



# Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

October 2010

## Presidents Report:

The Rich Auditorium opening is now part of SEDXC annals. Unfortunately, I did not get to be there because I was a contagious as Typhoid Mary, who was quarantined on North Brother Island in the New York Harbor in the early 1900's.



Mary Mallon (right) poses with Emma Sherman while at Riverside hospital.

Unlike Typhoid Mary, I am no longer a carrier of whatever virus I had, and I am looking forward to my first meeting in the Rich at the upcoming meeting, which is on Thursday, October 21, in the Rich.

By the time you read this, quite a few SEDXC members will be on the way to the sunny Caribbean to put four new ones on the air—Curacao, Bonaire, Sint Maarten, and Saba/St. Eustatius. The team will go equipped with two new SEDXC flags which Chaz, the man behind the curtain, procured for us. Look for those flags in pictures from the islands and at a future SEDXC meeting. Thanks, Chaz.

Many of you heard that Chaz and Gael are hosting the Christmas Holiday party. Check our VP's October report for details. Again, thank you Chaz and Gael.

Mack, WB4MAK spoke about HamJam at the September meeting. More details will be forthcoming, but I saw brisk raffle sales at the NFARL Hungry Hams lunch on 10/6. It took only a mention of the K3 and

Flex radios to start a sales stampede. I will have tickets at the October SEDXC meeting, the Executive Committee members have tickets, and we will roll out more ways of getting tickets shortly. You do not have to be present to win. Details of Ham Jam are at [hamjam.nfarl.org](http://hamjam.nfarl.org).

The higher bands such as 10/12/15 have not been very productive for DX over the last few weeks, but 160m looks as though it may be very productive this fall and winter, along with 80m and undoubtedly 40m. Check out those low band antennas and snag the four new entities to get your DXCC count on a roll.

73  
Bob W2WG

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## Vice Presidents Report:

As a ham radio club we are very fortunate to have a fantastic meeting facility. In discussion with hams from other clubs and organizations in the Atlanta area good meeting facilities at a reasonable monthly cost are becoming almost non-existent. Even VE testing groups are now expected to pay for a meeting room.

Our September meeting with Jim, W4QO and Mack, WB4MAK narrating their travelogue to the Friedrichshafen hamfest kicked off our first time in our new meeting facility. The new meeting room is located in the Piedmont Hospital complex in the Rich Auditorium, complete with the best audio/visual arrangement for a club program. A big thank you to Jim Kauten, W4TE for making the room arrangements for our Club.

Our October program will be using the auditorium's big theater size projection screen for the first showing of the just completed DVD containing the compilation of the K4L Sapelo Island Georgia Expedition adventures. Of the fourteen island adventures and two pilot operators half of the K4L team are SEDXC members. So, plan on attending our October 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and hear from Ricky, K4JTT and the other team members as they tell us about some of their trial, tribulations, and accomplishments.

Mark you calendars for the November 13<sup>th</sup> HamJam 2010 with Joe Taylor, K1JT taking about weak signal EME operations and Ward Silver, N0AX providing us

an entertaining presentation on DXing and Contesting.

And while you are marking your calendars, keep Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 7: p.m. to 10 p.m. open for our annual Christmas and Holiday party. Specific details will be forthcoming.

So, between now and then get ready to work the new DX entities.

73,  
Jim KT4MM

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## Secretaries Report:

Jim - KT4MM brought us to order at 7:30 in our new meeting place at the Rich Auditorium at Piedmont Hospital. Many accolades were expressed for Jim Kauten, W4TE, who enabled our getting to use the facility. You need to see it to believe it!

Chaz - W4GKF - reported on the September SEDXC contest. KA4KDZ/VE1 won the Low Power category; there were no entries in the two other categories. Chaz also mentioned that he has several older contest plaques that will be mailed to the recipients.

Chaz also reported that there has been no official word from the ARRL on the status of the new Caribbean entities and when they will count for DXCC and when LOTW entries will be counted (this has since been resolved). Chaz noted that several members of the SEDXC will be going to Saba and operating for two weeks using wire antennas and putting that new one on the air. The Saba team is working with other expeditions going to other new entities to work out frequency management; the two weeks following October 10 start date could be pandemonium without coordination!

There were lots of really good door prizes. Many thanks to those that brought them; it adds a lot to our meetings.

Mack - WB4MAK - made a presentation on the upcoming HamJam on November 13. We are working together with NFARL to help sponsor the event. Any net proceeds will go to activities to promote youth involvement in Ham Radio (see [www.HamJam.org](http://www.HamJam.org) for more information).

Jim - W4QO, and Mack gave a highly interesting presentation on the Friedrichshafen Hamfest in Germany. Mack was so impressed with the event he is planning to go again next year and is willing to act as host for any other DXers that want to accompany him and his wife.

