



# SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

W4NT

*THE  
SOUTH'S  
PREMIER  
DX CLUB*

May 1997

## **NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION**

**Tuesday, May 20th, 7:30 PM, Old Hickory House in the Days Inn, Roswell Rd., just inside I-285.**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**-Steve Schmidt, K4WA, President**

It was Monday night and I finally had my chores done. About ten o'clock local; I had a little time to look around the bands before going to bed. I started at the bottom of the 30 meter band and tuned slowly up. At 10105.4 I heard a signal that sounded like DX..about 559, with a nice fist, calling CQ. There, he signed..hey, it's Jacky, 3B8CF! Nice signal from Mauritius tonight. Jacky confirmed my first 3B8 on 30 meters. I posted it to the Mega cluster and tuned on. There, at 10109.7, a weak signal with a trace of polar flutter. RW6AW, in QSO with a W2. Nothing new there..I tuned on. The Mega cluster posts kept setting off the DX Base alarm, mostly with Europeans spotting things on 15 and 17 meters I couldn't possibly hear. At 10112.5, I found WL7VO, not rare, but a new one for me on 30 meters. I worked him and debated going to 40 or 20 meters. Some thunderstorms in the area were making noise on 30; I could only imagine 40 would be worse. I switched to 20 and started at the bottom. Lots of EUs and some Russian prefixes with polar flutter, but nothing rare. I decided to go to bed and hope for a good morning before I had to leave for work.

A couple years ago, I had some fairly productive times tuning through the bands and posting new spots. I remember one time, after work, I had a wild run of reasonably good DX, posting almost 30 spots (good ones, too; no garden variety Europeans) in 40 minutes on 17, 20 and 30 meters. Found my first A6 that afternoon, high in the Phone portion of the 20 meter band. Posted some other goodies, too, like an OX3 on 20 CW, and a 3A on 30 meters. It was nice getting talk messages from guys saying "thanks for the spot; that was a new one for me" and "nice spots." Near the end of my torrid run, one fellow in Tennessee

sent, "Quick, check ur tower, ur rotors on fire!" It's been a long time since I could find that kind of DX on the bands. The Mega cluster seems to stifle some of my creativity, too. With so many spots flying by, it's hard to believe you can actually be the first one to spot something. Maybe the morning will prove me wrong.

I woke up late, but still managed to start some coffee on my way downstairs to the shack. I flipped on the radio, the amp and the cluster. Hmm..BS7H/MM working away on 14024.0..I tune there to see how strong his signal is. Pretty good; this trip may just give me that new one I've been missing for a while! I try to work him, distracted a bit by the coffee and my fumbling attempts to find something for breakfast. The DX Base alarm is going off again. Hey, it's a 9V, one I need for a new one! I tune down to 14009.5, where he was spotted. Someone's calling the 9V with a loud signal, but there's no response. I listen a little longer; the caller tries again, but you can almost hear the pessimism in his fist. After a minute, we both give up. I tune back up to the BS7H/MM frequency and try to figure out the guy's pattern. It's not easy; he seems to be moving his listening frequency around in a random fashion. The DX Base alarm is going off again, but I ignore it, lulled to sleep by the spots I surely can't hear.

I'm not getting anywhere with the BS7..I finally look over at the computer screen to see what I may have missed. Hey! V85YC..it's Brunei! Another one I need. I spin the dial over to 14012.0 in a panic. Man, he's been spotted twice! I hear him right away, just catching him in a lull between callers. He has a decent signal; he's workable. He works one, and then quite a few people start calling him. It's going to be tough. I eye the clock nervously; only fifteen minutes left before I have to leave for work. I join the fray, sending my call three times because of the size and duration of the pile. I listen..he's already coming back to somebody else. When he signs, I listen for a second and send my call twice. Nope, came back to someone else again. Loud signals, too. These guys must all be running the legal limit. I keep trying, (continued p2)

# SEDXC MINUTES 3/97

## -Randy Tudor, K4ODL, Sec.

The meeting was called to order by K4WA Steve. Introductions were made and the guest list was passed for everyone to sign. Minutes approved from the last meeting. Steve ask if anyone has worked any thing good? ZL9 was worked.

Old business - The new SEDX badges are here. See Nancy to get your badge. The cost is \$6.50. If you still need a new badge they can be ordered from the Cap and Badge Man. Paul - K4UJ gave an update on the Megacluster. Don't forget - we will have a booth at the Atlanta Hamfest June 21 and 22. We need to have some people to work the booth. The ARRL will have a rep there to check cards. The Atlanta HamFestival will be at the City Hall East Exhibition Center (the old Sears building on Ponce de Leon). Check out their web site <http://www.saf.com/arc>.

New business - Ben W3BZ will be selling all of his ham equipment. Please give Ben a call for details.

We still need a few people to work on the committee for the slate of officers for next year. Please let Steve know if you would like to help. We currently have two.

Steve ask if anyone was willing to help in Dayton this year with the Hospitality room? We did not get much help last year and the Club lost money. We still have some of the "Drinks" left from last year that could be used if we want to work with the K.C. club. If you are going to Dayton please try to help out on Friday night. See Steve to schedule some time to help.

Announcements - BS7H April 30 for one week FT5ZG Feb. - Nov. 97 3C0? May 20 - 27 7O? May for one year KH7K/N2NB May 17-23 Maybe

Program - We had an excellent program on VK0IR by K4UEE. Thanks to Bob for sharing the video. This was one of the very best programs ever. If you would like a copy of the Official Expedition Video please order from K7BV - cost \$25.00 plus \$3.00 postage.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### -Nancy Draheim, NK4U

Balance 3/31/97 (Checkbook)	\$1595.77
Income:	\$685.00
Expenses:	
Bank Charges	10.00
April Newsletter	60.48
Door Prizes	40.96
Balance Checking 4/30/97	\$2169.33**

Dues are due next month. Enclosed you will find a new membership application which is just a little different. Please take time to fill it out so we can update our roster. I have assumed the membership duties, so if there are any changes during the year, please send them to me via the mail, P.O. Box, or E-Mail. My antennas are still down so hold the packet cluster messages for a while.

