



SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB W4NT

*THE
SOUTH'S
PREMIER
DX CLUB*

December 2004

NO December Meeting. Instead, party December 18th 6-9 PM at Jim's, W4TE!!! Happy Holidays!! See you there!! Next club meeting in January.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

--Wes Lamboley, W3WL

This is heady stuff to have VU4 on the air. I wish you the best of luck in nailing them!! Speaking of heady stuff, I continue to marvel at what Chaz has done on the website. The headshots of the members are terrific. My photo was not so good it looked just like me. I asked Chaz if he could take some of the gray out of my temples, darken up my eyebrows and remove the jowls I know there is software out there that can do it. Chaz outdid himself; my wife was very pleased with the results!

Our last meeting was a real inspiration. Ken, K4TEA, gave a presentation that made us all FEEL the excitement of working the 160-meter band. I felt some of that excitement during the ARRL 160 contest when I worked a KH6 on the first call in the middle of a pileup. WOW! Now all I need is KL7 for WAS 160.

I am about to complete the iEmergency Communications course offered by the ARRL. I have learned a lot, as you might expect. This is a very comprehensive course, not the walkover I was expecting. Sandy, W4RU, told me "Just take a few hours on a weekend and do it." Yea right. This course has raised my awareness level 30 db on emergency commo, and also elevated my respect for the ARRL about 10 db. The reference resources on the Leagues web site are used throughout the course, and made me more aware of fundamentally why we are here. I highly recommend the course to anyone!

Best

Wes – Whiskey 3 Whiskey Lemur

FROM THE VP

-Al Ludwick, N4ZZK, VP

This is always a busy time of year and with business travel, not a lot to spare. But there is always some time to be found for a little DXing.

VU4 - ANDAMAN ISL Expedition is on the air (sadly, no CW so far).

CONGO, TN. Baldur, DJ6SI is QRV as TN6X. (I needed this one and got lucky before work one morning)

I also got a chance to give a little assistance to Tom /N4XP who is preparing a new tower and a Steppir Antenna. It's planned to go up on Dec 18, so there may be some stories to tell at the holiday party.

No program and meeting this month — we are all looking forward to the Holiday Party at the QTH of Jim / W4TE. Here is the program for next month:

January Program

Antenna modeling using the popular EZNEC program.

Presented by: Jim Streible, K4DLI

Don't forget to check the web page for information on the other programs planned for the rest of the year.

73 es gd dx, Al
n4zzk@mindspring.com
(770) 554-2658

SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!

Details on website.

MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER

-George Nicholson, N4GRN, Sec.

The November meeting was called to order by Club President Wes, W3WL. There were 16 members present at the meeting. All officers were present. Several drove in from Athens and Milledgeville.

Individual introductions were made immediately after the meeting was called to order.

Harry, W4KJ, gave the Treasurers report. There were new members signed up at the Hamfest. There were several old members who paid dues at the Hamfest. There was no other Treasurer news.

John, N4TOL, discussed the success of the Hamfest and thanked all for participating and manning the booth. John commented on how good the web page is and that it will be a valuable asset. John also announced that HRO donated a copy of ON4UN's "Low Band Dxing" book. This was one of the raffle prizes.

Bill, N4NX, reported that he shipped out 29lbs of QSL cards this year. Bill also discussed that he took pictures of the members at the Hamfest for inclusion on the website. Those that missed the Hamfest had their pictures taken at the meeting. Bill also discussed the information that is available in the members DX section. We have in the SEDXC membership operations from over 100 countries listed at this time.

Wes asked if there was any old business and there was discussion first about contributing to the VU4 Dxpedition. It was decided by vote that we would hold on this until the January meeting.

The next new business was the discussion of contributing to the Desecheo/Navassa Dxpedition this was tabled until January.

The discussion of some type of activity at Dayton 2005 was the next new business discussed. The final decision was that Bill will investigate the cost of a space at the boneyard. There will be further discussion about what to do at the January meeting. There may just be a dinner set for all SEDXC members on Thursday night before the activities begin on Friday.

The final new business was Jim, W4TE, announcing that he and his wife would be hosting the Christmas party at their home on December 18, 2004, from 6PM to 9PM. Please respond to the "evite" when it arrives.

At approximately 8:00PM there was a break and raffle tickets were sold by Harry.

Harry held the raffle and there were several winners of the merchandise contributed by members and HRO.

The Vice President Al, N4ZZK, introduced the guest speaker Ken Byers, K4TEA. Ken discussed his many years experience working the 160M band. The discussion covered procedures, antennas, and in general the great enjoyment he has working 160M. This was a very interesting and informative presentation. Ken and Mike, K4PI, are both well know in the 160 M arena. Ken recommended that if you are interested check out the top band reflector at <http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/topband>. This is a very good place to gather info about 160M. I have been subscribing for about a year now and constantly find great new information.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15PM.

For those that I do not see at the SEDXC Christmas party, I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I will miss the January and possible the February meetings due to the Peter I Dxpedition. See you in the "pile-ups" from Peter I in January/February, 2005.

