

# The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

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## How to Join

- \* Come to a club meeting;
- \* or send in an application by mail (form on [www.NADXC.org](http://www.NADXC.org))
- \* or call Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

## From the President

By Tim Winger, KY5R

It seems to me.....

First I would like to say that my first meeting as the President of this esteemed organization was very encouraging. I hope I was not too overbearing on the points I was trying to convey to those present. As you can see I am very passionate about this hobby and what it has provided me so far in this short life we all live.

The NADXC surely has some issues to iron out during this year and with your objective thought processes I am sure we can tackle them with a more than passable outcome.

Looming also in the near future is the 2010 Huntsville Hamfest. There surely will be a need for some bodies to represent the NADXC through the course of the event. So standby for more info.

The month of June holds the ARRL Field Day event which the NADXC historically has supplied top notch operators in support of the HARC, K4BFT effort. Hopefully all who are interested in taking part will find a spot to do some operating.

Also this month in a week or so is the bigger than life Dayton Hamvention. I know there are a pack of NADXC types planning on making the trek to ham radio Mecca. It would be great to get an overview of their experiences at the June meeting or maybe a small writeup in the June LP. What say OM's?

So as summer takes hold of North Alabama and DX wanes somewhat due to the summertime propagation doldrums I hope you can be active in the upcoming events if at all possible.

Gud DXng es 73,

Tim Winger, KY5R

## May Meeting Program

Lost Islands DXpedition Streaming Video will be our rather unusual presentation for the upcoming meeting to be held — pay attention, now — at Beauregard's on Airport Road in Huntsville. Same time, different place.

## NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Tim Winger KY5R
Vice President	Tom Schwinn, W4NBS
Secretary/ Treasurer	Bob De Pierre K8KI
At-large directors	Chuck Lewis, N4NM
	Johnny Winter, KR4F
	Mark Brown, N4BCD
	Tom Duncan, KG4CUY



## The LongPath Staff

### Interim Publisher/Editor:

Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

### Departments:

Tom Homsley, N4WBS, Short Skip

Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI, From the Internet

I have a few sites for your enjoyment this month. First up is a site sent to me from John Stensby. The Reverse Beacon Network is a cool tool which uses hams with CW skimmers to monitor the bands and report activity. To see where you have been heard simply type in your call sign and look for the spots. This is a great way to see how your signal is really getting out. <http://www.reversebeacon.net/>

The next site has an interesting project. Hams confined to city lots may only dream of getting on 160, but this site goes to an extreme of running at only 9 kHz. Yes, I said 9 kHz. Seems

there is some experimenting going on way down there. Have a gander and think of the possibilities. <http://rescueelectronics.com/9-Kilohertz.html>

The final site I have is for an Azimuthal Map or great circle map. This site produces custom maps for any given location. Have a look and enjoy. <http://ns6t.net/azimuth/azimuth.html>

That is it for this month. Hope to see you all at the meeting.

