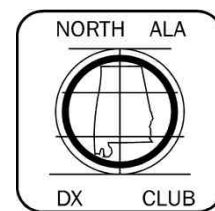


The LongPath



A North Alabama DX Club Publication

From the President's Desk

Old Year Successes – New Year Opportunities . . .

Happy New Year, everyone! Let's all hope that 2003 will bring with it some great DX opportunities, even as we continue the long, slow slide toward the next sunspot minimum that is still a few years away. Let's also hope that NADXC can continue to grow and provide its members with an environment that we all enjoy sharing.

For those of you who were unable to join us for the Christmas Party, you missed a very enjoyable evening. We had 29 people on hand . . . 19 club members, eight guests of members, and two visitors. Door prizes were handed out (courtesy of the guys at GigaParts) and everyone went home with full stomachs after a first-class meal.

Three award recipients for the year 2002 were announced at the party. These were: DXer of the Year Award to Barry Johnson (W4WB), New Member of the Year Award to Tom Duncan (KG4CUY), and the David L. Reasoner Award to Michael Werner (KF4BOG). Congratulations to you all. Presentation of the awards will be made at the January 14 meeting.

As your new president, I'm honored to be joined on the 2003 NADXC leadership team by:

Tim Pearson – KU4J – Vice President
Nancy Morris – K4JD – Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Gerth – W4RK – Director
Chuck Lewis – N4NM – Director

We will try very hard to make the year a successful one, and have set three general objec-



tives for ourselves: (1) to provide interesting and informative programs at our meetings, (2) to stay in better touch with our membership, and (3) to find new ways of getting more of our members involved in club activities. At our January meeting, we'll be talking briefly about some of our initial plans and ideas, and we hope as many members as possible will join us to hear them.

Looking back at the year just ended, 2002 was certainly a great year for the club. We

(continued on page 3)

Volume 27, Issue 1
The LongPath
January, 2003

The Challenge of the Hunt

- *DX is working them all*
- *DX is All Modes*
- *DX is All Bands*
- *DX is All Power Levels*
- *DX is From Any Location*
- *DX is With Any Equipment*
- *DX is State-of-the Art*
- *DX is Classic Communications*
- *DX is for All to Enjoy!*

Inside this issue:

<i>From the President's Desk</i>	1
<i>"Short Skip"...</i>	2
<i>December 17th Minutes</i>	3
<i>ARLD001DX News</i>	4
<i>Other DX Rumors</i>	5
<i>License Classes & Call Sign Prefixes Used in Great Britain</i>	6
<i>FCC Seeks Comments</i>	8
<i>Mark Clark, W4CK, Jan. Speaker</i>	8
<i>DX Contests</i>	9
<i>Editor's Soapbox</i>	10

January 14th Program

"Operating from V73BL"
by Mark Clark, W4CK

7PM At Ryan's Steak House
1808 University Drive
Huntsville, AL

"Short Skip"...

New SHORT SKIP Editor . . . Since our former Short Skip Editor, Myron, W4UR, has assumed the duties of President for the coming year, I have agreed to manage this column in his stead. I'll try to maintain Myron's style and high editorial standards. Hopefully, with your help, Short Skip will continue to be a valuable part of the Long Path.

