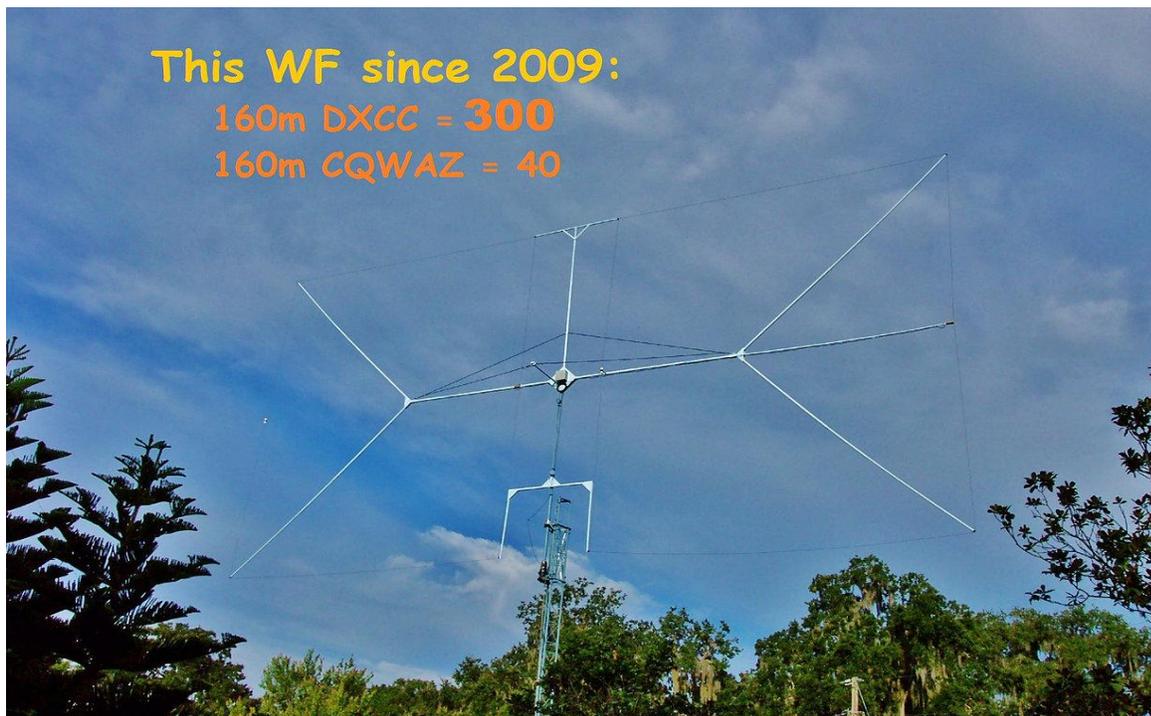


May 2016

**NEXT MEETING IS MAY 10**



The photo above is NX4D's Waller Flag receiving antenna for 160. He used this on a small city lot to produce the results shown on the photo. Interested? Come to the May meeting where we'll show the first half of the webinar "High Performance RX Antennas for a Small Lot." Sponsored by the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation, the webinar has received rave reviews.

**Rob's 125<sup>th</sup> Street Grill, 125<sup>th</sup> 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 at [k7edx@arrl.net](mailto:k7edx@arrl.net)**

## **The President Speaks**

Adam Blackmer, K7EDX

We're not even six months into the year and 2016 is already a year for the record books when it comes to highly-wanted DXpeditions. If you needed one of them, I hope you were able to get a QSO or two.

Since I was working at the Visalia International DX Convention, I was unable to hear any of the presentations, except a little bit of N6PSE's presentations on South Sandwich and South Georgia on Sunday morning. They had some rough weather to deal with, for sure. In spite of this, they still did a great job.

It was interesting watching last month's video on the previous Heard Island DXpedition. It really put things into perspective about some of the issues these groups have to deal with to make these types of expeditions happen. Money is only part of the equation. The risks are fairly obvious. Having participated in the VK9WA expedition, I find myself much more sympathetic to other DXpeditions. I think it's kind of like the old saying, "everyone should own a business." Likewise, every DXer should go on a DXpedition. Armchair quarterbacking doesn't cost much!