73,  
Kevin  
KG4TEI

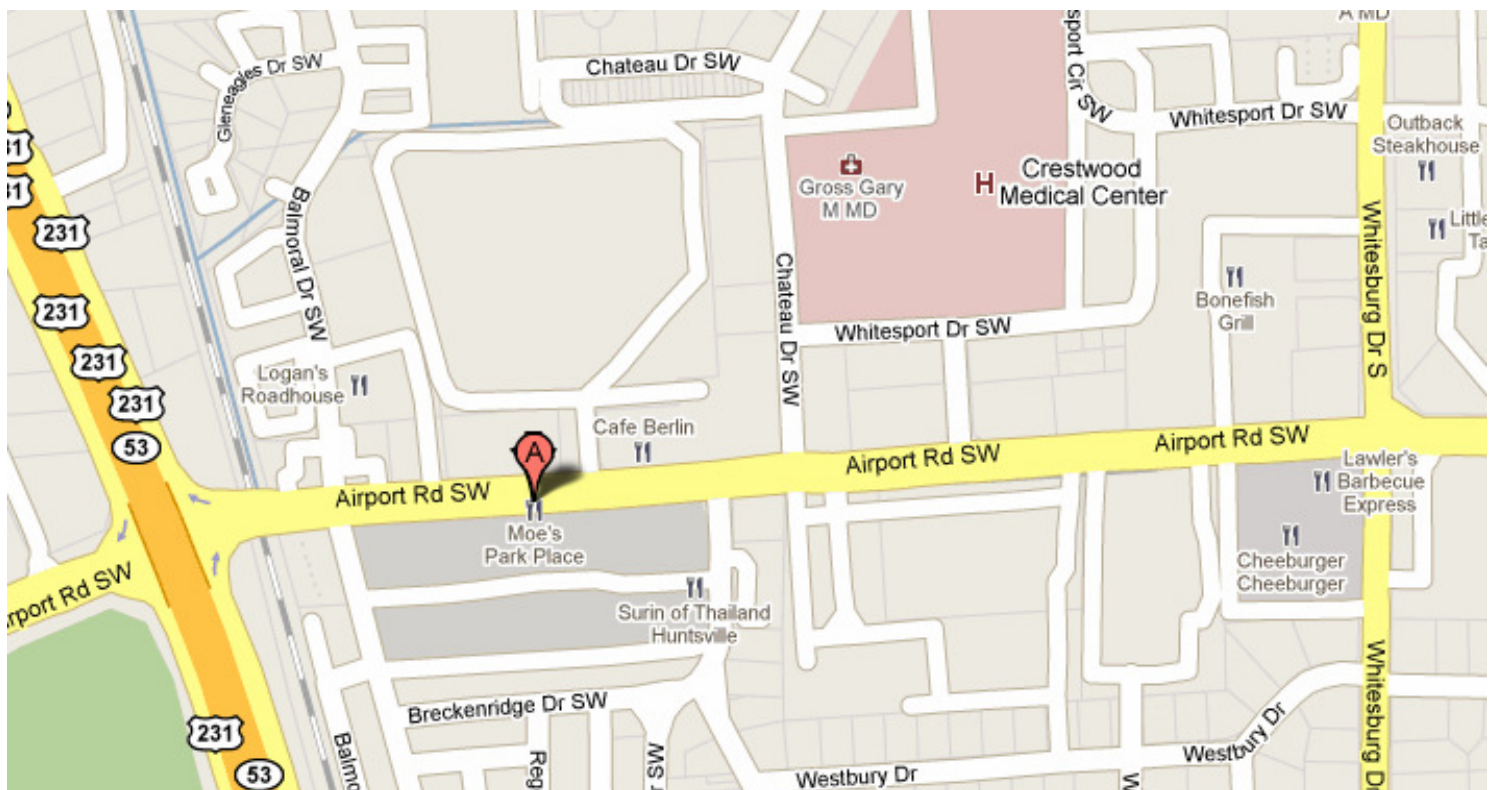
## Map to Beauregard's—975 Airport Rd.

The May NADXC meeting will be held at Beauregard's on Airport Road in Huntsville. That's right — the same Beauregard's we were thinking about for the April meeting. Let's give it another try.

Those of us coming from the hinter-

lands should keep in mind that South Memorial Parkway can get pretty packed — at least, in terms of Huntsville traffic — just before our usual assembly time of around 6:00 pm. It has also been reported that Beauregard's may not deliver the speediest service at dinner-time.

Don't get lost! The meeting regulars and the entire LongPath staff look forward to seeing everyone at our May meeting.



## Club Logo History

From Dave Sublette, K4TO

[This email was received from Dave Sublette, K4TO after last month's LongPath.—Ed.]

Tom and all,

I enjoyed the April Longpath. I especially enjoyed the info about the > club LOGO. My memory is that Chuck did the original drawing sometime in early 1983. Perhaps it was earlier, I don't know. My date of 1983 is tied to the fact that I used that logo, and continue to use it on all my QSL cards.

I remember painstakingly creating a file on my Atari computer by hand drawing, bit by bit. I must have spent 40 hours doing that. I used that file to create my first KX6 QSL. I did that in the late Summer of 1983 as we left for Kwajalein in November, 1983.

