



Meeting
Sep 21st
7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Rd

You worked
them, read the
article in QST,
now see the
ZL9CI Video!

Test Session Month

Prior to our first regular meeting,
there will be a test session. Spread
the word.

Editor's Corner

Dave Wright, N2CK

Greetings all. Hope it's been a productive summer

First off, some administrative tasks. Does *anybody* know the whereabouts of the RDXA banner?? Also, when you show up in September, bring some extra money for dues. Ed's always willing to take money.

Make sure that you attend the Sept. meeting and pick up your checklist for tracking towards the **W2OMV** annual award (details to follow ...). Keep it handy in your station.

Welcome New Members

Fred Gern, K2FR

RDXA added three new members this month. They are **Dave, N2LJR, Bob,**

WE2T and **Marv, K2ZAA**. We hope you will enjoy your RDXA membership.

ARRL DX CW Results

Dave Wright, N2CK

Once again, our own **W2TZ** is at the **top** of the results! Fred took top honors in the **W/VE Single Operator, Low power** category with 1,844,640 points! NICE JOB Fred!

Other RDXAers listed in order of finish in the **low-power** category are: **K1PY**, **K9EEE**, and **K2FR**. RDXAers listed in order of finish in the **high-power** category are: **K2UA**, **W2LC**, **W2FU**, **W2EZ**, **K2MP**, **W2OMV**, **KX2H**, and **W2RW**. **K2CS** had an entry in the single band category for 10 meters. Good job all.

RDXA Field Day 1999

Rajiv Dewan, N2RD

It was with much trepidation that I broached the idea of a competitive field day with the board and membership of our club. But I was in for a big surprise. Not only did the board go along with the idea, a large number of us got caught up in the idea and we did things we had not done before, at least in recent times. Who would have thought that **Fred, W2TZ** would be the captain of the SSB station. Or that **K8FC** would take time off his worldwide travels to captain the CW station? Or that **Cliff, K2SKO** would very ably captain the power and fill **W2OMV's** shoes in assisting Fred? Or increase the

number of SSB qsos to 250% of previous efforts while keeping the CW qsos at the previously competitive levels? Or a doubling of qsos by the Novice station? Or tens of satellite qsos by **Walt, NQ2O** and **Scott, K2ZS**? This list of great contribution and effort goes on and on.

Friday was bright and sunny and we were once again at the Webster Park Boy Scout campgrounds. First order of business was to set up antennas. Fred and his team did a yeomen's job. They first set up two element wire beams for the 40m/15m CW station. Fred dug out his trusty bow and like Robin Hood shot an arrow towards a tall pine tree. The arrow was trailing fishing line. The fishing line was used to pull successively sturdier ropes until a substantial rope was pulled taut between two trees, about 50 feet off the ground. This formed the boom of the wire beams. The wire elements were then stretched out using ropes to other trees. Fred and his team turned their attention to setting up the "fishbone" for the SSB station. The fishbone consists of a long rope boom strung between trees and multi-element wire yagis for 10 thru 80m bands.

While Fred was setting up his "fishbone," the flagpole in the center of the field was a hub of activity. **Vic, K1PY** and his team were setting up an A4 tribander for the 10m/20m CW station. Once again Vic's Amazing Gizmo was put to service. It consists of a length of angle iron with a wire rope loop in the middle. The wire rope goes around the flag pole and two tensioning ropes at the top of the gizmo pull the angle bar top down so that the bottom abuts the mast. The whole thing works amazingly well. There is a pulley attached to the top of the angle iron to suspend the beam. It was nightfall by the time the gizmo and the beam were up. **K8FC** had already setup his station and **K2SKO** has set up the power and Joe

decided to spend the night at the site - to everyone's relief I am sure.

Saturday was another fine day. **Gayle** and her team setup the Novice station with a 10m dipole and Kenwood 430. She and her team did exceptionally well last year with a similar setup and this year she more that doubled last year's qso totals! Bravo. **Scott, K2ZS** and **Walt, NQ2O** setup the satellite station and made tens of contacts. **Paul, N2OPW** brought in his rover – a veritable cornucopia of VHF/UHF rigs and antennas and set up next to the satellite station.

