

# SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

## W4NT

*THE  
SOUTH'S  
PREMIER  
DX CLUB*

August 1999

### MEETING TIME & LOCATION

Tues., August 17th, 7:30PM, TECH AMERICA, just north on Buford Hwy north of I-285.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**-Mike Greenway, K4PI**

It seems I no sooner get through writing one of these and it is time to do it again. Is that a sign of age or of the times we live in?

Well the Ga Qso Party is behind us and I think it was one of the bigger ones I have ever been in. I think the first one I operated in was back in 1959 or 60. I hope to see it continue on and all clubs in Ga need to support this one. I hope we can get a list of all the participants from Ga whether they sent in a log or not.

DX has been taking a back seat lately with all the projects going on here. Antenna weather is just around the corner. It has definitely been too hot for any serious antenna work but usually Sept and Oct are the prime months.

The ARRL is predicting that 10 will be opening up again in mid August. From all my years there it is usually more like mid Sept. Keep the ears on standby. If you are going for 5BDXCC or 5BWAZ this is the year to clean up 10M. They predict the peak mid 2000. Next year will still be a good one so a possible 2 year window.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

73 Mike Greenway, K4PI, P49I

### EX-VP CORNER

**-Jim Worthington, AD4J**

I'm not writing an article this month (no title anymore :-), but I have arranged for K9AY to speak to us on receiver performance at the next meeting.

73, Jim AD4J

### SEDXC MINUTES 7/20/99

**-Dale Nordin, K4HGG, Sec.**

The meeting was called to order by Mike Greenway-K4PI at 7:30 p.m. with 24 members present and 2 visitors, K3ZM and new ham KG4EBC.

After personal introductions, Nancy reminded everyone that dues are due NOW!!

John-K4BAI- has and passed out the rules for the upcoming Georgia QSO Party (GQP). Invited everyone to participate.

The club thanked Jay K4OGG for letting us use his vacation QTH for the Field Day Site. An appeal was made to give your input as to what programs you would like to see. The August meeting was already planned, but we need more input..

The upcoming Ga. QSO party was discussed and the members were asked to encourage the southern (rare) counties in Georgia to participate.

Dale passed out a list of used equipment from an estate sale. Most of the equipment was from the 60's and 70's (some earlier) including a KWM2.

DX news noted that the solar flux level is quite high with a lot of DX stations on the bands.

The program was a video on the DXpedition to Campbell Island - ZL9CI- provided by Tom N4XP. The video was great and was very professionally produced.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

-Dale, K4HGG

### WIT FROM THE TRENCHES

Of all sad words of tongue or pen,  
The saddest are these: "It might have been."  
But even sadder for a DX hog,  
Are "Sorry, old man, you're not in the log."

- John Greenleaf Whittier and Philip Juhan Latta

## TREASURERS REPORT

-Nancy Draheim, NK4U

June 1, 1999 balance \$3257.97

Incoming: \$2196 \$5453.97

### Expenses:

Outgoing QSL(ARRL) 30.00

Postage 67.00

Officer Plaques 147.34

May Newsletter 40.53

June Newsletter 23.05

July Newsletter 25.27

Web site 50.00

Total Expenses: 383.19

July 30, 1999 balance \$5070.78 \*

The balance should be reduced by \$3176.28 for a true balance of \$1894.50: \$1945.17 (CQWW 160 Plaques), \$930.15 (Packet Cluster), \$300.96 (South-eastern Contesters Club Fund)

Remember that dues are overdue. This will be your last newsletter if you haven't sent in your dues for the year 2000. So hurry up and take the time to fill out and return your membership form so we have up-to-date information in our database.

See you at the meeting.

73, Nancy NK4U Treasurer

---

## FROM GA QSO PARTY

Here are comments from the GA QSO Party. Sounds like a great success, even from the DX! In no particular order:

### Sightseeing South Georgia with K4BAI

By Dick Bentley, K2UFT

After my Georgia QSO Party travel plans with N4BP fizzled it looked as if DeKalb County would be well represented from the home QTH. Then along came an Email from K4BAI asking if I'd like to share the operating and driving chores on the truck he was borrowing from W4DUF. It took about 10 seconds to decide yes, another few minutes to convince the XYL that this was the opportunity of a lifetime, and serious planning

was underway. John and I drew up a tentative itinerary just before a SEDXC meeting and I translated that into an aggressive plan of action covering some 900 miles in two days. After W3DYA and K4PK made their plans known, our aggressive plan was scrapped to avoid duplicating the efforts of others and a less strenuous plan was adopted.

