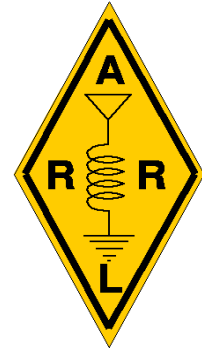


September-October 2010

"Ohio's First DXCC Field Checking Club"



# The NODXA RAG



## Poolside Chat With KB8NW (Closed for the season!)

Fellow DX'ers,

If you have not heard, it's official now, the Dutch Antilles will cease to exist as a country on October 10th, 2010. Delegations from the Dutch Antilles signed a declaration to reform the status of the five former Dutch island colonies in the Caribbean on September 9th, in "The Hague". Curacao (PJ2) and St. Maarten (PJ7) will become separate countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands, while Bonaire (PJ4), Saba (PJ6) and St. Eustatius (PJ5) will become special Dutch municipalities.



So What Does This Mean For Us DXers? Just another step closer for new DXCC entities. Now that it is official that the Netherlands Antilles will be dissolving, the DXCC desk and DXAC can now work on how many new entities will be established. Remember, to be added to the "DXCC List" as a "Political

Entity", it must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- A) The entity is a UN Member State.
- B) The entity has been assigned a ITU call sign prefix block.
- C) The entity must be listed on either the "U.S. Department of State" or the United Nation's list of "non self-governing territories."

As we have seen in the past, it is not a new one until the DXCC says so.... However, the DXCC and ARRL Awards Committee have made a comment recently and state the following (Make sure you read the last line!):

"To clarify the administrative process by which the anticipated changes to the two existing Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities will be made, the ARRL Awards Committee has determined that at 0400z (12:00 AM local time in the islands) on 10th October 2010, the two Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities will be deleted.

Commencing at 0400z (12:00 AM local time) on 10th October, 2010, operation from the islands of Curacao, Bonaire, Saint Maarten, Saba, and St. Eustatius will count for a yet-to-be-determined number of new entities under the DXCC List Criteria, and Political Entities, Rule 1 and/or Rule 2 Geographic Separation Entities. When the Awards Committee determines what Rule 1 or Rule 2 actions apply, it will announce the final disposition of the entities on the DXCC list. The

DXCC desk will not accept confirmations for these new entities until after 1st January, 2011."

Anyway, the month of October should be a very exciting month for DXers, and there should be plenty of operations to activate all of the above islands. These operations should be easy to work, and it is suggested to work all of them (the islands). Remember WFWL!

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

## Minutes of the June 7th, 2010 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened by the President, Tedd, KB8NW, at 7:35pm. There were 21 members and 1 guest present.



After a round of introductions, the minutes of the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting were read. After two minor corrections, the minutes were approved as corrected.

The Treasurer, Mary, N8DMM, reported a balance of \$Ka-Ching! in the account. Mary also reported that we gained two new members, Joe, K8YN and XYL Viki, K8VGM.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that the repeater is okay. Pete, N8TR, and Jim, K8MR, reported that the cluster was down and had been dismantled. Jim and Pete reported that equipment had been returned to their original owners and that some equipment might possibly be for sale.

### Old - New Business

No discussion was held concerning requests for donations and no donations were made to any DXpeditions at this meeting.

The primary discussion this evening was Field Day which will be held Saturday and Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

Preparations concerning attendance, transportation, site readiness, transceivers and equipment, antennas, food, bonus point activities, etc. were discussed. All items were accounted for and deemed ready for the event.

The 50-50 raffle was won by Brian, K3USC. The winning amount was \$24. Brian donated \$23 back to the club.

Brian also donated 3 copies of RadComm magazine from the RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain) as door prizes.

The business portion of the meeting was closed by the president, Tedd, KB8NW, at approximately 8:22 PM.

The program this evening was another propagation report and analysis by Lee, KH6BZF. Lee reported, to nobodies surprise, that propagation is terrible, with no real improvement in sight. Band openings on the higher frequencies are sporadic at best. Some recent solar storms with associated extremely high A and K indices have made things difficult.

Respectfully submitted, Al, N8CX Secretary

"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 July 5th, 2010 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened by the President, Tedd, KB8NW, at 7:33pm. There were 19 members and no guests present.



After a round of introductions, the minutes of the Jun 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were read. The minutes were approved as read.

