

June-July 2009

"Ohio's First DXCC Field Checking Club"



# The NODXA RAG



## Poolside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DX'ers,

It is hard to believe that it has been almost three months since I wrote last. Field Day has come and gone, but what a Field Day the club had! It was super all the way around. The weather was basically perfect, attendance was great, the operators were superb, food was great and plentiful, and our final score excellent. Thanks to all who showed up, especially those who operated.



It was the club's best Field Day ever. Special thanks to the FD Chairman Bill/W8JGU, co-Chairman John/K8YSE and the club's head technical person Pete/N8TR. Read the great write-up on FD by John/K8YSE at the ARRL Web page at: [http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/index.html?con\\_id=176&call=w8dxa](http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/index.html?con_id=176&call=w8dxa) If you did not make it this year, hopefully next year.....

Summer is definitely fading fast and before you know it "FALL" will be here with "WINTER" not too far behind. Time to prepare for the Contest/DX season.

Already there have been some major DXpedition announcements for September, and October. The broken record for postponements - FT5GA Gloriosos DXpedition - is supposed to be on the air in September. Also, look for TX5SPA, Austral Island between September 29th and October 12th. For the month of October, look for 3D20C Conway Reef (3-11th), K4M Midway Island (5-19th), CYO Sable Island (7-14th) and TX5SPM Marquesas Island (16-22nd). Now all we need is an increase in the sunspots.

Speaking of sunspots, if you missed the August club meeting, you missed an interesting talk and discussion by Lee Wical, KH6BZF, on propagation and the sunspot cycle. He stated that it does not look too promising for an increase in the sunspot numbers. By the time you read this, Lee will be heading back to KH6-land, but he will be back next summer. He promises to attend another NODXA meeting and bring us up-to-date on the sunspot cycle.

Enjoy what is left of the summer, and I hope to see you at the next meeting or possibly at the Cleveland Hamfest in September.

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

"The Mission of the Northern Ohio DX Association is to promote and support Amateur Radio and the DX Community around the world."

## Minutes of the May 4th, 2009 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened by the President, Tedd, KB8NW at 7:34pm. There were 19 members and 2 guests present.



After a round of introductions, the minutes of the April 6th<sup>d</sup> meeting were read. After one correction, the minutes were approved as read.

The Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reported a balance of \$Ka-Ching! in the account. Mary also reported that 23 members were unpaid for 2009-2010.

Tedd, KB8NW, suggested that the club send a information tri-fold brochure to the new member, N9DM, as reported in the April meeting minutes. Tedd also said that the brochures will be available at the hospitality suite at Dayton. Tedd further reported that the repeater and cluster were running fine. He said that he had talked to Jim, K8MR, and was told that the cluster would be okay for a while in its present location. Two members commented that they had 2 meter and 220

Mhz radios there and that they were the only things of real value. Pete, N8TR, reported that he also had spoken with Jim and had gotten the same information.

Dave, WD8IOU, reported that the newsletter was out. He also asked if anyone could identify the 'mystery picture' that appeared in the newsletter. He needs to know who the individual is, what 'contraption' is pictured with him and the location where the picture was taken.

### Old-New Business

Ron, K8VJG, reported that the Field Day site is available for the club Field Day.

Tedd, KB8NW, has a questionnaire for those planning on attending Field Day, i.e. who's coming, what are you planning on doing, etc.).

Ron, K8VJG, and Pete, N8TR, initiated a discussion of what types and how many stations would be set up. The decision of one SSB, one CW and a 6 meter station would be set up as in previous years. In addition, the usual 5 contacts on a solar-powered station would be made along with any other bonus point producing events.

Dwaine, K8ME, reported that he had a gas station style pump handle to make filling generators easier.

Dwaine also reported that he would probably do some cooking as last year, but catering was out of the question.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that Dayton is next week. Janeen said everything is ready to go and the hospitality suite will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Pete, N8TR, reported that he had confirmation of his flea market spaces, 928 and 929. He also reported that you could locate other peoples spaces on the internet. Inside vendor locations are also available.

