WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.

TotemTabloid

September 2015

NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 8

Rob, N7QT, will present his DXpeditions to San Andres and Montserrat, just in time before leaving for his DXpeditions to the North Cook Islands and Willis Island.

Rob's 125th Street Grill, located at 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

If you didn't attend the Pacific Northwest DX Convention at the beginning of August, you sure missed out! It was great starting out the weekend at the AquaSox game on Friday night and if you stayed for the whole game you got to watch them pull out a win in the 9th inning. Some big names in ham radio attended and presented at the convention and I really enjoyed seeing so many of you. We owe a big thank you to Rich, W6RS, for chairing the event. He put in many hours and that was very evident based on the quality of the event and just how well everything went. Kip, W6SZN, did a great job pulling in a fantastic line-up of presenters. Thank you Rich and Kip! Finally, thank you to the rest of the convention group who helped in so many other areas during the weekend. The convention wouldn't happen without you. I am already looking forward to Oregon next year.

My last column (in the July issue of the Tabloid) noted that the Board switched to using Club Log for determining DXpedition funding levels. Shortly after my column, Kip, W6SZN, contacted Michael, G7VJR, the founder and owner of Club Log. Michael graciously added the capability of generating a "North America—West Coast" most wanted list. This will be a very valuable for the Board. All of you who have used Club Log are well aware of just what a great resource it is. You might think about making a contribution to Club Log.

In just three weeks, the Salmon Run (aka the Washington State QSO Party), will be taking place. I hope this is one of your favorite contests of the year--it sure is one of mine. I don't know what impact all the fires in Eastern Washington will have, but hopefully they will all be under control by then. It sure has been a tough fire season. Dick, K7BTW, will be hosting the club bonus station W7DX during the Salmon Run. Brian, N9ADG, and I will be joining him on phone and CW. If you are interested in operating the Digital side of W7DX at your QTH during the contest, please contact me. Good luck and I hope to work you! Clean sweep, here you come!

Random Comments From the Editor

Not much to say this month, mainly because the bands have been pretty bad and I've been occupied with a family situation that's kept me away from home and the radio.

The official PNWDXC photographer, Rob, N7QT, has posted on Dropbox over 200 photos from the convention. Rob took most of the photos, supplemented by some from Steve, N7VS, and Brian, N9ADG. The photos are available for your viewing at https://www.dropbox.com/sh/s32k8jl6i0fyxj3/AAB2KjcysvAFrwpY_ClfpHiVa?dl=0&s=so

With the high bands as bad as they've been, it's time to stay up late/get up early and prowl around 80 and 160. Rob, N7QT, advises that he's come up with an effective antenna solution for 80 and 160 from the North Cook Islands and Willis Island. I hope he's right, as I'll be in there looking for both on 160.

There are several groups working hard to activate P5. Dom, 3Z9DX, is actively soliciting contributions for the purchase of a radio that will be left there. Meanwhile, Rick, K6VVA (aka "The Locust") looks like he's continuing to pursue a CW-only, one QSO only expedition, but he is now talking about taking a team of proven CW operators. You can read all about it at http://www.p5cw.com

The TX3X operation from Chesterfield will likely be on the air before the next issue of the Tabloid is published. This is a group of experienced operators, many from the VK9MT Mellish Reef operation last year. Let's hope they travel safely and have at least decent propagation.

The lousy summer conditions are over and there are plenty of DXpeditions on the horizon. I hope you work all those you need.

2015 Pacific Northwest DX Convention
Final Report

Rich Stempien, W6RS
Convention Chairman

The 2015 Pacific NW DX Convention is now in the record books. The event started on Friday, August 7, 2015, at the Holiday Inn in Everett. I asked the convention team to be at the Holiday Inn by noon on Friday so we would be prepared for the 2:00 p.m. registration opening. I arrived around 11:45 a.m. and was greeted by numerous team members who were already hard at work setting up the registration area and preparing the hospitality suite for Friday evening festivities.