I am not sure what plans you have for the rest of the spring and summer but hopefully you have some vacation plans. In early June is the fantastic Sea-Pac Convention. If you've never been you really are missing out. Don't forget to reserve the date for our club picnic at Rob, N7QT's house on July 16 and also to sign up for the PNW DX Convention in August. I am looking forward to all of these. In the meantime enjoy the DXpeditions that are still going on and the few major contests left in the season!

## **Random Comments From the Editor**

Well, the excitement of Heard Island and Juan de Nova is over and things have become rather quiet—unless you're chasing National Parks. There was a brief flurry about a possible P5 operation but that went away (see the article below). I'm on the NCDXF Board of Directors so I can't really say much about all that happened—but whatever you think about it, keep in mind the old adage that there are at least two sides to every story.

With the sunspots declining, things should continue to get better on the low bands. The program this month is very timely—receiving antennas for the low bands, especially 160. I started last Fall as a newcomer to 160, with five or six countries confirmed on that band over the years, all as a result of loading up an 80 meter dipole during a contest just to see if I could work them. Thanks to Adam, K7EDX, I now have an effective radiator for 160 and I ended the “season” with 57 confirmed. It didn’t take very long for me to learn what everyone else already knew: receiving and noise reduction are the keys to success on 160. I tried the Pixel receiving loop that I had in California, with mixed results. DX Engineering now has all of the parts necessary for a 200 foot Beverage on the Ground (BOG), so that’s my next project. (Word has it that Conrad, N5CR, installed one; maybe he’ll write up something for the Tabloid about his experience with it).

The DXpedition schedule for May is pretty sparse: 9QØHQ is reportedly on the air and E44QX is scheduled to start on May 8 for seven days. The CQWW WPX CW contest is at the end of the month but unfortunately it falls again on the Memorial Day weekend. My granddaughter’s 5<sup>th</sup> birthday party on Saturday or running JAs on 15?—a very easy decision.

Visalia was fun, as usual, but there were no announcements about DXpeditions. Given the rather lousy propagation suffered by VKØEK and FT4JA, I don’t think I’d be investing in a big DXpedition just now. However, I keep hearing rumors of possible operations from several Top 20 countries—so don’t give up just yet. If I learn something I’m free to disclose, I’ll do so.

Good DX!

## **In My Humble Opinion: The P5DX Operation and the N6PSE Blog**

Rich Stempien, W6RS

(Editor’s Introduction: Paul, N6PSE, the President of the Intrepid DX Group, is one of several DXpedition leaders trying to mount a DXpedition to P5, the Number 1 country on the Most Wanted List. He came close earlier this month but after apparently securing permission, equipment, operators and airline flights, he chose to cancel the trip. Paul set forth his version of the events on his blog, claiming that the lack of monetary support from foundations and an apparent leak of his plans caused him to cancel the plans.

<https://n6pse.wordpress.com/2016/04/25/the-p5dx-story/> He admitted that of the 12 operators applying for visas to go to P5, his application and that of one other operator were denied. There was no explanation of why the remaining 10 operators did not go, especially since the equipment had been shipped to China and airfare had been paid. Rich, W6RS, contacted me, said he had some things to say about this event and asked if I would publish it. I told him I would and Rich submitted the following editorial. It is, of course, Rich's opinion only and not necessarily the views of your Editor or the WWDXC):

“After reading Paul, N6PSE's blog, I couldn't help but comment on some things that jumped out at me. Let me start by saying that I am a member and supporter of the Northern California DX Foundation and have been for many years. Paul's blog does a very poor job of masking the fact that one of the organizations he is talking about is NCDXF.

