



Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

March 2011

Presidents Report:



It's getting close to April 9th and 10th, Georgia QSO Party time, and again this year SEDXC is one of the co-sponsors. We need volunteers within the SEDXC membership to activate the special event N4G call as part of a special QSO Party award to be offered during this 50th Edition of the GA QSO Party. Details are below. N4G supports the **GEORGIA** award, which will be made to all who qualify. This special award is in honor of Gordon, K4OD, who passed away on December 12, 2010. Gordon was one of the participants in the very first GQP (as was K4BAI) and was very active in supporting it through the years. Read all about the GQP and this special **GEORGIA** Award at <http://gqp.contesting.com/>. The **GEORGIA** Award activity is being managed by Scott Straw, KB4KBS. Many of you know Scott from his contesting activities

The basic idea is that in-state and out-of-state participants can qualify for the **GEORGIA** Award by working enough special 1X1 calls on the air during the Party to spell--you guessed it--**GEORGIA**. 1X1 calls ending in these letters will be on the air throughout the GQP weekend. SEDXC is responsible for making sure N4G is on the air on all GQP bands in CW and phone modes throughout the Party, and experience suggests that this is not to be taken lightly. You may remember a special contest from about a year ago--I won't mention the name-- which included a similar award. There was high participation nationally in this special event, but one of

the award letters was basically unavailable because the single station which held it was only on the air briefly during the entire special event weekend, and during the limited time of activation there was no propagation to many areas. This caused hard feelings to be heaped on the organization which had sponsored what was otherwise a really fun and innovative special event. The SEDXC mission and goal is to make sure N4G is easily available nationally for those who work to qualify for the special **GEORGIA** certificate. The GQP organizers want to see **MANY** stations qualify, and this means N4G activity on all bands and modes for extended durations during the GQP weekend. One of the issues is that most of us have limited time, limited antennas, and limited power we can apply to this goal. And some of our most serious contesters, who do not suffer from such limitations, will be trying to qualify for various GQP awards under their own call signs and will not feel they can pause for a minute to tune an amp or use the N4G call lest their more competitive buddies get ahead of them. The Executive Committee has concluded the best solution is to have multiple in-state users on the air using the special event N4G call which has been assigned to our club for GQP under controlled conditions with yours truly as trustee.

However, to keep N4G activity under control (I as trustee would be responsible for violations by users of the call) and to make log processing as painless as possible, and after consultation with ARRL etc, etc, the Executive Board has concluded that the following procedure is optimum:
Please volunteer to put N4G on the air for as long as you can during the GQP. You can work most of the contest under your own call if you want and use N4G for significant but

limited periods. Or you can run the entire weekend using N4G if you like. But --and here is the key rule-- you need to volunteer explicitly to use the N4G call in one band/mode combination--and I need to maintain a list of the volunteers. For instance if you volunteer for 20m SSB, when you are using N4G you can't be on 20m CW--or 15m CW using N4G at any time during the GQP. And very importantly you must request the band/mode slot you want. **Just to be clear, if I as trustee don't have you on the list, you are not authorized to use N4G during the GQP.** We will try to accommodate all requests on a first come/first serve basis. Please volunteer by contacting me at w2wg@comcast.net. And if I don't acknowledge your request it means I didn't see it amidst the traffic from a huge number of reflectors I belong to--so try again or call me at 770-594-8079 if you don't get my response. **SEDXC needs you to make the GEORGIA award a success.**

As noted in the official 2011 GQP rules, "**The GQP shall be conducted on 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, and 6m only.**"

Let the volunteering begin! Volunteer with a message to w2wg@comcast.net.

73
Bob W2WG

Vice Presidents Report:

Last month Robert Vail showed us several corrosion issues that can affect one's tower and antenna installation and some methods to prevent the corrosive destruction of towers and antennas when not properly protected. Robert's presentation will be made available on the Club's website for those that missed the meeting or would like to refresh their memory regarding some of the finer points in corrosion mitigation.

After a successful and safe return from the VP8 South Orkney DXpedition team Wes, W3WL, and George, N4GRN, will be at our March meeting to provide us a slide

presentation and some insight into their operation in the Antarctic. Look forward to seeing photos of nature's wild life and beauty to the South Orkney DXpeditioners area of operation.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the March meeting.

73

Jim C. KT4MM

Activities Managers Report:

Anyone who missed the Dalton hamfest passed up some deals on aluminum beginning at 7AM and most of the day, including rotator parts (that we don't find easily near the ATL). The boneyard that was much larger than anything in Atlanta, except for Lawrenceville. Speaking about hamfests... Hope everyone is ready for the Kennehoochee hamfest on Mar 19th, again at the Cobb County fairgrounds. Most of the clubs will be participating in the open environment like what we did at last year's Stone Mountain fest. "Can you say donuts and coffee overdose?"

