



Bulletin



February 2020

From the Prez



Dick K5TF

My thanks to the excellent work of those on the Board and to those members who oversee the many behind-the-scenes activities of the club, especially in recent months. Everything from lining up excellent programs for the coming months, to staying on top of DXpedition contribution requests, and staffing the club table at area ham gatherings. These are so important to the on-going vitality of the club. Please accept my thanks.

We are honored to have Mickey Baker N4MB, the new ARRL Southeastern Division Director, speak at our February 20th meeting. Please plan to attend. Also, take time to read Mickey's biography on www.qrz.com.

By next month, March, I hope that we can have a slate of names of those who will serve on the Nominations Committee for 2020-21 Club Officers to be elected in June.

Cont. on p. 2

This Month's Meeting

Date/Time: **Thursday February 20th @ 7:30 PM**

Location: Rich Auditorium, Piedmont Hospital

Details at www.sedxc.org



Program Title: A Conversation with our new ARRL SE Division Director

Speaker: Mickey Baker, N4MB

VP's Corner



Mike ND4V

After John Kludt's excellent presentation on satellite radio, I "had to" add another radio to the shack. I picked an Icom 9700 and I'm feeling overwhelmed. We've certainly come a long way since the diode programmable Icom 22S! I think I have it working in its most basic FM mode. Satellite communication is going to take a while as I climb this learning curve!

This month a member of the ARRL board of Directors, Mickey Baker will be our guest. Mickey represents our ARRL section.

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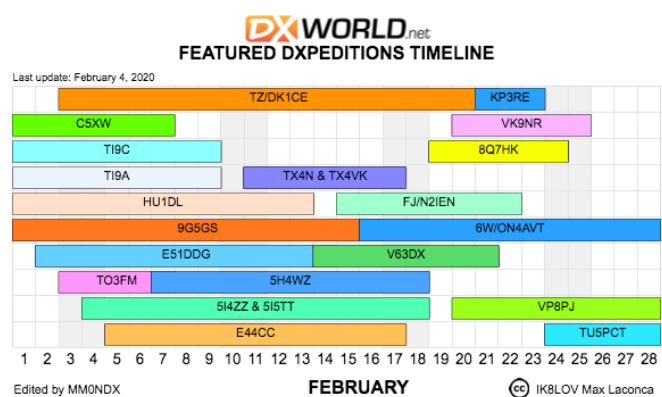
From The Prez (cont.)

DX-wise, as I mentioned last month, I have again thrown my 100 watts and a wire antenna in the 2020 CQ DX Marathon ring. To-date, I stand at 97 countries and 25 zones.

Hope to see everyone Thursday February 20th.

73 es gud DX de

DICK K5TF❖



Dalton Hamfest

Saturday, February 22, 2020. Info: <http://w4drc.com/hamfest/>

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Around the Shack de N4GG/4



Visit Someone!

You will likely read this in February 2020, but I am writing it in early January with things other-than-technical on my mind. I am reflective; this is not your typical “Around the Shack” column.

Several of my long-time friends – DXers and Contesters - have gone SK in the past year. Is it my imagination, or do I lose more friends around the holidays? I know as I grow older I am losing friends faster than I used to. Every old-timer will tell you that’s part of the aging process. I don’t like it.

Among my friends are three hams that have been treated for the same rare cancer. Two recently, one about six years ago. All are still QRV, but their treatment was tough and outcomes are uncertain for at least five years. I know lots of other cancer patients of course, and I have made that journey twice myself.

All this seems so morose – but I am writing with a purpose. At Dayton, 18 years ago, I gave the “congratulations speech” for Bill Fisher’s (W4AN) induction into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. It was more of a eulogy than congratulatory however, as Bill had been SK for two years. Bill was inducted posthumously.

One thing I said in that speech: While I thought I knew Bill well, I had never met him. I had been in the Atlanta area for two years at that point, and I had never made the effort to visit his shack and get to know him better. Now it was too late. I urged everyone in the room to visit someone – as soon as they got home. Someone they knew on the air, or elsewhere in life, that they had never gotten around to meeting first-person.