We had a great time operating the stations. Fred, Vic, Cliff and the rest of the SSB crew were holed away in the tent that Scott generously supplied and racked up an amazing 1,754 qsos. The two CW stations with able help from **Joe, K8FC, Paul, K2DB, Al, AE2T, Brian, AC4W, Chris, K2CS**, and others kept pace, bringing the qso count back to previous high levels.

As in previous years, **Irv, AF2K** did a fine job of PR, arranging the information table, putting up signs and sending traffic. **Kevin, N2VJB** took care of all the food details. The amount of work needed to pull the field day together is enormous and a large number of people were involved. I thank all of you even if I have inadvertently left your name/call off this narrative.

Lastly I would like to thank the board and club for permitting me to help with organizing the field day.

Best regards to all, Rajiv, N2RD

DX 40 Years Ago – September 1959

Ed Gable, K2MP

Oh, to have a *go back machine!* Not one, but TWO Macquaire Island stations, VK0MI and VK0WR were there for the taking. VK0MI especially looked for U.S. QSO's on CW. Currently newsworthy was the then active CR8AI in Timor. Two others were licensed but access to equipment was all but impossible. Who will be first to log the new Timor? Also reported was a 'round the world trip by our good friend and great DX'er Sax Ringler, W2SAW. Sax is hitting JA, BV, VS6, 9N1, VU (Should have been VU7, old boy) 4X, and then through Europe. Other easy catches back then were FB8ZZ on Amsterdam, FR7ZC on Tromelin and a slew of MP4's from Muscat & Oman and 6O1GB from Somalia. It appears the cold war got warmer with the announcement by the USSR that Soviet Courtesy Licenses were now available for visiting Amateurs. And in a related bit of news the ban on qso's with Thailand was lifted this month. A huge advertising blitz, with ads on almost every page of QST, introduced something called a Signal One transceiver.

ATTENTION LONG TIME WIRELESS OPERATORS

Dave Wright, N2CK

The Registry of Senior Wireless Operators wishes to announce the issue of a certificate for wireless operators who have been on the air for more than twenty five years. This handsome certificate is suitable for framing and will include your name, present call letters, and the date of issue. Each certificate is individually numbered and is your identification within the registry. Those registered are listed at the Registry web site.

The purpose of the Registry is to recognize wireless operators who have been licensed to operate transmitters with a power in excess of 100 watts for over twenty-five years. This includes all forms of wireless operators, whether the original license was military, commercial, or amateur.

Full details may be found on the Internet at: <http://www3.sympatico.ca/wrgraham>

ARRL DX Plaque

Ed Gable, K2MP

Ed note: The following letter was received from Walt Deemer, KN4T. Walt won the W/VE Low Power Combined Score Plaque that we sponsored in 1998.

Dear YIs and Oms:

Low power operation in contests is very special to me. It requires a unique set of skills, we will never rack up the big numbers (and recognition) that our high-power cousins will. But it is very encouraging, to those of us who prefer to operate low power, to get some recognition for good efforts, and the fact that your club has sponsored a plaque to reward the efforts of a low power operator in the DX Contest – an operator who works just as hard, and arguably even

harder, than a high-power one – is both generous and commendable.

The plaque that now hangs proudly on my wall would not be there without your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity. From both myself and low-power operators in general, many, MANY thanks!

Very 73, Walt Deemer, KN4T

Contest Calendar

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Sept	1999 - 25-26	CQWW RTTY
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.

Hope Springs Eternal

Fred Gern, K2FR

After about twenty years of chasing DX in mostly a relaxed state of mind I find things are changing. You know the drill: get on the air once a week or so and check the 'Cluster for stuff. Work a couple of new band countries or countries in a new mode. (P.S. I really DO have DXCC CW now!) Then comes a contest weekend and you find it's more fun to work stations than to search for that "new one". Once in a while you actually do get a new one in a contest but as the country count goes over 250 that almost disappears.

One day you look in the records and realize that you are getting close to Honor Role and that getting new countries is becoming difficult. To add to the fun there is ALWAYS ONE local guy you are in a race with for the next prize. This makes it a LOT more interesting, even if you lose. At club meetings you look at the guys who already are on the Honor Roll and wonder how long it took them.

