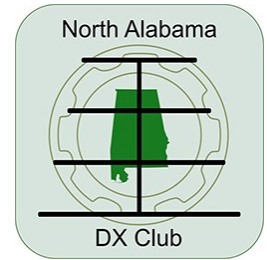


The LongPath

April 2025 — Volume 49 Issue 4

A North Alabama DX Club Publication



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Contributors:

- AC4G
- K8KI
- N4NM
- NG3K

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From the President

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

I am looking forward to our club meeting this month on April 8, 6:30 P.M. at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion, Huntsville, AL. For our business meeting, we will focus on our annual banquet by making some plans to carry-out before we listen to a great program that Fred Kepner, K3FRK has lined-up.

With the year quickly passing by, the NADXC Board of Directors (BOD) have decided that the NADXC Banquet will be held again this year on Saturday night of the Huntsville Hamfest weekend at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion. We are planning for 100 (+/-) attendees once again this year. We expect great food and a great speaker to keep us captivated during the night. We all desire to have many door prizes to take home with us. Finally, we all look forward to meeting and greeting old and new faces that come into our presence once again.

With this said, we still have work to do to make our banquet a success to accompany the successes that we have had in the past. To accomplish this, we need the help and support of our NADXC membership. I would ask that each member come to the frontlines once again to help us make this year's banquet a success by devoting some of

your time and energy to this effort. Please participate in our upcoming meeting.

I also look forward to hearing Rikk, WE9G, speak about his trip to French Guyana, where he operated as FY/WE9G. Be prepared to ask Rikk some questions about his DXpedition. As I write this article, Rikk is operating from Micronesia as V6WG. I look forward to hearing about Rikk's adventures and trust you do as well.

I recently sent out a message regarding the passing of Al Watson on February 22. Although we were not aware of his passing until mid-March, his family and Al wanted to donate Al's amateur radio equipment to NADXC. Bob (K8KI) and I were given a few hours to box and remove the equipment from his house. The family was urgent to clean the house and place on the market to be sold soon. NADXC was offered Al's Rohn tower and Opti-Beam antennas. Fortunately, we have a ham that will remove these and put them to good use. I have inventoried Al's amateur radio equipment and it will have been made available to our members for purchase by the time you are reading this. Al was meticulous and kept his equipment in pristine condition. If you decide to purchase a piece

From the President (continued)

of his gear, you will not be disappointed.

I hope each member will be able to make it

to the meeting this month and be prepared to enjoy another good meeting and think about how you can make this year's NADXC event(s) a success. I am excited to chat with each of you again this month to hear about your exciting ham radio operations.

Tales From the Museum: Isaac Newton (1643-1727)

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

I didn't remember exactly what Isaac Newton did, so I looked. Then I found his book: *The Principia*. In it, Newton develops the Universal Law of Gravity, which was an enormous leap. So here's my story of acceleration and forces.

Galileo (1564-1642) first set out the laws of velocity and acceleration by dropping objects from towers. With a clock, he found relationships such as:

$$\text{distance} = \text{velocity} \cdot \text{time}$$

$$\text{distance} = 1/2 \cdot a \cdot t^2$$

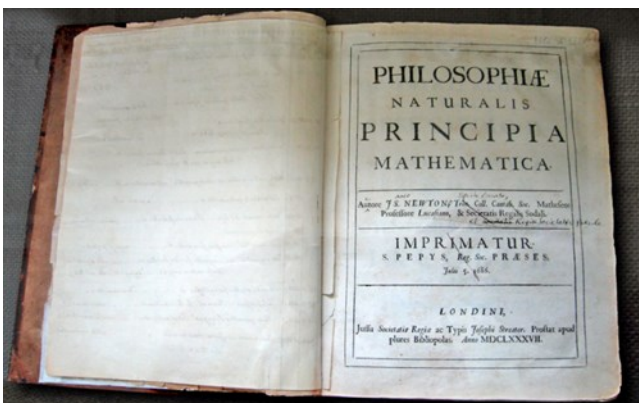
He then developed and built a telescope capable of 30x magnification and started looking at the heavens. His data led him to the realization that Venus orbits the Sun, not the Earth. Then he noticed that Jupiter had moons, and that data showed that Jupiter's moons orbited Jupiter, not

the Earth. Well, that conflicted with the long-accepted idea that the Earth was the center of the universe, and that everything orbited around the Earth. This was taken as heresy, so Galileo's writings didn't get far for a while.