I have a new, “New Year’s Resolution.” I plan to get out of my comfortable shack more; to add miles onto my car’s odometer. I don’t want to give another eulogy and have to say “I feel like I knew him pretty well although I never met him.”

Visit someone.

Hal N4GG/4❖

SEDXC OFFICERS

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SEDXC Webpage: www.sedxc.org

SEDXC Chat Room: details on webpage

SEDXC Reflector: details on webpage

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VP Corner (cont.)

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions for how the ARRL policy-making body works, be sure to attend! I will shortly send invitations to other clubs; Mickey is being gracious to attend our meeting and I really would like to have a big turnout for him.

Your reading assignment for March is *Mutiny on the Bounty* and *Pitcairn's Island*. If you want to throw in *Men Against the Sea*, that will complete the trilogy. The mutiny took place in 1789 and descendants of the mutineers still inhabit Pitcairn. Gregg Marco, W6IZT will talk to us about his trip to modern day Pitcairn Island and the DXpedition they mounted.

April is still coming together – hope to have Bob, K4UEE talk about Marquesas. If not, Jeff, K1ZN and I will do a program on Club Log and highlight some of its more useful features.

Dalton Hamfest is February 22. At present, we don't have plans for a SEDXC table. I do hope to make it up there and will be glad to find a quiet spot and check your DXCC/WAS/WAC cards. If you will kindly e-mail me, I'll send you my cell number and we can meet up.

Happy New DX Year to all!

73,

Mike ND4V ❖

Treasurer's Journal

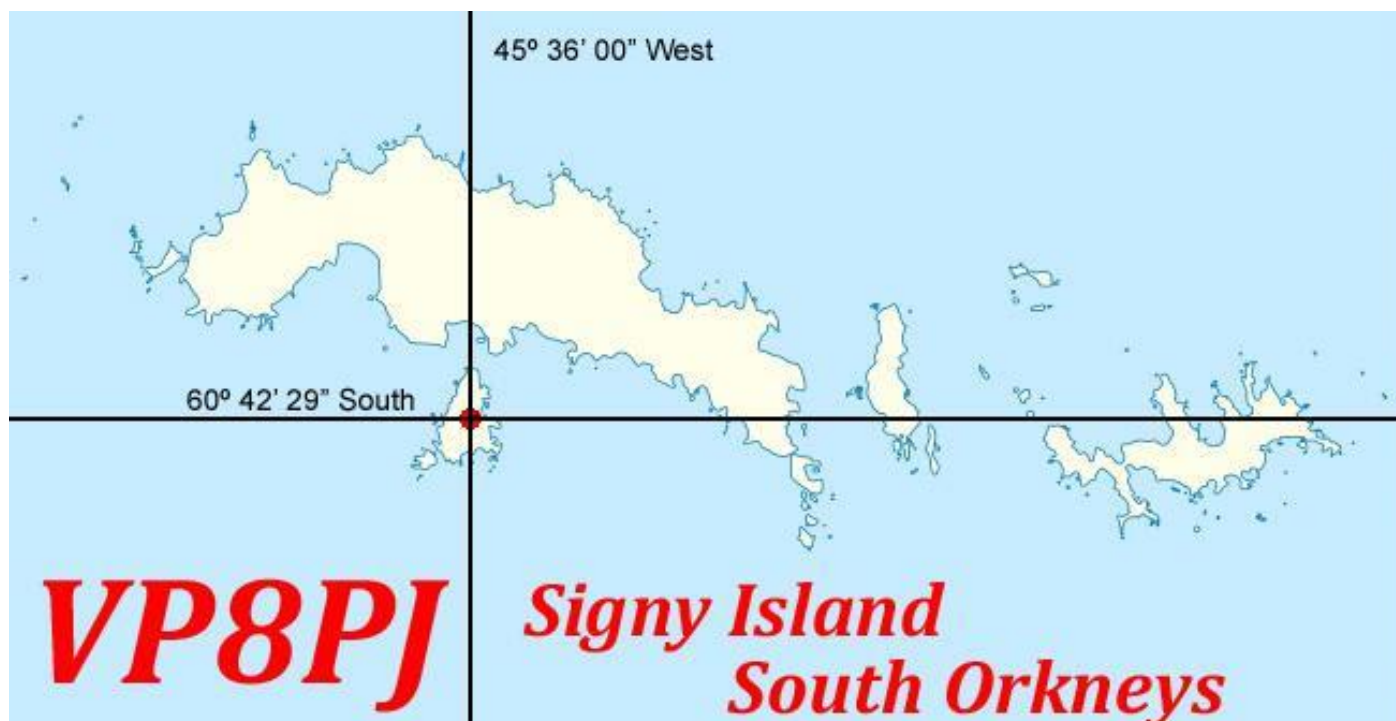
Balance on hand as of January 6, 2020:
\$11,732.83.

