADDRESS LISTED ON THE BACK!!**

MINUTES FOR AUGUST 19, 2003

-Dale Nordin, K4HGG, Sec.

The meeting was called to order by Jim-W4TE, at 7:33 p.m. with 17 members present. Since there was no July meeting, there were no minutes to be approved.

Activities manager, John-N4TOL gave a report on the club presentation of "DX101" at the Kennehootchie club meeting. John also thanked all those who helped at the Gainesville hamfest.

Announcements:

It was announced that September 30th. would be the last day to submit your QSL cards to be listed in QST.

Program:

The program was a video presentation on VK0IR. However this was a "live" presentation of the dxpedition and not in a "travelogue" form ie not in a continuous video presentation. Many prominent DXers gave short speeches including our own Bob-K4UEE, Wes-W3WL, Willy-ON5TT, Arie-PA3DUU, HB9RHL, JA5EXW. on their various contributions to the dxpedition. The doctor that was part of the dxpedition brought a stock of medical supplies that was put good use on a couple of occasions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Dale-K4HGG/SM1WRI Secretary

DXCC FIELD CHECKING

-Bill Barr, N4NX

I will be at the Club meeting Tuesday Night (September 16th) and as always will be checking cards for DXCC (The deadline for 2003 DXCC Year book listing is 9/30).

*Your contacts MUST BE listed in the proper order (By Band and Mode). * Bring an SASE addressed to the ARRL DXCC DESK. * Include your ARRL membership expiration date on the application face sheet. * Bring a check payable to ARRL or use your credit card (Which I recommend - NO CASH!)

* Read all of the above again!!!

I will also be collecting QSLs for the ARRL Outgoing Bureau. Remember to bring a mailing label off a QST or a copy of the label. The cost is 4 cents per card. Please place cards in proper order! The Web site shown below has a list of countries that can not be handled by the outgoing bureau. The list is shown under the main heading of QSL Information: and the tab of "The ARRL outgoing QSL Service". I urge you to bring your outgoing QSLs to this meeting as I will only be mailing every 2 months and plan to send the next batch before the October meeting!

Please review the rules for both DXCC Card Checking and for the Outgoing QSL Bureau at : <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>

Look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

73 Bill N4NX

Morse Code FCC Petitions

Ron Lowrance, K4SX

<http://www.k4sx.com>

I am forwarding to you the recent FCC petition filings regarding Morse Code. I encourage you to read the petitions and respond with your comments supporting the retention of Morse Code as a examination requirement. The process to send in your comments is easy. Thanks in advance for your taking the time to participate in this very important topic. Also, please forward this on to others who were not copied on this email so that they may have the opportunity to participate.

K4SX Ron Lowrance, Cumming, GA

FCC INVITES COMMENTS ON SIX MORSE CODE-RELATED PETITIONS

The FCC has invited public comments on six separate Morse code-related petitions for rule making, some of which would altogether eliminate Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse test, from the Amateur Service rules (Part 97). World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made optional the requirement to prove the ability to send and receive Morse signals to operate below 30 MHz. A petition from Peter M. Beauregard, K1II, designated RM-10781, would give all Technician licensees current Novice/Tech Plus

CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters and limited phone and image privileges on 80, 40 and 10 meters. Beauregard said the CW privileges would “encourage Technician class licensees to upgrade to General” by giving them a “practice area.” He has proposed new Tech phone/image privileges on 3850-3900 kHz and 7225-7300 kHz. His petition would not eliminate Element 1, however. Pete V. Coppola, KG4QDZ, and family—Tina Coppola, KG4YUM, and Pete A. Coppola, KG4QDY—have asked the FCC to eliminate Element 1 from the rules. The Coppolas’ petition, designated RM-10782, would grant Tech Plus HF privileges to current Technician licensees. It also would retain the current CW-only subbands. The Coppolas asked the FCC to make the change effective immediately on a provisional basis. Kiernan K. Holliday, WA6BJH, has asked the FCC simply to “remove all requirements for knowledge of Morse code” from the Amateur Service rules. Holliday said there is less reason to require Morse code in the Amateur Service today. In his petition, designated RM-10783, Holliday also said the code requirement limits the ability of handicapped individuals to get ham tickets. “The Commission’s policy should be to encourage the use of Amateur Radio,” he said. Dale Reich, K8AD, petitioned the FCC to delete Element 1 for General class applicants but keep it in place for Extra class applicants. Under Reich’s scheme, “no-code” Techs wanting HF privileges would have to upgrade to General first. Reich’s petition is designated RM-10784. Eric Ward, N0HHS, seeks immediate elimination of “proficiency in telegraphy using Morse code.” The “immediate removal of the telegraphy requirement from Amateur Radio licensing is appropriate and clearly in the public interest,” Ward contended in his petition, designated RM-10785. In a detailed, nine-page petition, the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is calling on the FCC to delete Element 1 and give “Tech Plus” privileges to current Technician licensees. The NCVEC also asked the FCC to “take expedited action” to allow volunteer examiner coordinators (VECs) to discontinue administering Element 1 “as soon as possible.” “The Amateur Service community suffers from the loss to its ranks of a large number of potentially excellent operators who are turned away because of the CW requirement,” the NCVEC petition said. The organization, the umbrella group for the 14 VECs in the US, said there’s “no longer any reason-

able justification for requiring an applicant to demonstrate this antiquated skill,” and that most applicants never use Morse after they pass the test. The NCVEC petition is designated RM-10787. The ARRL-VEC abstained from voting on the NCVEC’s petition question when it came up during the NCVEC’s July 25 meeting in Pennsylvania. At its own July meeting in Connecticut, the ARRL Board of Directors affirmed its interest in reviewing members’ input on the Morse issue as well as on other possible revisions to Part 97 arising from WRC-03. The Board’s current position is to retain the Morse requirement for HF access. Two more recently filed petitions—one from No Code International and another from two amateur licensees—are expected to be put on public notice in the near future. Interested parties may file comments on any or all of these petitions using the FCC’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>, which also permits users to view the petitions and all comments on file. There is a 30-day comment window. To file a comment, click on “Submit a Filing” under “ECFS Main Links.” In the “Proceeding” field, type the full RM number, including the hyphen, and complete the required fields. “RM” must be in capital letters, and you must include the hyphen between “RM” and the five-digit number. You may type your remarks into a form or attach a file. ECFS also accepts comments in active proceedings via e-mail, per instructions on the ECFS page. While a Morse code exam element remains on the books in the US, Canada and elsewhere, a handful of countries—including Switzerland, Belgium, the UK, Germany, Norway and the Netherlands—already have moved to drop their Morse requirements. Austria and New Zealand are expected to do so soon.

DX TIDBITS

-Rick Glisson, N4XMX, ed.

There is a little room again this month so I can stick a little in. Good cards lately include ST0RY and ST2CF. ZW0S has been active on RTTY. Worked him on 30M for a new one there. If he won't do CW, then fire up the KAM!

N4XMX cluster is active on 145.65 and 144.91. Make use of it if you like. If you have problems, let me know. CU in the pileups...

Rick, N4XMX

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SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB
PO Box 19871
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Next Meeting:
September 16th, 7:30 PM
Fuqua Heart Center Classroom at
Piedmont Hospital.

DX PACKET FREQ.

N4XMX (2400) 144.91 (direct or GNTNOD),
(2400) 145.65 (direct or ATLDX)

KS4Q (2400) 145.01 MHz; 'c saw3'
(2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw4'
(1200) 145.63 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 66.23.195.102:7300

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

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com