It turned out the rig in the truck would only produce 20 watts in the CW portions of the bands and it had no CW filter. John opted to install his ICOM 736 powered by the 500 watt inverter already in the truck. A small inverter furnished by AD4J powered the logging computer. The antenna farm consisted of a 20 meter whip installed on the roof of the truck and a screwdriver antenna mounted to the front bumper for 80,40 and 15. The 20 meter whip was optimized for SSB so the built-in tuner in the 736 saw heavy use in the CW parts of the band. Ted, W4DUF, built what would best be described as a lap desk for the computer and keyer paddle, since the 736 was taking up the space normally used for this purpose. The lap desk sat across the operators lap while we were underway - getting in and out of the truck was reminiscent of being placed in one of the earlier space capsules - you were in for the duration until time for operator swap!

We started the GQP on a hilltop south of Columbus in MUSC County. We had learned that WA4IMC had a work conflict, so we decided to extend our route on Saturday to pick up the counties he was planning to run. About an hour or so into our adventure, the screwdriver antenna failed us so we were limited to 20 meters the first day. We also found we could only run full power when the truck was doing 50 MPH. That's not an easy task in some of the rural GA towns we ran through. The pace was such that we were able to add a few counties to the end of our route and 0350Z found us pulling into John's driveway. As you might expect, John was still calling CQ and urging me to rev up the truck for more power!

Sunday found us deciding to set the screwdriver for 15 meter CW. That setting held most of the day. We revamped our itinerary again, since we had covered some scheduled counties the prior evening. We added a bunch of counties east of Columbus, then headed south, adding a few extra counties based on needs expressed during our operations. When we started to see palm trees and ibis sitting on cypress trees in the area of Statenville, we knew it was time to start north once again. A sudden stop in this area led to the demise of John's keyer paddle. We paused briefly in Valdosta just as they set the high temperature mark for the day - 106 degrees. We swapped out paddles and got underway again. We paused under the shade of

the Lee County Water Tower to run that county. Here I discovered that the locking gas cap was still sitting on top of the gas pump in Valdosta! In the area of Parrott in Terrell County, we ran out of contest! The next hour was spent with K4BAI chatting with KT5X, VE2AWR and LY3BA as I piloted our trusty truck back to Columbus.

60 gallons of gas, 4 quarts of oil, and at least 20 gallons of sweat – would we do it again? You betcha! The sights along the way were well worth the effort. We went through areas that were prospering and areas that have seen hard times. Water, or lack thereof, was the common denominator. Cornfields were brown; tobacco plants were withered on their supports. Where there were giant water sprinklers, the crops were lush and deep green. We watched the same freight train cross our path for 15 minutes in Ideal and again in Oglethorpe. Montezuma has so many crepe myrtles lining the roads it was like driving through a pink tunnel! All the houses were well cared for. In an adjacent town, the size of the houses and lots indicated that it too was prosperous at one time but now was crumbling. We rode great distances on something called the “Carter Z.” Ask John what that is the next time you see him – they’ve been building it since Jimmy was Governor! (In a subsequent note, John said that this was CORRIDOR Z in Yankee talk and Carter had nothing to do with it!) The CQP was a learning experience! Start working on your mobile set up and get ready for the fun next year!

When you work our contesting compatriots in TN & FL, thank them for their support. Some of us will be returning the favor next year. -Dick K2UFT

**Jim, AD4J:** I was very pleased to hear all the GAQP activity this weekend. Thanks to K4BAI, K2UFT, K4OGG, K4PI, K4BS, N4BP and several others for all their hard work in publicizing this event, putting together the rules, county abbreviations, logging program customizations and generating so much enthusiasm. It sure paid off!

Congratulations to the Ga. Tech gang at W4AQL for a superb effort!

