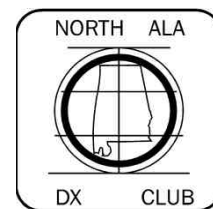


The LongPath



A North Alabama DX Club Publication

From the President's Desk

Log a QSO . . . Make a Friend?

As DXers, we sometimes have opportunities to do more than simply have QSOs with DX stations. We always make impressions, but we can even make friends. Granted, the pressure to minimize DX QSO time usually permits only an exchange of signal reports. But there are other times when the race to beat out the other guys and break the pileup just doesn't exist, and it's those times that permit us to realize the full potential that communicating with someone in a foreign land represents.

By virtue of our activity, amateur radio operators are ambassadors. It's something that naturally follows from our role as communicators. I don't mean ambassadors in a diplomatic sense, I mean ambassadors in a personal sense. If we think about it, every time we communicate with a foreign operator we make, and leave, an impression. It can be positive, negative, or neutral, depending on how we choose to handle it.

U.S. hams can make all kinds of different impressions on the air. Most times they just go about their DX "business" and leave a neutral impression. But if they happen to be in a bad mood, or have no patience with another ham who speaks less than perfect English, they can be abrupt – sometimes downright rude.



That's bad. If some guys try to muscle an existing DX operator off a frequency they want to use, they can intimidate the other operator with disrespectful or abusive language. That's bad, too. On the other hand, there are times when we have an opportunity to make a more lasting positive impression, and that's good!

Many of us have probably experienced situations where some of our DX QSOs have led to subsequent exchanges of cor-

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May 13th Program

"CY0MM DXpedition Video"
by Tim Pearson, KU4J

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

Volume 27, Issue 5
The LongPath
May, 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!*

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"Short Skip" ...

- **Tennessee Enacts PRB-1 Legislation** . . . Alabama's neighbor to the North just enacted legislation, based upon FCC's PRB-1, that will protect Tennessee's hams from unreasonable barriers to antenna construction. Tennessee's Governor Sundquist signed the bill into law a few days ago. NADXC's Pres. Myron Manker, W4UR, was involved in the effort for two years and worked with other Tennessee hams at legislative hearings and in e-Mail campaigns.
- **ICOM Introduces ORP Rig** . . . Not to be outdone by the Yaesu FT-817, ICOM is now delivering the IC-703. Looking very much like the popular IC-706 series, the 703 features 10 Watt output, internal antenna tuner, and HF/6M coverage.
- **Other New Goodies** . . . Lots of interesting new "stuff" being introduced just in time for the Dayton HamVention. ICOM ID-1, a 1.2 GHz Digital Radio with analog and digital voice plus data at 128 KB/s via Ethernet port. Yaesu FT-857 HF/VHF/UHF 100 W mobile transceiver. Ten-Tec Titan III 1.5KW Linear featuring 4CX800A tubes. LDG KW power level Automatic Tuner. The manufacturers must see good market potential in the ham ranks to make the kind of investment necessary to bring these new products to market.
- **Huntsville Manufacturers Go To Dayton** . . . W4RT Electronics, headed by NADXCer Barry Johnson, W4WB, will head to Dayton for their 3rd consecutive year. This year sporting a "double wide" booth in the same excellent location just across from Heil Sound, they will feature a wide variety of accessory products aimed at the popular FT-817, FT-847, FT-897, and other amateur transceivers. Barry has a number of marketing relationships with other manufacturers and those products will be available as well. LDG Electronics' new KW Autotuner will be on display. Tim Pearson, KU4J, will likely have a new product available on display in another booth. This is a USB to rig control interface that will fill a real need as the PC world continues to de-emphasize the traditional serial interface that has been the standard for so many years.
- **But Is It Ham Radio?** . . . Only you can answer. The question revolves around the many hybrid schemes involving Internet connection to/from ham radio systems. The Internet Relay Linking Project, Echolink, WIRES, and on and on are innovative and actually seem to work. Working my friend, Mike Parks, G4UPD, through a relay point in Maryland from his home in Leeds, England, was interesting and fun. Mike was VOIP from Leeds to Maryland and I was good "old fashioned" 20 meter SSB from Nashville to Maryland. Two good references on this topic are found in QST February 2003 (VOIP and Amateur Radio) and QST May 2003 (From Ether to Ethernet).
- **Dayton Here We Come!** The annual pilgrimage to Dayton is just a few days away. What is it about this event that evokes such enthusiasm? I guess the answer is different for each ham. For me it is a time for getting away from the craziness of the pressures of business and becoming immersed in a hobby that features incredible variety. It is just plain FUN. I have a friend that told me once that "if you're not having fun, then you should be PLANNING to have fun." I'll twist that a bit and say: "If you've never been to the Dayton HamVention, then you should be PLANNING to go!" If you're not going this year, put next year's dates on your calendar and be there! You'll be glad that you did. CU at Dayton!