I have always felt secure in donating to NCDXF as I was content in its stewardship of my donations. I think Paul is totally presumptuous in his criticism of the NCDXF for not funding the P5 operation. The first thing that struck me is that the NCDXF just gave Paul's DXpedition entity, the Intrepid DX Group, \$50,000 to put on the VP8/SG and VP8/SS operations. That really doesn't sound like a group that is unresponsive to his needs. As far as the information leak, the old axiom goes, “if more than one person knows a secret, it's no longer a secret.” I just can't believe that Paul is so naïve to believe that with all the people who knew about this operation it would remain secret. As we all know, “inside” information is the currency of DXers.

As I was not privy to the original presentation, I tried to put myself in the shoes of the NCDXF Board of Directors when considering this proposal. What jumps out at me are bribery, secrecy and dark alley meetings. Let's keep in mind that this is a country that recently sentenced a man to 15 years of hard labor for taking down a paper poster. This is a country that is currently trying to develop submarine-launched missiles to intimidate neighboring countries and the United States. I am sorry that the Intrepid DX Group is not going to put this entity on the air but the end does not always justify the means. This is a corrupt government with no regard for human rights. By providing funds for this dictatorship we would help perpetuate these conditions. I applaud the NCDXF and any other foundations that felt this was not a worthy way to spend the contributions made by the ham radio community. We need to keep things in perspective.

Anyway, that's the way it seems to me . . .”

## International DX Convention 2016

The 2016 version of the International DX Convention, otherwise usually referred to as “Visalia,” took place at the Visalia Convention Center on April 15-17, 20-16. For those who haven’t been in awhile, the new venue is a huge improvement over the former site at the Visalia Holiday Inn—a much nicer hotel (the Marriott), a big improvement in the vendor exhibition area and a location in downtown Visalia so you can walk to restaurants and stores.

WWDXC was well-represented at Visalia: K9JF, NØAX, N7WA, K7EDX, W6RS, N9ADG, KZ1W, K7ZQ, N7BK, N7BV, N6MZ, K6UFO and your humble correspondent W6SZN (who apologizes if I left out anyone). I get there on Thursday each year as I have the Yasme Foundation Board Meeting on Friday and each year it seems like more and more folks arrive on Thursday—the Marriott lobby was full of DXers when I arrived late Thursday afternoon.

Friday is usually taken up with Contest Academy and DX University; however, Contest Academy was cancelled this year but will be back in 2017. There are dinners Friday evening for contesters, topbanders and IOTA chasers. Saturday is a full day: the programs get going early and again this year there were simultaneous programs after the DX and Contest Forums, forcing a choice of which one to attend. The weather cooperated for the Saturday attitude adjustment hour before the banquet but the lines for an adult beverage were ridiculous. Perhaps I shouldn’t say this as I’m obviously biased, but Visalia runs much better when the NCDXC is in charge, as it will be in 2017. The banquet Saturday evening went well but the speaker was another example of something that sounds great in concept but was disappointing in the execution: a live call-in from Bob, KK6EK, on the way back from Heard Island VKØEK. Sunday morning was the breakfast and a great talk from Paul, N6PSE about the VP8 DXpeditions to Sandwich and Georgia. Maybe the SCDXC folks go crazy buying raffle tickets or, as The Donald might say, it was rigged, but again this year all of the prizes were carried away by members of the SCDXC.

Visalia next year will be a bit later than usual: April 21-23, 2017. Alaska Airlines makes it easy to get there and back as it has a non-stop from SeaTac to Fresno and it’s a 30 minute drive from Fresno to Visalia. I haven’t done the math but I suspect it’s no more expensive than a two-day drive each way with a hotel stay each way—and you don’t spend four days in a car. The website for 2017 can be found at [www.dxconvention.org](http://www.dxconvention.org) Watch for the mid-June announcement that hotel reservations are available, as it’s much better to stay at the Marriott rather

than one of the three other hotels in the area. Here are some photos from the convention, courtesy of and with the permission of Bob, N6TV unless otherwise indicated. You can see all of Bob's photos at <http://bit.ly/Visalia2016>



Joe Rudi, NK7U



Two W6s, obviously unfocused



N7WA, NØAX, K7ZQ



W3UR (Mr. Daily DX), N6MZ



N7TY, N7BV, N7WA



NØAX and license plate



NØAX (N7WA photo)



Sandy, DL1QQ  
(N7WA photo)



SPØCK (aka K7JA)  
(N7WA photo)



N9ADG (Mr. Contest Update)  
(N7WA photo)



K7EDX listening to yet  
another SteppIR story  
(N7WA photo)

## Visalia Trip Report

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

This was my third trip to Visalia and I travelled down with Chuck, N7BV. This is my first trip since the move to the Convention Center and I was pretty impressed with the new digs, with one exception. More on that later.

