



Meeting
Tues Apr 18th
7:30 p.m.
111 Westfall Rd

It's here again: the Annual DX Quiz. **K2MP** and **N1OKL** have assembled a question pool to test your DX savvy and tickle your funny bone. So...bone up on those rare prefixes, review a little DXCC history, know your propagation terms...or just come join in the fun and guess! Pssst. Want a hint? Beam headings.

Just a reminder, April is also a test session month. Spread the word!

Editor's Corner

Dave Wright, N2CK

According to the calendar it's supposed to be spring, but winter doesn't seem willing to give up its grip!

As a warmup for this month's program I've included a contest quiz that I found on the ARRL web site. Thanks to **Vic, K1PY** for his help on inverting the answers on the last page. Take the test honestly to see how you fare.

It's almost time for election of officers. Take a moment to consider stepping into the limelight and run for office. Also quickly approaching are the Rochester Hamfest and Field Day. Got your calendar cleared? Considering we managed to place 3rd in the nation, we'll need to defend that position. **Raj** and **Fred** will soon be shaking the bushes for volunteers to step up and accept a role. Remember the adage – *Many hands make light work*. To reach 3rd again (or better!) we'll need lots of effort – especially for set-up and tear down. Please come out and support your club

Those of you that missed the banquet missed a pretty good dinner and entertainment.

Members

Fred Gern, K2FR

We're pleased to have **Dave, WJ2O**, back as a member; he's the one who writes and sells the WJ2O logging software.

Club membership is now at 76. If you know anyone interested in DXing and/or Contesting get their call to me, K2FR.

Rules for Working DX

K1VV via K2UA & the YCCC Reflector

After listening to the 4W6 operation we thought it was time to reissue the DX Rules from 1997.

Rules for DXing or How to have more FUN on the Bands:

The DX MODE:

1. If you come upon a pileup, find the exact DX frequency and slowly tune up your KW right on his frequency. Take your time doing this as it has maximum effect this way. The longer you take, the better.
2. If you cannot wait to find out the DX call sign, ask, "What is the DX call sign?" On CW send 'DX?' Call?" Do Not listen, this takes time. Do this repeatedly until someone gives you the call. This will show all others on frequency that you are serious about wanting to work this DX. This is called sharing.
3. When you find out the DX call, repeat your call over and over again on the DX

frequency. Even if he is working split there is a chance he may be listening on his transmit frequency.

4. When the DX says "ABC only"- Don't believe him. If he says "Europe only" - Don't believe him. If he says, "2's only" - Don't believe him. Keep giving your call "XYZ !!...XYZ !!...XYZ !! HOW COPY MARIO?" Make sure you use his name when you call him, he may think you are someone he knows. It must work as we hear it on bands all the time so it has to be effective. Don't pay attention to directional CQs. When did any DX know what they wanted..... what matters most is what you want.

5. To get the DX to work other modes tell him you want to set up a schedule later which is convenient to you. You should wait until the pileup has built up to several hundred and just before the band is about to go out, then ask him to meet you on CW, RTTY or SSB at a set time and frequency. Above all, make sure you tell him that YOU need him on these modes. This will endear you in the hearts of all on frequency, it shows that you can work more than one mode and are a well-rounded amateur.

6. If you have worked the DX previously make sure you call him and tell him that he is stronger than the last 6 times you worked him this week. The DX station will want to know this. Others on frequency will respect you more; you will be recognized as a Big Gun DXer.

7. When you find a DX pileup, to bring your operating skills to a higher level and impress all those on frequency - Zero beat the DX send "QRL? Is this frequency in use?" This shows character and that you are truly a caring person.

8. When finally making the DX contact, give the DX some background about yourself, TX, RX, ANT, WX, how many children and grandchildren you have, where they went to college, what size bedroom slipper you wear, or any other items of interest to the DX. This shows that you are not just a 599 kind of guy.

This is most effective when the band is just about to fold.

9. After you have worked the DX you will need the QSL route. Although this will be listed on the DX packet cluster, in ARRL & DX News Letters, and on the Internet, there is no reason for you to go to all the bother of reading these sources. You can just keep calling on the DX frequency..."What is the QSL Information?" If you don't get a reply with the information after 8 or 10 calls, keep it up, your persistence will pay off. There are plenty of other stations on frequency who are waiting to work the DX who have read these publications.

Rules for THE FUN MODE

1. For a split operation, spend most of your day listening and transmitting on the DX sending frequency. On CW, if someone calls on the DX transmitting frequency, right away using your J-38 at 4 WPM, send VP...UG...NP...UP. until you get it right. If the station continues to call on the DX frequency, then send LSD .. LIB ..LED... LID..until you get it right. This has three benefits.

A. Others waiting to work the DX will be forever indebted to you for informing the offending station.

B. The offending station will be grateful.

C. You will get some needed code practice to get you over that 5 WPM hump.

2. For those with CW and voice memory keyers this will be easy. All you have to do is program in "UP" and "LID". For the more advanced you can add "SPLIT"...."YOU IDIOT, WORKING SPLIT" ...Using the memory keyers for your day's activity will save your voice. Should you happen by chance to have a QSO you will need it.

As always Work'em First Confirm Later....

73 Whitey, K1VV

DX 40 Years Ago – April 1960

Ed Gable, K2MP

The old argument of phone vs. CW effectiveness is revisited this month by a scientific study performed in 1934 by the government of the Canary (EA8) Islands. It has been known that Gomerans possess the ability to communicate by whistling, using the familiar two finger in-mouth method. By varying the position of the tongue, certain bird-like sounds are produced at surprisingly high volume levels. These sounds carry much further than the human voice can be heard and communications, over proper terrain, of 9 miles is claimed. In the 1934 test, 13 messages were sent, with 11 received at perfect copy. The results of the test are archived in the University of Arizona. Speaking of records, is this one... W1WPO wrote that he received his PK6TO (then Netherlands New Guinea) after 12 years, 8 months. How do you work one station in two countries? Just wait. Station KG1DT, on Fletcher's Ice Island for several years, floated so far southwest that it is now in KL7-land. A new license is pending. There was no exciting single DX news, but this month in 1960, but there was a lot going on. Bands were exciting with many new and exotic countries coming on almost weekly. Air travel was much improved, governments were exploring North and South poles regularly, and the quest for oil sent many an engineer (and Ham) to all points of the globe exploring for the black gold. Governments were also setting up worldwide Embassies, which often sent ham-minded staffers to points unknown. Equipment is also getting

smaller and much lighter due to increasing use of SSB. In the "who cares" department, on this date 75 folks had earned six meter WAS. The only "2" was W2IDZ. Six meter DXCC wasn't even thought of as a possibility. A full page (honest, it's there, go look at it!!) advertisement in QST announces the opening of a new full service Ham Store, Larsen E. Enterprises. Included is a print shop that will print any QSL, with any call, and send it to you with QSO information filled in by hand. These QSL's "are for decorative purposes only," according to the ad. Also in a full page QST ad, National Radio Company announces their newest (and last as it turned out) receiver, the general coverage NC-400. The QST cover price was fifty cents.

New Disease!

Fred Gern, K2FR

Scientists have discovered a new malady similar to CRS. It is called HRS - Ham Radio Syndrome. One of the earliest symptoms is using a handheld to access a repeater. When the reply to your call is "sorry old man, you're NOT making the machine," the HRS person immediately transmits again, filling the local airwaves with noise and unintelligible speech. In fact in most cases he/she tries several more times until the repeater is cleared of users.

Of course the low bands aren't immune either. You know the guy who hears a pile up, finds the transmitting DX station and asks, "who's the DX?" and then follows with "where's he listening?" And his first cousin, the guy who puts the DX station's transmit frequency in VFO A and

the listening frequency in VFO B and then tunes his amplifier on VFO A!

P.S. See "Rules for Working DX"

Who said 5 WPM will change things?

International Marconi Day April 29, 2000 - 0000-2400Z

From the ARRL Members Site

Over 40 International Marconi Day Special Event stations will be participating worldwide. These Marconi Day Stations will represent Historic Guglielmo Marconi transmitting and receiving stations and will commemorate milestones in the development of worldwide wireless communications. Certificate available. See www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~straff/.

The Marconi Radio Club, W1AA/IMD of Massachusetts will represent the Marconi Transatlantic Station where Marconi completed his first spark gap radio transmission between the United States and Europe on January 18, 1903. The Marconi Radio Club will have several stations on the bands for the event. The Marconi Radio Club can be found at personal.tmlp.com/k1vv/w1aa/.

Ed note: Additional URLs are available. Let me know if you're interested and I'll forward the email to you.

Is your address correct with the FCC?

Dave Wright, N2CK

The FCC has issued a warning letter to an amateur who did not have his/her

current address for their amateur license on file with the FCC.

Riley Hollingsworth of the FCC has mentioned that he will be issuing warning letters to those that the FCC becomes aware of that don't have their current address on file with the FCC.

If your address is not correct with the FCC, you are STRONGLY urged to update it now!!

What you can do with a call

A terrible story by Fred Gern, K2FR

It is a real **CRØCK** to think about this. It makes **my BLØOD BO1L**. I went to the **JØHN** to use the **UR1NAL** and to my surprise the **L1NE** was around the **BLØCK W1TH** no end in **S1GHT**. What could **be DØNE?** I **FRØZE** when I thought of the consequences. But **NØT** to **WØRRY**, the solution was **CLØSE** by. We went to a restaurant where the **L1NE** was **N1L**. Breakfast seemed **L1KE** a **GØOD** idea, especially a cup of **CØFFEE**, so we ordered. After waiting 20 minutes for our fare we decided to leave **W1TH-**out eating. The **WA1TRESS** said we couldn't cancel our orders. She said "**OH2BAD** you don't like our service. You guys **TR1ED** this before. We **TØØK** the **R1SK** and **H1T** the **BR1CKS**."

RDXA Awards

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS

First, I'd like to thank everybody for your score submissions and wish you all the

best in next year's competition.

Remember, one more contest to go for this year, CQWW WPX CW at the end of May.

1998-99 Bare-foot Contester Award K2CS

Awarded to the person submitting the highest combined low power score for all club contests, both CW & SSB. 150 watt limit. This award is for the small station.

1998 Best First Time CQWW SSB K2SKO

1998 Best First Time CQWW CW N1OKL

1998 Best First Time ARRL DX SSB N2OPW

1998 Best First Time ARRL DX CW K2ZS

1998-99 Top Combined SSB Score W2TZ

Includes the CQWW SSB and the ARRL DX SSB.

1998-99 Top Combined CW Score K2UA

Includes the CQWW CW and the ARRL DX CW.

1998-99 Most Improved - W2TZ

Includes the CQ & ARRL SSB & CW Contests.

1998-99 Megapoint Award - K2CS, AF2K, K2FR, N2WK, K2UA, W2TZ, K8FC, N2UM, K1PY, and NA2X

Given to any RDXA member who submits contest scores which total 1 million points or more for a single contest year. Only those contests in the club competition are eligible.

Included are CQWW (SSB & CW), ARRL Sweepstakes (SSB & CW), ARRL DX (SSB & CW), CQWW WPX (SSB & CW), ARRL 10 & 160 Meter Contests, CQWW 160 Meter (SSB & CW).

1998-99 Cumulative Megapoint Award

Given to any RDXA member who submits contest scores totaling 1 million points or more. Points accumulate from year to year so that everyone can work for the award. Endorsements to the original award will be given for higher milestones such as 5, 10 and 25 million points. *

NEW AWARD THIS YEAR.

W2TZ*	25.6 Million
K2UA*	10.9 Million
K2CS*	5.3 Million
N2WK*	6.1 Million
W2EZ*	1.0 Million

Chesterfield approved!

Fred Gern, K2FR

The ARRL DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) has voted unanimously to add Chesterfield Islands of New Caledonia to the DXCC List. Contacts made on or after March 23, 2000 will be accepted for DXCC credits. Cards may be submitted after October 1, 2000. (Posted to the contest reflector by **Brian, KF2HC** kf2hc@njdxa.org)

Thailand in November

Dave Wright, N2CK

Do you need Thailand confirmed? If so, **Fred Laun, K3ZO** will be heading there in November. If you are interested in working Thailand on another band, let Fred know. The following paragraph was taken from Fred's email back to me when I asked him about about skeds to Thailand.

I would be happy to take a list of calls with me and when the band really seems to be open to your area to stand by for those specific calls. I am assuming that most of your gang already have HS on 15 and 20 and are probably more interested in 40 and 10 meter QSOs. At present 80 and 160 are not allowed for regular operations, though this could always change by the time I get out there.

Good DX to you and the gang! 73, Fred, K3ZO (HS0ZAR)

Ascension Island activity

From the contest reflector

Jim Neiger, N6TJ/ZD8Z will be active from April 18th through May 3rd. He should be active most days after 1900Z around 21250 or 28490 or -035 on CW, and willing to try QSY's or skeds. QSL's of course to VE3HO (U.S.. STAMPS ok).

Contesting

Fred Gern, K2FR

RDXA has been turning in some good contest scores the past couple years. With **W2FU** being off the air until the BIG project this summer and **K2UA** being in Mexico with 6D2X, the scores were still very respectable. Good work gang!

Here are some rumored scores:
AF2K over 1million WPX - is still **entering** his log!
AA2MU - 291,000 ARRL SSB & 37K WPX

K2CS - 182K ARRL CW, 450K SSB & 500K WPX!
K2FR - 303K ARRL SSB, 1,076,00 WPX
K2CY - 18K QRP ARRL CW
N2CK - 223,000 ARRL SSB & 319,158 WPX
N2WK - 1,000,000+ ARRL CW, 27K SSB
KA2IYB – 19K ARRL CW, 58+K SSB, 121+K WPX
KX2H - 308,000 ARRL CW
K9EEE - 36K ARRL CW (u need to see the antenna)
W2EZ - 356,000+ ARRL CW (he's in every contest!)
W2TZ - 2,100,000+ ARRL CW

Looks like another good year for the club!

P.S. Congratulations to **W2TZ** for winning the Contest Accumulative Award for **25,000,000** points!!!!!!

Who?

Fred Gern, K2FR

What local ham had to be called via the twisted pair to remind him that there was a RDXA Banquet last Saturday?

We haven't given out the "KEY" recently. It seems the candidates are piling up.

Contest Quiz!

Zack Lau, W1VT

Many hams are inspired by the challenge of competitive operating—otherwise known as contesting. The ARRL's Zack Lau, W1VT, a sometime contesteer

himself, has prepared a short quiz for amateurs to test their contesting knowledge. There may be multiple answers to each question. Answers and scoring can be found later in this newsletter.

1. In 1999, the following precedences are valid for the November Sweepstakes.

- a. B
- b. M
- c. Q
- d. S
- e. U

2. What type of propagation in the 10 meter contest is the most predictable year after year?

- a. Sporadic E
- b. F2 skip
- c. Meteor scatter
- d. Tropospheric ducting

3. In the January VHF Sweepstakes, you run 5 W from your home station. Your entry category is:

- a. QRP
- b. Single Operator, QRP
- c. Single Operator
- d. QRP portable

4. While operating the November Sweepstakes late at night, your radio explodes as you attempt to work the rare NNY section. You have another radio, but you are so busy putting out flames that you don't even listen. You can now:

- a. Get back on the air and can claim 15 minutes of off time.
- b. Wait 15 minutes and claim 30 minutes of off time.
- c. Wait 45 minutes and claim 1 hour of off time.
- d. No off time can be claimed—this counts as operating.

5. Damaged by the flames, your amplifier blows up as you switch it into transmit. While replacing it with a spare, you realize the relay connections are different. It takes an hour to find that special 13-pin DIN plug. You turn on the receiver and marvel at the pileup skills of the NNY operator as you wire up those tiny pins. You get everything back together and bag him on the first call. 90 minutes has passed since the amplifier blew up. You can now:

- a. Claim 30 minutes of off time
- b. Claim 1 hour of off time
- c. Claim 90 minutes of off time
- d. No off time can be claimed—all this counts as operating.

6. Which of the following contests offer participation pins?

- a. EME contest
- b. November Sweepstakes
- c. UHF contest
- d. January VHF QSO Party
- e. ARRL International DX Contest

7. For Field Day you want to qualify for the (x 5) QRP power multiplier. To qualify, the maximum allowable power on 6 meter SSB is?

- a. 3 W PEP output
- b. 5 W PEP output
- c. 10 W PEP output
- d. 25 W PEP output

8. Which frequencies are prohibited from contest use in ARRL contests?

- a. 1825 kHz
- b. 14.230 MHz
- c. 146.52 MHz
- d. 223.5 MHz

9. Setting up schedules by telephone during a contest is allowed in

- a. The 10 GHz and up Cumulative Contest
- b. EME contest
- c. November Sweepstakes
- d. ARRL International DX Contest
- e. June VHF QSO Party

10. Club competition is offered in the following 1999 contests

- a. January VHF QSO Party
- b. ARRL International DX contest
- c. September VHF QSO Party
- d. November Sweepstakes
- e. ARRL 160-Meter Contest

Bonus: A little broom was offered for making a clean sweep in the 50th November Sweepstakes. What year was it?

PRB-1 bill introduced in New York

From the ARRL Web Site

ARRL Bulletin 18 ARLB018

A bill has been introduced in the New York State Assembly to codify the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 in New York State law. Assembly bill A. 9947 would require localities to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio antennas and would prevent localities from restricting antenna structures to less than 95 feet above ground level or from restricting the number of support structures.

The bill, introduced March 7, is in the Committee on Local Governments, which must vote on the measure before it goes to the full Assembly.

Echoing the PRB-1 language, it would provide that any ordinance impacting the

placement, screening or height of antennas "must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio antennas...." The bill also would prohibit any local ordinance, rule ... from restricting Amateur Radio support structure height to less than 95 feet above ground level or restricting the number of support structures. Contact your lawmakers to cosponsor or support A. 9947.

For sale

Dave Wright, N2CK

Mosley TA 31 M, 10/15/20m, rotating dipole, w/ manual. \$ 125.00

Mosley TW 31 M, 12/17/30 m, rotating dipole, w/ manual. \$ 125.0 - full size, full power, like new, stored inside.

Whistler, DC to AC inverter, 1500 w, cont. 3000w, peak, new. \$ 300.00

I am also looking for a manual, and a schematic, for a Yaesu FT-2400, to copy!!

Len, WA2ZNC, 229-5470,
wa2znc@juno.com

CONTEST QUIZ ANSWERS

1. All choices (a,b,c,d,e) are correct. See www.arrl.org/arrlletter/99/0813/#ss

2. C - Gemind meteor shower is quite predictable

3. C - There is no QRP category for home stations

4. B & C - Off times must be at least 30 minutes

5. B - Listening time counts as operating time

6. A, B & C

7. B

8. C - See www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/99/rules-whft.htm

9. A - The rules for the Cumulative specifically allow this, taking precedence over the general rules

10. All choices (a,b,c,d,e) are correct -- All these contests have a club competition

Bonus: 1983

SCORING:

Count one point for each correct answer. Deduct 1/2 point for each incorrect answer.

21: Amazing! We'll look for you in the Top 10 boxes.

15-20: Excellent! You're a contesting pro. 5-14: Not bad--for a beginner.

4 or less: Thanks for participating! don't forget those new SS exchanges.

Page author: awextra@arrl.org

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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>Paul Meyers, N2OPW</i> <i>Bob Hunter NG2P</i> <i>Rick Mintz W1TY</i> <i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>
DX Chairman	<i>Chris Shalvoy K2CS</i>
Contest Chairman	<i>Chris Shalvoy, K2CS</i>
Newsletter Publisher	<i>Dave Wright N2CK</i>

Dues and correspondence

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



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