73 es gud DX de W4RK

April 8th Meeting Minutes

The NADXC held its regular monthly meeting on April 8, 2003 at Ryan's Steakhouse. The President, Myron Manker (W4UR) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Visitors present were Sasha Trexler (KC9AVU), Carl Rourk (K4CHR), and Don Durk (KA1DWX). John Zeiler introduced his new call sign, K4AN.

The President thanked Jared Cassidy (KQ4VT) for maintaining an excellent web site and for continuing to produce an excellent LongPath. He also noted that there were two new features in this month's LongPath, a "For Sale" column and a column about "Elmering" by Tim Pearson (KU4J). Additional ideas and contributions are welcome.

The President announced that Bernie McClenny (W3UR), editor of "How's DX" column in QST, editor of Daily DX newsletter, and participant in many DXpeditions, has agreed to be our banquet speaker at the Hamfest. He will discuss his recent DXpedition to Johnston Island.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as published in the April LongPath.

Tom Russell (N4KG) suggested that we recognize those who achieved a new milestone in DXing this month. Bill Grimwood worked his first DX. Don Durk received the N5HV Memorial Award for the most radio active member of the Tennessee Contest Group for the year 2002, with 2800 contacts. Steve Werner (AG4W) has qualified for the DXCC Challenge Award and a 12-meter endorsement for his 5BDXCC.

The Treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$2157.39. Dues have been received from most members. The roster will be revised this week and the names of those not paid will be removed.

The President presented the membership application of Don Durk (KA1DWX) for consideration. Tom Duncan (KG4CUY) moved that the application be accepted, Tom Russell (N4KG) seconded, and the motion carried.

Chuck Lewis (N4NM) stated that the proposed revisions to the constitution and bylaws have been prepared by the Constitution Review Committee and will be sent by mail to all members of record. Chuck asked all who have questions about the proposed changes to please call him to discuss the changes. These changes will be
(continued on page 6)

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

respondence (written or electronic); to a continuing discussion of other mutual interests; to an exchange of information about the history, geography, and culture of other lands; and sometimes even to an eyeball QSO. It's this aspect of our hobby that is truly unique to DXing. I recall exchanging stamps with Russian amateurs, renewing an acquaintance with a Swedish amateur I first contacted more than 40 years ago, discussing the history of the Channel Islands with a "native", and studying some detailed maps of Australia sent to me by a ham "down under" after our QSO. Another of our members, Bill Gerth (W4RK), recently spent a weekend in Atlanta visiting with a British ham he had earlier met via amateur radio. There are probably countless other examples of these same types of extended communication between NADXC members and foreign hams, all of which happened because we made an impression and made a friend.

Not all DX QSOs will generate lasting personal friendships . . . and that's to be expected. Nevertheless, if we remain aware of the opportunities that occasionally come along to convert QSOs into positive impressions, and positive impressions into friendships, we have a chance to enjoy another dimension of our hobby. Perhaps the next time you're on the air and hear a DX station calling CQ with no takers, why not give him a call and invest a little time with more conversation than just: "You're 5-9 in Alabama, name here is Jim, will QSL via bureau, 73." You never know if there just might be a friendship in the making.

73,
Myron, **W4UR**

ARLD018DX News

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by 4L1W, TI2DLL, the OPDX Bulletin, The Daily DX, QRZ DX, 425DXnews, DXNL, WA7BNM and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

GEORGIA, 4L. Members of Georgia club station 4L1W are QRV May 6 and 7 in commemoration of the 5th anniversary of the Iveria ARC. Activity is on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via operators' instructions.

GERMANY, DA. Peter, DH9YPA is QRV from Borkum Island, IOTA EU-047, until May 9. QSL to home call.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Fabien, F8CFU will be QRV as FO/F8CFU from Tubuai Island, IOTA OC-152, from May 6 to 16. Activity is on 20 to 10 meters, including the newer bands. QSL to home call.

