



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

P.O. Box 19871
Atlanta, Georgia 30325

December 1991 Issue

Editor: John Smith, KI4XO
articles to:
450 Chaffin Road
Roswell, Georgia 30075

DX Alert Frequencies	DX Packet
147.50 Simplex	W8ZF 145.63
147.795/t-195/R Tone 7 (KN4B)	W1UA 145.61 K4KG 144.91
Rag Chew Frequencies:	
147.47, 147.52, 147.54,	147.50 Spotting Freq.

President:	Vern Fowler, W8BLA-642-2007	Vice President:	Rick Glisson, N4XMX-352-5349
Treasurer:	Sam Silverman, KB4NJ-433-8606	Secretary:	John Smith, KI4XO-641-1576

Next Meeting Tuesday December 17, 1991 - 7:30 PM
Location - Days Inn at Windy Hill Road @ I-75 Talk in 146.82
T33 Video and HOW TO QSO in a CW Contest by Dick Bently W2UFT and Friends

President's Column - de W8BLA

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I wish to thank everyone for the support and help we have had. May the new year be as good as the past one.

73, Vern

See you at the December meeting!

Secretary's Column - de KI4XO

Hello again. First I like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year for 1991. We hope everyone gets plenty of new toys, DX and happiness from our family to everyone out there. de John and family.

This month we have a personal commentary about some radio equipment. As some of you know I have been running a Yaesu FT1000D for the past 7 weeks but what many were not aware of was how many FT1000's I had the opportunity of using here at my QTH.

The net result is that we had the opportunity to use three different FT1000's each with a different problem. The following breakdown describes the failures. 1. AM reception was extremely distorted and appeared that the AGC was not working properly. After an hour the problem would clear up. 2. The second radio arrived and transmitted for a total of 30 minutes. 3. The third radio worked for about 7 weeks then all modes appeared to have lost IF selectivity and the audio sounded like listening to an FM radio on SSB.

We called Yaesu. After several discussions with the technical support, which was excellent from Yaesu, their upper management's solution for my problem was to send the radio back to them for an "expedited repair." I was not in the mood

after spending all my time and money to mail to the California repair center the FT1000. Even after I had presented my case to the Yaesu USA company they were not too concerned that I would be off the air for the week or two they had my radio. This prompted me to investigate other radios. The summary of my findings are listed below. I use price performance as part of my opinion as to ranking the following radios. Radios in the number one category I would and do own.

- #1 - ICOM765, Kenwood 940, ICOM 751A, Kenwood 950
- #2 - Yaesu FT1000 (if it stays working), Kenwood 850 (not as good as a Kenwood 940)

The most interesting result during side by side comparisons was that the audio quality of the ICOM radios is quieter and more pleasant to hear than the FT1000. I have now noticed that the audio in the Yaesu was more metallic and prone to distortion that is not evident in the ICOM and Kenwood. Listening to the Kenwood 940 was a pleasant surprise the audio and slope tuning is excellent. The ICOM 751A performs as well as any of the top radios on the market today. For the price it is one of ICOM's best buys for a portable or base radio on both CW and SSB. I would rate the audio quality of this radio even better than the FT1000. So when looking for a second rig or even a primary one, the ICOM 751A is a no frills radio one should give serious consideration.

The most prevalent quality of the ICOM765 versus other radios is the superior CW audio and control layout on the 765. It is truly a radio that is easy to operate and does not fatigue the ears when operating for extended periods of time. After operating the 765 at my QTH for the past week I have been pleasantly surprised time after time on 80 meters and on CW at the reception and dynamic range of this piece of equipment. I can truly appreciate the continuous duty transmitter and the reputation of the ICOM quality. Additionally they have service departments in several areas of the U.S.

So after many trials I have become a converted ICOM fan. Should you like me to write a more detailed comparison of the 940, 765, 751A and FT1000 please let me know over the next month and I would be happy to construct an article around these radios.

This article reflects my opinion and experiences with these radios. In no way does the SEDX club endorse any radio nor promote any vendor over another. My closing comment is that I found dual receive to not be worth the money. For the price I can place a second transceiver on the desk next to the current radio and have redundant radios. Additionally, I don't really miss the subreceiver. As it turns out I rarely used it and the secondary receive antenna switch for using external antennas to bypass the BPF1 is located inside the FT1000 so you have to decide if you want diversity frequency receive or secondary antennas hooked to external antenna jack to work with the front panel switch when you set it up. In using the Ft1000 here I had to disable the BPF1 option because I used the secondary antenna jack for my 160 and 80 meter wire antennas thus defeating crossband listening in the FT1000. This is not a feature.

