



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

*THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB*

October 2003

**Next meeting: October 21st, 7:30 PM
at the Fuqua Heart Center Classroom
at Piedmont Hospital.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

-Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE, Pres.

IMPORTANT NOTICE—PARKING:

Mr. Robert Maynard, President and CEO of Piedmont Hospital, has asked me to ask the membership to park in a different location. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PARKING WILL STILL BE FREE.** Patients still need access to the lot where we have been parking outside the ODC and McDonnell SurgiCenter. We have been asked to park in the **North Deck**. This is where we parked the first several meetings. It is not as convenient but parking will still be free. To get to the North deck, take the turn after the one we have been taking into the ODC lot and turn right. After the turn, follow the signs directing you to the North Deck. Once in the North deck enter the Hospital and follow signs to the 95 Building where the Heart Center Classroom is located. More specific directions are on the web page at <http://www.sedxc.org/parking%20directions.htm>.

Mr. Maynard has informed the Garage attendants that we will not be charged for parking. We are to tell the parking attendant that we are members of the Southeastern DX Club attending a meeting at the hospital. Despite this change, we can be thankful that we have a nice meeting place well equipped with audio-visual equipment and have free parking. I will remind everyone when we meet at Panera prior to the next meeting.

LAST MEETING:

The last meeting was a great meeting. We had a review of one ham's experience with exploring,

planning, and erection of a tower and antenna system. Curt Beeman, WB4JFS, a member of the Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club gave the talk. The talk was long but very thorough. The talk was so thorough that we had very few questions to ask at its completion! We extend our gratitude to Curt for his time and effort and interesting presentation.

BPL:

Last meeting there was a discussion of BPL, or Broadband over Power Line. The Club voted to donate \$250.00 to the ARRL BPL fund to help with lobbying efforts to thwart BPL. BPL is centered on making money for that industry with no consideration to the consumers who would be adversely affected by it—us! Keep up with BPL at the ARRL website: www.arrl.org.

LOTW:

At the last meeting we discussed the Logbook of the World, or LOTW, introduced by the ARRL. We are optimistic that LOTW will help save us money and ease the process of obtaining QSL/QSO credit. It may not help for old contacts we have already made, but hopefully future contacts will be aided by this process. I recently uploaded my logs for my present callsign, W4TE, and my old callsign, KO4RQ. The instructions of all the steps of the process were not clear to me, but the ARRL responded promptly to my emails asking for help regarding the process.

I uploaded 7,876 QSO records and of this there have been 47 QSL records or matches. I wish there were 7,876! Within the entire system there have been almost 9.5 million QSO records entered. 71,314 QSL records have resulted. 2,268 users are registered in the system. I suspect it will take at least a year to get most everyone on board. Hopefully new DXpeditions will utilize it. It is still possible to send your QSL card for return card if you wish. Card checking and sending cards to the ARRL will be less prevalent.

DXCC DEADLINE:

The deadline for updating your DXCC records for 2003 was September 30. Hopefully everyone got their applications sent in and is current. I ploughed through my logbook and cards and am happy to say I am up to date. I had been putting it off for some time. The paperwork involved is not my idea of fun. Submissions from here on out should be a once a year event of which I am happy.

NEXT MEETING DETAILS:

PETER I—3Y0:

Bob Allphin, K4UEE, one of the Club's Senior and Distinguished members is one of the organizers of the upcoming DXpedition to Peter I, 3Y0. The DXpedition will take place in January, 2004, at the height of the Antarctic Summer. Peter I is ranked 7th Most Wanted World Wide, 11th in the Eastern US, and 12th overall nationwide. Bob has participated in many DXpeditions, is member of the SEDXC Hall of Fame, and is a Distinguished member of the CQ DX Hall of Fame.

Bob informs me that the DXpedition will cost in the neighborhood of \$400,000. He is asking for our Club's support. Many Clubs, smaller than the SEDXC, have pledged \$2000.00. We will be discussing the Club's support of this DXpedition at the next meeting. The Club will get great exposure with a "sizeable" donation. Think seriously about the Club's support of this DXpedition.

MEETING QTH:

The October 21, 2003 meeting will be held at the usual QTH, the Heart Center Classroom of the Fuqua Heart Center (Piedmont Hospital). There is **free parking**. Remember the Parking has changed to the North lot, but will still be free. 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.