MARQUESAS ISLANDS, FO. Stations I2YSB, IK2DIA, IK2GNW, I2MOV, IK2WXV, IK1AOD and IK1PMR are QRV as TX4PG until May 9. QSL via I2YSB.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HI. Special event station HI0RCD is QRV until May 6 as part of the Sixth International Book Show. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters. QSL via bureau.

THAILAND, HS. Charlie, K4VUD is QRV as HS0ZCW until around June 15. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

ITALY, I. Stations IK4MSV, IK4SWX, IK4IDS, IK4HLU, IZ4COT, IZ4DIW and IZ4AGI will participate in the ARI International DX Contest as IR4A. QSL via bureau.

ANTARCTICA. Obi, 8J1RF is working as the doctor of the "44th Japanese Antarctic Research Expedition" in the scientific station Dome Fuji, IOTA AN-016. He is active using CW, SSB, RTTY and SSTV at various times daily and during the weekend. QSL via operator's instructions.

OGASAWARA, JD1. JM1LJS is QRV as JD1BLK until May 4. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.



PUERTO RICO, KP4. Members of the Caribbean Amateur Radio Group are QRV using special event call K4C from May 3 to 17 to celebrate the Hamfest and Old Timers Recognition event. Activity is on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters SSB. QSL via KP4ARN.

BULGARIA, LZ. Special event station LZ03KM is active on all bands and modes until May 31 to celebrate St. Cyril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1BFR.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. Erwin, OM7PY, Zsolt, HA6PS and Laci, HA6NL are active from Ruzina until May 5 and

will participate in the AGCW-QRP and ARI International DX Contests as OM/HA5RT/p. QSL via operators' instructions.

SAN MARINO, T7. Piero, IZ1ERR and Giovanni, IW2BSQ plan to be QRV as T7/homecalls from May 3 to 5. They will concentrate on satellites UO-14 and possibly FO-20, as well as Meteor Scatter on 2 meters. QSL to home calls.

COSTA RICA, TI. In celebration of the 75 years of amateur radio activity here, Costa Rican amateurs are QRV using the special prefix TE75 until May 31. QSL via the bureau.

UKRAINE, UR. Special event stations EO58JM and EO58JS will be QRV from May 5 to 12 to commemorate the 58th anniversary of the end of World War II. QSL via KG6AR and KD5RBU, respectively

LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L. Trevor, VK7TS and Rex, VK7MO will be QRV as VK9LS from May 3 to 10. Activity will be on 20, 15 and 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31. They will also be on 2 meters and 70 and 23 cm using JT44, FSK441, VFSKCW and SSB for Meteor Scatter QSOs. QSL via operators' instructions.

Other DX Rumors and News

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

DAYTON HAMVENTION DX DINNER PROGRAM

Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, informs OPDX that this year's SWODXA DX Dinner Banquet Program will be "A DXer's Expedition through the Halls of Power" with guest speaker Vice Admiral Scott Redd, U. S. Navy (Retired), K0DQ/A92Q. There are still some tickets available (Please refer to OPDX.597 for details).

3 YEAR DXPEDITION (Amazing Lady!)

OPDX was informed by Skipper Susan Meckley, W7KFI, that she was starting her 3 year DXpedition to Central America and the South Pacific. At the time she contacted us she was in Mexico soon to sign W7KFI/mm. NOW FOR THE AMAZING PART! Susan told OPDX that she originally was to go on a 1946 Brewer, the vessel called Menage-A-tROIS. However, she states she soon found out that, at the age of 69 years old (YES 69), she could no longer single handedly sail the boat in heavy weather. She stated, "It was just too much boat for an old lady." (ed. AMAZING) Susan traded her boat for a Challenger 1932. The Vessel S/V Dharma. She stated, "This size boat I can handle all by myself." (ed. WOW!). Susan left Oakland, CA, in January and has been slowly working her way south. She has spent time in many ports, and she found them very nice. Susan has been in Ensenada, Mexico (Baja California), for the last month, but has now left again on Wednesday, April 16th, for San Jose, Punta Cabras. Heading south, Susan told OPDX that she would be operating from an island that has not been operated on before, the Isle San Martin (NA-162). She was heard April 17th as XE2/W7KFI from San Martin on 14249 kHz at 2341z. The length of her stay is not unknown. However, Susan provided OPDX with her next stops (no dates given). Her next stop will be at Bahia de Torguga (Turtle bay), and from there to Magdalena Bay, Cabo San Lucas, and finally La Paz. Susan will be in La Paz for a few weeks, then it is off to the islands in the Sea of Cortez for operating....and into Guymas for the hurricane season. Come fall she will go down the mainland coast ending in Costa Rica. In April 2004, she is off to Galapagos Islands and into the South Pacific. Susan states, "I will be in the South Pacific for up to three years, operating from any island that will give me a license to operate. This is a fully self-funded expedition. I asked all around for support but was unable to get any. Rig is an FT-847 with two 32' pop-up masts and I will be on all modes except SSTV... including Pactor. I intend to follow in the footsteps of Danny Weil from the 50's. Hopefully, I will not end up on a reef like he did." We hope Susan will continue to contact us on her amazing trip, and we wish her the best. One last note. Susan told us that she has room on board for a crewmember if anyone wants to go. If interested, let us know and we will forward the message.

