

# SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

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**DX**  
CLUB

DX Alert 147.500S  
also 147.795T/.195R

DX Ragchew 147.470S,  
.540S, .795T/.195R

Meeting Date: August 16, 1983

Time: 7:30 PM (Local)

Place: Lutheran Church at  
the corner of Peachtree and  
Narmore. (2 blocks North of  
Phipps Plaza on the left.)

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THE JULY MEETING had a rather slim turnout. Maybe we can blame the 100-degree weather. The Kingman Reef I slides were interesting to compare with our recollections of more recent operations from Kingman and Palmyra. The part about agent orange on Johnston Island was much more meaningful than the first time I saw those slides. (S. Turnout was NOT one of the operators from KJ6DO/KH5, he was on from ZA.)

THE BUDGET was approved as recommended with one amendment providing that if DXPO should finish in red ink that money not used by December 31 (with the exception of the EMERGENCY/1984 CARRYOVER FUND) will be used to offset such possible losses.

THE AUGUST MEETING will feature a movie film. "To Win the World" is a good movie about an attempt by N2AA to win the CQWW Phone. The only short coming I found (Martha and I saw it at the Kansas City Hamfest) was the cast was all Yankees! My regional prejudice is showing! You Southern Contester bring your notebooks!

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CONTEST CORNER - The August Contest is 30 Meters (10 Mhz.) and the mode is CW (of course). Scores must be in to W6OKX by the September meeting and the plaque will be awarded at the October meeting.

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## STRAYS

WELCOME HOME Lee Sheridan, W6OKX / FP0HZC, from St. Pierre. Lee really enjoyed the trip in spite of all the work. Program soon?

DX RUMOR - XU1SS, August 10, all Japanese operators (plus S. Turnout.)

Congratulations to Paul Newberry, N4PN, on confirmation of his LAST DXCC country. Paul still needs 2 on phone and 6 on CW to complete the set! Seems like something of an "OVER-ACHIEVER" to me!

Congratulations to Ben, K4EZ, and Frances Adams on the celebration of their recent 50th Wedding Anniversary!

W400Z, Everett Brooks has been back in the hospital for another bypass operation. Get Well Soon, Everett!

CHANGE the phone number for George, WA4WLZ, to 294-8119.

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DXPO will NOT be Labor-day Weekend! It will be rescheduled, more to be announced soon!

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The Southeastern DX Club offers FREE license renewal reminder service to members. Only a few members have provided their expiration dates and already we have notified about 6 members of "time to renew." The database does NOT contain the expiration dates for the following list of people. Send the month and year of expiration to WB4ZNH.

AA4GA, AE4Q, AE4Z, K3KG, K4AHJ, K4BAM, K4EZ, K4MQG, K4RIG, K4ROZ, K4RPK, K4SE, K4YXJ, KA4S, KB4I, KB4IT, KB4TS, KC4IR, KC4IT, KC4M, KC4MJ, KC4OH, KC4UC, KD4UH, KN4KWD, KX4R, N4BFA, N4BNK, N4DVW, N4HU, N4NX, N4OE, N4OL, N4OM, N4PN, N4RJ, N4VZ, N4WQ, NF4A, NN4K, NT4W, NZ4Z, W4BBP, W4CEB, W4DXI, W4GBU, W4GIW, W4GKF, W4HR, W4JD, W4MGN, W4MWT, W4NET, W4NL, W4OOZ, W4UYC, W8QFR, WA4AHD, WA4BCY, WA4FVT, WA4HNL, WA4NIB, WA4OMI, WA4OPV, WA4OQL, WA4PBW, WA4QMQ, WA4REF, WA4SSU, WA4WLZ, WA4YED, WB4CSW, WB4JRL, WB4NDX, WB4RUA, WD4FWE, WD4LRB, WG4S.

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#### MEET THE DXERS

In the summer of 1956, a 13-year old boy (who looked more like 9) took a code class. Two weeks into the class, the young lad from Macon, Georgia, was copying a phenomenal 15 WPM! Hugh's love for the code is evidenced several ways. He has never submitted any cards for DXCC except for the CW award. The little boy from Macon holds either #2, or #3 place in the CW DXCC! Hugh received the call KN4LRO that summer with a 9Ø Watt Globe Chief (I accused him of running illegal power!) for a transmitter and HIS GRANDMOTHER'S CONSOLE MODEL, SILVERTONE (Sears) SHORT WAVE RADIO for a receiver. Now the old Silvertone was strictly an AM receiver and was years before SSB and DID NOT have any Beat Frequency Oscillator for CW. Hugh used an AM transistor radio sitting on top of his grandmother's radio for a BFO. When he found a CW signal (poof, poof) he just tuned the transistor until he found a frequency that would beat with it and produce the tone so he could copy it! His antennas were dipoles.

Hugh Valentine did not remain a Novice long and was soon chasing DX with a Heath-kit DX-1ØØ on AM phone. Paul Newberry, N4PN, was his QRM; Paul lived about 2 miles away with a real beam and a Kilowatt. Hugh said Paul called stations Hugh couldn't even hear! His first "REAL" DX was EL2F on AM. Hugh described his antenna as a Catfish Special. Imagine a wooden frame with TV lead stand-offs (insulators removed) screwed into the wood frame in a manner necessary to support 4 each 12-foot long bamboo fishing poles. Each bamboo pole was wrapped in aluminum foil first, then covered with tape and fed direct.

Back in those days, Hugh suffered a lot of TVI problems. The 21 Mhz. IF of the early TVs was rough on Hams. Hugh admitted to wiping out TVs at Pinkerton's TV and Appliances TWO MILES away and dear Old Lady Sweeney, two houses away knew Hugh was the source of her problem

because she was watching TV one night and the interference was so strong that she could See Hugh sitting in front of his radio on her TV! Old Lady Sweeney is the reason Hugh lives out in the woods now!

Hugh Valentine received the callsign "N4RJ" a few years ago and became custodian of the Southeastern DX Club callsign, W4NT. Hugh's CW total is 31Ø and his competitive spirit has resulted in several DX contest wins. Val was part of the VP2KC, 1979 World Record Smashing Team, and has held the World and North America 21 Mhz. Phone records. He also held North America 21 Mhz. CW record. Val broke the World record but someone else broke it higher the same year. From his Multi-op station he has won the World in a Russian Contest and has won North America in a European DX Contest. N4RJ almost always places very high.

Hugh told me several funny stories about the crazy things that go on at a serious contest operation, like climbing the tower at 2-3 AM in the driving rain to move a sloper for a particular, rare station or one not so funny about lightning. Val was operating in the WPX Contest last March and his wife Anne called downstairs to him that it was lightning outside and he should not operate during the storm. Shortly after he ignored her warning, Hugh's station took a direct hit. Hugh felt a surge of power go down his arm at the same instant the lights all exploded! The two-meter power supply blew apart and caught on fire. Unknown at that moment, a G-7 Hustler antenna was raining in very small bits to the ground and the melted aluminum was running onto the other parts of the antenna. The resulting loss was approximately \$3ØØ. Two-meter rigs, antenna rotors, and power supplies were all damaged. The Heliac to that G-7 was actually melted. This was Val's THIRD lightning strike, one of the prices you sometimes pay for having a BIG GUN station. Hopefully, Hugh has used up his share of bad lightning luck! He claims that he will never again operate during a storm, but I am afraid I don't believe it!

I hope you had half the enjoyment meeting Hugh Valentine as I had talking to him and hearing about his experiences. Thanks, Val.

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FOR SALE - VIC-2Ø Computer, used less than 5 hours, \$65. Call Allen Bond, WB4GNT, at (4Ø4) 973-6251.

FOR SALE - OR TRADE - Tet 3 element, HB4ØM3, 40 Meter Broadband Mono-bander, current list \$38Ø, sell for \$15Ø or trade for 2 Meter FM or a pair of 3-4ØØZs. Call Dave, K4JRB, at 448-Ø588.

FOR SALE - MFJ-941B antenna tuner, 3ØØ watt with built-in swr bridge, \$45. Call Ernie Zingleman, KS4Q, at (4Ø4) 979-9147.

FOR SALE - 5Ø foot Rohn-Spalding 25G Tower with hinged base-plate, turnbuckles, and strain insulators. George will deliver in the Atlanta area for \$2ØØ. He also has 28ASR RTTY Terminal with everything needed to put it on the air except a TU, \$225. Call George, WA4WLZ, at 294-8119. Please make note of George's phone number change for the book.

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WORLD RADIO NEWS had an interesting Contesting Column in the August issue. It was a partial reprint of a letter written to the DX and Contest Advisory Committees of the ARRL. The perpetrator is one Yardley Beers, WØJF. To my knowledge Mr. Beers has no credentials except to have been a Ham for a long time. While, in fact, being around for a long time does have significant meaning, it appears to me that Ole Yard didn't pay close attention while time went by!

Please send me your opinions and perceptions on this letter as I have accepted an invitation to be a panelist at the ARRL National Convention in Houston this October. One of the panels I have agreed to participate in involves WØJF's proposals. Maybe you club members will find something of value which I might have missed. Due to space restrictions, I will have to paraphrase Mr. Beers' letter. If possible, get a copy of WORLD RADIO NEWS and read "The ART of Contesting."

Yardley has become distressed with the trivial nature of many QSOs on the bands, especially contests. He is also distressed by the obsession of DXers to contact rare DXCC countries. He later on describes how DX pileups intrigue and hypnotize him. It seems Mr. Beers is really only concerned with keeping trivial places off the air. Uninhabited places such as coral reefs and barren rocks are so trivial (hard to work?) that QSOs with them are meaningless.

Mr. Beers claims to feel we have 4 obligations as Amateurs. 1) To provide communications. (He doesn't say for whom we should provide these but does say we should REALLY do it when we are the only means available and especially in emergencies. The phone company maybe?) 2) To provide training in operating radio stations. (HMMMMM....) 3) To acquire and disseminate information concerning: a) electronic technology as applied to telecommunication and b) propagation of radio waves. 4) To promote better understanding between the peoples of the world. Operations from these trivial places do none of these, therefore they should not be on the DXCC list. (Besides I don't think Ole Yard has much luck working them!)

WØJF would make recognition by the United Nations a requirement for DXCC. The countries would have to issue currency and postage stamps on a REGULAR basis as well. He would make an exception where the country was divided between two continents. (Sounds like he has that Italian island off the coast of Africa confirmed, gang!)

Ole Yard is apparently opposed to contributing to DXpeditions, except after the fact as reimbursement of ACTUAL postage costs. His main argument here is that DXpeditioners receive "other" compensation. After all, they are on vacations and they do enjoy it anyway. They gain prestige and their experiences are the basis of slide shows and magazine articles. (Maybe we can get Ole Yard to come speak at DXPO and I will personally give him every penny I have EVER received from doing a slide show or magazine article! He should jump at that since he was present when Martha presented the Uganda slide show in Denver!)

I did find something to agree with Mr. Beers on. He said contesting and DXing are intimately related. From here on out we are widely

divergent. Old Yard must want to have a whack at winning a big contest. He wants to handicap the strong stations by allowing them only 3 contacts per country. Using his criteria for a country, the maximum number of QSOs a contest station could possibly have would be in the neighborhood of 300 per band. His objective is to increase competition with the QRP stations.