- **Craig Behrens, NM4T, Relocated** . . . I received a nice e-mail from Craig just before Christmas from his new QTH in Florida. Craig asked me to say hello to all NADXCers and wish them the best for the coming year. He has been very busy in starting a new business but hopes to generate some QRP RF soon from FL. I know we all wish Craig the very best in his new venture. For reference: Craig, NM4T e-mail: craigb44@msn.com
- **Request for Articles** . . . Any Short Skip articles you might wish to contribute would be very much appreciated. The Long Path and Short Skip are for all NADXC members. If you have a short item of interest, please drop me an e-mail and I'll try to include in the next issue. Send to: w4rk@arri.net
- **Plasma HDTV RFI** . . . Although new large screen Plasma High Definition TV systems (HDTV) are still quite expensive by most standards, they are beginning to appear in stores and are being purchased. A recent article on eHam.net describes some actual RFI experiences that should be of concern to us all. I swapped several e-mails with Ed Hare, W1RFI, at ARRL HQ and it would appear that these concerns are justified. Apparently FCC Part 15 has some practical holes that the major entertainment electronics manufacturers are jumping through. I was pleased to learn that ARRL is very active in efforts to plug these holes. Contributions to the ARRL Frequency Defense Fund can help in these efforts.
- **Pet Peeve!** . . . A recent survey taken from 77 members of a large contest club showed that the biggest Pet Peeve by a large margin was the practice of some DX and other desirable contest stations to run with long sequences of QSOs separated by QRZ and NO Callsign. How many times have we waited and waited to finally discover that the station with a case of the QRZs was a DUPE, or one we already have confirmed?
- **Internet Kill Ham Radio?** . . . I have found the Internet to be a very nice accessory to Ham Radio, not a competitor. I have made several fine friendships with hams around the world through e-mails swapped after QSOs. I even got a wonderful landline call from England on Christmas Day from Mike Parks, G4UPD. Mike and I met each other on the Yaesu 817 Reflector and really hit it off, being of similar age and philosophy. We have traded hundreds of e-mails over the past year. As Myron said so well in his Christmas Banquet remarks, radio is MAGIC! The Internet is not the MAGIC, perhaps only the "foo foo dust."
- **HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL FROM THE SHORT SKIP DESK!**

73 es gud dx de W4RK

December 17th Meeting Minutes

The NADXC Christmas Party was held December 17, 2002 at the Redstone Officers and Civilians Club. There were twenty-nine members and guests in attendance.

After dinner, the meeting was called to order at 8 PM by Rick Ruhl, President, who gave a brief review of the year's events. He then announced the winners of three awards who were chosen by the 2002 Board of Directors.

DXer of the Year Award: Barry Johnson (W4WB)

New Member of the Year Award: Tom Duncan (KG4CUY)

David Reasoner Award: Michael Werner (KF4BOG)

Rick then swore in Myron Manker (W4UR) as the incoming President for 2003.

Myron introduced and expressed his thanks to George Howard (NW4G) and Patrick Bramlett (W4GPS), who donated four gift certificates as door prizes on behalf of GigaParts. These prizes were then awarded to four lucky attendees. Myron then introduced Skip Richardson (AA4U) (a former member who is planning to rejoin the club) and his wife, Charlotte.

Myron concluded his remarks by expressing his thanks to John and Nancy Morris for arranging the party; to Rick Ruhl, Bill Hull, Barry Johnson and John Morris for their work as officers and directors in 2002; to Jared Cassidy for his work on the website and LongPath; and to all the members for their support during the year.

The new board members for 2003 were recognized: Tim Pearson (KU4J), Vice President; Nancy Morris (K4JD), Secretary/Treasurer; Chuck Lewis (N4NM), Director; and Bill Gerth (W4RK), Director. The board has already begun planning for 2003 and has identified three objectives:

1. Provide interesting and informative programs at our meetings.
2. Stay in touch regularly with our members.
3. Find new ways of getting more of our members more involved with club activities.

Myron concluded his remarks with the promise that the new officers and directors will try to do a good job and make sure the club and its activities appeal to the broadest base of members' interests.

Barry Johnson announced that Bill Hull (ex-W4GBF) has a new call sign . . . K4RP.

Tim Pearson announced that the next meeting would be January 14, 2003 at Ryan's on University Drive. The program will be presented by Mark Clark (W4CK) about his DXpedition to Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands (V73).

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy J. Morris, **K4JD**, Secretary

From the President's Desk... cont'd

added new members, we had the largest-ever turnout at our DX banquet in August, and NADXC members made a huge contribution to the success of K4BFT Field Day operations. All in all, we had a very successful year, and all of us should be proud of what we accomplished together.

