



# SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

W4NT

THE  
SOUTH'S  
PREMIER  
DX CLUB

May 1996

## NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**-Steve Schmidt, KR4DL, President**

We probably are luckier than we know. We complain about the lack of sunspots, lousy conditions, antenna troubles. It could be worse. I had the good fortune to spend an evening with Alexander Klink, UA3IHY. He was here on business and had a permit from the Ministry Of Communications in Moscow to buy a specified radio. We shared a malt beverage and dinner, and we talked about life, living and hamming in our respective countries.

Things in Russia aren't as bad today as they were a decade or so ago, when you were investigated by the KGB for requesting an amateur radio license. However, hams in Russia still have to have permission to buy radios, with a certain specificity. He has built his own equipment so far. He has, from the sound of it, a rather nice homebrew transceiver. He's always lived in an apartment; they don't have mortgages in Russia.

When I asked if it was hard to get permission to install an antenna at his apartment, he smiled in a way that made me feel foolish. He made me feel like a big gun when he took a picture of my modest little 41' crank-up tower. He's never had anything but a bit of wire, it seemed. He didn't believe a beverage really worked until I showed him how much it improved LX1NO's signal on 80 meters (the propagation smiled on me this evening, I actually heard something through my antennas). What really stunned him was the packetcluster. He'd heard the word before.

My logging program and radio interface got his attention, too. He has internet access, so I showed him how to sign on to the DX and Contest reflectors. We tested his radio and played with mine late into the evening. I took him back to his motel; we shook hands

and promised to stay in touch on the internet. I wonder now if he thinks I'm a spoiled capitalist. Does he, perhaps, feel wistful at the opportunities here in the USA which are not available in his country? He opened my eyes to those opportunities, and I'm grateful. He also turned me into a technician. You may find it hard to believe, but it's true. I actually provided some significant help to him in the process of turning a Kenwood into a Yaesu.

After taking Alexander home it was quite late, about 0630z. I took a spin though the 80 meter band, then started tuning up through the 40 meter band. Around 7009, I heard a 559 signal sending at about 15 wpm with a relatively lengthy exchange. You guessed it, VK0WH on at an unpublished hour. I actually had a couple legitimate shots at him, missed when he went QRT. Did I say we're luckier than we thought? Warren's getting more active and all's right with the world in America. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting, which is right after Dayton. I'm sure there will be some interesting information and updates for DX, so it should be a good time.

73, Steve, KR4DL

## FROM THE VP

**-Sonny Marsh, KE4LDJ, VP**

Hello everyone. One of our new members, Keith Hylton, KE4TRG, will be our speaker for the next meeting. Keith is the ARRL technical specialist for the Georgia Region and will give a very informative presentation on the ARRL's technical information section. Antennas, tower restrictions, and RF interference will be discussed. Please bring your questions to the meeting and they will be addressed.

Keith has been working with me to help solve my interference problems. He has thoroughly impressed me with his knowledge (*continued p2*)

(continued from p1) and professionalism every step of the way. Please try to be at this meeting. I'm sure there will be something of interest for both the "old hands" and those with limited experience.

-73, Sonny, KE4LDJ

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## MINUTES, SEDXC MEETING 4/16/96

-Dick Bentley, K2UFT

### Meeting Minutes - April 16, 1996

KR4DL asked me to take minutes at the last meeting. When I looked at my notepad at the end of the meeting, it still said "To order, 7:35 PM." Thus, a brief summary: KR4DL presiding, all officers except Buddy, W4OUN present.

KR4UJ reported that the membership roster had been completed and would be distributed next month. KR4DL appealed for help with the arrangements and the execution of the hospitality suite at Dayton. Announced that N4HOH needed some help removing a 100 foot tower by end of month, tower awarded to the person(s) doing the work. This was also put out on the DXCluster and mentioned during drive time on 195. Announced that donations would be accepted until the end of the month for the upcoming Kermadec expedition.

K2UFT announced the fantastic array of forums that Delaine, KM4FV has put together for the June 8 - 9 Atlanta HamFestival: Al Hernandez, WA3YVN - Kermadecs Bill Wall, KC4UZ - Antennas Jim Stafford, W4QO - QRP John Talipsky, KI4Y - Packet Evelyn Gauzens, W4WYR - ARRL Bill Moore - DXCC Dave Shiplett - SE Repeater Association Mike Greenway, K4PI - EMI Power Line Noise Tracking Howie Gould, W4NVF - Beginners in Ham Radio Jeff Callahan, WB4UIE - MARS Bill Fisher, KM9P - Internet After a rather sparse 50-50 drawing, Nancy NK4U gave us a review of QSLing techniques using transparencies provided by NT5C. Meeting adjourned 9:30 PM.

K2UFT, Secretary Pro Tem

## BEEPS DE K2UFT

-Dick Bentley, K2UFT, Activities Director

Not much activities to crow about - seems like the sunspot cycle has cramped my style considerably. Looks like the only way I'm going to get JX7DFA is to invest in some RTTY equipment, although AA5AU is in FAX touch with Per and has forwarded our requests for some CW action.

