WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.

TotemTabloid

October 2015

NEXT MEETING IS OCTOBER 13

Gordon Bousman, NW7D, will present a program on aeronautical ham radio and using HF in aeronautical communications. Aeronautical HF radios, antennas, data modes, and oceanic air traffic control will be discussed as well as the global aeronautical HF and VHF networks.

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 k7edx@arrl.net

The President Speaks

Adam Blackmer, K7EDX

Well, another Salmon Run has passed and the contest season is in full swing. Dick, K7BTW, Brian, N9ADG, and I had a great time operating as W7DX. It definitely seemed to help that we were at Dick's house in Rainer, Thurston County. As many of you experienced, Sunday morning propagation was very lackluster, to say the least. There's nothing like having a couple of solar flares during a contest. However, by the afternoon conditions improved and we were able to maintain some runs. I appreciate the handful of rovers for helping to activate the counties. Thanks to all of you for helping make this another successful Salmon Run.

I was also encouraged to see some strong entries for the CQWW RTTY contest. As a club, we've done well in the past and I expect we will do great this time around. From the scores I've seen, it definitely looks that way. Maybe we'll see similar efforts for the CQWW SSB contest at the end of the month.

Thanks to Tom, K7RI, for opening up his station to fellow club members to come and operate. I know there are others of you who are consistently doing this. It makes for great camaraderie within the club and also produces great scores. Most of us just wouldn't put the time in the chair that we will in a team environment.

As most of you are aware, Rob, N7QT, Melanie, N7BX, and Grant, KZ1W are now on Manihiki in the North Cook Islands. It sure has been exciting to work our fellow club members. Grant will be there for a few more weeks while Rob and Melanie are there for most of the month. You should have an excellent chance at working them, if you haven't already.

Starting with this coming monthly meeting, we are going to do something new. As I've said before, we'd like to have a larger variety of meals at the meeting. In order to do this we must have RSVPs well in advance of the meeting. The Tabloid usually comes out about a week or so before the monthly meeting and the program is "officially" announced. At that point, send your RSVP to me if you'd like the buffet dinner. I will also do my best to put out an additional reminder on the Yahoo Reflector to again solicit RSVPs for the dinner. **I need**

your RSVP no later than 6:00 p.m. on the Friday before the Tuesday club meeting. This will allow the restaurant enough time to prepare and order food if needed. What if you don't let me know by that time or you show up to the meeting expecting dinner without notice? Your dinner will be **$25.00** instead of the normal $20.00. My hope is that this will motivate those of you who tend to procrastinate on RSVPing to confirm your dinner earlier. In return, everyone will benefit from more dinner varieties.

Until our next meeting, I'll see you in the pileups!

Random Comments From the Editor

After threatening to go for several years, I finally stopped putting it off and attended the W9DXCC convention in Chicago last month. It was well worth the trip! The number of attendees is a bit larger than at the PNWDXC but much smaller than Visalia. More importantly, they're a friendly bunch of folks. I didn't know more than a handful but quite a few came up and introduced themselves and made me feel quite welcome. If you'll be in the Chicago area next September, consider attending.

The Chesterfield group started up a few days ago and, frankly, they're not as easy to work as I expected. I've listened a lot because I know several of the operators and they are all first rate; you'll get them if you persist. From the little information leaking back to the States so far, it sounds like they're having big problems with the winds and shifting sands. They've been on for five days and still haven't been able to safely erect the antennas for 80 and 160. One welcome fact: the usual DQRMers and traffic cops seem to have gone away. Let's all hope they stay away.

As Adam noted above, Rob, Melanie and Grant are currently on the North Cooks and have been all over the bands with great signals. Rob and Melanie will be there until the end of the month, so if you need the North Cooks on any band or mode, you'll never have a better opportunity.

In case you missed the post on the reflector, here's a neat link that I received from Michael, G7VJR (the owner of ClubLog) that should help in working some

of the upcoming DXpeditions: http://www.voacap.com/dx.html All you need is your grid square.

Finally, don't forget to support the Palos Verdes Sundancers!

Operating From Norway

Bill Trippett, W7VP

On August 31, I left Seattle to visit some friends in Norway. I had contacted the Norsk Radio Relæ Liga about operating from its headquarters station in Oslo. I was put in contact with the station chief, Martin Stroli, LA8OKA, and told him I would call him when I got to Norway. I called him shortly before taking the train from Bergen to Valdres in the mountains between Bergen and Oslo. Martin told me that coincidentally the Oslo Group of the NRRL was having their Field Day in Valdres that weekend and it might be close to cabin where I was staying. We agreed I would call him when I got to the mountains.

So on Saturday morning September 5, 2015, I called Martin and found out that the Field Day site was only about 5 km airline distance, 17 km by road, from where I was staying. Martin generously offered to come get me. I was able to see their activities and meet many of the members. Although I speak Norwegian, they all speak English so communication was not an issue.