FROM THE VP

-Wes Lamboley, W3WL, VP

Dear SEDXC Members

As you know there is a Dxpediton to Peter I Island, Antarctica planned for January and early Feb. 2004. This expedition will be physically demanding, as it is to the Southernmost DXCC "entity" in the world. At almost 69 deg. So.Latitude, it is 900 miles further South than Bouvet (3Y0C), 960 miles further south than Heard Island (VK0IR), 600 miles further south than Thule Island, South Sandwich Islands (VP8THU). What does that mean? Colder, windier, and snowier.

The island is 95% covered by glaciers and the dominant feature is a mile high volcano named Mt. Lars Christenhopp. Glaciers sweep down from the mountain toward the sea and abruptly drop off leaving 150-ft. high vertical ice cliffs. The only reasonably safe way on and off the island is by helicopter.

Once the camp is set-up on the glacier, every effort will be made to keep 4-6 stations on the air 24/7 for 2 + weeks. We will be QRV on 160m-10m, CW, SSB, RTTY, and PSK 31. IcomAmerica has loaned us 7-IC756 Pro II transceivers and we will be taking an array of antennas and amplifiers.

Previously, there have been only two amateur radio operations from Peter I, making a total of 77,000 QSOS. The last Dxpediton was in 1994 and led by K0IR. The 2004 Dxpediton is led by K0IR and K4UEE; both have considerable experience in the Antarctic regions. Peter I is currently ranked # 7 on "The Dx Bulletin" most wanted list and # 4 by The 425 DXnews.

As you might imagine, this is an expensive undertaking. First, chartering a vessel large enough to transport the team of operators, their life support equipment including tents, cots, sanitation, personal gear and clothing, kitchen equipment and food, radio equipment, antennas, amplifiers, and generators is very, very expensive. Add the cost of leasing a helicopter, pilot, and mechanic and you have a staggering price tag, maybe the most expensive Dxpediton ever.

The expense of a Dxpediton like this must be borne primarily by the operators themselves. In this case, the team members will put up 60% of the total cost. Additionally, it is expected that up to 10 other

travelers who want to set foot on Peter I and then have a short tour of the Antarctic Peninsula and S. Shetlands Islands are being recruited to travel on the vessel. Their contributions will fund an up to an additional 30%. So there is still a monetary shortfall, that we hope to cover with contributions from DX Foundations, DX Clubs, corporate sponsors and individuals. The Team is hopeful that the DX community at large will contribute generously to this project.

As you can see, this is a HUGE undertaking, and much care has been exercised in the planning and operator recruiting. 15 people will contribute 6-7 weeks of their time and have written a large personal check to make this happen. Please consider a generous contribution to this project. Checks from individuals for \$250 or more can be made payable to the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF), and should be tax deductible (please consult your tax advisor). All other checks should be made payable to: Bob Allphin/Peter I Expedition. Send all checks to:

Wes Lambole, W3WL
690 Hunter Hill Way
Roswell, GA 30075

I now have a tower up – but no antenna on it yet. Will be up by the end of the month. I can't wait – there is some pretty good stuff on right now. Many thanks again to the guys who helped out – Jim and his son, Bob, George, Gary and John (sort of).

I spent a VERY interesting couple of hours with Jim Streible, K4DLI, this week. He will be presenting the next program for the club. Jim has some really interesting FREE (my favorite 4-letter word) software that he is going to present and demo. Jim showed me how to find information on my local terrain by accessing a government database, put it into the program, and look at an antenna gain as a function of antenna height vs. azimuth angle vs. typical propagation on that bearing. It is easy to see what adjusting the height of the antenna does to your chances of working that rare on. If nothing else, it is a great visual aid for showing the XYL why you need a new tower!

I got pretty excited about this demo – see if you don't as well at the next meeting!

Best

Wes – Whisky 3 Whisky Lemur

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Harry Saunders, W4KJ, Tres.

Here is the Treasurer's report for October.

SEDXC Treasury	\$3365.84
Packet Fund	\$ 610.15
Total Balance	\$3975.99

In September the Club sent a check to the ARRL BPL Defense Fund in the amount of \$250. This was proposed at the September meeting and strongly supported by the membership. President Jim Kauten forwarded the check along with a letter expressing the SEDX Club's support for the effort to protect our spectrum from the efforts to use power lines as a means for transmitting broadband to the detriment DX'ers and other hams nationwide.