The business portion of the meeting included the following:

The SEDXC budget for the year will be in the next newsletter. \$2500 has been earmarked for DXpedition funding.

The Christmas Party will be hosted at Chaz and Gael's home - Thanks, Chaz and Gael!!!

The SEDCO convention in Pigeon Forge will be held next week.

K4JTT will be operating from Sapalo Island in October.

We were adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Wes - W3WL - SEDXC Secretary

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## Treasures Report:

Sep 30, 2010

Operating Account Beginning Balance: \$ 5,594.98

### Deposits in the month :

PayPal transfer	00.00
Meeting raffle/badges	0.00
<u>Member Renewals</u>	<u>.00</u>

Total Deposit \$0.00

### Disbursements in the month of August were:

Plaques, Flag, name badges	504.45
Alford Memorial Hamfest	75.00
<u>HRO Gift Cert</u>	<u>25.00</u>

Total disbursed \$604.45

Undeposited funds	\$ 390.00
PayPal transfer enroute	.00
<u>Checking account balance</u>	<u>4,990.53</u>
Balance Sept 30,2010	<u>\$5,380.53</u>

Good luck to working the new ones on 10/10/10.

73 es Gud DX,  
Mike ND4V

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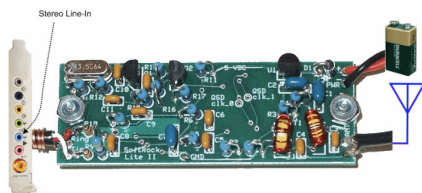
## Activities Report:

Hope to catch everyone at the Lawrenceville/Stone Mountain/AMRC hamfest. 8:00-4:00 on Saturday, Nov. 6 (8AM – 4PM), and Sunday Nov. 7 (8AM – 2PM). in on the Stone Mountain Repeater, 146.76, PL 107.2. Alternate frequencies are 145.45 no PL and 444.25, PL 131.8. This year we are trying to combine spaces with

the North Fulton group, and maybe GARS, for that 'European social experience', minus the beer and those wonderful Bavarian ladies.  
Gary - WB4SQ

## SEDXC and NFARL Software Defined Receivers on the Web

NFARL now has three software defined receivers available for monitoring your signal or for listening on the web. You can even listen at work! You may access these at <http://wb4mak.com>. The receivers cover 80M, 40M, and 20M. Full technical details and operating instructions are on the website. Enjoy this great resource.



## From Roger Western, G3SXW

Here is an article from our friend Roger Western, G3SXW, about their Central America Whirlwind Tour.

Bob/K4UEE, Rob/GM3YTS and Roger/G3SXW visited (SIX) Central American countries in seven days during September 2010 and operated pile-ups in two of them. Here is the brief diary of events:

Sep 13: Rob & Roger flew with Delta Airlines from London Heathrow to Atlanta, Georgia, USA; stayed one night with Bob, K4UEE and XYL Mary, met Chaz, W4GKF, great merriment, great food, great company!

Sep 14: Bob, Rob and Roger flew Delta from Atlanta to San Jose, Costa Rica,



three hour flight, stayed with Keko, TI5KD (TI5N in contests), big antennas; operated during two days or so: TI5/G3SXW, TI5/GM3YTS, TI5/K4UEE.

Sep 15: took a side-trip to Golfito in Southern C.R., walked across the border, with no formalities, into Panama.



By chance it was C.R. independence day. We met Leo, TI8NY, who lives at Paso de Canoas ('Crossing by canoes') on the border: he hosted us superbly and explained that this was the big family day, bigger even than Christmas. We enjoyed a mile-long parade of school-bands, mostly rhythmic drums, just so exciting (plus the odd beer or three!). A great day out, notwithstanding massive thunder-storms. Marvelous to join in major family celebrations in a far-away country, to experience the colour and enthusiasm of folks in celebratory mood.

Sep 16: back to San Jose early morning in our 15-seater airplane (I just love those small planes). Keko then drove us up the mountain to see the earthquake devastation (January 2009, Richter 7.2), lots of coffee plantations on the way. Then back for more time on the radio with Keko's big antennas.

Sep 17: flew Taca Airlines from San Jose, C.R. to Guatemala City,



40 minute transit at the airport; flew to San Salvador, another 40-minute transit;



flew to Managua, Nicaragua,, drove one hour to Granada, home of Octavio and Martha, YN2N, another set of big antennas, stayed for three nights: YN2SXW, YN2GM, YN2EE.



Sep 18: after some time on the radio we drove a mile or so to mount the Mombacho volcano, some 4,400 feet high, in a big East German truck; walked the trail of a Wildlife Preserve, steaming holes, Howling Monkeys, great experience. More radio operating in the evening.