The year 2003 will present new opportunities for us. And, for NADXC to be successful will again require the collective effort of the officers and directors, and the support of all our members. Yes, it will take some work . . . but remember that the only place success comes before work is in the dictionary! The good thing is that it's really not work at all . . . it's simply supporting our organization and having fun. I hope we can keep it that way!

73,
Myron
W4UR

ARLD001DX News

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, 425DXnews, DXNL, The Daily DX, K4AVQ, WA7BNM and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

GEORGIA, 4L. Toly, 4L1MA has been QRV on 40 meters CW around 2030 to 2200z. QSL via ON4RU.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF EAST TIMOR, 4W. Thor, 4W6MM has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters around 1100 to 1200z. QSL via TF3MM.

ANDORRA, C3. Peter, C31LJ has been QRV on 17 meters around 1400z and on 12 meters around 1500z. QSL via VE3GEJ.

DOMINICA, J7. Kelly, J79BEY has been QRV on 20 meters around 0100z. QSL via G1SSL.

OGASAWARA, JD1. Special event station 8N1OGA is QRV until January 12 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Japan Amateur Radio League. Activity is usually from 0800 to 2200z. QSL via bureau.

SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS. Jose, LU1ZA has been QRV on 15 meters around 2230z. QSL via LU4DXU.

ARUBA, P4. Alan, K4AVQ will be QRV as P40AV from January 4 to 18. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters. He may give special attention to 160 and 80 meters using CW. QSL to home call.



NETHERLAND ANTILLES, PJ2. Chris, DL5NAM is QRV as PJ4/ homecall from Bonaire, IOTA SA-006, until January 18. He is active using mainly RTTY as well as activity on 6 meters. QSL to home call.

PALAU, T8. T88HA has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters around 0300z. QSL via JK1FNN.

CENTRAL AFRICA, TL. Charles, TL8CK has been QRV on 17 meters just after 0730z and then 10 meters around 0900z. QSL via F6EWM.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. VP5/W6XK and VP5/N6EE are QRV on the lower bands, plus the newer ones, using CW, SSB and RTTY until January 7. QSL to home calls. They will also participate in the ARRL RTTY Roundup as VP5NN. QSL via NN6NN.

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. Larry, WD0HSP is QRV as VQ9LA on Diego Garcia, IOTA AF-006, and is here for about a year. He may be active on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FM. QSL via operator's instructions.

ANTARCTICA. Anton, ZS7/ZS4AGA is staying at SANAE IV Base, IOTA AN-016, until the end of January. Because of his busy work schedule here, his operations will be limited. QSL via ZS4A.

Other DX Rumors and News

The following is courtesy of the OPDX Bulletin and KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80:

CB4, CHILE (Rare Prefix). Operator CE4FXY will be using a rare prefix in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March 29-30th). Look for him to sign CB4Y as a Single-Op/Single Band (10m)/High Power entry. QSL via CE4FXY. Visit the Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/cb4y>
An on-line log search will be available after the Contest.

E20, THAILAND. Shelly/K2BS and Ray/G3NOM (HS0ZDZ) report that the station E20AJ is the callsign of the amateur radio station at the 20th World Scout Jamboree in Sattahip, Thailand, which will be activated by a large international contingent. The Jamboree amateur radio operation will take place officially from December 29th (2002) to January 7th (2003), but activity can be expected from the 26th December 2002 onwards. All modes will be covered with several stations operational. The usual amateur bands available in Thailand will be used (i.e. 40, 20, 15, 20, 2m, and the following segments on 80/160m - 3524-3526, 3534-3536, 1834-1836 kHz). Some earlier reports mentioned WARC band operation, but this will not take place. However, there are some conflicting reports on the WARC/Low Band operations. Masa/JI1CUJ, the International Service Team staff of E20AJ, informed OPDX of the following: "With strong support from RAST and Government of Thailand, we will have fantastic license condition. Operation on 1.8 and 3.5 MHz is usually severely restricted in Thailand, and is only permitted during contest. The WARC band are not permitted in Thailand. However, there is an information that the license of E20AJ covers all HF bands including WARC bands. We are trying to QRV on WARC and LOW bands as far as possible." The only thing we can tell OPDX readers is to listen and hope they are active on the WARC bands. The International Scouting Frequencies will be the preferred frequencies (i.e. 7090, 14290, 21360, 28390, 28990). The QSL Manager for DIRECT cards only is HB9AOF. For Bureau cards, please send to E20AJ at the Thailand QSL Bureau, (These will be handled by HS7AHV). Packet messages for people at the Jamboree can be sent to:

E20AJ@E20AJ.#STP.CBI.THA.AS

Additional information regarding E20AJ and their activities, as well as a broadcast through Web, can be found at:

<http://www.worldscout.pacific.net/th/>

EY8, TAJIKISTAN. Nodir, EY8MM, reports that he will be active in the CQ 160-Meter CW Contest (January 24-26th). QSL via K1BV.

FR, REUNION ISLAND (Attention!) Freddy, F5IRO, is expected to be active as FR/F5IRO through February 2003. Word has it that he will try to obtain permission to be active from Juan da Nova and Glorioso.

HC1, ECUADOR. Andy, NP3D, will be active as HC1/NP3D from Quito, Ecuador, from January 22-27th. Activity will be on CW/SSB on all HF bands including the WARC bands and 6 meters. He will also be in the CQ 160-Meter CW Contest (January 24-26th) as a low power class entry. QSL via W3HNK.

ST, SUDAN. Chris, DL5NAM, informs OPDX that after solving many problems, a German team has finally received permission and a license for Sudan. The German team will be using the callsign ST0RY (Sierra Tango Zero Radio Yankee) and will start their operation in March and stay approx. 3 weeks (+/-); also, they will be active in the WPX Contest. Their tickets are in hand; first material is on the way there. Their focus for this DXpedition will be the Low Bands, WARC Bands, RTTY and 6 meters (in this order). The German team consists of: Falk/DK7YY (CW), Dietmar/DL3DXX (CW), Uwe/DL9NDS (SSB/RTTY), Felix/DL7FER (SSB/CW) and Chris/DL5NAM (SSB/RTTY). Currently, they have plans for 3 HF stations (with amps), 3 Quarter Wave GP for the Low Bands, some Yagis for 10-20 meters (incl. WARC) and some wire. However, they would like to do better and are asking the ham community for help. Any help with used/new HF/UHF equipment is welcome, and also study material for hams to get their license. They will leave some materials for the national amateur radio club there. Also, they are looking for donations from DX clubs/associations to help reduce the high cost of transportation. A web page will be available with a online log search thanks to DF3CB (also a possible 24 hour internet connection maybe available to them). Further details on pilot stations and their schedule will be forthcoming. For questions, please contact them via E-mail at: dl5nam@darcd.de

ZK2, NIUE. Bert, PA3GIO, will be active as ZK2GI on Niue Island (pronounced 'new-ay'), IOTA OC-040, approximately from January 18-26th using his Kenwood TS-50 with only a 100 watts and a Doublet Antenna. Activity will be on 20/17/15/12/10 meters SSB only. He hopes there will be propagation to Europe approximately 0800-1400z peaking around 1100z. QSL (preferably) by E-mail to: qsl@pa3gio.nl (No attachment), or via the bureau to PA3GIO. Bert states, "I do not accept nor send eQSL's (i.e. www.eQSL.cc/)! I do not read my E-mail when on a DXpedition..." Direct QSL go to: Bert vd Berg, Parklaan 38, NL-3931 KK Woudenberg, The Netherlands, Europe.

