



"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.



June 2003

Mudside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DX'ers,

It is time to mark your calendar. Put big red circles around June 28th and June 29th. These are important dates for a club function. It is the annual ARRL Field Day weekend. I'd like to see more people out there this year (either to visit or operate). No one is pressured to operate. Come on out and see the set up and support the operators. Who knows, maybe you will pick up a mike, hit the keyboard (RTTY) or hit the key. Anyway, come on out (Bring a friend!) and watch or join in the fun. There will be munchies, pop and 807s (and even a T.V. set). All the comforts of home. I hope to see you there. Direction and location should be listed somewhere in this newsletter.

Well, after several months of moving around to different locations to find a permanent meeting place, it seems the club has found a new (but old) home. Those who attended last month's (June) meeting seemed pleased with

Laura's Kitchen. I heard no complaints about the food. The owner seemed real happy to have us there. So, if you have not attended a meeting over the past few months because of the locations, now is a good time to come back. We do not plan to move anymore (hopefully).

Lastly, I hope we have good weather for Field Day, and I hope to see you out there (at least for the support). Also, just a reminder that it is that time of the year to renew your club dues.



73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

Minutes of the June 2nd 2003 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 8:01PM by Tedd, KB8NW, which was held at Laura's Kitchen in Broadview Heights, Ohio. The around the room introductions then followed by the 29 members/guests in attendance.

The treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reports a balance of \$Ka-Ching! and that there are several renewal memberships.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported on the Dayton Hospitality Suite refreshment cost and donations.

Pete, N8TR, informed us on the packet cluster.

Please send articles and your total credited countries to our Editor Dave, WD8IOU, at wd8iou@arri.net.

A letter from Janeen Hire, now W8ZET, was read by Tedd, KB8NW, thanking the club in making the Hospitality Room a success and will continue with the tradition for next year.

A discussion on the Dayton Hamfest 2003 was opened by Tedd, KB8NW.

Tedd, KB8NW, informed us on the DX Forum held at the Dayton Hamfest and on the presentation of the DX-pedition of the Year Award plaque.

A motion was made by Bob, W8GC, and seconded by Carl, K8AV to allot \$100.00 toward the shipping expenses for the Quad antenna to 3B9FR. A vote was taken and passed.

A discussion on Field Day

2003 was opened by Tedd, KB8NW.

Mary, N8DMM, opened a discussion on the food for Field Day 2003. A motion to allot \$75.00 for food was made by Ray, W8BIN, and seconded by Byron, KF8UN. A vote was taken and passed.

Jim, K8MR, informed us on the Ohio QSO Party to be held on Saturday, August 23 from noon to midnight EDT.

A motion to continue to meet at Laura's Kitchen was made by Tedd, KB8NW, and seconded by Carl, K8AV. A vote was taken and passed.

Dick, K8RM, won the 50/50 raffle and his share was \$25.00.

Tedd, KB8NW, adjourned the meeting at 8:52 PM.

Secretary: Ron, K8VJG

HAMvention Attendance Down In 2003

ARRL Letter

Hamvention reported June 4 that attendance for this year's 52nd show was 22,168, down a bit more than 10 percent from last year's crowd. "This is based on the number of admission tickets issued and exhibitor and staff badges issued," said a statement from the office of Hamvention Production Manager Garry Matthews, KB8GOL. Matthews told ARRL that weather played a big factor in attendance this year.

"Our biggest contributing

factor to the drop was the near-constant rain on Saturday," he said. "We had a whole day washed out."

On the plus side, Matthews said, Hamvention 2003 came close to selling out vendor spaces, and many vendors reported that they had a good year, despite the smaller crowd.

The 2003 number marks the third year in a row that Hamvention's attendance had dipped. Attendance at last year's 50th anniversary event was 24,832, down about 5 percent from 2001's crowd of 26,151. The crowd size climbed to 28,804 in 2000, the year of the ARRL National Convention at Hamvention.