George Nicholson N4GRN, Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

-Harry Saunders, W4KJ, Tres.

Here is the December Treasurer's report:

SEDXC Treasury	\$3445.06
Packet Fund	\$ 350.15
Total Balance	\$3795.21

It is good to see some of our past members renewing their memberships and hopefully going to join us for future meetings. It sure would be nice to see some of those familiar faces once again. Thanks for your support of the Southeastern DX Club!

I hope many of you are planning on attending the Club's Holiday Party at Jim and Deanna Kauten's wonderful home. We have an added incentive for you to be there. We will be having some VERY NICE door prizes that night and you won't want to miss the chance to be the lucky one to take one home. You will just have to be there to see what I am talking about. Trust me, you will like them. See you there and bring your spouse because there is something for them too. Of course, if someone wants bring something else to add to the door prizes, that would be extra special.

Harry Saunders, W4KJ
Treasurer

ACTIVITIES

-John Tramontanis, N4TOL

No report this month.

73 – John N4TOL, Activities

DX TIDBITS

-Rick, N4XXM, editor

Last month I reported that my large 20-160M had its top cap wire dislodged when I took down the branch it was tangled in (45' up). During the 160M contest, I noticed that I had trouble making contacts. I then checked the SWR of the large GAP and it would not load. I struggled with the 80M loop. The dangling wire was touching part of the main antenna.

The next morning after studying the situation, I remembered that I had bought ten 4' sections of fiberglass poles that fit together from Allen Bond, WB4GNT, at the Stone Mountain hamfest. Since lifting 45' of pole from the horizontal would not work, I used a different method. I first taped a forked branch on top of a two section aluminum painters pole. Then I tape a section of the fiberglass pole to the bottom. I then raised that vertically and with the help of my harmonic, JoAnne, KF4YOQ, I fed sections of the fiberglass underneath. This lifted the pole straight up until we had the height we needed. The forked branch caught the wire and I lifted it up over the top the spoke wheel arrangement. The SWR was now perfect and I was back in business for the next night. Made about 200 contacts on 160M including KH6, a new one for me.

The VU4 has been on for two weeks now and I have not been able to hear the first word. I have followed them all during the day on weekend, nothing but static. 20M which should be good for me has yielded nothing. Short path, long path, morning, evening, no difference. Even considering assembling the 40M beam and hang it from a tree! I'm hoping Jim, W4TE, will have his super station reading during the Xmas party! Of course, being in at the bottom of the cycle might have something to do with it.

CU in the pileups...

- Rick, N4XXM

DX 425 NEWS

-Edited by I1JQJ & IK1ADHN4TOL

VU4- The five operators at Port Blair, Andaman (VU4NRO and VU4RBI) have different stations on the air simultaneously. Reports indicate that they have one beam installed without rotor. Some pirate CW activity was reported during the very first days; the genuine VU4RBI operated on 15m CW for about one hour on 8 December. Activity is expected to continue through 31 December.

Charles Harpole, K4VUD/HS0ZCW is currently in Thailand and expects to arrive at Port Blair, Andaman Island on 14 December for a two-week visit. He says he "will carry all advice on operating practices and propagation openings to the team". He adds that he will be "travelling to Andaman Islands as a tourist to photograph and video the VU4 DXpedition. As a non-India citizen, I do not have an operating permit for that location. I do hold a one-year India license, VU3CHE, but it is licensed for operations in New Delhi only".

Bookmark <http://www.niar.org/vnews.html> (niarvu4@gmail.com) for official information.

VU4 PROPAGATION CHARTS ---> Andaman chasers in the US may take advantage of the set of short-path and long-path propagation forecasts between each of the 10 continental US call areas and the Andaman Islands prepared by Dave, AA6YQ (http://www.ambersoft.com/Amateur_Radio/VU4). He has used PropView, which produces a graphical display emulating propagation charts that show likely openings across a 24-hour UTC day. Those outside the US can generate their own forecasts; PropView is free and can be found at <http://www.qsl.net/propview/>

S2- Manjurul, S21AM and Dave, EI3IO (<http://EI3IO.com>) will operate from Char Dakhin Shahbazpur (Bhola Island, AS-140) on 4-7 February. A special call sign is being sought from the licensing authority. Two 100 watt CW/SSB MF/HF stations will be operational and activity on all bands is planned, subject to antenna availability. A 30m communications tower is on-site and half slopers are being considered for 160 metres and 80/30 metres. QSL via EI3IO direct (Dave Court, 'Connogue', River Lane, Shankill, Co. Dublin, Ireland) or bureau. Logs will be uploaded to LoTW. [TNX EI3IO]

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DX PACKET FREQ. (Corrections, 1/2/04)

N4XXM (2400) 144.91 (direct, Vinings),
(2400) 145.65 (direct or ATLDX)
KS4Q (2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw3'
(2400) 145.63 MHz; 'c saw4'
(1200) 145.69 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 dx.ks4q.net

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
SEDXC REFLECTOR sedxc@contesting.com

**Next meeting: Xmas Party at W4TE's
December 18th, 6-9PM. See you
there! Next club meeting in January.**