

ROCHESTER

DX

ASSOCIATION

rdxa.com



Regular Meeting

November 15th 19:30 local

300 Jay Scutti Boulevard
Gander Mountain
Meeting Room

Radio Roundtable - November Program

With years, decades (centuries?!) of accumulated radio wisdom sitting in the room at every meeting, this month's program will allow everyone to tap into it. When and where to look for a new one, QSL hints, best times to get into the contest, how to deal with the cycle, getting the most out of your radio, whatever. Come ready to pose your "I've always wondered..." questions and be prepared for an enjoyable and informative exchange.

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Social after the Meeting

Scotch & Sirloin
Winton Plaza

but at the worst, it was 3:1 at the top and bottom of 20m, with a low SWR of 1.3 at 14.175 MHz. The other bands were much better. Now to see how it plays. This takedown, refurbishment and re-installation couldn't have been accomplished without lots of help. That's one thing I really love about this hobby, this club, and fraternity we all belong to – when someone needs help, we're there to help out. Hams who helped me out are (in no particular order) N2UIO, K2MP, W1TY, W2RW, K1PY and N2WY. Additional help was provided by two of my neighbors, my kids – even my brother-in-law (I could tell he was really impressed by the antenna raising!) who got pressed into assistance. Additionally, while I was waiting for assistance getting the tribander back up, I was also able to pull the vertical down and re-guy it for the winter. Look out RDXA, N2CK's back in business! I may be investigating a wire antenna to supplement the vertical on 75/80 as well as (possibly) 160. I need to talk to my neighbors to the south to see if they would have a problem with a wire stretching out onto the back edge of their property. For those not familiar with my QTH, there is a row of trees along the back of our property lines. Additionally, when the fire department built their exempt club, they planted a buffer row of pine trees along the property line going north. The general orientation of these trees is north/south. I would think that an antenna stretched along the tree line would be affective into Europe, as well as the states. Now that most of the leaves are off the trees, I can see where I'm placing a pull-up line. Hey, I've got an extra Polyphaser installed and just sitting there waiting for coax to guard against lighting transients – might as well put it to use.

The downside of all of this is that I have not participated much in either of the 2 major contests so far. I did work ~25 stations or so in CQWW SSB. I probably will not turn in a log, as I operated assisted (I used the help of <http://www.dxscape.com>), plus I used the amp for a couple of Q's. I don't want to see my puny score listed along with the other high-power assisted stations. That would be depressing. The website I mentioned above is pretty handy. It refreshes itself every couple of minutes or so. You can specify US (DX for us), as well as a specific band. The goal of playing in CQWW was to pick up a few more needed countries on 20M. Specifically I was looking for unconfirmed entities, which had US managers. I did end up working a couple on Sunday.

One thing I forgot to mention in a previous column is a local Rochester business, Metal Supermarkets on Mt. Read Blvd (at Buffalo Road). Why do I mention these folks you ask? I wanted to replace my makeshift mast with thick wall aluminum. Charlie, WB2HJV mentioned them to me, so I gave them a call (the mast I previously used was a 5' piece of 2" OD 1/4" wall steel, with a 5'

President's Soapbox

By Dave Wright - N2CK

Greetings all,

I hope you have all wrapped up, or are in the process of finishing antenna projects. As of this writing, the N2CK antenna farm has grown by 100%. That's right, the tribander is back where it belongs – up on the roof and lookin' proud. We managed to get it installed Sunday morning just before the gale force winds arrived. I was quite pleased to see that the antenna made it

through the high winds unscathed. Additionally, it looks like there was no slippage of the mast in the rotor, so I guess that's the acid test of the installation. I borrowed K2MP's analyzer and did some measurements. I was hoping for a little better at the bottom of 20,



section of Radio Shack mast sleeved to the inside – kinda bulky and unmanageable, especially up on the roof). They had just what I needed in stock, and would cut it to order. The problem was my being able to pick it up. They are only open Mon-Fri with hours like 7:30 – 4:30 and no Saturday hours. I explained my inability to stop by during their normal hours – but that I wanted to do business with them. They offered to arrange a day/time so someone could stay late (I think the cut-off time was 5:30) and meet me. I gave them the length of 2" ¼ wall mast I needed, along with a credit card, and they had it cut and ready for me when I stopped by at 5:10. I like the fact that this business was willing to make special arrangements for me. BTW, the cost of the mast (7') was something like \$56 from what I can remember.

Something we discussed at the Board meeting last night was the annual Holiday get together in lieu of our December meeting. We are investigating using the S&S as a possible meeting place, with a tentative date of the 13th. To take advantage of one of their rooms, we'll need to guarantee a minimum number of folks attending. As of this writing, I don't know what that number is. Look for additional details via email. I hope you can join us.

