



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

W4NT

THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB

June 1997



K4UJ photo

NEXT MEETING TIME & LOCATION
Tuesday, June 17th, 7:30 PM, Old Hickory House
in the Days Inn, Roswell Rd., just inside I-285.

THE USUAL GANG OF SUSPECTS...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

-Steve Schmidt, K4WA, President

(continued from last month) eyeing the clock as the minutes, and my chances, tick away. Seems like he's calling stations that are up just slightly. I set my transmit frequency up just a hair and try to find a hole in the QRM. It's time to leave, but I hang in for a couple more calls, hoping to get that lucky shot. Just as I'm about to turn off the rig, he changes his pattern and sends an "SK" at the end of a QSO. There's a

pregnant pause as the pileup tries to digest the change. I frantically drop my call one time and listen. Lots of guys calling him now, but he's coming back to someone..could it be me? Sounded like he sent a "W," but I can't be sure. I wait, and the callers trail off. "K4W? 599" Yahoo, I got him! I send my call a couple times, a generous 579, and a 73. "R K4WA TNX 579 73 SK"

He was a good operator. Of course, they all get a little better when they work you. With BS7H on the horizon and an Annobon operation coming up, things are looking up. Maybe it's time to start prowling the bands again. -End. (Steve's June article p2, promise!)

K4WA's June Article:

I recently read a letter to the editor in QST in which the writer was complaining about the ARRL's recommendations for changes to the amateur licensing requirements. He seemed especially upset about the failure to eliminate the three-tier code requirement and stated that "the Internet will continue to grow due to unenthused and disgruntled amateurs." Those comments stuck with me, for some reason. I find them somewhat amusing.

Hey, don't get me wrong. I like the Internet as much as the next guy. Comparing DXing, contesting, or simple ragchewing on the radio to cruising the 'Net is just silly. Can you picture DXing on the 'Net? Doesn't sound like much of a challenge there. The big pileups will just cause a breakdown in servers and bandwidth, causing some to wring their hands and complain about the new breed of users not being as courteous as the old. I think I've already worked most of the active countries, the trick will be to get phone lines to Peter I, Heard and Bouvet.

Then there's contesting, how much e-mail can you send out in a 48-hour period? Do you need to get a response from the recipient of your e-mail to have it qualify, or can you just "Spam" everybody? Gee, that sounds like fun. Ragchewing works okay on the 'Net, I suppose. You pretty much know whom you're going to talk to. Somehow it just loses some of its innate charm without a good CQ. Tough to CQ on the 'Net. I guess that's what chat rooms are for.

After you get past the operating differences, there are still the physical differences between the radio and computer worlds. No matter how you slice it, the bandwidth from 14,000 kHz to 14,350 kHz is 350 kHz. In the computer world, a megabyte isn't, a 14" screen isn't, a 33.6K modem doesn't, and a "three-hour" laptop battery won't. With an old Collins radio, you can still work the world. With a 1200 baud Hayes modem, you can't even work your local Post Office.

Maybe I'm old-fashioned. Maybe I've heard too many cries for "dumbing down" licensing requirements. Perhaps I'm wrong; I just get the idea that the disgruntled writer would like to have us hold code tests that are labeled 20 wpm, but actually run at 13 wpm. Maybe I should look him up in a chat room and ask him.

I'll look for you at the next meeting. Rick has promised to include the last part of last month's column in this issue. Stay tuned for the exciting finale to this article in next month's issue. -73 Steve, K4WA

VP SIGNALS

-Paul Pescitelli, K4UJ, VP

Well the meeting last month was a welcomed short one. After a luxurious weekend in beautiful downtown Dayton, I had about all of Ham Radio I could take in one week. For those of you who did not make it to Dayton or to the meeting, let me reiterate this: I had dozens of people stop to chat with me about the club and some of its members. K4ISV, K4UU and others passed on a southern HOWDY! (and a few snide comments) to N4RJ, K4JPD, and others, which I have since forgotten due to some clear Russian liquid that kept making its way into my orange juice. After talking with all those people I had reassurance that the Southeastern DX Club is alive and well (they obviously have not been to a meeting recently), and very well respected. Several told me that we had the best hospitality suite going Friday night. Many thanks to Paul Hansen for tending bar so Steve and I could mingle at some other Hospitality Suites.

