WESTERN WASHINGTON DX CLUB, INC.

# TotemTabloid

September 2017

# NEXT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 12

© Jack Nichols Photography

Justin, K5EM, travelled to the Blue Mountains in eastern Oregon for both a little radio and a little eclipse viewing. He'll regale us with stories of the NAQP, satellite operation and the setup, operations and lessons learned.

**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

Well, I hope you've all been enjoying the nice summer we are having. I know propagation hasn't exactly been good on the high bands, but the low bands should be kicking in soon. Just in time for the contest season!

My family and I sure had a great time at the club picnic in July. If you attended I am sure you did too. A special thank you to Melanie, N7BX and Rob, N7QT for hosting the picnic at their lovely home. Melanie flew all the way from Vermont for the event!

A few weeks ago the NW DX Convention was hosted by the Spokane DX Association and the Idaho DX Association. The new venue was very nice for a convention. Both clubs did an excellent job of organizing the event. Thank you!

Next year's DX convention will be held in British Columbia August 3-5th. Watch for details for getting reservations at the beautiful hotel on the Fraser River at the convention website www.pacificnwdxconvention.com .

Next week, September 12th, we are back in regular club mode as we start having our regular club meetings again. You don't want to miss Justin, K5EM's program on his recent trip to watch the eclipse. Of course, his trip included some radio time!

The weekend immediately following, our famous Salmon Run QSO party starts the contest season. I sure hope you blocked out a bunch of time that weekend for the contest. How can you beat a contest that starts at 9am local time?

I'll see you at the club meeting and then on the air for the Salmon Run!

# Random Comments From the Editor

Well, the Tabloid is back after a brief summer vacation. I had hoped to be able to fill my column with stories of all the DX I had worked since the last issue, but that would be a *very* short story. The Eclipse QSO Party provided some activity since June but that's been about it; the spotting net that I monitor has been pretty quiet all summer and even most of the JAs have taken the summer off and no longer fill 40 meters CW in the early mornings. Topband is starting to show signs of coming alive: LU5OM is there every morning and ZL3IX was pounding in this morning (Friday) and there were some ZLs and VKs on phone higher in the band.

The photo on page 1 is courtesy of my nephew, Jack Nichols. He and his Mother (my sister) made the trek to Madras, Oregon to watch the eclipse and he's becoming an accomplished photographer. I may have distorted the photo some in getting it to fit but it turned out well, I think. It was a far better view than I had from Kitsap County, where the temperature dropped and some areas were shaded but it was nothing compared to the "totality" experience of those who made the trip.

The Houston area is a real tragedy, thanks to Hurricane Harvey. I've forced myself to watch the news each morning and it is heartbreaking to see what is happening to people there. It will be years before that area recovers, especially because 4 out of 5 affected families are reported not to have flood insurance. Imagine for a moment if that were you, wading in waist deep water to escape a home you might not see again—and then go to www.redcross.org and make a donation. Walmart is double-matching contributions to the Red Cross.

## Pirates on the Air

From The Daily DX: "For more than a year now an Amateur Radio operator from Southern Europe has been pirating the following calls on CW. It started off with VU2TS, but only on CW. Then he was switching between VU2TS and 4U1ITU, when the club was using 4U1WRC, again CW only. Next he began using 5H3PM, CW only. The pirate has now recently switched over to 5H3MG again CW only.

I have confirmed with Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) that both 5H3 calls are not currently registered calls. The signals are clearly coming from Southern Europe. … Surely someone from Southern Europe knows who is doing this and can help put an end to this."

# 2017 Salmon Run

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

The 2017 Washington Salmon Run will be held on September 16 and 17; 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. Several clubs will be active in the Salmon Run including the Radio Club of Redmond, Spokane DX Association, Kitsap County ARC, Radio Club of Tacoma and others.

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 2017 Washington Salmon Run Committee: K7EDX, N7UK, K7SR, K7DSE, N7WA, K7BTW and K7WA.

For more information see the Western Washington DX Club website: www.wwdxc.org

# The 2017 Salmon Run and W7DX

Mike “Dink” Dinkelman, N7WA

I expect Jim K7WA will have an article about Salmon Run somewhere in the Tabloid. Last year I entertained the idea of being the W7DX bonus station. When I asked, I was told I could do it. My first thoughts were for a multi-single or a multi-multi at my place. However, as I thought about it, my #1 goal was to have W7DX on all modes all the time and I don't think I could have supported that equipment-wise (or operator-wise). So I have contracted out the effort and we'll be running in the Unlimited class.

Up in Clallam County, I talked Chuck, N7BV into doing the RTTY/Digital portion. He likes that mode and has helpers who also like it.

