

# Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

February 2012



Left to right: Bolmar HK1MW, Jerry WB9Z, Gregg W6IZT, Bob K4UEE, George N4GNR, Ralph, KØIR

**They did it!!**  
**At least 192,000 QSO's**  
**5500 QSO's on 160-Meters**

**Congratulations to all the HKØNA crew**

## Presidents Report:

As the Malpelo HKØNA DXpedition goes QRT with greater than 190,000 contacts, we want to thank the DXpedition team, the pilot stations, and the Colombian government

officials for permitting the operation. Everyone did a tremendous job. Even the worldwide DX community seemed to be on good behavior as we saw just a few folks set on attempting to subject us to their QRM antics and, of course, the ever-present frequency police. HKØNA's website

provided a photograph window into the DXpedition's charming operating facilities complete with wild-life guests. Watching the on-line log entries for our SEDXC members fill-up their confirmation of worked bands and modes energized some of us to give up our sleep to work just one more band or mode. Bottom-line a really great DXpedition and a job well done. Looking forward to the SEDXC DXpedition member's presentation at an upcoming Club meeting.

As a reminder, one of our club's primary endeavors is to promote new and old hams into the world of working DX stations and obtaining their DXCC certificates. Our club dues and donations go to supporting DXpeditions such as the Malpelo operation. Knowing that our club helps both financially and, as with the HKØNA Dxpediton, supplying operators, the SEDXC can be proud of another level of accomplishment made by our club.

The Georgia QSO Party is fast approaching so keep your calendars clear for the weekend of April 14-15. The QSO party may not be considered a contest but it sure is a lot of fun being a desirable and needed contact by stateside or a DX stations. For those of you living in the Metro Atlanta area who may think that your county is very common, you will be surprised to find that participating stations can actually be looking for Fulton, Cobb, Cherokee, or even Gwinnet Counties.

Our Malpelo DXpeditioners should be back to join us at our February meeting. Plan to attend for some firsthand story telling. Also, our program this month will be about the D-Star transmission mode that some of our members are already working.

73,  
Jim C. KT4MM

## Vice Presidents Report:

In February we'll have John Davis, EC for Gwinnett County and a D-STAR guru give us some insight into what D-STAR really is and how it's used. John has been responsible for a roll-out of Amateur Radio equipment at several PBS sites as well as establishing

stations at several hospitals. After all, we are the "when all else fails" folks.

March program is HRD revisited by Richard Ruhl, W4PC. More on this program to follow.

I'm beginning to get the word out about the GQP. Don't forget to send me your route if you're planning to rove.

If you know you'll be working fixed, let me know which county and I'll color in the map. I passed out a bunch of cards in Orlando, and the locals want to see all 159 activated.

73  
Norm

## Secretaries Report:

No report this month

## Activities Manager report:

No report this month. He was out being active, drinking Rum Punch, working DX and living in paradise. Need we say more?

If you worked J38EA on Grenada you know where he was.

## Treasurers Report:

No report this month.

Here is another column by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU. You may have already read a little about this movement.

Over three years ago, I wrote that amateur radio should do more to associate itself with the Maker, or "do it yourself" (DIY) movement ([www.kb6nu.com/lets-get-on-the-maker-bandwagon/](http://www.kb6nu.com/lets-get-on-the-maker-bandwagon/)). Well, it finally looks like it is going to do just that.

Just before the first of the year, the ARRL unveiled its DIY campaign ([www.arrl.org/news/arrl-launches-new-diy-campaign](http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-launches-new-diy-campaign)). The most visible part of the campaign is a video ([www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ](http://www.youtube.com/ARRLHQ)), but there are also some other bits, including:

- a flier to be handed out to interested persons,
- buttons that say "Ask Why I DIY with Ham Radio," and
- a PowerPoint presentation and speaker's notes that you can use to give a presentation to an amateur radio club or other non-ham group.

These items are available from the ARRL website, [www.arrl.org/DIY](http://www.arrl.org/DIY).

CQ also on board  
CQ magazine is also jumping on the bandwagon. They recently announced that they will run a quarterly "Maker" column, written by Matt Stultz, KB3TAN. Stultz is the founder of HackPittsburgh, a "hackerspace" or community workshop for makers in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has been a ham since 2009 and has integrated amateur radio into many of HackPittsburgh's activities.

Stultz's first column, titled "We Are Makers," will appear in the March issue of CQ. It provides a general introduction to the maker/hacker community for hams, as well as a description of a high-altitude balloon project that brought the two groups together in Pittsburgh.

Hams at the Maker Faire  
In 2006, Make: magazine hosted the first Maker Faire ([www.makerfaire.com](http://www.makerfaire.com)) in San Mateo, CA. Since then, Maker Faires have also been held in Austin, TX, New York, NY; and Detroit, MI. Maker Faires are showcases for all kinds of crazy projects that people are working on.

Hams usually have a presence at these events. This year, the theme for one of the amateur radio groups participating in the California Maker Faire, which is the flagship event, is Arduino ([www.arduino.cc](http://www.arduino.cc)) applications in amateur radio. Michael,

NE6RD, who is organizing this group has lined up several very cool projects. One of them is an Arduino-controlled satellite antenna system.

A project I proposed is an Arduino-controlled keyer. On the face of it, this is not a real exciting project, but my twist on this is that instead of directly keying a transmitter, I plan to have the Arduino actuate a solenoid that will press a straight key. That should make the project a little more visual.

Hams sometimes like to claim that we were the original makers and hackers. We certainly have a long tradition of DIYing. Let's show these upstarts exactly what ham radio is capable of. Perhaps, in the process, we'll even entice a few of them to join us.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Last month we carried an announcement about the DX University that will be presented at the Visalia DX Conference in April of this year. We have since had a request for funding to support the program and the officers of the club will present the recommendation of the executive committee to the members at the meeting.

## Note from the editor:

We would like to present any article or write-up any of the members have on any ham radio topics. If you have a technical article or a description of any DXpedition or outing you have been on please write it up and send it in. Maybe it was in the past and some of the newer members would like to read about how it was in the "Old Days".

If you have anything please send it to the editor at [k4dli@earthlink.net](mailto:k4dli@earthlink.net).

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**DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.**

Simplex 147.54

K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz) 147.195 +600

**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)

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