



Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

March 2009

**SEDXC SCORES AGAIN !!!!
-----TWICE -----**

FIRST: DESECHEO K5D



From this rocky out-cropping came this word!



That about says it all.

With four SEDXC members in the expedition co-leader, Bob Allphin, K4UEE, with Greg Marco, W6IZT, Bill Barr, N4NX and George Nicholson, N4GRN, helped the team give the world's hams the 6th most needed country.

SECOND: CURACAO PJ2T



From this location a group of SEDXC members, many of them novice Dxpediton operators, ran up a score that will likely be the winner in the Multi-Multi category. Again led by our president Bob, K4UEE, the operators were: K1MMH, K4UEE, W0CG KI4GSO, KU4V, N4GRN, N4HH, N4LR, N4NX ND4V, W4GKF, WA4ZXV, WZ8P.

With a total score of 8,294,076 this looks like the winner!

All this in about one month has keep many SEDXC members on the run and kept the other members at their radios to work them.

Now as Bob says—Back to reality.

From the President:

Well, it is great to be back. As this is written, I have been home six nights in the last five weeks. I am not complaining; it has been a couple of wonderful adventures. First at

Desecheo (K5D) and then PJ2T for the ARRL Phone contest.

I assume most of you followed the K5D DXpedition on the website (www.kp5.us). I think Chaz did a wonderful job of keeping the world informed as the DXpedition unfolded. And of course, having four SEDXC members (myself, N4NX, W6IZT and N4GRN) on the K5D team made me especially proud. We made almost 116,000 QSOs, no one got hurt and we all remain friends....

For the second year in a row, a team from the SEDXC traveled to a not-so-far away QTH, manned a super-station and won the Multi/Multi category. At least we think we won this year! We do have the trophy for last year at TI50DX!

Now back to reality.....hope to see all of you Wednesday night, March 18th at 7:30pm. or at the Panera Bread earlier! We will have a terrific presentation on towers presented by our own tower expert, Dave, K4SSU and we will vote on funding for two important DXpeditions.

73, Bob-K4UEE

Vice President's Report:

The SEDXC PJ2T team should all have returned by now from the isle of sunshine and spirits. What a nice way to say hello to warm weather. I know quite a few of us worked them on all bands, including 160m where things are beginning to sound like summer. The highlight for me --and quite a few others---was working them on 10m late in the contest after it seemed there was not going to be any propagation. Nice job PJ2T team!

The indices are flagging again, and the last Cycle 24 sunspot was quite a while back, though there was a small and brief Cycle 23 spot a couple of weeks back. Some of the propagation gurus are mumbling about a double minimum now. I suppose they have consulted some bones and thrown some lots. But there is still DX to be worked on the upper bands and a lot of it on the lower bands. 17m was dead as a doornail on the afternoon of the 9th. But just before twilight

the band opened and suddenly there was a JD1, the Chatham Island crew, and other nice DX. And a number of SEDXC members worked most of them—including K4KAL and K4WZ, who had very nice signals at my place. 30m, 40m, 80m and to a certain extent 160m were lively as well.

For those of you who have been bitten by the Linux bug after WK4U's presentation last month, keep your eyes open on your next trip to Microcenter. The one off Powers Ferry has a nice PowerSpec machine loaded with Ubuntu for \$249, occasionally on sale for \$149. It is a very fast performer. But the really interesting news is that Microcenter has started stocking Linux related CDs, from \$1.99 to \$4.99 each. One particularly neat one is Ubuntu Studio if you are a photo or audio buff. You will pass the CDs while you are in the checkout maze in the last magazine rack before you make the turn to the cash registers. Check them out. I saw a funny Dell ad today. They announced they had heard us and had just the machines we need, downgraded to XP but ready to move to Vista when the owner is ready to make the move. I couldn't help thinking that if that move has not occurred already it most likely never will. How many times has Microsoft attempted to end XP sales? Windows 7 anyone? If you are brave you can try it in beta or probably buy it later this year.