One thing I've noticed on the Writelog reflector is an announcement of updated country files. If you haven't updated yours, now's the time. I found a .zip file with all the information I need at www.K1EA.com/cty/index.htm. The most recent .zip file is dated 11/2/05.

I don't know if you are aware, there is a free contest-logging program written by N1MM. From what I've heard, it's just as feature-filled and robust as Writelog. Point your browser to <http://www.n1mm.com> and give it a try. BTW, should you want to present a program on this software application, I'm sure you will find a very interested audience.

As I'm late getting this column to Mike, I'll wrap up for now, so I can zap it off to him.

November Contests

ARRL Sweepstakes, CW ----- 5, 6 Nov
Worked All Europe DX, RTTY ----- 12, 13 Nov
Japan Int'l DX, SSB ----- 12, 13 Nov
ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB ----- 19, 20 Nov
CQ WW DX, CW ----- 26, 27 Nov

More Contest Info <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/index.htm>

December Contests

ARRL 160 Meter Contest, CW ----- 2-4 Dec
ARRL 10 Meter Contest, CW, SSB ----- 10, 11 Dec
OK DX, RTTY ----- 17 Dec
RAC Canada Winter Contest, CW, SSB ----- 17 Dec
Stew Perry Topband Distance Challenge, CW ----- 17, 18 Dec

Foundation for Amateur Radio Scholarships, 2006

Dianne Zimmerman, AA3OF, Chairman of the Foundation for Amateur Radio Scholarship Committee writes, "This year, the Foundation will award 54 different scholarships to deserving amateur radio operators. I'm sure you know a young ham who

could use the money and who would be encouraged by the recognition that comes from winning a FAR scholarship. Please help me to advertise this worthy program by sharing information with your friends, VE team members, and amateur radio club members." More information is available on the FAR website at: <http://www.amateurradio-far.org/> Ed.

The Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc., a non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer fifty-four (54) scholarships for the academic year 2006 - 2007 to assist licensed Radio Amateurs. The Foundation, composed of over seventy-five local area Amateur Radio Clubs, fully funds three of these scholarships. Ten are funded with the income from grants. The remaining forty-one (41) are administered by the Foundation without cost to the various donors.

Licensed Radio Amateurs may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2500 with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, in their club newsletters, during training classes, on their nets and on their world wide web home pages.

Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL card, postmarked prior to April 30, 2006 from:

Diane Zimmerman, AA3OF
Chairman Scholarship Committee
FAR Scholarships
Post Office Box 831
Riverdale, MD 20738

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, incorporated in the District of Columbia, is an exempt organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. It is devoted exclusively to promoting the interests of Amateur Radio and those scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

The Foundation encourages all qualified amateurs to apply for these awards. The following awards will be available for the upcoming academic year, 2006-07:

1. There are three (3) Silent Key Memorial Scholarships, which pay \$2500 each, available to U.S. Residents, pursuing any course of study leading to a Bachelor's degree. Preference will be given to residents of the District of Columbia, Maryland and Northern Virginia.
2. The Richard G. Chichester Memorial Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must be members of the ARRL and recommended by an ARRL-affiliated club (they need not be a member of the club). There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicant must be pursuing a Bachelor's degree. Preference will be given to Texas residents living in the metropolitan areas of Austin, Kerrville or San Antonio. Minimum license requirement - General Class.
3. There are three (3) Radio Club of America Scholarships, which pay \$1,000 each. Applicants must intend to pursue studies in electronic engineering or electronic technology toward an Associate or Bachelor's degree and be U.S. citizens. Preference will be given to applicants taking courses in Wireless Communications. Minimum license requirement - General Class.
4. There are sixteen (16) Quarter Century Wireless Association Scholarships, three of which pay \$1500 and thirteen of which pay \$1000. There are no restrictions on the course of study and applicants