I cannot say enough about this amazing group of folks who gave the club their all and who really made the convention a success. I have listed all of our convention team members below and I want to say that it was a privilege to work with you. I believe we may have set an attendance record with 173 registrants. The Saturday technical and informational sessions were packed with useful information that we all could take back to our shacks and implement. Our dinner and breakfast speakers were fascinating and put on spectacular, informative and humorous presentations. The food quality was universally complimented by all and our hospitality room was second to none, with craft brewed draft IPAs and some very good Washington wines. I want to thank all of our members who helped make the convention visitors feel at home and welcome. Give yourselves a big round of applause!

For those who attended the Sunday morning breakfast, you'll recall that Mel, N7GCO, drew the final grand prize ticket for the Yaesu FTDX 1200. I then read the winning call sign as "K7ZA." Neither K7ZA nor anyone claiming to act on his behalf rose to claim the prize. After the convention, I contacted K7ZA after first learning that he was **not** a registered attendee. John, K7ZA, confirmed that he was not at the convention and had not bought any raffle tickets. There was never a question as to the "K7Z" portion of the winning ticket, just the last letter. The **only** "K7Z_" registered was Walt, K7ZQ. Thus, it became clear that between my 60

year-old eyes and less than stellar printing on the ticket I had misread the call sign on the winning ticket. After consulting with Yaesu, we determined that the rightful winner was Walt, K7ZQ. I spoke to K7ZA who understood what had happened and agreed that the radio should be awarded to the rightful winner. I have notified Walt and Yaesu will be sending him his winning certificate.

The photos below are courtesy of Bo, N7BK. Thanks, Bo!

- **Raffle Drawing and Prize Distribution:** Walt, K7ZQ and Alan, AC7MX.
- **On Site Registration:** Elsie, N7YX, Jelsy, N5CR XYL, BJ, W7NP XYL
- **Roving Raffle Ticket Sales:** Mike, W7NP and BJ, W7NP XYL
- **Program:** Kip, W6SZN (and envelope stuffing)
- **Public Relations:** Kirk, N7UG
- **Prize Scrounging:** Adam, K7EDX and Rich, W6RS
- **A/V System:** Mel, N7GCO, Alan, AC7MX and Walt, K7ZQ
- **Hospitality Room:** Joe, N7PLO and Moe, WH6YD
- **Photographer:** Bob, N7QT
- **Non Ham Excursion:** Janell, K7EDX XYL and Robin, W6RS XYL
- **ARRL QSL Card Checking Coordinator:** Dick, K7BTW
- **Printing:** Jim, K7WA, Adam, K7EDX and Rich, W6RS
- **Treasurer:** Brian, N7RVD

The Grand Prize Winners:

- SteppIR – Small IR – NC7M
- Icom IC-7410 - N9ADG
- Yaesu FTDX 1200 – K7ZQ

ARRL Forum (from left): Ward, N0AX; Jim, K9JF; Rich, W6RS; Jim, K7CEX; Bob, W6RGG

Don Miller, W9WNV and Kip, W6SZN

Mike, N6MZ; Jim, K9JF; Ralph, VE7XF

Dick, N7RO; Mike, N6MZ; Julia, KD7PJC; Don, W9WNV

Bill, W7VP; John, K6MM; Jim, K9JF

Andrew, W7VJ and Mel, N7GCO

2015 Salmon Run

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

While travelling in British Columbia last month, I saw this banner and it reminded me – it's Salmon Run time! There won't be a Salmon BBQ, but you won't have to run 5 KM, 10 KM, or even the Elders Route.

The 2015 Washington Salmon Run will be held on September 19 and 20. This is the weekend operators across North America and worldwide look for QSOs with Washington state stations, and operators in Washington state look for QSOs with all 39 Washington counties and other stations outside Washington. Activity runs from 9:00 a.m. (1600Z) to midnight (0700Z) Saturday, and from 9:00 a.m. (1600Z) to 5:00 p.m. (2400Z) Sunday. Contacts count on SSB, CW, and Digital modes, even FM on 2 meters! The Salmon Run contact exchange is signal report and location (County for WA stations, and State/Province/DX for out of WA stations). There will be many portable and mobile stations out in the rarer counties, and look for the WWDXC Club station W7DX for bonus points on each mode.

