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WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.

# TotemTabloid

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April 2017

**NEXT MEETING IS APRIL 11**



Following his first DXpedition to the North Cook Islands (<http://e51amf.amateurfoundation.org/>), Bengt, K7ADD, will share his experiences and tips for those considering their first trip, large or small. His perspective as a newer ham on a solo DXpedition may provide a different perspective than the post-trip reports following larger trips by more experienced hams.

**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

Thank you to the Mike and Key Club for hosting its annual fleamarket in Puyallup. Mike Dinkleman, N7WA, and his large crew from that club always do a first-class job of hosting one of the largest premier amateur radio fleamarkets in the nation. Also a special thanks to Mike, K7SR, Rich, W6RS, Jim K7WA, and two of our newest club members Ed, K7ECG, and John, KE7B, for manning our club information booth. I hope you had a chance to stop by and say “hi” to them. I look forward to hearing about some of the “treasures” that were found.

Well, we might be starting to have some actual spring-like weather. I know I feel like I’ve been drowning in all of the rain. It will be nice to have some drier weather so that I can start on some of the outside projects that need to be done.

Unfortunately, I won’t be going to Visalia this year. Maybe someone in the club will do a program on it? I will be going to the Dayton Hamvention that’s being hosted at the new Xenia location. Of course, I am excited to see the new venue. It’s been a long time coming.

A few years ago we stopped having a club-sponsored Field Day event. The main reason for this was that the vast majority of our DX club members were members of other general purpose clubs that held their own events. For those of you who do not have a location to go to, the Puget Sound Repeater Group has extended an open invitation to any of you who would like to participate with them. They have a nice location in West Seattle. If you are interested, please contact Doug, KD7K, at [dpk@randomnotes.org](mailto:dpk@randomnotes.org). WWDXC members Curt, W5RJ, Alan, AC7MX, and Jim, K7WA, are active with the group.

Don’t forget to mark down July 15 for the annual club picnic. Details will be forthcoming and it will be a mostly catered event like last year.

Finally, the Pacific Northwest DX Convention is August 4 through August 6. It is being held at a new location in downtown Spokane. The SDXA and IDXA always do a fantastic job of hosting the event. I’ve been to every one they’ve hosted and they’ve been great!

I hope to see you next week at the club meeting. I’m excited to hear Bengt-Erik, K7ADD, talk about his DXpedition to the Cook Islands!

## Random Comments From the Editor

Well, lots of stuff going on—where do I start?

The bands last month were filled with exotic calls from Africa as three DXpeditions were on the air, more or less overlapping with each other. 5U5R, TU7C and 9G5X were all multiple operator/multiple transmitter operations and each of them did the preliminary work necessary to put strong signals into all parts of the world. They also did a great job of frequency coordination to avoid the confusion of being in the wrong pileup, making a QSO and getting the dreaded NIL reply. I guess these days that doesn't happen so much because you can check on Club Log and find out in more-or-less real time whether that weak burst of dits and dahs was really your call or not. I don't know about you but I thought all three groups did a superb job under difficult conditions—and that's not because I worked them on those bands I needed: to the contrary, no new band countries from 5U5R or TU7C and one from 9G5X—but listening to DXpedition operators and their pileups is always fun, and sometimes instructive. This summer will be devoted to improving the transmit antenna situation here on 80 meters and maybe I'll finally be competitive next Fall.

Club member John, KE7B, has done some work with the Global Overlay Mapper application produced by Tim Makins, EI8IC. According to a question John put to our Thursday morning breakfast group, John was curious about whether the numbers in non-U.S. and VE call signs had any geographical or other significance. The result is a series of very cool maps, organized by parts of the world, with the call area numbers. You can find John's work by going to his website, [www.zantek.net](http://www.zantek.net), and use the drop-down menu under Azi Map at the top of the home page. Thanks, John.