Dwaine, K8ME, reported that the Dayton bus trip is set. He reported that there were still 10 seats left. The bus will leave from the K-Mart parking lot at Bagley and Engle roads at 3:30 A.M. The bus is scheduled to leave Dayton approximately 5:30 P.M. and get back to Cleveland about 8:30 P.M.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that he had received a donation request from a DXpedition to Midway Island. The event is scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>. Midway is 24<sup>th</sup> on the most 'wanted list'. The call sign will be K4M. Pete, N8TR, suggested that the club defer a decision until after Dayton. Bruce, N8DJX moved, seconded by Dwaine, K8ME, that the decision be tabled until after Dayton. The motion passed.

Bruce, N8DJX, asked Tedd what was coming up? Tedd said to look for Ogasawara, JD1, and Bangladesh, S21. Tedd also reported that Nauru, C21, is now scheduled for June.

Tedd, KB8NW, reminded everyone that the next meeting will be Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

The 50-50 raffle was won by Nick, W8XD. The winning amount was \$18.  
The meeting was closed by the president, Tedd, KB8NW, at 8:13 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Al, N8CX, Secretary

## Minutes of the June 1st, 2009 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened by the President, Tedd, KB8NW at 7:31pm. There were 19 members and 1 guests present.

After a round of introductions, the minutes of the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting were read. After one wording correction, the minutes were approved as read.



The Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, reported a balance of \$Ka-Ching! in the account.

Tedd, KB8NW, and John, K8YSE, will be attending a Sandusky Radio Experimenters League (SREL) meeting. Tedd will be giving a presentation. Tedd reported that the meeting place is also the club station. Tedd further reported that the cluster and the repeater are running fine.

Dave, WD8IOU, needs pictures from Dayton for the newsletter. Dave also gave details of the mystery photo in the last newsletter. The person in the picture is Bob, K8RH. The item pictured is a sand buggy and the location was the Volunteers of America building in Brunswick.

### Old - New Business

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that the some Dayton pictures were on-line. He also reported that the hospitality suite went very well and the profit from the suite was \$164.71, and that visitors were generous with donations. Tedd thought that attendance at Hara Arena appeared to be down this year and that the flea market appeared to be down this year as well.

Pete, N8TR, reported that he had sold quite a bit this year too. Janeen said that she would probably help set up the suite again next year. Ted, KB8NW, reported that we collected three membership dues and that we collected \$25 from the sale of equipment from Bob, W8GC.

Dwaine, K8ME, reported that the chartered bus went very well. There were thirty on board. The bus left Dayton about 5:15 PM just as the storms hit.

Pete, N8TR, reported that Denny, WB8K, and his son Dan, W8DMJ, helped he and Mary hold down their flea market tent during the rain and wind.

A donation request for the upcoming Midway DXpedition was put on hold. Glorioso is coming up in July. The club has decided to wait for another request letter before we decide on a donation.

Tedd now referred a Field Day discussion to Bill, W8JGU, the Field Day Chairman. He stated that setup would begin on Friday evening at 6 PM. This would mainly involve setting up the tents. Pete, N8TR, asked that people arrive about 9 AM to set up tables, generators and cables. John, K8YSE, then reported on the proposed operation. The club would be 2A. Other activities would include a GOTA and 6 meter stations. Additionally, a satellite station provided by John, K8YSE, a 6 meter transceiver will be provided by Dwaine, K8ME, and a solar-powered station provided by Nick, W8XD and others for bonus points.

Dwaine, K8ME, will bring the grill. Food donations are welcome. Dining room service will not be provided, however. Ron, K8VJG, moved, seconded by Ken, W8KEN, that \$100. be provided for food. The motion passed.

John, K8YSE, reported that Rich Garriot, W5KWQ, who recently joined the ISS with the Russians, gave a speech at the AMSAT banquet at Dayton this year. Rich is the son of Owen Garriot.

Tedd reminded everyone that the next meeting will be July 6<sup>th</sup>.

The 50-50 raffle was won by Karl, K8BCK. The winning amount was \$20. The money was donated

back to the club.