Then the Kings of DXCC decide that some stations are not to count for the award. In the mean time you work three new ones in 3 weeks to take you to the prize you are racing toward. Except that you are going to lose one country by executive decision and still be short of the goal. Of course then your friend announces that he HAS card #323 IN HAND and he wins the onion bagel with cream cheese prize!

BUT, a printout arrives from the KINGS of DXCC and it says they have NOT deleted the country I expected to lose. Oh, Oh, now I'd better get the cards out for those three new ones in case the count stays that way!

Remember, you ONLY do this to impress yourself and if possible beat a friend to it.

As I said, Hope springs eternal!

This is as much fun as the first hundred!

PACKETCLUSTER NEWS

Bob Hunter, NG2P

I don't want all those spots!

We have a friend in Western Mass (K1TTT) that seems bent on inserting spots he has picked up on the internet from Europe. At times they come faster than during a major contest and many

report that the stations are not heard here in the US (but some may be). If you don't want them let me know, I can filter them for you by user BUT I have to set it up for you. If you like them fine, there is no problem.

There is a glitch however ...

I didn't get that spot!

If you request to be added to the above filter you will not get all the spots. Right now it almost appears as if you won't get any. Not only will you not get spots from the K1TTT internet connection, you won't get them from users on nodes in California, or Texas or outside of the Northeast US/Eastern Canada. You will only get them from nodes I have identified as being from the Northeast and I don't have them all identified yet. It also appears that not many in the Northeast are spotting anything right now.

I didn't get that last spot and it came in from the northeast!

I don't have all the nodes in the Northeast region identified yet. I can only do this manually when a lot of nodes are connected to the network. You can help by checking that the station spotting is in the Northeast by doing SH/STA <<callsign><<ENTER>. The users home node should appear if he is in the Northeast. I also did a search on my QRZ database on many of the recent DX spots by W2's and 99% had Texas or California addresses etc. But very few were in the Northeast.

Most users here take all the spots.

The filter system I use here was used in the past. I went back and forth with a number of you and I finally gave up. Most of you took all the spots. Some didn't want them from far away regions but they put their TNC in MONITOR WHILE CONNECTED and saw that some of the other local users were getting spots. So

they asked to be unfiltered again. Then they complained that the spots were useless. The cycle repeats.

What would be nice would be if the software allowed each user to manage their own list of where spots can be from but it isn't available and the software is no longer supported.

A new author of packetcluster software is available but at \$500 per copy. Possibly it will support the above DX spotting filters at the user level. I am taking a watch and see attitude. It works under the version of WINDOWS I use, but not well. What I use works well under DOS with few crashes. So if the reports are favorable on the new cluster software I will probably give it a try at some point.

Rochester VHF Group

Tim Stoffel, NS9E

The oldest club of its type in the country, the Rochester VHF Group seeks to increase activity on our VHF allocations 50 MHz and above. Although the emphasis is on VHF weak signal operating (CW/SSB), all aspects of VHF operating are explored.

The Rochester VHF Group promotes VHF activity with sponsorship of contest events and awards. They offer an annual tune-up clinic for high performance VHF radio equipment. Club construction projects are also sponsored, and this year's project looks to be an inexpensive, very high performance 10 GHz microwave transverter. The group also includes many technical experts and specialists that share their vast knowledge with the membership.

The Rochester VHF Group meets on the second Friday of each month at the Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road in Rochester. Meetings start at 7:30 PM. The September meeting features a talk by **Frank Pollino, K2OS** on general weak signal operating. This program will explain how to 'get your feet wet' on the VHF bands. Many new HF radios also feature CW/SSB on one or more VHF bands, and Frank will show you how to make the most of it! The many unusual VHF propagation modes will also be explained (just to whet your appetite, I worked Springfield, Ill. with 10 watts on 2 meters a few nights back by taking advantage of unusual propagation!).

For membership information, contact Jeff Luce, KB2VGH at VHFgroupers@greeceny.com, or visit the club's website at: <http://vhfgroup.rochesterny.org>, or by mail at: Rochester VHF Group, P.O. Box 92122, Rochester NY 14692.

How's DX?

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

Well, hope you enjoyed your "vacation" but the bands have been hopping this summer.

With SFI's above 200 and low "A" 's, almost anywhere has been workable well into the morning hours on 20 meters, heck, even 15 has been open until midnight throughout the summer.

I remember **Walter, NQ2O** telling me that 20 meters would be open "all nite long", well, once again he was right, (that happens often).

As I look over my shoulder at the cluster, spots are still coming in stateside for 15 meters; it's now 10:00 pm.... A few on 10 meters as well (for the beam & "boost" boys).

Speaking of 10m, I don't know about you but it hasn't panned out the way I expected.

No too much other than the north/south paths we're so used to. What a shame, just got # 100 in the mail for 10m, hoped to pick up a few more this summer. Guess we'll see what crops up during the contests.

Hope you all have been keeping tabs on your NON CONTEST Dxing. Please submit your totals (at least 25 PER BAND) for the W2OMV award... more on that later. START COUNTING!!

IN THE LOG (only the GOOD stuff...)
NON CONTEST

VU2TMP (15m cw)
CY9SS (80m cw...in june)
A45XR (17m & 15m cw)
FO0CLA (20m & 15m cw)
4L1BR (20m rtty)
E41/OK1FHI (20m cw)
XE1OT (6m ssb)
E21EJC (15m cw)
XW8KPL (17m cw)
R1MVA (20m, 15m, 17m, 30m cw, 20m ssb, 20m rtty)
KP2A (6m cw)
WB2AMU/VP9 (6m cw)
WP4O (6m cw)
3B9FR (17m cw)
N1OKL/VE1 (30m cw)
3D2QB (15m cw)
3B9FR (20m cw)
CY9CWI (160m, 30m, 15m, 80m, 40m, 12m cw, 160m,12m, 80m, 6m, 40m ssb..)
NH0M (20m cw)
OD5NJ (17m cw)

5B4AGC (20m cw)
7X4AN (15m cw)
SV5/LA5LJA/P (15m cw)
V73GT (20m cw)
YB1AQC (17m cw)
XX9TRR (17m cw)
MJ/OM3LA/P (17m, 30m & 15m cw)
9M2TO (17m cw)
8Q7TB (20m cw)
JY9QJ (20m cw)
OY4LY (30m cw)
V51AS (15m cw)
OX3LX (20m cw)

IN THE MAIL (NON BURO PACK)

TL5A, OA4SS, XR3Z, V47KP, 3DA0CA, 8Q7BV, XT2AW, KH2D, JT1Y, ZL9CI, T20FW

Best DX es 73

(NW2T es K2EEK, god speed...)

73 de Chris, K2CS

Wanna Cry?

Fred Gern, K2FR

Try this web site to see the installation at K2UA, Rus Healy

www.kkn.net/~k5tr/photo/k2ua

Social Butterflies

Fred Gern, K2FR

If you are socially inclined you may be interested to know that RDXA members

have a short "Happy Hour" on Friday at the S & S. The gathering of the clan begins about 3:30 and usually ends by 5:30 – insuring domestic tranquillity for participants. They DO serve non-alcoholic drinks too!

Rules of Radio

From the AC6V website, and VE9DAN

There shall be no talking by the family during a QSO.

The XYL shall assist with antenna construction when and only when required.

The shack budget will take precedence over all other incidental items such as mortgages, food, etc.

Christmas stocking stuffers for the OM must include at least two items for the shack (total value of not less than \$300).

Flea markets, hamfests, and field days over-rule family holidays.

Furry pets are not allowed near the rig (except for testing purposes).

TVI never occurs within the home, or if it does, is negligible and does not count.

All trees around QTH shall be considered antenna supports, and not "greenery", "landscaping", or other such nonsense.

Corollary: Any tree may be cut down, pruned, poisoned, dug up, or otherwise removed should it be in the way of wire.

The last postage stamp and envelope in the home shall be reserved for direct QSL mailings, and not for personal letters, bills, or mail orders (unless orders are for shack).

Any number of holes may be drilled in the family car to accommodate mobile whips. Corollary: Coax may droop across the steering column occasionally.

Never herewith shall insurance coverage of shack items be less than triple the replacement value, notwithstanding acts of God.

Newly licensed hams must honor, praise, look up to, ask easy questions of, and purchase coffee for, old guys.