Tickets for the (Friday night) Dayton DX dinner are going fast. We're now selling seats to our second (and last) table to club members. I'll bring what remains to the March club meeting and Kennehoochee hamfest. Don't miss out...

Gary – WB4SQ

Secretaries Report:

No report this month due to being away giving out new country to a lot of hams. We expect a good report at the meeting.

Notice:

See the last pages for a request for support for an operation to VU7, Andaman Islands.

Treasures Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of February 28, 2011

The balance on hand in the operating account at the end of February was \$4,480.23

Receipts: \$700 from PayPal account
\$153 from memberships, badge orders, raffle

Disbursements were as follows:

Great Lakes – badges	52.50
Bill – QSL Cards	375.00
Gary – DX Table	800.00

Membership: We are in the bonus period. First Time New Members get a bonus. Their \$12.00 takes them to June 30, 2012. Talk it up!

Remember to get your iron on patches and name badges to be properly attired in Dayton.

73 es dx
Mike, ND4V

NOTICE:

Remember, the elections of new officers is coming up in a few months. If you are willing to serve as an elected officer please notify Jim, K4DLI, by e-mail, k4dli@earthlink.net or by phone at 770-993-1767 so your name can be placed in nomination.

This is important to the club to get some new blood into the club offices so, please consider running for office.

Another Notice:

Your Bulletin is in need of some articles to publish. If you have any stories or technical tips you would like to share with the club

please write them up and send them to the editor, me, at the e-mail address above. You will be doing your fellow club members a favor. Otherwise, I may have to find some stuff you have no interest in !!!!!

As an illustration of the above topic how many of you are interested in the "Art of Cable Lacing"? Well, here is the information from my usual source, Dan Romanchik, KB6NU.

The Make: magazine blog is a wealth of information for amateur radio operators. Recently, they ran a post on what they consider to be on the "lost technology" of cable lacing
<http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2009/07/lost-knowledge-cable-lacing.html>.

The blog post does a great job of explaining the technique and includes several illustrations. One of them
http://cdn.makezine.com/make/blogs/blog.makezine.com/upload/2009/10/lost_knowledge_cable_lacing/cableLacing6b.gif is a drawing from an old ARRL handbook. There are also a link to the Wikipedia page on cable lacing
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cable_lacing.

Nowadays, we mostly use zip ties to bundle cables, but there are disadvantages to using them. For one thing, to apply them properly, you should have a tool that controls how tightly the zip tie holds the wires. This is to prevent crushing the insulation.

Also, I've found that zip ties don't do so well when the cable has only two or three wires. They're just not designed to hold so few wires. I think that cable lacing would do a much better job of keeping a small bundle of wires together, say wires that connect front panel components to a PC board.

Cable lacing certainly looks much cooler than zip ties. This is the perfect technique for those homebrewers that want to make their projects look great as well as work great.

I asked on my blog, "Now, where can I find the 'wax-impregnated cotton or twine'?" and

my readers came through. Hamilton said, "Apparently you find wax string here: <http://www.kitkraft.biz/product.php?productid=1496>. I remember using it for something as a kid, but I can't place it." Ron McKenz wrote, "I notice that a number of telco vendor sell waxed lacing cord. Here are a few URLs: <http://www.sourcetelsupply.com/catalog/index.php?cPath=27>, <http://www.tessco.com/yts/resourcecenter/pdfs/clabelacing-FAQ.pdf>, and <http://www.oelsales.com/product.cfm/267/>.

Ned, WB4KBO, said, "I would suggest a large roll of dental tape and a large-diameter curves sewing needle for fabricating harnesses. I was told that this was the material of choice for lacing harnesses when I worked at Heath Company many years ago. Makes sense to me. Buy it at Meijer for an occasional harness, or a dental wholesale supply house if you are going into production. Also great stuff for kite rigging, vine lacing and many other things."

Mike, WA6ARA wrote, "What you want is Mil-T-43435. It is better than a cord, it is a flat weave tape, nylon, and waxed. It is made for cable lacing but is use now in the parachute industry as "Super Tack". Item T1050 at <http://www.paragear.com>"

So, there you have it. Links to show you how to do it, and a couple more links for where to find the lacing material. I now expect all of our homebrew to look a lot neater.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Be sure to make the meeting to hear Wes and George tell their tale of "High Adventure and Daring Do" as they used to say in the "Old Days" !

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The SEDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southeastern DX Club . All opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, officers, or club. We welcome your opinion.

DX PACKET FREQ. (Corrections, 1/2/04)

NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75

K4UGA (Athens)(2400) 145.67 (SE Megaclst)

(telnet 128.192.52.40 599, must put in port 599)

DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.