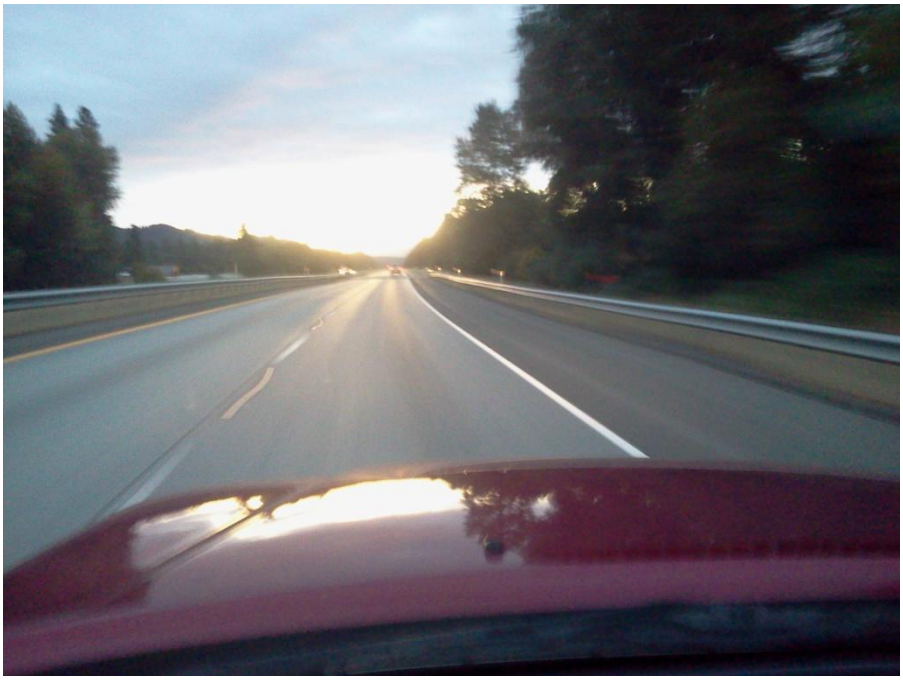
Later we made arrangements for me to visit the League headquarters when I travelled to Oslo. I met with the head of the NRRL, Jan Almedal, LB1G, and Martin in the League office on Thursday, September 10, 2015, and operated from the LA4O station there. That is Martin on the left and Jan on the right. Unfortunately, the propagation was so bad that only Rob, N7QT was able to work me and that was from a remote in New York. Their station is an ICOM 7600 with a Rig Expert amp and a SteppIR antenna.

I was treated very well by the Norwegian hams and got to meet many of them at the field day site where there were at least 16 stations.

Salmon Run in Pictures

Mike “Dink” Dinkelman, N7WA

I've decided to do my N7WA Salmon Run write-up a bit different this time--it's mostly photos.



It was a beautiful day to drive on Saturday. Little traffic (I started at 5:30AM) and I was able to watch the sun rise as I headed east towards Yakima County. I had to be near the Yakima/Klickitat border by 9AM.

This was actually my second stop, the Klickitat/Benton County line, right in the far NE corner of the county. It was actually very nice country and I was right on the corner of a vineyard.

Wine anybody? By the way, I should have picked these. I forget to stop and get food or drink and had to wait until I got to Pasco for nourishment.

I finally figured it out. Lewis and Clark were the original Washington Salmon Run Rovers!

Think... if I could just plug into that power...

On the Whitman/Adams Line and the sun is going down! Switching to 40M.
I still have to get all the way to Pend Oreille/Spokane County line before I can rest.

Sunday morning started early at one of my favorite county lines, Pend Oreille/Stevens, on Flowery Trails Road. How about that name? I was actually there at 8AM so I just enjoyed the peace and quiet for an hour, listening to the birds and the breeze through the trees. Guess where the county line is on the pavement?

This is my favorite county line where I can't actually work anybody, on the Inchelium/Gifford Ferry in the middle of the Columbia River. I could probably work someone but don't want to take a chance of messing up the ferry's electronics. Plus, it's just a nice break for a boat ride.

boat ride.

End of the trail. My last stop was Chelan/Kittitas at Blewett Pass. It was the last stop for the K7TQ/WA0WWW (Randy and Jay) as well. I was pretty loopy by this point but we had a good chat. At least my drive home was shorter than theirs (Idaho)

Also on Blewett Pass, a couple hundred feet further up, was a Mike & Key ARC Expedition K7ANE. WA7BRI, K7ANE , WA7DY, and KD7WNV

October 2015 Contest Activity

Mike "Dink" Dinkelman, N7WA

We are on our way into the new contesting season. We started out with a bang with the Washington Salmon Run and then the RTTY folks got going with the CQWW RTTY. Sounds like CQWW RTTY may have had the better conditions.