Sep 19: drove three hours North to the Honduras border at Guasaule, bribed (USD \$10) our way across the border for a quick Honduran beer then back to Granada. More radio operating and Martha's great cuisine.

Sep 20: flew back to Atlanta; transit to London, arrived home Sep 21 afternoon.

### Why?

Such trips offer just such a marvelous combination: we are confessed Travel-o-Holics; we love to experience strange, new lands and meet new friends; we love to laugh till it hurts in the company of good pals with the same sense of humor. Add to all this getting on the air, albeit far more briefly than a full-scale DXpedition, from strange countries with strange propagation of signals and we're in heaven!

I made 200 contacts from Costa Rica signing TI5/G3SXW and 300 contacts from Nicaragua signing YN2SXW. In total the three of us made around 1,500 contacts, with our six different call-signs. All QSLs go to home calls.

The rented accommodation at both TI5KD and YN2N was just what we needed for a marvelous holiday, combining all these factors.

### Pile-Ups

Of course, we just love to get on the bands from somewhat exotic parts of the world and run pile-ups. There's nothing like a horde of callers to get the adrenaline rushing. From Central America Europe and Eastern North America are North-East so there's little need to rotate the beams. Just call CQ with a semi-rare call-sign and pile-ups are guaranteed within seconds.

Best openings, as we found, were late evenings local time. On 40 meters signals from Europe and W/VE were loud. Daytime depends on solar activity: with low sunspots signals were weaker and there was not much action above 15 meters.

## Antennas

At both TI5KD and YN2N there are really super antennas on high towers, including HF beams and 40 meter fixed wire cubicle quads. These generated instant pile-ups even with barefoot, 100 watts.

With high temperatures and high humidity maintenance must be a major challenge. Both Keko and Octavio invest considerably of their time and money to assure effective working stations. Their performances in world-wide contests attest to the effectiveness of their antenna arrays.

## YDXA

Keko, TI5KD, ran a programme in July this year for youngsters to experience operating ham radio from Costa Rica. After this success he is developing further programmes under the umbrella of the 'Youth DX Association'.

The idea is that parents bring their licensed youngsters to Costa Rica for a ham holiday. Keko organizes everything from airport pick-up to accommodation, meals and of course the radio station and antennas. The first such event was attended by eight father+teenager teams who made several thousand contacts. What a great way to enthuse newcomers to the hobby and to running pile-ups!

## DXFC

Finally, it must be added that DXFC is a significant motivation for us to make these crazy, whirlwind tours. This is when you count DXCC countries visited. The rules are simple: there are none! Just step foot in the DXCC entity. These six countries were mostly new for us, so between us we scored 15 new 'Feet' points (average five each) AND each scored two new QRV points, TI and YN, for getting active on the radio. Rich reward indeed for the limited time invested.

They say that travel broadens the mind - we certainly agree. We learn SO much during these short visits about how other people live and it doesn't have to cost a fortune if you know how to secure good airline deals.

Great fun – try it!

Roger Western, G3SXW  
e-mail: [g3sxw@btinternet.com](mailto:g3sxw@btinternet.com)  
Web Search:  
DXFC: [www.dxfc.org/index.php](http://www.dxfc.org/index.php)  
TI5KD: [www.yantis.us/ti5kd/](http://www.yantis.us/ti5kd/)

YN2N: [www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=16932](http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=16932)  
YDXA: [www.arrl.org/news/youth-hamradio-fun-a-2010-youth-dx-adventure](http://www.arrl.org/news/youth-hamradio-fun-a-2010-youth-dx-adventure)  
TACA Airlines:  
[www.taca.com/eng/pyr/ibe/ibeonedes.asp?id=15](http://www.taca.com/eng/pyr/ibe/ibeonedes.asp?id=15)  
Delta Airlines: [www.delta.com/](http://www.delta.com/)  
Mombacho Volcano:  
[www.vianica.com/activity/5/hiking-on-the-mombacho-volcano](http://www.vianica.com/activity/5/hiking-on-the-mombacho-volcano)

