



# Southeastern DX Club

## W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

March 2012

### President's Report:

At a recent local area radio club meeting the evening's discussion revolved around the automated operation of a ham shack. Automation included everything from finding a chosen DX entity from a computer DX cluster, the setting the radio on frequency, selecting the mode of operation (CW, SSB, RTTY, etc.), connecting to a predetermined antenna, activating an auto antenna tuner, powering up an amplifier (on the correct band), and finally rotating an antenna toward the DX entity. The operator is now ready to tickle a CW key or exercise some vocal chords and make a contact. Actually, the operator could continue the automation process making the contact exchange by simply using a computer keyboard and sending via "F" function keys preprogrammed CW transmission or using a voice recorder.

Wow! How times have changed. It's not such a long time ago chasing a DX entity (or any station) required careful tuning across the bands, setting up the transmitter and sometime using the arm-strong method for antenna rotation. Fifty years ago we thought that we had the cat's meow of a ham shack with VFOs, superheterodyne receivers, and motorized rotators.

So has our hobby changed? You bet the hobby has changed. A change for the better? In most cases today we have some really fantastic transceivers providing rock solid frequency stability, receiver selectivity and sensitivity, audio and IF filtering, and overall easy to operate radios. Turning on a fully automated station to using a basic off-the-shelf transceiver, the magic of working a station one mile down the road to stepping into the pile-up and working the HKØNA Malpelo DXpedition, the excitement, fascination, and accomplishment to communicate around the world or even into space has not changed from 50 years ago to our present day.

The quantum leaps of technology from spark-gap transmitters to the superheterodyne receivers to the phase lock looped frequency stable circuits shows us that we still have many more leaps of technology awaiting us for tomorrow's future ham radio endeavors.

Many of us remain concerned about the hobby's future, but seeing the emerging of digital circuitry and evolution into the RF world we should be able to continue attracting new ham radio operators. Our mission is to help the new operators experience the fascination, and excitement of working other

operators around the world. Perhaps we might even be able to learn from the new operators.

CU March 15<sup>th</sup> at the Club meeting

73,

Jim C. KT4MM

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### Vice President's Report:

March Program: Ham Radio Deluxe

Presented by:  
Richard Ruhl, W4PC

An avid Ham radio enthusiast since the age of 21, Ruhl (W4PC) holds an Extra Class amateur radio license and is lead developer for W4PC Radio Operations Center software suite.

Rick owns W4PC Software and is a partner in HRD Software, LLC. He has been developing and selling ham radio software since 1997.

Ruhl studied computer science at Southern Tech in Atlanta, GA.

The HRD software is popular in our circles and I'm sure you have friends that are not SEDXC members that would enjoy the talk. We have plenty of room, and it would be a good time for us to get acquainted. Don't forget to tell folks that we validate the parking tickets.

April Program will be on the HKØNA MALPELO DXPEDITION 2012 experience. Details will be posted on the web site as soon as they are completed.

I've received several routes for Georgia QSO Party rovers and a few notes about fixed operations. Interest in the GQP from local clubs seems to be on the rise. Get your routes in so I can get the map filled in. Atlanta Radio Club and GARS are planning public events for their members and friends. So if you know someone looking for a place to operate for a few minutes or see how it's done, send them to the web sites for more information.

73

Norm, WA4ZXV

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## Secretary's Report:

No report this month.

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## Treasurer's Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of Feb 29, 2012

The balance on hand in the operating account at the end of December 2011 was \$5,444.11

Activity in the months since December:

Receipts: \$319.00

Disbursements were as follows:

Great Lakes (name badges)	110.50
GA QSO plaque sponsorship	25.00
ZK2C DXpedition	100.00
VP6T DXpedition	200.00

Ending Balance 2/29/2012 \$5,327.61

Chaz Reports that there is \$403.87 in the PayPal account which has not been transferred to the treasurer.

I have reserved two tables at the Dayton (Southwest Ohio) DX dinner. They will not assign the tables and send us tickets until the first of April. Chaz has agreed to make the tickets available via PayPal through the website. So watch for an announcement when they become available. SWODXA gets \$42.00 per seat, we will ask \$45.00 to include the PayPal fee and postage if needed to get the tickets to you.

73 es dx  
Mike, ND4V

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## Activities Managers Report:



In February, I accompanied the "Buddies in the Caribbean" DX group as we invaded the island of Grenada for a week of operations ... we ran QRP to 100 watts and used only the Buddipole antenna system. Some kind of insect feasted on me during the trip, but I survived and made 3,006 CW and SSB contacts on 30, 17, and 15 meters ... all of my contacts have been uploaded to Club Log, LoTW, and eQSL ... you can check your QSO's with me at <http://www.clublog.org/charts/?c=J38EA> ...

73 and Good DX!

Wey, J38EA ...

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## SEDXC OFFICERS

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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 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](http://www.sedxc.org)**

**SEDXC REFLECTOR [sedxc@contesting.com](mailto:sedxc@contesting.com)**

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