The XYL shall anticipate good band propagation conditions at all times, and whenever rare DX flows in, she shall without fail: keep log when requested; hold all phone calls - except those from other hams; call the OM's work QTH the next morning and cover his absence with a good excuse; appear very excited; change all her plans to suit; provide steaming coffee at 45 minute intervals; cancel all household chores, and in particular, cancel vacuuming.

All materials owned by the work QTH can and will be used for ham projects.

These rules may be modified at any time, without notice, to continuously be in the OM's best interest.

The most recent licensee must bear the brunt of our collective teasing until the next new licensee fills his humiliated shoes.

All members of all radio clubs must support, in unsurpassed vigor and cooperation, whatever the resident "contest man" suggests.

Whence OM bears unrelentless fright of tower height, others must climb said structure unflinchingly upon request.

Perspective

Fred Gern, K2FR

The other day I drove by what used to be a National Guard building. Guess they sent all the Guard guys to Bosnia and had no further use for the building

because is had a sign in front advertising "INTENSE SPORTS".

I continued down the road wondering why one would want to do "INTENSE" things inside a building, with the possible exception of things we don't write about in a DX newsletter. It also occurred to me that they most likely charge people to be "intense" in this former battle building. BINGO! Idea!

RDXA can add to its coffers every year in June. We can get the young people who want to be "intense" and take them to Field Day (for a nominal shipping and handling charge) and let them be INTENTS. The really tough ones will be escorted to the world famous W2TZ tent and they will be shown what pressure and intensity really mean.

Onelist

Fred Gern, K2FR

We are using the e-mail address, rdx@onelist.com as a method to send messages to as many members as possible outside of the newsletter. This is another pitch for the list. I will be sending out invitations from the site. If you reply to the invitation you will be added to the list. At present 44 of the 55 members with e-mail addresses are on the list. We hope that most of the rest of you will join the list also.

P.S. IF YOU HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS MAKE SURE YOU GIVE IT TO ME OR TO K2MP. WE WILL NEVER KNOW UNLESS YOU TELL US!

Upcoming Hamfests

Dave Wright, N2CK

Elmira International Hamfest/Computerfest Sept 25th at the Chemung County Fairgrounds – (talk in freq. 147.96- and 444.20).

Items For Sale

Dave Wright, N2CK

4 position remote antenna switch. Ameritron RCS-4. In box with Manual. Used, looks and works perfectly. \$50.00. Swan 100MX HF transceiver, 100 watt class, SSB/CW, looks as new and working. With manual, power cord and microphone. \$125.00. Digital multimode controller, Baudot, packet, CW, AEA PK-232, with manual and software. Perfect. \$75.00. Narrow CW filter, 270 Hz for Kenwoods, number YK88CN. Tested OK, \$45.00. Ed Gable, k2mp, 392-3088 or k2mp@eznet.net.

Yaesu FT-101E, desk mike - \$250.

Dentron GLA-1000 Amp, (1KW cw, 1200 watts ssb input) \$100.

Dentron MT-2000A full power tuner - \$125.

At the present time, operating condition is unknown. However, the physical appearance of these items is very good. Contact **Dave, N2CK** at 392-3183.

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	Scott Hoag K2ZS
Vice President	Mike Rundle N1OKL
Secretary-Treasurer	Ed Gable K2MP
Board of Directors	
	<i>Paul Meyers, N2OPW</i>
	<i>Bob Hunter NG2P</i>
	<i>Rick Mintz W1TY</i>
	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>
DX Chairman	Chris Shalvoy K2CS
Contest Chairman	Chris Shalvoy, K2CS
Newsletter	
Publisher	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>

Dues and correspondence

*Ed Gable K2MP
Secretary-Treasurer RDXA
187 Lighthouse Road
Hilton, NY 14468*

The RDXA website has moved and is located at: www.qsl.net/rdxa
Check it out.



33 South Main Street
Pittsford, NY 14534
Bus: (716) 381-4770
Paul Ext. 178 • Toni Ext. 177
Fax: (716) 586-4599
E-Mail: mackanos@nothnagle.com
E-Mail: tconnors@nothnagle.com



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Painting
Installation / Removal

Andy Walker **716-243-1841**

Memories in Motion

All Occasions

Michael D. Spryn
(716) 671-5789

Rochester DX Association

Dave Wright N2CK
173 South Ave
Hilton, NY 14468

To: