



Southeastern DX Club

W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

March 2013

Presidents Report:

The March meeting should be a lot of fun. A show and tell. We know that many of you have some great "stuff". Bring something along. Things you created to make your ham radio experience more fun are very interesting. And that piece of antique gear always makes a hit.

I had fun working Clipperton. Not like a lot of you 'OLD' guys, I didn't have them on every mode and band. Glad to get 'em on 160. Looks like the picnic will be the last day of August. We're looking to get to a park this year. It'll be a little more work, but not wearing out our host. We'll post a 'for sure date' in next month's bulletin.

Clark, WU4B, has agreed to take over as bulletin editor. So everyone needs to get items to him for the bulletin starting with the April one. Jim, K4DLI, has been a great editor for the past several years. Be sure the pass on your thanks to both of these major assets to SEDXC.

Don't keep it a secret if you have skills or ideas to improve our group. And we can always use suggestions on programs.

We're thinking about a Saturday spring outing. We would meet for lunch then visit a station. If you think you would be interested, let us know.

And, don't forget to let me know if you'll be working the Georgia QSO Party. I need to get the map filled in as much as possible the next couple weeks then start pushing for folks to work the open counties.

73 and Great DX
Norm, WA4ZXV

Vice Presidents Report:

2013 PICNIC and CHRISTMAS PARTY. We continue to work on both of these events. The Picnic will be held at a public park. Details will be forthcoming in the next month or two.



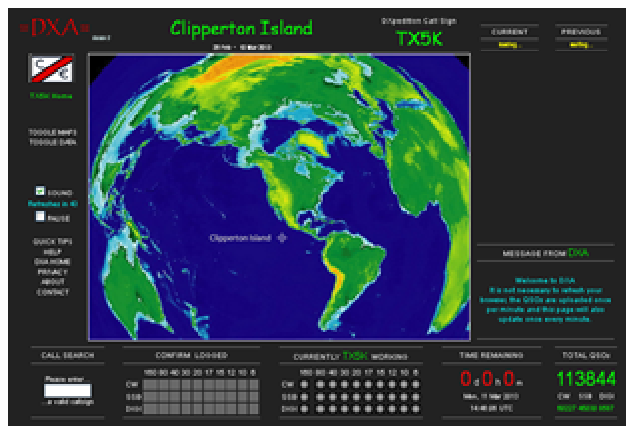
Our March meeting will be a "Show and Tell". All are invited to bring their favorite or funniest item to show. It must be able to fit through the doors, and you must be able to carry it in and out with only one helper.

A favorite rig, a favorite accessory, something home-brew, something new, or something borrowed. Something from the shack or maybe something you use when traveling. Bring in that waffle-cut potato from Chick-fil-A that you think looks like the "Wouff Hong"!

If it's something from your operating station, please remember how to put it back. This will be a great time to find something in the shack for the raffle table.

Hopefully everyone who need Clipperton got them "in the log". It seems the pile-up behavior continues to get worse with each new DXpedition. How did you like their near real-time online log? Not only could you

verify your QSO(s), you could see what bands and modes were on the air.



If you need the Solomon Islands and Temotu Island, Sigi Presch-DL7DF and two teams will put these entities on the air beginning on March 8th. Check DX World or their web-site for up to date news.



<http://www.dl7df.com/index.html>

9M4SLL will be QRV again from Pulau Layang Layang, Spratly Islands (IOTA AS-051) from March 10 to 18.



<http://www.grz.com/db/9M4SLL>

MEETING SPEAKERS

We now are working on speakers for the second half of 2013. Since the May meeting is the day before everyone heads to Dayton, we will not have a speaker that month. We are planning to show a DXpedition DVD.

Member suggestions and assistance in contacting potential meeting speakers is always welcomed!

73, Weymouth Walker - K8EAB
SEDXC Vice President

Treasurers Report:

I tried to get SW Ohio DX Assn to block a table for us, but they are leery of winding up with a bunch of partially sold tables, so they won't.

I will put something on the reflector asking for folks to send me a check and we'll do a group order for one table.

