



# Southeastern DX Club

## W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB

May 2009

### From the President:

Can you believe it is May already? Which reminds me, June is SEDXC election month. As per the By-Laws, I have appointed a three man Nominating Committee to help us locate a willing slate of officers for the coming year. Members of the Committee are Harry Saunders W4KJ, Bill Barr N4NX and Neil, N4FN. Neal has agreed to Chair the committee. During my two years as President, I have tried to get some of our members to step up and get involved in the Club's management. Frankly, I have not been very successful! I am told that this is common for clubs of any kind...a few people, usually the same familiar faces, do all the volunteering and the work. Well, maybe so, but I know that in many ways this Club is special and has many especially talented people as members. So, where am I headed with this? Guess....this is another plea for any of you that have any interest in getting more involved, to do so now. Please contact any of the Nominating Committee members and tell them what you would like to do! We need fresh ideas and fresh blood. Thanks! Hope to see a big crowd again at the next meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Remember many of the gang meet at The Panera Bread around 6-6:30 pm for a bite to eat and some good old camaraderie !

73, Bob  
K4UEE

---

### From the Vice President:

My how time flies. My woods are already choked with vegetation, the copperheads are out, and the trees are in full leaf. Even the copperhead-killing cat can't keep up with

them. I was rushing out a few nights ago to disconnect before unexpected lightning and a 3-4 foot long copper head rushed by only a foot ahead. He looked awfully nasty. It seems that I am just a little late with my plans to put up just one more wire antenna. Jim Streible has convinced me to put up a long doublet, feed it with ladder line and use a beefy truly balanced tuner. We are going to use such a beast optimized by K4DLI for the NFARL Field Day CW antenna.

Jim's balanced tuner suggestion makes me realize how close we are to DAYTON. Such a tuner is one of the items I will be thinking about as I comb the aisles. Actually, I was pretty impressed with the construction of the MFJ 1500W balanced tuner when I peeked inside one at Dayton last year. I'll have to take a closer look.

The times they are a changing. Have you noticed the explosion in decent to outstanding direct conversion receivers lately? I just saw Sherwood's comment that in many respects the Perseus is the best receiver he has ever analyzed. I notice HRO has a new direct conversion receiver from Italy in their catalog. The specs look pretty close to the Perseus and the price looks a lot lower. Maybe these things are about to usher in a new architecture. I don't know if they are ready to displace the older tried and true architectures yet, but I suspect we will see at least one new high-end transceiver at Dayton this year using direct conversion. The rumor is that at least one well-loved Japanese company sees this architecture in their future.

I was very active on RTTY back in NJ only a few years ago, and reasonably active on digital modes. When I graduated to a HAL

**DXP38 TNC, I was convinced I had found the ultimate for RTTY. And then the sound card-based programs started to nibble away at the HAL's edge, finally taking the lead in my mind around five years ago. And then I moved to Marietta.**

**My setup here started in the early stages of disorganization, and the entropy has increased every day since. I have one of those basements where I might become trapped and starve to death entangled in cables while my wife is away at a bridge tournament. But finally, a number of months back at an NFARL meeting, I got a look at Ham Radio Deluxe and its digital adjunct, DM780. What a beautiful looking program. And what a digital setup. It has more modes on it than I can count, and to me the SuperBrowser seems the RTTY equivalent of CW Skimmer. Between that and comments from Neil Foster, the digital pulses started to nibble at me once more. I am finally hooked up digitally again—and took the lazy way out by using a RigBlaster instead of rolling my own interface. Heck, my parrot has started to sin in RTTY again and has added bpsk to his repertoire.**

**And once again, I find time has moved on. The digital programs available today significantly outperform my old standards from four years back—and I am running several simultaneously in rx just to look at the error differences between programs.**

**At our program this month Neil Foster, and hopefully his guest Bill Ripley if Bill's schedule works out will intrigue you with the world of digital DX.—you might be surprised to see JT's, and some mighty unusual DX running PSK and putting in good signals here. I think you will be stunned by the beauty of the HRD program and pleased with its capability. And "free" is especially good. I had been a little reluctant to install Ham Radio Deluxe because it seemed complex, but Neil was able to make it seem simple with a little advice here and there and a phone call or two. He'll do the same for you at the May meeting.**

**Yes, just as with the wire antenna and the digital hookup, I'm running a little late and have not sent the May program information to Chaz yet. But the old antenna professor, K4DLI, will be revealing his time tested secrets on matching all sorts of antennas, showing you how simple it is these days with a meter such as the AIM unit and several really slick programs such as TLW. Jim's networks have been used in many places, including at the base of several antennas out in my yard. You'll be amazed at how easy it is to design and build them.**

**Our program in July will be a great one. Greg Abernathy, AI4UD, who is a Professional Engineer in lightning protection of electronic equipment and is a real resource for protecting ham stations will be doing the program. He comes to us by the recommendation of Jim Studer who has seen him in action and in presentation. Thanks, Jim! He will be able to handle very specific questions with very specific and concise answers. I promise!**

**Time to start making that list for Dayton. I hope to see many of you there and at the May meeting.**

**73  
Bob W2WG, SEDXC VP**

---

## **SEDXC Meeting Minutes**

**April 2009**

**Bob K4UEE called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.**

**There were 52 members in attendance. Dick Grantham VE1AI and his wife Sandra from the Halifax Amateur Radio Club were guest of my wife Kim and I. Dick was past president of the HARC and has been on a few DXpeditions. Dick is also very active in the planning of the annual Maritime DX Forum in Halifax. There was a new member N4WF in attendance --- welcome.**

**Presidents Report: K4UEE Bob  
1) Introductions**

**Vice Presidents Report: Bob W2WG**

- 1) DXPros are working with several hams still
- 2) There was a reminder that DXPros website is "dxpros.org" NOT ".com"

Treasurer's report: Mike ND4V gave the report. He said that CY0 and Midway had been funded and we had a balance of approximately \$4700.00 in the account.

Secretary's Report: Minutes are published and accepted since there were no corrections.

Activities Manager: Gary WB4SQ

- 1) The Kennehooche Hamfest had very light attendance this year.
- 2) There was a decision to not go to Birmingham this year

How's DX:

- 1) K4UEE worked VK9GMW on 160m.
- 2) K4SSU said that 40m had been very active recently especially since the broadcast stations were now gone.

Club Comments and Reminders:

- 1) The DX dinner at Dayton has been completely booked.
- 2) The annual SEDXC dinner on Thursday night will be at The Stockyard as usual for SEDXC members and W4KJ is organizing that event and there are a few openings remaining.
- 3) We were reminded that the repeater is 145.41 and let's please start using it.
- 4) There was great participation in the GA QSO party.

Club Business:

- 1) A nominating committee for the June elections was formed with Neal, Bill, and Harry.

BREAK and Raffle:

- 1) There were a great number of raffle donations after the short break at 7:55PM.

Program: K5D

- 1) K4UEE presented the Power Point presentation of the recent K5D expedition that Bill N4NX, Greg W6IZT, and George N4GRN also participated in as on-island team members. Several club members were very helpful in off-island work two especially Chaz and Jim.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30PM.  
George Nicholson Secretary

## Treasurer's Report:

SEDXC Financial position as of month-end  
April 2009

General Checking:	\$4,971.67
Packet Fund:	<u>20.15</u>
Total Balance:	\$4,991.82

73 es DX  
Mike, ND4V

---

## Activities Report:

There was little interest in attending the Birminghamfest. Unfortunately, that was our last chance to speak with W4RU (Sandy) before his passing on to the ethers of the big DX. As with fellow member W4DNO (Stan), he will be sorely missed!

On the brighter side... The Atlanta hamfest at Jim Miller park is just weeks away. Being June 5<sup>th</sup> this year, it's a great place to pick up those last minute goodies for Field Day. Having survived the N4N lightning strokes last year, I'm thinking lots of ground rods and ways to raise lan cables off the ground. Hope everyone has a great time at Dayton. See ya at the next meeting.

Gary – WB4SQ

---

## Sandy Donahue, W4RU, Silent Key

Amateur radio lost a loyal member and promoter on May 4<sup>th</sup> with the passing of Sandy. He was 63.

Sandy was an ARRL Life Member and served as Vice Director since January 2002. Licensed for almost 50 years. Prior to that Sandy served as ARRL Georgia Section Manager from 1997-2001. Sandy had spent his last weekend at the Birmingham Hamfest doing what he loved to do.

There will be a memorial service held in conjunction with the Atlanta Hamfest on June 6, 2009 at 1 PM

## ODE ON OLD CANS



OLD CANS KEEP ME IN STATIC AND WHISPERS,  
ONCE THEIR BAKELITE CAPS BOXED TENDER EARS,  
BUT NOW THEY SMASH UP AGAINST WHITE WHISKERS,  
SAME OLD CANS ON MY MIND FOR YEARS AND YEARS.  
AS EVER SO, THIS WORN HARDWARE RESTS LINEASY,  
BUZZING WITH THE NOISE OF NOTHING SPECIAL,  
TILL RATTLED BY HISTORIC SQUAWKS AND SCREAMS.  
WHY WEAR THIS ANTIQUE HEADRESS, I PUZZLE,  
FROM THE PAST OF PARLORS AND PACHISI,  
WHEN RADIO ROARED THE STUFF OF DREAMS?

From the PVRC Newsletter.

### ANOTHER INTERESTING RADIO USE OF GOOGLE MAPS

[www.heywhatsthat.com](http://www.heywhatsthat.com)

“You hike to the top of a mountain or pull off at a scenic overlook. You see mountains in the distance. Which mountains are they? HeyWhatsThat will tell you, providing a 360° panoramic sketch labeled with the names of the peaks you're looking at. From almost anywhere in the world. Via web, email and mobile phone.

#### “Our Current Offerings:

The main site computes the horizon and mountain names and other related visualizations, including the surface of the Earth visible from where you're standing (the visibility cloak or viewshed) and the line of sight profile between you and the distant peaks.

---

Hope everyone has a great time in Dayton!!

---

#### SEDXC OFFICERS

President: Bob Allphin, K4UEE

[bob@k4uee.com](mailto:bob@k4uee.com)

V. President: Bob Carroll, W2WG

[w2wg@comcast.net](mailto:w2wg@comcast.net)

Secretary: George Nicholson, N4GRN  
770- 969-8499

Treasurer: Mike Weathers, ND4V

[nd4v@comcast.net](mailto:nd4v@comcast.net)

Activities: Gary McConville, WB4SQ  
770- 842-0872

Editor: Jim Streible, K4DLI

[k4dli@earthlink.net](mailto:k4dli@earthlink.net)

770-993-1767

Membership Committee Chairman: Bill Barr, N4NX

[n4nx@arri.net](mailto:n4nx@arri.net)

770-399-0824

Web Master: Chaz Cone, W4GKF

[w4gkf@chazcone.com](mailto: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 +600

SEDXC WEBPAGE

[www.sedxc.org](http://www.sedxc.org)

SEDXC REFLECTOR [sedxc@contesting.com](mailto: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.

---