



Bulletin



October 2023

Founded In 1958

Our Next Meeting & Speaker

Date & Time: October 19, 2023, 7:00 PM
Location: Via Zoom
Speaker: Mike Greenway, K4PI
Topic: The Magic Band

Please join us for an interesting and entertaining presentation.



SEDXC Holiday Party – Don't miss it. December 9, 2023 See hot link sedxc.org/holiday

From the Prez *(de John Tramontanis, N4TOL)*



President's Column

Well as the weather cools in October, favorable propagation and active DXpeditions

are heating up the shacks. The long awaited W8S, Swains Island is now active and generating much activity. Tuvalu, T2T, has just come up, and ZD9W, Tristan de Cunha, seems to be everywhere. Hopefully, all that need them for an ATNO get through, and the band fills will abound!

We had a most interesting and provocative presentation at our September meeting by our fellow club member and DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) representative Dick Baxter, K5TF. Dick discussed the role of the DXAC, in the scheme of the DXCC program of the ARRL. Issues of qualifications for DXCC entities, and ground rules for their activation were discussed with a wide variety opinions and ideas. Dick encouraged folks to please send him comments, suggestions, and questions regarding the DXCC program directly to him.

The Stone Mountain Hamfest is just weeks away, November 4th and 5th. This is Georgia's largest hamfest, and features a large indoor space with many vendors and

clubs being represented. Also, there is an expansive outdoor flea market, loaded with "treasures". The SEDXC will have a booth alongside many other clubs, and you will have the opportunity for some face-to-face interaction with friends both old and new.

<https://stonemountainhamfest.com/>

One week later on Saturday, Nov. 11th, HamJam, sponsored by the North Fulton Amateur Radio League and supported by the SEDXC, will serve as our official November meeting. HamJam is an event that supports youth in Ham Radio. There will be three exceptional speakers who will share their experience in Amateur Radio and related emerging technologies. There will be a raffle of thousands of dollars worth of donated radio and related equipment with all of the proceeds going to the advancement of youth in ham radio. Come out on Nov. 11th and support this effort!

https://hamjam.info/hmjm_wp/

The SEDXC Holiday Party is approaching. The event will be held at the "Loyal Q and Brew"; on 3655 Old Milton Pkwy, Alpharetta, Saturday December 9 from 6PM to 8PM.

Advanced reservations are required. Reservation deadline is November 10th, and we have a cap of 48 attendees. Signups have already begun, so register early before the cap is reached.

There will be great BBQ, great company, and the opportunity to connect with old and new friends in person!.

To see details for the event and to make reservations, please use the link below:

<https://t-rexsoftware.com/sedxc/holiday/>

Our October meeting will feature club member Mike Greenway, K4PI, who will be

presenting on DXing on the 6 meter band. Mike has racked up close to 200 entities on the “Magic Band”; and is sure to provide an interesting take on how to work this band and increase our own DXCC counts there.

73 John N4TOL



<https://t-rexsoftware.com/sedxc/dxelmers/>



VP's Corner (*de Nathan Wood, K4NHW*)

A Few Words From Our Vice President

WOW! What a month for DX! There are NUMEROUS DXpeditions on the air this month. Being originally licensed in 2012, the vast majority of these are ATNOs for me. For those who have been licensed longer than I have been alive, I hope you get some great band fills as needed.

I, for one, am glad to see the various teams taking advantage of Solar Cycle 25. Data from <https://Spaceweather.com> shows the peak of the solar cycle to be around July 2025. I wonder what other countries that we'll see on the air before then?

In September, we had Dick Baxter present to us about the history of the DXCC program and his role in the DXAC. We had some GREAT questions at the end of his presentation. I hope that discussion continued well past the meeting. As we learned, Dick is our representative to the DXAC. He has welcomed feedback that he can share to the committee. Be sure to reach out to him with your support and let your voice be heard.

