

Also represented was *Inside DX*, a DX tabloid published by N2AU which is reminiscent of the style of the now defunct *DX Report*. Details include 52 issues per year for the rate of \$30. K4GRD was everywhere with details of his Far East DXpedition/Tour of HL, BV, VS6, 9M6, 9M8, V85, & DU.

In the new dealers area DXing was very evident with booths for both W4 QSL Bureaus flanking the CDXA booth which featured W3AZD checking cards for DXCC credit. An interesting handout made available at the booth was a listing by number of the 160 Meter DXCC holders. A quick skim through the list noted quite a number of familiar callsigns. In the order of their numbers SEDXC members listed were: W4YWX (N4PN), K4UEE, K4PI, W4MGN, N4RJ, & N4NX. A popular item at the booth was the Howard Miller World Clock which went to one lucky raffle ticket holder in the Sunday drawing. Saturday night a number of the Atlanta group enjoyed the hospitality of the CDXA at their bash in the *Royal Palace* restaurant.



SCENES FROM CHARLOTTE

UPPER LEFT: The Eaters; K4DLI & XYL Ann, with WA4GOX & Neil

UPPER RIGHT: The Workers; W3AZD & Hope

LEFT: The Tired; W4WMQ, WA4VDE, & Neil
 Don't you think the old guy in the middle looks in better shape than the others on Sunday afternoon?

COMING HAMFEST;

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|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| April 19 | Kennehoochee | Marietta, Ga. |
| April 25-27 | Dayton Hamvention | Dayton, Ohio |
| May 3 - 4 | | Greenville, S.C. |
| July 19-20 | Atlanta Hamvention | Atlanta, Ga. |
| August 9-10 | | Jacksonville, Fl. |

DXCC Update

by Carol Shrader, WI4K

John Kanode, N4MM, ARRL Roanoke Division Asst. Director and Contest Committee Liaison, & Don Search, W3AZD, presented a forum at the Charlotte Hamfestival on March 23, 1986. Following is a report of the major items that they covered.

N4MM reported on the status of Contesting & Awards on the new WARC bands. All IARU regions have agreed to not allow contests on 10 MHz but there is no agreement between the regions on awards. Regions 1 & 3 have NOT disallowed awards on this band. In fact, contacts on 10 MHz WILL COUNT toward the IARU WAC award but not to 5BWAC. Our Region, Region 2, is in disagreement and has voted to allow NEITHER contests nor awards credit on 10 MHz. John stated that at a past Directors meeting K1KI made a motion to bring Region 2 in line with the other regions. The anti-contest and DXing element in the league not only voted this proposal down but also voted to try to convert the other regions to Region 2's thinking.

The new 24 MHz band is another story. The position of the league is that no ARRL contests will be allowed on this band until it becomes an exclusive Ham Band in 1989. The one exception to this is Field Day which will be allowed on 24 MHz. Contacts will count toward ARRL awards, though, such as DXCC. The only awards that the new band will not count towards are 5 & 6 band awards. The thinking behind this position is that, if this band were allowed towards 5 Band Awards, then an individual could get a 5 or 6 band award without ever having worked one of the low bands (80 or 160 meters).

If you have an opinion on DXing and Contesting on the WARC bands please write to your ARRL Director. They are interested in the feelings of their constituents. You can make a difference in the outcome of some of these votes by expressing your opinion!

Don Search, DXCC Manager, began with the *STILL DON'T COUNTS!* Contrary to the current rumors SU7LD still does NOT count for DXCC credit. Neither do stations from C9. The Priboloffs count for KL7 only and 4U1VIC counts only as Austria.

W3AZD stated that he doesn't know what will happen with country status for Aruba. It is now self governing under the Dutch government and has been assigned exclusive use of the P4 prefix. The only thing the Dutch government furnishes to Aruba is Defense & Foreign Policy. But usually change to an independent country status for DXCC comes only after total independence, which Aruba will gain in 1996. The DXAC now has all this information. If they decide to act on it there will be a 3 month discussion period followed by a 1 month vote after it is placed on the agenda. If the vote is YES then it is sent to headquarters to be taken up by the Awards Committee.

Another point discussed was the NZART policy paper submitted proposing the outlawing of DXpeditions and QSLing. N4MM stated that he felt that this was an individual opinion that *slipped through*. The paper was NOT adopted by the IARU and the feeling is that the New Zealand ham population DOES NOT agree with the report and is embarrassed by what happened.

The following is a copy of the proposal, submitted at the conference of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) in Auckland, New Zealand, in November 1985, by The New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART). The title of the paper was "DXpeditions and their effect on amateur radio".

This article has been printed in several bulletins and many of you may have already seen it. However, for those who have not here it is.

THE NZART SUBMISSION

In recent years it has become only too apparent that DXpeditions, which are mounted mainly to satisfy contenders for DXCC-type awards, are tending to bring the Amateur Service into disrepute; not only in the eyes of Administrations, but also within the service itself. This paper seeks to stimulate discussion and comment with a view to formulating proposals to alleviate the problem, should it be agreed to that there is one.