Over in Mason County, I talked Guy, N7ZG into being the SSB station. Guy has a very potent station (he added some big iron that gets him to the legal limit this past Spring) and he likes SSB more than I do. I appreciate him taking on that burden. It's a tough job but someone has to do it. I think he is planning on going it alone but I bet he wouldn't turn down help if somebody offered.

Here in King county, I will do the CW portion. I have another operator from Field Day (Dick, W7UDH) who is coming over to spell me. I don't think I would turn down another if someone was interested. I still have to get a couple NVIS antennas up. I might also park the truck in the backyard and hook up the KX3 directly to the SteppIR with 100 watts to cover 15/10M during the day. Not expecting much out of those bands but nothing ventured, nothing gained.

The original thought was to have N1MM+ running on a central server in the cloud and we would all link up together. It hasn't been working out quite right but maybe we'll get that resolved yet; we still have a couple weeks. Either way, we will all be running N1MM+ so we can easily combine the logs post-contest using ADI files and anybody that wants W7DX should be able to get it on the mode of his/her choice.

This will be my first non-mobile Salmon Run in many years. I am going to miss my Fall trip through eastern Washington. However, there is something said for sleeping in one's own bed. Hope we work you. It won't be for a lack of trying.

## Northwest Trophy Competition Wrap-up for 2016-2017

Mike “Dink” Dinkelman, N7WA

I was rather shocked and happy when I saw the final results of the Northwest Trophy Competition this year. No, the WWDXC did not win (which you would know if you went to the convention in Spokane). However, Orca didn't win either. I was starting to feel they had a permanent lock on the trophy after the past several years. However, based on the strength of a couple of stations in their region, the WVDXC took the trophy home this time. Maybe there is hope for us as well.

Here are the final totals: (sorry for the formatting but converting Excel spreadsheets to a text document can be a pain)

| CLUB | CQ WW RTTY | CQ WW SSB | CQ WW CW | ARRL RTTY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BCDXC** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Orca** | 5,129,662 | 4,931,680 | 7,304,274 | 136,916 |
| **SDXA** | 76,267 | 207,628 | 350,166 | 194,116 |
| **WVDXC** | 9,263,588 | 5,800,771 | 8,649,171 | 465,123 |
| **WWDXC** | 4,247,067 | 1,607,024 | 2,745,229 | 399,604 |
| **IDXA** | 199,416 | 347,412 | 669,724 | 12,557 |

| CLUB | CQ WPX RTTY | ARRL CW | ARRL SSB | CQ WPX SSB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BCDXC** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Orca** | 2,942,862 | 756,561 | 652,716 | 11,820,375 |
| **SDXA** | 1,119,085 | 715,935 | 249,540 | 409,036 |
| **WVDXC** | 9,504,775 | 5,276,425 | 3,462,825 | 11,732,286 |
| **WWDXC** | 7,742,277 | 4,693,743 | 887,073 | 3,857,055 |
| **IDXA** | 99,601 | 0 | 1,728 | 1,296 |

| CLUB | CQ WPX CW | IARU | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| **BCDXC** | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Orca** | 4,673,651 | 1,106,453 | 39,455,150 |
| **SDXA** | 82,980 | 126,313 | 3,531,066 |
| **WVDXC** | 11,989,241 | 1,278,484 | 67,422,689 |
| **WWDXC** | 5,810,583 | 2,579,577 | 34,569,232 |
| **IDXA** | 159,222 | 3,256 | 1,494,212 |

It would seem that Orca has completed its complete absorption of the BCDXC (when it comes to scores anyway). It's obvious that we do better in RTTY and CW but we are not dominant in either. We are weak when it comes to SSB. When I view the individual scores, our top dogs (> 1M points) are the following stations:

| | |
|---|---|
| K7BTW | 3,305,228 |
| K7RI | 9,236,841 |
| K7RL | 2,694,855 |
| KZ1W | 4,187,150 |
| N7QT | 4,280,690 |
| N7ZG | 1,591,200 |
| W7OM | 2,387,210 |
| W7WA | 1,283,790 |
| WC7Q | 1,575,893 |

It's been tough for me lately to commit to the effort to make this level but that will be my goal for 2017-2018. I also know of at least one other station that I think would make this goal but does not regularly publish scores. You really need to send to 3830 or the WWDXC reflector if you want your scores to count. I am not going to hound people for scores. If you are sending scores into the log sponsor, don't forget 3830.

You may find it interesting to look up KA6BIM on QRZ.com. This station provided over 25% of the WVDXC single-op totals (11 million of 39 million). The other advantage for the WVDXC is the multi-op situation (NK7U, K7ZS, WS7L, W7VO). The multi-op totals contributed 27 million of the WVDXC's 67 million points.

