



Bulletin



January 2022

Founded In 1958

Our Next Meeting & Speaker

Date & Time: January 20, 2022, 7:00 PM

Location: Via Zoom (see www.SEDXC.org/Zoom for details)

Theme: *Success with Limited Antennas*
Don Field, G3XTT



Don is a very accomplished DXer having worked all DXCC entities and achieved over 3000 in the DXCC Challenge. He has also operated from over 50 DXCC entities (check out his www.qrz.com page). Concentrating on the competitive aspects of chasing DX and contesting, Don has been on several contesting teams e.g. PJ4Q, HC8N, 3X5A, 9K2HN, HS0ZAR (CQWW CW), and ZC4A. He has been a referee at WRTC 2006 and a judge at WRTC in Brazil.

Don has held leadership roles in RSGB, has managed the IOTA Contest program for 12 years, and has participated in several IOTA expeditions. He is a prolific writer having been the HF columnist for RADCOM magazine and is the author of two amateur radio books. Don is currently the Editor of Practical Wireless magazine; you can find out more details on QRZ.com (www.qrz.com/db/g3xtt).

From the Prez *(de Chuck Catledge, AE4CW)*



Jim Stafford W4QO became a silent key on December 27th. But the legacy that Jim left behind will not be silent. His impact on ham radio and most notably on the people of ham radio will remain with us for decades to come. Jim was the most uniquely inspiring person I have known. Every person he met became his friend before their first conversation ended. Every opportunity to introduce people, especially youngsters, to ham radio was his passion. Helping new hams (and older ones too) get on the air was his delight. Lending his equipment to hams in need was second nature. Spending endless hours teaching the art of CW to any and all was his calling.

Reinvigorating clubs that were on the brink of extinction was a challenge he thrived on. And, leading people to do far more than they thought possible was his love.

Jim didn't think highly of himself or of his accomplishments. He would much rather see others succeed. Even when he was honored as 2010 Amateur of the Year at the Dayton Hamvention, Jim humbly said "I don't deserve this", and he meant it. Thinking about this raises a question in my mind "What can each of us do to honor Jim's legacy"? I think Jim would say "Be passionately committed to attracting and mentoring folks into the delights of ham radio". Rest in peace my friend.

Well it looks like Cycle 25 is picking up steam. From the short burst of solar flux over 100 in September to a longer and higher burst in October followed by 16 days in latter December with the flux over 100 and a peak of 140 signals that good things are happening! 2022 opened with flux in the 80's for the first week but is now over 100 in the second week. Hams didn't need to be reading the solar flux reports as the wide-open activity on 15 and 10 meters told the story. And the middle bands continue to be in good shape too. The solar prognosticators have a pretty wide range of guesses as to how fast and how high this cycle will be. The general consensus points to maximum sunspot activity in 2025 with average spots in the 115 range. But there are some dissenters who believe we have a decent chance of seeing a peak in 2024 with much higher sunspot numbers. Wouldn't that be wonderful!

While we all would like it to be 1957 again, there really is a lot of DX opportunity to be had right here, right now. Those who participated in the 100 Watts and a Wire operating event in September can attest to that fact. Some of those folks have been considering what we might do to encourage members to get on the air again and work some DX. The idea that has come to the top of the list is the CQ DX Marathon. The DX Marathon is similar to the 100 Watts and a Wire event in that it focuses on working as many entities as you can. But it also offers a lot of flexibility on how you operate, e.g. QRP or 100 watts with simple wires or Unlimited, plus several other options. And it runs all year long, so there's always an incentive to get on the air. Andrew Goss AA5JF has agreed to spearhead a campaign to develop a cadre of SEDXC folks to lead the SEDXC DX Marathon bandwagon. Andrew had the highest overall score in the 100 Watts and a Wire event and is an avid DX Marathon participant. [Please be sure to read Andrew's article below.](#) I think you'll like the idea!!

Last but not least, please review a Crozet DXpedition funding request and an update to the SEDXC Constitution and Bylaws contained in the Treasurer's report. Both will be acted on in the January SEDXC meeting.

73 es Gud DX,

Chuck, AE4CW

Diving for Pearls



Happy New Year!!

Pearls are highly valued for their beauty and, in some cases, rarity. In the old days, divers in the South Pacific would have to locate oysters in deep water, bring them to the surface, and open them up to see if a pearl had been made by the oyster, using natural processes, around a small grain of sand that somehow got inside the little fella. That made them very expensive and, until the advent of cultured pearls, could only be afforded by the very wealthy. Today, pearls are available in many price ranges, but I will always think of them in terms of pearl divers of yesteryear that adds something excitement and glamor to even finding a pearl.

This year I received a wonderful Christmas gift from my bride Tricia: a QSL Chest from www.gifts4hams.com. I've been collecting QSL cards since about 2006 when I got serious about DXing and vowed to obtain at least QSL card from each entity (DXCC and IOTA) to commemorate my QSO achievement. Like many hams, I used the card to primarily put points on the board for various awards, but with the QSL Chest, it was now time to organize the collection in order to enjoy them. Tricia enjoys the cards just as much as I by learning about the location, the people involved, and a little about how hard (or easy) it was for me to make the Q.

The Chest holds about 1800 cards which is sufficient for me. I had my cards in two places: two binders and a shoe box (see picture below). What I decided to do was, first of all, merge the card from the binders and the shoe box into one sorted sequence. Then, I would read each card—really read it—to relive a little of what I had been privileged to do.

Many of the cards I have received in the past 10 years of have been carefully crafted by the ham or team to tell something of themselves. Points on LOTW, DX awards, and standing in Club Log are important milestones to be sure. At the same time, at the other end of the QSO is a person (even FT8) who often have put a picture and something about themselves: I get a kick out of cards with the ham's pet as some have done. I've found a few hams that make their own CW keys. Sometimes there is a personal note from the ham to me (which I try to do on those I send) that makes the QSL more personal. For me, knowing something about them as a human being adds richness to this hobby well beyond the technology (which is fascinating to me still!) and awards.