The prime motivation for the mounting of DXpeditions and the collection of "countries" is the DXCC-type of award with particular emphasis on Honor Rolls. This type of open-ended certificate encourages operations from incredible locations to satisfy the egos of a small but vociferous minority of radio amateurs.

Twenty years ago, or less, the world amateur radio population was nowhere near as large as it is today, and some skill was needed to operate equipment. The "pile-ups" created by the appearance of a signal from a rare country were reasonable and the majority of amateurs (which is those who are not interested in award hunting) were not greatly inconvenienced.

With the greatly increased number of amateurs seeking to use the available spectrum that is no longer true and the majority are being inconvenienced by the minority.

Because of the resulting interference, the "big guns" of the DX world resort to very high, and in most cases, illegal power to blast others off the air, and operate without regard for their fellow amateurs. Behaviour deteriorates rapidly into open abuse, not only of their fellow amateurs, but also of the unfortunate DX station they are trying to work.

Such activities are to the disadvantage of the amateur Service because they:

1. Encourage the use of excessive and illegal power levels to the dismay of Administrations and the inconvenience of the majority, who play by the rules.
2. Make a mockery of the Amateur Code.
3. Provide valuable evidence to be used against the Amateur Service by hostile Administrations.

More seriously, these activities deny the amateur in the smaller (and therefore rarer) countries their right to normal amateur operations. Every time they come on the air they are hounded off by the "paper-chasers" and many ultimately stop being radio amateurs, usually in disgust at the behaviour of some of their peers.

It seems to be beyond the comprehension of the avid DXer that many operators are not interested in spending their lives and their meager resources generating QSL cards. The loss of those who give up amateur radio is one the Amateur Service cannot afford; particularly as it affects those parts of the world in which strenuous efforts are being made to encourage amateur radio and to persuade Administrations that it is a worthwhile asset.

All DXpeditions inevitably contribute to the problems just described. Many are well-behaved. They operate within the radio regulations of the host country and do their best to control the behavior of the "pile-up" they have caused — just like treating a self-inflicted wound. Some even invite participation by local amateurs but generally nothing is done to involve them or help them in any way. So, it cannot be claimed that

DXpeditions help to promote amateur radio in developing countries. There is evidence to the contrary.

Unfortunately, there is now a number of professional or semi-professional "amateur" operators who openly ask for payment for QSL cards. Some do not use the QSL bureaus of the world and so deny the poorer amateurs the chance of getting a card. This kind of activity does not impress the developing countries at all; the very countries whose support for amateur radio is so desperately needed.

There is an elegant solution. It is for those who offer a DXCC-type award to make it available against proof of contact with 100 countries; no more, no less. At the stroke of a pen the problem can be solved. An alternate is to stop the farce of amateur "countries" and restrict the status of "country" to members of the ITU only.

The fight for the Amateur Service is unrelenting and continuous. Anything that brings it into disrepute must be carefully examined and, even if it is painful to some, action must be taken. There is little point in IARU activity promoting amateur radio and at the same time condoning activities which are detrimental to it.

Accordingly, NZART proposes:

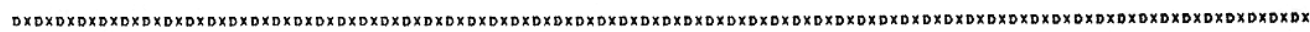
"That this conference recognises the problems caused by DXpeditions and urges the Administrative Council to make recommendations to members to help minimise its effects on the Amateur Service".

So here it is. From what I heard at the Charlotte Hamfest not many of the ZL hams agree with it and I don't think we will hear much more from it in the future.



HELP WANTED: Do you need help in finding an elusive DX country or two? Send your list to me and we will list them each month so someone can get credit for the helping hand by finding one for you. Don't forget to check each month and give these desirving a call and get your points towards this years GRAND PRIZE.

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|-------|-----------|-------|--------------|--------|-------------|
| N4NX | VK0M (CW) | WI4K | HS, XU | K4DLI | A51, 9M6 |
| N4DUG | F8BX | KC4TJ | VK9X, BV | W4LVM | 3X, 5V (CW) |
| N4RJ | BY (CW) | W4OWY | VK0M, BV | WI4R | C9, VK0M |
| N4IA | S2, XU | NU4N | JT, BY (SSB) | KN4KWD | ANY ZONE 23 |



T-SHIRTS, CLUB HATS, GOLF SHIRTS, and LOGO STAMPS

SEDX CLUB/DXPO LOGO T-shirts (medium and large only), hats, shirts, and logo stamps: PRICES ARE: T-shirts, \$5, hats, \$5; golf shirts, \$17; stamps \$7.50. Postage is: \$1 for T-shirts and hats; \$1.50 for golf shirts; and \$0.50 for stamps. CONTACT CAROL, WI4K.