Back in the 1600s, all books were written in Latin. The book I got was the current English translation, which was done in 1727, around the time of Newton's death. His biggest contribution to the mechanics of motion was the concept of forces. He assigned mathematical values to forces, and found various ways to set these forces to be equal. How does the acceleration on a falling object relate to my weight if I'm not falling? If I have a mass to my body, do I weigh more on Jupiter, or less on the moon? If I can spin a ball on a string, can I assign a force on that ball and relate it to the force that the Sun exerts on the orbiting

Earth, or that the Earth exerts on the Moon? Can NASA use these exact same equations for their orbiting vehicles?

I heard that an apple fell and hit Newton on the head. It didn't, but the apple was involved. Actually, he wondered why the apple fell down rather than up. And why does gravity point directly down? If an apple falls, does the moon also fall?



Above Left: Newton's *The Principia*



Above Right: A portrait of Newton

Tales From the Museum: Isaac Newton (1643-1727) (continued)

Principia starts with an introduction to his three laws regarding forces and motion, which he considers obvious and states with little proof. These are the foundation of classical mechanics and govern the motion of objects.

Law of Inertia: An object will not change its motion unless a force acts on it.

Law of Acceleration: The force on an object is equal to its mass times its acceleration. $F=ma$.

Action-Reaction: When two objects interact, they apply forces on each other of equal magnitude and opposite direction.

The principal purpose of *Principia* was to work out the Universal Law of Gravitation. The book is 500 pages long, with Newton concluding a surprising number of lessons with “Q.E.D.” (quite easily done). The Law is stated as:

$$F = \frac{GM_1M_2}{r^2}$$

M_1 and M_2 are the two masses, r is the distance between them, and G is the universal gravitational constant. At the same time, we know that $F=Ma$. Further, we know that centripetal acceleration is:

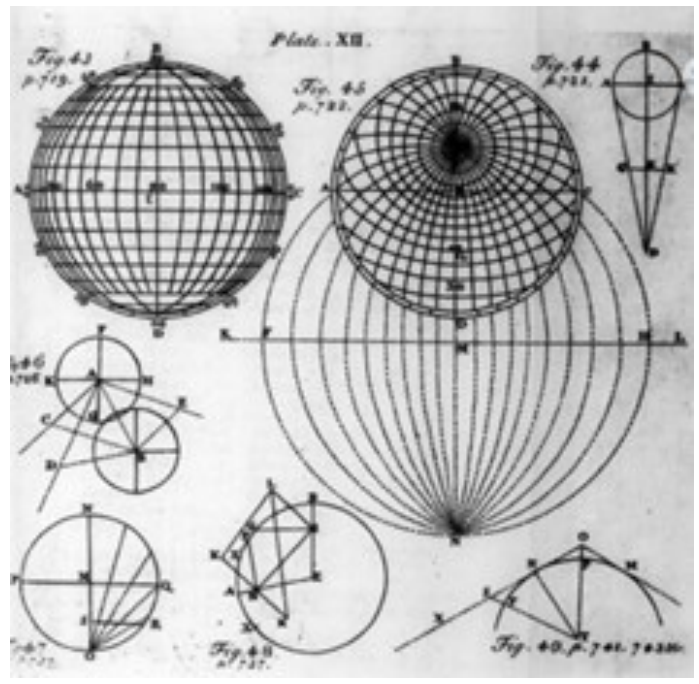
$$\frac{v^2}{r} \quad \text{so that} \quad F = \frac{Mv^2}{r}$$

With some math gymnastics, we can now find the acceleration of Earth’s gravity, the radius of the Earth, the relative mass of the Sun, Moon, Earth, and Jupiter! ...Without knowing the value of G ! (Knowing the time of one orbit leads to calculation of v).