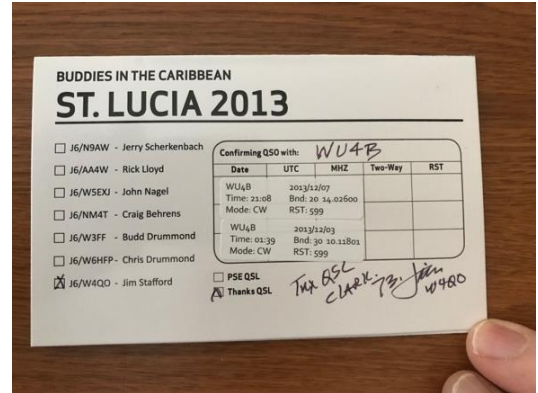
While going through the cards, and reading both sides, I found one for a DXpedition to St. Lucia in 2013. It was a group of hams, Buddies in the Caribbean, that used QRP rigs and Buddipole portable antennas to make Q's while basking in the sun. It is a 4-page card with several pictures on the inside. It was only when I looked on the back for info about the Q that I saw the note in the picture below from the op: "Tnx QSO, Clark. 73, Jim W4QO".

Like many in Atlanta, I am so glad to have known Jim W4QO (SK) and will miss him. I had not expected to find a remembrance like this. In a way, I have found a ‘pearl’ by diving into my unorganized QSL cards—a pearl of remembrance. Thanks, Jim, for the memories.

If you have been collecting QSL cards over the years and haven’t looked at them for some time, at the beginning of a new year might be a great time to do that. You may have a pearl or two in your collection. If so, I’d love to hear about it.

73 es gud DX,

Clark, WU4B



Treasurer’s Journal *(de Jeff Cantor, K1ZN)*



Greetings, Fellow DXers! It has been a quiet return from the holidays; we had no disbursements for the month of December, 2021:

Purpose	Amount
No Disbursements	\$0.00
TOTAL:	\$0.00

Our Account Balance is \$16,267.84!

At our January 20, 2022 virtual meeting we will discuss a DXpedition funding application received from Thierry Mazel, F6CUK for a trip to CROZET Island – a six-month DXpedition. CROZET is #3 Most Wanted Worldwide & #2 NA East Coast. The SEDXC Board is recommending a \$500 contribution at this time. The Application is attached herein. Please review it for our meeting discussion.

At the January meeting we will also vote on the changes to the SEDXC Constitution & Bylaws as previously discussed. Attached is the new proposed language.

HNY & Gud DX,

Jeff, K1ZN

DX Marathoning In 2022 *(de Andy Goss, AA5JF)*



A great way to chase DX in 2022 is by participating in the annual DX Marathon. It's free and open to anyone, and I have found it a nice motivator. On the first day of January your DX totals reset, and over the next twelve months you set out to work as many DX entities and CQ zones as possible. It's sponsored by CQ Magazine and has a dedicated and responsive administrator in John K9EL, who provides a summary write-up in CQ magazine every Summer.

And what's nice is that there is a club competition as well, with the aggregate scores for each club printed in the DX Marathon write-up. It's clear that a number of DX club make the DX Marathon a priority and encourage their members to submit. And as the club listings are also in the summer article, it would be a nice way for the Southeast DX Club to get some free exposure, and perhaps even show prospective members the SEDXC is an active group.

The scoring is very easy. One point for each DXCC entity (but this is the CQ DX countries so it includes the WAE entities: more below), and then one point for each CQ zone. No need to worry about multiple bands – each country and zone counts only once. All contacts must be from the same station, so if you use remote stations, those wouldn't count, unless all your contacts were from that remote station.

More info is here: <https://www.dxmarathon.com/>, including the submission form which is an Excel spreadsheet. The rules are a short read: go ahead and read them; I will provide a quick summary here.

If you're currently working the Marathon or you are thinking about doing so, please drop me an email at amgoss05@yahoo.com. I'd love to get to know you and assist in any way I can.

One thing we'd like to do is to track activity throughout the year. Here is my proposal: every quarter I'll solicit your totals via the email listserv, plus the category you are in, and any comments and insights. I'll combine it into a short report to be placed in the newsletter. We'll try a very simple summary the first time (Your call,

category/mode/band, # of DX entities, # of CQ zones), and refine it later if necessary. Look for my email in late March, with a submission deadline of April 7th.

There are four different categories: Unlimited, Limited (<100W), Formula 100W (and only wire antennas), and Formula QRP (and any antenna). So: for those who participated in the 100W and a wire contest in September, that would be the Formula 100W category. There is some fine-print on the height of wire antennas in the Formula 100W category (i.e. a full-size 160M vertical would be ineligible).

It is also possible to submit a score with a single-mode (phone, CW or digital) or a single-band, instead of the all-band/mode competition. You would still be selecting one of the four categories, but the top five or six entries for each of these options is broken out in the results. In essence that means that for the purposes of the single-mode or single-band competition, you are competing against all power levels, and if you are running 100W on a single-band, you would be at a disadvantage.

The entry form is a basic Excel spreadsheet, available on the website above. You can either fill it in manually (as I usually do), or use one of the automated tools. There is apparently some DX marathon functionality in DXKeeper which will allow you to keep track of your contacts for the DX marathon, and generate the submission form. I'm not familiar with it, but it sounds pretty easy. Or if you have a ADIF file of your entire 2022 log, you can use the ADIF to CQ Marathon converter to generate your submission form early in 2023. The software is here: <http://www.ad1c.us/software/marathon/>, and follow the instructions on that website and on the DX marathon site.

A few thoughts on maximizing your score. Remember the WAE entities, some of which are common (IT9, 4U1A, TA1 as distinct from Asian Turkey), while others are differing degrees of difficulty. I worked Shetland Islands during the IOTA contest last July. Be careful of small errors/typos – there is very rigorous log checking and they very good at rejecting non-existent callsigns. Also, don't report your contact with slim, as they have a running list of pirates. Moreover, if the DX station recorded your callsign incorrectly (say AA4JF for me), then that contact would be ineligible – that is different from a typical contest. Of course the log checkers don't always know, but many logs are published online (say HRDLog). Be careful about claiming contacts for zones 17, 18 and 23 (if it is a Chinese station).