We headed down Thursday. We had hoped to attend Contest University but it was cancelled after we had already made our flight reservations. We switched to the DX University and I enjoyed most of it but Contest University would have been more fun. I got to see Don Miller after missing him at the PNW DX Convention.

At the Friday night hospitality hour, Trekkie fans were treated to an appearance of Captain Picard and Spock. I didn't know Ham Radio was still popular in the next century. The contest dinner on Friday was a lot of fun--the food was good and a number of WDXC members sat together.

There was an interesting mix of programs for the convention itself. There were a couple times when I had to make a decision about which program to see. The two I found most interesting were one that dealt with handling Silent Key

estates and the Hallicrafters/Gatti expedition of 1948. Tree, N6TR, made the Hallicrafters program work better than it might have otherwise turned out. There were a couple of programs scheduled offset from each other. I do find it more convenient when all programs start and end at the same time--then one doesn't have to enter a program mid-stream.

Saturday ended with the convention banquet. It's held in a rather large hall that is probably half of a small arena used for entertainers and live shows. This was part of the convention site that seemed under-supported. The two big screens with the slide show were difficult to see and the audio didn't seem to fill the room. That said, the convention center staff did a good job of getting the food out quickly and it was good again. I made sure at the Sunday breakfast to get a lot closer to the screen so I could see the program.

All in all, a good trip. I enjoy this more than Dayton as the attendees are primarily contesters and DXers and mostly from this side of the country. It's also easier to get to. If you want to look at some pictures, there is an open Google Photo album at the following link: <https://goo.gl/photos/UVTd6CMjajJ7GHNP6>

## May 2016 Contest Activity

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

Spring has definitely sprung and my thoughts are more on yard work than contests. The only tests left for this year that count for the trophy are the CW WPX and the IARU. I have been getting ready for the 7QP next week and maybe I'll have more to say on that next month. This month I have produced a spreadsheet with all the scores I currently have. I occasionally lose or misplace stuff so it might be worthwhile to check your scores. Just send me an email if you find something that needs correction (n7wa at arrl dot org).

WWDXC	CQ WW RTTY	CQ WW SSB	CQ WW CW	ARRL RTTY RU	CQ WPX RTTY	ARRL CW	ARRL SSB	CQ WPX SSB	TOTAL
K7BTW	2,065,216	101,706				422,379			2,589,301
K7CW		473	4,154			2,967	210		7,804
K7EG	183,430	200,613	514,794	868		43,134	8,772		951,611
K7HBN		113,832	367,798			22,750	189,600	87,500	781,480
K7IDX		100					43,905		44,005
K7MO				129,200					129,200
K7RI	1,398,210	2,564,487	2,364,370		1,299,048	1,369,920	2,147,295		11,143,330

K7RL		5,535,948	3,096,310						8,632,258
K7SS		357,210	220,394				223,716		801,320
K7WA							16,830		16,830
KB7HDX								99,008	99,008
KD7H			51,243			22,356			73,599
KX7L	74,655	23,265	45,895		9,280	5,814			158,909
KZ1W				13,440				1,440	14,880
N5CR	302,498	291,235	491,934						1,085,667
N7BV			2,974,360						2,974,360
N7RVD		348,492		21,630		79,380	49,662		499,164
N7WA			213,248						213,248
N7XY		42,578	125,245			50,760	507		219,090
N9ADG							300		300
NW7D				63,544					63,544
W6SZN			61,560						61,560
W7OM	311,040	489,051			439,530	445,836	324,240		2,009,697
W7QN			205,000				63,640	81,810	350,450
W7TSQ	372,994	141,759							514,753
W7VP	380,114								380,114
W7VXS	225,776		270,368	61,716	612,465	2,115			1,172,440
W7WA		544,000	569,000				318,345		1,431,345
WA7PRC							127,125	166,050	293,175
WC7Q	119,314			25,956	221,996	202,938			570,204
	5,433,247	10,754,749	11,575,673	316,354	2,582,319	2,670,349	3,514,147	435,808	37,282,646