There are two funding requests to be considered at the meeting: VP9PJ (S. Orkney Island) and T3ØET (Atarwa Atoll) (details on next pages).

73,

Jeff K1ZN ❖

DXpedition Funding Request



South Orkney Islands DXpedition VP8PJ (AN-008)

Permits

Landing and camping at South Orkney requires permission from several government agencies. This multi step process takes months to complete. We recently received our final approval, the “Antarctic Conservation Act Permit” from the National Science Foundation. Other agencies in the process were: the US Department of State and the Environmental Protection Agency. We appreciate the cooperation and assistance we received from these agencies to complete and submit the detailed applications and other required documentation.

New Corporate Sponsor

Joining the list of corporate sponsors is **The DX Store**, a supplier of quality products for the amateur radio market.

Equipment Status

After 8 weeks our sea container arrived in Punta Arenas, Chile on January 13, 2020.

Operating Schedule

The team will follow a rotating 4 hours on and 8 hours off schedule. In their off-time they’ll catch up on sleep, perform equipment / campsite maintenance, operate from positions available for roving operators, or (weather permitting) go back to Braveheart for a shower and hot meal.

Island Assignments

Each team member is assigned tasks while on the island. Major activities are prioritized and staffed accordingly. The Braveheart crew will help with the heavy lifting and other setup activities. After landing, designated teams will first erect the WeatherPort shelters, install the power grid, and furnish the sleeping and operating shelters. Meanwhile the antenna teams will install the HF antennas, followed by the low band antennas. Weather permitting, setup is expected to take approximately two days.

Fundraising

We appreciate the support from the worldwide DX and amateur radio community. With the addition of **Japan's Nara DX Association, The Spokane DX Association and W4DXCC By SEDCO Convention**, we currently have **fifty-two** clubs / foundations signed on, over **500** individuals and **60** Premier Sponsors who each donated \$200(USD), or more. We continue to make progress towards our goal of the radio team paying 50% of the project cost with sponsorships paying the remainder. Is your DX club listed on our website?

Thanks for your continued interest and support of our project, we'll publish one more press release before leaving home in early February.

Good luck in the pileups.

73,

Team VP8PJ

Website: <https://sorkney.com/>

Please direct your questions to: info@sorkney.com

DXpedition Funding Request



From 5B4ALX Newsletter
www.5balx.cloud

Raccoon DX Project is leading a DXpedition to Tarawa Atoll, T30ET.

