



# RDXA #3 USA!

Meeting  
Feb 15<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 p.m.  
111 Westfall Rd

**Scott Bauer, W2LC, our new WNY Section Manager will be present to talk about the ARRL Field Organization, recent license restructuring and more. Please join me in welcoming Scott to our February meeting.**

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## Editor's Corner

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*Dave Wright, N2CK*

No, you aren't seeing things, the latest (and final!) results from the League have us in third place, generator powered!! That's right, we made our goal! I saw a post on the contest reflector about updated results for Field Day being available, and that they were broken down by category. I decided to check it out. What I discovered was that the Twin Cities Repeater Club, which originally was credited for first, was now 12<sup>th</sup>! I questioned the League about the difference, and I was informed by **Dan Henderson, N1ND** that their score was miscalculated. Dan didn't want to be quoted, but the League (apparently) was contacted by the Twin Cities Repeater Club about the error. The League

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checked their datafile and it looked initially like their numbers were correct. However some glitch in the system (*Dan's' words – not mine*) was giving them more points than the data columns showed. The League deleted their records from the database and then re-entered them, resulting in a re-calculation of points of 10,472 (from 12,750) in class 3A. This placed them 12<sup>th</sup> overall.

Anybody out there want to take on the challenge of designing something for an official Field Day shirt for this year? I myself am graphically challenged.

The XZ0A expedition is over. I hope you got the chance to work them on a few bands. I was lucky enough to find them once on 20M phone. As the operator was working simplex, he had quite the unruly pileup in progress. I couldn't believe the LIDS that kept calling over the top of the operator.

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## Banquet Announcement

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*Ed Gable, K2MP*

Save the date - Saturday, April 8 at Rick's Prime Rib house, 50 State St., Pittsford. All members will receive a direct mailing with a ticket order blank. Reservations with meal choice are required. Tickets will be \$18.00 per person.

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## VY0 Nunavut

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*From the Contest Reflector*

In ARRL HF contests, scoring of the US and Canada takes place in one of two

ways: based either on ARRL/RAC sections or on political delineations in the respective countries.

In contests which use ARRL/RAC sections for scoring, Nunavut remains part of the Northwest Territories / Yukon multiplier, not an addition or new multiplier. This includes the November Sweepstakes and the 160 Meter Contest.

In contests which use political delineations, the Nunavut Territory, which is being given the abbreviation designator of NU, will count as a new multiplier, effective January 1, 2000. This will include the International DX Contest, the RTTY Round Up and the 10-Meter Contest.

Field Day, which does not use sections, provinces or states as scoring multipliers, is not affected. The IARU HF World Championship uses ITU zones as multipliers and is not affected. Also, the November Sweepstakes and 160-Meter contests will not be affected.

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## Ongoing DX Expeditions

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*From the North Jersey DX Assoc Site*

VP6, PITCAIRN through May 30, 2000. Jukka, OH2BR, is now active as VP6BR (VP6 is a new prefix for Pitcairn). After visiting some island sites he has decided to operate from the VP6PAC shack, which has a 20-meter high tower available at the site. His activity varies from different times bands/modes. Check your local PacketCluster or Telnet Cluster for the latest activity. He will be there for four months.

ZM7, CHATHAM ISLANDS through March 2, 2000. Look for Lothar, DJ4ZB, to be active as ZM7ZB from the Chatham Hotel now through March 2nd. He will listen especially for European stations on

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24935, 28395, 28495, 28595 and 28460  
kHz. QSL via DJ4ZB, Lothar  
Grotehusmann, Quaekerstrasse 35, D-  
13403 Berlin, Germany.

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## **DX 40 Years Ago – February 1960**

*Ed Gable, K2MP*

A quick survey of 20 meter phone reports for the month reveals that SSB versus AM phone operation has reached 50-50 status and SSB use is rising rapidly. 20 meters also remains the producing band as 10 meters opens later and closes earlier. DX'ers worldwide were saddened that Oman's first and only licensed operation, VS9OM, was going QRT. QST published an interesting article on a Socorro Island operation which claimed the first ever RTTY DXpedition activity. While off-loading on the island, the XE4B TTY unit was dropped and spent a brief stay on the bottom of the Bay. Two days of cleaning, oiling and adjusting brought it back to life and netted two QSO's. The 1959 DX Contest results were less one entry after the FCC cited W6BXL for high power operation in excess of 1,000 watts. In making it's decision, the FCC cited the station owner but not the guest operator who boosted the power. The FCC emphasized that it was the owner, not the guest operator, who was responsible for station operation. So was it necessary to run the cited 1,444 watts to be competitive? The results would seem to say no. From the 1959 DX contest results we see that in ten ARRL Sections the CW leader was running 150 watts or less. In 13 other Sections, all less than 500 watts. OK, well CW is more

efficient... right? Not necessarily for scoring. Nineteen of the phone section winners were running 150 watts or less while 19 more section winners were using 500 watts or less. Kilowatts were clearly in the minority. From QST ads you saw RME announcing their new Amateur band only receiver, the RME 6900. A great receiver brought out when the future was in transceivers. It was their last amateur receiver prior to closing their doors a few years later.

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## **Contest Calendar Update**

*Dave Wright, N2CK*

The calendar as delivered in a previous newsletter has an error. The ARRL DX CW and SSB contests are reversed, with CW being Feb 19-20 and SSB being March 4-5, but – hey, you guys knew that already didn't you?

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## **DX News**

*From the ARRL Members web site*

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, The 599Rpt, QRZ DX, The Daily DX, 425 DX News and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

GUINEA, 3X. Robert, 3XY1B0, has been QRV around 14009 kHz at 0630z. QSL via F5XX.

SENEGAL, 6W. Phil, F5PHW, is QRV from Dakar during the month of February as 6W1/F5PHW. He is active using CW,

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SSB and perhaps RTTY. QSL via F6KPKQ.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. Salem, A61AS, has been QRV on 10 meters just before 1400z.

ETHIOPIA, ET. ET3AA is QRV using RTTY around 14092 kHz just after 1600z.

ANGOLA, D2. Jesus, EA1BF, has been QRV as D2BF on 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via EA8EE.

ISLE OF MAN, GD. Rupert, G4XRV, is QRV on all bands as GD4XRV from IOTA EU-116 until February 8. QSL to home call.

TEMOTU ISLANDS, H40. Bernhard is QRV as H40MS, and may be found on 20 meters SSB around 0600z. QSL via DL2GAC.

SVALBARD, JW. Rag, LA5HE, is QRV as JW5HE until February 8. He emphasizes activity on the low and newer bands. QSL to home call.

LEBANON, OD. Pavel, is QRV as OD5/OK1MU, and is usually active on 160 meters just after 0400z. QSL via OK1TN.

LORD HOWE ISLAND, VK9L. Yuji, JA3IG, will be QRV as VK9LY from February 8 to 15. He will be active on the HF bands, and possibly 6 meters. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Lance is QRV as VK0ERZ on Davis Base and is often active on 14255 kHz just after 1200z. QSL via VK2FUN.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, VP5. Tak, JA1MZL, will be QRV as VP5DX from February 4 to 7. QSL to home call.

CHATHAM ISLANDS, ZL7. Lothar, DJ4ZB, is active as ZM7ZB from the Chatham Hotel until March 2. QSL to home call.

PRINCE EDWARD AND MARION ISLANDS, ZS8. Derek is QRV as ZS8D,

and is usually active on 14260 kHz. He is here until May, 2000.

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## Great Circle Map Shareware

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*Dave Wright, N2CK*

While I was trying to work the XZ0A expedition, I was trying to understand why **Fred, K2FR's** handy DX prefix/heading chart showed a beam heading of 0 degrees. As I pondered the problem, I remembered that I had previously downloaded a Great Circle Map shareware program I found on the net. After setting a starting location of 43.200 (lat), and -77.000 (long) and a range of 20000 km, I produced a great circle map centered roughly in the local area. Clicking on DX Position allows the user to enter either a grid locator, or a prefix and the program calculated the appropriate beam heading for you. As I saw the trace go up over the pole, I realized what I had not been able to determine from a flat map. Just for grins, I mapped out the path to VK0MM as well. It's available for download at <http://hem.passagen.se/sm3gsj/> and the filename is gcmwin23.zip. It's a pretty handy program for the Dxer. Hope you find it useful as well.

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## How's DX?

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*Chris Shalvoy, K2CS*

They're ALIVE, they're ALIVE... the bands that is. Amps, beams, wires QRP, VHF, RTTY, short and long wave, there's

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been something for everyone in the last few weeks.