I printed a prototype QSL using a made up callsign of KX6DX and submitted it to the club for their approval. I did

this because NADXC was listed as the QSL manager for the operation. Specifically Jerri and Shari Cross did the log checking mailing. They devoted one night a week for five and a half years to this job, which freed me up to operate the maximum number of hours. I made 83,000 QSOs while I was there and shall be forever grateful to them for their faithful service to me and the club.

I also used the logo on my KC6TO cards. I operated there twice during the last week in November of 1986 and 1988, which coincided with the CQWDXCW contest. I totaled about 5000 QSOs for those two operations.

I continue to use the club logo on my current QSL. The NADXC logo is > in at least 350 countries around the world courtesy of my QSLs.

The dial on the logo has at least two modes that I can recall. One is the fa-

mous Collins knob. One of the versions on my QSL has the 1 khz markings characteristic of the Drake line, which I used, also known as "the poor man's Collins".

I don't know who else in the club has used the logo on their QSL but I believe I was the first, or at least one of the first to do so.

BTW, the first EVER QSO from KX6 on 160 meters was made between me and Tom Russell, N4KG. Of course he has the QSL for that, which has the club logo on it.

Long live the NADXC. I have enjoyed being associated with the group since 1974.

73,

Dave, K4TO

## LongPath Limericks—Part Deux

From Johnny Winter, KR4F

That hog in the manger Mac Spray,

Enrages the rare ones each day.

They don't heed his squeaks

So he steps on their freqs

Till they naturally all go away.

A lid with an artistic bent

Seemed to garner more cards than he sent.

Before he was through

With his bogus homebrew

He had cause to relent and repent.

Sneak's phone score is utterly grand,

Few higher exist in the land.

But how does he do it?

There's just nothing to it,

He collars them outside the band.

Frequency-fouler McLugg,

Let's trample him flat as a rug.

With skywire connected

He does the expected,

He adjusts his electronic bug.

Says fumblefist Spaceless O'Key

Who sends like a kook on a spree,

Sure, I sound like a lid

Or a drunk in a skid.

But it's really my keyer, not me.

Splashy-voiced Boomboom MacSwine,

When told that his gain's out of line,

Is prompt to reply,

If eight is too high,

Then why is it numbered to nine?

Said big gun McSlaughter von Klout

When sampling the QRP route,

I'll knock it down lots,

Down to 900 watts -

Amazing - I'm still getting out!

Blurk started yakking at dawn

At noon he droned on, on and on.

He certainly riled up

The bunch which had piled up -

Another rare opening gone.

Wastebaskets Fuller rebels

At slightly delayed QSLs.

But everyone knows,

As far as that goes,

His own punctuality smells.

## Short Skip By Tom Homsley, N4WBS

### Dayton Hamvention

May 14 – 16 (next weekend) is the date for the Dayton Hamvention. The ARRL Expo will have a project-building booth will help introduce visitors to the fun of homebrewing. Participants will get to handle electronic components, circuit boards – and even try their hand at soldering and completing a basic kit. Check out the schedule of activities at [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) (ARRL)

### DX on the air

**3B8**—Jan-Willem, PA7JWC will be active on the HF bands and 6 meters as 3B8/PA7JWC from Mauritius Island (AF-049) until 22 May. QSL via home call, direct or bureau, and LoTW. He has a website at [www.pa7jwc.nl](http://www.pa7jwc.nl)

Ron, DL5JAG will be active holiday style as **8Q7SR** from Embudu Island, Maldives (AS-013) on 8-22 May. He plans to operate mainly CW on 40, 30, 20, 17 and 15 meters. QSL via home call, direct or bureau, plus LoTW and eQSL.

**VK0/mi** - Denis, ZL4DB is going to Macquarie Island (AN-005) on a 3-month job assignment. He will operate SSB only as VK0/ZL4DB when time permits, from May until mid August. QSL via ZL4PW, direct or bureau.