When Newton presented these ideas to his

colleagues, one noted that orbital data showed that they weren’t circular, and wanted an explanation. A few months later, Newton returned with his explanation, part of which resembled the skewed cross-section of a cone. When asked how he figured this out, his response sounded something like “I had to invent differential and integral calculus first.”

Then he turned 26 years old.



Upcoming NADXC Meeting

Tuesday, April 8, 2025
5:45 PM Doors open / 6:30 PM
meeting

Program: “DXpedition to French Guiana” by Rikk Lewis, WE9G

Location: Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 and via [Zoom](#)

Upcoming DX Contests

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

EA RTTY Contest, (DIG), (80-10 Meters)



Apr. 5, 1200Z to Apr. 6, 1200Z
Exchange: RSQ, Serial (or Province)
See: Page 79, April QST or <https://concursos.ure.es/en/eartty/bases/>

IG-RY RTTY Contest (DIG), (80-10 Meters)



Apr. 12, 1200Z to Apr. 13, 1800Z
Exchange: RST & year first licensed (2-dig.)
See page 79, Apr. QST and www.ig-ry.de

SP DX Contest, (CW & SSB), (80-10 Meters)



Apr. 5, 1500Z to Apr. 6, 1500Z
Exchange: RS(T), Serial or SP Province
See: Page 79, April QST or www.spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl

Africa FT4 DX Contest, (DIG), (80-20 Meters)



Apr. 12, 1500 to Apr. 12, 1800Z
Exchange: Signal rpt & 4-char grid
See page 79, Apr. QST and www.sarl.org.za



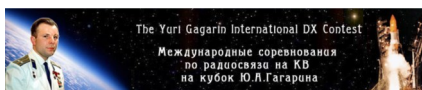
OK/OM DX Contest, (SSB), (160-10 Meters)

Apr. 12, 1200Z to Apr. 13, 1200Z
Exchange: RS plus serial; OK/OM send RS plus county code (3 letters)
See: Page 79 April QST and www.okomdx.crk.cz



YU DX Contest (CW & SSB), (160-10 Meters)

Apr. 19, 0700Z to Apr. 20, 0700Z (see website for times)
Exchange: RS(T) plus serial or YU county
See page 79, April QST and www.yudx.yu1srs.org.rs



Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest, (CW), (160-10 Meters)

Apr. 12, 2100Z to Apr. 13, 2100Z
Exchange: RST, ITU zone
See Page 79, Apr. QST and www.gcccontest.ru



CQMM Contest, (CW), (80-10 Meters)

Apr. 19, 0900Z to Apr. 20, 2359Z
Exchange: RST, continent abbrev., member code (if any)
See Page 79, Apr. QST and www.cqmmcx.com



Japan Int'l. DX CW Contest (CW), (160-10 Meters)

Apr. 12, 0700Z to Apr. 13, 1300Z
Exchange: RST plus CQ zone; JAs send RST plus prefecture
See page 79, Apr. QST and www.jidx.org



EA-QRP CW Contest, (CW), (80-10 Meters)

Apr. 19, 1700Z to Apr. 20, 1200Z
Exchange: RST, category (see website), "M" if member
See page 79, Apr. QST and www.eaqrp.com

Upcoming DX Contests

(continued)

SP DX RTTY Contest, (DIG), (80-10Meters)

Apr. 26, 1200Z to Apr. 27, 1200Z

Exchange: RST, plus Serial # or SP province
See Page 79, April QST and www.pkrvg.org



ES Open HF Championship, (CW & SSB), 80 & 40Meters)