When:

- Active between March 18 and April 2, 2020
- Departure: March 15, 2020 via Singapore, Brisbane, Solomon, Tarawa
- Return: Solomon, Brisbane, Singapore

What T30ET will offer:

- 2 stations simultaneously
- CW/SSB/Digi activities
- 7 antennas
- Low-angle VDA and monoband antennas
- RTX + PA + band pass filters on each station
- 1 station FT8/FT4 active 24/24
- Focus on NA and EU in Greyline for 17/20/80/160
- 4 faces High Quality QSL
- Fast LOTW upload (OQRS and Donors)
- Real-time Log online

Why be a supporter:

- **Free OQRS** after DXpedition (over 5 Euro)
- **Free upload** after DXpedition
- **Priority LOTW** update for Top Donors
- **Personalized Certificate of Appreciation** in HR PDF via email (over 15 EUR)
- **Call sign** printed on QSL card (for logo or foundations)
- **Free video** (download link)

Why T30ET needs your support:

- Organizing, completing, and managing a DXpedition with high targets (not Holiday Style) implies a big financial investment
- Certainly it is done with personal pleasure and fun but not only, for the pleasure of knowing that thousands of operators all over the world are enjoying themselves
- Moving 100kg of equipment on the other side of the Earth is very expensive; personal loans do not allow to cover the cost of around \$20K per event. It is also your help to allow it!
- If you want to have your small part also in this adventure you can make your contribution, even small. Everything will help T30ET to be active in the best way and at any time you can verify that your contribution has been invested in the best way.
- You will receive regular e-mail communications on developments and your call sign will be saved in the Donors Database for future activities.

SEDXC Meeting Minutes – January 16, 2020

President Dick Baxter, K5TF called the meeting to order at 7:30pm followed by self-introductions by all in attendance.

The current financial report was published and is available for review on the SEDXC web site.

Members were interested in hearing an update on the status of Bill Barr's, N4NX recovery from a stroke. You can follow Bill's recovery on the caringbridge.org website where Bill's XYL Leah posts frequent updates. We all extend our best wishes for Bill and for his continued improvements during his recovery.

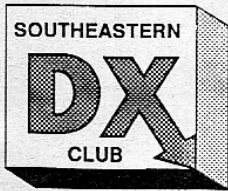
No DXpedition funding requests have been received since the previous meeting.

An extremely interesting and informative program for this evening's meeting titled "Things To Do When There Are No Sunspots" was presented by John Kludt, K4SQC. John serves as an Ambassador for AMSAT (The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation) and as a Technical Mentor for ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station.)

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Kelley, W4KLY
SEDXC Secretary



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

*THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB*

February 1995

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV, President

Our SEDX club members turned out in usual big numbers for the 160 mtr CW contest, and could be heard in force up and down the band. Good numbers have been reported, despite the summer-like QRM on the contest weekend. Be sure to turn in your scores (remember, small scores will add up!) to Dave Thompson, K4JRB. For those of you who weren't geared up for the CW contest, get ready for the 160 phone contest, February 24 through 26. We can all make a difference this time!

Hope to see you all on February 21 to swap 160 stories and hear the exciting news about Ham Radio 95 and the DXPO.

CUL, 73 Delaine - KM4FV

VEEP BEEPS

by Dick Bentley, K2UFT, VP

The February meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21 at 7:30 PM or from 6 PM on at Hickory House if you want to join us for dinner. Either way, we'll be at the Days Inn, Roswell Road, just inside the Perimeter. Our program will feature Gordon Bloodworth, 5Z4FH, who was recently elected President of the Radio Society of Kenya. Gordon will talk about his various adventures over

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.

the years in Africa.

Good to hear that wall of RF from Georgia while we were at ZF1DX. From the Caymans, AB4RU was the loudest on the band by at least an S unit. The EWE receiving antennas were constructed easily (See February QST for details), worked reasonably well with a Palomar preamp and showed directivity as desired. Many thanks to my buddy W3CZ, whose toroid winding skills and willingness to support our effort made the EWE antennas possible. One of the transformers is permanently inscribed with Bill's call sign and will no doubt see many year's of service. His equipment joins the WA4CUG memorial beverage wire coil in the ZF1A inventory!

Our score doubled from last year but was far short of expectations. There's just something about 85 degree temperatures (75 at nite), turquoise colored lagoons, conch fritters, jerk chicken, turtle stew and RED STRIPES that beats the pants off 20 over static crashes at midnite.