Told N4XMX that I needed some inspiration so he suggested crowing about my loop antenna, talking about some of my CW adventures or how to follow the propagation when changing bands. As to the loop, its 260 feet around, more or less in a square, fed with 450 ohm feeders, up about 40 feet. It requires no rotators, no towers (assuming your trees are in the right place), is low-maintenance (replace the support ropes now and then), and works well on 160 thru 10.

As to performance, its gotten me 318 countries, all but 4 with 100 watts or less, and with the exception of Iran, without a microphone. As to relative performance, an illustration: Several weeks ago VK9NS showed up on 80 CW, I was there when he called CQ. N4AR worked him first (I assume 1500 watts and elaborate antenna) - I worked him second with 400 watts and the loop. If you've got patience and the op on the other end knows what he's doing, if you hear them you'll work them, the louder they are the easier it is for you.

As to CW adventures, a misadventure comes to mind. As soon as we got authorization to sign K200UFT, I got on 40 CW and was having a ball giving out QSOs until some sad sack who either took umbrance to my having fun or perhaps had someone else take the extra exam for him, decided he would drive me to distraction. He was pretty loud and had the uncanny ability to place his signal right in the pass-band I was listening in, no matter what adjustments I made - after several courses of him sending K2??... or "WHAT ARE YOU" and almost getting his call out - N5??? I just did the gentlemanly thing and pushed the off button.

Even better is the interloper that sends "HI" at the end, sometimes in the middle of a lengthy QSO I've had on CW with someone - this has happened to me many times on 40 CW - the only thing that ever comes from the interloper is "HI." Why on earth would any one spend an hour (continued on p3)

(continued from p2) or two listening to a conversation, never joining in and never identifying themselves. Are there Ham Voyeurs out there in the ether? These are imponderables, they defy my version of reason.

As to when to change bands, follow the propagation? This is starting my 4th sunspot cycle, somehow its just automatic!

73 Dick K200UFT

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**-Nancy Draheim, NK4U**

Balance 3/31/96 (Checkbook)	\$2049.61
Income:	\$656.00
Expenses:	
QSL buro and stamps for 160 plaques	11.09
Newsletter	90.06
Bank Charges (2 months)	20.00

Balance Checking 3/31/96	\$2584.46
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Of this balance, the following is included  
Packet Cluster Account \$1012.10 Kermadec Is  
DXpedition 55.00 (will be match by general treasury  
for total of 110.00) 160 CQWW Plaque Account  
640.00 This leaves the actual treasury balance of  
\$822.36. Our fiscal year ends on June 30th of each  
year so dues are due.

We (KR4UJ) is creating a comprehensive data  
base and would also like to have additional informa-  
tion not necessarily requested on the membership  
form, e.g., fax number, WWW path, etc., etc., etc.  
Also it's important to fill out the ARRL membership  
info, we need that for our Special Services Club status.

See you at the May meeting.

73, Nancy NK4U Treasurer

## DX TIDBITS

**-Rick, N4XMX**

Another short column! I love these. Kermadec!  
An all time new one. Good ops, reasonable propaga-  
tion, not bad! Worked hard on 15 SSB for the first  
QSO, then saw a spot for 17 SSB, hit a good 5 KHz  
split, made a quick call at 100w while the amp was  
warming up. One call! Works for me...

-CU in the pileups... Rick, N4XMX

## HAMFEST FORUMS

**-Delaine McCarty**

FORUMS FOR THE 1996 ATLANTA HAMFEST  
Saturday only  
ROOM I

9:30 John Talipsky - KI4Y Packet Radio  
10:30 Bill Fisher - KM9P Internet for Contest-  
ing and DXing

11:30 Bob Allphin - K4UEE/KP0Y Easter  
Island DXpedition

1:00 Al Hernandez - WA3YVN/KL8  
Kermadec Island DXpedition

2:00 Jeff Callahan - WB4UIE M.A.R.S.

### ROOM II

9:30 Jim Stafford - W4QO Fun with QRP

10:30 Howie Gould - W4NVF Beginners in  
Ham Radio

11:30 Dave Shiplett - AC4MU Southeastern  
Repeater Association

1:00 Jack Hill - W4PPT Boat Anchor Mail List  
- Internet

2:00 Bill Wall - KC4UZ Antennas

### ROOM III

9:30 Larry Keith - KQ4BY Bring Back the  
'57 Chevys of Ham Radio

10:30 Mike Greenway - K4PI EMI-Power  
Line Noise Tracking

11:30 Evelyn Gauzens - W4WYR Vice-Director,  
S.E. Division, ARRL

1:00 Gary Harrison - WA0RWS National Vice  
Pres. of Q.C.W.A.

2:00 Bill Moore - NC1L DXCC Desk ARRL