SEDXC Financial position as of February 28, 2013

Financial Report of Receipts and disbursements:

Beginning balance 2/1/2013	\$ 6,595.94
Receipts:	
One Half of Ham Jam	1538.17
Raffle Proceeds – Jan	70.00
Raffle Proceeds - Feb	41.00
Holiday Party receipts	150.00
Membership and badge	33.00
Disbursements:	
Ga QSO Party Plaque	30.00
Ending Balance 2/28/2013	\$ 8,398.11

Although the post office won't sell you an IRC, we will! I replenished our stock from Wey's collection of correctly stamped IRC's. Our price \$2.00. These IRC's are good through the end of the year.

Don't forget to sign up for the Dayton kick off dinner Thursday at the Stockyard Inn. It is always a lot of fun.

<http://www.sedxc.org/daytondinner2013.htm>

If you would like to sit with other SEDXC members at the SW Ohio DX banquet, I will order a table of tickets – provided there is enough interest in terms of pre-payment. Please, see my postings on the reflector.

73 es dx
Mike, ND4V

Activities Report:

Cancellation of the Kennehoochee Hamfest, originally scheduled for March 16, caused some changes in our Activity schedule. Our next scheduled event is the Atlanta Hamfest on June 1, 2013. We will plan for a table and will have a full complement of members available to discuss any and all things DX. Hope to see you there.

See you at the meeting on the 21st.

Cheers

73, Bill, AA4OC
Activities Manager

Here is one more column from Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, on a subject many of us have fought with and not always won.

Ferretting out noise sources

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About three months ago, I put up a 20m antenna—an end-fed, half-wave antenna (<http://www.kb6nu.com/kb6nu-finally-builds-an-end-fed-half-wave-antenna/>). Right off the bat, I was flummoxed by the high noise level. It was nearly S9, obliterating all but the strongest signals.

The strange thing about this noise was that I was only experiencing it on 20m, and only using this antenna. If I switched to my 40m dipole, the noise dropped back to the S1 - S2 noise level that I usually experience here. (Yes, I know. I'm really lucky to have such a low noise level here.)

It didn't really make any sense to me that this antenna would be so susceptible to noise while my other antennas weren't, but I just couldn't come up with any other explanation. I was not experiencing any noise on any of the other bands, after all. Sometimes 40m is so quiet here that I check to make sure that the antenna is connected to the radio.

As luck would have it, I stumbled upon the noise source a couple of days ago. I had taken the laptop I normally use in the shack somewhere one day last week, and when I returned it to the shack that evening, I switched the rig over to 20m before connecting the power supply back to the laptop. No noise! When I plugged the power supply into the laptop, the noise jumped up to S9 again. The problem noise source was found!

I posted about my experience to my blog and to the HamRadioHelpGroup (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HamRadioHelpGroup/>). Mark, K5LXP, one of the gurus on HRHG, advised me to throw the main circuit breaker in order to determine if it was something inside the house generating the noise. Bob, K0NR, commented on my blog post, "I have found that flipping off circuit breakers in my house is a good first step to try and find a noise source. Usually ticks off the family, but what the heck :-)" Either of these methods will help you determine if a noise source is inside or outside of your house.

I'm still thinking that the way my antenna is positioned may have something to do with its picking up the noise generated by the power supply. I plan to play around with the positioning of the antenna once the snow melts and see if that makes any difference. Until then, I can work 20m with the power

supply disconnected and run the laptop off the battery.

So, the next question you might ask is how does the antenna work? It seems to be putting out a very good signal. One evening last week, I worked several DX stations, including 6W/HAØNAR in Senegal. It's not a beam, but I'm pretty happy with it.

Well-----As Norm mentioned in his opening report this is my last edition of the SEDXC Bulletin. I never thought it would be this long however, it can't hold a candle to the time Rick, N4XMX, held the position. I started with the February 2008 edition and am closing with the March 2013 edition. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Bulletin and welcome Clark, WU4B, to the editorship and give him the same great cooperation.

73,

Jim Streible K4DLI

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SEDXC WEBPAGE

www.sedxc.org

SEDXC REFLECTOR

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