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## SEDXC

### Profit & Loss Budget Overview July 2010 through June 2011

<b>Income</b>	
Badges, Patches, Pins	154.00
DONATIONS	20.00
Ham Jam	750.00
Meeting Raffle	536.00
Membership Renewals	4,210.00
New Member Dues	493.00
Total Income	6,163.00
Gross Profit	6,163.00
<b>Expense</b>	
Bank/Paypal fees	240.00
Door Prizes	0.00
<b>DXpedition Donations</b>	
1st Quarter DXPEDITIONS	500.00
2nd Qtr DXPEDITIONS	500.00
3rd Quarter DXPEDITIONS	500.00
4th Quarter DXPEDITIONS	500.00
BONUS DXPEDITON	500.00
Total DXpedition Donations	2,500.00
<b>Equipment</b>	100.00
<b>Hamfest Tables and Promotions</b>	
Atlanta	40.00
Huntsville	40.00
Lawrenceville	75.00
Total Hamfest Tables and Promotions	155.00
<b>Insurance</b>	320.00
<b>Meeting Expenses</b>	
Club Outings	
Door Prizes	240.00
Host	750.00
Total Club Outings	990.00
Guest Speaker	250.00
Supplies	250.00
Total Meeting Expenses	1,490.00
<b>Patches and Pins</b>	48.00
<b>Plaques</b>	
CQ 160	50.00

GA QSO Party	40.00
Monthly Contests	360.00
SEDXC Hall of Fame	50.00
Plaques - Other	0.00
Total Plaques	500.00
Unplanned Items	500.00
Total Expense	5,853.00
Net Income	310.00

## Funding Request

We have had one funding request for an IOTA expedition to Tunisia TS7TI : iota AF-91, AF,92. The activity will be from Plane island AF-091 (14,7 %) and from Kuriat island AF-092 (30,5 %), new 3VFF, loc. JM57..., JM56..., JM55..., Lighthouses.

We are not printing the entire application request but it will be discussed and presented at the October meeting.

Included this month on the final pages of the SEDXC Bulletin are some pictures from the Ten-Tec Hamfest and SEDCO meeting in Pidgin Forge, Tennessee.

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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)**

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

### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

**The club is now using the Repeater on 145.410, down 600, for chatting and real time DX announcements.**

**Join the group there. No tone required.**

### SEDXC WEBPAGE

[www.sedxc.org](http://www.sedxc.org)

SEDXC REFLECTOR [sedxc@contesting.com](mailto:sedxc@contesting.com)

SEDXC Chat Room <http://sedxc.dodropin.org/>

SEDXC Yahoo Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sedxc/>



## Scens from the Ten-Tec Hamfest



N4PN Presenting the K4M Program at SEDCO



Hal, N4GG, Presenting "Blue Lightning"



Wayne, KU4V and George, N4GRN



Mr. DX Himself peddling his wares



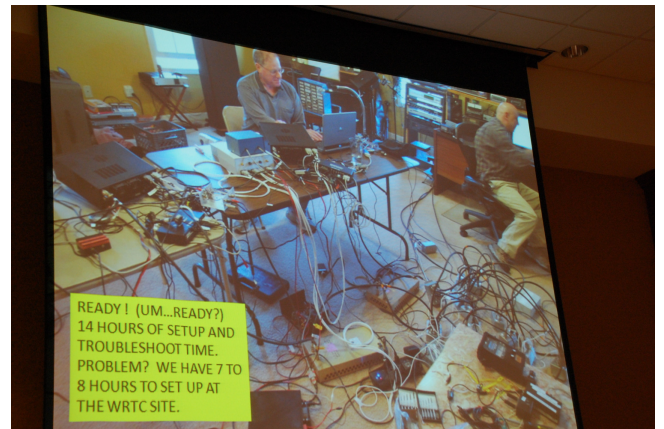


Dan, W4EA, Stu, K4SMX Paul W6XA

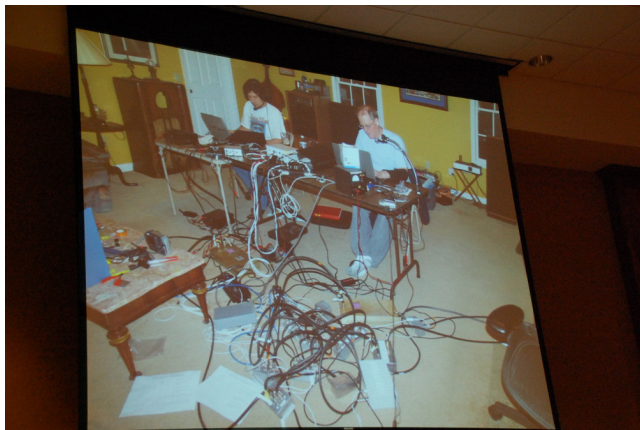
The best time of the day---Dinner



Mr. RFI himself, Mike Martin, K3RFI



Scott Robbins,W4PA, gave a good presentation on the setup for WRTC



Another shot of the practice setup



And then there was trying to get the after dinner program running.

SECO in Pidgin Forge is a really good event. If you haven't been it is worth going to see. It has been growing each year so make plans to go next year. Just don't ask "How is the best way to get there". There is no "Best Way" !