Like all DX contests, it's probably easier for our friends in New England to score higher. But good scores are possible from the Southeast. Follow your DX chasing instincts: work the DXpeditions, be on during the big DX contests (when LX, OH0, HB0, etc. are on with big signals), and make sure to not miss any of the inhabited Caribbean and Latin American countries. And if you usually operate during the evening, get up early some winter mornings for the 30 and 40M openings to Asia and the Pacific. And don't forget that although we have mostly geographical

disadvantages for DXing here, we do pretty well (vis-à-vis other North Americans) with African and Indian Ocean stations, and morning 20m—10m LP openings to Asia.

And the stakes aren't high – this one is fun even if you are casually chasing your annual DX tally. And I think that with the team element in place, it will be a nice club activity this year.

73,

Andy, AA5JF

Around the Shack *(de Hal Kennedy, N4GG)*

Close Calls



On several occasions amateur radio has come perilously close to being permanently banned. How close our hobby is today to demise from external forces and from problems of our own making is open to conjecture. In some respects, we are not working in our best interests.

Here's my version of ham history in a nutshell:

Marconi began experimenting with Hertzian Waves in the 1890s. He was the first amateur radio operator. It was called "wireless" and "wireless telegraphy" at the time. The term radio came into general use around 1920. The term is derived from the Latin word 'radius,' meaning ray or beam. I'll use the word "radio" to describe events prior to the 1920s for simplicity sake.

In 1901 Marconi claimed to have spanned the Atlantic, sending the single letter "S" in Morse Code from Poldhu, England to St. John's Newfoundland. The event was viewed with skepticism that lingers to this day. Experts then and now claim it would have been impossible to span the Atlantic on Marconi's operating frequency (approximately 850 KHz) during the daytime. Marconi, to his credit - and across his entire career - never claimed to understand what made radio work. He also claimed he had no idea what frequency he was transmitting on in 1901. Also, Marconi's receivers were 10 to 20 dB less sensitive than what we use today. It's true you can't work across the Atlantic on 160 meters during the daytime. So, did Marconi make it across in 1901?

The answer to that has never interested me. Had it never been done again it would be worthy of debate, but the art of radio advanced rapidly, leaving the question to historians and moot for the rest of us. In 1902 Marconi conducted shipboard tests and demonstrated daytime reception 700 miles from Europe and nighttime reception at 2,200 miles. What seemed dubious in 1901 became obvious in 1902. By 1907

Marconi had a transatlantic network up and running. He was charging a fee to send messages between North America and Europe. These were called “Marconigrams,” distinguishing them from telegrams.

The telegraph companies had transatlantic cables in place by 1858 - installed at huge capital expense. They viewed Marconi’s radio messages as unwelcome competition. This was the first glimmer of interest in outlawing radio. It was commercially motivated and didn’t concern ham radio. Ham radio was barely beginning in 1907, but by 1912 things had changed drastically.

My personal view is Marconi did make it across in 1901. Not on his fundamental frequency of 850 KHz, but on some frequency higher in the HF region. Marconi’s spark transmitter and receiver were, for all practical purposes, un-tuned. Marconi was radiating and receiving broadband signals on frequencies from the fundamental all the way up into high HF. At some frequencies the signal was bouncing off the as-yet-unknown ionosphere. If Marconi made it across in 1901 he probably did it on or near one of today’s HF ham bands. Marconi had the first-ever DX SWL experience in 1901 and it might have occurred on 20 meters!

I bring up Marconi for several reasons. First, it’s important to note how quickly Marconi’s radio environment went from being the only ham on the air in 1901, to having over 10,000 hams creating QRM by 1912. Marconi is the only ham to ever experience no QRM, but the pleasure of that was short lived and never to return.

By 1907 Marconi was off-and-running, turning a profit from handling transatlantic and ship-to-shore traffic as well as by leasing gear and operators to navies and steamship lines. It took hams another 20 years (December, 1921) to span the Atlantic for the first time. The 100th anniversary of that event (December, 1921) just occurred. I suggest reading about the “transatlantic tests of 1921” in the QST archives.

Amateur “ham” radio began when people read of accounts of Marconi’s experiments in newspapers and magazines and decided to experiment on their own. Ham radio caught the public’s attention. It was fascinating and the technology was accessible. How accessible? You could put a key in series with a battery and the primary of a Model T spark coil, hook one side of the high voltage secondary to an antenna and the other side to ground, and you were on the air. If you tune your car’s radio to the bottom of the AM band you can hear your car’s ignition noise. That is the same signal as generated in 1901. You own a spark transmitter.

By 1912 the airwaves were bedlam. Hams, commercial stations and the navies of the world were in competition and QRMIing each other. The transmitters were all spark-gap rigs, each one spreading its signals across wide swaths of spectrum. Multi-

kilowatt power levels were common. A lot of the QRM was unintentional, but some of it was deliberate. Deliberate QRM (DQRM), the bane of today's DXing enjoyment, began before 1910.

If you wanted to use the airwaves, running someone else off became a near necessity. Commercial stations and hams had a particularly acrimonious relationship. The commercial ops were trying to earn a living. The ham down the street wanted to have a good time and work some DX. DXing and contesting go back to the very beginning.

Our First Close Call

In April, 1912, the Titanic sank and ham radio nearly sank with it. The Marconi operators on board the Titanic saved many lives. Their CQD (CQ-Distress was used before SOS) brought the RMS Carpathia to the rescue, albeit many hours after the sinking. Had it not been for radio, everyone would have perished.

