



Sept
Kickoff
Issue

Program TBA

First meeting
of the "new year"
7:30 pm Sept 15
111 Westfall Road

And don't forget the after
the meeting meeting at the

Scotch 'N Sirloin
in Winton Place at Winton Road
Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road

Congratulations!

Dave Wright, N2CK

Tim, KG2NO and his XYL **Kim** became parents again. Ryan (the harmonic) came into the world on Aug 30, and weighed 7lb 7oz. Both mother and son are doing fine!

Reminders:

Dave Wright, N2CK

If you haven't renewed your membership, be sure you bring some extra spending money to the Sept. meeting. I'm sure Ed will be glad to talk to you.

September is also **test session** month. Pass the word and let's see if we can drum up some activity for the VE's. Candidates should plan on being there by 6:00.

Did you order a shirt at Field Day? If so, the shirts will be available. The tee shirts are \$10, Golf shirts are \$20 and add an extra \$1.50 for XXL sizes.

Did you wind up with something that isn't yours after Field Day? Bring it along to the meeting.

Member Information

Fred Gern, K2FR

Recently I received an E-Mail telling me the sender was NOT on the RDXA E-Mail list. I keep a mailing list of members e-mail addresses and on occasion send mail to the list. (We will probably get the Salt City DX Assoc. Newsletter via e-mail and it WILL BE FORWARDED to the RDXA list.) Well here is the bad news.

This is what I do:

Enter ALL information members give K2MP when joining or paying dues.

Keep that information in a database to provide:

Mailing labels for the newsletter

Maintain the ROSTER list on the NG2P PacketCluster

Maintain my E-Mail list (please note - it is my personal list - copies available)

Maintain a list of FCC license expiration dates of members

Maintain a list of phone numbers

Maintain a list of addresses

Attempt (not much luck on this one) to maintain a list of how many DXCC

'Entities' members have worked and if they have DXCC, 5BDXCC etc.

This is what YOU HAVE TO DO:

Provide the Secretary (K2MP) with the following information:

Your address, phone number, email address, license expiration date, country count and list if DXCC Awards.

You can give me the information at meetings, via email (K2FR@JUNO.COM) via the phone (671-9368), to the Secretary - K2MP, or via the NG2P 'Cluster node as soon as I get my antenna up.

QRZ DX

Bill Buchan, W2OMV

This summer has been rather poor for dx with high static levels, mediocre propagation and outside activities limiting operating time. Lately band conditions are improving on 17 and 15 meters and some seldom heard countries may be heard in the near future. A5, BV9, FT5Z, KP1, ZD9, and ZL9 are either planned or possible. So get your antenna work finished, watch your packet cluster for the spots and enjoy a successful dx season. The following information is courtesy of The 59(9) Report.

5T-- MAURITANIA-- Mark, ON4WW has obtained a Mauritania license as 5T5WW. Expect activity from there soon as well as Western Sahara where he has been signing S07WW. QSL manager is ON5NT.

A3, 5W-- PA3AXU will activate Tonga Oct 21-28, possibly as A35XU. He will then move to Western Samoa from Oct 29-

Nov 8. Call possibly 5W1XU. QSL to PA3AXU.

A5-- BHUTAN-- Jim Smith, VK9NS will be visiting Bhutan in October to lobby Ministry of Communications officials to again allow amateur radio in this small Himalayan country. The possibility exists of some demonstration and training activity from A51MOC as a result of this visit and hopefully legislation authorizing amateur radio. Watch the bulletins.

FO0-- AUSTRAL ISLANDS-- If you missed FO0FI last April, you will have another chance to put this potential new entity in your log. Joel, F5JJW will operate from Tubuai and Tahaa islands in the Austral group Oct 7-22. Call will be FO0SUC. The DXAC is now considering the Marquesas and Austral islands application for new entity status. QSL FO0SUC via F5JJW.

FT5Z-- AMSTERDAM ISLAND-- FT5ZH will be the call sign of what appears be a well organized two man, one month dxpedition to this rare sub antarctic island. Two stations will be used with amplifiers, beam antennas and a Titanex vertical for the low bands. Recent FT5Z activity has been sporadic and hampered by low power and inadequate antennas. Hopefully we will now have a chance to put number 21 on the most wanted list in our logs.

KH4-- MIDWAR ISLAND-- MKDXF members will be on Midway signing K4M Sept 20-25. QSL to KE7LZ.

VP8 FALKLANDS-- Jan, K4QD will lead a three operator team to the Falklands Dec 26- Jan 16. Call will be VP8CRB with operation on all hf bands and modes including rtty, where call will be VP8TTY. While not rare, VP8 is needed by many dxers on the low and warc bands.

