



WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.
Totem Tabloid

March 2017

NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 14



Grant, KZ1W, spent most of January 2017 on an expedition cruise ship, traveling to the Falklands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula. He operated MM aboard the ship. Grant's presentation will discuss operating MM on a cruise ship, an introduction to Antarctica, whaling, penguins and seals, Shackleton's epic rescue of his crew and Grant's visit with Bob, VP8LP.

Rob's 125th Street Grill, 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 at k7edx@arrrl.net

The President Speaks

Adam Blackmer, K7EDX

This coming weekend is the annual Mike and Key Swap Meet at the Puyallup Fair Grounds. For the first time in 15 years, I'll be missing the event and instead attending ConExpo in Las Vegas. I wish I could be in two places at once.

For those of you who have “everything” you need, you probably don't have everything you want. And if you have “everything” you want, you just don't know it yet but that's not true either! Needless to say, go make the trip and say “Hi” to your friends and maybe make some new ones. The club table will be upstairs and down by the Country Store in the usual place. Come say “Hi” to Mike, K7SR, Kirk, N7UK, Rich, W6RS, and Jim, K7WA, who have all graciously volunteered to help with the booth. It would be great to have some additional help. I look forward to hearing about the Swap Meet.

It was a great honor to be able to present two awards in person at the February club meeting. The 2016 MVP (Most Valuable Player) award went to Tom Owens, K7RI. Next, the Johnny Dack W7KH Lifetime Achievement Award to Rod Linkous, W7OM. In December I presented the MOY (Member of the Year) award to Andy Anderson, K7GEX, and the Rookie of the Year award to Justin McAllister, K5EM. Unfortunately, I don't have a picture of Justin receiving his award. I really appreciate all these guys do for the club.

For those of you who like to plan ahead, the club picnic this summer will be on July 15 and the Pacific NW DX Convention is on August 4-6. There will be no regular club meeting in both July and August. Mark these dates on your calendar.

Have a great rest of your month and I hope to see you next week at the club meeting!



Adam, K7EDX, presenting the Johnny Dack W7KH Lifetime Achievement Award to Rod Linkous, W7OM



Adam, K7EDX, presenting The 2016 MVP (Most Valuable Player) award to Tom Owens, K7RI



Adam, K7EDX, presenting Member of the Year Award to
Andy Anderson, K7GEX

Random Comments From the Editor

Old-timers will remember Don Miller, W9WNV. Those who attended the Pacific Northwest DX Convention in 2015 had the opportunity to hear Don reminisce about the days when he was on the DXpedition trail, handing out new ones to The Deserving from faraway and remote places. Don was controversial in those days--and then he was the guest of the State of California for a number of years due to some really bad conduct. Now he's a quiet and unassuming senior citizen but he hasn't lost his zest and zeal for all things DX.

Don visited Finland last December and, of course, crossed paths with Martti Laine, OH2BH. Martti invited Don and some OH DXers to his home for dinner

and arranged to film his interview of Don. Martti's prose is far better than mine, so here it is:

“We are all powered by dreams of distant lands, rare DX, and the urge to compete and stand up at the podium. Those dreams are often inspired by those whom we admire and want to be on par with – or even more.

Don Miller, W9WNV, was once a DX hero and a CQWW Contest SOAB dual record holder (cw/ssb) but suddenly left the industry. On DXpeditions, Don was eagerly followed by most of the DXing world. Martti, OH2BH wanted to emulate his efforts and become of his kind. What did Don do to create this following?

It was Christmas 2016 when Don Miller, W9WNV, and Martti Laine, OH2BH, gathered at Martti's Finland home at his 70th anniversary party. This meeting brought back reminiscences of the days when our industry was still young and provided an interesting playing field for the evolution of our great DX passion. For this visit, Finland was a new country for W9WNV.

During this meeting in Finland, Don was caught on video talking about his earlier operations and his operating methods. Many aspects of how we operate now were pioneered by Don Miller. Split operation, “5NN,” pileup management techniques; looking back, many of these techniques were first implemented during Miller's operations.

Don talks about some of these issues in the following Youtube video.”