The meeting was closed by the president, Tedd, KB8NW, at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Al, N8CX, Secretary

## NODXA 2009 Field Day Report By John Papay, K8YSE

NODXA had a great field day from many perspectives. Every year it gets harder to prepare for field day, even if you're retired. But in the end, after all the antennas, rigs, generator, tents, ta-



bles, chairs and operators have left our beautiful field day site, you come away with a good feeling. This is because you proved once again that you can set up a communications complex in the middle of nowhere and make a few thousand contacts. You got to socialize with your ham radio friends that you never really get to talk with much. You swapped stories and reflected on good memories of field days past and recollections of those who are now Silent Keys.

It's the one thing we really do as a club and is in the true spirit of ham radio. If you missed coming out this year, think about these words and come out next year. You will be rewarded in many ways.

Here is our official submission summary:

Call Used: W8DXA    GOTA Station Call: NO8DX    ARRL/RAC Section: OH    Class: 2A

Participants: 31    Club/Group Name: NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION

Power Source(s): Generator, Battery, Solar

Power Multiplier: 2X

Bonus Points:

100% Emergency power	200
Media Publicity	100
Information Booth	100
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Formal NTS messages handled - No.=10	100
Satellite QSO completed	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Site Visit by invited elected official	100
GOTA Bonus	120
Submitted via the Web	50
Educational activity	100
<b>Total Bonus Points</b>	<b>1,270</b>

Score Summary:

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total	
Total QSOs	840	10	1665		
Total Points	1680	20	1665	3365	Claimed Score = 6,730

This was one of our best Field Day operations in terms of contacts and number of participants.

Everyone worked very hard to make this event a success. Our photos and write up have been uploaded to the Field Day ARRL Soapbox.

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m						
80m	192	100	3	100	204	100
40m	454	100	7	100	867	100
20m	140	100			400	100
15m	21	100				
10m						
6m	23	100			85	100
2m						
1.25						
Other						
Satellite	10	100			22	100
GOTA					87	100
TOTAL	840		10		1665	

GOTA Bonus: GOTA Coach - Double Bonus Points

Name/Call	QSOs	Bonus Points
Linda Mirgliotta, (NONE)	51	80
Karen Autry, (NONE)	33	40
Pam Tarczy, (NONE)	3	0

In addition, we made a contact with ISS astronaut VE3CSA on Sunday morning. Although this does not count as a QSO for the ARRL Field Day score, it was the most exciting qso made at NODXA Field Day. Of course we have a recording of it and will be sending for the QSL card on behalf of W8DXA.

We qualified for several bonus point categories including the Field Day Message to the SEC and 10 other messages all sent by Ken, W8KEN.

This was a lot of work and thanks to Ken, we have 200 additional points.

The Richfield Police Chief came out just before our on-the-air operation ended and that counts for a "supported agency." We did not have any elected officials show up although K8VJG invited them.

Thanks to Ron for getting the police chief to come out.

We had a very unusual training session put on by Pete N8ATR, a member of the International Guild of Knot Tyers. Most of us are not very good with knots and this session was an educational experience.

Hopefully those who were present learned how to tie a knot that will keep those antennas up in the air!

As usual, Nick W8XD made the first 5 - 40 meter qso's on solar power and the sun was cooperating right at the start of field day operating.

His FT817 worked well as it does every year.

Press releases were sent out but we didn't have any reporters show up.

If we would have done something bizarre, they would have been there with the cameras. I'll let your imagination run wild with that one.

We had an information table with lots of publications to browse through thanks to Tedd KB8NW, Ron K8VJG and others. Tedd copied the W1AW Field Day Message on RTTY for another 100 bonus points.

Our GOTA station was operated by 3 unlicensed YL's this year. They all did a great job on 15 meters. This year we did not have any youth operators as we did last year. Karen Autry, Linda Mirgliotta and Pam made the GOTA qso's on Dwaine's FT100.

Our generator provided by Dwaine K8ME worked well and was easily filled with gasoline due to a gravity feed tank and hose that Dwaine procured.

We had a very localized rainstorm that eventually drowned our generator.