What will 2017-2018 provide when it comes to propagation? It's anybody's guess.

## 2017 W7PHO Scholarship Awarded

(From Tom Frenaye, K1KI, President, ARRL Foundation):

"On behalf of the ARRL Foundation Officers and Board, I am pleased to announce the 2017 recipient of The William Bennett, W7PHO, Memorial Scholarship in the amount of $500.

Maya A. Schulz, KK6TBY of Cedarville, California has been selected for The William Bennett, W7PHO, Memorial Scholarship from an outstanding group of applicants. Scholarship recipients were recently notified of their awards, and we have already had many replies conveying their excitement and appreciation.

Scholarships through the ARRL Foundation would not be available without the support of thoughtful and generous sponsors such as you. Thank you for making The William Bennett, W7PHO, Memorial Scholarship possible, and for aiding a student Amateur Radio operator in his/her pursuit of higher education. I am confident that these young people will be successful in their careers, and in representing Amateur Radio as well.

Again, many thanks for your support of this award. If you have any questions, please contact ARRL Foundation Secretary Lauren Clarke, KB1YDD at ARRL (lclarke@arrl.org or 860-594-0348).

Best 73, Tom Frenaye, K1KI, President, ARRL Foundation"

(And from the Recipient):

“Greetings,

My name is Maya Schulz and I am the recipient of the William Bennett, W7PHO, Memorial Scholarship. I would like to thank you very much for providing this scholarship. Your support means a whole lot to me, and I will always be grateful for your generosity. I plan to study zoology and music in college. Thank you very much for everything that you do!

Sincerely, Maya Shulz, KK6TBY”

## 2017 Pacific Northwest DX Convention

It seems that a good part of the WWDXC membership was at the Northwest DX Convention. It looks like it was my only chance (other than the Fleamarket) to see anybody in person this year. I had fun and really enjoyed the new venue. I took a couple walks through Riverfront Park (site of Expo '74). However, the smoke and haze from the wildfires made the stuff on the west side of the mountains look tame.

The nightly hospitality suite was great and the "late night" crowd was in true form. The lack of sleep did present issues for me, especially after lunch on Saturday. Tim, NL8F from Dutch Harbor got a little talking in about "smoking" (fish and meat for those who were thinking of something else). He gave me a couple ideas to try out.

I always enjoy the presentation on PJ2T by Geoff, WØCG. Having been there, it brings back memories and causes great desire to go back. Someday...

The presentation on the 7th District QSO Party by Dick K4XU peaked my interest. It's a great contest just one notch below our own Salmon Run. To stay in form, between the last program and the banquet I did go out and work about 13 stations in the NAQP before it got too hot to stay in the truck.

The presentation on propagation by Karl, K9LA was interesting but just confirmed everybody's suspicions that the solar cycles won't be getting better any time soon. Time to learn to love the low bands.

Carl, K9LA

Many thanks to the Spokane and Idaho DX associations for putting this on. I'm going to send a few pictures to Kip and maybe he'll include some.

Kip, W6SZN, Brian, N9ADG (listening intently to SZN) and Rich, W6RS

[Editor's Note: The raffle was set up in a way I've not seen before. Rather than one big tub for tickets, there was a separate container for each of the raffle prizes. This let you focus on the stuff you really wanted and avoid the stuff you didn't want—and presumably increase

your odds of winning what you wanted. There were more than a few groans when Adam had the winning ticket for the SteppIR CrankIR.]

Walt, K7ZQ and Dick, K7BTW

## The WWDXC Summer Picnic

The picnic this year was great! Rob, N7QT, and Melanie, N7BX once again made their QTH available for the event. The weather cooperated and the food/drink was plentiful. Adam tells me that there were over 40 folks in attendance. Here are a few photos:

Jim, K7WA and Sharon

Walt, K7ZQ and Boon-Eng

Rich, W6RS and Conrad, N5CR

Frank, K7GSE

Sam, WC7Q and Rob, KD7H

Some unidentified interloper

ARRL Amateur Radio

KITSAP COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB KC7Z www.kcarc.org

# OCTOBER 14TH, 2017

## Kitsap County Amateur Radio Club 2017 Hamfest

**Admission $5**
**(UNDER 12 FREE)**

It's all happening at the
West Side Improvement Club
4109 W E St
Bremerton, WA 98312

Email hamfest@kcarc.org

Doors open 9 am till 1 pm

Door Prizes drawn every 30 minutes

Grand Prize drawing for MFJ-269C

Free Parking

Talk-in Frequency
444.075 Mhz Tone 103.5

**More Information at kcarc-hamfest@googlegroups.com**

# Membership Update—September 2017

Jim Hadlock, K7WA

The Western Washington DX Club welcomes one new member this month:

John Maikisch, K2AZ, of West Seattle

The major club activity this month is the Washington State Salmon Run coming up September 16th and 17th sponsored by the WWDXC. The County Activity List is filling up on the website – please let us know if you're planning to be active and we'll add you to the list. The Club call sign, W7DX, will be active on CW (thanks Mike Dinkelman, N7WA), SSB (thanks Guy Molinari, N7ZG) and RTTY (thanks Chuck Jones, N7BV) handing out QSOs and Bonus Points for each mode.

If you haven't yet responded to the 2017-2018 Renewal Letter sent out in early July, please considering supporting the Club and its activities this coming year. If you did not receive a Renewal Letter you are paid up at least through December 2017.

Good luck in the Salmon Run and 73. Jim, K7WA

# The California QSO Party--Change in the Club Competition

Jim, K7WA, forwarded the following about the CQP. Maybe there's some interest in going after the Small Club plaque?

Dear Contest Club Official:

Club Competition in the California QSO Party has been supported for many years, but traditionally only a handful of larger clubs in California tend to compete each year. To encourage more small-medium club participation for 2017, we've created three new competition categories:

a. "Small" = the 10 highest scores from a club whose members who submitted their log in the Small category will count for this competition category.

b. "Medium" = the 35 highest scores from a club whose members who submitted their log in the Medium category will count for this competition category.

c. "Large" = clubs may combine the scores of any number of their members

All ARRL-affiliated or RAC-affilliated clubs are eligible to compete in CQP, except for NCCC, which sponsors the contest.

Plaques will be awarded for each of the 3 categories for both California and Non-California clubs: a total of 6 awards.

Further details can be found on the CQP website: http://www.cqp.org/Clubcomp.html

Date-Time Reminder: 1600 UTC October 7, 2017 to 2200 UTC October 8, 2017

We hope to see many members of your club on the air this October in the 52nd running of the California QSO Party!

73,

John, K6MM
CQP Chair
*35 days and counting…*

# September 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 September 5, 2017 (with no representations that the information is accurate, complete and/or won't change):

| | |
|---|---|
| Galapagos (HD8M) | September 14-21, 2017 |
| Botswana (A25??) | September 15-25, 2017 |
| Mauritania (5T5OK) | September 16-28, 2017 |
| Temotu (H4ØGC) | September 30-October 20, 2017 |
| Christmas (VK9XI) | October 2-10, 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

**FOR SALE:**

Orion 2800 heavy duty rotator with M2 model RC2800PK controller. $400

Elecraft K3/O radio for remote operation with both RRC-1258 MK11 interface units and all cables. Unit was never installed and still in original box. $500

Icom 706 MKIIG with power cable $500.

Icom PS740 Power supply in original box. Has never been connected. $20

Hy-Gain Tailtwister rotator with controller. $200

Kenwood SP-950 speaker with audio filters $10

MFJ Audio Econo Keyer 11 with power supply and manual key monted on a piece of wood. Great for learning CW. $5

Tektronix Model 2213A oscilloscope $25

Top-Ten Device six way antenna relay box with band decoder and power supply which were never used. $200

KJ7U screwdriver antenna. Never installed and in original container with controller and cables for mobile installation. $200

PSRM-1 Power supply and relay assembly $10

Omega-model TE7-01 relay assembly $10

DX Engineering 9:1 beverage antenna matching transformer $15

Iron Horse model IH4501 heavy duty magnetic mount antenna base consisting of 4-5" magnets. $50

Hustler vertical antenna resonators for 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 mtrs. $100

QSA 805 mic. $5

Three new RS 270 series enclosures for kit making $15

Random wire antenna tuner $5

Foot Switch $5

Elenco AC/DC Model XP-720 power supply $25

Elenco Model FG-500 Function generator $10

Saratoga Power Panel-8 $10

MFJ model 852 Power line noise meter. $75

Ten different "Y" cable connectors for various radio microphone and PTT connectors. $100.

All equipment is located in Sequim, Washington and must be picked up on the site. If interested contact Roger Huntley, W7VV, 100 Amethyst Drive, Sequim, WA
H 360-683-3612 C 206-714-0244 rnshuntley@gmail.com

**FOR SALE:** Vintage (1950's) Collins 32V-3 AM/CW transmitter very good condition. (Has not been used in many years.) $500 OBO or trade? K7im@icloud.com

TOTEM TABLOID
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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