



# SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

## W4NT

*THE  
SOUTH'S  
PREMIER  
DX CLUB*

February 2002

**Next meeting: February 19th, 7:30 PM  
at Radioshack.com just outside  
I-285 on the Buford Highway.**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**-Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE, Pres.**

As Willy Wonka said, "so much time and so little to do" or was it "so little time and so much to do"? An extremely busy January and February at work has severely hampered my DX'ing time. I have not followed the premise that one should not let his work spoil his radio time.

I hope everyone made the contacts they wanted with South Sandwich and South Georgia Islands. I got both countries on two modes and several bands. My ability to make more contacts with South Georgia was limited by the "jammers" and "band cops" on the DX transmit frequency. Many times I just got tired of it and turned the radio off hoping for better luck next time. I do not remember those types of activities when I first became a Ham and first started working DX in the early 90's. Perhaps I could not hear the "jammers", etc." then with my R7 vertical.... unlikely! I am thankful for the time, effort, and money given by the members of the VP8 DXpedition. Many thanks to Bob Allphin, K4UEE and Wes Lamboley, W3WL for their time and effort spent making the VP8 Dxpediton another Great Dxpediton.

I was able to spend a little time working the CQWW 160M contest last month. I did not have time to spend but a few hours, but I was able to get several new countries on 160M. For my city-lot 160M setup, a typical "country" has been the state next door. I was able to make 97 Q's (following N4XMX up the band) and several countries in the Caribbean plus Italy. This contest seemed friendly and was quite enjoyable. I look forward to next year, hopefully with a better showing. I have submitted my score in the name of the SEDXC and hope everyone else has done the same. Now to work some contests for the SECC to pay them

back for their contribution to the 160M Contest for the SEDXC.

The search for a new meeting QTH is going slowly. Initially I was looking only for free locations. I have not located any ones that are free and will now concentrate on those requiring a nominal fee. Thanks to all who have made suggestions and comments. Any further leads or suggestions are still welcome. Regardless of any "concrete" arrangements by March, we will have a place to hold a meeting.

See you at the meeting this month. We will meet at Baldinos around 1800-1830 for a Last Supper their since this will be out last meeting at RadioShack.com.

GUD DX and...73,

Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE

### **FROM THE VP**

**-Wes Lamboley, W3WL**

Gone fishing.... (to SSI and SG!)

Best, Wes

### **NEW CLUSTER COMMANDS**

#### **DX PACKET FREQ.**

N4XMX (2400) 144.91 (direct or GNTNOD),  
(2400) 145.65 (direct or ARCDX)

KS4Q (2400) 145.01 MHz; 'c saw3'  
(2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw4'  
(1200) 145.63 MHz; 'c saw5'

Once you get a connect on any of the three above frequencies, enter 'c saw1'. Once you get a connect to saw1, enter 'c ks4q' or simply 'dx'.

or telnet ks4q.dns2go.com

# MINUTES FOR JANUARY

**-Dale Nordin, K4HGG, Sec.**

Our president Jim-W4TE called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. with 22 members and 6 visitors present.

After introductions, the minutes published in the last newsletter, were approved. Ron-K4SX became a new member while David-K4UQC renewed his membership.

The treasurer's report noted that there was \$560.15 in the Packet Cluster Fund and \$2,351.66 in the SEDXC bank account, with total assets of \$2,911.81.

Jim announced that the SEDXC is once again a Special Service Club. Details of this status may be found on <www. arrl.org>.

**Old Business:** Rick-N4XMX reported that the packet repeater on 144.09 MHz. on Saunee Mountain was up and running. See the November newsletter for the packet frequencies. Rick-N4XMX was thanked for his work on the packet clusters.

**New Business:** It was reported that Bob Alphin was planning another DXpedition, this time to the S. Sandwich and Georgia Islands. The club donated SEDXC pin and patches to Bob to be distributed to the Dxpedition members. It was noted that this would be a privately funded Dxpedition.

Jim announced that SEDX Club patches were available for purchase for \$2.50 ea.

Bill-N4NX announced that he will take over the handling of outgoing QSL cards from Gary Poorman-K4VT. Gary's schedule will not allow him to continue in this position. Bill also announced that he had IRCs for \$.90 each.

Jim announced that the club by-laws need scrutinizing and updating for the year 2002.

The 160-meter contest scores should be credited to the SEDXC with the SECC scores added to ours. All other contest scores should be credited to the SECC (voluntary)

John-K4BAI submitted a motion that the club sponsor a "Low Power DX Plaque for the Georgia QSO Party". The motion was seconded and passed.

Two requests for support were received for 1) A DXpedition to XR0X (CE0X) (#20 on the most wanted list) and 2) TI9-Cocos Isl. (#25 on the most wanted list). Both

requests were tabled until next month's meeting.