The fun began shortly after our last meeting. The VHF January Sweepstakes excited with a 3-hour killer aurora that (even on 6 meters) enabled many more q's than most January sweeps.

This is only the second time I've operated from here, my own shack and grid. Great to see it finally was worth it. Knocked off 11 new grids on 6m and 1 on 2m. This, operating through the aurora only. I did get on the last hour and handed out a few fm and cw contacts on 2 meters though.

Speaking of contests, a reminder. **Only 100 q's or more will be accepted for scoring outside the "club" competition contests.** I appreciate all the logs and activity but it would be a scoring nightmare if anything but significant efforts were counted. Also, your VHF scores count as well if 100 q's are made.

Hope XZ0A ended up in your logs, great effort from one of the tougher areas of the world for us to work. The last few days, they were incredibly loud on 20 meters and they spent morning and evening hours there.

Don't forget the VP6 on Pitcairn. OH2BR will be there for 4 months so he should be able to be worked. I've seen him spotted on 15, 10 & 12 meters but haven't been around to hear him yet. Seems the USA isn't on the top of the list as many spots reflect EU or JA only.

PLEASE NOTE THE TYPO REGARDING THE ARRL DX CW CONTEST, IT'S 19-20 OF FEBRUARY. THE SSB CONTEST IS IN MARCH. The calendar now reflects the proper dates.

With the bands the way they've been and the added bonus of "them" having to work "us", I bet we see a few new ones along the way. Easy exchange and much less of a zoo the CQWW.

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

XZ0A (20m CW, SSB, RTTY, 17m CW, SSB)

HS0/KU0J (20m CW)

NZ7Q/KH4 (20m, 10m CW)

TE8CH (20m, 15m, 17m CW, 12m, 10m SSB)

3D2QB (10m CW)

FH/G3TXF (17m, 30m CW)

FH/G3SXW (40m, 15m, 20m CW)

ZK1GNW (20m RTTY)

5U7X (15m CW)

J3/K4LTA (30m, 40m, 20m CW)

**IN THE MAIL** (non-buro pack)

A61AJ

tons of 6m stuff....

Thanks once again to the 59(9) DXReport, my main source of weekly DX information.

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## DXCC Rumors

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*Fred Gern, K2FR*

Wild rumors have been spread about what and how one will qualify for having worked a country for DXCC credit. Hopefully this will squelch those rumors.

Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> these are the new rules:

1. As stated by K2CS, you will only have to say you "think you worked that station."
2. But, you will have to prove that either you or a friend were on a PacketCluster Node at the time the spots began arriving.

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3. CW contacts made after September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000 will NOT count if made at over 8 wpm. Contacts before that date can be made at any speed.
  4. Credit for a country you have worked will be DELETED if more than 10 (ten) hams send nasty notes concerning your collection for countries to the new web site:  
WWW.DXCC\_IS\_EASY.COM
  5. Field Check hams will be re-appointed after 4/1/00. They will have to be nominated by Microsoft, Wal-Mart or other non-radio/non-ham organization. Donations to these corporations can be made after 3/1/00. Donations to anyone named "Dubbya" automatically remove you from the DXCC listings.
  6. At the suggestion of N2UM the working of or thinking about working 5 (five) "Slims" in one country counts as having worked that country. This rule was being tested 2/6/00 by a station signing with a SU prefix who was 60 over in the Eastern half of the U.S.
  7. Repeater QSO's will count for countries more than 1000 kilometers from your station.

Be prepared for April 1, 2000 !

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## Amusing Trivia

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*Dave Wright, N2CK*

The phrase "The morse code" can be twisted into "Here come dots". Yes, it's one of those useless bits of trivia you can use to impress people!

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## Items For Sale

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*Dave Wright, N2CK*

FOR SALE: YAESU FT-980, competition grade, full-featured, all-band HF transceiver. All modes; SSB, CW, FM, AM and FSK, general coverage receiver, built-in keyer, new cost ~\$1800. Every option: 500 Hz CW filter, 270 Hz CW filter, narrow AM Filter, general coverage transmit for MARS/CAP, external SP-980 speaker/phone patch, relay keying of PA, CAT System and built-in power supply. Comes with microphone and manual. Fully checked and working flawlessly. Asking \$525.00. Ed Gable k2mp, 392-3088 or k2mp@eznet.net



## 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**

*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](http://www.qsl.net/rdxa)  
Check it out.



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