- must intend to seek an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree. There is no residence area preference. Applicants must be recommended by a member of QCWA, but may not themselves be members of QCWA.
5. There are two (2) Young Ladies' Radio League Memorial Scholarships that pay \$1500 each. Applicants must hold at least an FCC Technician Class or equivalent foreign authorization and intend to seek a Bachelor's or Graduate degree from a U.S. college or university. There are no residence or course restrictions. Preference will be given to female applicants.
 6. The Ralph V. "Andy" Anderson-NØNL Scholarship pays \$1000. There is no restriction on the course of study, but preference will be given to applicants pursuing a degree in Journalism. Applicants must be residents of the U.S. or its territories. Applicants must be seeking a Bachelor's degree. Minimum license requirement - General Class.
 7. The Columbia Amateur Radio Association, Inc., Scholarship pays \$1000. It is available to Maryland residents pursuing a Bachelor's degree in any course of study.
 8. There are five (5) Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarships, 4 pay \$1000 and 1 pays \$1,500. Applicants must be Maryland residents. For three of the 4 - \$1000 awards, preference will be given to those who have successfully completed one year of college or have been previous winners of this award. The fourth award, which is reserved for an entering first year student, will be renewable for three years if the student remains in good academic standing throughout the period. The fifth award, paying \$1,500, has been designated as the Ernie Dobos Memorial Scholarship with preference given to a Baltimore City resident. Applicants must be pursuing a Bachelor's degree.
 9. The Tropical Hamboree Scholarship sponsored by the Dade Radio Club of Miami, Florida pays \$1000. Applicants must be Florida residents pursuing a Bachelor's degree. There is no restriction on the course of study; however, preference will be given to those studying electronics or science-related fields.
 10. The Rose Ellen Bills Memorial Scholarship pays \$2000. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must be a resident of the U.S. or its territories pursuing a Bachelor's degree. Minimum license requirement - General Class
 11. The Frederick Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must reside within 150 miles of Frederick, Maryland; preference will be given to qualified applicants from Frederick County, Maryland. Applicant must be pursuing a Bachelor's degree.
 12. The five (5) 10-10 International Net, Inc., Scholarships pay \$1000 each. Applicants must be licensed Radio Amateurs having HF privileges. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must seek an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree. Non-US amateurs are also eligible. Applicants must be a 10-10 member or provide a recommendation from a member of the 10-10 International Net.
 13. The WARAC Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, pays \$1500. Applicants must be Wisconsin residents pursuing an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree in any course of study.
 14. The Kevin Barry Perdue Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Kay Craigie-N3KN and Carter Craigie-N3AO, pays \$2000. Applicants must pursue a Bachelor's degree with a course of study in the liberal arts, humanities, or social sciences from a U.S. college or university.
 15. The South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must be Wisconsin residents and intend to seek an Associate or Bachelor's degree from a college or university in the U.S. Preference will be given to applicants studying Electrical Engineering or related technology.
 16. The Nanticoke Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must hold a license with HF privileges. Preference will be given to those studying Architecture, Engineering, Electronics, Science or a related field at an institution of higher learning in the U.S. Applicants must pursue a Bachelor's degree. Residence requirement - Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, or Virginia.
 17. The Murgas Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$500. Applicants must be residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and seek a Bachelor's degree from a U.S. college or university. There is no restriction on the course of study.
 18. The Lawrence E. and Thelma J. Norrie Memorial Scholarship, pays \$2500. Applicant must be a U.S. resident. Preference will be given to Juniors, Seniors and Graduate students with an academic Grade Point Average of 3.0 or higher who are pursuing a Bachelor's or higher degree in science or engineering. Minimum license requirement: Any Class with HF privileges.
 19. The Ernest L. Walker, WB3DVL, Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society Memorial Scholarship pays \$1000. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must pursue a Bachelor's degree. Applicants must reside within 150 miles of Baltimore, Maryland. Preference will be given to Maryland residents.
 20. The Robert E. True Memorial Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must be residents of the state of Ohio seeking a Bachelor's degree at a US college or university. Preference will be given to those pursuing courses in Electrical Engineering or Electronic/Computer Technology.
 21. The Free State Amateur Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. Applicants must be U.S. citizens residing in the State of Maryland and holding a valid FCC Amateur license with HF privileges. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must seek an Associate, Bachelor's or Graduate degree from a college or university in the United States.
 22. OZAUKEE Radio Club Scholarship pays \$1000. It is available to Wisconsin residents pursuing a Bachelor's or Graduate degree in any course of study.
 23. The Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM Memorial Scholarship sponsored by the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc. pays \$2000. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must intend to seek a Bachelor's or Graduate degree, and reside in the Eastern Pennsylvania or Southern New Jersey ARRL Sections.
 24. The Dwight Weller, KB3LA, Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Phillip Karn, KA9Q, pays \$1000. Applicants must intend to seek a Bachelor's degree in any branch of the engineering or physical sciences. There is no residence requirement.
 25. The Chuck Reville, K3FT Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Phillip Karn, KA9Q, pays \$1000. Applicants must intend to seek a Bachelor's degree in any branch of the engineering or physical sciences. There is no residence requirement.
 26. The Joann Hoch, N3FTC, Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc. pays \$2000. There is no restriction on the course of study. Applicants must intend to seek a Bachelor's or Graduate degree, and reside in the Eastern Pennsylvania or Southern New Jersey ARRL Sections.