Website: <http://www.pa3gio.nl/ZK2GI/>

Mirror USA: <http://www.qsl.net/pa3gio/ZK2GI/>

(continued on page 7)

License Classes and Call Sign Prefixes used in Great Britain

The following article is courtesy of Barry Johnson, W4WB, and reprinted with permission of the author:

The Amateur Radio license structure in Great Britain is currently undergoing a major shake-up. There are currently five classes of Amateur licenses dependent upon skill level and Morse proficiency. The call sign prefix denotes license class and geographical location within the UK.

The lowest class is the Foundation License. This requires a very basic knowledge of electronic theory, license conditions, interference avoidance and operating practices. The ability to recognize Morse code is required, but significant proficiency in sending or receiving is not. This license gives access to all bands except 10 meters with a maximum output power of 10 watts. The license is obtained by attending a weekend or evening training course. The call signs are in the form of M3xxx.

The next class is the Intermediate License. This requires more in-depth knowledge plus the building of a radio receiver either from a kit or locally purchased components. The Intermediate license is available either as a Class A, with Morse or a Class B without Morse proficiency. Class A allows utilization of all bands with a maximum output power of 50 watts and Class B gives all bands above 30 MHz at 50 watts maximum. Call sign forms are M5xxx or 2E0xxx for Class A and 2E1xxx for Class B. As with the Foundation license, a training course has to be attended to earn the license.

The top (and original) class is the Full License, again available as Class A or B. The level of technical knowledge is broadly equivalent to the (former) US Advanced class exam. The Morse requirement is to send and receive at 5 WPM. The maximum output power levels are 400 watts PEP or 150 watts carrier. You will hear call signs having the forms of G2xx G3xx G4xx G5xx G8xx G0xxx G2xxx G3xxx G4xxx and M0xxx for Class A, and G1xxx G6xxx G7xxx G8xxx and M1xxx for Class B.

It is not necessary to earn the licenses in order and there is no time limit in grade requirement either. Unlike the US, the UK license has to be renewed annually for a fee of £15 (free for those over 70 or under 18 and a full-time student).

The call sign prefix may include a second letter if the station is not located in England, e.g., GW3 is in Wales, MM1 is in Scotland, 2U1 is in Guernsey, GJ8 is Jersey, MD3 is Isle of Man, and GI8 for Northern Ireland. For a club station at a public event, these second letters would be X for England, C for Wales, S for Scotland, P for Guernsey, H for Jersey, T for Isle of Man, and N for Northern Ireland. GB prefix calls are special event stations, GB3xx calls are repeaters, GB3xxx are beacons, and GB7xxx are packet nodes and BBS stations. Repeater, beacon and packet BBS stations all require their own licenses. Nothing's simple in this country!

The UK Morse test is more challenging than in the US. A five-minute passage, in QSO format, has to be received with no more than six errors and sent with no uncorrected errors whatsoever. While Morse tests and Foundation courses are administered by clubs, the exams required for the Intermediate and Full licenses are administered by a national examinations body twice yearly.

The UK licensing system doesn't have a direct equivalent to the US Vanity Call Sign System. In contrast, we can request a specific call sign when first applying for a license, but cannot change it thereafter. If one upgrades his license class, a new call sign is assigned. The different classes are considered as totally different licenses (I hold a class B, G8IFF and a class A, M0NHF) unlike in the US where an upgrade is seen just as a change of privileges without the necessity of a change in call sign. Once a call sign has been issued in the UK, it is never reused after lapsing without the written permission of the original holder or a next of kin.

Nigel A. Gunn – **G8IFF/M0NHF/KC8NHF**
e-mail: nigel@ngunn.net – www.ngunn.net/hamradio

Other DX Rumors and News... cont'd

3B9, RODRIGUES ISLAND. Robert, 3B9FR, was active this past week on 20 and 12 meters. Watch 14195 kHz around 1700z and 24950 kHz around 1445z. QSL via the address on QRZ.com.