Hope all who traveled north to mecca had a great time and brought back some good stories. I'm really jealous because I had to skip this year because of my second mortgage payment (in the form of a new car) but I'll be back next year.

Hope to see all at the May meeting. For those who missed last month, you missed a really great personal presentation on Heard Island. Hope everyone got their QSL with the SEDXC logo prominently displayed.

73, Nancy NK4U Treasurer

## Nominating Committee Report

### Mike Greenway, K4PI Dick Bentley, K2UFT

We were appointed by President Steve Schmidt, K4WA, to secure candidates for the various club offices for the coming year. We were delighted to have K4ODL, NK4U and K2UFT volunteer to continue in their roles as Secretary, Treasurer and Activities Manager, respectively. We considered the membership role carefully as to those individuals we thought could do the job as President and Vice President and offered the positions accordingly. Without exception, we have received negative responses from all whom we asked.

It would seem to us that we are at point in the history of the SEDXC where we are forced to take one of three paths: dissolve the club, continue to have monthly meetings as we always have with the continuing officers rotating responsibilities, or we could continue to meet as an „eating% club with discussions and eyeball QSOs during and after dinner with an occasional program as the spirit moves the crowd.

Mike and I are in favor of the third alternative with the idea of allowing the club to coast for a year or so, in the hope that what we really need is some sunspots to revitalize the club.

The Constitution provides that the existing officers will continue in their roles until a succeeding slate is elected. Steve, K4WA and Paul, K4UJ have made it clear that they do not want to continue in an official capacity (other than member). To let them off the hook and not force them to get themselves off by resigning, we suggest suspension of that portion of the Constitution for one year.

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## **BEEPS DE K2UFT**

### **-Dick Bentley, K2UFT, Activities Director**

For those of you not subscribed to the DX Reflector, here's Carl Henson's response to those who seemed to be questioning his motives with regard to the disallowance of the most recent 7 Oscar operation: Date: Fri, 11 Apr 1997 16:08:40 -0700 From: "Carl D. Henson" <wb4znh@voyager.net> Subject: [DX] Yemen I do not currently subscribe to the DX reflector, so any responses to this should be directed to me.

I was advised recently that my name and call has been bandied about in regard to the DXCC decision to not count Zorro's and Franz's recent DXpedition to Yemen. In the interest of fairness to K5FUV, I feel it necessary to explain my involvement.

When Zorro and Franz came on from Yemen, it was announced that they would be on for approximately 4 days. Well, I have been trying for a 70 license for quite some time, and as many of you know I travelled to the capitol, Sana'a in the fall of 1995, in that pursuit. Martha and I could stay for two or three weeks and I knew that even as good operators as Zorro and Franz are, they could not do enough in 4 days to keep me from having a LOT of fun.

During our visit to Yemen, we became acquainted with and became friends with Eng. Abdel Gader Ibrahim, the Director General of Telecommunications. Mr. Ibrahim very kindly promised that if the licensing situation ever changed that he would notify us, so we could return and operate from Sana'a. When

Zorro and Franz came on from Yemen, I was sure that they had somehow "broken the code" and had made it past the barrier that Martha and I found. So naturally, I telephoned Mr. Ibrahim and though I cannot remember the exact words I used, I essentially said, "Well, now that amateur radio has been allowed in Yemen, Martha and I would like to come and operate." Mr. Ibrahim responded without hesitation that nothing had changed since my visit and that if I was hearing amateurs from Yemen, that they were operating illegally. I dropped the subject and said good-bye, giving no details of who or where they were operating for fear that doing so might endanger their lives or at least their freedom.

I contacted K5FUV and gave him the details of our conversation. Bill asked me to make some more inquiries of Mr. Ibrahim and we decided that we would wait until Zorro and Franz were out of the country. When we knew that they had gone home, I phoned Mr. Ibrahim again and we had a long conversation about the situation, with Mr. Ibrahim indicating that he would do some investigating on his end to see who might have authorized such an operation. Since this was a matter for the DXCC desk to decide, not me, I e-mailed all the information that I had including Mr. Ibrahim's telephone numbers to K5FUV.

Incidentally, Mr. Ibrahim is interested in becoming an amateur when amateur radio is permitted in his country. 73, Carl, wb4znh/8

You missed a great show if you didn't attend the April meeting. After quickly moving through the business portion of the meeting, and bowing to the wishes of those in the crowd shouting "PENGUINS, PENGUINS!," K4WA turned the floor over to Bob, K4UEE. Bob presented the A#1 first class video showcasing all the aspects of the VK0IR operation, threw in a few slides of his own, and then distributed a few bags of sand to some of the deserving in our midst. I realize now that I should have scrapped the story about trying to help K4UJ nail VK0IR in favor of the "my mother-in-law collects sand" gambit. Win some, lose lots!

We're still looking for Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates for the upcoming year. If you would like to take your turn at bat, or know of someone who should, contact K4PI or K2UFT.

Don't forget: May 10: ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprint 902, 1296, 2304 Mhz May 10-11: Nevada QSO Party May 17-18: ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprint 50 Mhz May 17 - Armed Forces Day, - EU Spring Sprint CW May 24-25: CQWW WPX CW June 21-22: Atlanta HamFestival (get your QSLs checked by NC1L)