(Mr. Beers seems to be a case of arrested development from the 1920s. It is NOT relevant whether a way of doing something is "the old way" or "the modern way". Sometimes modern is better and sometimes old is better. Better should be the reason. After Martha gave the gratis showing in Denver, Old Yard wrote me a letter and explained how he planned to save us from this dangerous hobby. I responded with some snide comment about him wallowing in mediocrity and please don't ask the rest of us to join him. Please give me your ideas and if I have erred in my analysis and/or reasoning please let me know where. -ed)  
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FLORIDA SKIP and W5YI REPORT both report that DXer, W400, Gene Sykes had allegedly had a falling out with CLOSE neighbor and a fellow DXer, W4PZV, Hank Luhrman, which resulted in Gene being accused of intentional interference. One of the charges was that Gene would transmit on the 40 Meter band and QRM Hank with his second harmonic. They DO live that close! Intentional interference has yet to be proved against Gene. However, he has received a citation for running illegal power in the 40 Meter Novice band. The implication stated by the FCC was that it is quite difficult to prove intention, but the excessive power was a fact and easy to prove.

I know both of these fellows personally and consider both as friends. If Gene was intentionally interferring then hopefully he has gotten the message and has quit this destructive activity.

There is a lesson to be learned here. It can well be applied to TVI cases as well. 1) Keep the lines of communication open, EVEN if it does seem like YOU are the only one trying to communicate. 2) Be friendly even if it is feigned. As hard as it is to do, it is still easier than trying to reconstruct a friendly attitude and can make the crow much tastier if you find out that you REALLY ARE wrong. 3) Never ever give in to the temptation to QRM. No long range good can possibly come from it and you could easily endanger your license and most of all your reputation!

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EXCERPTS from the FEDERAL REGISTER / VOL. 48, NO. 140 / Rules and Regulations. 47 CFR Part 97: [FCC 83-298] Business Communications in the Amateur Radio Service. Action: Final Rule

SUMMARY: This document amends the Amateur Radio Service Rules to state more clearly the prohibition against an amateur radio operator transmitting business messages. The amendment is necessary in order to make explicit the implied prohibition that business messages are prohibited for non-third party communications.

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(2)....It should be noted, however, that there are no restrictions as

to message content when an amateur radio communication directly relates to the IMMEDIATE safety of the LIFE of an individual or the IMMEDIATE protection of property. For Example, an amateur radio operator may use an amateur station to obtain emergency roadside assistance when the overriding consideration is the saving of human life. On the other hand, an amateur radio station may not be used for a medical or law enforcement communication which DOES NOT fall within the exception of IMMEDIATE DANGER to life or property. For example, using an amateur station to call in a medical prescription or in conjunction with a normal police patrol is prohibited. In short, the Amateur Radio Service should not be used as an alternative to the land mobile, broadcast, maritime, or common carrier radio services, all of which have been established by appropriate regulatory processes.

(3)...The term "business communications", in this instance, is used in the broadest context. It includes all types of communications which are intended to facilitate the regular business or commercial affairs of ANY party, whether individual or organization, whether for profit or not-for-profit, whether charitable or commercial, and whether government or non-government.

(4) The rules are also amended by adding a new section pertaining to the limitations on international amateur radio communications. Although the international limitations are presently contained in Appendix 2 of Part 97, the amendment will help make clearer that international communications MUST be confined to remarks of a personal character or discussions of a technical nature relating to tests.

(The only question, the whole thing leaves your editor, is the FCC's definition of "regular business." Does that mean Hams can or can not provide communications for road races, river raft races, special olympics or Santa Claus? Beats me! I can see arguements on both sides, anyone care to be the devil's advocate?)

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THE FCC has also CHANGED the way to measure your soup. You are now allowed 1500 PEP OUTPUT. Novice subband is 250 PEP OUTPUT. How do I measure PEP OUTPUT? Beats me! 2 Hole A-77s keep doing it as before!  
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YOUR EDITOR still desperately needs contributing authors. All DXers have strong opinions. Voice them through YOUR Bulletin! I don't have to become a Wayne Greene to fire you folks up do I? Surely, I have said something someone disagrees with, or agrees strongly. Come on!  
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BULLETIN COPYING - this is the first month this year when it has been necessary to have a printer print the bulletin. This savings paid off quite nicely by giving us extra money for DXPO. Please help if you can! If you can "host" the bulletin copying one month, please call KC4BX (255-4677) with the information.  
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