The sinking of the Titanic was a watershed moment for radio and amateurs were deemed an unwelcome source of QRM. Had there been a little more QRM that April night the Carpathia would not have heard the CQD. Something needed to be done. The QRM problem had been growing steadily and – in all honesty – many hams had a superior attitude and were indifferent to commercial and naval interests. Pleas from commercial stations to QRX while they completed a message were sometimes ignored or replied to in a derogatory manner. Many hams had superior gear, equal or superior power and an unwillingness to give way. There were no regulations after all. Nobody “owned” radio.

In 1912, Marconi was busy making money selling Marconigrams and leasing radio equipment and operators. The navies of the world were in communication with their ships for the first time and their governments expected priority over both the commercial and amateur stations. Also, World War I was on the horizon and the world's navies were getting prepared.

The cruise lines were enjoying communicating with their ships as well. Imagine sailing the Atlantic before radio. Cruise ships would leave London and never reappear in New York. What happened to such ships? Nobody knew until radio came along. Before radio, ships simply disappeared forever.

Money always enters into big decisions. The cruise lines earned good money selling Marconigrams between sea and ports. Ship radio rooms copied “wireless press,” enabling timely newspapers to be printed and sold onboard ship. Ship radio rooms were busy money makers.

In 1912, there simply was insufficient spectrum for everyone. The prevailing but false belief was that operation below 500 KHz at high power was necessary to

communicate over long distances. This exacerbated the crowding. How many multi-kilowatt spark rig signals will fit below 500 KHz? Not many.

No less than 28 bills to regulate radio failed to pass the US Congress before 1912, but the sinking of the Titanic galvanized intent. Regulations had been imposed in Europe beginning in 1905. Lobbying before the congress included the US Navy, the Marconi Company and its competitors, and an uncohesive collection of interested amateur parties. Primary among those were the Wireless Association of Pennsylvania and the Junior Wireless Club (later to become the Radio Club of America (RCA)). The ARRL had not yet formed. Positions varied widely. Many called for the abolishment of amateur radio. The Navy proposal called for complete control of radio by the Navy given its strategic importance. The Navy would license commercial stations for secondary use and ham radio would be no more.

A compromise was worked out. Facing oblivion, amateurs grudgingly accepted being relegated to the useless wavelengths of 200 meters and down (1.5 MHz and up) along with a power restriction of 1 KW. Ham radio had weathered its first brush with extinction, but at what appeared to be a great price.

All of the above, plus the formation of the ARRL is covered in a great book by Clinton B. Desoto: *200 Meters & Down*. Published by the ARRL. Available from Amazon. I suggest every ham read it. It's enjoyable and eye-opening.

By the end of 1912, the US Congress passed the Radio Act of 1912 and licenses, assigned callsigns, power limitations, frequency limitations and regulations in general came about for the first time (in the US). US hams left the hobby in droves. Being relegated to useless frequencies along with power restrictions took the fun out of the hobby. At that time no one knew the ionosphere existed. The hams had gotten stuck with the near-useless part of the RF spectrum - until the opposite was discovered!

Organized in part to defend ham radio against further attempts to curtail or outlaw it, the ARRL was co-founded by Hiram Percy Maxim in 1914. The first edition of QST was published in December, 1915. You can find it in the QST archives.

Our Second Close Call

US hams were ordered to stand down in April, 1917. World War I had arrived. The cessation order was specific. All antennas were to be lowered to the ground. All transmitters and receivers were to be disconnected from antennas and grounds and rendered inoperative.

US and many friendly nations' hams proved to be a huge help to the war effort. Their communication skills were invaluable. Some countries had banned amateur radio by 1912. Their error became evident in the form of a lack of trained operators and radio expertise.

Armistice was declared November 11, 1918, but not for amateur radio. Amateurs started clamoring to get back on the air and enjoy new technologies the war years had produced. Super-heterodyne receivers were a wartime invention.

Beginning with the armistice, the US Navy restarted its efforts to kill amateur radio for good. The Navy's efforts played out mostly in the US Congress. See *200 Meter & Down* for the details. The ARRL won the day. By November, 1919, US hams had temporary licenses and permission to operate. It was a close call! Hams needed to mind their technical and operating manners or the Navy and/or commercial interests would be back in Congress trying to shut us down again. Nobody understood this better than Hiram Percy Maxim, who had led the fight in congress to restore amateur radio.

As early as 1917, Maxim began writing QST articles using the nom de plume "The Old Man," sometimes abbreviated as T.O.M. T.O.M.'s topics admonished against what he called "Lousy Operating" and "Rotten QRM." Maxim foresaw the shuttering of ham radio as World War I started and the fight coming up to get it reinstated post-war.

Maxim was an avid operator (callsign: 1AW). "Lousy operating" was an annoyance to him but understood to be due, in part, to shaking the rust off after two years of silence during the war. The QRM and DQRM problems were still with us and different than "Lousy Operating." Technical advancements had narrowed signals. Spark was gone by 1920. QRM and DQRM were self-inflicted threats to ham radio's frequencies and existence. Operating practices would matter the next time spectrum allocation decisions came up, as they most surely would.

To get his point across, T. O. M invented one of ham radio's most sacred symbols – the Wouff Hong. It was and is an instrument of torture to be used on "lousy operators" radiating "rotten QRM." It was designed to strike fear into the hearts of the miscreants on the air.

The Wouff Hong first appeared in corporal form in 1919. You can read all about the Wouff Hong on the ARRL website and many other places on the web. The original Wouff Hong hangs in the ARRL. See Figure 1.

L.B. Cebik posited "...in the end, the Wouff-Hong really is a symbol, meant to prod each operator's conscience and steer him or her toward constant improvements in operating skills and behavior."

Sadly, rotten operating is still with us. My view is there are two kinds of rotten operators. There are the beginners who mean well and only lack experience, and then there are the miscreants who view intentionally QRMIing others as some sort of pleasurable pastime. The Wouff Hong was devised for the latter group.

Our Third Close Call?

Is there a close call on the horizon? I think not. As any crystal ball gazer can tell you however, predicting the future is largely guesswork.

