



Meeting
Oct 19st
7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Rd

Andy Walker, of Walker Towers, speaking on: "Weatherproofing your Antenna and Feedline System". Andy will share the benefits of his many years of experience in the tower and antenna business on the topic of protecting your antenna system from the coming onslaught of Old Man Winter.

Editor's Corner

Dave Wright, N2CK

Greetings all. Are all your antenna projects done yet? I've got something I want to do to give me some coverage on 160M, however it's gonna involve getting the ladder out. Thankfully I won't have to get up on the roof!

I was remiss in reporting the reports of the ARRL DX CW last month. It seems I neglected to read all the way to the back where the Single Operator Assisted results are located. Had I looked there, I would have noticed **N2WK**. Sorry for the omission Wayne! It's tough doing research to produce a quality and timely publication. For the phone results this month, I intently scanned the results in all the divisions with a membership list in hand.

Make sure you check out this site of the month:
www.qsl.net/kh2d/lizard/lizard1.html

More New Members

Fred Gern, K2FR

Welcome to **Al, AE2T** and **Mike, KB2SG**. Al was a visitor at Field Day and proved to be a real asset on the CW station. Mike is a former member and has returned to the hobby after too many years away.

ARRL DX Phone Results

Dave Wright, N2CK

Well, once again, occupying a prominent place is our own **W2TZ!** Fred finished in 5th place in the W/VE Single Op Low Power division! Congratulations again Fred!

Other RDXA members observed in the results are: **K2CS**, and myself in the Single Operator Low Power division. Entered in the Single Operator High Power division are: **K2FR**, and **W2RW**. Single band entrants are: **W1TY** (20), and **N2OPW** (10). Listed in the Single Operator Assisted division are: **K2MP**, **NG2P**, and **W2FU**. Hopefully I didn't overlook anybody this time!

RDXA is shown as having 25 entries in the ARRL contests for a score of 9,379,086 points! **VO1MP** won the W/VE Low Power combined plaque we sponsor.

DX 40 Years Ago – October 1959

Ed Gable, K2MP

The results of the 25th ARRL International DX contest are in with the RDXA taking fifth place in the nation. W2FBA was the CW winner and W2PUN took the phone trophy. KH6OR wrote an interesting plea for U.S. stations to not send him IRC's when QSL'ing. U.S. stations could not turn in IRC's at U.S. post offices. He argues for U.S. stations to use SASE's instead. That simple idea seemed to have caught on. DX photos in QST's DX Column brings to light the new DXpedition look. Gone are the boat anchor AM rigs and separate receivers and enter the small Collins KWM-1 SSB radio. Shown is a relaxed W2KUW/EA9 with bare feet up on a chair, the mike and obligatory cigarette in one hand and paper logging with the other while cranking out the Q's on the seemingly tiny transceiver. Recognizing a new breed of DX'er, the E.F. Johnson Company, famous for the brute force Viking series of AM rigs, introduced their new Viking Thunderbolt 6N2 Linear Amplifier. Covering only 50 and 144 Mcs, this was a bold step for EFJ. If you're keeping score of such things, the top DXCC Honor Role position on this date was held by Don Wallace, W6AM, with 295 confirmed, mixed phone and CW.

New ARRL Section?

Dave Wright, N2CK

Rumor has it that there is a new section in the works. The new section is West Central Florida. As of this writing, I don't believe it's been approved (or at least I haven't seen any notice on the ARRL Members site).

New Yagi up at W2RW

Rick Wells, W2RW

Several years ago I was able to procure an old Wilson System 1 tribander for next to nothing. It looked to have been up a few years and was in very good shape except for the standard zinc plated hardware which was very rusted but not so much as to have run rust all over the aluminum. I picked it up in pieces and found the only part missing to be the boom-attached boom guy bracket. It also had an old Telrex balun.

The Wilson SY-1 is a 5 element tribander, 4 elements with traps and the 5th is another reflector on 10 m. Boom length is 26 feet of 2 inch AL with guy supports about 2 feet from each end and the assembled weight is 55 lbs. Actually, compared to some current model antennas I think the 55 lbs is somewhat light, which is nice as it can easily be lifted by one man.

So a few years ago I decided to mount a 1A Field Day effort from my back yard and set about to refurbish the yagi with the intentions to put it up about 38 feet on

an extension ladder mount. That's a story in itself – a 28 foot ladder with 4 16 foot pressure treated 2X4 “guys”, with another 10 ft of 2” mast above the ladder. And by the way, the FD effort netted us a 3rd or 4th place in 1A WNY as I remember.