## J1DM—A Look Back at History



Do you know the guy in the photo, apparently enjoying a day at the beach? Neither did I until Danny, K7SS, sent a bunch of material about him. J1DM was Seiichiro Handa. The photo (circa 1930) shows an early pioneer in Japanese ham radio. Note his call sign on the umbrella and chair and, I am told, his last name on the awning and chair. Mr. Handa was a member of the Patriots Wireless Communications Group. Apparently he was one of several hams arrested around 1927 for operating without a license but they any escaped any punishment and got their licenses shortly afterwards.

The JARL was established in 1926 and Japan's first WAC (#339) was achieved by J3DD in 1930. It looks like J1DM was close behind J3DD. Here's his station:



## **DX Info Sources**

John Owens, N7TK ([jcowens1@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:jcowens1@comcast.net) and I’ll include it in future issues.

### **Useful DX Sites**

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

The DX Zone ([www.dxzone.com/catalog/](http://www.dxzone.com/catalog/))

Internet Ham Atlas ([www.hamatlas.eu](http://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](http://www.ng3k.com/Misc.adxo.html))

DXing Info ([www.dxing.info/dxpeditions](http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions))

Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin ([www.payays.com/opdx1044.html](http://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](http://www.IK3QAR.it/manager))

K3WWP QSL Routes ([http://home.windstream.net/johnshan/dx\\_ss\\_qsling.html](http://home.windstream.net/johnshan/dx_ss_qsling.html))

HamQTH Callbook ([www.hamqth.com/](http://www.hamqth.com/))\_

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

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

## Announced DXpeditions

Here are the DXpeditions and dates I have in my calendar as of May 3, 2016 (with no representations that the information is accurate, complete and/or won't change):

Wake Island (K6W)	Postponed
North Korea (P5)	Scheduled for "late Summer" 2016 and now two operators
Republic of the Congo (9QØHQ)	Now until May 22, 2016
Palestine (E44QX)	May 8-15, 2016
Crete (SV9/OH1VR)	May 12-18, 2016, mostly CW
Norfolk Island (VK9NT)	May 20-31, 2016
St. Paul--CY9C	August 19-28, 2016

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

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

## May 2016 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 Alert Nodes

Bob Nielsen, N7XY ([n7xy@n7xy.net](mailto:n7xy@n7xy.net))

#### Current DX Node telnet addresses:

W7JD-1 - w7jd.ddns.net, PORT 9000

K7EK-1 - k7ek.ddns.net, PORT 9000

W7PKT- w7pkt.net, PORT 7300

### Totem Trader

**FOR SALE:** Kenwood TS-590S. This radio is new. I bought it several years ago when HRO was running a special on Kenwood radios, to be there as a backup to the 590S I use as my main radio. I took it out of the box, made one QSO with it just to make sure everything worked, and put it on the shelf. I finally succumbed at Visalia and bought a K3S so I can’t really justify keeping the 590S. I have the microphone, original box and manual. If you’re interested, call me. Kip, W6SZN—206-999-9403.

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**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

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TOTEM TABLOID  
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Kip Edwards, W6SZN  
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Email: [kedwards@itol.com](mailto:kedwards@itol.com)

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To join the WWDXC or sponsor a new member, please send an SASE for a membership application form to the WWDXC, P.O. Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Annual dues, including a subscription to the *Totem Tabloid*, are \$25.00.

### **Internet Access**

Information on the Western Washington DX Club is also available on the internet at [www.wwdxc.org](http://www.wwdxc.org)

