



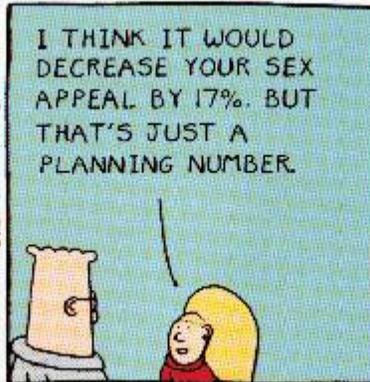
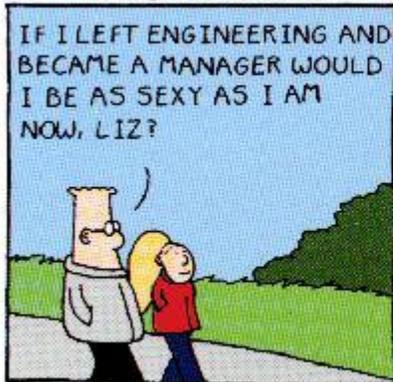
WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.
Totem Tabloid

December 2015

NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 8



DILBERT® by Scott Adams



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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@arrl.net

The President Speaks

Adam Blackmer, K7EDX/VK9WA

I'm back! Rob, N7QT, and I arrived back in Seattle around 9:30 p.m. last Friday night. What an adventure we had on the VK9WA DXpedition!

I've always been respectful to folks that go on DXpeditions. They've spent a lot of time and money to make them happen. To those of you who have ever been part of an expedition similar to ours, my hat is off to you. I have an increased appreciation for guys like Bob, K4UEE, Paul, N6PSE, and the Cordell group who have done so many expeditions. They are hard work!

Having spent over 20 years in heavy construction, I know hard work. However, there's something about 90-100 % humidity and 90 degrees Fahrenheit that makes things more challenging. The sun was so intense that I literally felt like I was being cooked. Luckily with the boat crew's help we had some shade from a tarp. I'm glad to be back in a cooler climate.

Overall I feel like we did a respectable job. Of course there is always room for improvement and we learned many things. My hope is that Rob and I represented you guys well and that those of you who needed Willis Island were able to work us. It sure seemed like we worked many of you.

I can honestly say that you guys all did a superb job of operating. This definitely made me proud of our club and the type of people we have in it. I appreciate all the support we have received from you.

There is a lot more to share about the trip. I am not sure when a presentation to the club will be made but I am confident we'll start working on it soon.

Our annual Christmas party on December 8 is coming up quickly. We'll be having a great dinner, presenting annual awards, having a larger raffle, and doing a little club business. Don't miss starting your holiday season the right way with your radio friends!

You guys have been doing a great job RSVPing by the Friday before the meeting. If you'd like the dinner buffet, please RSVP to me at k7edx@arrl.net by Friday, December 4, 5:00pm. I hope to see you there.

I hope you have an incredible Holiday season! Merry Christmas and 73!

Random Comments From the Editor

Adam is *far* too modest in describing as “respectable” the job done by the VK9WA team. In my opinion, they did a superb job under very difficult conditions. A gentle breeze on an island is always appreciated—but 35-40 MPH winds that threaten to blow you off that island is quite another thing. I listened a lot and the guys seemed to be everywhere, all of the time. Quite an effort for what was a relatively small team (eight operators). I suspect that when we hear the whole story (hopefully soon at a club meeting), we’ll learn that no one got much sleep. Congratulations to the team for a job well done!

Events unfortunately intervened and I had time only for a part-time effort in CQWW CW, my favorite contest. I decided to do a single band assisted entry on 10 meters, as it may be a long time before we see sunspots sufficient to support propagation on that band. That notwithstanding, conditions seemed OK but I couldn’t hear almost all of the EU stations spotted by guys on the East Coast—at least when I was on. As always, being DX is where the action was: Dan, N6MJ, winner of WRTC 2014, was on from ZF1MJ (a two point country) and made a mind-blowing 10,223 QSOs with rates in the mid-300s and a worst hour of 80! He operated the entire 48 hours!

The next issue of the Tabloid (January 2016) will highlight the WWDXXC DXCC Ladder, a great opportunity to brag silently about your country totals. Please get your info to Jim, WA7SRZ, as soon as possible so he can put it all together. Jim’s email address: wa7srz@frontier.com

The first six months of next year will be an exciting time for a DXer, as there are plenty of DXpeditions on the calendar, many to Top 10 countries. If you have the week off between Christmas and New Year’s, it might be a good time to make sure everything in the station is working as it’s supposed to and to get up some new antennas for the low bands. I got the parts for a beverage on the ground to see if I can overcome some of the noise on 80 and 160. If it works, I’ll write up an article about it.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Good DX in 2016!