Matthews said Hamvention expects to wrap up negotiations within the next three weeks on a new, two-year contract with Hara Arena, Hamvention's home since the 1960s. The anticipated contract, in conjunction with support from local hotels and motels and area municipalities, "would allow Hamvention to stay in the Dayton area for the foreseeable future," Matthews' office said.

Hamvention 2004 will be held May 14-16. For more information, visit the Hamvention Web site www.hamvention.org.

Field Day 2003

By WD8IOU

It's Field Day time again!
June 28 and 29 to be exact.

Our perpetual field day chairman, Bill, W8JGU, has once again answered the call to duty and is organizing this event.

The NODXA site is the same as last year, the Mount Augustine Training Center located on 5232 Broadview Road in Richfield.

Everybody is encouraged to attend this 24-hour marathon, and, most of all, to operate! (Hey, if KB8NW can operate, then you can too!). We especially need CW operators to keep that station running for the full 24 hours.

This year the club will participate in the 2A class using three stations: SSB, CW/RTTY, and VHF/SATELLITE. We will be housing all these stations in two large tents. Here is your chance to operate RTTY if you have never done so.

The SSB and CW/RTTY



stations will be using Yaesu FT1000MP transceivers so this is your chance to play with a top-of-the-line rig if you have not had the opportunity before!

The antennas for these stations are N8TR's custom wire antenna's, a HEX beam, and the W8JGU miracle 6M beam.

The club has allocated \$75 for food so there should be plenty to eat. But we will need some cooks so, even if you don't want to operate, stop on out and flip some burgers!

Remember to bring the bug spray, folding chairs, sun screen, and 807's!

See you there!



Proof: KB8NW DOES operate on Field Day! (Photo by K8AV)



QRP WARC-Speed DX Challenge

ARRL Letter

Danny Eskenazi, K7SS, Ward Silver, NOAX, and the Western Washington DX Club--with the assistance of Bruce Horn, WA7BNM--have announced the year-long QRP "WARC-Speed DX Challenge." The objective is to work as many DXCC entities as possible using low power (QRP) on the so-called "WARC bands," 30, 17 and 12 meters.

The Challenge starts at 0000 UTC June 1, 2003, and ends at 2359 UTC May 31, 2004. For the purposes of the Challenge, QRP is defined as 5 W or less output on digital modes or CW and 10 W PEP on SSB. (AM or FM operators also are welcome.)

Certificates will be awarded for the top three totals from each CQ Zone in each of several categories for working 100 entities on any single band. Results will be posted monthly in the following categories: 17-meter CW, 17-meter phone, 17-meter digital, 17-meter total, 12-meter CW, 12-meter phone, 12-meter digital, 12-meter total, 30-meter CW, 30-meter digital, total CW, total phone, total digital, total overall. Participants may enter as many or as few categories as they wish.

The Challenge involves no QSL cards or cumbersome paperwork. At the end of each month, WA7BNM will post a

score submittal form on the 3830 Score Submittal Web page www.hornucopia.com/3830score.

Participants will enter their totals and updated totals will be posted to the 3830 contest score reflector and CQ-contest reflectors (and be forwarded to the DX and QRP reflectors, as well). At the end of the year, participants will be able to download a nice certificate!

The honor system rules, Silver said, and he notes the Challenge is not a contest. For more information, contact Ward Silver, NOAX, n0ax@arrl.net.

New 60-Meter Band Available July 3!

ARRL Letter

The new five-channel 60-meter amateur allocation becomes available to US Amateur Radio operators at midnight (12:00 AM) local time on July 3. The local time designation means that amateurs in the US territory of Guam likely will be the first to get a crack at the new band.

The new band will be a secondary allocation--federal government users are primary--and the first on which the only permitted mode will be upper-sideband (USB) phone (emission type 2K8J3E). The FCC last month announced it would grant hams access to five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels instead of the 150 kHz-wide band ARRL had requested and the FCC initially proposed. The

League remains optimistic, however, that Amateur Radio eventually may be able to enjoy a band segment with multiple mode privileges at 60 meters. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, has said that in the meantime hams will have to be on their best behavior when taking advantage of the limited channelized allocation, open to General and higher class licenses.

