



"Ohio First DXCC Field Checking Club"

The NODXA RAG

NO8DX - Special Event Callsign
W8DXA - NODXA Repeater 147.360
K8MR - PacketCluster 144.91 & 145.57

Web-site: <http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>

Newsletter: wd8iou@arrl.net

Northern Ohio DX Association
P.O. Box 450783
Westlake, Ohio
44145 U.S.A.



March 2003

Fireside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DX'ers,

A lot has happened since I wrote my last "Fireside". I am still attending Cardiac Rehab, I am a year older, and I have returned to work. It actually feels great to be outdoors after being cooped up in the house for three months. However, my full strength is still not there.

As far as DX goes, the VP6DIA operation has come and gone, but there are still other activities on the air to keep you interested. There is one DXCC entity that has gone silent since last month. With the war in Iraq, there has been no legitimate activity since late February.

Someone asked me what I thought would happen to amateur radio in Iraq. My opinion/feeling is amateur radio in Iraq may become silent for a short duration. However, depending on the outcome of the war (and we all know the probable outcome) activity from Iraq will possibly be similar to what happened in Afghanistan. A new government will be set up and the possible

first amateur radio stations to be active would be operators who work for the UN. It is an interesting situation, but we have to wait and see.

Lastly, I am hoping that this newsletter is sent out before the April meeting. You should have heard/received (via E-mail) an announcement that the club will be at in a different location for the April meeting. This "may" be a possible new meeting place for future monthly meetings. A decision will be made at the April meeting. We would like to have a good turnout for the meeting and especially for the dinner (this is very important). Details on the location and a menu should be somewhere in this newsletter. I hope to see you at the "BoneYard" in April.

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

Special NODXA Meeting Location!

Please see the announcement on page two.

Minutes of the March 3rd, 2003 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 8:01PM by Tedd, KB8NW, and followed by the around the room introductions by 19 members/guests in attendance.

Mary, N8DMM, reports a balance of Ka-Ching! in the treasury, also that our insurance carrier informs us that we have terrorist coverage on our equipment.

The packet cluster has trouble with the link as explained to us by Pete, N8TR.

Denny, WB8K, reports that the NOARS 145.150 mhz repeater is now up and working.

Articles and related information for the newsletter are requested by Dave, WD8IOU, our editor.

George, K8KR, reported on the Committee on Dxpedition Recognition, and was followed by a discussion.

John, K8YSE, reminds the membership to inform the club on any E-mail changes and also informs us that the new roster is available on the website.

Nominations for Officers for the year 2003 was opened by Tedd, KB8NW.

For Secretary, Ron, K8VJG, was nominated by Ray, W8BIN, and seconded by Pete, N8TR.

For Treasurer, Mary, N8DMM, was nominated by John, K8YSE, and seconded by Pete, N8TR.

For Vice-President, Dwaine, K8ME, was nominated by Ron, K8VJG, and seconded by Pete, N8TR.

For President, Tedd, KB8NW, was nominated by Dave, WD8IOU, and seconded by John, K8YSE.

Karl, K8BCK, moved to close the nominations and was seconded by Pete, N8TR. A vote was taken and passed.

Pete, N8TR, moved to accept the nominated candidates as the elected officers for the year 2003 and seconded by John, K8YSE. A vote was taken and passed. Congratulations to all!

Tedd, KB8NW, informs on the ARRL concerns. The single most important activity on the international front at present is the strong involvement of the Staff to achieve and the "harmonization" of the 7MHZ band and removal of shortwave broadcast stations from it.

This effort is quite costly, requiring much overseas and US travel for meetings in foreign countries with treaty delegates and representatives of Amateur Radio organizations in foreign countries. Another major Staff activity is the ongoing battle to protect our frequencies-from throughout essentially the entire radio wave spectrum.

Our Great Lakes Director would like to know if anyone has problems with the QSL Bureau. Send your complaint to Jim Weaver at k8je@arri.net.

The April 07 meeting will be held at the Boneyard Restaurant in Broadview Heights at

the corner of Broadview Road (SR176) and Royalton Road (SR82). A video on WRTC will be shown.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Ron, W8WH, the sum of \$16.00.

A second and third prize, Health at Home Magazines, were won by Denny, WB8K, and Ray, W8BIN.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45PM by Tedd, KB8NW.

Secretary: Ron, K8VJG

Special NODXA Meeting Location!

NODXA will hold its monthly meeting April 7th at 8:00 PM at "The BoneYards" private party room. Members can arrive early for dinner (beginning at 6:30 PM). There will be a program. The "WRTC Finland 2002" video will be shown on a "BIG SCREEN TV".

"The BoneYard" is located in Broadview Heights at 101 West Royalton Road (Route 82) on the Northeast corner of Broadview Road and Route 82.

From I-77: Exit Route 82 West (closet route). From I-71: Exit Route 82 East. Please refer to the map on the last page of this newsletter.

PLEASE ATTEND FOR DINNER: This may be NODXA's new meeting location!

