

# Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB
June 2009

## **NOTICE:**

JUNE IS ELECTION MONTH: NEW CLUB OFFICERS WILL BE ELECTED THIS MONTH. BE THERE TO VOTE.

## From the President,

This is last of my "from the President" columns, as my two terms as President are coming to an end. Elections will be held at the upcoming June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. You will find the Nominating Committee's report and slate for the coming year elsewhere in this newsletter. If you have an interest in any of these positions, please find someone to nominate you at the upcoming meeting.

I am particularly pleased to have been President during the SEDXC's Half-centennial year. For me, it was a special opportunity and an honor. I believe we did it up right with several events celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If you are a DXer anywhere in the world and didn't know it was the SEDXC's 50<sup>th</sup> year, you were asleep for 12 months in a cave in Pakistan.

Allow me to thank my Officers and appointees for making my job so very easy. I am pleased to have served with Bob, W2WG, Mike, ND4V, George N4GRN, Gary WB4SQ, Jim K4DLI, Bill N4NX and Chaz W4GKF. They are all dedicated to the success of the

SEDXC and spend more time than you will ever know making sure this fine organization functions well and is a good experience for it's 225 + members.

Thanks for the opportunity to serve! 73, Bob-K4UEE

The Nomination Committee, chaired by Neil Foster, N4FN, presents this slate of candidates for office.

Press. Bob Carroll W2WG
VP Jim Cummings KT4MM
Secretary Wes Lamboley W3WL
Treasurer Mike Weathers ND4V
Activities Gary McConville WB4SQ

If YOU would like to run for any of these offices be there and volunteer.

#### From the Vice President:

June already? That means Field Day, and there are lots of local opportunities to participate. I haven't missed operating at a Filed Day site in a long time, and they have all been fun—though after last year I am a little more skittish about lightning. After my FT1000MP was pronounced beyond repair, I did some reading which concluded that if you can hear thunder, even distant thunder, there could be a stroke to ground at your location. On the second day after

moving into my last house in NJ, adjacent to what I later found out old maps designate as Lightning Hill, I was at my rear property line figuring out how I was going to site my antennas. I could hear thunder in the far distance, but the skies were blue with no clouds—and there was a bolt out of the blue to my chimney—no thunder, just the arc, that very loud snap and bricks flying out of the chimney. I was around 200' away and reflexively hit the ground and shook for a few minutes. Fortunately I didn't feel even a tingle. That same chimney was hit twice more—and lost some bricks each time—over a 20+ year period.

The June meeting will be the end of my tour as the SEDXC VP. It has been fun as well as a good bit of work. I feel very strongly that the leadership and foresight of a club president is vital to the success and growth of a club, and we have been blessed over the past two years by a club president with such vision. Thanks, Bob Allphinyou hit on all cylinders, and I really enjoyed working with you. I also feel strongly that having interesting programs over a variety of subjects is a key to getting members—and visitors—to meetings, and I want to thank all the members of the club who gave me ideas or volunteered for a program (or two!). I hope you will give the same support to our next VP. And we WILL have a great protection program in July.

The speaker for June will be Jim Streible. Details are on the web site, but I want to urge you not to miss Jim's presentation. Most everyone

knows that Jim is an antenna guru, both from the analysis and design standpoints. His designs range from beams to wire designs, and it seems to me there have been quite a few antenna articles popping up in QST and ARRL publications authored by Jim this year. Jim's program will deal with how to feed and match antennas with impedances which are not 50 ohms resistive. How do you make a matching network with low power loss and the bandwidth you require? What type of network will work best? The answer to that in many cases may surprise you. How can you build such a network given easily available components, and how can you house it for installation outside? As Jim has said, given the software and analyzer tools available today, it is not as complex a task as you might expect. Come hear the talk, and invite your ham buddies from other clubs.

73, Bob W2WG, SEDXC VP, and as we say in cw lingo, SK, CL

# SEDXC Meeting Minutes May 2009

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

There were 32 members in attendance. We had several first time visitors or new members --- K3AV Weyman, K4YJI Bill, and K4GJ Dennis. We also had Jenna Greg's daughter.

**Presidents Report: K4UEE Bob** 

1) Introductions

**Vice Presidents Report: Bob W2WG** 

1) DXPro's needs someone to help a new ham in Doraville.

Mike and Norm volunteered to help.

Treasurer's report: Mike ND4V gave the report.

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

**Activities Manager: Gary WB4SQ** 

1) People are needed for the Atlanta Hamfest, please contact Gary.

#### How's DX:

- 1) There are openings on 17M around 8AM into Asia short path
- 2) Glorosio is happening in July it looks like.

#### **Club Comments and Reminders:**

- 1) Hal reminded all that The Southeast Contest Club will have its annual meeting at 11AM at the Atlanta Hamfest.
- 2) The memorial for Sandy will have many guest from ARRL and we will all miss Sandy
- 3) Ernie's progress can be checked on at caring bridge. Ernie is having a tough time.
- 4) There was great participation at the SEDXC annual Dayton dinner. We had the following guest
  - a. KP4AM, KP2L, NC1L, N2OO, VE1QD, JA1LZR, KA1WSZ, and several other people that I did not get the names of so sorry for those that are not listed.
- 5) Sunny KE4LDJ is in a home with early Alzheimer's and Bob K4UEE is helping liquidate his station.
- 6) K4UEE, W6IZT, N4NX, and N4GRN were on-island members of the K5D Dxpedition which was

- awarded Co-DXpedition of the year at Dayton.
- 7) Tom N4XP was inducted into the hall of fame at Dayton and is also a club member.
- 8) Wes asked about the E44M DXpedition and if we contributed and if so why were we not listed. He also asked about K4M.
- 9) There are several Field Day operations available:
  - a. Kennahoochee
  - b. North Fulton
  - c. Milledgeville

#### **Club Business:**

- 1) The nominating committee Neal, Harry, and Bill announced the slate of officers:
  - a. Pres --- W2WG Bob
  - b. V Pres --- KT4MM Jim
  - c. Treasurer --- ND4V --- Mike
  - d. Secretary --- W3WL Wes
  - e. Activities Manager --- WB4SQ Gary

#### **BREAK and Raffle:**

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

**Program: PDK and other Digital Modes** 

1) Neil presented a great Power Point showing the various digital modes.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30PM.

George Nicholson N4GRN Secretary

**Treasurer's Report:** 

SEDXC Financial position as of June 9, 2009

General Checking: \$5,023.67 Packet Fund: \$5,023.67 Total Balance: \$5,043.82

During the month, I sent \$100.00 to Dani Gonzalez for the Nauru DXpedition (C2). Our investigation into why we were not on the E44M website disclosed that they did not request funding from us and we did not make a donation.

June is the last month of the Club's Fiscal Year. So, it is once again time to mention the D-word. Yes, DUES are now being accepted for the club year that begins July 1, 2009 and ends on June 30, 2010. You may pay in person at the club meeting; by mail to SEDXC \* 207 Longview Dr. \* Norcross, GA 30071-2127; or by the PayPal link on the club website <a href="https://www.sedxc.org">www.sedxc.org</a> If you pay by check, please put your call sign on the check.

73 es DX Mike, ND4V

## **Activities Report:**

Congrats to our seven new members, six of whom joined up at the recent Atlanta hamfest. This fest was up in attendance but someone forgot to tell that to the tail-gaters. Hopefully there'll be many more next year. 73's & hope to see everyone at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Gary – WB4SQ

Here are a couple of items from the PVRC Newsletter:

FUSSY ANTENNAS !! forwarded by Mike, WØYR

In case you think your 160 M ant is fussy about adjustments resulting in feedpoint impedance changes, read THIS!

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The time and frequency station that synchronizes radio-controlled clocks and wristwatches across the U.S. is WWVB, 60 kHz, near Fort Collins, Colorado. The station broadcasts with two antennas and two transmitters for reliability but still drops off the air on occasion. That was the case on December 11, 2008 from 11:36 AM to 12:17 PM PST and we asked what happened.

It turns out that winds of about 50 MPH or more physically move WWVB's wire antennas enough to upset the impedance match to the transmitters. Even though an automated tuning system is in place, it can't keep up with rapid reactance shifts caused by big winds according to the facility manager.

The best solution for WWVB in the presence of high winds is to assign an operator (when possible) to manually correct the antenna reactance, just the way a board operator "rides gain" on audio from a live stage production. An operator can react faster than the present automated impedance controller. **During normal operation, WWVB** transmits 24 hours per day, seven days a week, providing the nation with reliable time and frequency information. CGC uses WWVB to synchronize its master oscillator which is then used in CGC's frequency measuring service. (GPS is not authorized for this purpose, see FCC Rule 73.1540(c).)

Written by Robert Gonsett, W6VR, December 15, 2008 and referenced in The CGC Communicator. newsletter #872

# GERMAN MICKEY MOUSE RADIO SNOOPS ON COPS

by Lester Haines (Bootnotes, March 2009)

The German powers that be are investigating a kids' miniature Mickey Mouse radio which apparently entertains nippers with police radio traffic. The Chinese-made novelty came with issue 12 of Mickey Maus magazine, which hit newsstands last week. Parents reported the eavesdropping to cops, who picked up a few copies to check out the device.

Hamburg police spokescopper Ulrike Sweden confirmed to the Hamburger Morgenpost:

"We've received reports and detectives are finding out whether it's in violation of telecommunications law."

A representative of publisher Ehapa
Verlag insisted the radio had been
"scrupulously tested at an institute for
toy safety" and "should only be able to
tune into normal radio stations".
According to the German branch of The
Local, a further statement posted last
Friday on the Mickey Maus website
assured concerned parents that the cases
were "isolated".

The statement further offered a typically Teutonic solution to inadvertent Polizeisnooping, ordering the magazine's readers: "The radio is exclusively designed for listening to music. Everything else is not allowed."

That's about it for this month.
I leave you with 2 pictures from
Dayton that made an impression.

Who can ever forget that "Luso Tower"



# And than there was the car in the Salem Mall Parking Lot:



I saw several people trying to count the antennas. I don't think anyone made it all the way from one end to the other.

#### SEDXC OFFICERS

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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 MegacIst) (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

SEDXC REFLECTOR <a href="mailto:sedxc@contesting.com">sedxc@contesting.com</a>

## **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.