I'm sure you've all discovered by now that the ARRL deleted Midway and Kure from the DXCC List of Entities last week. The deletions resulted from a change of administration for the newly-expanded Marine National Monument that has an unpronounceable name. It was a straightforward application of the DXCC Rules but came as a surprise to everyone, especially because the announcement came on April Fool's Day. With the earlier deletion of Kingman Reef, we've lost three counters this year. For those of us working on the DXCC Challenge, it was a real bummer to see those band countries disappear in an instant, 13 in my case.

Speaking of ARRL announcements, the League announced yesterday that Club Log has become the first service to achieve Trusted Partner status for Logbook of the World. See <http://www.arrl.org/news/club-log-is-now-a-logbook-of-the-world-trusted-partner> I read and re-read the announcement and could not figure out what this meant as far as what I do, i.e., I upload to Club Log from time to time and I upload to LOTW 2-3 times a week, depending on activity. So I wrote to Michael, G7VJR, the owner and operator of Club Log, and asked him. Here, in part, is Michaels' reply:

As a DXer, if you're already happy uploading separately, that's ok - but ask yourself why you have to do this. It actually involves quite a lot of steps in most logging software, such as downloading, merging and re-exporting ADIF files once you've grabbed your lotwreport.adi file (and that's just getting new matches out of LoTW). Many logging programmes are already doing real-time uploads to Club Log. It's now possible for Club Log sort out your LoTW upload for you, and bring in new matches, so think of it as an abbreviation of a much longer procedure you might be doing repeatedly by habit. You don't have to download that file and import it into your log book, make another export to Club Log and so on.

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Regarding the Trusted Partner program, the reason it's needed is that we're leaving the confines of your desktop PC. In the web environment we cannot call the tqsl application on your PC to do anything for us. That's blocked Club Log up to now. From today, though, we can manage certificates, and that means we can offer more complex features. This matters a lot to expedition teams, for example. If an expedition wants to, they can have Club Log "upload all new OQRS direct requests to LoTW". It will happen quickly and easily without them handling the file or working out how to create such a filter. I can think of many kinds of LoTW upload logic that have been sent to me as ideas or feature requests from this community.

So if you like, this announcement is that Club Log's offering 1) an easier way to interact with LoTW, free from the constraints of the tqsl desktop application, and 2) possibilities of more interesting logic for LoTW uploads than the tqsl application can offer, in particular for HF DXers and expedition teams.

I hope this is helpful for those of you who make full use of your record-keeping programs—it's obvious from Michael's explanation that I do not.

If you're interested in receiving antennas, be sure to check out the article by Joel Harrison, W5ZN, former ARRL President. The article is entitled "Design, Construction & Evaluation of the 8 Vertical Circle Array" and can be found at his website, [www.w5zn.org](http://www.w5zn.org)

## Executive Order No. 339



### 2017 Pacific Northwest DX Convention

This year's PNWDXC will be hosted by the Spokane DX Association and the Idaho DX Association. The dates are August 4-6, 2017. For those who attended the last convention in Spokane, the location has changed and it's now to be held downtown at the Red Lion Spokane at the Park. This is the third time the convention has been sponsored by the Eastern Washington group.

The website is at <http://pacificnwdxconvention.com/> I know it's still a few months away but you can now make hotel reservations and also register for the

convention. There are lots of prizes already listed on the website, including the new IC-7300. The Saturday banquet speaker is Tom Taormina, K5RC/W7RN, owner of the Comstock Memorial mega-station near Virginia City, NV. The Sunday morning breakfast speaker is Ed Muns, WØYK/P49X, contester extraordinaire from Aruba and proprietor of Muns Vineyard.

I attended the convention the last time it was in Spokane and I had a great time—they do a fantastic job of organizing the convention. I hope to see you there.

## April Contest Activity Report

Mike “Dink” Dinkelman, N7WA

March contesting efforts from WWDXC members:

### ARRL DX Contest, SSB

Call	QSOs	Mults	Op Time	Score
<b>SO Unlimited HP</b>				
K7SS	203	100	4:40	60,900
W6SZN	188	92		51,612
K7EG	101	75		22,725
WC7Q	82	49	3.5	12,054

### SO Unlimited LP

W7OM	278	122		101,382
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### SOAB HP

KZ1W	424	136	10	170,544
W7ZZ	358	115	19	123,510
N7QT	283	110	6.25	93,060
K9QJS	53	124		19,716

## **SOAB LP**

KB7HDX	83	41	10,209
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## **SOSB/40 HP**

W7WA	889	83	221,361
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## **ARRL DX Contest, SSB Soapbox**

**K7EG:** Miserable conditions - no joy!

**KZ1W:** A casual effort SOHP no assist with an hour or three here and there. 10 hour ota. RANT: Operators on a run not id'ing was a real PITA! Many 100w stations and a few 5w holding a freq since the ROW was chasing the Caribbean and SA. HOOT: A31MM (Tonga) calling a lonely CQ with all beams in USA heading S/SE Sunday afternoon!

**W7ZZ:** The ARRL claims this contest makes W/VE stations the "DX"; presumably meaning that DX will be trying to call us rather than the usual other way around. Not so. DX stations all parked on a frequency and called CQ and then didn't bother to ID for minutes on end, making search and pounce a slow, painful necessity. Zero propagation to Africa or most of the South Pacific, including VK and ZL. 10m was deader than a stone. I quit after 19 hours as, frankly, it wasn't much fun. Hope others had a better time than I did!

**W7WA:** Being this far north I thought I was being affected by aurora more than points south but from 3830 it is apparent that just about everyone stateside suffered mightily. JA path down Friday night but much better Saturday night. It's getting late in the season for LP Europe with a lot of daylight at each end of the path but managed to work 21 Euro's plus HZ. Nothing worked or heard from the UK or Scandinavia. 73 Dan

## CQWW WPX Contest, SSB

<b>Call M/S HP</b>	<b>QSOs</b>	<b>Prefixes</b>	<b>Op Time</b>	<b>Score</b>
KK7PW(@K7RI)	1949	732	48	3,195,180
<b>SO(A)AB HP</b>				
K7EG	150	142		69,438
NN7SS(K6UFO)	12	9	.3	288
<b>SO(A)AB LP</b>				
W7OM	377	273	13.4	250,614
<b>SO(A)AB(TS) LP</b>				
KB7HDX	287	228	12	131,556
<b>SO(A)SB40(TS) HP</b>				
K7SS	309	217	8	138,012
<b>SOAB HP</b>				
K7EKD	123	96		29,976
<b>SOAB LP</b>				
N7XY	77	66	6	11,220
<b>SOSB20 LP</b>				
K7HBN	125	117		30,771

## **CQWW WPX Contest, SSB Soapbox**

**K7EG:** Small contribution to WWDXC

**NN7SS(K6UFO):** Just a few Qs to test SSB still working through the remote.

**KB7HDX:** Weird to have both days with such great EU openings yet it seemed domestic Qs were hard to come by. Off and on over the weekend. Good contest.

**K7HBN:** Using an SDR receiver with the 590SG providing a waterfall display I was able to use a new "click and pounce" technique. Conditions seemed pretty fair in the few hours I was able to operate.

**KK7PW(@K7RI);** Thanks to all the ops; great job by everyone! 20 and 40 were the money bands but QRM on them was horrendous. Good stateside run on 80. No 10 and almost no signals on 15. Some Europe on 40 and lots on 20. Deep QSB a problem much of the time. Great job by Curt, WR5J, on the dreaded night shift on the low bands.

## **April 2017 Contest Calendar**

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:**

W7PKT- w7pkt.net, PORT 7300

VE7CC-1 145.71 MHz or telnet to dxc.ve7cc.net, port 23

## **WWDXC DXCC Ladder**

Jim Rockey, WA7SRZ

The WWDXC DXCC Ladder is maintained 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](mailto:wa7srz@frontier.com).

