



Southeastern DX Club

W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

January 2011

President's Report:

Wait a minute--did I get the year right? I must have, because it agrees with what Windows says is the case. 2010 certainly flew by in a hurry, and there were many notable events for the SEDXC last year. We had a good year at the GARS TechFest 2010, and we enjoyed a string of well attended hamfests--including the one at Huntsville and the big one at Dayton. We had a wonderful picnic at the Harden house--thanks John. After a long process we moved our meeting place to the Rich--thanks W4TE. The Rich must be about the best radio club meeting facility in the nation. Once again Mack planned a fantastic HamJam sponsored by SEDXC and NFARL and kept it on course despite difficult obstacles. The membership turn out and ticket sales allowed us to exceed our financial commitment to the event. And Chaz hosted a really fabulous Holiday party, complete with gourmet flair. Your executive board became regular visitors to the Firkin, keeping many of the boring business routine work out of our meetings as well as sampling some very good beer and food. . We also tried out the different approach of setting up at a hamfest Euro style. And I have already been iced in here on the slopes of Sweat Mountain. By the time you read this I suspect GARS TechFest 2011 will have been held as well. Yes--2010 flew by, and it's time to get going for 2011. 2011 will also be the year when the solar gurus think solar activity will start a noticeable climb to the solar peak. The low bands have been good as well. I expect given this there will be a pickup in DXpedition activity as well. I particularly want to thank the Executive Board and all the officers for all the work they have done over the past year to keep

things running smoothly as well as a number of members who have stepped forward to take on a number of special activities. I also need to thank Mack for his continuing work in organizing the quarterly breakfasts for the Atlanta-area radio club officers. The Atlanta area is a hotbed for ham radio club activity, and the regular interactions between the club offices at the area breakfast is a big factor in keeping the level of ham interest and activity in the Atlanta area at such a high level. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday and will have a great year of DXing in 2011. I look forward to seeing you at the January meeting, and I hear we are going to see some people there who have not been able to attend lately.

73

Bob W2WG

Vice President's Report:

Wow! Year 2010 will be recorded as another successful SEDXC year in supporting Dxpeditons, HamJam2010, hamfests, and monthly club meetings and activities. A big thanks to all who contributed their talents and support of our Club's activities.

Starting our new year's monthly Club programs will be the PJ6A Saba team presenting from their side of the pile-ups how they successfully made many operators happy to get another new DX entity. Bob, K4UEE and some of the team members will share with us their trials, tribulations, and accomplishment in providing 57,515 Qs to the amateur operators around the world.

For those of us that reside in the Atlanta area, we have a wealth of technical

knowledge. Past programs have include antenna designs, grounding techniques, generator and portable power systems, new transmission techniques, and just plain old Dxpediton travelogues. On tap for our February monthly meeting will be a program on corrosion. Yes, that nasty substance that can ruin your day when your ground radials disappear, or your RF ground becomes a semiconductor.

Working for an engineering firm that has various technical experts on their staff, Mr. Robert Vail is a fellow co-worker that has extensive experience in the detection of hidden corrosion and the mitigation of corrosion. Although Mr. Vail at this time does not have his ham license (I am working on that deficiency) he will give us some helpful insight for keeping our stations in top working order. So keep the February meeting date on your calendars.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the January 20th meeting. And yes, we will have mastered the secrets to the operations of the Rich Auditorium's audio-video system.

73,
Jim C. KT4MM

Treasurer's Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of December 31, 2010

The balance on hand in the operating account at the end of December was \$5435.05

The club sold \$640.00 of HamJam raffle tickets. That money was paid over to NFARL who had paid for all of the prizes, travel, and other expenses. After a final accounting, each club's share of the profits was approximately \$700. From the outset, HamJam had been a venture to sponsor youth activity. The executive committee considered several avenues of meeting that commitment but ultimately decided to leave the money with NFARL to use at Techfest or for scholarships.

The Holiday party was a huge success. Thanks Chaz and Gael for hosting us. The large attendance did cause us to go over budget for food and supplies. The Officers passed the hat among themselves and collected enough to cover the budget overage. When N4NX tells you that the money goes to fund DXpeditions he's not yanking your feedline!

Since I last reported to you, we were well represented at the Alford Hamfest. Table costs were \$75.00 and we reimbursed Gary, WB4SQ for our share of the donuts, cinnabons, etc. that were a big hit with attendees (\$31.48). New member signups and renewals made the outing positive in terms of cash flow.

The club has replenished its stock of IRC's thanks to PJ6A activities. We purchased 100 of them at a cost of \$175.00, We sell them for \$2.00 each (fifteen cents less than the USPS) and occasionally use them in QSL kits as door prizes.

Finally, Chaz made a recent badge order and our vendor billed the club directly \$35.00.

About QRU for now. See you at TechFest or in the Spratly pile ups.

Mike Weathers, ND4V
Treasurer

Secretaries Report:

Since we did not have a regular meeting in December there is no secretaries report.

Activities Report:

Here is an announcement sent to us by Bill Mills, KC4AA, who served in Saudi Arabia at one time. FROM the DAILY DX

HZ1HZ, Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Zidan, has become a Silent Key. He was the first HZ contact for many over the last few decades. He visited the U.S. in the late eighties and some prominent operators encouraged him to get active on 160, which he did upon his return to Saudi Arabia. He was a member of the ARRL, RSGB and A-1 Operators Club. N7RO, Dick, sent out over 90,000 cards for him as QSL manager and thinks Ahmed was in every contest in the 70s through 90s.

First licensed in 1949, Ahmed was born in Mecca in 1914 and graduated from the radio technical institute in Jeddah, 75 KM west of Mecca. During his career he held several high posts in the PTT Ministry, the last being Deputy Minister of Communications. He retired in 1972 and went into business with his sons, the businesses called "Beta" and "E.E.C.C.," both in the telecommunications line. Ahmed represented Saudi Arabia at all the ITU conferences and meetings since 1956.

Thanks Bill for the report. Mohamed was my first 160 contact and worked him several times in contests.

Here is another column from Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, who publishes a news letter for News Letter and Bulletin editors.

Is Ham Radio Dying?

If you've been around ham radio for even a year or two, you've no doubt heard or participated in the debate as to whether or not ham radio is dying. The question is as perennial as the grass.

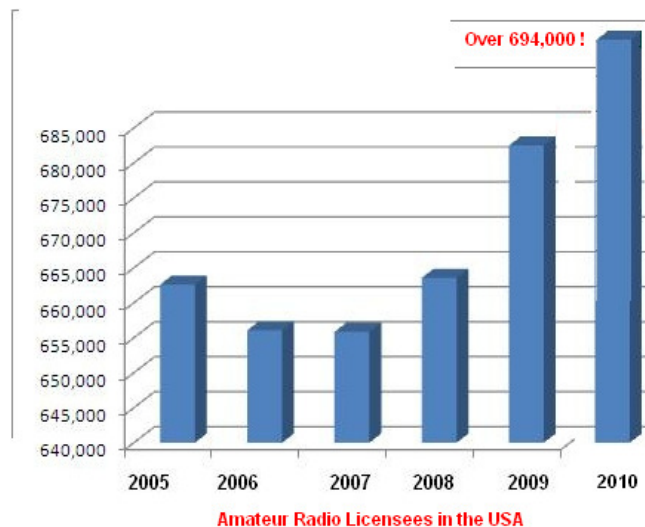
Recently, this was a topic of discussion on the ARRL PR mailing list. Allen, W1AGP, the ARRL's Media & PR Manager, generated a chart to show that ham radio is NOT dying. It showed the number of licensees in the U.S. every year from 2005 to 2009:

**2005: 661,000
2006: 655,000
2007: 655,000**

**2008: 662,000
2009: 681,000
2010: 694,000**

This chart as drawn is a good example of how you can lie with statistics. The y-axis started at 640,000, so the rate of increase in the number of licensees looked quite dramatic. Even so, the good news is that the number of licensees is quickly approaching 700,000, and should surpass that number shortly.