The FCC has granted amateurs center-channel frequencies of 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373 and 5405 kHz--the last channel common to the amateur experimental operation under way in the United Kingdom www.rsgb-hfc.org.uk/5mhz.htm. To be "on channel," users of 60 meters should set their transmitted carrier frequency 1.5 kHz lower than the channel-center frequency. In terms of day-to-day operation, the new band is expected to resemble the sort of channel sharing typical on local repeaters.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RF1, says hams need to be very careful if they're considering modifying their current transceiver or transmitter for 5 MHz. The ARRL advises that members check with the appropriate equipment manufacturers regarding specific modification information. Some modifications not only may void the warranty

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this month's edition: N8TR, N8DMM, W8BIN, KB8NW, K8VJG, K8YSE, K8AV, WB8K, KF8UN 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

but could affect or alter a transmitter's operation in unpredictable ways.

"Hams need to be sure that any modifications put them right on the desired channel," Hare said. "Most hams are used to just having to think about band edges, so on other bands, if a mod were a bit 'off,' all operators would need to ensure is that they are not transmitting outside the band."

Hare recommended that on 5 MHz amateurs remain within "a few tens of Hertz" of suppressed-carrier accuracy. He also pointed out that hams have a mandate not to have any of their signal occupy spectrum outside the assigned 2.8 kHz channels.

Noting that high-frequency audio response can vary considerably from radio to radio, Hare has suggested restricting occupied channel audio bandwidth to 2600 Hz, rolling off below 200 Hz on the low end and above 2800 Hz on the high end.

Last-minute opposition to the granting of a band segment at 5 MHz came last year from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which cited the ongoing spectrum requirements of federal government licensees having homeland security responsibilities. The NTIA administers



KF8UN and KC8LYG win 1st Place 2002 WWWPX in 8th area.

spectrum allocated to the federal government. A compromise between the FCC and the NTIA resulted in the limited, channelized allocation.

The NTIA selected the channels the FCC authorized to minimize the possibility of interference to federal government users, and it dictated the use of USB so that federal government users--who also use only USB--could readily identify amateur stations if necessary.

The FCC has set maximum power at 50 W ERP and said it would consider a typical half-wave dipole to exhibit no gain.

FOR SALE

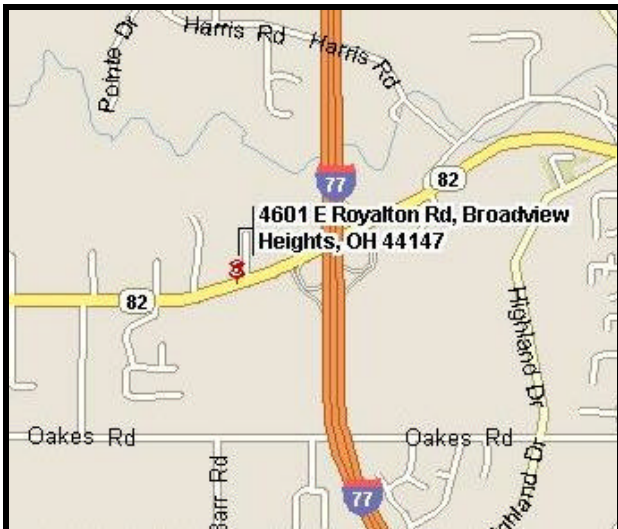
Free standing crank-up
Tower: TX-455 at 55' + 10'
mast + Ham 4 rotor + TRX-
80 raising fixture + Force 12
C-19-XR Yagi antenna:
\$2200

Alpha 87A HF Amp: \$3500

All A1 condition. Take all
for \$5200

John Sepper N8KUS
(440) 333-7911

JohnyN8KUS@aol.com



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

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 _____

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

**Dated Material
Please Rush**



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