## **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 April 4, 2017 (with no representations that the information is accurate, complete and/or won't change):

Rotuma (3D2AG/P)	March 25-April 22, 2017
Guam (AH2P & KH2BY)	March 29-April 10, 2017
Nepal (9N1MD)	April 1-30, 2017
Seychelles (S79Z)	April 6-18, 2017
Laos (XW4XR)	April 12-26, 2017
Togo (5V7P)	April 21-28, 2017
Botswana (A25UK)	April 25-May 6, 2017
Vietnam (3W9DQ)	May 1-10, 2017

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)

## Totem Trader

### FOR SALE: HAM-FRIENDLY QTH

Ham suitable property for sale between Duvall and Monroe WA: 4090 sq. ft. home built in 2005 located on 2-1/4 acres on a hilltop overlooking Snoqualmie Valley and Cascade Mountains - great takeoff angles to the east and south. 400 amp electric service, whole house auto-start emergency generator. Separate 4 car garage with workshop. Will be listed at \$950,000 by realtor in mid-April. Great location for one or two towers, many tall trees for wire antennas, high speed 100 Mbps internet. Recently had 2 Hex beams, 2 wire dipoles, and vertical HF antenna in use. Downsizing due to health issues. Contact: Gordon, NW7D at [nw7d.ham@gmail.com](mailto:nw7d.ham@gmail.com)

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**FOR SALE:** I am relocating to Arizona and downsizing my ham station. I have the following gear for sale:

**Tokyo HL-1.5KFX solid state linear amplifier**, small footprint. 1kW minimum SSB, 900W CW, 650W 6 Meters. Includes additional cooling fan for RTTY. Auto band switching, 160M – 6M. 115 or 220 VAC configurable. \$2400 OBO

**Icom 756 Pro-III** 100w 160M-6M transceiver with Astron VS-35M power supply, original shipping carton. \$1500 OBO

**Hustler 6BTV vertical antenna** – 6 bands, 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, 10 Meters. Legal limit power, tilt over base assembly, radial plate, approx. 25 radial wires. \$350 OBO

**Dunestar bandpass filters (2)** – Multi-band with remote switching, 6 bands – 160M to 10M (\$511 new), asking \$375 each.

**MicroHam microKeyer MK2R+** - controls two radios for SO2R contesting with RTTY, SSB or CW. This is the only known available commercial interface for SO2R. It will also key up two separate amplifiers. This particular device is cabled for two Icom radios, cabling for other radios is available. New price: \$939 – asking \$750 OBO

Gordon, NW7D Located between Duvall and Monroe, WA

[NW7D.ham@gmail.com](mailto:NW7D.ham@gmail.com)

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**FOR SALE:**

**Lowe HF-225 shortwave receiver 30KHZ-30MHZ--** works fine. \$300

**Hammarlund SP-600--** in very nice condition \$300

**Collins 32V-3 AM/CW transmitter** from the 1950's-- very nice condition \$500

**MFJ 956 general coverage antenna tuner--**for SWL \$15

**AT-1000 British shortwave general coverage antenna tuner** \$20

**Motorola powered speaker** (with wiring diagram) \$10

**Nye low pass TVI filter** \$10

**Yaesu rotator mast brackets** for \$5 each (2)

**Sailor RT2047 Danish Marine VHF transceiver--**works fine \$75

**K0MNA VLF 1KHZ-5MHZ VLF/MF tuner/preselector** \$25

[k7im@icloud.com](mailto:k7im@icloud.com) - 206-510-1232

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**FOR SALE: Kenwood TS-2000**, about three years old. On a scale of 1 to 10 it is a 9+. It's not a 10 because it's not new. I only used it on a 10 meter net three times a week. It comes with a hand mic, power cord and manual. S/N B1600114. I had it serviced 6 months ago and it was given a good report. I'm asking \$975.00, you pay for shipping and insurance.

Dexter Yates, K7IH. Email me at [K7IH@comcast.net](mailto:K7IH@comcast.net) Phone 425-672-3111

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## **The Totem Tabloid**

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## **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.

## **Articles and News Items**

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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## **Joining the Western Washington DX Club**

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)