This month's program will be given by Tom W8JI. If you missed his last presentation you will surely want to attend this one. Topic of discussion? Ha, should you really ask! Tom is going to explain the workings of antennas, probably centered around dipoles and yagis. Bring your notepad and a big appetite.

73 - Paul K4UJ

SEE YOU AT THE HAMFEST!!!

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.

SEDXC MINUTES 5/97

-Nancy Draheim, NK4U

The meeting was called to order by Paul K4UJ because President Steve, K4WA, who had recently returned from Dayton, had to go out-of-town to work so he could pay for all those 'bargains' he purchased.

Paul reported that the SEDXC hospitality suite was a success and that the Kansas City DX Club (who sponsors the hospitality suite on Saturday night) has suggested that, instead of sponsoring the suite on separate nights, the two clubs pool their resources and jointly sponsor the suite for the two nights. SEDXC would have the responsibility for entertainment (CW contest) on one night, and the KCDXC would do it the second night. The KCDXC would be responsible for purchasing the drinks. A motion was made and SEDXC and KCDXC jointly sponsor the hospitality suite in Dayton next year and it was carried.

For the record, Phil Latta, W4GTS, has volunteered to help with the distribution of the CQWW 160 plaques.

Volunteers were requested to work at the Atlanta Hamfest.

The Club is desperately seeking volunteers for officers for the next year. If anyone is remotely interested, please contact an officer.

Nominations for the Club's 'Ham of the Year' were requested. Please contact Steve, K4WA, if you have any suggestions.

There was a discussion regarding Paul's 'Mega Cluster', including other packet clusters which were accessing it. Paul indicated that he was in need of further funding for start-up costs and N4XMX immediately wrote him a check. Unfortunately, he made it payable to SEDXC so a motion was made and carried that the amount of the check be forwarded to Paul.

A discussion was held on the Scarborough Reef Dxpediton.

Once again, if anyone wants a new SEDXC name badge, please contact: Marquis Engraving P.O. Box 652 Fairforest, SC 29336 1/800/579-3039

73, Nancy, NK4U Secretary
because no one else would do it

BEEPS DE K2UFT

-Dick Bentley, K2UFT, Activities Director

Having missed the last meeting due to a conflict

with the Atlanta Ham Festival planning meeting, I have little to report on. Hopefully you have mulled over the negative report of the Nomination Committee and have formed some opinion as to the direction the club oughta be taking. At the moment, that direction seems to me to be "west" rather than Southeast as it should be.

The Atlanta Ham Festival is taking shape nicely, with the following commercial vendors signed on: HRO, Ramsey Electronics, Alpha/Power, Kenwood, Wireman, C&J Radio, Electronics Unlimited, RT Systems, The Signman of Baton Rouge, Vibroplex, Bearcat, H & L Computers, MFJ, Ameritron, Mirage, Vectronics, Horizon Sales, WB0W (that's a callsign!), and Paccomm. SEDXClub will be in Booth 701 and we will have Bill Moore, NC1L, from the League checking cards so you can bring those exotic ones in for checking and avoid losing them in the mail. The League will be hanging out in Booth 700. About 1/2 of the Flea Market Tables have been sold (in doors and air-conditioned). The Boneyard will be a covered level of the parking deck, drive up and sell your boat anchors!

Good news is our furthest flung member (at the moment) K4DG (M0AOP)(ex N4REE) will be flying in from Gatwick and staying at the K2UFT household in addition to enjoying the show. Say HI to Dale when you see him. CU next meeting

73 - Dick, K2UFT

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Nancy Draheim, NK4U

Balance 5/1/97 (Checkbook)	\$1484.33
Income:	\$1459.50
Expenses:	
Bank Charges	10.00
May Newsletter	68.40
Dayton Hosp. Rm	200.00
K4UJ Megacluster	150.00
Outgoing QSL cards	8.00
Balance Checking 6/1/97	\$2507.43*

* As part of this balance, \$845.15 is from the Cluster Fund and \$859.20 is from the CQWW Plaque Fund. The actual SEDXC balance is \$803.08. As is obvious above, SEDXC is not going to sponsor any DXpeditons right now. Dues are due and hopefully that should put us in pretty good shape for the next fiscal year. Hope everyone had a great time at the Atlanta Hamfest. See y'all at the next meeting.

73, Nancy, NK4U, Treasurer