The Treasurer, Mary, N8DMM, reported a balance of \$Ka-Ching! in the account. Mary also reported a new member, Jim Blanca, KE8G.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that the repeater is okay. Al, N8CX, reported that West Park Radiops will use the repeater on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 9 PM for their club net. Many thanks to NODXA for their permission to use the repeater.

Tedd reported for Dave, WD8IOU, that the newsletter is expected to be out this week.

Pete, N8TR, reported that the VHF Packet Cluster is gone.

### Old - New Business

Linda, N8LRS, welcomed back Ron, K8VJG who had a malfunction with his heart equipment.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that the Cleveland Hamfest is coming up in September. Al, N8CX, reported that, after much to do about the hamfest moving to the east side, the hamfest will remain at the Berea Fairgrounds.

Ron, K8VJG, reported that Sr. Mary Grace, had contacted him and commented on how clean the club had left the Field Day site. Ron, K8VJG, moved, seconded by John, K8YSE, that the club send a donation of \$100 to St. Augustine thanking them again for the use of their property for Field Day. The motion passed.

Al, N8CX, reported that the summer NOARSfest will be on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at the Spitzer Conference Center at Lorain County Community College. This year, food, coffee and soft drinks will be available.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that room rates at the Crowne Plaza for next years Dayton Hamvention will be going up. Pete, N8TR, reported that the hotel will no longer allow reserving blocks of rooms. NODXA, however, has a contract that will allow for reserving a block of 42 rooms.

A Field Day report was given by Bill, W8JGU and John, K8YSE. A summary of NODXA's 2010 Field Day is as follows.

Call Used:W8DXA

GOTA Station Call:NO8DX

ARRL/RAC Section:OH Class:2A

Participants:25 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.=11            100

Satellite QSO completed 100

Natural power QSOs completed 100

GOTA Bonus 120

Submitted via the Web 50  
 Educational activity 100  
 Total Bonus Points 1,170

#### QSO Score Summary:

QSO's	CW	Digital	Phone	
Total QSOs	1093	0	1227	
Total Points	2186	0	1227	Total QSO points 3413
Total Claimed QSO Score (including x2 power multiplier) = 6,826				
Total Field Day claimed score (including bonus points) = 7996				

Dwaine, K8ME, reported that again, the food was good and that the total amount spent for food was \$143. Dwaine also thanked all who helped setup and tear down. Tedd, KB8NW, thanked all who planned and participated.

Dwaine, K8ME, reported that there would be WAS, DXCC and VUCC card-checking at the Cleveland Hamfest.

Tedd, KB8NW, reported that the next meeting will be Monday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ron, K8VJG moved, seconded by Dwaine, K8ME, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

The 50-50 raffle was won by Rick, K8ZH. The winning amount of \$18. was donated back to the club.

Respectfully submitted, Al, N8CX Secretary

## Propagation Hints By KH6BZF, ex-K8HQR

Many of you NODXA members may have been at the meeting in 2009 and this year 2010 where the scope of my talks on propagation may have has a disjointed through a Q & A sessions which took place.



Some of the propagation clues are right there on your receiving gear. First, do you monitor WWV or WWVH at 18-mins past each hour? Do you listen therein at 1500, 1800, 2100.0000, 0300, 0600, 0900, 1200 hrs UTC and so on, for the Solar Flux Indices (SFI) both Alpha and K-indices? Do you write them down? Do you go to the internet and obtain those values? You should!

Do you listen for static crashes on the low bands then go to the weather channel noting the thunderstorms are always west or southwest of your !QTH (Ohio), for examples Missouri or Illinois, to see what low band is propagating that evening? Lightning is an excellent beacon signal for low band (160, 80, 40 even 30 meters)!

Do you have a list of the Northern California CW beacon signals on high bands (20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. There is a world wide system the Nor Cal club supports. A list of frequencies and times listed and obtained from the internet i.e. [dx.qsl.net/propagation/propagation.html](http://dx.qsl.net/propagation/propagation.html) and many others.

Now, some of you NODXA members have been on off shore DX-peditions and have noticed certain radio signals, not necessarily solely Amateur stations, but Commercial stations near the amateur bands, both above and below our bands. Those are beacons never-the-less! All of a sudden you are reading this and realize that you have heard different "beacons" without knowing it! Yes, beacons denoting band openings are different in different area.

The NOAA/SESC puts out several alerts of SFI 3-hourly updated reports as do many Amateur reflectors, Have you subscribed to those? You should!