Hamvention Still At Hara Arena

ARRL Letter

Although 2003 marks the last year of a five-year contract to hold Hamvention at Hara Arena, organizers hope to keep the show there for the indefinite future. Rumors crop up each year--and this has been no exception--that this year's event will be the last to take place at the venerable venue near Dayton, Ohio, that's served as Hamvention's home since 1964. Negotiations on a new contract to retain Hara for future shows remain in the offing. Billed as "the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering and trade show," Hamvention 2003 takes place May 16-18.

"We haven't made any decisions yet," Hamvention Production Manager Garry Matthews, KB8GOL, said this week. "We want to get this year's show under our belt and then renegotiate the contract." At the same time, Matthews said, there are no plans to go elsewhere, nor is Hamvention under any threat or pressure to relocate. "There's nothing planned to move," he said. "But," he conceded, "we've looked at alternative locations in case something happens. Anything could happen to Hara."

Matthews says the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association has explored several other possible locations for Hamvention, which has quietly dropped "Dayton" from the

show's official name. Matthews says no other site in the Greater Dayton area will serve the purpose that Hara does. "None of the other venues will support the show at its current size," he said.

Speaking of size, Hamvention reported that attendance for last year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832--down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151. 2002 marked the second year in a row that Hamvention's attendance had dipped.

Attendance climbed to 28,804 in 2000, the year of the ARRL National Convention at Dayton. Matthews has said that any crowd larger than 28,000 starts to push the envelope as far as Hara Arena is concerned--especially the human comfort factor. Hamvention attendance peaked in 1993 at 33,669--before the event date changed from April to May.

As for continued use of Hara Arena, Matthews points out that the building has never been sold, is not for sale now and never has been. As for a new contract with Hara? "We'll evaluate the show after June 1, and we hope to improve some things," he said, without revealing any details.

In the meantime, he's pouring his energy into the arrangements for this year's show, but, he reports, things have been slower to come together in terms of advance sales to visitors and vendors. "If we go to war, people might not want to travel," he said. "There's nothing to panic about, but it's

tougher this year."

Some changes already have been announced. Among other things, Hamvention this year will replace its annual banquet and entertainment with a more low-key award winners' reception at Hara Saturday evening.

Between now and show time, Matthews says Hamvention will--among other moves--boost its advertising and promotion to counteract the sluggish advance sales. "We're going to have a good show," he predicted confidently.

For more information on Hamvention 2003, visit the Hamvention Web site <http://www.hamvention.org>.

Dayton Contest Dinner Tickets Now On Sale

The North Coast Contesters have announced that tickets for the 11th annual Dayton Contest Dinner now are on sale. The dinner will be held Saturday, May 17, 6:30 PM, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in downtown Dayton. Seating is limited, random and not reserved. All dinner ticket orders are handled exclusively by Craig Clark, K1QX, Radioware and Radio Bookstore, PO Box 209, Rindge, NH 03461 <<http://www.radioware.com>>.

Order tickets weekdays by calling toll-free 800-457-7373 or via e-mail <[jjclark at prexar.com](mailto:jjclark@prexar.com)>. Major credit cards are accepted.

Paul Harvey Plugs HAM Radio

ARRL Letter

Veteran ABC Radio Networks commentator Paul Harvey this week offered some kind words for Amateur Radio. The mention was the second item on "page four" of his March 19 Paul Harvey Noon News and Comment program.

"America's quiet warriors are the legion of ham radio operators, 700,000 of them, who are always at ready for backup duty in emergencies--amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornadoes," Harvey said. "After the 9/11 attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting friends and families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the space shuttle Columbia, and right now, at this moment, they are involved in homeland security to a greater degree than you would want me to make public."

The commentary's enigmatic and mysterious final sentence--typical of Harvey's habit of leaving his listeners hanging--apparently refers to the fact that many Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Emergency Service (RACES) teams have ramped up their alert status as hostilities get under way in the Middle East.

The entire Wednesday noon broadcast is available on Paul

Harvey's Web site: <http://www.paulharvey.com>. Click on the Wednesday noon link under "Listen Now."

O.A.R.C. NEWS

The Ohio Area Repeater Council will be having a meeting on Saturday April 12, at 9:30 am. Meeting Location will be at Universal Radio, in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Directions: take I-270 to I-70 east, take I-70 east until you come to Brice Road South, to Tussing Road, make Left on to Tussing Road.

Main Topic will be the New 900 mhz frequencies that are coming to Ohio plus some other pending issues.

Pat Hayes N8OOB
OARC Secretary

ZL1AMO Fund Reaches Goal

International DX Association (INDEXA) President Judy Rousch, AA7UC, reports that INDEXA has reached its goal of \$20,000 for the Ron Wright, ZL1AMO, Air Ambulance Fund.

"We are also pleased to announce that INDEXA absorbed all administrative costs, so that 100 percent of each donation went directly to the fund," she said.