This month, we have another familiar face to the club joining us; Mike Greenway, K4PI. Our resident guru in 6 meters, will be sharing some information and predictions on the "Magic Band" and what to expect this winter and beyond! As David Letterman used to ask, "Is this something, or is this nothing"? Is this "6 Meters Part 2 or Part Deux"? Mike has been licensed since 1957. He currently has 193 DXCC entities confirmed on 6 meters with a grid count of 1404! He is a world class Top of Honor Roll operator. If you are interested to hear about the possibilities of VHF over the holidays, you won't want to miss this one. Join us on October 19th at 7pm via zoom!

Lastly, there are a few openings on the calendar for presentations in 2024. If you have any ideas for radio or hobby related topics, let me know. A few of you have already shared some ideas and I am working on those. If you'd like to hear more about a particular topic, let me know and I'll see what I can do!

Additional words of wisdom from our Vice President:

SEDXC goes to Curacao!

Have you ever wanted to be on the other side of the pile up but never had a chance? Are you curious about contesting but don't really know where to start? Does the thought of operating a mega station in the middle of the Caribbean interest you at all? **This opportunity is for YOU!**

We have limited openings for a team to go to operate PJ2T representing the SEDXC. This is an entry level DX-pedition that will expose you to the DX side of the pileup. It will also introduce you to contesting and operating with a team-based approach. This is much like the BIG DX-peditions that we read about but without the weeks of travel and tens of thousands of dollars of expenses. And we will have quite comfortable accommodations.



This trip will be taking place from March 25th to April 2nd, 2024. You will need a passport. (You have time if you apply NOW.) No visas are needed. With a full team, we expect the cost to be around \$1,000 per person plus travel expenses. (as of 10/1, I am finding airfare to be as low as \$600 R/T).

Leading up to the trip, you will receive all training and guidance needed to succeed in your operation. We will have seasoned DXers and testers on board to guide you through the process and to answer any of your questions. There will be ample of time to operate before and after the contest with your own call sign. AND there will be time to go shopping and do all of the other things that tourists do as well.

If this seems like something right up your alley, email me at Nathan.wood23@gmail.com.



Treasurer's Journal *(de Jeff Cantor, K1ZN)*



Greetings, Fellow DXers!

Disbursements to report for September 2023:

This month our checkbook balance (as of October 1, 2023) is \$14,538.60

August Disbursements

Purpose	Amount
Treasurer's Report	
Disbursements	
ZL7 DXpedition	206.78
V6 DXpedition	254.99
Holiday Party Deposit	400.00
Postage	7.70
Total Disbursements	\$869.47

DXPedition Funding Applications received this past month:

LAOS - XW

- Application by: F4BKV Vincent of France who has been on 65 DXPeditions, most recently 3B7A - St Brandon Island IOTA. AF015 (05/04/18 to 17/04/18; VP6T; FT4JA).
 - The date of the XW4DX activation is Nov 16th 2023 for 11 days
 - Vincent will have a team of 5 including F2DX, Patrick
 - XW is NA-EC #41 & WW #98
 - The license has been granted.
 - Antennas include 2 hexbeams; 4squares for 40M & 17M & Vert for 160M
 - Bands per Laos regulations - 160m - 40m - 20m - 17m - 15m - 12m - 10m
 - Focus LP to NA-EC
 - 5 transceivers
 - No mention of QRO
 - Online log.
- SEDXC Club members analysis = N=29 18 ATNO – 62% of sample / Have 1 or 2 bands only – 7 or 24%; others for band fill 4.