7Q, MALAWI. Allan, G0IAS, informs OPDX that Harry, 7Q7HB, will be back in Malawi as of January 5th for "about" three months. Closely following him will be the return of Les, 7Q7LA (The first 7Q to be re-issued with a licence back in 1990). His length of stay is unknown at this time but expect about three months. Allan states, "These guys will do anything to get away from the Northern Hemispheres cold winter weather...after I have seen the Doctor about my Asbestosis... I may join them ... who knows..?" Allen also mentions that making a schedule with them may be possible. However, PLEASE, NO REQUESTS FOR 160M (it is too noisy) but almost anything else might be accommodated... especially CW on the WARC Bands this time around. A possible E-mail link may be set up for them (details forthcoming), but for now all requests can be sent to Allan at:

allan.g0ias@btinternet.com

All QSLs are still only DIRECT to G0IAS (NO BUREAU CARDS and also there is NO 7Q Bureau).

A5, BHUTAN. Dr. Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, will once again head back here during the month of February. Look for him to sign as A51B between February 3-26th. Activity will only be during his spare time. This trip will have an emphasis on 80 meters CW around 3505 kHz (+/- QRM) during his mornings and evenings. If conditions are not good look for him on 40 and 30 meters. He does plan to be active on the higher bands after his sunrise. Glenn also plans to be active in the CQ/RJ WW RTTY Contest (February 8-9th) and the ARRL CW DX Contest (February 15-16th). QSL via direct to W0GJ.

CE9, SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. Ric, CE9R, is expected back on King George Island (AN-010) sometime this month. Activity will be from Escudero Base (WABA CE-11). QSL via CE3HDI.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA. JD1YBJ was quite active this past weekend on CW/SSB. Watch around 7009, 10100, 18073 and 18133 kHz. Activity starts around 1100z and again around 2130z.

JD1, OGASAWARA ISLANDS (IOTA Op). Fukushige, JM6DZB, is on Iwo Jima Island (AS-030) in the Kazan Island Group (aka Volcano Islands). He will be active as JM6DZB/JD1, however, he is here to work and will only be active during his free time. His planned stay is through the end of December. Activity

will be on 80/40/15 meters SSB. QSL via the Bureau to his home call sign. Meanwhile, special event JARL station, 8N1OGA, continues to be active. Over the past weekend, 8N1OGA was heard on 160/80/40/20/15/12 meters. Activity will last through the end of the month. QSL via the JARL Bureau or direct to JA1MRM.

WABA DIRECTORY. The WABA (Worked Antarctic Bases Award) Directory 2003 is now available for free downloading as .PDF file on the club's web site at:

<http://www.ddxc.net>

The WABA Directory 2003 includes a 12-page revised Antarctic bases listing (with corrections, integrations and a new column for IOTA reference numbers) as well as a new section (6 pages) for historical notes. The download is very easy to make by connecting to the Web page and following the instructions.

XY, MYANMAR. Hiroo, JA2EZD, is expected to head back to Myanmar later this month. Look for him to sign XY1M between January 14-29th. He plans to concentrate on 6 meters and the Low Bands. QSL via XW2A.

YA, AFGHANISTAN. By the time you read this, operators Toshi/JA8RUZ and Kiba/JK1KHT should be QTH as YA1JA. QSL YA1JA via JA1CQT: Hiro Nakanishi, 1-9-5 Kuriki, Isogo-ku, Yokohama City, Kanagawa Pref 235-0041, Japan. However, another operator, Sada/JA1PBV, will be in Kabul and will be active as YA1BV until mid-January (15th was mentioned by some sources). Activity by YA1BV has been mainly on 40 and 30 meters CW. QSL YA1BV via JA1PBV: Sadao Itoh, 3-8-12 Baraki, Ishioka, Ibaraki 315, Japan.