Wright, who does not have medical insurance, fell ill last year, and a fund was set up to help defray the cost of an air

ambulance to take him to a hospital in Fiji.

"It is a great tribute to the DX/Amateur Radio community that it could come together as a team to provide humanitarian assistance to a colleague in need," Rousch said. "This spirit is what makes Amateur Radio truly great!"

ZL1AMO is now recuperating "slowly but surely," Rousch reports, and he has been back on the air.

The Story of ZL7C October 2002

(part 2)

By Ken Holdom ZL4HU and
Stan White ZL2ST

Ken loaded a truck with all of the antennas, coax cable, tools, masts, guys etc. at his home in Clyde in the southern part of the South Island of New Zealand and set off for Christchurch airport. Other team members met progressively as they assembled in Christchurch or Wellington, the airports with scheduled flights to the Chathams.

The team consisted of Al Hernandez K3VN, Bill Beyer N2WB, Bob McQuarrie ZL3TY, Dave Anderson KW4DA, Hiro Miyake JF1OCQ, Murray Woodfield ZL1CN, Paul Rubinfeld WF5T, Reinhard Maute DF4TD, Stan White ZL2ST,

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, W8BIN, KB8NW, K8VJG, K8YSE, K8ME, K8AV, N8OOB, ZL4HU, ZL2ST, and the ARRL Letter.

NODXA Club Officials for 2003-2004

President - Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW (440-237-2816)
V. President - Dwaine Modock, K8ME (440-582-3462)
Secretary - Ron Borkey, K8VJG (440-237-6718)
Treasurer - Mary Michaelis, N8DMM (440-236-5426)
Newsletter Editor - David Autry, WD8IOU (440-238-0417)

As of March 2002
Current DXCC Entities Total is:

335

Steve Taylor G4EDG, Wilbert Knol ZL2BSJ and Ken Holdom ZL4HU, the team leader. A total combined operating experience of 350+ years.

In New Zealand our two non travelling vital team members were webmaster Gordon Stewart, ZL2ARN and pilot Lee Jennings, ZL2AL who undertook their most appreciative supportive role for the DXpedition.

The first group left Christchurch on Tuesday October 15 complete with all of the gear from Ken's home and other equipment that team members had brought with them. The air service to the Chathams is provided by Air Chathams using one of their four aeroplanes, a rebuilt 1956 Convair. The airline which is owned and based in the Chatham Islands also leases two planes to other New Zealand operators. Air Chathams main cargo consists of crayfish and paua from the islands to New Zealand for on forwarding to overseas destinations where these delicacies are very popular.

The second group left the following day from Wellington on the scheduled service. Meanwhile the first group which had already established themselves at the Backpacker accommodation in the main village of Waitangi had returned to the racecourse to begin assembling the



Waitangi Village on Chatham Islands

beams in the wet and windy conditions. When the second team arrived late on Wednesday afternoon as the rain eased, they assisted with the completion of the antenna assembly and to run out the coax cables etc. The antennas were positioned in two groups, one for digital modes and one for phone. This was carefully planned by Dave KW4DA in order to give the least interaction between modes and bands. On Thursday 17 October we started early on the erection of the 8 metre (24 foot) masts with the beams atop. A crane was called in to assist with the 20 metre 4 element monobander which was difficult to handle because of it's size. This same

antenna was reduced to an effective 3 element beam at ZL9CI.

By late afternoon all of the antennas were up and these included Cushcraft Monobanders 20-4CD 20metres, XM515 15metres (2), XM510 10metres (2), Force 12 EF320 20metre monobander and WARC 2/2, Nagara T2-3VX WARC beam, Create CV48 40/80 vertical, Create CL6A 6metre monobander, KY0A 80/160 vertical, K7ZV 30metres vertical, G4EDG 40 metres vertical, 1160ft Beveridge, 12 element 2 metre beam. It was time to dry ourselves and warm up while the rigs were set up for operation.



NODXA Application and Renewal Form

The Northern Ohio DX Association is a non-profit organization with a primary interest in DXing. We encourage all DXers to join our group and share the interest and fun of DXing. Please complete the application below and send along your appropriate dues or renewal to:

NODXA, P.O. Box 450783, Westlake, Ohio 44145

First Time Membership/Renewal (U.S.)	\$12.00
Foreign Membership (outside U.S.)	\$22.00
*Foreign Membership (no printed newsletter) (but w/Web access for newsletter)	\$12.00

Name _____ Callsign _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____

Country _____ ZIP _____

E-mail _____

ARRL Member? Exp. Date _____ DXCC Member?

Special Interest _____

NODXA Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the **"The Boneyard" Restaurant** on RT.82 just west of Interstate 77 in Broadview Heights at 8:00 PM. Come early and have dinner, drink beer, meet your fellow DXers and enter the 50/50 raffle.

Newsletter circulation: Pete Michaelis **N8TR**, Mary Michaelis **N8DMM**, and "Radio Ray" **W8BIN**

**Dated Material
Please Rush**



The Northern Ohio DX Association
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