Upon seeing this chart, Jerry, N9TU, did a little statistical analysis of his own. Of the 83 licensees in his zip code, nine are deceased and one has expired. There are four Novices, 36 Techs, 18 Generals, 5 Advanced and ten Extras.



From this data, he deduces, if this is an average sampling of deceased members, expired members and club licenses, there are roughly 90,000 fewer licensees than shown in the data nationwide. I have no clue of the error rate involved with my data. Your results may vary. My guess is that his zip code is probably pretty typical, and that his analysis is essentially correct.

There's also the question of activity. It's my guess that nearly half of all licensees are inactive, and that if we could figure out a way to activate those hams, then we'd really be able to say that our hobby is not dying. It's something worth thinking about, but there's certainly no easy answer to this problem. As

Yogi Berra is purported to have said, "If people don't want to come out to the ball park, there's nothing you can do to stop them."

Overall, though, I think the numbers are headed in the right direction. Ham radio is NOT dying. Let's all keep up the good work.

Dan has a blog about ham radio at www.kb6nu.com

Right now we are all waiting for the Spratly Island gang, DX0DX, to get on the air. Last world is they have been held up in the Philippines but hope to leave for the island any day now.

We have a request for funding from a group going to Sao Tome, S9, and it appears on the last page of the bulletin.

The following page will have a few pictures from the Christmas Party of 2010 hosted by Gael and Chaz Cone.

SEDXC OFFICERS

President: Bob Carroll, W2WG

w2wg@comcast.net

(770)594-8079

Vice President: Jim Cummings, KT4MM

jimmc@juno.com

(770)517-0073

Secretary: Wes Lambole, W3WL

blambole@aol.com

(770)642-2087

Treasurer: Mike Weathers, ND4V

Nd4v@comcast.net

Activities: Gary McConville, WB4SQ

770- 842-0872

wb4sq@yahoo.com

Editor: Jim Streible, K4DLI

K4dli@earthlink.net

770-993-1767

Membership Committee Chairman: Bill Barr,

N4NX

n4nx@arrl.net

770-399-0824

Web Master: Chaz Cone, W4GKF

w4gkf@chazcone.com

770-394-2663

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 Mega1st)

(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

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com

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

SEDXC Yahoo Group

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



Gael does set a fine table!



And Don, N4HH, knows how to get rid of it.



Our newest member on the left.



Good food-Good drink- and good people.



Is there any doubt that 160-meters is the subject?



Guess who?

Entity Name / Call Sign	S9DX
Web page	http://s9dx.hkmann.de/
Team leader / number of members:	DM5TI / 8
Approx. Date and duration of Dxpediton	4. -17. FEB 2011
QSL manager / QSL route	DL1RTL
Budget estimated for Dxpediton	34.000 USD
Position on most wanted list:	MIXED rank 135 RTTY rank 60
Landing permission	Paperwork is ready for go
Last time this entity was activated	In 2008 or 2009 by a one man operation
Typical interval between activations	unknown
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpedition	unknown
Objective / Strategy	30k Qs, lowbands, RTTY
SEDXC member initiating request	no
SEDXC member(s) participating	no
Funding amount requested	No idea, we are thankful for each greenback.
Send Funds to:	Look at our website “ how to help “ PayPal
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	No problem
SEDXC logo on web page?	No problem
Additional comments: Most team members are experienced dxpeditioners or contester, all bands 160 to 6 m in RTTY, SSB, CW ... for more infos have a look at our website	

Internal Use

Date published in the newsletter	
Results of member review at the meeting: (approved / disapproved)	
Funds disbursed on date:	
Funds disbursed by:	