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May 2015

NEXT MEETING IS MAY 12



“HF Receiver Testing: Issues & Advances”

Adam Farson, VA7OJ/AB4OJ, will speak to an issue of concern to everyone: how well does my receiver hear what I want to hear and reject what I don't.

Rob's 125th Street Grill, located at 125th and Aurora Avenue North

Dinner at 6:30 p.m., program at 7:30 p.m. Dinner is \$ 20 including tax and tip.

Please RSVP your dinner plans to Adam, K7EDX k7edx@arrl.net

The President Speaks

Adam Blackmer, K7EDX

Greetings fellow members! I hope you are all doing well! I think I am now fully recovered from another Visalia International DX Convention. The Northern California DX Club did a fantastic job hosting. Being a vendor I don't have any real time to go to the presentations, but from all that I heard and experienced they were great. I love seeing new technologies and just new ideas in general. But the highlight is still seeing my ham friends.

On a much more somber note, it is with sadness that I inform you of the passing of my friend Bill Everett, W7OO. Very few of you knew that Bill had terminal cancer. When I first met him in the Winter of 2012, he had been off the air for well over a decade. He had called SteppIR and ordered an antenna and was looking for help building the antenna and re-building part of his tower. He asked me, "Can you get this all done in two months, because I have less than a year to live"? I told him I'd do my best, and my crew and I pulled it off.

I was amazed by his drive to get back on the air. At the time I didn't realize he had a long history in the amateur radio industry where he worked at both Icom and AEA. Remember the IC-781? I know that a handful of you and Bill go back many years to your early teens.

Multiple times I saw him after his chemo treatments, but he didn't complain--we'd just talk about what DX was coming up and any new ones he needed. I think ham radio really brought him a lot of joy in these last few years.

Motivated by that joy, in the Fall of 2013 Bill contacted the NCDXF and issued a challenge where he would match every dollar donated through the end of 2013, up to \$5,000. Kip, W6SZN, was the liaison for the project. Because of Bill's generosity the NCDXF ended up with \$10k from the effort. I worked a few new ones this year that were heavily funded by the NCDXF--how about you?

Thankfully Bill outlived his prognosis by an extra two years. It was an honor and a privilege to get to know him. Rest in peace my friend.

Next week I head off to another Dayton. If you go, I hope you stop by and say "Hi" at the SteppIR booth. It's always great to see my local friends at the show. I

wonder what new gadget will be announced or better yet shown at the convention? Hamvention is like a candy store for hams, and I like candy!

73 my friends!

Random Comments From the Editor

I've been attending the IDXC, first in Fresno and later in Visalia, for many years. Some years are better than others—but this year was the best one I've attended. The Co-Chairs—John, K6MM, Kevin, K6TD and Rich, KE1B—pulled out all the stops and the result was a hitch-free event. All sorts of new records were established: 860 registered attendees, 19 countries represented, most first-time attendees. The move from the Holiday Inn to the Convention Center has made a night-and-day difference. The dates for next year are April 15-17, 2016 and online hotel reservations are open on June 8, 2015. See <http://www.dxconvention.org/index.html> and consider going next year. Alaska has non-stop flights from SeaTac to Fresno and it's only a 30 minute drive to Visalia.

As you've probably heard, two DXpeditions were announced at the Visalia DX Forum. The K1N team is going to Palmyra Atoll in January 2016. See <http://palmyra2016.org/index.html> And the group that brought you FT4TA Tromelin is going to Juan de Nova in March 2016. See <http://www.juandenovadx.com/> These projects are expensive, so consider making a contribution—and then make one. Contributions of \$ 250 or more to the Palmyra operation can be tax-deductible—see the website for the details.

Not a lot going on this month, DX-wise. The CQ WPX CW is the last weekend of the month (May 30-31, starts Friday evening local time—see <http://www.cqwpw.com/>). The Memorial Day weekend is a week earlier this year, so that conflict is absent. The WPX CW usually produces a lot of contest expeditions so it's a good time to grab the band countries you need. I plan to be plugging away, single op, all band, unassisted. Let's hope 10 meters opens.