There are actually four videos. You can find them at <https://dxnews.com/w9wnv-oh2bh/>

If you need Howland Island, KH1, you'll have to wait for awhile. In the meantime, you can follow the exploits of some hardy souls searching for Amelia Earhart's Lockheed L10E at <http://expeditionportal.nauticos.com/> Thanks to Art, KK6WJZ, who is one of the aforementioned hardy souls.

This year's running of the ARRL DX SSB contest appears to have been a big disappointment to those who entered seriously. Conditions were pretty bad. I dipped into the contest for an hour or so several times over the weekend and while 10 meters seemed to be MIA it was nice to work some EU stations on 20. There

are a bunch of DXpeditions that are scheduled to start up this month (see page 15) so let's hope conditions improve.

Puyallup Fleamarket--March 11

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

Don't forget that this coming Saturday, March 11, is the Puyallup Fleamarket. This is an ARRL-sanctioned event and the WWDXC will have a table too. This is a chance to see old friends and maybe make a few new ones. You never know, you might find a piece of gear you really want or you could sell something at the Country Store. Stop by the club table and say "Hi."

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. 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.

March Membership Update

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

This month the Western Washington DX Club welcomes one new member:

George Tuncil, W6AEA, of Maple Valley, WA. George was active in the Spokane DX Association and the Salmon Run from Spokane County before coming over to the west side.

Noted in the Silent Keys in the March 2017 QST: Gary Storm, N7WX, of Bow, WA. You may remember Stormy as K7PQS when he lived in North Seattle. I recall a QSO with N7WX when I was on from VP5 in 2007 - he was surprised to hear that someone knew where Samish Island was!

Membership Renewals: In January a total of 59 Renewal Letters were sent out to members with a January 2017 Renewal Date, a June 2016 (second notice) Renewal Date, and a January 2016 (third notice) Renewal Date. As of February 28 there have been 30 responses to those 59 notices. Our current paid-up membership is 131. Our annual dues enable the Club to support DXpeditions, DX Contest Plaques (ARRL and CQ contests), the Washington Salmon Run and other Club Activities such as Member Awards and the Annual Picnic.

March Contest Activity Report

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

February contesting efforts for WWDXC members:

CQ 160M CW

| Call | QSOs | State/Prov | Countries | Op Time | Score |
|------------------------------|------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Multi-Op HP | | | | | |
| N7QT | 625 | 55 | 20 | 21 | 129,975 |
| Single Op HP | | | | | |
| K7CW | 412 | 53 | 15 | 15.3 | 73,848 |
| K5TRI | 100 | 35 | 3 | 3 | 9,804 |
| Single Op LP | | | | | |
| KX7L | 54 | 27 | 1 | 2 | 3,444 |
| Single Op Assisted HP | | | | | |
| W6SZN | 458 | 52 | 14 | | 80,520 |
| K7SS | 321 | 47 | 13 | 10 | 52,320 |

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----|----|---|-----|--------|
| N7BV | 191 | 52 | 7 | 9.5 | 28,792 |
| KK7PW | 76 | 23 | 0 | 5 | 3,979 |

CQ 160M CW Soapbox

K7CW: Wow, a lot of action. Had to use narrow filters to keep adjacent strong callers from making my AGC jump, otherwise I couldn't copy the weak ones. Didn't work any new entities which was disappointing. Called HSØZIA and BV1EK a lot, but couldn't get them to hear me. Same with CW5W, but I already knew not to waste too much time calling him. I have a cold, so spent a reduced amount of time in the contest. It was Okay. Inverted-L with 5 radials, 500 watts. Un-terminated BOG for 2nd receive antenna. 73, Paul K7CW

KK7PW: Great fun!

K5TRI: Finally got around to putting up a 160m Inverted-L during Saturday afternoon which coincided with the contest. So with the goal of one contact to see if everything works when I was done, it somehow turned into a few more while playing on and off for three hours. This was my first foray into 160m and it seems the antenna is somewhat working but will need tweaking of course.