CAMEROON – TJ

- Application by: IZ8CCW Antonio
 - Call sign will be TJ9MD
 - Dates – November 2nd to 15th 2023
 - TJ is #92 WW & #87 NA-EC Most wanted
 - Team of 14 – 24/7 operations
 - Collectively, they have 16 DXPeditions completed
- 5 operating positions plus QRO 4-spiderbeams & 2 verticals plus 2 single band yagis
 - Last activated March 2019 according to CL
- SEDXC member analysis = N=28 ATNO-10 (36% of sample); 5 have on single band/ 2 on 2 bands only; multiple band fills - 11

- Documents obtained
- SEDXC logo on cards & web page
- Spoke with AG4W, Steve who will be a team member – this will be 1st time EME operations for TJ

73 & GUD DX,
Jeff / K1ZN

Activities (de Verne Fowler W8BLA)



Have you signed up for the party and have you saved your quarters for the Stone Mountain Hamfest! Look forward to seeing you all at both functions . Remember to stop by the booth and let

folks know we will be doing card checking for DXCC-WAS-VUCC

73 es gud dx!
Verne W8BLA
770-364-9500
w8bla@arrl.net

Around The Shack (de Hal Kennedy N4GG)



L. B. Cebik, W4RNL (sk)

Before I get to L. B Cebik, I'd like to mention HamSCI (Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation). HamSCI was going to be the subject for this month, but as I finished my research and starting writing the latest QST arrived.

There's no point in duplicating the ARRL's excellent write-up.

Read this month's QST (October, 2023) beginning page 59. The article is, essentially, what I planned to write.

To whet your appetite here are a few "factoids" concerning HamSCI:

- It's an initiative to connect hams with scientific researchers.
- Most of the collaborative work to date has concerned the ionosphere and/or the weather (terrestrial and space weather).
- Involvement can be minimal, i.e., simply monitor ongoing experiments and the results. Involvement can be substantial – get involved with ongoing experiments, attend conferences and/or propose topics for research.
- One of the early ham/researcher collaborations involved monitoring propagation during solar eclipses. Hams are uniquely qualified to collect data for this. Our numbers, wide dispersion and wide range of operating frequencies were what was needed. The research community couldn't do the studies without hams collecting the data. The results of hams measuring propagation during eclipses has helped develop insights into how the ionosphere works. You can check out the results on the HamSCI web site.
- There are a lot of on-going projects that any ham can join. Upcoming are North America Solar Eclipse QSO Parties in October, 2023 and April, 2024. If you have an HF station you are ready to participate.

I could go on and on. HamSCI has a robust media presence. The main web page is www.hamsci.org. Information about upcoming eclipse QSO parties is available at ww.hamsci.org/contest-info. There is a HamSCI Instagram page and a Facebook page as well. HamSCI also has an active email reflector, hosted by GoogleGroups.com. If you Google "HamSCI" you will find many web sites to explore, along with interesting data that's relevant to HF operating. I'm all for science – but my favorite science is that which is actionable – by me. HamSCI has propagation insights / *can use*.

Start with the QST article and go from there. Enjoy searching for

your inner scientist as you collaborate with bright minds that need your help.

L. B. Cebik, W4RNL (sk)



L. B. Cebik was (and is) a widely recognized authority on antennas. His antenna essays are a treasure trove of information for all to enjoy. Sadly, he passed away in 2008 at the age of 68. If you are not familiar with his extensive writings you are in for a treat as you discover them. As I try to do in this column, Cebik's articles addressed practical ideas for ham antennas while avoiding advanced math wherever possible. Mostly an "internet writer" in his later years, Cebik was a long-standing contributor to every ham publication that's existed over the past few decades.

Cebik contributed articles to QST, CQ, NCJ, QEX, Ham Radio Magazine, 73 Magazine, Communications Quarterly, AntennaX (he was the editor for years), a number of QRP publications and more. He was also a technical advisor to the ARRL on the subjects of antennas and modeling. His eulogy can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/news/antenna-expert-l-b-cebik-w4rnl-sk> . If you follow the ARRL closely you know ARRL eulogies are rare. They are reserved for those few who have made important contributions to the advancement of the hobby.