Very sad to hear about the passing of Bill Everett, W7OO. Bill made some very big contributions to NCDXF when he knew his time was short. His passing is a reminder: carpe diem.

Membership News

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

The Western Washington DX Club welcomes one new member this month:

Valerie Piggott K7VAP, Tacoma WA

Valerie is active in the Radio Club of Tacoma and was one of the W7DK operators for the recent 7QP activity.

We note with sadness the passing this month of Bill Everett, W7OO. Bill had been very active on the DX bands the past couple of years, and his ham radio roots go all the way back to the 1960's (when his call was K7RIE). I first met Bill on the 40 meter Novice band, and later had many QSOs on 6 meters. Over the years Bill was part of the ICOM America team in Bellevue, where he was involved with the design and development of the IC-780. He participated in the P40V Aruba contest operation in 1988 led by Carl Cook, AI6V, another recent Silent Key. Bill and Kurt, K7UU (SK), built VHF and UHF repeaters together before repeaters became popular. We'll miss Bill's spots and hearing him on the bands.

K7RIE 

Radio K7RIE confirming our 2 way QSO
on ~~7.186~~ Nov 23 1961 at 0500 ^{PM} ~~AM~~ S.T. GMT
Ur 7.186 MC. CW AM SSB RST 589
Xmtr: Heath Gbeyone 75 watts input
Rcvr: NC 125 Ant: 40 M Dipole
Rmrx: or Back

BELLEVUE, WASH.
11036 S.E. 30th

PSE QSL, TNX 73 BILL EVERETT

60th Annual Pacific NW DX Convention Update

August 7-9, 2015

Rich Stempien, W6RS

The plans for your convention are moving forward nicely. We have created a website specifically dedicated to this event which can be used by all the sponsoring clubs. The control of the site will move from club to club as the primary sponsorship rotates. If you haven't looked at the new site, please do so, bookmark it and let me know what you think. The address is www.pacificnwdxconvention.com While you're there, you can make your convention and hotel reservations!

The Holiday Inn has *doubled* the size of our room reservation block, but even with the new expanded block we are currently over 60% reserved . A word to the wise: if you're planning to stay at the Holiday Inn, make your reservations ASAP. Our program chairman Kip, W6SZN, has been working overtime putting together a world class program. Please visit the website and see the fabulous lineup of speakers and topics. We have commitments to attend from several major equipment and antenna vendors.

I'll keep you updated as the convention grows closer.

Reserve Now for the Pacific Northwest DX Convention

As a result of the fine efforts of the Convention Chairman, Rich, W6RS, you can now reserve a room at the Everett Holiday Inn for the 2015 Pacific Northwest DX Convention, to be held August 7-9, 2015 in Everett.

Guests may book into the Pacific NW DX Convention rate by:

- Calling **1-425-339-2000 ext. 1** and requesting rate code **DXC** or asking for Pacific NW DX Convention rate.
- Go to the website at www.pacificnwdxconvention.com and book a room online.

WWDXC DXCC Ladder

Jim Rockey, WA7SRZ

The WWDXC DXCC Ladder is now on the website. You can find it by clicking on "DXCC Ladder" on the homepage or by going to <http://www.wwdxc.org/dxcc-ladder-2/> and clicking on "click for dxcc ladder" The Ladder is published in the Totem Tabloid

once a year in the January issue. Please send your updates to me at wa7srz@frontier.com.

Contest Activity Report May 2015

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

We are headed down to the last two tests that count towards the Northwest Trophy. Remaining are the CW WPX and the IARU. This month I have produced a spreadsheet with all the scores I currently have. I occasionally lose or misplace stuff so please check your scores. Just send me an email if you find something that needs correction (n7wa at arrl dot org).