For more than forty years I have been recording solar events, SFI's, Alphas and K-indices by paper and pencil, especially in preparation for a contest. If it is a VHF or HF contest, look at your data and back up 27.5- and 55-days to see what the SFI, As and KS were during those days. Now you are obtaining propagation intelligence on what might possible happen during the period you wish to be operating from.

Those NODXA DX-peditioners who go to the Caribbean listen a day or so earlier from their DX location and they get into the contest like "shooting fish in a barrel." But, I'll bet they have some propagation tricks too. You'll have to put them on a stretching machine to get their hints and kinks from them.

Believe me, I am no expert on propagation as I am still learning. I am an Astrophysics novice, but I am finding that an expert is an EX = A has been and a Pert = is a drip under pressure.

I hope this brief "tome" has opened some of your thought processes

You can always find me at leewical@aol.com. Feedback is welcomed and enjoyed AS I LEARN FROM OTHERS.

An ex-buckeye in Aloha land....Come on Cavaliers and Ohio State!!!! Well the Cleveland Indians and the Browns might come later!

BTW, I was the 1948 Cleveland Plain Dealer Cleveland Indians bay boy contest runner up!

More is likely to follow, NODXA

73, Lee R. Wical, KH6BZF/ 7J1AAP EX-K8HQR (MENTOR, OHIO)

## 10-10-10 PJ Operations Band Plan

### JOINT PRESS RELEASE

Date: Sept. 30, 2010

From: DXpedition leaders/teams participating in DXpeditions to new DXCC entities beginning 10-10-10

To: ALL interested DXers worldwide

Due to the unprecedented number of potential new DXCC entities and numerous planned DXpeditions commencing 10-10-10, we felt it was prudent to establish a Band Plan to try to minimize interference between DXpeditions and their pileups. The following Band Plan is the result of discussions that have been ongoing for several weeks. It is a Plan...however, without the cooperation of DXers, the plan will not work. It is extremely important that DXers call DXpeditions only within the specified frequency ranges. If you do not, you will not work the station you are calling and you will likely interfere with another DXpedition on another Island. This will require cooperation and discipline.

Success of this plan also requires that DXers help spread the information about the Band Plan to their fellow DXers and DX Clubs. WE NEED YOUR HELP! But if we work together, we will be able to get many, many DXers into our logs!

Thanks for your cooperation!