Apr. 19, 0500Z to Apr. 20, 0859Z

Exchange: RS(T), Serial #
See page 79, QST and www.erau.ee



Helvetia Contest, (CW, SSB, DIG.), (160-10Meters)

Apr. 26, 1300Z to Apr. 27, 1259Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial # or Swiss canton

See www.USKA Contests KW / USKA Contests HF



OTHERS

DARC RTTY Sprint, April 8, 1800-1930Z

Worldwide Holyland Contest, April 18, 2100Z to
Apr19, 2100Z

Dutch PACC Digital Contest, April 19, 0700Z to
April 19, 1900Z

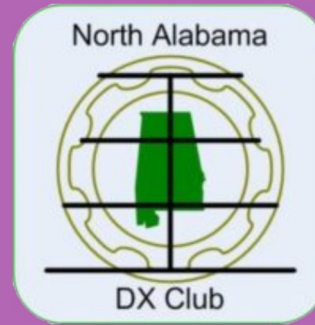
Int'l Vintage Contest HF, April 20, 0700Z to
1100Z, and 1500z to 1900Z

UKEICC DX Contest, CW, April 30, 2000Z to April
30, 2100Z

UA1DZ Memorial Cup, April 27, 1300Z to April 27,
1859

ARI International DX Contest, May 3, 1200Z to
May 4, 1200Z

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. See also: <http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>



It's time to pay 2025 membership dues.

Dues can be paid electronically at the [NADXC website](http://www.NADXC.org). Contact Bob, K8KI (K8KI@comcast.net) for information about other payment options.

About the NADXC

2025 NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Bruce Smith, AC4G
Vice President	Fred Kepner, K3FRK
Sec./Treasurer	Bob De Pierre, K8KI
Directors	Chuck Lewis, N4NM
	Mick Bell, N8AU

How to Join

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via [Zoom](https://zoom.us).