Join the on the air fun when you can, whether for an hour or the whole weekend. Who knows, your QSO and county may help someone win a Smoked Salmon Award this year.

See YOU in the Salmon Run!

Thanks to the Western Washington DX Club and the 2015 Washington Salmon Run Committee: K7EDX, N7UK, K7SR, K7DSE, N7WA, K7BTW and K7WA.

For more information and the County Activity List see the Western Washington DX Club website: www.wwdxc.org

September Membership Update

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

It was great to see so many WWDXC members and friends at the DX Convention last month!

We welcome two new members this month:

Paula Johnson, K7PAX, Port Angeles, WA

Michael Schulz, K5TRI, Redmond, WA

Thanks for supporting the Pacific Northwest DX Convention and the Western Washington DX Club - and don't forget about the Washington Salmon Run coming up September 19th and 20th!

Meet Your Fellow WWDXC Members

In the July issue of the Tabloid, we ran the inaugural article of this feature, thinking that it might be a good way for members of the club to meet and find out about other members, especially those who rarely or never attend club meetings. The resounding thud is still resonating. If, as it appears, no one cares about this, so be it. If you do care, even slightly, let me know and you'll be the next member to appear here.

September 2015 Contest Activity

Mike “Dink” Dinkelman, N7WA

This month kicks off the new contest season and the next run of the Northwest Trophy Competition. Below are the results from last year’s competition. (Yeah, it's small but you can zoom the page up a bit). Frankly, it's disheartening that Orca has the rest of us playing for second place. Not really sure what to do about it but I am open to suggestions. On the other side of the coin, the NW Competition is doing what it was designed to do - promote contesting. Hmmm... maybe we could strike a deal with the WVDXC? If we combined scores....

ALL CLUBS	CQ WW RTTY	CQ WW SSB	CQ WW CW	ARRL RTTY RU	CQ WPX RTTY	ARRL CW	ARRL SSB	CQ WPX SSB	CQ WPX CW	IARU	TOTAL
	3,686,024			232,760	5,028,635		1,915,731		5,763,697	816,200	**17,625,831**
BCDXC	4	0	0	0	5	0	1	182,784	7	0	**1**
Orca	2,742,411	16,557,163	38,461,521	465,547	20,688,500	8,607,705	15,128,728	14,101,206	24,838,764	122,994	**141,714,5**
DXCC	1	63	21	7	00	5	28	06	64	4	**39**
	1,588,953	2,219,158	4,381,260	296,689	1,625,651	1,464,131		2,165,066	1,980,206	121,195	**16,453,82**
SDXA	3	8	0	9	1	0	611,520	6	6	5	**8**
	3,288,861	19,144,436	17,392,428	466,000	5,840,188	9,015,057	5,203,243	21,116,926	11,877,949	2,254,863	**95,599,95**
WVDXC	1	36	28	0	8	7	3	26	49	63	**1**
	9,947,463	11,513,408	20,633,577	185,684	8,578,530	9,708,768	5,401,248	15,560,100	10,560,090	2,341,226	**94,430,09**
WWDXC	3			4	0	8	8				**4**
IDXA	65,640	21,060	3,720	78,407	244,246	118,713	31,068	180,731	264,950	55,136	**1,063,671**
										TOTAL	**366,887,914**
Totals	21,319,352	49,455,225	80,872,506	1,725,087	42,005,750	28,914,373	28,291,538	53,306,813	55,285,656	5,711,614	366,887,914

This month is the first event in the 2015 NW Competition - the CQWW RTTY. That's usually a feather in the cap for the WWDXC so keep up the good work.

Also coming up this month is a Club-sponsored event that is one of the largest QSO parties in the nation - our own Salmon Run. Many people are already pledging to activate counties and there is already one mobile (K7TQ/WA0WWW) promising to activate every county in the eastern half of the State. (There might be a second if I get myself in gear.) It might be a challenge this year as the sunspots tail off but, then again, maybe it's an opportunity on the low bands.