Once the rain stopped, an ambitious crew managed to dry off the plug wire etc and it was back in operation. Once again, the ham radio can do attitude prevailed. They got it running just in time for the last VO-52 satellite pass where we netted 3 CW QSO's. Satellites don't wait!

The food was again superb with Chef Dwaine K8ME at the grill and Mary N8DMM coordinating the rest. Others including Linda Mirgliotta and Diane Papay sent over special treats which were consumed by all of us. Tedd KB8NW brought the traditional sheet pizza on Saturday night. If you went home hungry it wasn't our fault. Thanks to all who brought food and drink.

Doug, KD8CAO, again drove the 325 miles from Zeeland, MI, to be with us on Field Day. He operated the satellite station as well as the phone HF station.

He got home about 11:30pm Sunday night. We will be entering our satellite results in the Amsat Field Day competition.

Ed, W8EDB, once again mowed the field where we set up our operations. The area where the 6 meter antenna and generator are placed was 3' high and was quite a challenge to mow down with his various tractors. He came out several times to finish the job. Ed is not even a member of NODXA but enjoys contributing his time and effort to our club.

Denny WB8K provided the canopy for our food/socializing area. It came in very handy when we had our Sunday morning downpour. After many years of field day service, it is still in very good condition!

There are two individuals who contribute the bulk of our field day equipment every year. Pete N8TR and Bill W8JGU are the key individuals who go all out so that we can come out and operate. Without them, our field day would be nowhere near as successful as it is every year. Thanks for doing what you do!

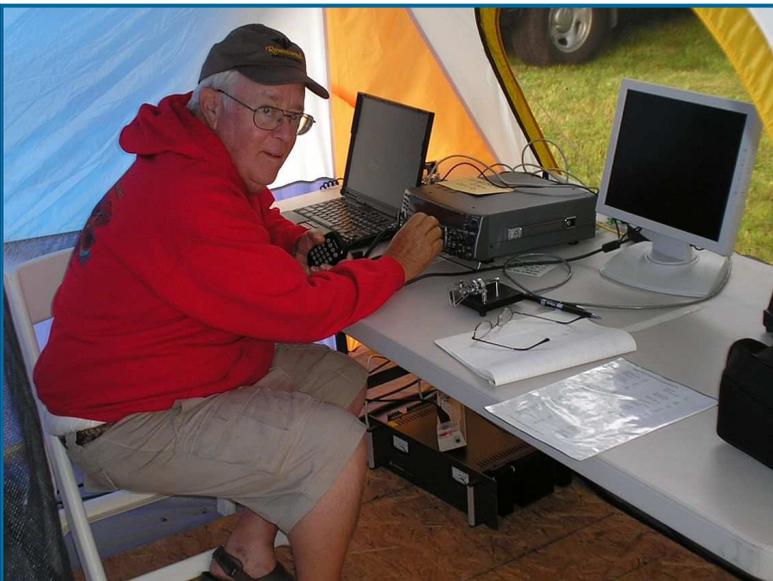
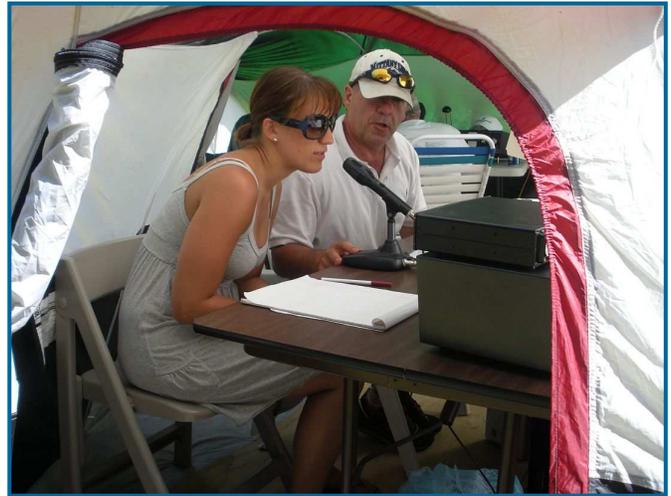
Finally we thank the Sisters of Charity at Mt. Augustine for allowing us to use their beautiful grounds for our field day operation every year. We have a great location for HF here and since we are operating in a "field" with no other structures present, we do so in the true spirit and meaning of Field Day. It is a true test of what we could face in a disaster. We show the world every year that we are up to the challenge.