4S, SRI LANKA

Ivan, UR9IDX (ex-8Q7VG), will be active as 4S7DXG until May 1st. His activity over the past week was on 30/20/15 meters CW/SSB. Watch 21020 kHz after 1630z. Also watch 14014, 14195 and 10107 kHz between 1630-2230z. QSL via UR9IDX, P.O. Box 85, Mariupol 87531, UKRAINE.

7P, A25 & ZS, LESOTHO, BOTSWANA AND SOUTH AFRICA

Operators Mauro/IN3QBR, Fabrizio/IN3ZNR and Joe/AA4NN are teaming up to go on the air as the "African Double Jump DXpedition". The team will be going to South Africa, Lesotho and Botswana starting at the end of June. According to their Web page, the team will meet with Andre, ZS6WPX, who will become their tour guide. Between June 28th and July 1st, the team will go on a Safari. There is a possibility they "MAY" do some operating using callsigns ZS/homecall. Early July 2nd, the team will head to Botswana's capital, Gaborone City. They plan to erect their antennas and operate from their hotel that day. Callsigns mentioned so far are A25NN and A25ZNR. They plan to leave for the town of Rustenburg on July 5th, and will travel to Sun City, South Africa. There "MAY" be some activity as ZS/homecall. Early July 7th, they will leave for Lesotho and expect to be there late afternoon. They will be active that same day. Expected callsigns will be 7P8JB and 7P8NR. Activity will last until July 11th. They depart for Johannesburg on July 12th and expect to leave for home July 13th. Please visit their Web page for updates at:

<http://www.qsl.net/xu7aay/africa>

7P, LESOTHO

"NOT TO BE CONFUSED with the African Double Jump DXpedition" listed above, look for three Texans (Frosty/K5LBU, Madison/W5MJ and Tom/WW5L) and one Canadian (Neil/VA7DX) to be active as 7P8CF, 7P8MJ, 7P8TA and 7P8NK, respectively, from July 18-25th. Activity will be on all bands 160-10 meters CW/SSB/PSK31/RTTY. QSL each by their home calls.

S2, BANGLADESH

Takeda, S21YY, was pleasing the RTTY operators this past weekend on 20 meters. Watch for him on/around 14080 kHz after 0100z.

SV9, CRETE

Jim, SM2EKM, will be active as SV9/SM2EKM from Agia Marina, Crete, May 29th through June 12th.

XW, LAOS

Plenty of activity from this one over the past week. Stations heard were XW1A, XW1FAN, XW6KM and XW1X. Operator Kamphan, XW1FAN, seemed to be the most active over

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World's Longest Yard Sale Special Event Station

The DeKalb County Alabama Amateur Radio Club will operate an Amateur Radio Special Event Station in conjunction with the World's Longest Yard Sale!

The World's Longest Yard Sale annual event extends from Gadsden, Alabama to Covington, Kentucky via the U.S. 127 Corridor, with more than 450 miles of scenic beauty, tons of yard sale items and many friendly people.

The World's Longest Yard Sale Amateur Radio Special Event Station will operate as W4GBR along the yard sale route on the Lookout Mountain Parkway located near Fort Payne, Alabama. W4GBR can be found on the frequencies of 28.470, 21.270, 14.270, 7.270 and 147.270 MHz. The yard sale and special event operations will be August 2-10, 2003. Out of town yard salers and amateur radio opera-

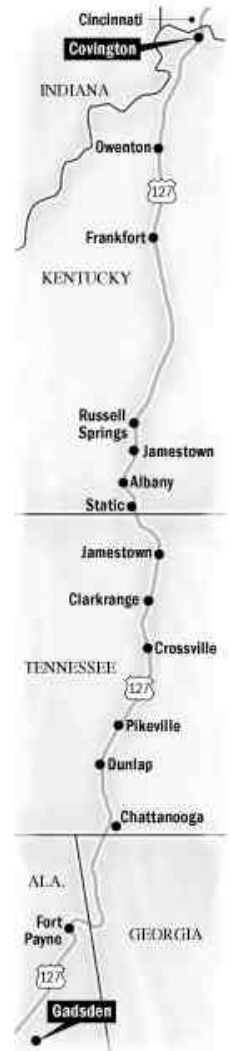
tors are invited to visit our station. Special event station information or local directions can be obtained on our local repeater, 147.270 MHz 100.0Hz PL.

To receive a W4GBR Special Event Certificate, mail the order form found on the website or mail your contact information and \$4.00 U.S. to:

W4GBR Special Event
2113 Dogwood Blvd. NE
Fort Payne, AL 35967

For additional information please contact the above address or see the following:

w4gbr@yahoo.com
<http://worldslongestyardsalespecialevent.com>
<http://www.tourdekalb.com/yardsale.htm>
<http://www.dekalbamateurradio.com>



March 11th Meeting Minutes ...cont'd

voted on at the May 13 meeting.

Tom Duncan announced that Field Day would be June 28 & 29 this year. The site will probably be at Intergraph, and everyone who can is urged to participate.

The President mentioned that a reservation for the NADXC annual Christmas Party has been made at the Redstone Officers and Civilians Club for the evening of December 9. Because of security another site may be more desirable and suggestions are welcome.

The Treasurer reported that a separate fund has been established for acquiring a projector and that some contributions have been received. Tim Pearson reported that his investigation of refurbished projectors found that the price was about \$750.00 and a bulb cost \$300.00 to \$350.00. John Zeiler reported that he also found the minimum cost around \$1,000.00. We will continue to look into this and accumulate funds to buy one in the future.

Tim Pearson presented a program entitled "FSK/PSK DXing."

The door prize, an MFJ-1273-B Sound Card Interface, was provided by GigaParts, and won by Bill Hull (K4RP)

Tim announced that the program for May would be a video of the CYOMM DXpedition.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Morris, **K4JD**
Secretary/Treasurer

Field Day 2003 Rapidly Approaches

Field Day is the largest on-the-air operating event sponsored by the ARRL each year. The 2003 version of Field Day will be held on June 28-29, and as usual HARC will be operating as K4BFT with multiple transmitters. Many NADXC members have been very active participants in K4BFT Field Day operations in the past, and we hope that this will be the case again this year.

Those who have previously been involved in Field Day events know what neat (and FUN) experiences they are. Regardless of whether your level of interest in the event is strong, or you are just curious to see what goes on, there are

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DX Elmer

Working DX Stations Using Split Frequency

If you just started working DX you will eventually have to figure out how to work DX stations that are working 'SPLIT'. When you are on the DX side of a pileup (assuming it's rare) and are working transceive there will likely come a time when the pileup gets out of hand. Stations will continue to call even though you came back to someone else. This is the time when the savvy DX station will decide to start working split. The DX station will transmit on one frequency and will listen up (typically) a little or lot depending on the depth of the pileup.

First let's cover some background on HOW to setup you rig to operate split. The best reference is to carefully READ your manual. On ICOM radios the split feature is called XFC, on some Kenwoods its called TF-SET, on Yaesu....well they haven't quite mastered this feature yet :(There are three buttons that will probably be labeled A=B, A/B, and SPLIT. I'm going to let you read your manual to figure out exactly how to setup your radio for this mode. Some of the nicer HF rigs that have dual receivers make split operation REALLY nice and some rigs even have real-time spectrum displays that actually let you SEE the pileup (the jury's still out on this usefulness).

When a DX stations starts to work split you need to be very careful and listen for his instructions. He may say 'up 5 kHz' or may specify a range 'up 10 to 20'. Its very important to always listen because he may change where's he listening because of QRM on his side. It's VERY important that you never transmit on the DX stations transmit frequency this only brings out the DX Cops to chastise you.

You'll have the most success working a DX station by figuring out his pattern. Many DX stations will have a particular pattern, the sooner you figure out the pattern the sooner you will be in their log! Some stations will work 1 station then move up the band a little until they reach the top of their range and then start by going back down. Some DX stations will work several stations on one frequency and then move up or down. Sometimes spotting is a difficult thing to do because you aren't able to hear many of the other stations calling. Be patient and listen carefully to see if you can hear who the DX station is working this is your best chance. If you can figure out the DX stations pattern then you want to try to guess where he will have his receiver tuned for the next QSO. If you have a modest station with no beam or amp then you need to 'leapfrog' to the next frequency where there is no one calling (the next clear frequency), this will greatly improve your chances for working the DX station. This also works when you are not able to spot the station that he is working but you

can hear people calling in that range. You will want to find the clearest frequency in the range that he is working and park there.

In some cases the DX-Cluster will be a useful tool because many of the spots on the cluster will show what frequency the spotter worked them on, just be aware that these spots are sometimes 'stale'. Another useful tip is to get a few buddies on the DX 2m repeater to help each other learn where the DX station is probably listening. This was quite common in the past and is sadly not used much anymore but is STILL a useful tool.

In summary:

- 1) Listen for instructions from the DX Station on where he is listening.
- 2) Never transmit on the DX stations transmit frequency and don't be a 'DX-COP'
- 3) Listen for the DX stations pattern (up 1 every QSO, up 2, work 4 then up 2, etc) take notes
- 4) Be patient, it sometimes takes a long time!
- 5) Use all the tools available to you DX-Cluster, DX-Repeater, 2nd receiver.
- 6) Practice - This is one case where practice makes perfect.
- 7) Be patient, don't get frustrated....keep trying

Tim Pearson, **KU4J**

Field Day 2003 ...Cont'd

many opportunities to be involved . . . helping with station set-up, providing operating assistance, or just being around to observe and lend some encouragement. It's also a great way to make the public more aware of the valuable emergency communications resource that amateur radio operators represent, and that's really what Field Day is intended to demonstrate . . . emergency communications preparedness under less than optimal conditions.

More detailed information about this year's Field Day plans will be provided at our May 13 regular meeting, but mark your calendars now for the weekend of June 28-29 and plan to be a part of the Field Day experience.

Other DX Rumors and News...cont'd

the past week. Watch around 21220, 21225 and 21260 kHz after 0830z or between 1330-1430z.

7P8, LESOTHO (Update)

A fifth operator has been added to the July 7P8 Lesotho DXpedition that will give the group an added plus in the digital mode operation. The newest operator to join the group is Dave Anderson, K4SV, a veteran of many world-class DXpeditions and a world class RTTY and digital modes operator. Dave Anderson of Ashville, NC, whose 7P8 callsign is expected to be 7P8DA. Dave joins Charles Frost, K5LBU/7P8CF; Madison Jones, W5MJ/7P8MJ; Neil King VA7DX/7P8NK; and Tom Anderson WW5L/7P8TA, on the all bands and modes operation July 18-25th from Mohale's Hoek, Lesotho. REMEMBER: THIS OPERATION IS NOT TO BE CONFUSED with the "African Double Jump DXpedition". Dave gives the team some added strength on the digital modes and is a very experienced DXpedition member (member of the A50A and A52A Bhutan, VP5/KW4DA Turks & Caicos 2000 & 2003 operations, T2DA Tuvalu, 3D2CW Fiji, K1B Baker Island, and ZL7C Chatham Islands). QSLs will be handled by each operator separately via their home callsign as each will have their own 7P8 callsign. Look for more details to be released after June.

A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Ghis, ON5NT, is now in Dubai for the UN for the next 3 months. Look for possible activity from him.

C9, MOZAMBIQUE (Update)

Filippo, IK4ZHH, has informed OPDX that he has left for Mozambique on Friday, April 18th. Remember to look for Max/IZ4DPV and Filippo/IK4ZHH to be active as C93CM and C93FF, respectively, now through May 4th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters CW/SSB and possibly RTTY and 6 meters. They will also participate in the ARI DX Contest (May 3-4th). QSL via their home callsign, either direct or through the bureau.

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU

Sebastien, F8DQZ, who was active from 3X with the callsign 3XD02 from the mainland and IOTA AF-051, will be here for the next two weeks starting April 19th.

ZK1, SOUTH COOK ISLANDS

Operators Jun/VK4SJ and Doug/VK4BP will be active as ZK1AYL and ZK1SIM from April 27th through May 26th. They plan to visit Aitutaki (OC-083) April 27th through 14 May, and then Rarotonga (OC-013) from May 15-26th. Activity will be on 40-10 meters. QSL via VK4SJ either via the bureau or direct to: June Sim, P.O. Box 406, Caloundra 4551, Queensland, Australia. E-QSLs will not be accepted.

OPDX 609 April 28, 2003

CY9, ST. PAUL ISLAND

The CY9 DXpedition team is now complete. The operation will take place from July 24th to August 2nd, with an entry in the IOTA Contest. The team members are Robert/N0RN, Vance/N5VL, Igor/W0IZ, Joe/KO4RR, Andrea/K5AAH (YL), Alan/K5AB and Dale/VE7SV. They will be taking with them a Battle Creek Special and will operate on the low bands during all openings. Callsign will be given either at the beginning of the operation or shortly before. QSL via N5VL. Visit the following Web page for updates:

<http://www.hometown.aol.com/vlepierre/myhomepage/index.html>

KH9, WAKE ISLAND

Jake, N6XIV/KH9, became active from Wake Island at 0740z on April 22nd. He came up on 14260 kHz and operated until after 0900z. This was his first operation since arriving on Wake, however, N6XIV/KH9 has been spotted on the internet DX Clusters on April 20th just before 1000z on 30 meters. Jake has confirmed that this station was definitely NOT N6XIV/KH9. There has also been spots on 40 meters CW. His QSL Manager advises that Jake DOES NOT work CW. DO NOT waste your time working and especially QSLing N6XIV/KH9 if heard on CW...it is NOT Jake. He will be on the air as work permits, roughly between 0700z to 0900z, most likely around 14260 kHz. Jake may attempt other bands, but that will be dictated by his very limited operating hours. Also, Jake states he will be on SSB only this trip. QSL via K2FF.

TX4, MARQUESAS ISLANDS

The Italian group is now active from OC-027 as TX4PG until May 9th. Activity will be on all HF bands, including 6 meters, and on CW/SSB/PSK/RTTY. Please refer to OPDX.597, OPDX.602 and OPDX.606 for more details and Web page.

YA, AFGHANISTAN

A few stations have been active from here over the past couple of weeks. Last week, Roberto, YN1BB, showed up as YN1BB/YA from Kabul on 15 meters (usually around/between 21260-21275 kHz after 1145z as last as 1630z). Also, active last week was Nick, G4KUX, as YA4F on 6 meters CW/SSB. Watch around 50.108-50.111 MHz between 1445-1630z. He will be here until April 2004. QSL via his home callsign. Hiro, JA1CQT, was heard the week before as YA1CQ on 17/15/12 meters. Watch around 18153, 21320 and 24955 kHz after 0730z and as late as 1600z. QSL via JA1CQT. "The Daily DX" reportedly states, Hiro, is in Kabul as part of the Basic Human Needs (BHN) contingent. He has

(continued on page 9)

DX Contests for the Coming Month

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

May. 10, 2100Z to May. 11, 2100Z
Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #
See page 106, May QST

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

May 17, 2100Z to May 18, 0200Z
Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial #

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

May. 24, 0000Z to May 25, 2400Z
Exchange: RST plus serial #
See page 97, Mar. QST

OTHERS:

I.P.A. Contest (SSB), 0000Z – 2359Z, May 6

F.I.S.T.S. CW Club Spring Sprint (CW), 1700Z – 2100Z, May 10

A. Volta RTTY DX Contest (RTTY), 1200Z, May 10 – 1200Z, May 11

Anatolian RTTY WW Contest (RTTY), 0000Z, May 17 – 2400Z, May 18

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW
1800Z, May 17 - 1800Z, May 18

VK-ZL Trans-Tasman Contest, CW
0800Z - 1400Z, Jun 7

IARU Region 1 Field Day (CW), 1500Z
Jun 7 – 1500Z Jun 8

ANARTS WW RTTY Contest (RTTY),
0000 Jun 9 – 2400 Jun 10

Portugal Day Contest, 0000 – 2400 Jun 14

Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB), 1100Z – 1300Z
Jun 14

WW South American CW Contest (CW), 0000Z Jun 14 – 1600Z Jun 15

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

Chuck, N4NM



Other DX Rumors and News...cont'd

been granted temporary permission to operate as YA1CQ until the end of May, but expects to be in Afghanistan for 12 months. The BHN is a nongovernmental organization (NGO) that helps with humanitarian relief efforts. Others associated with the BHN team include Ito "Dan" Sadao, JA1PBV. YA1JA is the BHN club callsign.

YI, IRAQ

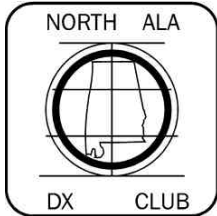
The "ARRL Letter" reports that several radio amateurs, which include some of the world's top operators, are among the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) "Fast Intervention Team" (FITTEST). The personnel is already in Iraq or poised nearby. FITTEST is responsible for building a technical infrastructure to ensure WFP can move relief food supplies rapidly and safely. FITTEST also has a mandate to install or build basic technical networks, including such systems as VHF repeaters, satellite communications and HF fixed and mobile stations. The team also will set up radio rooms, rework administrative procedures, and assign call signs for all UN humanitarian-aid workers and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) --other international aid organizations. How-

ever, any ham radio operations would be secondary to the WFP's efforts in Iraq. Operators mentioned are: Peter Casier/ON6TT (who's expected in Baghdad sometime this week), Robert Kasca/S53R, Mark Demeuleneere/ON4WW and Mats Persson/SM7PKK. Others who are ready to go to Iraq include Ed Giorgadze/4L4FN (aka P5/4L4FN), Patrick Pointu/F5ORF and Mark Tell/VK4KMT, who are just among several other FITTEST team members who are radio amateurs. ADDED NOTE: Peter, ON6TT, states in the ARRL Letter that Diya Sayah, YI1DZ (one of the primary operators at the Baghdad Radio Club's YI1BGD and the WFP's Baghdad telecommunications officer) is safe and well in Iraq. For more details, please read "The ARRL Letter", Vol 22, No 17.

Meanwhile, Willie, KV4EB, near Baghdad, was quite active over the past weekend as KV4EB/YI on 20/15 meters SSB, SSTV and PSK31. Watch the DX Clusters for QSNs at various times throughout the day.

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

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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

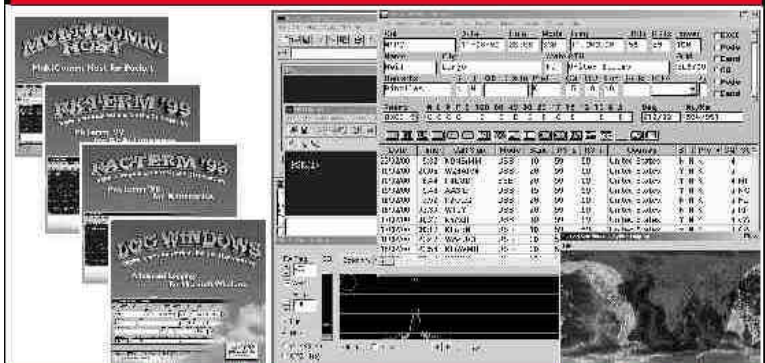
Constitutionally Speaking

For the past few months, a special committee of several NADXC members has been hard at work on an important project. The committee consists of Chuck Lewis (N4NM) as chairman, John Winter (KR4F), Tom Duncan (KG4CUY), and Chris Reed (KF4MMF). Appointed by the Board of Directors, the committee's purpose has been to review the existing NADXC Constitution and By-Laws in order to clear up some contradictions and inconsistencies that have crept into the documents over the past few years, and to add some additional clarification to other portions. After reviewing comments and suggestions from club members, the committee has proposed several revisions. These have been reviewed by the Board and are recommended for approval.

A complete copy of the committee's proposed revisions has been mailed to each active member for review in advance of a formal vote to adopt them to be taken at the May 13 regular meeting. This is an important process, and one in which each NADXC member should participate. The Consti-

tution and By-Laws represent the basic road map that establishes the way NADXC is organized and sets forth how its activities are carried out. All members are encouraged to attend the May 13 meeting and cast their votes.

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