This edition of The LongPath published by Fred Kepner, K3FRK



DXpeditions in April 2025

Reprinted with permission of Bill Feidt, NG3K



Start	End	DX Entity	Callsign	QSL info	Notes
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr05	Rodrigues I	3B9DJ	LoTW	By OK6DJ OK1CRM OK2ZA; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS (preferred) or OK6DJ
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr06	Barbados	8P9EI	G4OSY Direct	By G4OSY fm Prospect Bay, St James; 40-10m; CW SSB; QRV for CQ WPX SSB (SOSB 10m)
2025 Mar24	2025 Apr07	Guadeloupe	TO1Q	LoTW	By F1ULQ; @FG8OJ; HF + 6m; SSB + digital; QRV for CQ WPX SSB; QSL via F1ULQ (B/d)
2025 Mar25	2025 Apr02	Antigua & Barbuda	V26K	LoTW	By AA3B; 80-6m; CW SSB FT8 FT4; QRV for CQ WPX SSB (SOAB); QSL via Club Log OQRS
2025 Mar26	2025 Mar31	St Lucia	J62K	LoTW	By J68HZ J69DS KN2P DL3ON WA4PGM W0CN; QRV for CQ WPX SSB (M/2); QSL via K9HZ
2025 Mar26	2025 Apr05	Sint Maarten	PJ7EE	LoTW	By KC9EE; focus on 12 10 6m for Asia; QSL via Club Log OQRS or KC9EE direct
2025 Mar26	2025 Apr09	Benin	TY5FR	LoTW	By DL1BUG; 80-10m, incl 60m; CW SSB; 100w
2025 Mar28	2025 Apr06	Pitcairn I	VP6RD	DK7RD	By DK7RD; HF; QRV for CQ WPX SSB
2025 Mar28	2025 Apr06	Sint Maarten	PJ7KB	LoTW	By KJ9B; 20 17m; SSB FT8 FT4; 30w; also FS/KJ9B from French side; QSL via Club Log OQRS or KJ9B direct
2025 Mar29	2025 Apr19	Bahmas	C6APS	LoTW	By WA4PAW fm Great Abaco I (IOTA NA-080; 40-10m; FT8 CW SSB; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2025 Mar30	2025 Apr06	Honduras	HR9	LoTW	By K6VHF as K6VHF/HR9 fm Roatan I; 80-6m; SSB CW RTTY FT8; 100w; QSL via Club Log OQRS or K6VHF (B/d)
2025 Mar31	2025 Apr09	Greenland	OX3LX	LoTW	By OZ1DJJ fm Nuuk (IOTA GP44de); HF; spare time operation; QSL via OZ0J
2025 Apr01	2025 Apr07	Surinam	PZ5IP	PY8WW OQRS	By PY8WW PZ5JW DL8TG fm Papegaaien I (IOTA SA=092); 40-10m; CW SSB + digital
2025 Apr02	2025 Apr10	Ogasawara	JD1	Auto Buro	By Toshiba Fuchu Amateur Radio Club ops as JA1YVT/JD1 fm Chichijima I (Apr 2-7) and Hahajima I (Apr 7-10); 80-2m; CW SSB FT8
2025 Apr03	2025 Apr10	Maldives	8Q7EF	LoTW	By IW2NEF fm Filithayo I; 40-6m; SSB FT8; QSL via IK2DUW direct or HE9ERA Buro
2025 Apr06	2025 Apr11	Cyprus SBA	ZC4RH	LoTW	By G4WXJ; 40-6m; CW SSB FGT8 FT4; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DK6SP
2025 Apr08	2025 Apr12	St Barthelemy	FJ	LoTW	By K6EI as FJ/K6EI and KK6IK as FJ/KK6IK; 80-10m; CW FT8 FT4; QSL via K6EI and KK6IK direct respectively
2025 Apr08	2025 Apr13	Albania	ZA	LoTW	By IZ2DPX as ZA/IZ2DPX and IZ1CTE as ZA/IZ1CTE fm Saranda; HF + 6m; QSL via Club Log OQRS



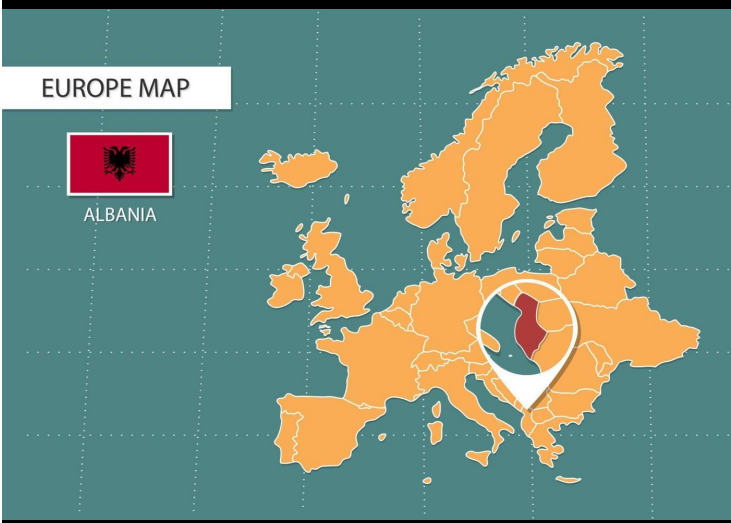
DXpeditions in April 2025

(continued)



2025 Apr08	2025 Apr17	Ogasawara	JD1	LoTW	By JI1LET as JD1BOI and JA1UII as JD1BON fm Chichijima I (IOTA AS-031); 160-6m; CW SSB FT8 FT4; QSL via home_call direct
2025 Apr09	2025 Apr15	French Polynesia	TX7XG	LoTW	By JA1XGI fm Fakarava Atoll (IOTA OC-066, BH73ev); 40-6m
2025 Apr10	2025 Apr27	Br Virgin Is	VP2VI	LoTW	By DA1DX DK9IP DM6EE DL8LAS; HF + 6m