The ICOMs are known for their reliability and the Kenwoods for all the front panel enhancements which I personally can do without. Buyer beware when purchasing any of the new top of the line "Start of the Art" radios" as I have experienced.

Many thanks to all the staff and the mangement at HRO, Atlanta who made outstanding efforts and commitments to customer satisfaction during this mess for me. I recommend to all who plan to buy a radio in the future to weigh heavily the post sales support you get at our local store. I have found that the price of local sales tax more than offsets the shipping charges, but most importantly you **cannot** replace the excellent CUSTOMER SERVICE received locally that one fails to get with mail order.

Best of luck and 73s de John KI4XO.

DX NEWS

The Ohio/Penn Dx Packet Cluster
DX Bulletin No. 038&39
December 1991
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF-80 BBS Cleveland, Ohio
Online at 216-237-8208 2400/1200/300 8/N/1

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn Packet Cluster Network, K4CEF & Southeastern Cluster Group, AD1C, WU1F, K3BEQ, WB3LHD, WM3M, WK3N, WA3YVN, W8GIO, N8HUR and KA9DZM for the following DX information.

1A0, SOV. MIL. ORDER OF MALTA. It was heard on the INDEXA Net that the activity from 1A0KM this past weekend was legit. Also, Tony, IOIJ, reported back in June that 1A0KM would be active during December around the Christmas holiday. Activity reported on the Ohio/Penn Cluster Network has been mostly on 10 and 40 meter CW.

3B9, RODRIGUEZ ISLANDS. 3B9FR has been active on a DX net on 28400 kHz around 1700z. He has

also been heard on 17 meters from 1730 to 1830z. QSL direct to: Robert Felicite, Box 31, Rodriguez Is., Indian Ocean via Mauritius. Do not QSL via F6FNU as listed in the new 1992 CallBook.

5X, UGANDA. Jim, 5Z4FM, is a pilot and has a sked to fly into Uganda on December 3 to meet with the newly appointed government officials concerning a license to operate amateur radio. Jim has been attempting to obtain permission to operate for the past 1 1/2 years and feels very optimistic. He also has letters of recommendations but he has not stated by whom.

S9, SAO TOME & PRINCIPE. It was announced on the INDEXA Net that TR8CL is going to S92-land possibly as soon as this past weekend. Also heard on the the ET Roundtable DX Net on 28510, S92AA will be a visitor on their net next Saturday, December 14th at 1400z.

VP8, SOUTH SANDWICH ISLAND. AL, WA3YVN, has sent out a DXpedition Bulletin to many DXers explaining details of the coming DXpedition to South Sandwich Island in March of 1992. Most of the details are the same as we have been hearing: 10 operators, operating from Thule Island, four complete HF stations, SSB, CW, RTTY, 160 through 10 meters with some 6 meters operations. The cost is the big item. The projected cost of the DXpedition is estimated at \$104,000. Each operator is contributing \$5000 of their own money and the cash and firm pledges to date total \$64,000. The additional amount of \$39,200 is needed by the end of January, 1992. Your support is urgently needed. Donations can be sent to: Gerry Branson, AA6BB, 93787 Dorsey Lane, Junction City, Oregon 97448 USA. Last weekend, Bill, K4LTA had a conversation with JE1CGC, who told him that JA1ELY is planning a trip to South Sandwich sometime next Spring; dates and plans to be announced later.

VR6, PITCAIRN ISLAND. VR6BX shows up every Thursday 0630 UTC on the 40 meter DX net. Look for this net between 7178-7184 kHz.

XU,XW,3W DXPEDITIONS. It was reported that a group of Japanese operators are heading to Vietnam and will operate from December 8-15. Then they will travel to Kampuchea to operate from December 17-24. From XU-land they will then operate from Laos December 24-31. They will be operating mostly CW on 28037 kHz and on 24096 if 10 meters propagation is bad.