Choice DX worked since June-- 30 M 3V8BB, TL5A, 20 M EP2MKO, YB3OSE, 17 M SU1SK, A45XR, OJ0AU, 9M2AX, 15 M EP2MKO, 7X4AN.

QsSLs received -- A35RK (W7TSQ wks), K7K(KE7LZ 8 mo), ZL7DK(DK7YY 13 wks), 9G5VJ(G4ZVJ 4 mo), X0A(DL5WM 4 mo), FO0FI & FR(K6SLO 2 mo), 61AQ(N1DG 13 mo), A45XR 18 days.

Tower Mania

Fred Gern, K2FR

At the end of August I started proceedings to get a tower permit at my new location. Same town, zip code, etc.

Different story than 11 years ago. The Town of Webster did the Cell Tower dance and the result is hams are in a state of limbo (the cell towers are UP). I was the FIRST to apply under the new rules and encountered the dreaded politico/bureaucrat shuffle.

My suggestion is that you very seriously consider any moves you make by finding ALL the rules applicable - if you can! The simplest, cleanest, least confusing set of rules are in the town of Perinton. They don't allow towers in the super station category, but they DO KNOW WHAT THE RULES ARE!

Upcoming Hamfests

Dave Wright, N2CK

- Sep 19, Buffalo Hamfest - (sponsored by Rochester Hamfest) Hamburg, NY

- Sep 26, ARA of the Southern Tier - Elmira, NY
- Oct 3, Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse - Syracuse, NY

On the block

Fred Gern, K2FR

FOR SALE:Hy Gain TH7DXSS. Recently taken off tower.

No damage, assembled w/ penetrox on all aluminum mating surfaces. Elements still together, boom separated. 315 entities confirmed - works great!

\$300 or resonable offer.

Fred, K2FR 671-9368 or k2fr@juno.com

K6LL Contesting tips

Dave Hachadorian, K6LL

Ed. note- With contest season almost on top of us, I thought I'd share something found on the contest reflector that was (I felt) worthy of redistribution. Although it looks like this was written for sweepstakes and domestic contests and somewhat left coast oriented, the overall strategy is sound. Reprinted with permission of the author.

BEFORE THE CONTEST

Make a checklist like this one, customized to the needs of your individual station.

Set Computer to exact UTC time.

Set up computer files, cw/voice memories, keyboard overlay.

Simulate a few qso's on the computer, with rig interfaced, then erase log file.

Get prop forecast and make Miniprop runs.

Review past contest logs and magazine results.

Simultaneously update amp tuning chart, tuner memories, and check for rfi at 1500w, all bands, computer interfaced.

Contest eyeglasses handy. (Non-bifocal)

Lozenges handy for phone.

Coffee cup heater in place.

Make sure computer boots clean, with no unnecessary TSR's.

Verify attenuator, AIP, notch, noise blanker, split frequency all off.

Air Conditioner vents max open in radio room.

Telephone, high pass filters ready for handout to neighbors. Brief XYL.

Change vox delay.

Have contest rules handy.

Prepare sheet with suggested frequencies.

Prepare off-time sheet.

Do receiver noise survey with computer on. Does turning ant slightly help?

Establish a difficult, but achievable, goal for the contest.

Look at last year's rate sheet to fine-tune strategy for band changes.

Domestic contests - max antenna height 10m-50', 15m-75', 20m-100'.(6db down in E. Texas.)

DURING THE CONTEST - GENERAL

Ignore other peoples' numbers. Some play games and off-times are unknown.

Very short pause between cq's, so nobody can tune past while freq is silent.

Need VE8? Point antenna at 045 while running.

BAD - Who was the Yankee Zulu?
GOOD - Yankee Zulu 253 B K6LL 59 AZ.

Maintain accuracy. Scores converge. Every qso is important.

No alcohol, except nightcap Sun a.m. and victory celebration Sunday night.

Population density - Western states advantage - Call CQ.

Use the highest band open, to avoid 9's working 1's, with the 9's aimed East.

Don't worry about mults until Sunday, unless you stumble cross a good one.

Know who is running above and below you. Keep centered, but not too far away so somebody can sneak in.

Use automated cw and voicekeyer (BRAVO, K6LL, 59 ARIZONA.)

Motivation - Visualize pinned S-meters on the East coast.

Motivation - Remember your commitment to the SCCC. Operate full time. (*Ed. Note - make that RDXA instead of SCCC!*)

Don't start on 40 Sunday morning. 20, then 15 asap.

DURING THE CONTEST - CW

Start at high speed (32-35), then slow down as the rate falls (26.) Adjust speed so ONE station is tail-ending.

If a pileup grows, increase speed (40+) until it becomes manageable.

AGC off. Ride the RF gain control.

Tune RIT +/- 400 Hz after CQ.

Go high in the band (050) and send slow (25wpm) cq's once in a while.

In S&P mode, use LSB (cw reverse), tune from high to low to maximize collisions.

DURING THE CONTEST - SSB

Attract noncontesters with plaintive cq's. Make them say the full exchange.

Fast AGC, only to protect your ears. Ride the RF gain control to avoid compression.

Prolong 10 meter novice operation beyond maximum rate. These are unique contacts, and it will improve your nighttime rate, when you work the "real" contesters.

Dave, K6LL

New country w/o an antenna!

Fred Gern, K2FR

Well this is a heck of a note. My tower came down in April and now I find I've got a new country worked. H40AA (Temuto) has been approved for 'entity' status. Guess I'll have to get out SAE and a card (I think I know where they went after the move) and send for my one. Off the air for 4 months and the count goes up!

Stockholders force QSLing changes

Fred Gern, K2FR

This past weekend a complaint was posted on the 'Cluster. The gentleman was upset that he sent several 'green stamps' to a manager and much to his dismay the card arrived via the 'buro'. Well, here's the complete story.

The manager in question was Zocor, OK2GO, a world famous DXer and the DX station operator. Apparently the need to raise large amounts of money to carry on these trips to obscure places raised its ugly head. Our DXer, Zocor, now was faced with a horrible dilemma; raise the bucks (or in his case Eurobucks) or forgo the joy of working endless pile ups from a rare location. Despite being Czech, he faced the problem like a true American - he sold his DXing butt.

Rumor has it that a DXpedition corporation was formed. The corporate name is secret, but rumors have this DXing company is DX Inc. Investors were lured into the fold by documentation showing the SMALL total cost of going to semi rare country (with hotels, air conditioning and 24 hour bar service) versus the HUGE amounts of money that are recouped when the cards start coming in. These investors were mostly CW ops who we all know are smarter than most and who had dreams of the money generated on 14195. They were also reminded that soon the cornucopia of 10 Meters would reappear - go there and troll for dollars between 28.3 and 28.5 - with new DXers from U.S. found in droves. So the campaign began and the investors, lured by the promise of mega

returns jumped on the band wagon and brought their currency.

Armed with a fresh supply of \$\$, Zocor decided to go to Chad in Africa and obtained the call TT8BB. After erecting a 90 foot tower with stacked mono-banders he leapt into the DX portions of the band calling "Tango Tango Eight Big Bucks". In moments the crowd gathered and Zocor was filling his computers hard drive with thousands of contacts. Visions of mega bucks danced in his head. He knew if he worked the phone bands out he could go to CW and then the e-mail would start - "when's he going to be on RTTY?". This is usually followed by the donation of an all mode TNC and specific instructions on how to operate RTTY; cutting down the total investment on equipment. So operate he did; he filled disk after disk with back ups of his logs. And every 5 minutes he gave he QSL info "QSL to DX INC., P.O. Box59, Hardcurrency 90090, zech Republic - please send Green Stamps only, NO IRCs please".

Back home, Zocor takes a well deserved rest and converts his log to a database for quick information retrieval when the cards come. Then the cards begin their arrival. A neat envelope with a computer label; inside another envelope with a return label on it and a QSL card stating "tnx fer the new one" and two or three green stamps. They arrive ten to fifty a day; the money rolls in for several months. Zocor reports to the stock holders that the return per QSO is great and the expenses of \$300 per day are being offset with a return of \$450 to \$500 per hour. The news leaks to Wall Street and DX Inc. Stock jumps \$20 in one day!

Everyone is jubilant; a secretary is hired to handle the mail and several students are put on to fill out cards and stuff envelopes while another goes to the post

office to drop off mail and buy more stamps. Everyone is happy!

Then it happens. The receipt of cards slows to a mere trickle. One day a large package arrives from the Bureau with hundreds of cards for TT8BigBucks - no bucks included. The next day 27 cards arrive direct with NO SAEs and NO Green Stamps. The day after that 43 more arrive with SASEs but no Green Stamps - BUT the cards have 32 cent U.S. stamps on them, difficult to use in the Czech Republic. Every day is different: one brings dozens of cards sent as postcards with messages such as 'Thanks for the QSO, I ain't never worked a Check in Africa before so please QSL', another day brings cards with times listed as 'noon' or 'late on Tuesday' or 'right after you worked my friend Merle'. Then another 5 bags of cards arrives from the Buro. Zocor is aghast; what has happened to all the Green Stamps, what can I do, what happens if the share holders find out?

Find out they do. A special stock holders meeting is called. Poor Zocor has to release the figures and hear the demands that he do something to raise the return rate for the stock. Market analysts berate the company for lax management and the shares drop 35% in one day. So he lays

off the student who travels to and from to the post office. The envelope stuffers are told they will have to find other jobs in the corporation in 15 days or they will be terminated. The secretary quits and gets a job in a coffee shop in Henrietta, NY, USA. The students find there are NO other jobs and are fired; Zocor personally escorts them from the building so no damage is done to the computer logs. This satisfies the share holders for several weeks, but, being high speed CW ops they have no patience and finally decide to out source the job of DX operator to a third world op who is willing to go anywhere for \$40 and some beer.

Eventually he is down-sized also when they realize using a beacon for all DXing requires no salary or benefits.

What happened to Zocor? Rumor has it he now has a position putting gas in generators for a group of very rich, very independent DXpeditioners from Finland who take ship loads of antennae, towers, generators and radios and who only go place that are cold, wet and inaccessible (they've already been to all the good warm places).

DX Inc. stock now trades only at CB flea markets.

RDXA Club Competition Contests 1998-99 - Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

<u>CONTEST</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>SUBMIT BY</u>
CQWW SSB	24-25 Oct	0000	2400	1 December
ARRL SS CW	7-9 Nov	2100	0300	3 December
ARRL SS SSB	21-23 Nov	2100	0300	17 December
CQWW CW	28-29 Nov	0000	2400	15 January
ARRL 160m CW	4-6 Dec	2200	1600	7 January
ARRL 10m	12-13 Dec	0000	2400	14 January
CQWW 160m CW	29-31 Jan	2200	1600	28 February

ARRL DX SSB	20-21 Feb	0000	2400	22 March
CQWW 160m SSB	26-28 Feb	2200	1600	31 March
ARRL DX CW	6-7 March	0000	2400	5 April
CQWW WPX SSB	27-28 March	0000	2400	9 May
CQWW WPX CW	29-30 May	0000	2400	9 July

Non-RDXA Club competition Contests - Fred Gern, K2FR

CONTEST	TIME/DATE
WAE DX test, SSB	0000Z, Sep 12 to 2400Z Sep 13
IRCC Bison Stampede IN.QP)	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0200Z Sep 12 - 13
ARRL Sept VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 12 to 0300Z, Sep 14
North Amer. Sprint, Phone	0000Z-0359Z, Sep 13
Air Force Anniv. QSO Party	0001Z, Sep 19 to 2359Z, Sep 20
Washington State Salmon Run	1200Z, Sep 19 to 0700Z Sep 20 1200Z-2400Z, Sep 20
ARRL 10 GHz Cumul.test	0800-2000 local, Sept 19 & Sep 20
Scandinavian Act. test, CW	1500Z, Sep 19 to 1800Z, Sep 20
Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 20 to 0100Z, Sep 21
CQ Worldwide DX test, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 26 to 2400Z, Sep 27
Scandinavian Act. test, SSB	1500Z, Sep 26 to 1800Z, Sep 27
VK/ZL/Oceania test, Phone	1000Z, Oct 3 to 1000Z, Oct 4
EU Autumn Sprint, SSB	1500Z -1859Z, Oct 3
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 3 to 2200Z, Oct 4
RSGB 21/28 MHz test, SSB	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 4
VK/ZL/Oceania Test, CW	1000Z, Oct 10 to 1000Z, Oct 11
EU Autumn Sprint, CW	1500Z-1859Z, Oct 10
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z-2400Z, Oct 10 & 0000Z-0500Z & 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 11
Iberoamericano test	2000Z, Oct 10 to 2000Z, Oct 11
JARTS WW RTTY test	0000Z, Oct 17 to 2400Z, Oct 18
Asia-Pacific Sprint (CW)	1230Z-1430Z, Oct 17
Worked All Germany test	1500Z, Oct 17 to 1500Z, Oct 18
RSGB 21/28 MHz test, CW	0700Z-1900Z, Oct 18



Rochester DX Association Newsletter

September '98

Rochester DX Association Newsletter

This newsletter is a publication of the Rochester (NY) DX Association, and is published prior to each monthly meeting for the information of members and others interested in Amateur Radio DX and Contesting.

You are cordially invited to any meeting, held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from September through June. We meet in the "auditorium" of the Social Services Building at 111 Westfall Road in Rochester, New York

Club officers and committees

President	<i>Scott Hoag K2ZS</i>
Vice President	<i>Mike Rundle N1OKL</i>
Secretary-Treasurer	<i>Ed Gable K2MP</i>
Board of Directors	
	<i>Bob Hunter NG2P</i>
	<i>Rick Mintz W1TY</i>
	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>
DX Chairman	<i>Bill Buchan W2OMV</i>
Contest Chairman	<i>Chris Shalvoy, K2CS</i>
Newsletter Publisher	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>

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To:

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