Cebik's articles have been compiled by Marcel De Canck, ON5AU, and are available on the web. They can be found at: <http://on5au.be/Cebik%20documents.html> . We owe Marcel our gratitude. Cebik placed his articles "free for the taking" on the internet as he wrote them. They were posted on his personal website. Immediately after Cebik's passing however, his articles went behind a pay wall. It is said this was not consistent with Cebik's philosophy and was a disservice to him and the ham

community he so freely contributed to for many years. That has now been rectified.

In addition to ON5AU's web pages, the entire collection has been posted as one large PDF by OK1RR. It can be found here:

<https://ok1rr.com/dwnld/W4RNL.pdf>

The PDF contains 307 articles. It is 8847 pages! By comparison, my book *Ham Radio Tips and Tales* is 204 pages. I estimate my book is a good 10-15 hour read. How long does it take to read 8847 pages? I suggest you read Cebik's treatment of whatever antenna(s) you might be interested in, rather than trying to read it all.

Included in the 307 articles are:

- Sixty-two articles from QST, QEX and NCJ
- Two articles from CQ
- Three articles from Ham Radio Magazine
- Seven articles from 73 Magazine
- Twenty-five articles from QRP Quarterly

There are also hundreds of EZNEC antenna models and 61 categories of VOACAP antenna models for use in propagation prediction.

You might wonder how 307 articles could occupy 8847 pages? Many of the articles are compendiums. Many included trade-offs between similar antennas. Many cover families of antennas, such as yagis and loops.

All of Cebik's writings have practical application. You can build an antenna using any of them. Cebik organized his writing into the following categories:

- A Little History, a Little Humor and a Little Seriousness
- Antenna Modeling Software Notes
- Practical Antenna Notes: Lower HF (Mainly) Vertical

Antennas

- Practical Antenna Notes: Lower HF (Mainly) Horizontal Antennas
- Practical Antenna Notes: Upper HF (Mainly): Yagis and Relatives
- Practical Antenna Notes: Upper HF (Mainly): Other HF Arrays and Questions
- Practical Wire Antennas: VHF/UHF (Mainly)
- Transmission Lines, Impedance Coupling and Construction

There are several subjects Cebik returned to many times. These included SCVs (self contained verticals), Moxon Antennas and modeling. Most of Cebik's writing was explanatory and consistent with his life-long enthusiasm for continuing education, but in those three subject-areas he advanced the state-of-the-art.

Here is a little on each:

SCVs (Self Contained verticals) It's easy to be dismissive of vertical antennas for HF. When we hear "vertical" we think "radials" and "radiates equally poorly in all directions." If you think that way, you need to read Cebik's essays on SCVs. By definition, SCVs don't use radials and many of the configurations have significant gain. SCVs are vertically polarized (without radials) and in many cases are impervious to the ground. They are often modeled in free space since ground characteristics barely matter. SCVs include delta loops, square loops, half-squares, etc. Cebik begins his treatment by presenting the SCV "family tree" and goes on to trade-off each SCV against the others. I've used a lot of low-band HF delta loops over the years, relying on Cebik's insights. On lower HF, e.g., 80 and 160 meters, vertical polarization yields low take-off angles – great for DXing. To attain that without radials seemed like the Holy Grail when I first discovered it. High-performance radial fields for 80 and 160 can be real monsters and they are susceptible to ground conditions (which you can't do anything about).

The Moxon Antenna Les Moxon, G6AN (sk) invented the Moxon antenna around 1999. "Around" because similar antenna

concepts can be found all the way back to the 1930s. In 1999 Moxon published his specific design. Cebik took note and began writing about Moxons in 2000. A two-element Moxon can have as much as 10 dBi forward gain and over 15 dBi front-to-back – far exceeding the performance of a 2-element Yagi. Yet, a Moxon is smaller than a conventional two-element Yagi. Cebik wrote extensively about the antenna. From the Wikipedia entry on the Moxon Antenna: “L. B. Cebik (W4RNL) made detailed comparisons and calculations of several different versions of Moxon Antennas.” Les Moxon invented the Moxon Antenna, but L. B. Cebik explained and refined it and in so doing popularized it. Modeling Some of Cebik’s earliest articles concerned modeling. All of his articles presented ‘as-modeled’ performance of the antenna(s) under discussion. Antenna modeling has gone through many iterations over decades, but modern computers and introduction of the Numerical Electromagnetics Code (NEC) finally enabled what is now the ubiquitous antenna modeling program: EZNEC. EZNEC was release by Roy Lewallen, W7EZ, in 1995. Cebik’s performance analyses, based on EZNEC, began in 1997.