Simplex 147.54

SPECIAL NOTE:

The club is now using the Repeater on 145.410, down 600, for chatting and real time DX announcements. Join the group there. No tone required.

SEDXC WEBPAGE

www.sedxc.org

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com

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

SEDXC Yahoo Group

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

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1. Name, call, mailing address of applicant (Team Leader):

Gopal Madhavan VU2GMN - President ARSI, IARU R3 Director

128 Greenways Road

Chennai- 600 028

India

2. Email Address: gopal.madhavan@gmail.com

3. Which DXCC entity is the destination of this DXpedition? **VU4 Andaman Islands, #29**

4. What are the dates of operation? **15 to 31 March 2011**

5. Expedition Website: <http://arsi.info/dxpeditions/vu4pb-mar-2011>

6. Provide the DXpedition budget and include the amount that the operators will individually contribute.

US\$ 35,000 (detailed budget available on request). Each of the 17 operators has donated a minimum of US\$ 820 individually towards this expedition

7. Provide/confirm the mailing address of the person to whom the cheque should be sent:

Bank Account Name -- Bharat C. Bhushan

Bank Account No. -- 4353045489

Bank Name -- Comerica Bank

Bank Branch -- Stadium Blvd. – Pauline office # 433

1969 W. Stadium, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, USA

Receiving bank -- Comerica Bank, Detroit, Michigan, USA

ABA No. 072000096

Contact Details -- Mr. Bharat C Bhushan

2815 Sequoia Parkway

Ann Arbor,

Michigan, MI 48103 USA

E-mail : bcbhushan@comcast.net Tel: +1 (734) 7611890

To pay via PayPal: bcbhushan@comcast.net OR Use the PayPal Donate button on the expedition website.

ARSI will acknowledge in due course on the web page <http://arsi.info/dxpeditions/vu4pb-mar-2011/sponsor-list> all

contributions, in any form whatsoever. When making any contribution kindly send by email all details including

your contact details and e-mail address to secy.arsi@gmail.com. PayPal donations are displayed immediately.

8. List of team members and their prior DXpedition experience

1. **VU2PAI Ananth Pai, VU7LD + other island activations**

2. **VU2ABS Aravind Balasubramanian,**

3. **VU2NXM Basappa Arabole, VU7LD**

4. **VU3DMP Chetan Pujara, VU7LD**

5. **VU2CDP Deepak Pathak,**

6. **VU2GMN Gopal Madhavan, VU7LD**

7. **VU2GGM Govind Girimaji, VU7LD**

8. **VU2LU K G Ramesh Kumar**

9. **VU2DH K M Devadas**

10. **VU2VKU Krishna Kumar, VU7LD**

11. **VU2PTT Prasad Rajagopal**

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12. **VU2RCT Ramachandra Bhatt, VU7**

13. **VU2RCR R Ramachandra, VU7LD**

14. **VU2RDQ Rohit Rao, VU7LD**

15. **VU2SJD Sanjay Madhavan VU7LD**

16. VU2SMN Suhas Samant, Numerous DX awards

17. VU2MTT Vishnumoorthy VU7LD

9. Callsign and address of the QSL manager:

W3HNK Joe Arcure 115, Buck Run Road Lincoln University PA, 19352, USA

10. Will you answer all bureau cards as well as direct requests?

Yes

11. Will you provide a written report, NO MORE THAN ONE OR TWO PAGES IN LENGTH PLUS PHOTOGRAPHS for publication in our newsletter?

Yes

12. Will you provide a logo and link to Sponsors Webpage on the DXpedition Web site?

Yes

13. Will you provide a sponsor logo and link on the QSL Card?

Yes, logos of all donors providing support of US\$ 500 and above will be displayed on the QSL card if received before the printing of the cards. Our QSL cards will go for printing by 10th March, 2011.

14. Will you upload the VU4PB expedition logs to ARRL Logbook of the World (LoTW)?

Yes, within one year of the expedition date.

15. Will you agree not to operate on DX nets or lists?

Yes

16. Operation:

All HF bands - SSB, CW and RTTY, exploring 6m EME operations

17. Equipment:

Two Kenwood TS-2000

Two ICOM 756 Pro II/III

Elecraft K3

Yaesu FT 847

Kenwood TS-950

Two Spider beams (20-10m)

SteppIR 3-element Yagi (40-10m)

SteppIR 2-element Yagi (20-10m)

SteppIR Big IR vertical

Force12 C3S Yagi

Wire and vertical antennas for low band operation

18m Spider poles for Low band antennas

Yaesu Quadra VL1000 Amp

Kenwood TL-922 Amp

Yaesu FL2100B Amp

Ameritron ALS-500 Amp

Ameritron AL-811H Amp

TenTec Hercules II Amp