Anyway, refurbishing the yagi was mainly about taking a 2nd mortgage to buy all stainless hardware, reassembling the antenna and making the usual checks. I decided to continue the use of the original extruded AL element clamps which used, strangely enough, 12X24 hardware with square nuts. You can't find 12X24 hardware anywhere let alone find it in stainless. A trip to my father-in-law's junk box (he was a builder for 45 years) netted the required bolts and I think the square nuts were found at Debbie Supply in East Rochester, my favorite spot for buying stainless. This time around I also took apart all the traps. Each was in near perfect condition plus one or two bugs, but nothing bad. My curiosity got the best of me and I also took apart the Telrex balun. Found it an interesting device made with RG-217/U. Put stainless on that too and sealed it up once again.

After a very enjoyable tour of the K2UA antenna farm and towers, I decided to pin the boom ends as I saw Rus do. Got everything assembled in the driveway, leveled, tightened, balun mounted, etc. Made a new piece for the boom guy support and got the boom guys installed. Since the VSWR plot on 20 m from the FD effort a couple of years ago show the antenna to be resonant high in the phone band, I decided to put it together with the CW element lengths to see what would happen.

My tower is a Rohn 45G foldover, 64 feet to the thrust bearing plate. I had a Mosley TA-33 (14' boom) up on a 1.5” solid AL mast at 67 ft with a 2” sleeve for the thrust bearing. I wanted to get the SY-1 at 70' so I went to my usual stop,

Admiral Metals on University Ave., and got half a length of 6061-T6 ½ " wall and cut that to the appropriate length. We tipped the tower for TA-33 removal, T2X, and mast installation. The Tailtwister replaced a Ham II. The next weekend was the SY-1 install.

Working from the top of an 8' stepladder was a bit marginal but I was comfortable as I could hang on to the end of the mast which we had at about 13.5 ft. Walked up the SY-1, "slipped" it on the mast, squared it off, and cranked 'er up. Sounds easy! It wasn't hard but it took probably 3 hrs. Guess the foldover method is debatable vs. tramping a big yagi to the top of the tower, but I like working that stuff out on the ground.

First station worked was in the same place as the first one worked when the TA-33 went up, Antarctica. The VSWR is OK until you get higher in the phone bands on 10 and 15 m, but as expected, for unknown reasons, something to research over the winter, it resonates about 14.230 MHz on 20 m. That's down about 120 kHz from before. Front-to-side and front-to-back are substantial and much more than on the TA-33, i.e., I can't hear stations off the side like I did with the TA-33. Gota turn the rotor to find them.

As with everything lately it seems, that's all the time I have before shipping this off to N2CK. I'm pretty happy with it and am almost all set for the contest season. Have to finish up the 80/40 CW and phone dipoles and get the 160 m up but that's it. Anyone is welcome to stop by for an eyeball if you're interested in seeing this thing of beauty, shining in the morning sun, at 70 ft. A big TNX to "the crank", **Tim Magee, WB2KAO** for cranking the winch and managing the project, and to the rest of the ground crew **Charlie, WB2HJV** and **Larry, KB2ZYB**.

Dues are Due!

Ed Gable, K2MP

Yes, it is that time again. Your Board of Directors voted for no dues increase this year, so it remains at a bargain for \$15.00 a year. Family memberships are available for an additional \$1.00 for each family member at the same address. Only one RDXA Bulletin will be mailed to a single address.

Please send check, made out to RDXA, with your callsign on the check, and mail to RDXA Treasurer, Ed Gable, 187 Lighthouse Rd, Hilton, NY 14468. I only need address, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and the like, *if* there are *changes*. If no change, just your check and call sign will do. Dues will also be accepted at any club meeting but mail is the preferred method.

Contest Calendar

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Oct	1999 - 30-31	CQWW SSB
Nov	1999 - 6-8	ARRL SS CW
	-20-22	ARRL SS SSB
	-27-28	CQWW CW

Ed note – Bold indicates RDXA Club Competition.

Did You Work `em?

Fred Gern, K2FR

CRØOK - Send 4 Green Stamps pse
FR1ED - too much RFI off the air now
HA1L - bad wx to report
M1TE - a diminutive guy (w/handheld?)
NØDE - 'cluster buster'
SØUND - W. Sahara rock & roller
SM1RK - the Smiling Swede

The 10 Most needed Entities (or how many do YOU need?)