Shown is a picture of Cebik and Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, taken at ARRL HQ. It was on the occasion of Cebik visiting to assist the ARRL in developing course material on antenna modeling. The visit predates Sumner becoming ARRL CEO (2001).

At this point I hope I’ve convinced you that Cebik was a prolific writer. He was – but there is more – there are his books! In addition to his ham radio activities, Cebik had a “daytime job.” He had a PhD in Philosophy and when he passed away he was

Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville. His books cover ham radio and philosophy.

Ham Radio Books by L. B. Cebik:

ARRL Antenna Modeling Course
Antennas from the Ground Up
Setting up and Using Your Own Ham Shack
Seven Steps to Designing your Own Ham Equipment

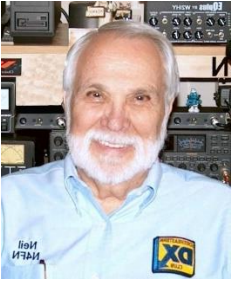
Philosophy Books by L. B. Cebik:

Concepts, Events and History
Advances in Bioethics: Violence, Neglect, and the Elderly 1997 to 2008
Fictional narrative and truth
Nonaesthetic Issues in the Philosophy of Art: Art as a Social Realm
Anytime you contemplate erecting a new antenna or modifying an existing one, it will be worth your while to read the relevant Cebik article(s). They cover VLF to UHF. They cover wire antennas, yagis, quads, phased arrays, etc. Are you musing over how to get a good 160 transmit antenna on your small lot? Cebik has a design for you.

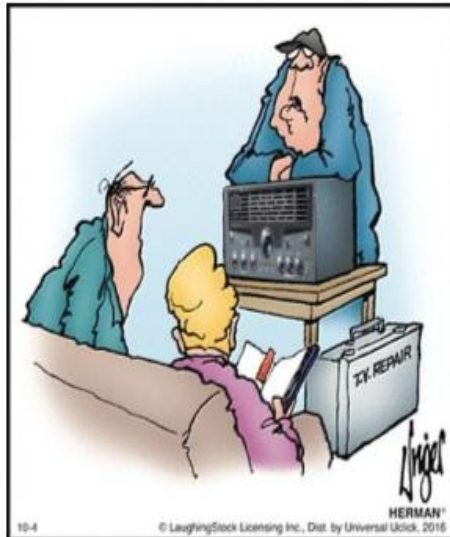
On a personal note – I put several of Cebik’s articles to use at N4GG. In his article: *The “Ideal” Back-up Antenna for 80-20 meters* he suggested the answer to the question: If I could only have one antenna, what would it be? His answer: An 88 foot doublet. An 88 foot doublet is short but not too short for 80, a little long for 40 and 30 and approximates an EDZ (extended double zepp) on 20. An 88 foot doublet became the kernel for an antenna I designed – one that became my best antenna for many years. It was a bottom fed EDZ stack on 20 meters (an EDZ Lazy-H) and a two-doublet stack fed in quadrature on 40. All of it was fed against radials as a Marconi on 160. It was a great antenna. That antenna will be the subject of a future column.

73,
Hal N4GG

September Humor



De Neil Foster – N4FN



"Folks, the main reason you can't get a picture is because you bought yourselves a ham radio by mistake."

25 Years Ago... (de Van Herridge, N4VGE, Bulletin Editor)

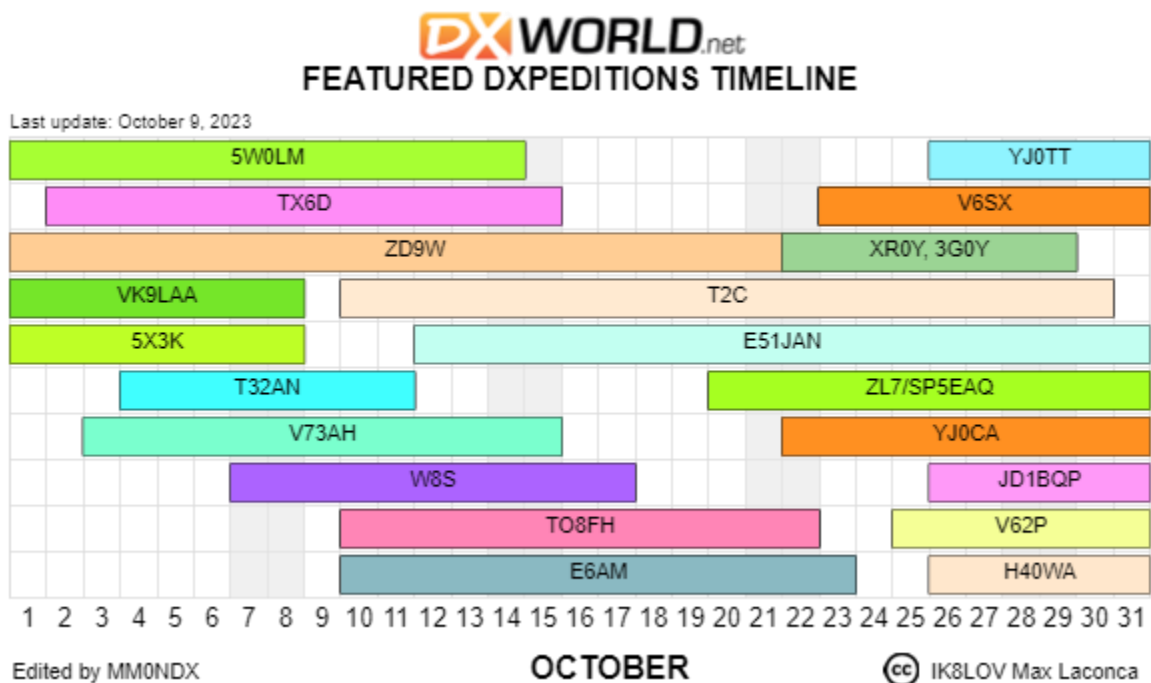


The October 1998 Bulletin link is attached below for your enlightenment and enjoyment. Don't forget to check SEDXC's website to get the latest club information, www.sedxc.org

<https://t-rexsoftware.com/sedxc/bulletins/sedxc1098.pdf>



The *DX World* Calendar/Timeline for October



The *DX World* Calendar features a timeline of all DXpeditions anticipated for the current month and is a great way to plan your chase for the next, All-Time New One (ATNO). The Calendar is updated regularly; use this link to see the latest version:

http://www.hamradiotimeline.com/timeline/dxw_timeline_1_1.php

SEDXC Officers & Positions

John Tramontanis, N4TOL – President – iam4rb@gmail.com

Nathan Wood, K4NHW – Vice President -- nathan.wood23@gmail.com

Joel Levine, WA4HNL – Secretary -- jlevine@bellsouth.net

Jeff Cantor, K1ZN – Treasurer -- jacantor9@gmail.com

Verne Fowler, W8BLA – Activities Manager -- w8bla@arrl.net

SEDXC Appointed Positions

Chaz Cone, W4GKF – Webmaster – w4gkf@chazcone.com

Van Herridge, N4VGE – *SEDXC Bulletin* Editor – vanherridge@gmail.com

**Fill out the form completely and send it to:
Treasurer.SEDXC@Gmail.com**

Entity Name / Call Sign	Laos / XW4DX
Date of Application	14/09/2023
Approx. Date and duration of Expedition	16/11/2023 for 11 days
Web page	https://xw4dx.f4bkv.net
Team leader / number of members:	F4BKV Vincent / 5 members
List name & call of each team member	F4BKV Vincent F4HAU Diego F2DX Patrick F5PTM Pascal F8AVK Julien
List DXPeditions that each team member above took part in	FT4TA, FT4JA, 3B7A, VP6T, D60AE, E44CC and several others (just to mention the major ones and recent ones)
QSL manager / QSL route	F4BKV Direct/Bureau/LOTW
Funding amount requested – please attach	Overall budget of 19000USD, each team to participate up to 2000USD;

budget & show team's contribution	Requesting 1000USD for shipment of large items (mast and antenna poles) before the start of the dxpediton
Send Funds to:	F4BKV
Position on most wanted list – both global & North America – East Coast	Global: 98 NA-EC: 41
Landing permit/operating permission approved (attach copy).	Licence granted
Overview of antennas & equipment to be taken on DXPedition	Elecraft K3 x2, Yaesu FT991 and FT897, SunSDRPro2 Hexbeam x2 (with HP triplexer and filters), 4square 40m 18m pole on 160m
Last time(s) this entity was activated	No recent DXpedition known over last 15 years, only few local stations
Typical interval between activations	
Method of transportation to DXPedition site	Airplane + Minibus
Your team's objective / strategy including social objective	<p>To conduct a group amateur radio dxpediton in Laos, country listed #98 on the overall most wanted list in Clublog</p> <p>- To focus on NA East coast openings, specially on high bands, since Laos is ranked #41 for this difficult area of the world</p> <p>- To have fun as a team and enjoy our hobby as much in a nice country</p>
Callsign/Age of youngest Team member	F8AVK 43
SEDXC member initiating request	

SEDXC member(s) participating, if any	
SEDXC logo on QSL card & web page?	YES
Additional comments:	

Internal Use

Date published in the newsletter	
Review/analysis of SEDXC Club Leagues member sample (N=)	ATNO: Band Fills:
Results of member review at the meeting: (approved / disapproved) Recommendation \$_____	Recommended \$_____
Funds disbursed on date:	
Funds disbursed by:	

**Fill out the form completely and send it to:
Treasurer.SEDXC@Gmail.com**

Entity Name / Call Sign	TJ9MD
Date of Application	9/14/2023
Approx. Date and duration of Dxpediton	11/2/2023-11/15/2023
Web page	TJ9MD (mdxc.support)
Team leader / number of members:	IZ8CCW Antonio Cannataro 14
List name & call of each team member	IZ8CCW Ant, IZ2GNQ Marco, IZ4UEZ Dario,AG4W Steve, IZ4COW Geppo, F6IRA Gil,DL6JJ Emil, ON7RN Eric, OK2WX Vlad, IK5BOH Andrea, HB9DHG Fulvio, HB9TOC Daniel, IU3PMA Francisco, IU8LMC Martino
List DXPeditions that each team member above took part in	IZ8CCW-1A3A, 3W3MD,5B/IZ8CCW,5R8M,8A3M,9N7MD,9U4M,D68CCC,S21ZBC,T70A,J48MDC,V84SMD XU7MDC,YB3ZES Z23MD,Z37M,J28MD Many of the team members have been on these same DXpeditions
QSL manager / QSL route	IK2VUC
Funding amount requested – please attach budget & show team’s contribution	Team members contribute 2300 Euro plus travel to Milan Italy (\$1100 for me) plus visa fee. Suggest contributions from \$200-\$1000. My Club NADXC (small club contributed \$750).
Send Funds to:	mdxc@mdxc.org PayPal
Position on most wanted list –	#92 EU #89 Global