

ROCHESTER

DX

ASSOCIATION

rdxa.com



Regular Meeting

June 17th 19:30 local

Scotch & Sirloin Restaurant
Winton Plaza

Election of 2003-04 Officers

Field day 2003 Planning

At our next meeting we will elect RDXA Officers and Directors for the 2003-04 Club year. Join us and cast your vote for the candidates of your choice

At the meeting, we will also lay out the plans for our Field Day 2003 effort. Field Day is the high point of year for RDXA, so be sure and attend to find out the latest on plans, schedules, layouts, etc.

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Social after the Meeting

Scotch & Sirloin
Winton Plaza

President's Soapbox

By Fred Groner - W2TZ

Well, the official RDXA year is over with this issue of the RDXA Newsletter. It has been an up and down year at RDXA. The May meeting was held at the S&S with good success. It was the third meeting place we had this year. There was a little QRM from the adjacent dining room at the start of the meeting, but quiet prevailed after about 20-30 min. The July meeting will also be at the S&S so we can get a second evaluation. The Hamfest was about 50% ideal in that Friday was sunny, but Saturday was mostly rain. By noon people began to leave the wetness of the Hamfest. Tnx to all who helped set up at the Grassy Knoll – the WB2HJV setup was particularly neat and the taste was great. Tnx to Charlie and congrats on being awarded 5BDXCC. This will be the last newsletter published by N1OKL. A very special thanks to Mike

from the RDXA for continuing to be our publisher in spite of his busy move to CT.

Our last activity of the year is Field Day. Field Day is only a few weeks away (June 27, 28, 29). The FD schedule is as follows:

- Friday Setup:** Meet at site to start setup at 14:00 local; wrap up at dusk.
- Saturday:** Breakfast at 07:00 local at Nutcracker on Empire Blvd. And Ridge Road. Setup continues at Campground after breakfast.
- Operation** Operation commences at 14:00 local.
- Sunday:** Operation ends 14:00 local.
- Takedown and site cleanup until about 16:30 local**

For newcomers, the Field Day site is located in Webster Park. Simply drive west on Lake Road about half mile from Holt Road, and take a left turn into the Campgrounds entrance. Head south about a half mile to the end of the dirt road. A tall 90 ft. flagpole marks the site.

We will be setting up antennas at the site starting 14:00 local time Friday, 27 June. **We could use help setting up on Friday. Even if you can only make it for a few hours, drop by anytime and lend a hand as your schedule permits.** At about 17:00 local, RDXA will provide pizza for people setting up. Bring your own cold drinks. We want to have all of the antennas up by Friday evening so we will have less to do on Saturday. The idea is to direct Saturday's energy to equipment rather than antennas, although there will be residual antenna work to do on Saturday. As usual, we will need a person or two to campout at the site Friday night to protect our antennas.

Traditionally, on Saturday morning at 07:00 local we meet as a group for breakfast at the Nutcracker Restaurant on Empire Blvd. (at Ridge Rd.). Join us for breakfast if possible.

It's going to take many people to bring the numerous small items which make Field Day function, such as tools, short or long lengths of rope or cord, tarps, extension cords, lamps, coax and connectors, antenna tuner, chairs, soldering gun, etc. Anything that you think might be useful throw it into the car.

Before and during the start of FD operation, get involved with the various operating stations of interest to you. Talk to the station captains to find out what is going on and what is planned for each

station. Get on a schedule to log and/or operate. Before operating take the time to observe the operation of the station so you will be prepared to step in and operate. It is often useful to log before operating to get the general feel of the rig and the way the bands are behaving. We especially want operators during the middle of the night so get some sleep early and relieve our operators during the late night shifts.



It's going to take everyone to get everything to function properly by 14:00 Saturday. Field Day is a lot of fun and we have a very good location, so lets all have a good Field Day. See you there!

Slate of Candidates for RDXA Officers and Directors

The nominating committee for RDXA Officers and Board Members is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the 2003-04 Club Year.

- President** ----- W2TZ
- Vice President** ----- K2DB
- Secretary/Treasurer** ----- WB2HJV
- Director** ----- N2OPW
- Director** ----- N2CK
- Director** ----- W2LU
- Director** ----- WA2JLW

The election will be held at the regular June meeting. As always, nominations from the floor are welcome.