*Compiled from the ARRL Members page
by Ed Gable, K2MP*

Top Most Needed DXCC Entities
Check and See How You're Doing

P5 North Korea
BS7H Scarbrough Reef
BV9P Pratis Island
A5 Bhutan
VU Andaman & Nicobar Isl
E3 Eritrea
7O Yemen
FR/T Tromelin Isl
FR/G Glorioso
3Y Bouvet Isl
ZL9 Auckland/Campbell
VK0/m MacQuarie Isl
VU Lakshadweep Isl
VP8 So. Sandwich Isl.
XZ Myanmar
3B7 St. Brandon
SV/a Mt. Athos
VK0/h Heard Isl

HK0 Malpelo Isl
3C0 Annobon
KH5K Kingman Reef
FR/J Juan de Nova, EU
5A Libya
VP8 So Georgia Isl
ZL8 Kermadec
3Y Peter 1 Isl
FT0/z Amsterdam Isl.
ZS8 Prince Edward/Marion Isl
PY0/s St. Peter/Paul Rocks
YA Afghanistan

Ed note – I need all of them!

Email – Important!

Fred Gern, K2FR

We now have 82 members in RDXA. One of the quickest ways for non-real time communications is via e-mail. We have 59 members listed with e-mail addresses. That means we have 23 members who have no e-mail address or who haven't given us one.

If you have an e-mail address please let us know! Send it to me:
k2fr@arrl.net **or to our Secretary:**
k2mp@eznet.net

Here is the list of those with NO e-mail info:

AA2MU, K2OS, K2TED, K2TYG, K2ZT, K4VOS, KA2BOK, KA2PHQ, KB2RNG, KB2YHE, N2LJR, N2VNO, N2YB, W2EZ, W2LB, W3IEE, WA2QDP WA2ZNC, WB2CGF, WB2KAO, WB2RGK, WE2T and WY2Z

We also encourage you to join us at RDXA@Onelist.Com for our club wide e-mail list. Ask for details.

How's DX?

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Well, this month we can answer the age-old question, "How's DX?" In a word, GREAT!! I hope you've all taken advantage of the excellent band conditions and yet another incredible DXpedition and jotted a few down in the log.

The incredible DXpedition you ask? Well it certainly wasn't 3C0R!! Granted, they had numerous problems, health and equipment related but a little knowledge of propagation even works with QRP and wires. I guess the extension they asked for wasn't granted as they packed up a day early. As of midpoint, they had about 20k qso's.

On a positive note, I guess they've obtained permission to go back, (let's hope with an improved understanding of the grey line).

The incredible DXpedition was the T31 gang. These guys WERE incredible!! Look below to see what a very average station was able to manage. Great ops, very good understanding of propagation, all the bands and modes. CW guys on CW, what a concept!! As of this writing, the same group is at ZK3 but as yet, I haven't heard them (was away for the weekend).

What a great time of the "DX" year. Every band, 160m – 2m has been open, almost daily.

The real big "show" was the evening after the last general membership meeting. I noticed "auroral" sounding HF signals during my QSO with VP9/HB9CYV on 30m (looking for the t31) just after getting

home from work. I'd been tracking the "K" index and sure enough, a full blown aurora!! I logged 24 different 2m grids and 2 on 6m, 8 new ones total. North Carolina is nothing to scoff at via aurora!! All told, 3 hours of "the buzz mode", even though, SSB was supported on 6m.

For those of you that haven't gotten into anything above 10 meters, I'd suggest you broaden your horizons. The thrill of working Europe on 6 meters or Texas on 2m are just as exciting as 3C0R (though I can't say I've experienced that!!).

Remember, CQWW SSB at the end of the month, easy way to get a whole bunch of new ones!! 10 meters should be hopping so no excuses. Very meager rigs, power and antennas can reap huge scores. This is the "BIG ONE", participate, you'll have a blast!

IN THE LOG (only the good stuff, non-contest)

5N3CPR (20M CW)
HC8N (15M CW.. **BEFORE SUNRISE!!**)
C91RF (30M CW)
EL2WW (17M CW)
OX/OZ8AE (20M, 40M CW)
5N0ZKD (20M CW)
T31T (40M, 12M, 15M, 80M, CW)
T31K (17M, 10M, 20M, SSB)
T31T (15M RTY)
ZB2/W5FI (20M RTY)
3W7CW (12M CW)
A71EZ (10M SSB)
R1ANF/A (15M CW)
A61AN (10M SSB)
OD5NJ (17M CW)
VQ9QM (40M CW)

IN THE MAIL (non-buro packs)

KH8/N5OLS
(lots of 2 & 6m grids too)
Thanks once again to the 59(9)
DXReport, my main source of weekly DX information.

FCC ULS System

Fred Gern, K2FR

Try this to use the on-line ULS update system.

Remember you **MUST** be registered in the ULS system to do ANY upgrades or updates to your license! That includes changes to Callsign, address and renewals. It is a slow link, best you try in the morning.

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>

P.S. Even though Uncle Sam hates Bill Gates you **CANNOT** use Netscape Browsers lower than version 4.5 (Note: Rumor is **AVOID** Netscape ver. 4.7 it is loaded with problems)

The Handheld News

Fred Gern, K2FR

(Note: Since RDXA can't include pictures of young Dxers with their handhelds we have decided to include this news to offset any editorial advantage)

Breaking news: ASHES (the American Slick Handheld Enthusiasts Society) has dropped several hundred members from their roster. It seems that word got out that these no-code members of ASHES were caught in the act of talking on repeaters about **UPGRADING** their licenses and worse yet mentioning learning CW with the ultimate goal of conversing with **FOREIGN** hams. A spokesperson for ASHES, Push Button, is quoted as saying "This behavior will **NOT** be tolerated among their members" .

Handheld bragging: Do you want to be using proper handheld terminology? The latest techno marvels have elicited statement such as: mine is **smaller** than yours! .

New Web Site: here's our new web page address:

#@basement#\$@%handheld@#%1wat
t.com

Coming soon: upcoming articles will feature:

Mating the new 7 band Icom 8HT2 to the Alpha 87 for more stooch!

New handheld pictures with the **covers off!**

(we will need your credit card number to prove you are 18 or older.)

The Dxers Creed

Robert Dunn, K5IQ

In the Light of day, and dark of night,
I'll crank my power full to the right,
To show my RF strength and clout,
And repeatedly my callsign shout!

Because I must, I must divine,
If in Lord Howe I'm 5 and 9!
And in Tonga, Gabon, Mayotte,
I need to know my signal's hot!

3B9 and VU7,
Send me straight to DX heaven!
Calls from lands oh so exotic,
If I miss them, I'll go neurotic!

To snag the rare ones, I'll use each trick:
I'll skip work, I'll call in sick!
I'll miss birthdays and traditions,
Just to work DXpeditions!

And when my family members whine,
I'll say, "Hang on, there's VQ9!"
But should I incur some wifely wrath,

I'll just cry, "Not now! Ten's hot long path!"

To keep my rep as pile-up buster,
I stay logged on the DX Cluster,
And I read each bulletin,
QRZed and Ohio Penn.

And though my money gets swiped by
tramps,
I'll keep mailing crisp "green stamps",
In the hopes my work so hard,
Nets for me a third-world card.

The QSL, the Holy Grail!
The DXer's joy that comes by mail.
And though we prize these souvenirs,
It sure takes long--it seems like years!

With each contact I near my goal,
Of DXCC Honor Roll.
And with ev'ry packet spot I'm seein',
I keep hopin' for a North Korean!

And so I'll say, "5-9, 7-3,"
"By the Buro's fine by me!"
By Boulder K and Grey-line edge,
I promise here, I make this pledge:

In the light of day, and dark of night,
I'll crank my power full to the right,
To show my RF strength and clout,
And repeatedly my callsign shout!

*From the K5IQ "What's DX?" page
www.qsl.net/k5iq/what.htm (c) 1999 Bob
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Contest Log Format

Fred Gern, K2FR

Most active testers probably have
heard of the "Cabrillo" format for
computer logs in the upcoming
Sweepstakes. Well here you it is:
<http://www.kkn.net/~trey/cabrillo/>

They have easy to read information here.
I also understand that **NA** has a new
update with this format included.

Free to Good Home(s)

Dave Wright, N2CK

Assorted QSTs ranging from the mid 60's
to 1998, call Tim, KG2NO at 654-2866 or
send email to kg2no@arrl.net.

A friend of mine here at work has 4 older
computers he'd like to offer. The details
are as follows: They are PS/2s, 386
machines. He wasn't sure of ram and disk
specifications, but he figures ram is in the
neighborhood of 6-8M, and hard drives
ranging from 30-60M. They come with
keyboard and mice. He has a couple of
network cards he's willing to get rid of as
well. If interested, call Dan Hazekamp at
654-2610, or send email to djh@cci.com.
The cases are a slimline desktop design.

Items For Sale

Dave Wright, N2CK

For Sale: Antenna traps. Reyco KW
series, set of ten traps for 80 through 10
meters. Includes center
insulator/lightning arrester. As new and
worth >100 bucks. Sell \$45.00. Ed
Gable, k2mp, 392-3088 or
k2mp@eznet.net

For Sale: Kenwood TS-870 with SP-31
speaker and MC-90 mike, complete set, 1
year old, still in the box, asking \$2100 or
best offer-- page Dave, N2LJR at 528-
2721

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>
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DX Chairman	<i>Chris Shalvoy K2CS</i>
Contest Chairman	<i>Chris Shalvoy, K2CS</i>
Newsletter	
Publisher	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>

Dues and correspondence

*Ed Gable K2MP
Secretary-Treasurer RDXA
187 Lighthouse Road
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The RDXA website has moved and is located at: www.qsl.net/rdxa
Check it out.






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