### Solar Update

Sunspots made a strong return this week along with geomagnetic activity. The average daily solar flux increased

4.2 points to 79.6; on Wednesday, May 5, the daily sunspot number reached 77, the highest in nearly four years. The sunspot number hasn't been as high since May 28, 2006, when it was 78. Sunspot numbers for April 29-May 5 were 0, 12, 13, 47, 61, 70 and 77, with a mean of 40. Monthly averages of daily sunspot numbers for February, March and April are 30.5, 25.2 and 10.8. (ARRL)

So long 'til next time. .



de N4WBS

## Boat Anchor Twins of the Month Hammarlund HQ-180A & X

The HQ-180-series is a dual/triple conversion receiver covering the AM broadcast band through 30 MHz in six bands. The Telechron timer which so fascinated the entire LongPath staff during their formative years present on the "A" model is replaced on the "X" model by a set of crystals for your favorite frequencies, to provide stability VFOs of the day could only dream of.

At 45 pounds shipping weight and sporting eighteen tubes (19 in the original version, which had an honest-to-goodness 5U4 rectifier and presumably a somewhat larger power transformer) the moniker "boatanchor" is well-earned.

The two-knob band-set/band-spread tuning had to cover quite a bit of terri-

tory, so that the divisions on the band-spread dial were 5 kHz – err, kc – on the bands up to 28 MHz, and 10 kHz on 10m.

A well-kept or restored HQ-180 must be a sight to behold. Any sightings at Dayton will be reported in the June LongPath.



## DX Contests for May

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

### CQ-M Intl. DX Contest (CW & SSB), 160-10M

May 8, 1200Z to May 9, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #

See page 78, May QST and [www.cq-m.andys.ru](http://www.cq-m.andys.ru)

### Alessandro Volta RTTY DX Contest, 80-10M

May 8, 1200Z to May 9, 1200Z

Exchange: RST, plus S/N, and CQ zone

See page 78, May QST and [www.contestvolta.com](http://www.contestvolta.com)

### His Majesty King of Spain Contest, (CW), 160 – 10M

May 15, 1200Z to May 16, 1200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial # or EA Province

See page 78, May QST and [www.ure.es](http://www.ure.es)

### All America Contest, (CW), 80-10M

May 15, 1500Z to May 16, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus continent and category

See page 78, May QST and [www.powerline.com.br/cwif/eng4.htm](http://www.powerline.com.br/cwif/eng4.htm)

### Worked All Britain Contest, (SSB), 160-40 meters

May 16, 1000Z to 1400Z

Exchange: RS, Serial # and WAB # or DXCC entity

See page 78, May QST and [www.worked-all-britain.co.uk](http://www.worked-all-britain.co.uk)

### Baltic Contest (CW & SSB), (80/75M only)

May 22, 2100Z to May 23, 0200Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #

See page 78, May QST and [www.lrsf.lt/bcontest/english/rules\\_html.htm](http://www.lrsf.lt/bcontest/english/rules_html.htm)

### CQ WPX CW Contest (CW), 80-10M

May. 29, 0000Z to May 30, 2400Z

Exchange: RST plus serial #

See page 78, May. QST or [www.cqwpw.com](http://www.cqwpw.com)

### OTHERS:

#### RSGB 80m Club Championship, (SSB),

1900Z-2030Z, May 3

#### F.I.S.T.S. Spring Sprint (CW),

1700Z – 2100Z, May 8

#### VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest, (Phone)

0800Z-1400Z, May 8

#### Portuguese Navy Day Contest

1500Z, May 8 to 1500Z, May 9



#### RSGB 80m Club Championship, (DATA),

1800Z-2030Z, May 12

#### RSGB 80m Club Championship, (CW),

1900Z-2030Z, May 20

#### ARCI Hootowl Sprint (CW)

2000Z-2400Z LOCAL, May 30

#### Alabama QSO Party

1600Z, Jun 6 to 0400Z, Jun 6

#### RSGB 80m Club Championship, (Data)

1900Z-2030Z, Jun 7

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware.

Chuck, N4NM