Fortunately, pressure to move HF spectrum from hams to commercial broadcast and military interests has abated. It's hard to justify a million dollar per year operating budget for a HF shortwave broadcast station when hardly anyone is listening anymore and the internet can do the same task. HF broadcast is quickly dying out. For SWLs the trend is sad. Radio Moscow's multi-megawatt blowtorch is gone. Radio Netherlands - the 250 KW station that was always loud from Bonaire - is gone. The trend continues. Wikipedia keeps an up-to-date list of shortwave broadcast stations. The list keeps shrinking. The military has satellites and other means that don't threaten out spectrum.

Spectrum defense has now shifted to UHF and above, where bandwidth requests from commercial carriers bombard the FCC for spectrum for "5G" and whatever follows. In my opinion, hams will lose most allocations above 1 GHz. Today, Hams make scant use of those frequencies. This has not gone unnoticed. Secondary use accommodations may be possible. But that's not going to sink ham radio.

Another threat I don't think will sink the hobby is what's happening every evening on 75 meter (and 40 meter) SSB. The 75 meter alcohol fueled, racist rhetoric, radical politics, obscene language, lack of ID stations would make a passerby, or the FCC, wonder what the hobby has become. Those activities have turned 75 SSB into the ham radio citizen's band. It's deplorable, but I don't see it as a threat to ham radio's existence. It IS a shame the Wouff Hong is an imaginary instrument.

I think – and this is just my own opinion, our biggest threat is obsolescence. You can call anywhere on earth from a cell phone. Breakthrough inventions no longer come from our hobby. Emergency communications are, usually, handled via sophisticated UHF netting systems plus cell phones, allowing police, fire and other agencies to effectively communicate without us.

Meanwhile, there are both emergency and routine communications tasks the "amateur service" still fulfills and fulfills well.

When Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico in 2017, for days most communication from the island was via ham radio using HF WinLink. The attack of 911 is another example of hams to the rescue. Ham radio still provide communications "when all else fails." How well is that known outside our community?

Then there are the planned events that could use some help. I have attended the Leadville 100 mountain bike race that begins in Leadville, CO at 10,000 feet. From there it winds its way up to 14,000 feet over a 100 mile course. A lot of the participants are unable to finish and wind up scattered along the course – some in need of medical support. Existing communication systems can't begin to cover the

course that winds through these mountains – but hams can. From the Leadville 100 to the local Fourth of July parade there is a place and a need for ham radio.

Ham radio will be best off making our public support function know far add wide. We have a lot to offer.

73,

Hal, N4GG

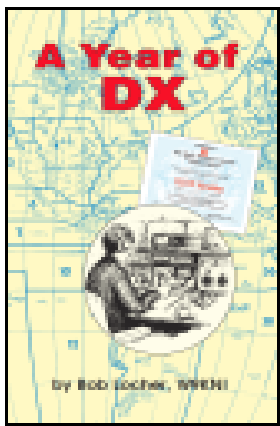


Figure 1. The first instance of a Wouff Hong. This original hangs at ARRL Headquarters.



Figure 2. Cast aluminum Wouff Hong place settings from the 1938 ARRL National Convention. These are highly prized.

DX Marathon, Once More Before We Go *(de Bob Sarnecki, NF7D)*



I really enjoyed this month's DX Marathon article by Andy Goss. With a major project at work this year, I'm probably not able to go "all in" in 2022, but I will plan to be in a better place to try the DX Marathon in 2023. Lots of antenna work to do between now and then!

But I was reminded of a book I read when I got reacquainted with Amateur Radio back in 2019. Bob Locher, W9KNI – a life-time DX chaser in the purest sense – wrote a book about his DX Marathon experience. He covered a year of chasing the DX Marathon back in 2008, and his book, *A Year of DX*, (written in 2015) is both a fun story as well as a great read on DX operating hints & tips, propagation, etc. Bob is a past winner and always a top contender; Definitely worth a read! It's not in print

right now, so finding it will take a little doing. Check www.HamSupply.com – I know several of the SEDXC members found a copy there.

While you're at it, look for Bob's first book: *The Complete DX'er*, (written in 1983) which covers his initial DX journeys. Both books were published by Idiom Press, which was owned by Bob, back-in-the-day.

Bob's books may be tough to find, but you can often find Bob on the bands, chasing DX Marathon every year, almost full-time. It looks like he's even started a blog (though definitely in its early stages): Keep an eye out on www.W9KNI.net.

73 & Fear the Wouff Hong!

Bob, NF7D

25 Years Ago... (de Bob Sarnecki, NF7D)

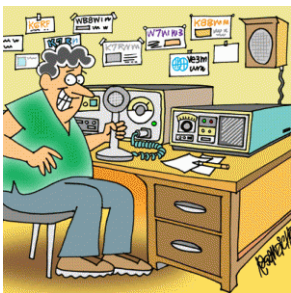


"If it wasn't for ham radio, I would have never even heard of Kyrgyzstan, Brunei, Kiribati, Djibouti, Malta, Nauru, Azerbaijan, or Burkina Faso!

The January, 1997 Newsletter is attached for your entertainment. Steve Schmidt (then-President of SEDXC) had a great little story that will make you smile. Operating while sick around the holidays – Chances are, we've all been there!

In the following pages, enjoy "all the news, fit to print" from the *SEDXC Bulletin*, 25 years ago!

SEDX Officers & Positions



SEDXC Officers:

Chuck Catledge, AE4CW – President – c.catledge@gmail.com
Clark Macaulay, WU4B – Vice-President – macaulay@gmail.com
Paul Kelley, W4KLY – Secretary – w4kly@bellsouth.com
Jeffrey Cantor, K1ZN – Treasury – jacantor9@gmail.com
Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV – wa4zxv@arrl.net

SEDXC Appointed Positions:

Bob Sarnecki, NF7D – *Bulletin* Editor – bob.sarnecki@gmail.com
Bill Barr, N4NX – Membership Committee Chairman – n4nx@arrl.net
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THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

Last Revised: September 18, 2014

Proposed Revision – October 11, 2021

ARTICLE I Name and Purpose of the Club

A. The name of the Club shall be the Southeastern DX Club (SEDXC), with permanent headquarters in Atlanta, GA and shall hereinafter be referred to as the “Club”.

B. The purpose of the Club shall be to promote fraternalism among Radio Amateurs of the World having an interest in international Amateur Radio communications through sharing their collective knowledge and experience, promoting the highest standards of practice and techniques, and assisting fellow Amateurs in achieving higher levels of DX achievement and recognition. The Club shall also promote the merits of DXing to other members of the Amateur Radio community.

ARTICLE II Membership in the Club

A. Membership in the Club shall be open to all Radio Amateurs holding an active Amateur License who are interested in international Amateur Radio Communication.

B. Membership Dues shall be assessed by the Officers of the Club hereinafter provided for, and shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Members present at open meeting, provided the total Membership has been notified by First Class mail or preferably Electronic Mail (Email) of the pending action at least seven days prior to said meeting.

C. There shall be three (3) categories of Membership Dues: Regular, Family, and Student. Dues are due and payable on or before June 30 of each year. Dues not paid are delinquent after September 1. Members whose dues are delinquent shall be dropped from the Club roster and lose all Club privileges. Membership may be restored at any time during the Club year by paying the full year's dues. New members who join the Club between June 30 and December 31 shall pay Dues for that full Club year. New members, who join between January 1 and June 30, shall pay a full year's dues but shall be considered fully paid to June 30 of the following year. Former members do not qualify as new members.

ARTICLE III Officers of the Club

A. **Governance** of the Club shall be vested in the Officers of the Club consisting of five (5) Regular Members elected each year by the Members. Collectively they shall be referred to as the “Board”.

B. The Board shall consist of the President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Activities Manager.

ARTICLE IV Meetings of the Club

- A. Regular Meetings shall be held once each month at a time and place selected by the Board. B. Special Meetings may be held at a time and place selected by the Board provided that at least seven days' notice is given the full membership by First Class mail or preferably Email.

ARTICLE V **Activities of the Club**

- A. Club Activities should include, but not be limited to:
 - 1. Participation in all DX contests of bona fide Amateur Radio organizations shall be encouraged.
 - 2. An official Bulletin informing members of meeting content, DX and member news and so forth shall be published.
 - 3. The Club shall seek and find ways to mentor or encourage other Radio Amateurs to discover and enjoy the merits of DXing and HF communication.
 - 4. The Club shall render any technical, clerical, and/or financial assistance to DX Stations approved by the Club.
 - 5. The Club shall institute any Operating Achievement Awards deemed appropriate.
 - 6. The Club shall create and maintain an SEDXC web page containing detailed information about the Club.
 - 7. The Club shall apply for and strive to maintain Club Affiliation with the ARRL.

ARTICLE VI **Bylaws**

- A. In addition to this Constitution, the Club shall be governed by a set of Bylaws designed to govern each Article of the Constitution and to be approved as soon as possible after adoption of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII **Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws**

- A. This Constitution and the Bylaws of the Club may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) majority of Members present at a meeting, providing the total Membership has been notified by First Class mail or preferably Email of the pending action at least seven days prior to said meeting.

ARTICLE VIII Disposition of Club Funds in Event of Dissolution of Club

- A. Should the Club vote to dissolve itself, remaining funds shall be donated to a standing not-for-profit DX oriented organization such as the Northern California DX Foundation or the International DX Association (INDEXA).**

DRAFT

By-Laws of the Southeastern DX Club

Revised September 18, 2014

ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER: The Club shall be governed as stated by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Southeastern DX Club according to Robert's Rules of Order.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS TO BE CONSISTENT: If any Article of the Constitution of the Club is deleted by amendment of the Constitution, any Bylaw pertaining to that Article of the Constitution of the Club shall also be deleted. Any proposed* amendment to the Bylaws of the Club, or any motion which would change the intent of any Bylaw of the Club must be presented according to the same procedure as an amendment to the Constitution of the Club and shall require the same two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass.

OFFICERS UNABLE TO CONTINUE THEIR DUTIES: The President of the Club may assign additional duties to any Officer, including duties normally the responsibility of another Officer. If any Officer of the Club is unable to continue their duties, the President of the Club shall appoint any Regular Member of the Club to fulfill the remaining term of the retiring Officer. If the President shall resign or be unable to continue his normal duties, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President. If both the President and Vice President resign, the remaining Officers of the Board will immediately follow the procedures for election of a complete Board. During such time as elapses before such election occurs, the remaining Officers of the Board shall serve as a joint committee, with all powers normally exercised by the Board. The term of office by the newly elected Board shall expire at such time as would normally occur, except, if less than 2 months remain until the normal election of new Officers, the newly elected Officers shall serve for the remainder of the term of office of the previous Officers, and then for their normal term of office.

SECRETARY OF THE CLUB: The Secretary of the Club shall be responsible for recording all Members present at all meetings. Monthly membership attendance lists shall be retained for the last 12 months and the Secretary of the Club shall be responsible for passing this list to his elected successor.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Any Member of the Club may, on any vote, demand that each Member present orally state his "yea" or "nay" to the current motion by requesting a roll call.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The President shall be directly responsible for the appointment of a committee comprised of Members of the Club to nominate the future Board. Of the current Board, only one may serve on the Nominating Committee.

ETHICAL CONDUCT: All Members of the Club shall be bound by the Code of Ethics as presented by the ARRL, and shall not take any action or offer any motions for consideration which would be to the detriment of any other amateur radio operator, any other duly constituted radio amateur club, or the ARRL. Any motion by any Member of the Club which the Presiding Officer considers to be in conflict with this Bylaw shall immediately be ruled out-of-order.

GOALS: All Members of the Club are specifically charged with aiding all other Members of the Club toward the goal of attaining the DXCC achievement awards (such as but not limited to, the DXCC, IOTA, WAZ, WPX and other Amateur Radio organization DX activity awards) and, eventually various Honor Roll

awards (i.e., DXCC & IOTA). In addition, the Club itself shall dedicate its efforts in aiding all Members to upgrade to higher classes of license.

CLUB ROSTER, FINANCIAL STATEMENT, AND BUDGET: The new slate of Officers each year shall be required to maintain an updated roster of Club members. The new slate of Officers shall publish in the Bulletin, within 60 days of election, a Financial Statement and Budget for the upcoming Club year beginning July 1.

DXPEDITION DONATIONS: The Board shall determine the Budget for DXpedition donations. The total yearly expenditure for DXpedition donations shall not exceed 50% of the balance in the Club's Treasury at the time of the Financial Statement. All requests for donations shall be submitted, in writing, to the Club for approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of members attending the meeting where the funding application is being considered. The request shall be published in the SEDXC Bulletin prior to the Club voting on the donation request.

DRAFT



SEDXC DXpedition Funding Request

Fill out the form completely and send it to treasurer@sedxc.org

Entity Name / Call Sign	CROZET – CALLSIGN NOT ISSUED YET
Web page	BEIENG WORKED ON
Team leader / number of members:	F6CUK
Approx. Date and duration of Dxpediton	MID DEC 22/MID MARCH 23 – 90 DAYS
QSL manager / QSL route	F6EXV
Budget estimated for Dxpediton	41,000 EUROS
Position on most wanted list:	3RD
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	YES
Last time this entity was activated	2009 (very few QSOs)
Typical interval between activations	??
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpedition	NO
Objective / Strategy	Give the max number of ATNO.
Callsign/Age of youngest Team member	Sole operator F6CUK (64 yo)
SEDXC member initiating request	
SEDXC member(s) participating	
Funding amount requested	
Send Funds to:	F6EXV
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	YES
SEDXC logo on web page?	YES
Additional comments: Operator has DXpedition experience, works CW, SSB and FT8. More details were in the attachment sent along the initial support request, earlier today. The callsign is not an issue, as same administration which gave “landing” permission will issue callsign.	



SEDXC DXpedition Funding Request

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Internal Use

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



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB

January 1997

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION

Tuesday, Jan. 21st, 7:30 PM, Old Hickory House in the Days Inn, Roswell Rd., just inside I-285.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-Steve Schmidt, K4WA, President

He arrived home from out of town on Friday night, just forty minutes before the start of the 10m contest, to find Christmas lights hanging from his TH5. Some wags with too little to do. He went inside, took his antibiotics, and another Motrin to knock the fever down from the raging case of Bronchitis he'd caught on the road. Then he trudged out to try and unstring the lights from the tower before the start of the contest.

He found one line right away, attached to the plate for his radials. He untied it, and one long strand of lights came down. There was still a strand suspended from the antenna, keeping him from being able to turn it. He searched in vain in the dark; returned to the house for a flashlight. His head was pounding. "Why do I have to get sick just before the ten meter contest, a week before Christmas," he wondered aloud. There was no answer.

He couldn't find the other line. If only the antenna was pointed west..he could wait until morning to finish getting the lights down. "Too bad they strung 'em over the beam," he mused. "They're kind of pretty." He almost wished he could leave them up for Christmas. "The Motrin must be kicking in," he thought. The dacron line was black, giving him a real problem picking it up with the flashlight, but he finally found it, attached to his fence. "Got you," he thought exultantly. With a final curse directed to the thugs responsible for this trouble (and he was pretty sure he knew who they were), he pulled the last strands clear of the antenna and headed for the warm house.

He had about five minutes left to set up CT for the contest and connect the keyer line to the parallel port. "Let's see, single op, low power, cw only.." he

picked the most appropriate settings and went to work on the keyer line. With thirty seconds left before the start of the contest, he tuned the rig to a clear frequency (they all seemed to qualify) and hit the autotune button. At 0000z, he started CQing.

"The band must have closed hours ago," he thought. In the first hour, he made eight contacts, six of them from Georgia. Switching to search-and-pounce, he tuned in several northeastern stations he could hear faintly and called futilely. His head was throbbing again, and not in synch with the cw sidetone. After another half-hour, he decided to go to bed and wait for better conditions in the morning.

The alarm clock woke him much too early. His head was buzzing unpleasantly and his mouth had the distinctive metallic taste that always seems to accompany a fever. He struggled into his clothes and padded downstairs to the radio. Turning the beam to the northeast, he made a few difficult contacts through the QSB. After a frustrating hour, he took a break and went to the kitchen for some breakfast. Peering out the kitchen window at his antenna, he noticed the coax and rotor cable hanging in a loop around the base.

Of course! Those bozos lowered the crank-up tower to put the lights up and didn't crank it all the way back up! He hadn't noticed it in the dark last night. He wondered sourly how many contacts he might have missed with his tower at only 3/4 height. Putting on his shoes, he plodded out to the tower and cranked it up to its full 41'. "That should be good for a couple db," he thought. It seemed to help, but not much.

Ten meters was a bust. Sometime after noon he gave up any thoughts of a serious effort. The fever and the poor conditions were just too much for his short tower to overcome. Time and again, he'd managed to pull out a call sign, only to have the station fade away before he could get the state. The "alt-W" on the keyboard was getting a workout. He dragged himself back up to bed. Just before hitting the pillow, he thought out loud, "I should have left the lights up."

Given the amount of pain and suffering some of us endure while trying to competitively (continued p2)

(continued from p1) contest, it's clear that contesting can occasionally be a lot of fun. To be sure, 10 meters won't be as fun for contesting right now as 160. Even a low dipole on 160 will net you many more contacts than the unfortunate soul profiled above. You should try it; it might turn out to be a great time, and the club could certainly use the points.

The CQWW 160 CW contest is scheduled for 2200z January 24 to 1600z January 26; the CQWW 160 SSB contest for 2200z February 21 to 1600z February 23rd. The exchange is signal report and state. You'll be surprised how many stations and states you can work. Get some wire in the air and get on, you might like it! No matter what your score, be sure to show the club's name on the summary sheet and get your results in to the contest organizers. Every little bit helps. More at the January meeting; we're looking forward to seeing you there.

73, Steve K4WA

FROM THE VP

-Paul Pescitelli, K4UJ, VP

Now that all the holidays are over we can all concentrate on Amateur radio once again. Hope you are prepared for the CQWW 160. I know that I am having a heck of a time preparing for our trip to KP4. Please listen for us (K4WA and myself) and also for K4PI who is venturing back to Aruba. Good Luck Mike!

I don't know what the program is going to be this month so come with an open mind. Many thanks to Tom W8JI for the program last month on how antennas work and why, he only scratched the surface of some interesting topics and I hope that he will join us again soon for a followup.

Hope to work everyone in the CQWW 160 CW Jan 25th & 26th.

73 - Paul K4UJ

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.

MINUTES

-Randy Tudor, K4ODL, Sec.

SEDXC Meeting Minutes December 1996

The meeting was called to order by K4WA Steve. Introductions were made and the guest list was passed for everyone to sign.

Minutes approved from the last meeting.

Old business - Paul will place the order for the new SEDX badges on 12/18/96.

A new membership list should be available early next year.

New business - None

Announcements - 7O until 12/21; 8Q - 12/19 until 1/1/97; VKØIR mid January

K2UFT collected 160 contest commitments.

The CW TEST 25,26 January, SSB TEST 22,23 February.

Drawing & White Elephant gift exchange was a lot of fun.

Program - W8JIT - Tom gave great program on some of the theory of how an antenna works. Also we had a very good discussion about lowband receiving antennas. Tom was very interesting and we didn't want to end the discussion. Maybe we can get Tom to come back for another program. You missed a good one if you did not attend.

-73 Randy, K4ODL

MR. LOWBAND SEZ...

-Mike Greenway, K4PI

I will be at P49I during CQ 160 during January 22-29. Please work me to help the club score. Participation has been a little low recently, please fire up the rig and give it a shot. Every bit helps! Call up your friends and get them on the air.

-73, Mike

Note: Steve, K4WA and Paul, K4UJ, will be at KP4 signing KP4/K4UJ during the CQ 160M contest. Work them if you can!

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Nancy Draheim, NK4U

Balance 11/30/96 (Checkbook)	<u>\$2213.09</u>
Income:	<u>\$140.00</u>
Expenses:	
Bank Charges	10.00
QSL Bureau	8.00
160 plaques	10.60
Door Prizes	44.05
Balance Checking 12/31/96	<u>\$2280.44</u>

Happy New Year to everyone. May 1997 bring that last one and put you on the Honor Roll. Hope you've got that 160 antenna up and ready to go...

73, Nancy, NK4U, Treasurer

BEEPS DE K2UFT

-Dick Bentley, K2UFT, Activities Director

My apologies to Ron, W4WA for misquoting his scores in our last issue. Think we had a transmission problem with the file. Better luck this time: ARRL SS SSB:

AA4S Single Op, Unassisted, Hi Power 412 - 824 - 74 - 60,976

CQWW CW:

AA4S Single Op, Unassisted, Hi Power 1339 - 3725 - 123 - 349 - 1,758,200 8P9Z ô ô ô
6222 - 15640 - 132 - 429 - 8,774,040 (K4BAI)

ARRL - 10 Mtrs:

K4BAI Single Op, Mixed Modes, Lo Pwr - 181 - 638 - 58 - 37,004

ARRL - 160 CW:

K4PI - Single Op. Unlimited 248 - 544 - 56 - 15 - 38,624

K4BAI - Single Op. Low Pwr. 122 - 247 - 36 - 1 - 9,139

If you wanna see it in print, you gotta get it to me! Commitments for 160 Tests: K4WA: 300,000 CW 50,000 Phone K4UJ: 70,000 Phone P49I: 900,000 CW K2UFT: 100,000 CW 50,000 Phone KE4LDJ: 10,000 Phone K4ODL: 50,000 Phone

NX90: 10,000 CW (from P40), 10,000 Phone

As I write this its about 5 hours away from bedlam on the bands over VKØIR. The information coming from the Internet, especially the Bulletins from Pilot Station ON4UN, has been outstanding. I listened briefly for VKØIR/Beacon when I could and found three instances of stations imitating the Beacon! Frequency was dead on but the op's sense of timing was shoddy. Its hard for me to imagine having the time luxury to sit around and pretend to be a beacon! Some demented sole was reported on the cluster to be imitating the beacon using a bug!

Part of the program this month will be a less than technical presentation on the famous 160 meter 450 ohm ladder line Inverted L and what I had to do with it to get it to work in my back yard! Discovered an unexpected bonus this evening when I accidentally tuned it up on 80 meters and got a 579 from Clive, GM3POI!

Definitely See You in THE pileup of the Century!

-73, Dick, K2UFT Activities Manager

DX TIDBITS

-Rick, N4XMX

To paraphrase a famous baseball player, "Santa DX has been bery, bery good to me." Three all time new ones in two weeks! Had been very busy during the week the 7O was on and hadn't gotten a chance. Turned on the rig for a few minutes Saturday night, no 7O. Rats. However, ZS8IR popped up on 20M with very few people calling. Took about 10 minutes. Went to bed. Got up Sunday, had to be at church by 10:30 AM, fired up rig at 9:00 AM local. There was the 7O on 17M with a small pileup! 17M is much easier, fewer people have good antennas. My A3WS is at a startling heigth of 20 feet. Shows I'm a big gun, huh?

Following week, the TN7A comes on. Hear him on 40M one night, small pileup. I am aluminum challenged on 40M with my verticle. Tried for 45 minutes, he's calling CQ, working a few, can't hear me. Finally, just before I turn off the rig in disgust, I call in a really low voice. He comes right back! Whatever it takes...

CU in the pileups...

-Rick, N4XMX