ZK1, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS. Victor, ZK1CG, from Rarotonga Island, informed OPDX that he will continue to use the special call sign ZK1USA until January 17th. He can

(continued on page 8)

Please check the NADXC web page for the latest roster information. If you are not listed and have paid up recently or if your information needs to be corrected please send an email to:
Nancy Morris at: k4xh@aol.com
and also to Jared Cassidy at:
kq4vt@arrl.net

Other DX Rumors and News... cont'd

usually be found on (or near) 14275, 21303 and 28495 kHz as early as 1800z and as late as 0330z. Victor also mentioned he has received his QSLs from Italy this past week and will begin sending out the cards for his ZK1CG and ZK1USA contacts.

ZL1AMO UPDATE: Judy, AA7UC, reports this week: "As we enter the year 2003, Terri Wright informs us that her dad, Ron, ZL1AMO, has been moved to Waitakere Hospital. This hospital is closer to home which makes it easier for Jeanette and the family to visit Ron. I reiterated to Terri that Ron's friends are anxious to hear from him and I asked her if he would be up to writing a few words for the medical update. She said that at this point in his rehabilitation he still lacks the strength. It remains an effort for him to get to the toilet and shower -- he shuffles very slowly. He also remains on oxygen; however, his condition has improved so we continue to hope and pray."

ZONE 2. Operators Gerald/VE2ACP, Steve/VE2TKH and Gervais/VE2UE will activate Zone 2 in Lac Julienne (near Wabush), Labrador, January 14-17th. Look for VO2UE to be used by Gerald and Gervais. Steve will operate as VE2TKH/VO2 or possibly a VO2 callsign if he can get it in time. This will be a generator and battery operation with activity on most of the HF bands, mainly on SSB with some CW. Please visit their Web site (still under construction) at:

<http://www.qsl.net/ve2tkh>

ZS, SOUTH AFRICA. John, ZS6AN, in Pretoria, South Africa, informs OPDX that well known Southern Californian DXer, Steve McCully, W7TZ, will be in South Africa from January 1st through February 1st. He will be operating from both John's base station as well as his mobile station using the callsign ZS*/W7TZ from all of the South African continental call areas.

FCC Seeks Comments

ARLB074 FCC seeks comments on Amateur Radio-related petitions

The FCC is inviting comments on two Amateur Radio-related petitions for rule making. Both have been put on public notice and are available for public review and comment.

In his petition, designated RM-10620, Dale Reich, K8AD, has asked the Commission to automatically upgrade Novice and Advanced license holders to the next license class if the licensee has 20 or more years of operating experience. Among other proposed changes in his "merit and service upgrade" schedule, Reich asks that Novice phone privileges in the 2-meter band be reinstated for those still holding that license.

In his petition, Reich asserts that the proposed changes could augment public service abilities on the part of the affected licensees.

In petition RM-10621, AMSAT-NA has asked the FCC to drop its presently required 27-month pre-space notification to the FCC's international branch for Amateur Satellite launches and substitute a pre-space notification within 30 days of a launch commitment.

The comment deadline for both petitions is January 17, 2003. Interested parties may view the Reich and AMSAT petitions and file comments via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System on the web at, <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>. Commenters should include full name, US Postal Service mailing address and the applicable rulemaking number.

Mark Clark, W4CK Jan. Speaker

The January Program features Mark Clark, W4CK from Fayetteville, TN who operated as V73BL in May of 2002.

Mark is going to share some of his extensive experiences operating from the 'other side'. He will also have his logbook from V73BL if you need to get a QSL card. I hope to see everyone at the January meeting.

Regards,

Tim Pearson/**KU4J**



DX Contests for the Coming Month

DARC 10 Meter Contest, (CW/SSB), 10 meters

Jan 12, 0900Z – 1059Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial No.

See page 97, Jan QST

CQWW 160 Meter Contest, (CW), 160 meters

Jan 25, 0000Z to Jan 26 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus State/Province/DXCC entity

See page 97, Jan. QST

REF French Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

Jan 25, 0600Z to Jan 26, 1800Z

Exchange: RST plus Serial No. (F stns. give Dept/pfx)

See page 97, Jan. QST

UBA (Belgium) Contest (PHONE), 80-10 meters

Jan 25, 1300Z to Jan 26, 1300Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial No.