Bob K4UEE-Saba-PJ6A

Jeff K8ND-Curacao-PJ2T

Craig K9CT-St. Maarten-PJ7E

Kelly NOVD-Bonaire-various

Will AA4NC-St. Eustatius-TBD

Dave AH6HY-St. Eustatius-TBD

Paul K1XM-St. Eustatius-TBD

Jim K1NA-St. Eustatius-PJ5NA



### 10-10-10 PJ Operations Band Plan

	<b>CURACAO</b>	<b>BONAIRE</b>	<b>STATIA</b>	<b>SABA</b>	<b>ST. MAARTEN</b>
	<b>PJ2</b>	<b>PJ4</b>	<b>PJ5</b>	<b>PJ6</b>	<b>PJ7</b>
<b>160</b>					
CW	1810-1817	1818-1825	1826-1833	1834-1841	1842-1849
SSB	oper choice>1850	oper choice>1850	oper choice>1850	No SSB	No SSB
<b>80</b>					
CW	3501-3510	3511-3520	3521-3530	3531-3540	3541-3550
SSB TX	3671-3674	3676-3679	3681-3684	3686-3689	3691-3694
SSB RX Primary	3701-3710	3711-3720	3721-3730	3731-3740	3741-3750
SSB RX secondary	oper choice>3800	oper choice>3800	oper choice>3800	oper choice>3800	oper choice>3800
Digital	3570-3575	3576-3581	3582-3587	3588-3593	3594-3599
<b>40</b>					
CW	7001-7010	7011-7020	7021-7030	7031-7040	7041-7050
SSB TX	7075-7078	7080-7083	7085-7088	7090-7093	7095-7098
SSB RX Primary	7126-7135	7136-7145	7146-7155	7156-7165	7166-7175
SSB RX Secondary	oper choice>7175	oper choice>7175	oper choice>7175	oper choice>7175	oper choice>7175
Digital	7051-7055	7056-7060	7061-7065	7066-7070	7071-7075
<b>30</b>					
CW	10101-10106	10107-10112	10113-10118	10119-10124	10125-10130
Digital	10130-10133	10134-10137	10138-10141	10142-10145	10146-10149
<b>20</b>					
CW	14001-14013	14014-14027	14028-14041	14042-14055	14056-14069
SSB TX	14125-14130	14131-14135	14136-14140	14141--14145	14146-14150
SSB RX Primary	14170-14180	14181-14190	14200-14210	14211-14220	14240-14250
SSB RX Secondary	oper choice>14255	oper choice>14255	oper choice>14255	oper choice>14255	oper choice>14255
Digital	14072-14077	14078-14083	14084-14089	14090-14094	14095-14099
<b>17</b>					
	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD Days</b>
CW	18068-18078	18068-18078	18079-18088	18078-18088	18089-18098
	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>
SSB	18120-18135	18120-18135	18136-18150	18136-18150	18151-18165
	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>		<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>
Digital	18100-18105	18100-18105	no digital	18106-18110	18106-18110
<b>15</b>					
CW	21001-21013	21014-21027	21028-21041	21042-21055	21056-21069
SSB	21275-21290	21291-21305	21306-21320	21321-21335	21336-21350
Digital	21072-21077	21078-21083	21084-21089	21090-21094	21095-21099
<b>12</b>					
	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>
CW	24891-24900	24891-24900	24901-24910	24901-24910	24911-24920
	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>
SSB	24935-24950	24935-24950	24951-24965	24951-24965	24966-24980
	<b>ODD days</b>	<b>EVEN days</b>		<b>EVEN days</b>	<b>ODD days</b>
Digital	24920-24925	24920-24925	no digital	24926-24930	24926-24930
<b>10</b>					
CW	28001-28013	28014-28027	28028-28041	28042-28055	28056-28069
SSB	28301-28325	28330-28355	28360-28385	28390-28415	28420-28445
Digital	28072-28080	28085-28095	28100-28110	28115-28125	28130-28140



## Ohio PRB-1 Bills by Nick Pittner, K8NAP

From: Nick Pittner, K8NAP  
ARRL State Government Liaison, Ohio Section

It's an election year. Every office in the Ohio House of Representatives is open for election in November. Some members are term-limited and can't run. Others may choose not to run, while most who can will run. In the meantime, nothing is happening by way of committee hearings or efforts to pass legislation. But, there is a curious event that often happens between the general election and the end of the year when the legislative term is about to expire. It is called the "lame duck" session, and it often results in the passage of a large number of dammed-up bills that have been waiting for attention while more important matters (e.g., elections) were being tended to.

At this point we don't know for sure if there will be a lame duck session in the Ohio General Assembly this year. But, if there is one, we very much want our antenna legislation, H.B. 212 and S.B. 218 to be passed as part of that session. S.B. 218 has already passed the full Senate and been transmitted to the House, where it has been assigned to the Homeland Security Committee. What is now needed is for the Homeland Security Committee to pass the bill on for a floor vote of the entire House of Representatives. Passage there would result in the bill being transmitted to the governor for signature.

So, how do we make that happen? Remember, it's politics. At the moment, the House of Representatives is controlled by the Democrats. However, every vote matters, so if you haven't called your representative, regardless of political affiliation, in support of this legislation, now's the time to do that. Four representatives who hold leadership positions are especially important to our effort at the moment. The first is Speaker Armond Budish, who represents the 8<sup>th</sup> District in Cleveland (Columbus office telephone number 614-466-5441) The other two are Matt Szollosi, Speaker Pro Tempore, who represents the 49<sup>th</sup> District in Toledo, (466-1418) and Jay Goyal, Majority Whip, who represents the 73<sup>rd</sup> District in Mansfield (466-5802). Finally the Chair of the Homeland Security Committee, Tracy Heard of Columbus (466-8010). Those of you who live in any of their districts are especially encouraged to make a call, as soon as possible and encourage you fellow-amateurs to do likewise. Better yet, how about a reminder at your next club meeting?

If we are not successful in getting our legislation passed and signed into law by the end of this year we must start all over again next year. Let's make this our year and get on to more important things, like enjoying the sunspot cycle. It's up to you!



# Field Day 2010 Photos by Carl Beduhn, K8AV







## 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 2010-2011

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, KH6BZF, K8AV, K8ME, and K8NAP.