Call	CQWW RTTY	CQWW SSB	CQWW CW	ARRL RTTY RU	CQ WPX RTTY	ARRL CW	ARRL SSB	CQ WPX SSB	TOTAL
AB7R				35,003		15,150			50,153
K7BTW	2,639,520		237,367	144,057					3,020,944
K7CW			880						880
K7EG		200,574	559,404		76,896	398,724	66,780	10,443	1,312,821
K7HBN	78,020		865,251			206,928			1,150,199
K7RI		1,647,360	816,864			1,295,931			3,760,155
K7RL		6,859,784	6,527,412			1,361,628	3,287,574	9,588,834	27,625,232
K7SS		71,617	203,981						275,598
K7WA		1,200				3,000			4,200
K7ZA			1,278,536			919,590			2,198,126
K7ZQ						20,358			20,358
KB7HDX		92,538							92,538
KD7H		45,045	401,568			324,288	79,380		850,281
KN7T			277,629						277,629
KX7L	47,656		58,026	6,624	67,640	57,528			237,474
KZ1W					2,602,032				2,602,032
N5CR		254,268	526,309				231,336		1,011,913
N7BK		44,744							44,744

N7BV	158,286	3,101,670		3,184,839		6,444,795
N7GCO					117,072	117,072
N7RVD	116,928	705,852			734,400	1,557,180
N7WA		515,235		156,312		671,547
N7XY				12		12
W6SZN	316,305	116,250	1,406,384			1,838,939
WR5J				4,629,218		4,687,563
W7OLY	107,709	17,658				125,367
W7OM	419,255	554,910	1,134,045	537,320	818,298	420,134
W7QN	26,866	82,896			3	109,765
W7TSQ	374,444	18,270		20,664		413,378
W7VP					77,418	77,418
W7VV		457,963				457,963
W7VXS	328,146	443,610		644,760	29,484	1,446,000
W7WA	1,064,350	704,406		313,860	323,172	2,405,788
W7ZZ		50,125				50,125
WA7PRC	82,584	18,876			118,726	220,186
WC7Q	23,005	291,755		525,420		840,180
TOTAL						75,511,735

7QP ACTIVITY

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

I operated portable for 7QP from Jefferson County--took the 7:55 am ferry to Kingston and drove west across the Hood Canal floating bridge to Shine Beach, a small day-use state park. I had a great view across the water to the east and south - and perfect weather. I watched the clam diggers while operating from my car, and couldn't help but get out for a couple of walks during the course of the day. My rig was an ICOM-706MkIIG running 100 watts to Hamstick whips on 40, 20, and 15 meters. I use four quarter-wave radials and battery power. No computer, old fashioned paper logging!

CW QSOs: 227, Phone QSOs: 87, Mults: 52, Score: 44,460

Was able to work N7BV in Clallam county on 20 CW, several WWDXC stations in Snohomish and King counties on 20 and 15, plus W7DK (thanks Nick!) on 40 SSB.

DX Info Sources

John Owens, N7TK (jcowens1@comcast.net)

Discovering what countries (sorry, “entities”) are currently operating on the bands and getting a confirmation (QSL or LOTW) once you work them has become easier in one sense with the flood of electronic information and more difficult in another sense, as the amount of available information is almost overwhelming. Below are some very useful websites that will help solve these problems. If you have other sites that you have found helpful and think should be on this list, please send the info to me at jcowens1@comcast.net and I’ll include them in future issues.

Useful DX Sites

The Daily DX (www.dailydx.com) (subscription service but can’t be beat for timely info)

The DX Zone (www.dxzone.com/catalog/)

Internet Ham Atlas (www.hamatlas.eu)

Announced DX Operations

DX World (<http://dx-world.net>) (look for the “DXW Weekly Bulletin”)

NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page (www.ng3k.com/Misc.adxo.html)

DXing Info (www.dxing.info/dxpeditions)

Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin (www.payays.com/opdx1044.html)

QSL and Manager Info

Pathfinder (Pathfinder.exe) (<http://www.dxlabsuite.com>) (Click on QSL Info)

QSL Manager Lookup (www.IK3QAR.it/manager)

K3WWP QSL Routes (http://home.windstream.net/johnshan/dx_ss_qling.html)

HamQTH Callbook (www.hamqth.com/)_

ORCA DX and Contest Club (www.orcadxcc.org/index.html) (Good access to QRZ.com)

Global QSL (Card design and bureau QSL service-print and mail) (www.globalqsl.com/)

Announced DXpeditions

Here are the sites and bulletins I look at to find out what's happening on the bands:

The Daily DX	dailydx.com (subscription and free trial available)
DX World	dx-world.net (free)
NG3K Page	www.ng3k.com and then click on ADXO at the top (free)
DX Summit	www.dxsummit.fi (free)
DXScape	www.dxscape.com (free)
DX Heat	https://dxheat.com (free)

May 2015 Contest Calendar

In case anyone reading this is not aware of it, Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, has a website that is truly a one-stop place for all things related to contesting. The link is <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> or just Google "WA7BNM" and the first hit is Bruce's site. With just a few clicks, you'll find everything you need to know about every contest, large or small. I find it very useful when I hear a station that I want to work that is obviously exchanging contest reports and I don't know the exchange.

DX Packet Alert Network Frequencies

Bob Nielsen, N7XY (n7xy@clearwire.net)

K7EK-1 - Spanaway (DX Spider Node), K7EK sysop. Telnet to: k7ek.dyndns.org, port 9000

RF: 144.91 MHz - Connect to network node W7DK-5, then type DXC.

145.01 MHz - Connect to network node SEA, then connect to network node K7EK-5, then type DXC.

W7PKT Auburn (DX Spider Node) 145.73 MHz, KA7CSE sysop.
Telnet to w7pkt.net, port 7300

DX Spider user documentation is available at
[http://wiki.dxcluster.org/index.php/DXSpider User Manual](http://wiki.dxcluster.org/index.php/DXSpider_User_Manual)

Lee Sawkins, VE7CC, has written a versatile Windows user program that works with AR Cluster, CC Cluster or DX Spider nodes. It can be downloaded from
<http://www.bcdxc.org/ve7cc/default.html>

Totem Trader

FOR SALE: Getting ready to downsize and have a HO train set up which is too big and will have to find a new home. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them call me. Bob, W7TSQ--425 778 4805.

FOR SALE: I still have the following from Clay's estate. If interested, please drop me a line. Mike, N7WA, nwdink@gmail.com

microHam Keyer II with external keypad

microHam Cable DB37-IC-599

microHam Cable DB37-IC-RS8

microHam Cable DB37-IC-8

USB MicroHam Keyer

Ameritron RCS-10 8 remote switch (new in box)

Microham 6 port remote switch

Heathkit HD-1250 (free if you want it, untested)

Icom IC-80AD (DSTAR handheld, new battery)

Hardline - Andrews 1/2" Helix FSJ-50B - I have nearly 500', new

Hardline N connectors for the above, all new

Astron RS-35A Power Supply (fixed 13.8 VDC, no meters)

Coax Crimper and connectors (includes dies for RG213, RG8X, supply of connectors)

DX Engineering CC8

DX Engineering TVSU-1

DX Engineering AVA-2 (4x)

DX Engineering RFS-2

DX Engineering RBSA-1FP / RBS-1RT

DX Engineering Baluns BAL050-H05-A (2x)

FOR SALE: Have a mint condition **Heathkit SB-221** that is fully modified and on-air checked that I want to sell locally. If interested, I can provide additional information if you contact me at 425-745-0577. John Owens, N7TK

TOTEM TABLOID
Western Washington DX Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 395
Mercer Island, WA 98040

The Totem Tabloid
The *Totem Tabloid* is published 11 times per year (no August issue) by the Western Washington DX

Club, Inc, P.O. Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

Advertising

The *Totem Tabloid* accepts commercial advertising. For rates and specifications, please direct inquiries to the WWDXC at the address listed above. Totem Trader non-commercial ads are free to WWDXC members.

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The *Tabloid* depends on submissions of articles and news items from its readers. Send all items of interest to the *Tabloid* editor:

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Deadline for each issue is the last Friday of the preceding month.

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Internet Access

Information on the Western Washington DX Club is also available on the internet at www.wwdxc.org