If you came out and operated, provided equipment, helped set up and tear down etc., and weren't mentioned above, thank you for your efforts. There are many others who do things behind the scenes that make field day successful. Thank you!

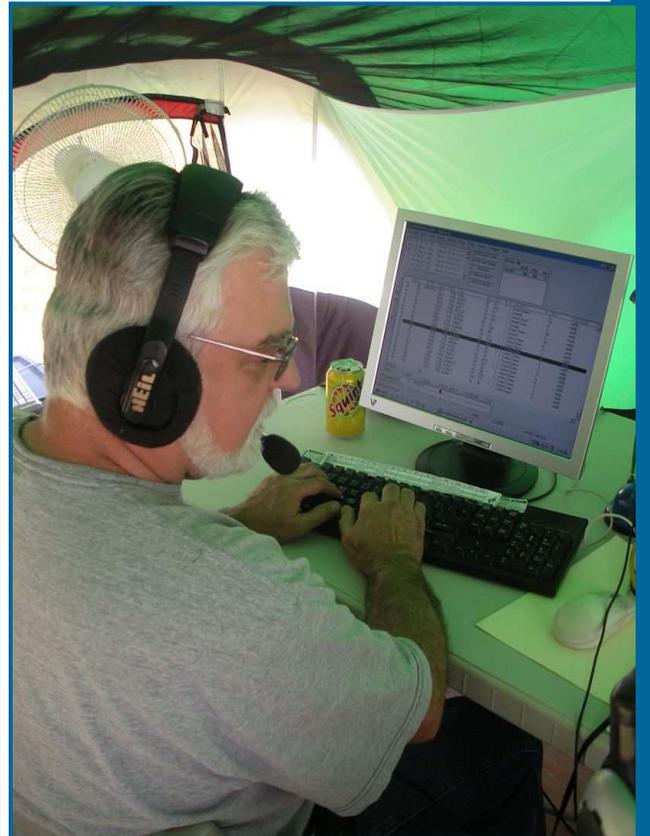
If you missed field day this year, plan to come out next year. It sure beats watching TV.



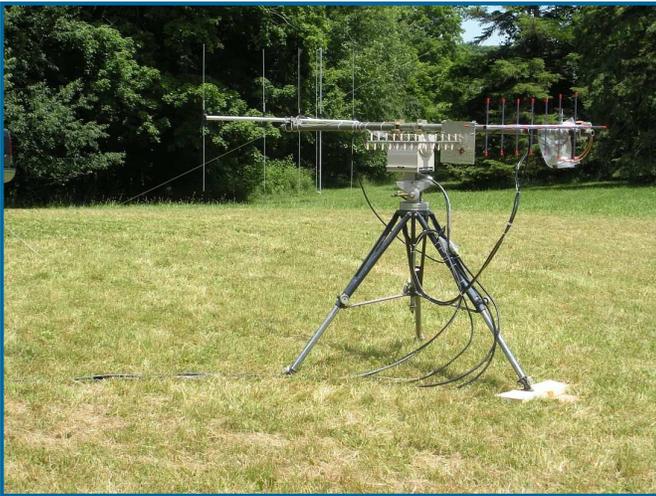
# Field Day 2009 Photos



# Field Day 2009 Photos



# Field Day 2009 Photos



## Worked All States Award—Hidden Credits

There are a lot of people that like Certificates of various types; well you might have on your wall or drawer the Route 66 or the most recent certificate the Thirteen Colony Award which was active around July 4<sup>th</sup> 2009, very nice Certificate.



The two certificates mentioned above can be used for applying for Worked All States Award. If your applying for WAS with a Field Checker make sure you take the certificate with you along with your cards for the other states. Make sure you write in on the WAS forms the states from the certificate with a little note along side each state on the form, certificate name, so the field checker can verify the two.

Example: if you had a clean sweep on the 13 Colony Award, that means you worked thirteen different states, so you would write down those states on the WAS forms, even thou you don't have the qsl card. It still verified by the award manager of that certificate; same goes for Route 66.

If your sending the WAS forms and application along with your card to ARRL, it's the same process except you will have to send the original award certificate along with your qsl cards of the other states, which in turn ARRL will process and return your qsl cards & Award certificate.

Remember the Cleveland Hamfest at the end of September, there will be card checking there for: DXCC WAS, VUCC.

If your going to have cards checked make sure you have all proper forms, application and check with the fee made out to the ARRL.

73 de Dwaine Modock---K8ME WAS/VUCC Checker

## Great Lakes Division DX Achievement Award

Tedd, KB8NW, was awarded the ARRL Great Lakes Division Lifetime DX Achievement Award at the Great Lakes Convention in Findlay Ohio on Saturday September 12th, 2009.

N8ET had streaming video on the internet during the presentations and at approximately 4:15pm I saw Tedd receive the award via this link.

I'm sure Tedd will have the plaque at the Monday meeting so we can all see it. Hopefully there are some photos available for a newsletter story for Dave.

Congratulations Tedd!

73, John K8YSE

## DX Magazine Most Wanted Survey

The 2009 DX MAGAZINE MOST WANTED SURVEY web form is now ready for you to use. Just go to the web site: [www.dxpub.com](http://www.dxpub.com) At the bottom of the home page you will see the link to the form.

NOTE: THIS IS NOT - REPEAT NOT - A COMPLETE LIST OF ALL DXCC COUNTRIES.

However, if you need something that is not on the list, you may add it at the bottom of the survey form in the COMMENTS box. Please pass the word to your DXer friends that the survey is up and running and will be there until OCTOBER 15th.

Thanks and 73, Carl, N4AA

The Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc.  
presents



The 35th Annual  
2009 Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show  
September 27, 2009  
8:00am to 2:00pm

at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea, OH

Admission \$6 per person

Flea Market \$6 per space, available first-come, first-served the morning of the fest

Talk-in on 146.73/R minus offset, PL 110.9

**Inside Vendor Spaces Available**

**Note: Due to incredible levels of spam, our info & tables email addresses have been retired. Please use the link below to contact the Hamfest Association.**

[Click here](#) to contact the Hamfest Association

[Join Our Mailing List](#) to receive announcements via email.

[License Exam Information](#)

[Indoor Vendor and Flea Market Information](#)



[Map of the Hamfest](#)

[Driving Directions](#)

For More Information, contact:  
Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc.  
P.O. Box 81252  
Cleveland, Ohio 44181-0252  
(800)CLE-FEST  
e-mail: [click to contact HAC](#)





## Meeting Information

*NODXA Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the **Gourme Family Restaurant** at 15315 Pearl Road (Rt. 42) just west of Interstate 71 and south of Rt. 82 in Strongsville at 7:30 PM. Come early and have dinner and meet your fellow DXers and enter the 50/50 raffle.*

## NODXA Information

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

Web-site: <http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>  
 Newsletter Submission: [wd8iou@adelphia.net](mailto:wd8iou@adelphia.net)

## NODXA Club Officials for 2009-2010

President: Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW (440-237-2816)  
 V. President: Dwaine Modock, K8ME (440-582-3462)  
 Secretary: Al Moriarty, N8CX (216-221-3682)  
 Treasurer: Mary Michaelis, N8DMM (440-236-5426)  
 Newsletter: David Autry, WD8IOU (440-238-0417)



## DXCC Info

As of December 2007, the current DXCC Entities total is: 338.

## 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 361624 , Strongsville, Ohio 44136

First Time Membership/Renewal (U.S. and DX) \$20.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Country \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 ARRL Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ DXCC Member? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Interest \_\_\_\_\_

## Newsletter Contributors

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, KB8NW, N8CX, K8YSE, K8ME, KD8CAO, and N4AA.