JIM REQUESTED THAT THE CLUB MAKE A DILIGENT SEARCH FOR A NEW MEETING PLACE., SUCH AS A LIBRARY MEETING ROOM, CHURCH HALL ETC. AS WE MUST FIND A NEW MEETING PLACE BY THE MARCH MEETING.

**Program Notes:** January's program consisted of a lecture/discussion by Jim-W4TE, on how to protect your station from lightning strikes and the proper grounding of the station. Several handouts were passed around showing the best grounding techniques with inputs from various club members..

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Dale - K4HGG / SM1WRI

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

**-Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE, Tres.**

SEDXC Club Bank balances as of 1-2-2002 are as follows:

SEDXC	\$ 2351.66
Packet Cluster Account	\$560.15
TOTAL	\$2911.81

We have a new money making venture. The Club now has embroidered SEDXC logo patches which will be sold for \$2.50 each. These look very nice and can go on any article of clothing or even cloth type luggage. The club made \$64.00 last meeting from patch sales.

There were two new members this month. Financially the club is sound.

Jim Kauten, MD, W4TE

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# TURN IN YOUR 160 M SCORES!!

## SAWNEE CLUSTER UPDATE

**-Ernie, KS4Q**

The computer on Sawnee that been removed from service. The drawback of the computer was that it tended to need rebooting every few days or it would crash. The TNCs now have intelligent eeproms in them and should work well around the clock day in and day out. The serial ports are linked to each other through a diode matrix. Each TNC can talk to every other TNC.

Some fine tuning of the TNC parameters will need to be done after I have the chance to observe it some.

Access is as follows:

'c sawnee' does not work anymore! 'c ax1 ks4q' is not a valid command!

2400 bps 145.01 MHz; 'c saw3'  
2400 bps 144.97 MHz; 'c saw4'  
1200 bps 145.63 MHz; 'c saw5'

Once you get a connect on any of the three above frequencies, enter 'c saw1'

Once you get a connect to saw1, enter 'c ks4q' or simply 'dx'.

When you disconnect, you will have to keep saying bye until you get '\*\*\* Disconnect' from your TNC!

I'm relatively new to using intelligent eeproms in TNCs and may discover a way to simplify the connect process. But for now, the above works and will get you your spots! Please let me know if you have any difficulty getting in.

You may also continue to access via telnet at: ks4q.dns2go.com

73, Ernie KS4Q

## REMOTE CLUSTER PORTS

**-Ernie, KS4Q**

One of the many neat things about the AR-Cluster software is the ability to provide remote RF portals. With this setup, users can connect to a remote RF portal, and (unknown to them come over the internet) and log into the KS4Q cluster.

Some of you may be interested in providing this service for hams in your area. It is a means of creating or renewing some interest in DXing. Not everyone has an 'always on' internet connection. Those that do have one can provide a service to their area if there is not already good RF cluster access.

All it takes is a readily available 1200 bps TNC, a used two meter rig, an old computer and a full time internet connection. I'll help you with the software configuration which is in fact, not too complicated. If anyone is interested in providing this service, contact me at ks4q@arrl.net

73, Ernie, KS4Q

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## DX TIDBITS

**-Rick Glisson, N4XXM**

Jim, W4UCK, and I went back up the the ARCDX site and put back in the cavity that Ernie, KS4Q, graciously retuned for us. We also attached a proper grounding clamp also supplied by Ernie from the coax surge protector to the provided grounding cable. Installation was quick and we were out in 20 minutes. Ernie also reprogrammed the ROM at ARCDX so that users can after connecting to ARCDX simply type "dx" or c n4xmx to connect to me. During the RTTY contest last weekend, I had 10 users connected to me, half on each frequency. Most of the 145.65 people were coming through ARCDX.

I also upgraded the computer running the cluster software from a 180 MHz Pentium Pro to a 800 MHz P-III. Makes a difference on this end, should help the users get their spots quicker. Use the cluster, that's what is there for.

CU in the pileups...

-73 Rick, N4XXM

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The SEDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southeastern DX Club . All opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, officers, or club. We welcome your opinion.



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or telnet ks4q.dns2go.com

NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75  
K4UGA (Athens)(2400) 145.67 (SE Megaclst)  
(telnet 128.192.52.40 599, must put in port 599)

## DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.

Simplex 147.54

K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz)  
147.195+

**SEDXC WEBPAGE** [www.sedxc.org](http://www.sedxc.org)  
**SEDXC REFLECTOR** [sedxc@contesting.com](mailto:sedxc@contesting.com)

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**February 19th, 7:30 PM**  
**Radioshack.com**