December 2015 Contest Activity

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

As I write this, CQWW CW is being played out. I'll report those activities next month. In the meantime, we just completed the ARRL Sweepstakes.

ARRL CW Sweepstakes

Call	Score	QSOs	Sections	160	80	40	20	15	10
Multi-Op HP									
K7RI	145,476	898	81	0	72	279	324	114	109
Multi-Op LP									
K7SS	58,880	368	80						
Single Op HP									
WC7Q	79,716	511	78	0	3	128	250	130	0
N7RVD	65,564	443	74	0	8	27	231	168	9
KX7L	63,448	412	77	2	60	77	254	19	0
Single Op LP									
N7WA	124,160	776	80	0	33	184	458	101	0
K7RL	114,210	705	81	0	29	272	334	66	4
W7OM	83,754	517	81	0	13	110	260	123	11
K7HBN	65,570	415	79	0	56	78	270	0	0
K7WA	34,080	240	71	0	0	0	204	36	0
N9ADG	8,170	95	43	0	0	33	41	21	0
SO Unlimited HP									
K7EG	14,580	90	81	0	0	28	26	21	15

ARRL CW Sweepstakes Soapbox

K7EG: Missed DE and AB for a sweep. Saw a VE6 spot but no propagation to Alberta from WWA on 20 or 15M. Never heard a DE station.

WC7Q: Had back surgery Thursday. Wasn't sure I should operate but gave it a shot. Took it as long as I could stand it. Even with the poor condx there were many many stations to work. Thanks to all who gave me a contact.

KX7L: I was waffling about going QRP this time or to put the new amp to use and run class B. When I saw the propagation forecast, I went with the amp, in the vain hope that I might finally make a sweep. Well, the best I could do was narrowly beat last year's score and repeat 77 sections. At least I worked WPA this time! But narrowly missed EWA (heard W6AEA CQing but couldn't raise him) And of course those sections way Northeast (ME, RI, NL, ONN). And where was KP4? Still lots of fun, even with crummy condx. KX3+HR50+SB200. Still no aluminum: 44ft doublet & amp; Inv. Ell.

K7RL: This contest always brings out the best ops and it's fun to be in the mix. Thanks to all for the Q's. After working 77 sections by Saturday night, Sunday's priority was to get the sweep. Needed BC, NT, EWA, DE, ND and NL. VY1AAA was mult #81. Missed NL and EWA. Didn't spend enough time on the low bands to work EWA, and never heard a peep from NL despite really trying on the second radio. EWA is workable on the high bands, but LP doesn't cut it - apparently.

K7HBN: Missed NL, SK, AB, ONN. Great level of activity. Low power this time so I was on the "try to copy the QRP guy" end of the contacts. Good fun and enjoyed my new "Eagle" TT 599AT.

N9ADG: BigIR Vertical with 8 radials; no 80 meter antenna in this location yet. It was great to hear all of the activity; glad folks were willing/able to copy me.

K7RI: First time effort for this team. First time SS ever for two operators and first time on CW for the other operator. Thanks to everyone who worked us and those who tried but we were unable to copy. Missed NL and NT sections but we had fun.

N7WA: The words GRIND and SWEEPSTAKES are synonymous. 'Nuff said about that. I seem to remember the activity running to 0800Z or later on the first night in years past. I swear everyone was headed for bed by 0600Z this year. I know I did because it was getting pretty thin. That's one useful aspect of having a spectrum display - you can see when the band is going empty.

Missed two usual Canadian sections NL and NT. The odd miss was Utah. Never heard a peep. My usual fear of not getting EWA was nullified in the first hour. Can't say that has ever happened before.

Over the years, my contest food has gradually moved from things like chips, cheetos and oreo cookies to fruits and vegetables. This year I regressed. As I was shopping for this year's contest snacks, I came across Sriracha flavored popcorn. Oh my gosh! That was good. Just gotta watch out for the little flakes that come off. Snorting one of those up your nostrils is almost as exciting as working a rare mult. It burns so good.

Never could get a good SO2R rhythm going this year. Got the YCCC SO2R box and I am not sure I do SO2R the way it does SO2R. Maybe I need to get used to it or maybe there is another option I just haven't found. It also had a tendency to lock up sometimes requiring a reboot. Many thanks to all that stopped by to interrupt my continuous CQing.

W7OM: Missed two Canadians: NL and AB. Should have chased the VE6 the first night. Goes to show you that waiting until later can lead to a missed mult. Heard the VOs but couldn't make it through the pile.

ARRL SSB Sweepstakes

Call	Score	QSOs	Sections	160	80	40	20	15	10
Multi-Op HP									
K7RI	243,356	1466	83	0	80	261	507	417	201
Multi-Op LP									
K7IR	210,986	1271	83	0	115	327	317	341	171
K7SS	72,044	434	83	5	9	31	120	223	46

Single Op HP

W7WA	356,900	2150	83	0	52	613	625	676	184
N7RVD	106,596	658	81	0	15	42	347	248	6
K7VAP	54,648	396	69	0	61	6	103	46	180

Single Op LP

N7WA	30,464	238	64	0	0	8	110	120	0
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Single Op QRP

NN7SS(K6UFO)	2,240	40	28	0	0	0	20	20	0
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SO Unlimited LP

KB7HDX	55,112	332	83	0	54	16	158	74	30
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ARRL SSB Sweepstakes Soapbox

NN7SS(K6UFO): Only able to get on briefly on Sunday around 18Z. I was in San Francisco, remote to the NN7SS station in WWA. 10m had a few, but very loud signals. 15m was more packed, but not so strong signals. I just S&P'd up each band until my time was up. Glad I didn't have to do a full-time. Thanks for the fun.

N7WA: It was fun being fresh meat and 15M was open so we didn't have to all crowd onto 20M. Never did check 10M. I really need to get the pre-programmed voice messages back on line. My mouth only works for about an hour before it starts saying really weird stuff.

N7RVD: Fun little contest. Conditions were somewhat better two weeks ago in the CW test. No sweep for me, but close: got 81 of 83. Missed BC and VI. Would I recommend this contest to a friend? Hell yes!

K7VAP: When K7MO offered me the use of his station, I jumped at the chance. Other obligations kept me away until Sunday, but over 7 hours was enough for me. I had to rarely press the CQ button! 10 meters early on was a bit weird.

There was this opening to IL and MI. After putting the adif into my normal log, I had found out that those states are suddenly in top five states worked due to this. And then, there was a small opening to Brazil off the side of the beam. I worked six Brazil stations that weren't part of the contest, but I took advantage of them anyway. I couldn't have picked a better day to take off of work!

K7SS: Good part time fun ! Last 2 mults were neighbors, BC and MT.

K7RI: SO1R station: one transceiver, no second radio. Thanks to everyone who worked or tried unsuccessfully to work us through the QRM. First time Sweepstakes SSB for two of us. A few computer glitches consumed some time that we could have spent operating but we all had a good time.

K7IR: With Adam, K7EDX, on the Willis Island DXpedition, and another team member unavailable, we decided to try a relaxed LP multi effort. We were able to hold Murphy at bay; at the start of the contest everything worked! Though we had to work harder for each Q, and sometimes it was difficult or impossible to hold a run, as a team we learned a lot. We were missing three sections when we stopped on Saturday (local) evening, and found them quickly the next day. N1MM-logger+ just feels great, kudos to the team that makes it better and better all the time.

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.

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 December 1, 2015 (with no representations that the information is accurate, complete and/or won't change):

Wake Island (K6W)	Postponed
Equatorial Guinea—3C7GIA	Postponed
Palmyra Atoll—K5P	January 11-26, 2016
North Korea (P5)	January-February 2016
South Georgia/South Sandwich-- VP8STI/VP8SGI	January-February 2016
Guinea—3XY1T	February 18-March 4, 2016
Palestine (E44Y)	March 1-31, 2016
Heard Island (VK0EK)	March 6-April 20, 2016
Juan de Nova--FT4JA	March 31-April 14, 2016
Cocos (Keeling)--VK9CK	March 15-26, 2016
St. Paul--CY9C	August 19-29, 2016

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)

December 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 Alert Nodes

Bob Nielsen, N7XY (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 TL-922 Linear Amplifier, 160m - 10m, 1250 W, only a few hours on new tubes. \$800.00

Icom IC-2300H 2m FM Mobile, like new. \$125.00

M2 3 element 6m beam, good condition. \$125.00

Contact: Neil, W7IU, Edmonds, WA 425-775-6140

FOR SALE: The following items are available from the estate of W7CL in Olympia:

Standing 70 feet Rohn 45G with top plate and mounting base – with all guy wire, insulators and cables, to be taken down; additional top tapered section on ground. \$1,500

SteppIR MonstIR. Paid \$4,500 new; open to bids.

Three sections of Rohn 45G (on ground)

M2 rotor and controller

Create RC5 - \$50.00

Several boxes of 200 foot 10G wire

Rotor cable

Coax

Miscellaneous hardware and parts

Comealongs

Climbing belts

Multimeters

Electronic and other tools

Too many items to mention. Pricing negotiable and specific information available upon request. Andrew, W7VJ, w7vj@millerisar.com

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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The Totem Tabloid

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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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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