See page 97, Jan. QST

OTHERS:

Midwinter Contest, CW 1400Z - 2000Z, Jan 11

Hunting Lions in the Air (CW/SSB), 0000Z, Jan 11 - 2400Z, Jan 12

NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW 0530Z - 0730Z, Jan 12

NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB 0800Z - 1000Z, Jan 12

Midwinter Contest, Phone 0800Z - 1400Z, Jan 12

LZ Open Contest, CW, 1200Z -2000Z Jan. 18

Hungarian DX Contest 1200Z, Jan 18 - 1200Z, Jan 19

BARTG RTTY Sprint, 1200Z, Jan 25 – 1200Z, Jan 26

Mexico RTTY International Contest, (RTTY), 1800Z, Feb 1 - 2400Z, Feb 2

CQ/RJ WW RTTY WPX Contest, 0000Z Feb 8 – 2400Z Feb 9

RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW 2100Z, Feb 8 - 0100Z, Feb 9

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

Chuck, N4NM



Annual NADXC member dues for the year 2003 are payable as of January 1, and we ask everyone's cooperation in getting them in during January. There has been no change in the dues for this year . . . \$15.00 for individual memberships and \$20.00 for family memberships (those residing in the same household). That's only \$1.25 per month for individuals, which is a great deal.

If you're able to attend the January 14 meeting, you can pay your dues then. Or, if you prefer, you can mail a check (payable to NADXC) to Nancy Morris (K4JD), Secretary/Treasurer, at the following address:

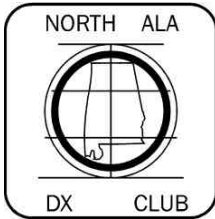
Nancy Morris - K4JD
4008 Gunnison Lane
Huntsville, AL 35810

Thanks to all our members for your continued support. It's what keeps NADXC alive and well!

Your 2003 Board of Directors

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

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We're on the
Web:
www.nadxc.org

How to Join: Come to a club meeting; or send in application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org); or call Nancy Morris at (256)859-8920

Editor's Soapbox

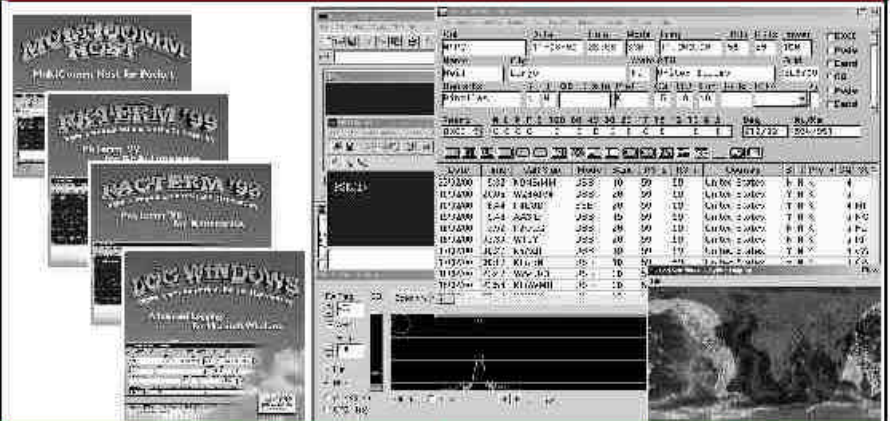
Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and got plenty of goodies when Santa flew through the area.

Congratulations to the new NADXC officers! The club appreciates your willingness to serve and wishes you all the best. We look forward to your ideas and guidance for the coming year.

Please remember that with the New Year comes renewal time. NADXC dues are calendar year dues and therefore expire at the end of the year. Please get with Nancy at the January 14th meeting or send your dues to her by mail.

Make sure to come out to the January meeting and enjoy Mark Clark's program. Until next month...
73, Jared Cassidy, **KQ4VT**

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