

The LongPath



A North Alabama DX Club Publication

From the President's Desk

Since the last meeting we have experienced the Autumnal Equinox and some really good conditions. I played around in the CQWW-RTTY and managed to work several goodies on 15m and 20m (VU2, HS, 9M2, YB, 9U, 5U, 9J, JT, KH2 and VQ9). I uploaded my contest log to LOTW shortly after the contest (3 days) and was very surprised to see that I already had over 10% of my contest QSO's 'confirmed'!!



The lowband season will be upon us before you know it so you had better start building/repairing those low band antennas. The Grand-Daddy of all DX Contests is coming up at the end of the month, the CQWW-SSB. I just checked the www.ng3k.com website and noticed that there were going to be a lot of DXpedition activity specifically for the contest. I encourage everyone to participate in the contest and make a few or a LOT of QSO's and to submit a log (don't forget to give the NADXC as the club credit).

We also need to start thinking about the NADXC Christmas Party. Did everyone enjoy the format last year? I welcome

comments about the Christmas Party either at the club meeting or via email (ku4j@arrl.net), we will need to start making reservations shortly.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting Tuesday, October 12th.

73 Tim/KU4J

October 12th Program
"Contesting for DXers"

by Tom Russell, N4KG

Also NADXC Elections!

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

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The LongPath
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"Short Skip" ...

Myron Manker, W4UR

Some Tidbits About Baluns . . . The October issue of QST has some interesting comments on page 57 concerning current baluns. There are also a couple of web references cited where additional info can be found dealing with the theory, design, and use of these devices. If you're curious you might check it out.

Peter I DXpedition Info . . . More and more information about the early 2005 DXpedition to Peter I Island seems to be appearing these days. The organizing group's web site (www.peterone.com) includes a lot of good material about the geography and environment of this very remote location, as well as other facts of interest. In addition to NADXC's financial support of the endeavor, several large contributions are being made by various other organizations. This particular DXpedition is a huge undertaking, and may not be repeated for many years.

The 756ProIII Is Coming! . . . Well, just like the "Rocky" series of movies, another version of the ICOM 756Pro transceiver series will soon be playing in a ham shack near you. This will be the "ProIII." Some early information about the radio is posted on the GigaParts web site, so take a look if you're interested.

We're Never Too Old To Learn . . . The ARRL has provided the means to become much better educated about several important aspects of amateur radio activity. From its initial offerings in 2000, the League's web-based Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) Program has expanded to include courses in Emergency Communications, Antenna Modeling, HF Digital Communications, RFI, Antenna Design and Construction, and Radio Frequency Propagation. Each course is structured, with lesson assignments, feedback from "mentors," and required examinations. The fees and textbook costs vary from course to course, but seem to be reasonable. Much more information can be found on the League's web site at www.arrl.org/cce/.

A Possible Downside to LoTW? . . . Some recent comments in W3UR's "Weekly DX" posed an interesting question about a potential negative effect of the growth of Logbook of The World. As the volume of LoTW QSO confirmations increases, the volume of paper QSLs will decrease. Consequently, as fewer amateurs send QSLs direct to DX QSL managers there will be fewer envelopes with financial contributions in them to offset the high cost of many DXpeditions. Those who might otherwise be inclined to include a few extra bucks with their QSL card request will now have to send contributions separately. Just how much of an impact this decrease in paper QSL volume will have on voluntary financial contributions to DXpeditions remains to be seen.



(continued on page 9)

Minutes from the September 14th Meeting *Vic Holland, K4RVH*

The September meeting of North Alabama DX Club was called to order at 7:00 PM on September 14, 2004. Fifteen members were in attendance along with no visitors.

Members reported working 7P8, T2, JW, S9, HS, FK, R1MV1 and a couple of others I can't make out off the sign-in sheet during the past month.

Vic K4RVH gave the treasurer's report stating the funds on deposit and on-hand amounted to \$3723.08. Deposits of 735 had been made of banquet tickets and dues. Expenses this past month were \$98.12 for speaker expenses and \$117.20 for banquet door prizes. It was noted that the expenses for the banquet related to the Civic center have not yet been paid.

Minutes were approved with the following corrections. The month reported in the minutes should have been August instead of July.

Members returning to the club roster by paying dues at the hamfest were WA9TOC Charlie and KG3OKM Shawn.

Comments after the banquet were that the service and food were much improved over last year and quite enjoyable.

A donation box at the hamfest collected \$70 for Peter I DXpedition. A patch raffle of a couple of patches for the group raised \$89 during the meeting. Several members pledged additional donations as well. A motion to match \$125 from the club's general fund toward this expedition was made and passed.

K2SC Steve reported on the committee to discuss packet cluster funding issues raised at the previous meeting. His report is as follows:

On the evening of 9 September, a 3-way conference call was held between Vic (K4RVH), Chuck (N4NM) and Steve (K2SC) to discuss recommendations on how the NADXC should deal with packet cluster donations. After discussing several pertinent concerns for an hour, the group proposes that no by-law changes or new accounting practices need to be implemented. Any specifically designated packet cluster donation to the NADXC will require that a receipt from club's Secretary/Treasurer be returned to the donor with an annotation to identify the purpose of the donation. In addition, a generic letter will be sent to the donor to thank him/her for their contribution and continued support of the packet cluster network. Those donations received will be placed into the club's general fund as is the current procedure.

The approval for any packet cluster expenditures will remain via the annual budget or membership vote during any monthly meeting. The club Treasurer will maintain an accounting of the cluster-specific receipts and will include this as part of the annual fiscal handover. Annual budgets will reflect any residual cluster-specific funds for carry-over into the succeeding year. These procedures can be implemented as part of the routine accounting practice and passed along from year-to-year without formal procedural documentation.

KG4CUY Tom returned the book on 3Y0PI and K2SC Steve took it for his next read.

No further old business was presented.

New business discussions included the following:

KU4J Tim reported that there were rumors of some major DXpeditions upcoming but that he did not have any details as yet.

No further new business was presented and the meeting was closed and followed with a presentation by N4NO Jerry on the radiation patterns of vertical antennas and how earth-worms may enjoy or dislike this depending on the season.

Respectfully submitted,
Vic **K4RVH**

Nominating Committee Report

Many thanks to the nominating committee (Nancy Morris-K4JD, Chuck Lewis-N4NM, and Ed Clark-K4KFH) for putting together an excellent slate.

The nominations are:

President - Tom Duncan KC4GUY
Vice Pres. - Steve Werner - AG4W
Sec/Treas. - Vic Holland - K4RVH
Board of Directors - Chris Reed - KF4MMF
Board of Directors - Steve Carroll - K2SC

The elections will be held at the next (October) meeting. I apologize for being so tardy in getting the nominating committee together.

Tim, **KU4J**

ARRL DX Bulletin

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by K6ICS, NC1L, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, The Daily DX, 425DXnews, DXNL, WA7BNM and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

FIJI, 3D2. Rick, AI5P is QRV as 3D2PX. He is involved with other activities, so his operating time is limited. Activity is on 40, 30 and 17 meters. QSL to home call.

KENYA, 5Z. Miki, YT1CS is QRV using the special call 5Z4YT1CS from Nairobi until October 18. He is QRV using SSB on 20 and 15 meters. QSL to home call.

CUBA, CO. EA1QF and EB1AA will be QRV as T42R from October 12 to 25 while here working on a "Radiosolidarity" project. QSL via EA4URE.

SCOTLAND, GM. Leo, W3LEO will be QRV as MM0LEO from Portpatrick in southwest Scotland from October 10 to November 15. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 12 meters. He will also be active in the upcoming CQ WW contest as GM3W. QSL to home call.

SVALBARD, JW. Vegard, LA9LMA, Roar, LA1EOA and Knut, LA6BKA are QRV as JW9LMA, JW1EOA and JW6BKA, respectively, until October 14. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, and possibly 6 meters. QSL to home calls.

SOUTH SHETLANDS. LU1ZI is QRV from Teniente Jubany Base, and has been active on 20 meters around 2100 to 2200z. QSL via LU4DXU.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA, P2. Roger, G3SXW and Nigel, G3TXF will be QRV as P29SX and P29XF, respectively, from Loloata Island, IOTA OC-240, from October 8 to 14. Activity will be CW only on 80 to 10 meters, including the newer bands. QSL P29SX via G3SXW and P29XF via G3TXF.

FERNANDO DE NORONHA, PY0F. Joca, PS7JN is QRV as PY0F/PS7JN and has been active on 20 meters RTTY around 2200z. QSL to home call.

WEST KIRIBATI, T30. Ulli, DL2AH will be QRV as T30KU from October 9 to 18. Activity will be on 20 to 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL to home call.

CAMEROON, TJ. Lionel, F5PSA is QRV as TJ3SL until February 2006 while working here. He is active in his spare time. QSL to home call. Meanwhile, a group of amateurs are QRV as TJ3FR and TJ3SP until October 20. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using all modes. QSL both calls via DL7DF.

Frank McGonigal, W6DSQ



UKRAINE, UR. Nikolay, UX0FF, Alexandr, UR5FAV and Vitali, UR5FGW are QRV as homecalls/p from the Island of Ankudinov, IOTA EU-182, in the Black Sea, until October 10. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL to home calls.

ANTARCTICA. Finn, VK4LL is QRV as VK0DX from the Australian Antarctic Base Davis, Princess Elizabeth Land, IOTA AN-016, until December. He is active using CW. QSL via operator's instructions.

LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L. Look for a group of operators to be QRV as VK9LW and VK9LA from October 9 to 23. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters, including the newer bands, using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via operators' instructions.

AFGHANISTAN, YA. John, KE6GFF is QRV as T6EE from Kabul. He is active on 20 meters SSB from 0100 to 0600z until October 11. QSL to home call.

Operation approved for DXCC credit: Aves Island, YV0D, from August 1 to 4, 2004.

Other DX Rumors and News

Frank McGonigal, W6DSQ

OPDX

7X, ALGERIA (Update)

The upcoming 7W0AD operation (October 2-9th) now has a Web page online at: <http://www.ure.es/7w0ad/7w0ad.htm>. The Web site show operators and frequencies (but in Spanish). Also, looks like they may have online logs for the operation.

9G, GHANA

Look for Kees, PA0CJH, to be active as 9G5JH from Accra, September 29th through November 13th. Activity will be on 80/40/20/17/15 meters CW/SSB/PSK31. QSL via his home callsign.

A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Robert, S53R, announced that he will be active as A61AJ during the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 31-31st) as a Single-Op/ All-Band entry. QSL via: North/South America via K2UO, rest of the world via DJ2MX.

CN, MOROCCO

Jim, W7EJ, will be active during two upcoming contests as CN2R. He is expected to be in Morocco October 5th through the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 30-31st). He will enter the contest as a Single-Op/ All-Band/High-Power entry. QSL via W7EJ. He will then return November 18th and plans to be active as CN2R in the CQ WW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (80m) entry. QSL also via W7EJ.

CN, MOROCCO Last week we mentioned that Jan "Jim", SM2EKM, will be active as CN2KM in the CQWW DX CW Contest. Jan now has informed OPDX that he will be there November 23rd to December 1st. QSL via SM2EKM Single-Op/Single-Band (20m) entry. QSL via operator's instructions.

HS, THAILAND

Operator Champ/E21EIC and Kriangkrai/E20HHK will be active as HS8AC in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 30-31st) as a Multi-Single entry. QSL via E21EIC. Before the contest, they will use the callsign HS8AC/P on 160-10 meters on low power.

MJ0, JERSEY

Mat, F5SHQ, will be active as MJ0ASP in the CQ WW DX CW Contest (November 27-28th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (15m) entry. He will also be active in the ARRL 10 Meter Contest (December 11-12th) as a Single-Op/Low-Power (CW only) entry. QSL both contests via F5SHQ.

T30, WESTERN KIRIBATI

Tom, K7ZZ, informs OPDX that he will be active from Tarawa from October 25th through November 9th. The callsign of T30T has been assigned. His activity will include the CQWW DX SSB Contest as Single-Op/All-Band entry. Outside of the contest, he will concentrate on the WARC bands

and CW. He will be low power but will have a two element vertical arrays for 40-10 meters. On 80 meters, he will have a single vertical and wire for 160 meters. The operating location is right on the lagoon. Please QSL direct only to K7ZZ. The logs will be placed on the "Logbook of the World" for those who only need DXCC credit.

TY, BENIN

QSL Manager Dennis, PA7FM, informs OPDX that Michael, TZ5M (PA5M), went QRT from Mali on the 20th of September, heading for Ghana (9G). The original plans were to be active from 9G, but with the very tight schedule and short stay in mind, he decided not to apply for a licence this time. On the 30th of September, Michael will go to Benin (TY) and will be active as TY5M. As things look right now, he will leave Benin on the 21st of October. QSL via PA7FM. ADDED NOTE FROM DENNIS: The 5U7DX QSL cards have arrived from the printer while the TZ6M cards have just been ordered. Both logs are online at: <http://www.pa7fm.nl>

V6, MICRONESIA

Neil, V73NS, is expected to be active as V63NS, October 7-10th, from Pohnpei Island (IOTA OC-010). Activity will be QRP on CW, with some PSK. QSL via V73NS (QRZ.com).

VK9X, CHRISTMAS ISLAND

Charlie, W0YG, informs OPDX that Dr. Burt Myers, W0MY (ex-W0RLX), and he will be active using VK9XG from November 22nd until December 9th. Burt will return to the States on December 2nd, but Charlie will carry on a solo operation until December 9th. They will be active in the CQWW CW Contest (November 27-28th) probably on one of the low bands with a single band entry. Outside the contest, they will concentrate on the lower bands and RTTY, but they will be active on all bands that are open at various times and probably on SSB as well. They will have two stations that will allow them to both be on at the same time. Please QSL direct only to W0YG.

5Z4, KENYA (Interesting Callsign of the Week!)

Miki, YT1CS, is currently active from Nairobi and will be there until November 18th. His callsign is 5Z4YT1CS (ed. Wow! What a mouthful. Yes, it is true and there is no "/" [slash] between the 5Z4 and YT1CS). It was reported that Miki's activity would only be SSB on 20/15/10 meters. There is a possibility he may activate some of the IOTA islands there. QSL via YT1CS (direct or by the bureau).

7W0, ALGERIA

The 7W0AD is now active until October 9th. Activity over the past weekend was very active on 30m (RTTY) and 17 (SSB/RTTY) with some 40m (CW). QSL via EA4URE.

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Fourth Fox Finally Found

Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

The fourth of three scheduled Space Camp fox hunts (sic) is done. Several HARC members have at the request of Space Camp's energetic Melissa Snider, KI4CWU, helped hold fox hunts as part of the communications portion of Space Camp curricula. This has introduced on the order of 80 newcomers to some very hands-on communications basics. I must confess that this year's fox ran on FRS frequencies, but that will be rectified next year as we move down ever so slightly into the 70cm band. At that point, FRS will continue to be used for unlicensed communications among teams.

Its interesting to watch the hunters learn about direction finding in the space of an hour -- or a couple of hours for this last one. We always begin with a brief introduction in which certain basics are covered: the directional characteristics of the receive

antennas, and the effects of large nearby metal objects. Teams of hunters then go forth, brandishing antennas like Moses's rod. At the beginning of the hunt, a burning bush would be much more useful. Hatching new theories of signal propagation every few feet, by hook or by crook, the teams eventually find the fox. They are pleased with themselves, and we are pleased with them.

Next year's events are on the drawing boards. We plan some antenna building, HF operation, digital modes, and if we're lucky, ATV. This is a well-targeted audience, fertile ground in which to plant the seeds of future QSOs. If you have an interest in helping those seeds grow, see me and I'll put you on the Space Camp elmer list.

Tom, **KG4CUY**

Welcome the Sunspot Decline!

Tom Russell, N4KG

Many DXers lament the upcoming decline in Sunspot activity, fearing the loss of high frequency propagation. I contend that we will ALWAYS have F2-layer propagation, even at the very lowest sunspot levels. The difference between high sunspot levels and low sunspot levels is the MUF or Maximum Usable Frequency.

The High Bands (10, 12, 15 Meters) will show the greatest decline in propagation during the coming low sunspot period, especially on Polar Paths, but should still provide openings to Africa, South America, and the South Pacific during the day.

The Middle Bands (17, 20, 30 Meters) will be the primary Daytime Bands. 30 Meters will probably suffer from mid-day absorption but have excellent openings for several hours after sunrise and before sunset. These bands will likely close shortly after sunset.

The Low Bands (40, 80, 160 Meters) will be the primary Nighttime Bands. At the very bottom of the cycle, even 40 Meters will close to EU a couple of hours after sunset but will have good openings in the late afternoon and early evening as well as after sunrise. 80 Meters will be HOT from just before sunset to just after sunrise. 160 Meters is always unpredictable but will definitely have more good openings during the coming sunspot minimum than during high sunspot activity.

This is a GREAT time to chase DX on the Low Bands! Anything you can do on 20M, can be done on 30 and 40 Meters with the exception of the very long East and West Long Path openings to continental Africa and the western Pacific Islands. Low Band propagation to these areas will be limited by excessive daylight on the path. On the other hand, Long Path openings at Sunset to SE Asia and Sunrise to Central Asia are as or more reliable on 30 and 40M than even 20M!

40M is one of my FAVORITE DX bands with 333 countries confirmed. Only North Korea (P5) and Scarborough Reef (BS7H) have eluded capture on 40M.

Modest power levels and antennas will provide LOTS of interesting DX contacts on 40 meter CW. Simple antennas for 40M include a good vertical or rotary dipole. The Boom of a 3 element 20M beam or large tribander can be matched as a rotary dipole for either 30 or 40 Meters (or both) with excellent performance.

High Dipoles on 80M are very effective but good results can be achieved from a city lot with a decent vertical. Interaction with a tower can be avoided by feeding the tower as a top loaded vertical on 80 and/or 160 Meters. See my article on Reverse Fed Elevated Ground Plane Antennas in QST for JUNE 1996 or any ARRL Antenna Book or ARRL Handbook.

My high dipoles have improved my ability to work the more difficult paths to SE Asia and the Middle East, allowing me to reach Honor Roll level (326 countries) on 80M. My biggest disappointments have been hearing but not working VU4, VU7, and 3C0 on 80. I have never heard BS, EP, FR/G, P5, R1MVI, or 9N on 80. Since I started keeping track, I have worked over 240 countries on 80M with my Elevated GP consisting of a 40 ft. tower top loaded by a TH7 triband beam and 10 reverse fed radials attached at the 15 ft level. This 80M antenna can be duplicated on a city lot.

SO, instead of mourning the decline of sunspot activity, I suggest you WELCOME the coming Low Sunspot period and ENJOY the upcoming DX Feast on the LOW BANDS!

Tom, **N4KG**

Other DX Rumors and News...cont'd

CE0Z, JUAN FERNANDEZ ISLAND

Marco, CE6TBN, informs OPDX that there is now no amateur radio operator on this island. Eliazar, CE0ZIS, left the island 4 months ago and is now living near Valparaiso City in CE2-land. Marco states that he has plans to travel to CE0Z next year, but he is not sure when yet.

FR, REUNION ISLAND

Bert, PA3GIO, informs OPDX that he will be active as FR/PA3GIO/p from Reunion Island (**AF-016**), October 2-11th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters SSB only using 100 watts and Doublet (Limited activity). He was heard this past weekend on 3800, 7046, 14260, 18145, 24945 and 28495 kHz. For Bureau QSLs, PLEASE use the easy QSL request form on his Web site. (ADDED NOTE: Also for all other operations.) For direct QSLs, please use the QSL info/address on his Web site at: <http://www.pa3gio.nl/FR/>

HZ1AB CHANGE

For almost six decades the HZ1AB club station in Saudi Arabia has been active. Originally known as the United States Military Training Mission station and more recently known as the Dhahran Amateur Radio Club, this station is now shut down. According to "The Daily DX" and the "ARRL Letter", Club Secretary Thomas Carlsson, SMOCXU/AB5CQ, said this week that new station license requirements in Saudi Arabia made it necessary to shut down the station, and the call-sign has been reissued to a Saudi national. The QSL Manager Leo Fry, K8PYD, still has the HZ1AB logs and will handle any past/late QSL requests.

JD1, MINAMI TORISHIMA

Itokazu, JR6TYH, is now active as JR6TYH/JD1 on Marcus Island (OC-073) until December 20th. During the past week he was heard on 21260 kHz between 0600-0900z and again at 2200-0000z. He reportedly has a tribander for 10/15/20 meters. QSL via the JARL Bureau.

KH9, WAKE ISLAND

Terry/K7ASU and George/AH8H are now active as K7ASU/KH9 and KH9/AH8H until about October 23rd. Activity will be limited as the two operators will only be on during their spare time. All of the activity reported so far has been CW on 20 and 15 meters between 0700-1030z. Watch around 14018 and 21017 kHz. QSL K7ASU/KH9 via K7ASU. QSL KH9/AH8H via AH8H: George Talbot, PO Box 45, APO AP 96555-0045, USA.

PJ2, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Andy, DL5CW, will be active as PJ2/DL5CW from Curacao (SA-007), November 1-15th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters on all modes. QSL via the bureau is assured.

SOUTH PACIFIC DXPEDITION

Operators Carlo/IK6CAC and Elvira/IV3FSG will activate a few Pacific Ocean islands during the months of October and

November. Look for them to join the Ocean Amateur Radio DX Group (ODXG) as VK9LA and VK9LW from Lord Howe Island, October 9-23rd. See VK9L below. The Italian team will also activate New Caledonia (**OC-032**) as FK/IK6CAC and FK/IV3FSG from October 25th to November 4th. Activity is also planned for Loyalty Island (**OC-033**) and the rare Belep Island (**OC-079**). They will move from FK-land to Vanuatu (YJ) and be active between November 5-13th. Callsigns for YJ-land were not provided. QSL via operators' instructions.

TJ, CAMEROON

Just a reminder! Also, refer to OPDX.669. Operators DL7DF, DL7UFR, DL7KL, DL7DF, DL4WK, DK1BT and SP3DOI will be active this week as TJ3SP and TJ3FR from October 6-20th. They will have four stations active and on all modes and all bands, except on 160m and 6m (no license). For more information, please watch the Web page at: <http://www.qsl.net/dl7df>

TO7, MARTINIQUE

Laurent, F5MUX, will be here and active between October 26th to November 5th. His activity will include the CQ WW DX SSB Contest as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry using the callsign TO7X. All stations that contact him on a minimum of 4 bands will receive a QSL DIRECT automatically. All others will be confirmed via the bureau. QSL via F5MUX.

V5, NAMIBIA

Vladimir, ZS6MG, will be active as V55V in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 30-31st) as a Single-Op/Low-Power entry. QSL via ZS6MG. His Web page is at: <http://zs6mg.hobby.com.mk>

VK9L, LORD HOWE ISLAND

(Update)

Bill Horner, VK4FW, President of the ODXG, informs OPDX that "All systems go. Callsigns..... VK9LA for the OMs.... VK9LW for the YLs." QSLs will be handled by the Oceania Amateur Radio Dx Group Inc, P.O. Box 513, NAMBOUR 4560, AUSTRALIA. Activity will be between October 9-23rd. Operators will be: Vicki/VK2IVK (YL), Elvira/IV3FSG (YL), Laurie/G3UML, Eric/VK4NEF, Mike/VK3SU, Carlo/IK6CAC and Bill/VK4FW. Suggested frequencies are:

6m - 50100 kHz (CW/SSB)

CW - 1812, 3512, 7012, 10107, 14012, 18072, 21012, 24912 and 28012

SSB - 3785, 7045, 14260, 18140, 21260, 24950 and 28495

RTTY - 7080, 10120, 14090, 18100 and 21090 kHz

YJ0, VANUATU

Trent, VK4TI, is now active as YJ0AX until October 10th. He

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Other DX Rumors and News...cont'd

was active during this past weekend's Oceania DX Contest. Activity will be limited. Watch 40/20/15/10 meters on CW/SSB. QSL via VK4TI: Trent Sampson, PO BOX 1647, Toowoomba QLD 4350 Australia.

Programs

Barry Johnson, W4WB

October 12th Program:

Contesting for DXers

By Tom Russell



Photo Credit: W4WB

Jerry Cross, N4NO, NADXC September presentation of "Why Earthworms Hate Vertical Antennas (at least in the summer)" was interesting and well received. Jerry provided a nice balance of theory and the practical.

"Short Skip" ...cont'd

Top DXer Secrets . . . The October issue of CQ has an interesting article on page 11 citing some operating tips from very successful DXers. Take a look - there might be one or two things that would be helpful to you.

73 es gud dx . . . W4UR

DX Contests for the Coming Month

Chuck Lewis, N4NM

OCEANIA DX CONTEST (CW), 160-10 meters

Oct. 9, 0800Z to Oct 10, 0800Z
Exchange: RS plus serial number
See page 98, Oct. QST

ARCI Fall QSO Party 1200Z, Oct 23 to 2400Z, Oct 24

RSGB 21/28 MHz. CONTEST (CW), 15-10 meters

Oct 17, 0700Z - 1900Z
Exchange RS plus serial number
See page 98, Oct. QST and www.rsgbhfcc.org

10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW 0001Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31

Ukrainian DX Contest 1200Z, Nov 6 to 1200Z, Nov 7

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. Also, check the cluster: "sh/contest". Have fun!

JARTS RTTY Contest, (RTTY), 80-10 meters

Oct. 16-17, 0000Z Sat. (Fri. nite) to 2400Z Sun.
Exchange: RST plus age
See page 98, Oct. QST

Chuck, N4NM

CQ WW SSB. (SSB), 160-10 meters

Oct. 30, 0000Z Sat. to Oct 31, 2400Z Sun.
Exchange: RS & CQ zone

See page 99, Oct. QST and www.cqww.com

OTHERS:

EU Autumn Sprint, (CW), Oct 9, 1500Z - 1859Z

Worked All Germany Contest 1500Z, Oct 16 to 1459Z, Oct 17

Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 17

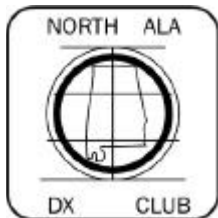


N4KG Posts Top Score in 2003 CQ WW CW Contest

Congratulations to Tom Russell (N4KG) for posting the top score among all North American participants in the 2003 CQ WW DX CW Contest in the QRP/All-Band category. Tom's big score also ranked second in the world in that same category.

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 Vic Holland at (256)721-9106*

Editor's Soapbox

It's hard to believe, but the end of the year is creeping up on us. The other day I was in one of the malls and noticed Christmas music playing in one of the stores. Well, if we were all smart we would probably take that as a hint and try to get most of our shopping completed now instead of waiting to the last minute as yours truly normally does.

I regret that I missed Jerry Cross' program about earthworms and verticals, I was a little busy getting things in order for when Hurricane Ivan came through the area. I was very lucky and only had a few small branches down in the backyard and no damage to my loop and have not heard that anyone else in the club had suffered any major storm-related problems.

Well, Craig Behrens, NM4T and his wife Pam have decided to park their RV for a while and buy a new house out in the Harvest area. Craig's contact information has been updated on the NADXC website. We are glad to have you back permanently in the area, Craig! He has

said that he hopes to have a tower up in the air by the end of the month. Maybe he will be able to get things going in time for CQWW.

Well, that's about all I have for this month. Don't forget that we have officer elections at the October meeting and also a very interesting program on contesting for DXers presented by Tom Russell, N4KG. As the CQ World Wide SSB contest is at the end of this month the timing couldn't be better for Tom's presentation.

73, Jared Cassidy, **KQ4VT**