CQWW RTTY Scores

Call	QSOs	State/Prov	DX	Zones	Op Time	Score
M/S HP						
K7BTW	1796	182	243	104	48	2,065,216
K7RI	1659	162	172	84	48	1,398,210
SOAB HP						
K5TRI	573	109	120	60	25	302,872
N5CR	452	29	142	67	16	302,498
WC7Q	299	52	76	41	14	119,314
KX7L	214	85	62	42	10	74,655
SOAB LP						
W7TSQ	574	110	112	61	26	372,994
W7OM	530	94	118	58		311,040
SOAB(A) HP						
W7VP	612	107	108	51	16	380,114
W7VXS	422	103	117	54	14	225,776
K7EG	308	39	128	54		183,430
For fun						
NW7D/KH6	679				11	349,692

CQWW RTTY Soapbox

K7EG: Gave new IC-7851 its baptism. Great fun, about 16 hrs. Attended friend's 50th anniversary party on Saturday, Sunday the Seahawks took priority

KX7L: Originally intended to go SO 80m, but just couldn't crawl out of bed in the wee hours of Saturday morning, so made an all band effort. Conditions were definitely not what they were in 2013 or 2012, but still had fun.

K7RI: Thanks to Jean, Walt and Curt for doing a great job. First time for all of us to operate together - and first-time CQWW DX RTTY Contest. Also, thanks for everyone who worked us.

N5CR: First ever RTTY contest. My only objective was to increase my RTTY country total. Lots of S&P, worked very few states.

K7BTW: We did not have the great 10 meter conditions this year, so we were down a bit from last year. However, conditions on the other bands were better than expected, especially on 15.

W7OM: This year was a low key effort compared to 2014. Missed the night time 40 meter effort. Fun was the goal.

NW7D/KH6: Used a CrankIR positioned 50' from the edge of an 800' cliff above the ocean--great results and performance. Also had a fan dipole for the first hours of the contest until high winds broke my Jackite fiberglass mast. My own fault for not getting the CrankIR to work on 80M, operator error with the pushup mast and not fixable in the middle of the night in a driving rainstorm. This was a fun contest and my first experience operating portable in a contest off the mainland; I learned a lot and hope to do better next time. The bands were in very good condition in Hawaii including 10M.

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As I write this, logs are piling in for the Salmon Run (getting close to 300). Despite bad conditions on Sunday (so-so on Saturday), it sounds like a lot of fun was had. We'll have a much bigger write-up next month with more comprehensive results. For now, here are some of the results from WWDXC members:

Salmon Run Scores

Call	**CW Qs**	**Ph Qs**	**Dig Qs**	**Mults**	**Op Time**	**Score**
M/S HP						
K7RI	271	1125	1	103	23	317,092
SOCW HP						
W6SZN/7	277	0	0	63		52,475

SOMixed HP

W7VXS	256	108	18	79	12	83,002

SOMixed LP

W7OM	408	78	24	75		106,600
KX7L	227	38	3	70	10	55,620
WA7PRC	108	67	0	61		28,438

SOSSB HP

K7IDX	0	288	0	37	15	10,656

Salmon Run Soapbox

W7OM: Worked W7DX which scored incorrectly. N1MM+ did not like a couple of abbreviations and scored contact as zero.

K7RI: Started off strong Saturday, 20 & 40 were favorable bands.

K7IDX: All QSOs on 3865+- except 2. About 300 watts power. Missed Ferry and Pend Oreille. Hopefully gave Jefferson County to some in need. Poor conditions on 75 Sunday

KX7L: Well, I can definitely tell the sunspots aren't what they were. 10 was a no-show. 15 was feeble, and 80 was busy! As usual, 75m was the place to go for counties. Had a lot of fun, even managed three RTTY QSOs. Discovered an antenna problem on Saturday morning - somewhere along the line my open wire feedline got twisted on itself, and arced through the insulation, shorting it out - amazing that I got out at all!

WA7PRC: As always, SR was fun though I didn't put much effort/time into it. I ran a few frequencies and they kept coming 'til I couldn't sit in the chair any longer. Propagation seemed fine... lots of strong signals. I worked W7DX once for 500 points.

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

Wake Island (K6W)	Postponed
Chesterfield Island (TX3X)	Ongoing
Seychelles—S79SP	October 3-18, 2015
Equatorial Guinea—3C7GIA	November 12-23, 2015
Willis Island (VK9WA)	November 14-23, 2015
Palmyra Atoll (KH5)	January 11-26, 2016
North Korea (P5)	January 2016
South Georgia/South Sandwich (VP8STI/VP8SGI)	January-February 2016

Guinea—3XY1T	February 1-27, 2016
Palestine (E44Y)	March 1-31, 2016
Heard Island (VK0EK)	March 6-April 20, 2016
Juan de Nova (FR/J)	March-April, 2016
Cocos (Keeling) (VK9C)	March 14-26, 2016
St. Paul (CY9)	July 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)

October 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)

[Note from the Editor: I will eventually get this right. Contrary to my statement in last month's Tabloid, there still is an RF-based connection to W7PKT on 145.73 in Auburn. There is also telnet access at w7pkt.net, PORT 7300. Thanks to Bob, N7XY, for sorting this out].

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: ICOM IC7800 transceiver for sale. Excellent condition. Latest production config V2 with improved synthesizer board and new crystal oscillator. Operating & Service 253-939-6107.

FOR SALE: Parts for a 2 element Gem Quad, $100. This is a very light and sturdy quad design. One of the 8 spreaders needs to be repaired. I had it wired to switch between 10, 12, 15, 17, and 20M, and also had 6M elements fed with a separate feed line. Tom, NU7J tel (425)335-3623 nu7j@arrl.net

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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

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