DX and Contesting of the Past June 1959

By Ed Gable - K2MP

On the local scene, the RDXA contest participants, utilizing excellent propagation conditions and a big dose of concentration, turned in the highest club score in their 12 years of participation in the ARRL DX Test. The final score was just over 2.2 million points with the top gun being Bob Haner, W2FBA, with 589 Qs and 243 countries. Bob's was the highest score ever in WNY.

While this was going on, there was another group "donald-ducking" the DX bands on the new CQ-DX-SSB Test. Early SSBers included Bill DeWitt W2VZV, Bill Bellor W2MG, Ken W2MA. Several locals were converting their Viking AM rigs to SSB using a scheme devised by Art DeBruycker W2YGW.

Finally, the results of the SS Phone weekend are in with top WNY scorer being K2BHP with 515 Q's and 69 sections. The RDXA did not submit SS scores this year.

June Dxpeditons included Luxemburg (LX) by some DLs, Trucial Oman (MP4) by locals with a borrowed KWM-1, Socorro Island

(XE4B) by XEs, Johnston Island by W2EPS/KJ6, St. Pierre Island as FP8AB by K2JGG, Turkey (rare) as SVØWB/TA and finally Italian Somaliland as IG5N on SSB using that world traveling borrowed KWM-1. We should note that Ted Henry, W6UOU, later of Henry Radio fame, purchased several new KWM-1s and over several years kept lending them to operators in rare countries. It was an admirable honor system as these transceivers were worth well over many operator's annual income, yet they all came back.

A nice catch then was YA1PB, Paul, from a mountain top in Afghanistan. His only outlet was 20 meter phone with a WW2 ART-13 transmitter and a KH6 acting as master of ceremonies and directing operations. At this time the top of the Honor Roll was shared by W1FH and W6AM with 294 countries.

June Contests

- VL/ZL Trans-Tasman, CW ----- 7 June
- IARU Region 1 Field day, CW ----- 7, 8 June
- ARRL Kid's Day ----- 21 June
- All Asian DX, CW ----- 21, 22 June
- ARRL Field Day ----- 28, 29 June

July Contests

- IARU HF Championship, CW/SSB ----- 12,13 June
- W/VE Islands Contest, CW/SSB ----- 19, 20 June
- CQ worldwide VHF ----- 19, 20 June
- RSGB IOTA Contest, CW/SSB ----- 26, 27 June

Propagation *AD5Q's notes from Cycle 22, June 1992*

Solar Flux Range ----- 99 – 130

General – We have had some fine conditions on 15m. Paths have been open to all parts of Asia during the day, with excellent openings into the late evening. These conditions are seasonal and we have enjoyed them through the sunspot peak, but how now? For the first time in several years, the solar flux has dipped below 100. This occurred during the WPX CW contest. 15m paths to Europe and Japan were marginal throughout the event, mostly because of the lower MUFs. Morning daypath propagation to Europe shifted to a lower frequency, and 20 meters was found in excellent shape.

Solar Flux – At this stage in the solar cycle we can usually expect fluxes to range between 100 and 150. Flux swings effect our HF bands more dramatically here [*at these lower overall flux levels, Ed*] than at higher levels. 15m will be less reliable, and fall conditions on 10m this year will remind many Novice & Tech DXers why they should work on their code and upgrade. We still have plenty of good propagation left on 10m and 15m, and when fluxes are low, a corresponding DX path can be found on a lower frequency band.

MUFs – Seasonally the daytime MUFs have been declining sharply, and begin to effect 15m during June as the spring DX season comes off its peak. Long haul 15 meter daypath deterioration will be a noticeable factor by end of month (Field Day). With fluxes at the higher end of our range good daypath conditions are still possible, but the late afternoon and evening paths will be better. There are no reliable daypath bands in July, because summer MUFs are at their lowest.

20 Meters – Most of the nightpath stuff is on 20m, but 40m is also pretty good. After sunrise (on 20m) we get our usual summer pipeline to the Pacific and far east, with long path to Africa and the Indian Ocean. LP to VU and EU is out of season, and is especially difficult when fluxes are low. Watch for especially good short path instead, with morning high latitude paths broadly open from the NW to NE.

73, de Roy - AD5Q / Houston
<http://www.qth.com/ad5q/>

Twenty-seven Day Space Weather Outlook Table

Issued 2003 June 04 US Dept. of Commerce NOAA

UT Date	10.7cm Radio Flux	Planetary A Index	Largest Kp Index
2003 June 05	115	30	5
2003 June 06	115	35	6
2003 June 07	115	25	5
2003 June 08	110	20	4
2003 June 09	110	20	4
2003 June 10	105	25	5
2003 June 11	100	20	4
2003 June 12	105	15	3
2003 June 13	105	15	3
2003 June 14	110	15	3
2003 June 15	115	15	3
2003 June 16	125	20	4
2003 June 17	125	20	4
2003 June 18	120	25	5
2003 June 19	120	20	4
2003 June 20	115	20	4
2003 June 21	120	20	4
2003 June 22	125	20	4
2003 June 23	130	25	5
2003 June 24	130	30	5
2003 June 25	120	25	5
2003 June 26	115	25	5
2003 June 27	110	15	3
2003 June 28	115	15	3
2003 June 29	120	35	6
2003 June 30	120	30	5

RDXA Financial Report By Charlie Kuhfuss - WB2HJV

Our Secretary / Treasurer submits the following summary of RDXA financial affairs, as of 3 June 2003:

Previous checking balance ----- \$1159. 59
 ARRL K2FR Memorial Plaque ----- (60. 00)
 Deposit from petty cash ----- \$200. 00
 Current checking balance ----- \$1299. 59
 Petty cash from 3 May ----- 102. 00
 Roll of 100 stamps ----- (\$37. 00)
 Sympathy card ----- (3. 00)
 50/50 May meeting ----- 11. 00
 Hamfest Kitty Jar ----- 150. 40
 Memberships ----- 65. 00
 Transfer to checking ----- (200. 00)
 Current petty cash ----- 88. 40
 Total available funds ----- \$1387. 99

Less Memorial Fund ----- (\$726. 89)
 Total operating funds ----- \$661. 10

RDXA currently has 58 full members and 2 student members.

From the Editor

By Mike Rundle - N1OKL

As Fred said in his soapbox article, this is my last issue as Editor of the RDXA Newsletter. As I reflect on the past two years, I want to extend my thanks to all of you who have contributed to the publication. Without you, I would have had nothing to do!

As Fred Gern, K2FR always said, a strong club makes a good newsletter and a good newsletter makes a strong club. Though the internet and email have changed how we communicate locally as hams, these new mediums cannot replace our old, familiar paper newsletter. And when it comes to Club history, there is no better logbook of our past than 10 years' worth of RDXA newsletters.

As your new editor takes over publication of the RDXA bulletin, I urge each of you to continue to contribute your articles, photos, and stories to keep the RDXA newsletter rich in local content.

For Sale

Remember, classified ads are free for RDXA members.

Large HF Yagi, 20/17/15/12/10 meters, 36 foot, three inch diameter boom, Mosley PRO-95, not very old and in as-new condition. On the ground in Greece area, buyer does some disassembly and transports. This antenna is of current manufacture and is in the catalog now at \$2600 plus shipping. Offers being accepted by Ed Gable K2MP, (585) 392-3088 or k2mp@arrl.net. Specs & details at: www.mosley-electronics.com/am_main.htm

2 meter FM hand held. High end, 5 Watt full featured unit costing \$280 when new. Excellent with charger and manual. \$70.00 Ed Gable K2MP, (585) 392-3088 or k2mp@arrl.net

Yaesu FT-767GX HF Xcvr with 2m and 6m Modules, Operating Manual, Technical Supplement. Used only 1 year and in original carton for 9 years. Mint condition. A genuine bargain at \$600. Irv Goodman, AF2K (585) 671-4430 or AF2K@juno.com. Other items also available: antenna switch, Yaesu YS200, Wattmeter, straight key, TVI filter.

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ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION

W2RDX

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This Bulletin is the official organ of the Rochester DX Association and is published monthly, September through June, prior to each monthly meeting.

All those with an interest in amateur radio and DXing and contesting are cordially invited to any meeting. Meetings are held at 19:30 local time on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Location is the Banquet Room of the S&S Restaurant in Winton Plaza, located just south of the Erie Canal on Winton Road.

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To: