



Southeastern DX Club

W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB
October 2009

President's Report:

Almost time for Halloween—and there is a pumpkin shortage! There has not been a DXpedition shortage, as DXpeditions have started their fall appearances. An important one for me was Conway Reef, an entity I had somehow managed not to work. Glorioso was there too, and from what I understand they were working in a difficult environment from several angles. The Austral Island crew seemed to be workable at all hours. After getting their aircraft problems solved, the Midway crew is putting in a nice signal on 30m as I write this. Several of us were chasing them on 30m this morning and were amazed at the skill of the operator, who turned out to be Max, I8NHJ.



Max Mucci-I8NHJ-
Italy, Age 51.

The pileup was of course tremendous, but Max was running around three contacts per minute most of the time, with only an occasional need for a call repeat. What a show! And then there was another "suitcase" DXpedition:

DX de N8UUP: 18084.0 MD/K4UEE 599 tnx new one 170
1714Z

Bob was clipping along at about the same rate on 17m with a very nice signal. I don't

know if he was running his K2 to a wire or not, but it sounded more like his Alpha to a Yagi.

Speaking of Yagis, K4DLI has been putting the finishing touches on Jim Nail's SteppIR. Jim bought and installed Stan Goldin's rugged US Tower crankup, and soon the SteppIR will be in the air. Jim has always had a potent signal, and with this setup he could be a threat to receiver front ends for miles around. This has been a long and difficult project. Congratulations, Jim!

We have been blessed with a few sunspots lately, and the bands really perked up when they were active. We are still having an abnormally large number of sunspot-less days, but have you noticed the flux has nudged up a little even in periods with no spots? A few months back we seemed to tick along at 67 or so. Now we seem to tick along at 70, even with no spots. I think—and hope—the sun is waking up a little. I noticed K4ESA worked South Cook on 10m around 9PM the other night—you never know. I hope to see you at the October meeting.

73
Bob, W2WG

Vice President Report:

As the winter months approach us, we should be thinking about maintaining our communications capabilities during heavy snow and ice storms. Well for that matter, even in the best of the summer months with electric storms we still need to maintain our communications capability. So this month our program will be presented by Carter Bennett, K4CB on the how to and how not to

install, maintain, and operate a home generator and a field installed generator.

Carter will impart his many professional years of experience gained from installing generators and the care and feeding of the critters. Most of us are not looking at installing a 150kw diesel generator but a nice 2.5 to 5kw gasoline generator might just be enough to keep the shack powered, the wife and kids warm, and the wine/beer cooler at the proper temperature.

Sounds simple but as Carter will explain to us, there are little facts that will make a generator installation safe and provide reliable power to our homes (most importantly our ham shacks) and our DXpeditions.

Mark your calendars for our November meeting. We will join with the North Fulton Amateur Radio League on November 19th in which they have invited the ARRL's Joel Hallas, W1ZR, Technical Editor of QST and the "doctor" in the monthly column - The Doctor is IN! More information will be available by next months newsletter..

Jim, KT4MM

Secretary Report:

SEDXC MEETING MINUTES 16 September, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:30.

PROGRAM

Wey Walker, K8EAB, was introduced and spoke to us on "A Suitcase Buddipole DXpedition". It was an interesting talk with stunning photos of FS and PJ7; there were many details about the Buddipole and its manufacture and versatility. A123 battery technology was also discussed, as the batteries were used to power the rigs in several cases (if you do not know about A123 batteries, Google it!! You will be glad you did.). During the program presentation it was noted that the Club needs to have an audio system that will hook up to a computer. The low sound level from the computer's itsy bitsy teenie weenie

speakers detracted from the otherwise splendid presentation.

A total of 41 souls braved the rain to attend Wey's talk.

HOW'S DX

1. A monster sunspot is due Monday.
2. SEDCO is being held on September 25/26; several going from SEDXC. K4UEE is banquet speaker.
3. Stone Mountain hamfest is coming first weekend in November; volunteers needed to man SEDXC booth.
4. New IRCs available 15 October, old IRCs are redeemable so the Post Office says.
5. 17 meters seems to be open a lot; S. Am at 9AM; KH6/Pacific 3-9 PM local.
6. Glorioso, Conway Reef, and Midway happening soon!
7. Harry Saunders operated and IOTA whilst in Maine; had pile-ups; best DX VK7!

WAR STORIES/RAFFLE TICKET SALES lasted 20 minutes.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Don Nesbitt, N4HH described monthly contests as they used to be back when and how the same guys always won. He introduced a new contest format (you can only win once a year). There will be a new opportunity each month; see web site for details. October 1 is kickoff!
2. KS4Q Ernie Zingleman status:
 - a. Bill Barr reported most of the big stuff has been sold – over \$15,000 in equipment.
 - b. Remaining items will go to hamfest fleamarket tables.
 - c. Ernie only needed Yemen for "Top of the Honor Roll"; he had worked the 2000 expedition and will be so awarded TOTHR posthumously.
 - d. Ernie's son Nick will be taking the HamCram class offered by the NFARL (North Fulton Amateur Radio League); he hopes to get his Dad's call sign soon.
3. A request for funding for the Glorioso Expedition was received. The Club passed it unanimously to the tune of

- \$250.00, which gets our logo on the card and web site.
4. National Wildlife Refuge week ham radio demonstration has been a non-starter in spite of much effort put into trying to communicate with NWR officials. Seems they just do not think much of the idea of letting us operate on their refuges but will not come right out and say it! Some other sites in other areas of the Country have had success, but it takes a "Special" relationship to make it happen.
 5. OTHER CLUB NEWS
 - a. NFARL
 - i. Had program on Wire Antennas; K4DLI and N7FB did presentation.
 - ii. Joel Hallas, W1ZR (QST's "The Doctor Is In" guy) will be the speaker at the November meeting. The meeting will be held in the Roswell City Hall and all local clubs will be welcome on Thursday, November 17.
 - iii. A combo Radio Merit Badge and Jamboree on the Air will be hosted on 17 October for the Scouts.
 - b. GARS
 - i. Doing JOTA/picnic/Radio Merit Badge/Fox Hunt on 17 October.
 - ii. Tech Fest January 9
 - c. Kennehoochee – had a successful picnic.
 - d. Atlanta RC – 2nd Sunday mini-fest a regular event.
 6. Old Business – None
 7. New Business
 - a. Mentor for DX needed for mid-town General – please volunteer.
 - b. Next month program will be on generators
 - c. Treasurer's report in last bulletin; \$4500 (including \$1000.00 from SEDXC) given to Ernie Zingleman family.
 - d. PSK 31 counts as RTTY for DXCC; may change some day but not now per Bill Moore.

- e. 12 December will be date of Holiday Affair and will be hosted by Harry and Penny Saunders; details to follow.
 - f. Bill Barr reminded all to get dues up to date.
8. Meeting adjourned at 9:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wes – W3WL
Secretary - SEDXC

Treasures Report:

As of September 30, 2009

General Fund balance \$ 5,936.84
Disbursements in the month were for:
 FT5GA DXpedition \$250.00 (no we can't ask for our money back)
 Alford Memorial Hamfest table \$75.00
 Chaz Cone – reimburse for badge order /plaques \$207.72

Receipts: I received the refund from the CYØ group that was mentioned in the last newsletter and collected \$1,066 in dues. I hope everyone got Glorioso and Conway Reef on the bands that they needed. Gud Dxing.

Mike, ND4V

Activities Manager Report:

The Stone Mountain hamfest in Lawrenceville (Nov 7th & 8th) is almost here and we still need a few more volunteers to help man our club table. Check the latest reflector mailing to see what's available. This one seems to be gaining popularity over the past few years.

Don't forget to send in your October DX count to me the first week of November. See www.sedxc.org for details.

Hope everyone had a chance to work the recent Glorioso + Conway Reef and current

Benin DXpeditions. They were all new ones for me...

See everyone at the Oct 21st meeting.. Good DX!

Gary – WB4SQ@yahoo.com

Be sure to view the notice of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League meeting for November on the last page of this bulletin.

Editor's Rant:

There is one thing that I have wondered about for a long time:

What do some people get out of trying to interfere with others making a contact with a DXpedition?

I am talking about the ones who tune up on the DX frequency, send dits, make all sorts of comments and of course the "Policemen" who constantly send UP-UP-UP. Don't they release they are causing more interference than the poor soul who is on the wrong VFO or through lack of knowing about working DX on a split frequency is trying to work like he does on 75-meters?

I am sure there is not one among us who has not transmitted on the wrong VFO—including myself—at some time, but we normally catch it and correct it in one or two calls. Do these people, I won't call them "Hams" because they certainly are not behaving in the ham spirit, thank they are serving some purpose in "Making it more challenging for us to work the DX" and thereby adding some value to the contact?

I would like for one of these "Persons" , and I certainly hope there are none in the SEDXC who read this Bulletin, to send an account of why they do it and what they receive or gain from their actions.

Of course I would expect it to be sent anonymously as I am sure none of them have the "Gonads" to admit they take part in this activity.

If I receive such an explanation I will most assuredly print it in the Bulletin so we may all gain and insight and learn what great fun we are missing.

Jim K4DLI
Editor SEDXC Bulletin

P.S. Do I expect to get a reply with this enlightening information---NO---? But, I feel better now and the doctor says I may get off my medicine in a week or two.

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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.

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

SPECIAL NOTE:

The club is now using the Repeater on 145.410, down 600, for chatting and real time DX announcements.

Join the group there. No tone required.

SEDXC WEBPAGE

www.sedxc.org

SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com



Southeastern DX Club W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB
October 2009

Joel Hallas, W1ZR

Time: 07:30 PM

See www.nfarl.org for more information
Questions? Contact Walt: kj4he@nfarl.org
North Fulton Amateur Radio League



Join the North Fulton Amateur Radio League for a special program featuring Joel Hallas, W1ZR **on Thursday, November 19th**

at 7:30 PM. Joel is the Technical Editor for QST and writes the monthly "Ask the Doctor" column. He is also the author of two books; Basic Radio and Basic Antennas. Joel will be joining us for dinner and presenting a great program.

Highlights

- ◆ Outstanding program featuring the Technical Editor for QST
- ◆ Q&A opportunity to ask Joel your technical questions and obtain advice
- ◆ Interact with one of the technical leaders for the ARRL

**North Fulton Amateur Radio League
The Friendliest Club in the Nation**

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