I hope you got all your antenna projects done this summer. Looking forward to an interesting contest season.

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

For the last several years I've kept a separate ham radio calendar. I do so to avoid a repeat of the time when I unwittingly scheduled a vacation with my grandkids way in advance, only to later discover that a DXpedition I needed was active during the same time. 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)	October 1-12, 2015
Willis Island (VK9WA)	November 14-23, 2015
Kerguelen Island (FT/X)	November-December 2015
Palmyra Atoll (KH5)	January 11-26, 2016
North Korea (P5)	January 2016

South Georgia/South Sandwich (VP8STI/VP8SGI)	January-February 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)

September 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.

Internet DX Alert Nodes

Bob Nielsen, N7XY (n7xy@clearwire.net)

Note from the Editor: When I took over the Tabloid, I continued to publish the DX spotting connections as they appeared in the prior issue. After the July 2015 issue, Gary, K7EK, and Bob, N7XY, wrote to advise that the information in the Tabloid was woefully out of date.

There are no longer any RF-based connections to the spotting networks in our area (hence the new name for this column). From this point forward, the Tabloid will list the telnet addresses that you can use for your local connections to the spotting network. My thanks to Gary, K7EK, and Bob, N7XY, for correcting and updating the information.

Current DX Node telnet addresses:

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

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

Totem Trader

FOR SALE: Kenwood TL-922A Linear Amplifier, 160m - 10m, 1250 W output PEP, 1 kW on 12m and 17m. Good working condition. Not many hours on new pair of 3-500Z tubes. $ 800.00. Local pickup from Edmonds, WA. Contact Neil, W7IU at 425-775-6140.

FOR SALE:

Yaesu FT-847 with Mike and Manual--also RT Systems software and cable. Works great $ 800.00

Array solutions PW-1 Meter complete $ 300.00

Diamond Discone Antenna D130J $ 75.00

Radio Shack Scanner 20-163 with program cable $100.00

Contact Jim,WA7SRZ—Good on QRZ.com or telephone 425-778-0955.

FOR SALE

From N7WA: I haven't bugged you guys in a few months but I still have items from Clay's estate. After the convention and all that bad news about the upper bands, maybe you are looking at what you can do with the lower ones. You've come to the right place.

Towards that end, I have most of the components for a DX Engineering 4 square receiving system based on the W8JI design. This is the time sequencer, switch, four active verticals (minus the whips). You would need to add the RG6 and four 8.5' whips. These models are a version older than that shown in the DXE catalog but I expect they work just the same. I believe this can be set up for 40, 80, or 160 - it's just a matter of the size of the square. I can make you a real deal.

If you are thinking more along the lines of a beverage, I have the components for a reversible beverage. This is the DXE RBS-1P and includes the feed point system and the reflection transformer.

Other items:

Over 400' of hardline - brand new Andrews FSJ4-50B. $1 a foot. I have N connectors for it too.

A Tailtwister with control head. It works but I would take it apart first and lube it.

A USB Microkeyer (not the Microkeyer II)

A Micro 6 port antenna switch (looks brand new)

Two DXE Baluns BAL050-H05-A (50 ohm to 50 ohm). Both are a bit weathered.

An Icom IC-80AD handheld with new battery. This has D-Star.

A number of cables for the MicroKeyer II - most for Icoms

People ask why I don't have prices. First, I am looking for a good home for this stuff (that means someone who wants to use it, not resell it) and the estate isn't looking for top dollar. Make me an offer and you might be surprised what is considered reasonable. Never be afraid to ask. You can ask me for pictures and my honest opinion at n7wa at arrl dot net. Dink, N7WA.

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

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.

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:

Kip Edwards, W6SZN
PO Box 178
Indianola, WA 98342
Email: kedwards@ltol.com

Deadline for each issue is the last Friday of the preceding month.
Material from the *Totem Tabloid* may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, provided credit is given to the *Totem Tabloid*, the author or source (if noted) and the WWDXC (except for author copyrighted works bearing the author's copyright notice).

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