Our very special speaker this month will be Dave Johnson, K4SSU, who will pass on some very useful information about how to get your beam and tower up inexpensively. Dave has enough material to tailor his talk in just the direction we want it to go. So if you have basic questions or advanced topics you want him to cover, he'll tackle them all—and maybe show you a very neat device for tightening guys and other things. Don't miss it!

73
Bob W2WG

Treasurer's Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of month-end
February 2009

General Checking:	\$5,702.67
Packet Fund:	<u>20.15</u>
Total Balance:	\$5,722.82

I hope you were one of the club members that I worked during the ARRL International DX Phone contest from PJ2T. It was a blast! Kudos go to Bob Allphin for proposing the idea last year. In my estimation our goal of having fun was certainly achieved. With any luck at all, our score will be good enough not to embarrass the Caribbean Contesting Consortium and who knows, it might just turn out to be two wins in a row. My thanks to Geoff Howard, PJ9DX, WØCG, for the many courtesies shown to me and the group during our stay.

We have two DXpeditions requesting funding: Sable Island and Midway. Details appear elsewhere in the bulletin.

73 es DX
Mike, ND4V

Activities Report:

We still need help manning our table at the 2009 Kennehoochee hamfest. By the responses so far, there may be a weak turnout, at least by SEDXC club members. Hope everyone had a chance to work K5D and fill in needed band modes. Got mine on CW. Kudos to the group. Also to the PJ2T members; especially to those who had never been on a contest-pedition before. 73s & see all at the meeting.

Gary – WB4SQ

Secretary's Report:

No report this month.

Other items in the news:

Although the donor wishes to remain anonymous, I can reveal that the raffle items at our meeting on 3/18 will include a brand new high quality headset with mike. Heck, maybe NN4ZZ will come away with his first mike and become an SSB enthusiast. Be sure to buy raffle tickets at the meeting-and to bring other raffle items.

And thanks to our anonymous donor!

73
Bob W2WG

Upcoming DX operation:

PRESS RELEASE
Midway Island 2009

A multi national team of 19 operators will activate Midway Island in October 2009. The US Fish & Wildlife Service has authorized amateur operation from this rare US entity for only a 10 day period, its first radio activity in almost 10 years.

Midway Island ranks number 24 worldwide and number 13 in Europe on the DX Magazine's "Most Wanted List". Activity will be on 6 meters to 160 meters with 5 to 6 stations. At least one station will be active on 20 meters around the clock for those who need it for a new country. Major efforts will be made to meet the demand to the most needed geographical areas, the low bands and RTTY.

Team members are AA4NN, EA1IR, DJ9ZB, KH7U, KI6TVS, KL2A, N1DG, N4PN, N4XP, N6GQ, N7CQQ, WB4JTT, W6KK, W6OSP, WA7NB, W8CAA, W8GEX, WA8NJR, and OK1KT.

Off site support is being provided by AA1V, W5DNT and W6XA.

Travel to Midway is only allowed by chartered aircraft. Because of the size of the aircraft, the team is presented with unique challenges. As such, the aircraft will only be able to carry the team requiring the equipment to be shipped by boat some months ahead. Adding to the high cost of transportation, daily fees and other charges established by the USF&WLS makes this operation very expensive.

A web site has been established and can be found at www.midway2009.com.
<http://www.midway2009.com/> com.

Please support this endeavor by sending a donation. To make it easy to donate you can contribute electronically using the web site or if you choose regular means you may do so. Instructions are given on the web site for either method.

Updates will be published on the web site as they become available.

Tom N4XP & Dave WB4JTT

Co Leaders for Midway Island 2009

Here is an e-mail from Geoff, W0CG, in regard to the PJ2T operation giving some of the details.

ARRL DX Contest, SSB

Call: PJ2T

Operator(s): K1MMH K4UEE W0CG KI4GSO
KU4V N4GRN N4HH N4LR N4NX ND4V
W4GKF WA4ZXV WZ8P

Station: PJ2T

Class: M/M HP

QTH: Netherlands Antilles

Operating Time (hrs): 47

Summary:

Band QSOs Mults

160: 545 53
80: 1368 59
40: 2001 60

20: 2336 59
15: 2197 58
10: 247 29

Total: 8694 318 Total Score = 8,294,076

Club: Southeastern DX Club

Comments:

PJ2T had the pleasure of welcoming Bob Allphin, K4UEE, and a host of his friends, mostly from the Southeastern DX Club (SEDXC) for this contest. Several of this crew had just returned from the K5D operation, yet remarkably they were still ready for more radio. In addition, Mary Hobart, K1MMH, ARRL's Chief Development Officer was on our crew. Mary is the most senior official from ARRL ever to visit PJ2T, and she did a great job in her first shot at big-power, big-rate contesting. Have a look at: http://asgard.kent.edu/ccc/arrlssb2009/img_9780.jpg for a photo of Mary and the special greeting we painted on the wall of the shack for her. Dan (N1ZZ), the RigBlaster man and owner of West Mountain Radio painted the ARRL logo during the CW weekend, and I did the lettering last week.

One of K4UEE's purposes in arranging this trip was to help expose non-contesters to our niche of the hobby. There were a handful of operators on our crew who had little to zero previous contesting experience, and yet they were all quick studies who will, we're sure, include contesting in their future radio fun and will help attract others into trying contest operation.

Conditions were awful. We had a terrible time getting good rate the first night because of a high "A" index and extremely bad noise on the low bands owing to rain showers all through this part of the Caribbean and northern Colombia and Venezuela. Saturday morning was no better as all yagis on the States were aimed at Europe to take advantage of good conditions on that path, especially on 20. The good news, though, was that 15 opened about 90 minutes earlier than in the CW weekend two weeks ago, and we were able to make hay most of the day on

15. Late Saturday afternoon, however, 15 closed to Europe for much of the U.S. and 20 became a zoo because it was the only viable band for a couple of hours. We managed one ESP QSO on 10 with W5PR (TX), but not a peep from anyone else in NA

Saturday on 28 MHz. The second night was almost as bad, with high QRN and weak signals. Then, at 0845Z (4:45 AM local) the commercial power dropped. This was absolutely the best time for this to happen, if it had to happen at all, as it's the slowest hour of the entire contest. We hustled up and got the stations back up on the generator, but lost pretty much an hour of operating time getting it all going. I dumped the five gallon can of gas into the generator and then headed out for the all-night gas station to refill the can in case this turned out to be a long failure. As I was driving through the pitch-black village of Soto, the lights came back up, I did a 180, and we got back on the commercial power soon afterward. (We're going to have to work on a better system for switchovers....)

Sunday was so slow that for awhile in the early afternoon our Multi/Multi had degraded to a single transmitter operation, with 20 being the only workable band. Then late Sunday afternoon Wayne (KU4V), fresh from the K5D pileups, worked W7ISG (AZ) at 2134Z (5:35 PM local) and it was off to the races. Wayne quickly spun off 245 more Qs on 10, netting a total of 29 multipliers. This magnificent Pacific scatter opening missed northern New England, all of VE, most of W0, and all of W7 except Arizona, but it was still a big thrill and it boosted our total score by almost 10%. The last Q on 10 was N5IW (TX) at 2317Z. How weird is that?

The highest rate hour of the entire contest was 2200-2300Z on Sunday, with 436 QSOs and 19 new mults. Amazing. Our Multi/Multi was done with four stations, but there were very few hours that all four of them were needed. The equipment held up well, even through the power failure, but we found out the hard way on Sunday that the Titan II would not tune up on 10. We replaced the band switch in it last year and obviously

fouled something up. Our backup AL-1200 did fine after a quick swap.

Thanks to SEDXC and K4UEE for making the trip to Curacao. Special thanks to Mike (ND4V) for buying and bringing some hardware items that I can't get here on the island. I'm also appreciative to SEDXC for the gift of a couple of commemorative tee shirts from our weekend here. We made a lot of new friends and look forward to hopefully seeing many of them back at PJ2T in the future.

And a special HUGE THANKS to Van Fair, W4GIW, for sending down his 1973 CQWW SSB trophy. Van organized a group that operated in the PJ2T shack in October of 73 and won CQWW SSB (M/M). That trophy, which is a gorgeous engraved silver plate, is now hanging in a place of honor in the PJ2T house, with an engraved silver placard that reads "In this building in October 1973 a group of SEDXC members organized by W4GIW won this CQWW MM phone trophy by almost 2 million points." They signed PJ9GIW, posted a score of 11,132,443, and Chaz Cone (W4GKW) who was with us just now in 2009 was on that historic GIW crew. Thanks, Van.

The SEDXC gang also made us the gift of a beautiful framed photo of Chet Brandon, PJ9EE, without whom any of this Curacao radio activity would ever have happened, scooping a double handful of seashells out of the ocean at the foot of PJ2T's cliff. This is a priceless keepsake that we'll treasure here at the station.

As always, great credit goes to CCC's incredible members who time and again are willing to do whatever it takes to keep this station on the air. It's never easy, but is ALWAYS fun.

Thanks for the contacts. PJ2T made slightly over 16,000 QSOs in this year's ARRL CW and SSB DX events. See you in WPX SSB.

73,
Geoff, WØCG, PJ2DX

Be sure to read the last two pages of the bulletin for the funding request presented to the club. These will be discussed and taken up at the meeting Wednesday night.

See all of you there.

Jim K4DLI
Editor

SEDXC OFFICERS

President: Bob Allphin, K4UEE

MAllphin@aol.com

V. President: Bob Carroll, W2WG

w2wg@comcast.net

Secretary: George Nicholson, N4GRN

770- 969-8499

Treasurer: Mike Weathers, ND4V

Nd4v@comcast.net

Activities: Gary McConville, WB4SQ

770- 842-0872

Editor: Jim Streible, K4DLI

K4dli@earthlink.net

770-993-1767

Membership Committee Chairman: Bill Barr, N4NX

n4nx@arrl.net

770-399-0824

Web Master: Chaz Cone, W4GKF

w4gkf@chazcone.com

770-394-2663

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. (Corrections, 1/2/04)
N4XMX off line(2400) 144.91 (direct, Vinings),
off line(2400) 145.65 (direct or ATLDX)

Note: ATLDX is down right now, direct OK.

KS4Q (2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw3'

(2400) 145.63 MHz; 'c saw4'

(1200) 145.69 MHz; 'c saw5'

Once you get a connect on any of the three

above frequencies, enter 'c saw1'. Once

you get a connect to saw1, enter 'c ks4q'

or simply 'dx'. or telnet dx.ks4q.net

NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75

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.sedxc.org

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com

SPECIAL NOTE:

Several members are now using the

Repeater on 145.410, down 600, for

chatting and real time DX announcements.

Join the group there. No tone required.

Entity Name / Call Sign	Sable Island – NØTG/CYØ, WA4DAN/CYØ, AA4VK/CYØ
Web page	http://www.cy0dexpedition.com/
Team leader / number of members:	Randy Rowe/3
Approx. Date of Dxpediton	7 – 14 October 2009
QSL manager / QSL route	NØTG/Direct (preferred)
Budget estimated for Dxpediton	\$17,000
Position on most wanted list:	No. 72 Overall, No. 13 Asia/JA
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	Formal Approval Received; documentation available
Last time this entity was activated	6 Meters(PRIMARY) in 2008 (with small fill-in on HF)
Typical interval between activations	Not sure....maybe 5 years or more. Expensive and tricky to schedule and deal with weather issues.
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpediton	No (The one that “was” cancelled)
Objective / Strategy	See Below for extended comment: <i>Our goal for CY0 is to satisfy the need for as many as we can for Sable Island, whether as a new one or new band-mode combination.</i>
SEDXC member initiating request	n/a
SEDXC member(s) participating	None
Funding amount requested	\$500
Send Funds to:	NØTG – Randy Rowe
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	Yes
SEDXC logo on web page?	Yes
<p>Additional comments: Murray, WA4DAN was at CY0 In October 1996 right at the bottom of the cycle. In October 2009, we will catch Cycle 24 on the rise. In 1996, 10 and 12 Meters were completely dead except for a handful of contacts. We are hopeful that we will have at least some openings this time around. We are confident that 15 and 17 meters will yield many more contacts than 1996. It has been beneficial to study the logs from the 1996 DXpediton. We should be able to implement a band strategy that will have us on the right bands at the right time. We know when and what bands to expect the openings to Japan and Southeast Asia where the need is No. 13. Likewise, we know the bands and times for the South Pacific. Due to the location of Sable Island, Europe and the US will be available almost around the clock on multiple bands. We are committed to work as many Q's as possible politely, fairly, orderly, and fun for all on each side of the DXpediton. The team is experienced from past DX-peditons to Navassa, Desecheo, St. Paul, Sable, Mellish Reef, Russia, Caribbean (various), Samoa. 160 -10M including WARC, CW/SSB/RTTY will be activated.</p> <p>Team committed to 90% expense level. Thank you for your consideration.</p>	

Internal Use

Date published in the newsletter	
Results of member review at the meeting: (approved / disapproved)	
Funds disbursed on date:	
Funds disbursed by:	

Entity Name / Call Sign	Midway Island KH4
Web page	www.midway2009.com
Team leader / number of members:	Tom Harrell N4XP / Dave Johnson WB4JTT – Co Leaders 18 Members
Approx. Date of Dxpedition	5-19 October 2009
QSL manager / QSL route	N4XP Direct/Bureau
Budget estimated for Dxpedition	\$150,000*
Position on most wanted list:	Worldwide – 24; Europe - 13
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	Yes
Last time this entity was activated	2002
Typical interval between activations	At this time, no additional authorizations are planned
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpedition	No
Objective / Strategy	New country for all that need it with at least one 20M station will be active round the clock.
SEDXC member initiating request	N4XP
SEDXC member(s) participating	N4XP, N4PN, AA4NN, W5DNT
Funding amount requested	\$1,500*
Send Funds to:	Bruce Butler, W6OSP
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	Support of \$750 or more will show logo on QSL card
SEDXC logo on web page?	Yes

Additional comments: *the circumstances surrounding this operation, how it came about and how it will unfold cannot be properly addressed in this form. If provided a period during a club meeting I will be glad to provide an overall summary of those circumstances. In the meantime an overview is provided below:

History - Operation **sanctioned and participants approved individually by the US F&WLS where no radio operation has been allowed since 2002. This operation is offered on a trial basis for future radio operations.**

Application/Approval Process – **No groups allowed to apply, participants accepted on first come, first serve basis based on number of beds available and that they pay all customary charges associated with visiting Midway including transportation, etc.**

Requirements - Transportation via Sea - **Transportation via ship is not an option, requires extensive governmental permit application and hearing process.** Via Air - **Current transportation - charter aircraft but costly and no freight possible causing equipment to be shipped.**

On Site Costs – **Mandatory daily fixed cost per person while on the island, i.e. lodging, meals, several user fees, incidental expenses, etc. No food, etc. can be brought to the island. All food and any other incidentals must be purchased on the island.**

Equipment Shipping Costs – **All equipment must be shipped either via supply ship or on the charter aircraft on board other flights prior and after the operation.**

Infrastructure – **No infrastructure exists to support this operation and must be added at a cost to team.**

Internal Use

Date published in the newsletter	
Results of member review at the meeting: (approved / disapproved)	
Funds disbursed on date:	
Funds disbursed by:	