YA, AFGHANISTAN. OPDX received a letter from W3XU on Monday informing us that a group of Soviet hams are planning a major DXpedition to YA. A license has been obtained authorizing the use of the call YA5MM for the months of February and March of 1992. This operation will include participation in the 1992 ARRL CW Contest and two to three weeks of intense activity on the bands, with 25,000 projected QSO's. The primary operators at this point are noted DXer/Contesters UT4UX and UJ8JMM. Others will be involved as finances permit. The proposed site is Mazari Sharif City and is only 50 miles from the Tadjik border. Not counting the equipment (which is needed), the projected cost for the 2 operators is approximately \$9,000, about \$3,000 of which is needed for pre-expedition. Donations can be sent to: YA5MM c/o W3XU, Bill Remington, 1078

Shallcross Lake Road, Middletown, Delaware 19709 USA. (In the event the expedition does not materialize, contributions will, of course, be returned.... de Bill, W3XU)

ZF, CAYMAN ISLANDS. Jack, WB9OTX, and Frank, N9KAE, will be operating from the Cayman Islands January 7 thru the 14. Jack will sign ZF2GO and Frank will receive his call upon his arrival. They will operate 10 meters, below 28500 kHz during the days and all bands in the evenings. Scheduled contacts can be made @N8GTC BBS. QSL via KA9DZM.

OSCAR 10 IS ALIVE AND ACTIVE. Mel, WM3M, reports working ZL2TPO, VK2DRJ, 5V7JG and PJ2CU. Jack, PJ2CU, told Mel he will be looking for other South American stations on Oscar 10.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION VAIS. VEIAL and VEIXT are now sign VAIS to celebrate the first radio transmission by Marconi between the East and West Atlantic, in 1902. They will be active until the end of the year and there is a special certificate available for \$3.00 or 5 IRC's. A request for QSLs and/or certificates go to: Al Robert Leith, VEIAL, 846 George St., Sydney, Nova Scotia B1P 1L9, Canada.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION HC60JB. This station was active from 2100z December 6th to 0300z December 8th to commemorate 60 years of broadcasting by shortwave Christian broadcaster HCJB. A special QSL is available for this event from: HCJB, Casilla 17-1-00691, Quito, Ecuador.

VK0, MACQUARIE ISLAND. Jim Smith, VK9NS, reports that VK0WD will be operational from December 13 thru January 3, by VK7WD.

XU, KAMPUCHEA. XU8DX will be looking for east coast stations on 7005 kHz around 1100z.

YA, AFGHANISTAN. Ed, NT2X, has spoken to Romeo, UB5JRR, by telephone and Romeo wants everyone to know all the YA0RR cards have been processed as of November 21st. If you did not receive your card yet, send your second card to Box 812, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria. There is no need to enclose another donation or IRCs. Romeo also states he will be going to Afghanistan again. This will be a short DXpedition to last for about 4-5 days at the end of December. He will be there actually on business, but he has renewed his license and will get on the air from the town of Hazareh Torghay just across the border from Termez. There will be two other operators traveling with Romeo (UJ8JLT and UB5JIM). Romeo will be using the same frequencies as used on his XY0RR operation with the exception of 15 meters CW band. On 15 meters CW he will be using the frequency of 21030.7 kHz.

ZK2, NIUE. Ron, ZL1AMO, is now active from here and length of stay is unknown at this time. He has been heard on 7007 kHz between 0930 to 1130z, on 10102 kHz around 1300z and on 28024 kHz around 2215z. QSL via ZL1AMO.

ZS0, PENGUIN ISLANDS. Reported by reliable sources, that ZS6BCR plus others operators will activate ZS0Z from December 16-23.

MORE ON ROMEO, UB5JRR. Romeo is to traveling to Japan November 23rd and will be working with JA2JPA on the layout for his XY0RR cards. Their goal is to have all cards printed before the end of December. There could be an added incentive to have the cards out early; postal rates in Russia may be going up very substantially January 1st. Ed, NT2X, was told by Romeo that all doubts about the acceptance of his XY0RR operation will end after the ARRL receives all his documentation. Romeo states he has more than enough documentation on hand for his XY0RR and 1S0RR operations. Not trusting the Soviet mail, he is waiting for an opportunity for someone to bring the paperwork to the U.S. for delivery to the League via NT2X. All documentation will be in the ARRL's hands before the New Year.

Romeo wishes to thank each and everyone who supported him and his expedition to Myanmar. Commemorative metals were minted and are ready to go in the mail before the end of the year. The list of receipts may be obtained with an SASE from NT2X.

QSL TIDBITS..... UA9MA requests "no greenstamps", IRC's ONLY, as mail theft is a major problem..... Statements made by stations on the INDEXA Net are that a few state-side stations have received their 3C0CW cards.... RM8MA/RM3P can be QSLed to Fred Justus, POB 1790, Frunze 720023, USSR..... Cards from the 3B8CF/3B7 operation are now being received... The address for N6ZV (QSL Manager for D68GA) is wrong in the 1991 CallBook. N6ZV address is: Don Jones, 1605 West Avenue O-4, Palmdale, CA 93551..... Some people have begun to receive their ZA1HA cards.... ZA1A cards still being received..... According to a letter received from Mario, IS0LYN, QSL Manager for 3V8AA, only contacts made between 1980 and 1983 are legitimate. If you worked 3V8AA after 1983, it was most probably a pirate. Mario also advises that he is the manager for 7P8RQ, 7X2CR and SU1HV and receives the logs via radio. Confirmed QSO's with these stations are received very quickly. A SU1HV card was received in three weeks.... STS-35 QSL cards from WA4SIR are arriving in mail..... TT8SA cards are being received.... It was reported on INDEXA, that JA1NUT has just sent documentation to the ARRL for his XU0JA operation and cards should be coming out soon.

USSR POSTAGE. Ron, WB3LHD, informs OPDX, those who use SASE for QSLing please note: USSR postage stamps are no longer valid in the newly independent country of Lithuania. The Republic of Estonia will honor USSR postage until the end of 1991, but in 1992 only Estonian postage stamps will be valid. Latvian postage stamps are sure to follow some time soon. (Info from William Plum - Airmail Postage/DX Supplies)

Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as OPDX/BARF80 receive credit. To contribute DX info, call BARF-80 BBS online at 216-237-8208 2400/1200/300 and leave a message with the Sysop or send InterNet Mail to: aq474@cleveland.freenet.edu or send BitNet Mail to: aq474@cleveland.freenet@cunyvms or send a message via packet to KB8NW @ WA8BXN.OH.USA.NA

DX TIDBITS- Rick Glisson, N4XMX VP

Thanks to everybody that showed up at the tower "hearing", we need to support each other. More than half the problem is educating the public as to what we actually do and how that might benefit them. Don't hide from your neighbors, educate them. Run low power unless you need more. Excepting contests, I am actually on the air transmitting very little. Most of my time is spent listening and catching up on QSL chores. Try not to give neighbors a reason to dislike amateur radio. The ideal is to convert them into hams too!

For those who like to work a little closer in, the ARRL SS was an excellent time to catch up on all those states I needed. Took about 1 hour to snag the last 6 states I needed for WAS. I changed to lower bands to work the real close-in ones. When working DX, one tends to forget about stateside. The ARRL SS is one way to work states without feeling guilty about it. You can also work just the ones you want by listening since they give the state as part of the exchange. It is a good contest for new DXers who want to practice DX pileup techniques. The stakes are not high and you don't run the risk of greatly offending any rare DX and getting on a "black list." (Now if I can just get a card from Alabama...)

US contest stations: Please answer QSL requests that include a SASE. Don't fuel the thought that US stations are the worse QSLers. If you enter the contest, be prepared to QSL. Most people on during a contest are casual operators and work you to confirm a state, band, mode, etc. Without them, you can just work the other 100 contest stations and shut down. I always make a point of working a station during a contest if the station has responded to a QSL request (DX or stateside). This is my way of thanking them.

The ARRL 10M Contest is coming up as well as the 160M Contest. I enjoy both contests because they are single band. You can set up your antenna and amp (if needed) once and pretty well work the full range. This will be the last good year on 10M so get the DX while you can! Novices and Hi-Techs, this is one of the best opportunities to work good DX that there is. Remember, aim towards Europe and Africa in the morning and Pacific during the afternoon. Caribbean can be worked just about all day. Use this opportunity to build up those country totals. For the old timers, get your band countries while you can, the band will only get worse.

The 160M contest is a lot of fun because you can let the family go to sleep while you play on the radio. I used K1EA to eliminate dupes last year because of the limited number of stations I could hear. They constantly moved around and I got tired of searching my entire QSO log each time I could hear somebody. I used a 100 ft wire and 100W last year and chased anybody I could hear. When I worked Canada, I thought I had done something! 160M redefines the term DX. Operating in

the 160M contest is similar to boot camp..., it feels so good when you stop!

Regardless of where John puts my article this time, I want to congratulate John, KI4XO/AE for his upgrade to Extra. That's as high as you can go and that says a lot about him. Way to go, John!! Have a safe and happy holiday season! See you in the pileups...

-Rick

Upcoming Dx from QRZ DX - 12/09/91

OK1IAI/YA NOW
HS0ZAP BY THE COLVINS NOW
XQ0X ON SSB/RTTY NOW
A71CH NOW
VA1S NOW TIL DEC 31
J5AUA NOW UNTIL DEC 6
EM3W USSR NOW
YA2CW SOON?
VS6/GU4XGG OCT 18-DEC 5
4T0SL PERU NOV 30-DEC 1
D2ACA DEC
8P9 BY LA4LN & LA2SR DEC 2-9
TATOOSH IS. NA-169 DEC 3-6
K1RH/1D3 IOTA NA-082 DEC 6
HC60JB DEC 6-8
ARRL 160M CONTEST DEC 7-8
XV BY JA2EZD DEC 6-12
J37 BY LA4LN & LA2SR DEC 9-16
VP5 BY SM3TLG DEC 9-20
XU BY JA2EZD DEC 12-19
VP2V/AA5DX DEC 13-20
ARRL 10 METER CONTEST DEC 14-15
S21A, ETC DEC 15 OR SO
ZS0Z PENGUIN ISLANDS DEC 16-23
XW BY JA2EZD DEC 19-26
5R BY FR5EL? DEC 20-
JT-80 ANNIV. CONTEST DEC 21-22
J79DX BY AA5DX DEC 21-JAN 13
NE8Z/1G4 SIESTA KEY DEC 22-27
NE8Z/1L4 LIDO KEY DEC 28-31
YA0RR AGAIN LATE DEC
ARRL 160M CONTEST JAN 7-8
KPI NAVASSA BY W OPS JAN 17-23
AH6IO/KH4 JAN
HA DX CONTEST JAN 18-19
CQ WW 160M CW CONTEST JAN 24-26
3W3 BY W OPERATORS JAN (RESCHEDULED)
VK9X BY W5KNE & W5BOS FEB 11-24
YA5MM FEB/MAR
ZL8 KERMADEC IS. MAR.
VISALIA DX CONV. APR 10-12

CONTEST SCORES FOR THIS MONTH:

K4JPD, Steve did outstanding with 40 meter single op CW score of 1147 Qs, 128 countries, and 38 zones. His point count was 534,188. Tough band, great effort.

P40J - WX4G Bob Brockman ran 15 meter single band CW for 4026 Q's 38 zones, 124 countries for a score of 1,758,000. Another impressive score.

K4PI, Mike operated single op assisted, running 935 Qs, 480 countries, and 170 zones for a score of over 1,600,000 quite a job Mike.

At **N4RJ** - KM9P Bill performed at the 4,000,000 plus effort for single op assisted in the CW contest. Quite a feat.

Last month the **P40T** Multi-op SSB station had 9,521 Qs, 149 zones, 528 countries for over 19,000,000 points.

AA4GA operated **AB4RU** in the ARRL 160 meter contest for a score of 196,000. 1047 Qs by 91 multipliers. Looks like a new division record for single op and 3rd place nationally. **K1ZM** was first place with 254,000 and **K5NA** was second with over 200,000

FOR SALE OR TRADE:

Kenwood TS940 for sale with Fox Tango filters

Radio in box, excellent condition with both service manuals asking \$1,699.

Kenwood SM220 bandscope in box \$299

Kenwood TS950 plus options in excellent condition with manual and boxes \$2,800

Call Vern Fowler, W8BLA, at 993-2090 evenings

Bill Barr/Fulton County Tower Defense Fund Drive

Please contact Jim Altman regarding the establishment of a legal defense fund for Mr. Barr who has been asked to take his 100 foot tower down to 35 feet in Fulton County. Call Jim at his office at 526-8868 for more details and information.

REMINDERS

Please attend the dinner if you can at the Days Inn restaurant on Tuesday evening.

Topics for August meeting:
T33 Video and the art of CW Contesting

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