Cyprus Divided since 1974



Club Business and Announcements

March 2025 Financial Report by Bob DePierre, K8KI

Budget Category	2025 Budget	Year to Date	February	March
Year Start	5803	5803.41	6239.84	5159.84
Dues In	1100	473.31	20	272.82 paypal xfr 3/4 80 paypal xfr 3/28
Recurring Exp	-1106			
repeater elect	-63			-116 Janet Richardson electric bill
web hosting/domain service	-77	-16.88		
repeater maintenance	0			
to HARC for Zoom	-50			-50 HARC Zoom paypal
use of museum	-400	-400	-400	
DX Plaques	-216			
Miscellaneous	-300			
Other Transactions	-1200			
Donations/equipment to sell	0			
Dxpeditions	-1000			-200 VK9X
Picnic	-200			
ARRL Bricks	0			
DX Banquet	730			
Huntsville Hamfest Donation	500			
venue	-700	-700	-700	
food	-2400			
speaker+room+travel	-450			
ticket sales	4100			
raffle	400			
grand prize	-400			
beer/wine/soft drinks/glasses	-200			
insurance	-120			
Year End Bank Balance	5,327	5159.84	5159.84	5146.66
Other Asset 3-month CD	5225	5055.07	5055.07	
Total Assets	10,552	10214.91	10214.91	
Asset delta	-251			

GigaParts
Technology Superstore

**Tech
Yard Sale**

APRIL 12, 9AM - 2PM



What's Happening?

Join us for the GigaParts Tech Yard Sale on Saturday, April 12th, from 9 AM - 2 PM, where YOU can set up and sell your unwanted gear to fellow tech enthusiasts. Whether you're clearing out a workspace, upgrading your setup, or just looking to declutter, this is your chance to turn old tech into new opportunities.

Vendor signup at www.gigaparts.com

March 2025 Meeting Minutes

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

- The February minutes and financial report were approved.
- Bruce made another plea for dues. We've gotten so the old-timers, who have been in the club forever, are the final hold outs.
- The new repeater trustee for the DX Repeater/147.3 is Kelley Johns/W4VPZ. She is also the trustee for the AL Repeater Association.
- We confirmed sending \$200 to the VK9 DXpeditions to Christmas Island and Cocos Keeling Island.
- We agreed to fund YHOTY via N4BCD. Chuck Lewis will coordinate the plaque with Stan Cole.
- Steve Molo had to cancel the W4DXCC convention this year. Costs and attendance were the big issues. Still working the ARRL National Convention here next year.
- The Signals Museum of Information Explosion is now open for business. There is now a charge for entry, other than NADXC and HARC have paid and reserved their meeting nights. But the museum may have to preempt us occasionally.
- Fred/K3FRK introduced the guest speaker on Zoom: Glen Johnson/W0GJ, who briefed on the DXpedition to St Paul Island/CY9C.
- Other note: Al Watson/W4ABW passed away in February, and we were just notified. Al was the highest DXCC scoring/living member in the club, with 370 countries. He kindly donated his ham equipment to our club! We'll greatly miss Al. Bruce/AC4G has listed that equipment in an email to members.

GET PREPARED. GET OUT THERE.

Adventure READY



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Huntsville Hamfest

Mark your calendars!

Huntsville Hamfest will be August
16th and 17th.

The NADXC banquet will be Satur-
day Evening, August 16th.

North Alabama DX Club (NADXC)

“Club Fact Sheet”

Who We Are: NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

DX Funding Policy: The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the “LongPath” newsletter.

Club History: The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the “LongPath” which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

Requirements for Membership: The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: www.nadxc.org. Dues are paid in January of every year.

Meetings: The NADXC club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

Club Officers: There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen of the NADXC web site or in the “Longpath” newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

Website: The NADXC club maintains a website at www.nadxc.org. This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.