The highlight of our trip was Cayman Island Field Day. Sunday about 75% of the island hams got together at the Public Beach, set up an old FT757, Honda generator and R5 Vertical. We must have logged 300 or so QSO's for ZF1A as we watched the waves hitting the shore about 30 feet from our picnic table. The Cayman Amateur Radio Society treated us to sausages on the grill, sodas and dessert prepared by the only Cayman YL, ZF2CS (Cayman Sunshine). Great eyeball QSO's were had with the Society members. If it hadn't been for the lady who evicted us at 3 PM in favor of her daughter's birthday party, we'd probably still be there chewing the fat! What a great finale for another great adventure.

See you in the pile ups! -73 Dick, K2UFT

160 METER SSB CONTEST

Please help the club out and participate!! Send in those scores!! Get those antennas up! Help beat Frankfort this year! If you need help, CALL!

TREASURER'S REPORT

-de John Tramontanis, N4TOL

Balance 1/1/95 (Checkbook)	\$2,430.78
Income	
160M plaques	80.00
South Georgia	50.00
Membership	77.00
Raffle & shirts	97.00
Total Income	<u>304.00</u>
Expenses:	
PO Box rental	58.00
Newsletter (Jan)	128.36
Newsletter (Dec)	88.24
QSL bureau	7.00
VCR and meeting supplies	24.85
DXPO pins	434.50
Bank Charges	10.33
Total Expenses	<u>751.28</u>
Balance Checking 8/30/94	<u>\$1,983.50</u>

Of this ending balance, \$770.00 is earmarked for the cluster fund, resulting from voluntary contributions from the club membership at renewal time. The club is also holding \$600.00 for 160 meter award plaques. This leaves \$613.50 in the club general fund.

- 73 de N4TOL John

MINUTES SEDXC MEETING 9/20/94

-Buddy Harrell, W4OUN, Sec.

Minutes From January Meeting Held January 17, 1995

The meeting was called to order by Delaine, KM4FV. After introductions by all, the floor was turned over for general announcements: Phil, W4GTS, suggested that we all consider what could be done to help out with the emergency conditions in Japan.

Pete, K4LDR, reminded everyone that he was still handling outbound QSL's. Extra rosters are available if you received one in the mail that was printed on only one side.

Pins for DXPO are available for \$5.00.

A "Thank you" was received from the South Georgia DXpedition for the financial and moral support provided. We will probably try to put together a bulk mailing for the handling of QSL cards. More information should be available at the next meeting.

Jim, W4QO, discussed plans for the DXPO and the need for volunteers to assist. See or call Jim if you are interested. The combined Hamfest/DXPO will be held April 8 & 9. It appears that some excellent speakers and programs are being lined up. More information should be available at the next meeting.

Following the prize drawings, the program was presented. K4JRB gave an informative and interesting presentation on the 160M contest rules, operating tips, and antenna suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00PM.

73's and DX, Buddy/W4OUN

DX TIDBITS

-Rick, N4XMX

I first of all want to thank Randy, K4ODL, and Tad, WA4CUG for their help putting up the big GAP antenna the Sunday before the CQ 160 M contest last month! The manual says you need at least three people. Wrong! We had five and barely got it up. Of course, the fact that we put up a 45 foot antenna up in the middle of a snake-infested (ha! didn't tell them that!) swamp filled with impenetrable six-foot privet bushes had no bearing on the degree of difficulty. Good thing the neighbors were out of town and missed the show!