Highlights were ZF9CW, KH7M, and XE2X for first DX on 160m. Thanks for all the QSOs, especially W6JTI for my first ever 160m contact. Rig: TS-590sg, AL-811h Ant: Inv-L (with one 135ft. elevated radial)

K7SS: A fun 10 hours... thanks for the Qs

N7QT: It was great to be able to get on for the CQ 160 Meter contest again, after a few year hiatus due to moving and life events. Thanks to Rob for hosting! 160M can be a real drag if one doesn't have listening antennas, so a couple of days before the contest, and during the contest, we put up a pair of switchable DHDL antennas. Our goal was to get them working, operate, and have fun -- nothing too serious. We got the final antenna up and going about 8:30 pm local on Saturday night, and being able to switch directions is really like being master of one's domain. Our hearing improved markedly. Conditions here seemed better on Friday night. We missed sunrise on both mornings. Cheers!

KX7L: Just a token effort this year - too much going on.

N7BV: Mainly a S&P operation to test a recently installed K2AV FCP. Thanks for all the contacts.

CQ 160M SSB

| Call | QSOs | State/Prov | Countries | Op Time | Score |
|------|------|------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|------|------|------------|-----------|---------|-------|

Single Op Assisted HP

| | | | | | |
|------|-----|----|---|----|--------|
| KZ1W | 281 | 46 | 5 | 11 | 34,374 |
| K7SS | 140 | 41 | 5 | 6 | 16,008 |

CQ WW RTTY WPX

| Call | QSOs | Prefixes | Op Time | Score |
|------|------|----------|---------|-------|
|------|------|----------|---------|-------|

M/S HP

| | | | | |
|-------------|------|-----|------|-----------|
| KZ1W | 2218 | 625 | 48 | 3,442,500 |
| N7QT | 1491 | 523 | 29.5 | 1,602,995 |
| WR5J(@K7RI) | 1291 | 475 | | 1,313,850 |

SOAB HP

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|------|---------|
| WC7Q | 979 | 387 | 20.5 | 780,966 |
| K7EG | 78 | 74 | 6 | 18,500 |
| E51ADD(K7ADD) | 146 | 104 | | 62,712 |

SOAB LP

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| W7OM | 736 | 325 | | 458,250 |
| W7TSQ | 389 | 208 | 22:18 | 125,216 |

CQ WW RTTY WPX Soapbox

K7EG: S&P. DX only. Nice EU opening Sunday.

KZ1W: Best ever WPX RTTY MS, +45% Q's, +30% total score with 30 fewer countries and 8 fewer zones than 2015. 15 open mid-morning to end on Sunday was a blast, SSN=0.

E51ADD(K7ADD): With an unexpected meeting between a mower and the nylon portion of the radial, I both had a late start and a slightly less efficient antenna. This combined with a couple other factors to encourage exploration of the island, some quality vacation-style napping, and generally goofing off, off the air. The JAs never showed up to preserve any decent rate and this QTH is a couple hundred feet off the water, so the salt-water gain wasn't helping.

ARRL DX Contest CW

| Call | QSOs | Mults | Op Time | Score |
|---------------|------|-------|---------|---------|
| M/S HP | | | | |
| K7RI | 1166 | 278 | ~40 | 972,444 |

SO Unlimited HP

| | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|------|---------|
| WC7Q | 412 | 190 | 11.5 | 234,840 |
| K7SS | 370 | 148 | 10.5 | 164,280 |
| K7EG | 304 | 172 | | 156,864 |
| KX7L | 124 | 67 | 4.5 | 24,924 |

SO Unlimited LP

| | | | | |
|-------|----|----|---|--------|
| W7VXS | 87 | 64 | 5 | 16,704 |
| K7PAX | 19 | 9 | | 513 |

SOAB HP

| | | | | |
|-------|------|-----|----|-----------|
| N7ZG | 1578 | 224 | 35 | 1,060,416 |
| N7QT | 1026 | 251 | 22 | 771,072 |
| K7BTW | 326 | 169 | | 165,282 |
| N7RVD | 412 | 119 | 20 | 145,656 |

SOAB LP

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|----|---------|
| W7OM | 560 | 189 | | 316,386 |
| K7HBN | 316 | 127 | 16 | 120,396 |

SOSB/160 HP

| | | | | |
|------|----|----|-----|-------|
| K7CW | 24 | 17 | 4.5 | 1,224 |
|------|----|----|-----|-------|

SOSB/20 HP

| | | | | |
|------|------|-----|--|---------|
| W7WA | 1116 | 108 | | 361,584 |
|------|------|-----|--|---------|

SOSB/20 LP

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|----|--|--------|
| KD7H | 120 | 51 | | 18,360 |
| K7IDX | 72 | 59 | | 12,744 |

SOSB/40 LP

| | | | | |
|------|----|----|--|-------|
| K7WA | 41 | 18 | | 2,214 |
|------|----|----|--|-------|

UNKNOWN

| | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|--|---------|
| NU7J | 352 | 140 | | 147,840 |
|------|-----|-----|--|---------|

ARRL DX Contest CW Soapbox

K7EG: Fun contest. Favorite mode. Conditions much better than last week's RTTY contest. EU open in the a.m. on 20.

KD7H: This was the first time I chose to do a 20 meter single-band entry, and conditions were certainly a factor. Rig: ICOM IC-756PROII; Antenna: Cushcraft MA6V vertical.

K7HBN: For such a somewhat maligned radio the FT-991 played pretty well. Had limited time to operate so morning openings to EU both days helped. Nice way to celebrate the week of my 73rd birthday.

K7SS: 10.5 hours. IC756pro2 and 400W Steppir w/ 40 dipole. 80 sloper, 160 inv L. Spent quite a bit of time trolling 160 for new and exotic DX. Last mult: D4C on 40m at 3pm. 10m still showing some vital signs. A pipeline to Chile. Hang in there 28mhz... we all love ya. Good fun!

KX7L: Came down with a cold on Friday, which put a damper on my participation. Still condx seemed pretty good for this point in the solar cycle, with even a little activity on 10, and pretty good prop on 80. Thanks for the fun!

N7RVD: Condx were good for this stage of the sunspot cycle. It was really interesting to work low power EU on the top end of 20 meters Sunday morning. ARRL DX is always a S&P slog. This year was no different. I worked 20 hours and still got in two naps and two dog walks. Woof.

K7PAX: My first CW contest. Currently enrolled in CW Academy Level II, under Scott Gilbert, KF7GGN, and formerly under David Harper, KM6ZT for Level I. Thank you to these volunteer instructors!

N7ZG: A Index was 20 on the first day and 15 the second. Higher than predicted so condx were not great. SSN about 15 so no 10M. Bought an amp in Jan so this is my first real effort in a major running HP from home. Also new this contest is my K3LR array for 80M. Very pleased with how it played given the cards dealt.

No really interesting DX calls stand out but I did have a nice little "mini run" on morning long path on both 40M (which was expected) but the real surprise was 80M during this time as well (both days). Worked European Russia, Ukraine and

Finland on 80M. Worked many EU countries as well as Israel and Kuwait. All called in and were clear and strong. If it weren't for LP my 40M country totals would suck. Guess they really wanted the WA mult. Good on them. This may motivate me to do the phone leg of the contest.

K7RI: Thanks to Walt, Dennis and Chuck for their commitment to long operating shifts. Good unexpected 40 meter opening long path at sunrise to Europe. Very nice short path to Europe on 20 for several hours. Very unexpected Europe on 15 meters. BIG SURPRISE opening on 10 meters to South America and Caribbean (no openings on 10 here for quite some time).

March 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)

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.

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 it 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_qsling.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 DXpeditions and dates I have in my calendar as of March 7, 2017 (with no representations that the information is accurate, complete and/or won't change):

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Togo (5V7V) | March 4-11, 2017 |
| Temotu (H4ØFN) | March 5-24, 2017 |
| Ghana (9G5X) | March 7-21, 2017 |
| Nepal (9N7EI) | March 8-20, 2017 |
| Ivory Coast (TU7C) | March 9-19, 2017 |
| Niger (5U5R) | March 9-21, 2017 |
| Bangladesh (S21GM) | March 15-21, 2017 |
| Bangladesh (S21KW) (same group as S21GM— call sign change only) | March 21-27, 2017 |
| Rotuma (3D2AG/P) | March 25-April 22, 2017 |

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) |

Totem Trader

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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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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