I spent about 4 hours in the contest and enjoyed working several SECC/SEDXC club members including K4OGG, K4PI, WB2HMG, K4AAA, N4XMX, and WA4TT. Sunday, I worked our Section Manager W4RU/6 in Calif. I was disappointed not to hear John and Dick (the K4BAI team) from any of their 39 counties.

About half of the four hours I played control operator while James, KG4EBC, got his first contest experience at the microphone. James just got his Techni-

cian ticket 2 weeks ago. He did a good job of running stations on 40 and 20 SSB.

The other half of the time, I spent on CW. We ended up with 124 Qs split evenly between modes.

**Randy, K4ODL:** I worked about 8 hours of the contest with 67 qso points and 8 multipliers for a score of 536.

This was a fun contest and I plan to do better next year.

**Jay, K4OGG:** One day of GAQP was all I could handle. I’m having a ton of trouble trying to convert my scribbling on paper to a ASCII log, so it will be a few days before I figure my score. I had 280 Qs, CW only. Operated Saturday only, ten hours total, including drive time.

Hats off to K4BAI for putting this thing together! John, it wouldn’t have happened without your efforts. Thanks!

**Johnny, K4TW (NJ4U/M):** Hello all, Neal/K4EA and I found a shady spot (a theme for this contest) in Franklin County to begin our 40+ GA County trek.

I had to customize the truck for mobile operation: we had to have an antenna mounting plate made to straddle the toolbox. That was finished the day before the contest, whew!

Rig was Yaesu FT-847 with the Yaesu ATAS-100 telescoping antenna - their inaugural pairing - they worked great together! We brought along verticals for 40/15 and 20 - we only set up the 20M GP twice. Did I mention it was hot?

As soon as we get our hand-written paper logs entered into a computer, I’ll pass along our score. We made around 500+ contacts overall. The majority were on CW. Our best county was McIntosh (40 Q’s) to start day 2.

I was surprised to hear lots of DX calling CQ GQP - good publicity!

**Gedas, LY3BA:** Thanks for the nice Weekend! W3DAE, K4BAI, K4OGG, K4PI, K4PK, NJ4U, WA4EVH, W5WMMU made taking part in GAQP real pleasure. Thanks every one for the QSO’s, thanks for the new counties. Let’s hope the propagation next year will be much better.

More comments next month!!!

## SEDXC OFFICERS

President: Mike Greenway, K4PI  
k4pi@att.net  
H: (770) 942-4576

V. President: (open)

Secretary: Dale Nordin, K4HGG  
dale.nordin@gtri.gatech.edu  
H: (770) 422-9120  
W:

Treasurer: Nancy Draheim, NK4U  
nk4u@bellsouth.net  
H: (770) 516-4413

Activities: (open)

Editor: Rick Glisson, N4XMX  
rglisson@america.net  
H: (404) 352-5349  
W: (404) 522-8364

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.

## DX PACKET FREQ.

W8ZF (2400) 145.63  
K4KG (2400) 144.91  
W4UCK (24&96) 145.65 (144.97ARCDX, down)  
NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75  
K4UJ (2400) 145.67 (SE Megacluster)  
(telnet 216.1.128.11)  
K4UGA (Athens)(2400) 145.67 (SE Megaclst)  
(telnet 128.192.52.40 599, must put in port 599)

## DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.

Simplex 147.54

K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz)  
147.195+

## SEDXC WEBPAGE

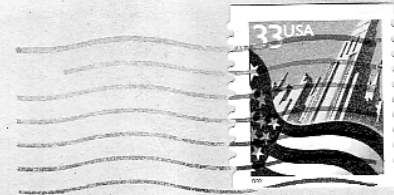
[www.contesting.com/sedxc](http://www.contesting.com/sedxc)

## SEDXC REFLECTOR

[sedxc@contesting.com](mailto:sedxc@contesting.com)



**SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB**  
PO Box 19871  
Atlanta, GA. 30325



ATL GA 303 P/DC 21:13 08/10/99 #5

**MEETING: August 17th**  
**TECH AMERICA, 7:30 PM**  
Just north on Buford Hwy,  
above I-285

6/30/2000 W4KJ  
Harry Saunders  
831 W. Wesley Road NW  
Atlanta, GA 303271307