When I first hooked up the MFJ SWR analyzer to the antenna, everything looked good. As soon as I hooked up the coax, sometimes it would be fine and the next minute it would be off the scale. After two days of soul searching, cable swapping and &%"\$&!, I found the problem. It boiled down to an oxidized silver plated barrel connector next to the antenna. Sandpaper and a file on the mating surfaces fixed the problem. I remember what I have read and heard: "Do not skimp on your connectors, buy Amphenol!" I believe that. The cheap silver connectors oxidize over time and have another problem. Most have a Teflon insulator between the shell and the male center pin. This tends to melt when high (continued p 3)

DXPO '95

- The Big Event Is Taking Shape

-Jim Stafford, W4QO

The big event for SEDX this spring will be DXPO '95 and plans are proceeding rapidly towards a very successful event. Held on April 8 and 9 at the North Atlanta Trade Center, DXPO '95 will be held concurrently with the newest hamfest in Atlanta - Ham Radio '95, so there will be plenty of places to spend money besides the DXPO! All major ham vendors have now bought booths at the hamfest and between 5 and 10 thousand hams are expected for the hamfest. It should be a good one - no rain, no mud, no buses - just blooming dogwoods! DXPO itself will consist of activities in three major areas.

First, forums for all DX interests will be held from 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday and from 10 AM to 1 PM on Sunday. Our speakers will include Tony DePrato, WA4JQS of the Peter I expedition, John Fung-Loy, PA3CXC/D2 - Angola, and Al Hernandez, VP8SGP, who will be recently back from South Georgia Island. Many other speakers will cover topics such as antennas, computers and operating strategies.

Second, there will be a hospitality suite at the Marriott Gwinnett Place, just south of I-85 at Pleasant Hill Road, on Saturday evening from 8 PM to ???. We have made special arrangements to have our hospitality time so that the vendors displaying at the ham convention can also be in attendance. In this way, we will have our own private access to these folks, asking questions and getting their views on the latest and greatest equipment. We also benefit in that HR 95 will provide a good line of edible goodies for us so as to attract the vendor community. We have invited over 30 DX clubs in the southeast and in fact around the country to participate in this event, a great time to trade stories and tales. Ed Sleight, K4SB, will be the hospitality coordinator. Contact Ed to act as a host for one of the participating clubs at the hospitality suite. 439-0116.

Third, a Breakfast Banquet is being planned for Sunday morning in time to get on the road or to return for the Sunday forums and hamfest. We will have the breakfast at Shoney's right around the

corner from the hamfest, just off I-85 at Indian Trail (south). We are still working out the details of our speaker for the breakfast but it will be a good choice.

If you would like to help on DXPO '95, please contact Delaine, KM4FV, at 993-9758 or Jim, W4QO, at 993-9500. If we each do a little, we can make the work easy. One area we especially want to cover is a club booth in DX ROW at the hamfest where DX cards can be checked and other fraternal activities can occur. Please see Nancy Draheim, NK4U - 516-4413, to sign up to cover the booth for a couple of hours. There are many more assignments. Let us know if you can help. One last thing - be sure to see a club officer to buy a DXPO '95 pin. These high quality pins are a collectors item, and your \$5 purchase provides your support for DXPO 95.

P49I, CQ 160 M CW

-Mike, K4PI

Thanks to all for enduring the QRN to give me a QSO this year. Score will be down for me this year I believe, but I am still putting it into a program. I was again at P43AS QTH. He has a new shack separate from his house that is available for rental with all the amenities. He has an ICOM735 and antennas, 2 bedrooms with bath, 4 single beds with washer and dryer, stove, fridge, TV, etc. He is asking \$70/day for two people and a few extra dollars for more. Licences must be obtained 6 to 8 weeks prior to going. If anyone is interested, contact me.

-Mike

(continued from p 2) heat is applied. High heat is needed to make a really good solder joint between the shell and the braid. Amphenol connectors have a bakelite type insulator which is much more resistant to heat. The price at the Frost Fest in Virginia last month had the silver and the Amphenol connectors going for the same \$1 each. The biggest problem with cables is a lack of a good ground solder connection. You have been told.

BTW, on the same subject, the Solder-It kit that Fred sells is WONDERFUL!! Joint all types of metals together. Required, a must have. More next time!

CUL in the (160 M) pileups...-Rick, N4XMX