It is not too late to renew your membership. You may do so by sending a check for \$20 to the SEDXC at the address listed in this Bulletin. All active DX'ers should support the premier DX Club in the Southeast. We encourage DX'ing and DX activities and joining or renewing your membership is the best way to do that. If you have already renewed but know of someone who hasn't, do them a favor and remind them to do so soon before the cut off date coming soon.

See you at the meeting this month on October 21.

Harry Saunders, W4KJ Treasurer
hpsaunders@mindspring.com

ACTIVITIES

-John Tramontanis, N4TOL

The annual SEDXC challenge will be resumed this year for the CQ WW contests, both phone and CW, on October 25-26 and November 29-30 respectively.

Awards will be given for:

- 1) Highest score
- 2) Highest score – low power – 100 watts or less
- 3) Highest score – QRP – 10 watts or less

Also, the club is in the process of securing a table for the Stone Mountain Hamfest on November 1st. We will be looking for volunteers to man the table soon. Details to follow at meeting and via e-mail.

73 – John N4TOL, Activities

MINUTES FOR September 16, 2003

-Dale Nordin, K4HGG, Sec.

The meeting was called to order by Jim-W4TE, at 7:30 p.m. with 16 members present. Our newest member, N4GRN was welcomed into the club.

After introductions, we continued into the announcements.

Announcements:

Activities manager, John-N4TOL announced that the SEDXC will have at least one table at the Stone Mountain Hamfest on Nov 1st. at the Gwinett County Fairgrounds.

Peter I DXpedition will be coming in January 2004. Our own K4UEE will be one of its leaders.

Also Bill-N4NX announced that September 30th would be the last day to submit your QSL cards in the annual book (postmarked by Sep 30th).

A new service, Logbook of the World, was announced. This will allow direct access submission to the ARRL for DXCC, WAS etc. It will require digital registration (a digital certificate) and the downloading of LoTW software before you can begin to use the service. Go to the ARRL website and click on Logbook of the World.

A discussion was brought up concerning Broadband over Power Lines (BPL). One member described it as the worst attack on Amateur Radio. Wes-W3WL made a motion that we send a donation of \$250.00 to the ARRL to help fight this attack. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Program:

Curt - WB4JFS gave a description of tower construction. He described in detail how he went about investigating, planning, permitting and constructing his antenna tower project. With this new tower he hopes to work many of the stations that he could barely hear before his installation that now have strong signals. He is operating barefoot but may add a linear amplifier later

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Dale-K4HGG/SM1WRI Secretary

DX TIDBITS

-Rick Glisson, N4XMX, ed.

After a long summer, I look forward to fall with its shorter daylight hours. What that means for me is I can work 20M and down sooner in the evening! 30M is a great band, few people on it. I need to work on 160M now since covering DXCC on the others except 6M. A good theme song for 160M would be "Sunrise, Sunset." (Fiddler on the Roof) Hardest part of DX'ing is getting yourself out of bed at 4 or 5 in the morning to look for those Pacific gems. Otherwise, you can sleep a little longer and go for the early high band openings to EU and Africa.

Speaking of Africa, I hope the 3C0V group is OK. They were shut down abruptly by the military and there has not been much news.

Upcoming DXpeditions include of course Peter 1 by our own Bob, K4UEE and Wes, W3WL. Try to support the group put on this rare one. Who knows, they might even reveal some of those secret privatey freqs such as 14.195, 21.295, etc...

I am also looking forward to FR/E coming up around Thanksgiving. Would be an all time new one for me. Choices for working that area are either high bands in the morning (10,12,15) for face the meat grinder on 20M in the evening with everybody else with a radio. I hope they also work WARC bands as my small beam gives me a little advantage over the verticle and wire crowd. Gives me a bigger advantage over the usual tri-band crowd with NO antenna on 12 or 17!

Earthlink has been doing some real messing around with DSL and as a result, the N4XMX cluster was down for three days. After replacing some equipment, N4XMX cluster is back up. My cluster is active on both 145.65 and 144.91. I hope Allen will get GNTNOD back up at some point. I bug him every hamfest.

The Alford Hamfest is coming up in November. It's a good one with a very good bone yard. Lot of goodies there that aren't at the other local hamfests.

I uploaded my log to the LOTW, about 8K worth. Have about 120 matches, mostly 160M and 10M contest QSO's. There are a smattering of DX matches, I hope that will increase!

CU in the pileups...

Rick, N4XMX

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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.



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB
PO Box 19871
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Next Meeting:
October 21st, 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