Topic of the Month

Working the Rare One

In this month's Topic of the Month column, RDXA members share their experiences chasing and working rare DX along with tips and tricks for logging a QSO with that elusive entity or hard-to-log contest multiplier.

Ed, K2MP – Techniques! Nah, no stink'en techniques, all knobs to the right and blast away ! All kidding aside, it's a bit too obvious for all but the newest novice is to listen, listen and listen some more. Really understand the operator's system of tuning. Does he work two and move, move up 1 kc every QSO, does he like tail ending? Ya gotta know this before jumping in. But one of my techniques for getting ready to work an announced new one is to understand the propagation. You can do this with all sorts of on-

line charts and predictions, but I rely most on just checking my log for on what band and what time did I work near-by countries. Computer logs are great for this. You instantly get a feel for what has been successful in the past. Everyone knows that propagation is a fickle thing, no guarantees, but at least you won't be listening for an Eastern EU station on 160m at 2 in the afternoon, only VE1ZZ does that. Also, I know that working DX nets is a bit controversial. But...I've confirmed Mt. Athos on three bands. All three QSOs were on DX nets! I've never heard SV1/A on anything but a DX net. Don't be stupid, you know when you made a legit QSO with a complete exchange on your own. Go where the DX is. Similarly, I logged my first S2 after seeing an email exchange on a DX website. I emailed the S2 asking for a sked. He said, "Yes, but it will have to be quick as we'll do it just before I leave for work in the morning." We QSO'd on 20m and he's sending "nw QSY 21.040." So we did it there and then on 17m, too. Three bands, <60 seconds. So those are a couple of hints learned on my way to Honor Roll and 8 BDXCC. Now, where are those VU4s and VU7s ? Darn, can't turn the knob any further...

Propagation *AD5Q's notes from Cycle 22, Nov 1994*

Solar Flux Range ----- 76 – 92

General – Though I usually don't dwell heavily on the short term rise and fall of solar statistics, this is contest season and that Coronal Hole can't be ignored. Disturbed geo conditions take much of the fun out of DX contesting. Instead of running Europe and JA at high rates, most are forced to tune up and down the bands looking for multipliers in the Caribbean, South America and Africa. The onset of these disturbed conditions is sudden and predictable. It came during the May WPX CW before the contest was half over. It returned in late October in time for the CQWW Fone, and is due back around November 25th in time for the CQWW CW. When this solar phenomenon retreats to the other side of the sun, things clear up. Conditions should be OK for the SS Fone and the Ten Meter backscatter contest.

Aside from the contests, there are rumors of an expedition from VU4 (Andaman/Nicobar) sometime soon. (It is the only country left on my need list.) This is a long haul polar path for most of the U. S., and polar paths are the most effected by solar disturbances. Fortunately, this country is near the equator where the bands stay open later. The best paths should be on 20m and 15m around sunset (short path), and on 40m around sunrise. Any 15m openings will strongly favor the west coast. At sunset, long path on 40m is possible (beam required). Late afternoon 20m long path would be nice, but most 20m LP nowadays is east/west (Africa/VK). The Antarctic pipelines to southern Asia (so favorable to the southern US) are usually closed.

High Bands – 15m continues to open nicely to Europe on good days. These DX windows will narrow as winter approaches, effecting propagation to Russia and eastern Europe. 20m also opens to Europe in the mornings. Though these openings are usually marginal, the polar paths are better than on 15m. The optimum path is often on 17m. Asia and JA come through in late afternoon, with a brief peak around sunset. All the high bands close in the early evening, though light activity lingers on 20m from the southern hemisphere.

Low Bands – The evening hours always bring out the most activity from any part of the world since most are off work. This is "prime time." DXers QSY to the low bands while mainstream America settles in for its daily overdose of hyped up mediocrity (TV). The best propagation is on 40m, but 40m SSB has so much

broadcast QRM that many SSB ops choose either 75m or 40m CW. 40m is the band where you are most likely to hear lids sending only the last 2 letters of their call in CW pileups, an infantile practice invented by the MCs of SSB list operations. It's going to be a great low band season, with lots of rare DX and

73, de Roy - AD5Q / Houston

<http://www.qth.com/ad5q/>

Twenty-seven Day Space Weather Outlook Table

Issued 2005 Nov 8

US Dept. of Commerce NOAA

| UT Date | 10.7cm Radio Flux | Planetary A Index | Largest Kp Index |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 2005 Nov 09 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 10 | 80 | 10 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 11 | 75 | 20 | 4 |
| 2005 Nov 12 | 75 | 12 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 13 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 14 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 15 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 16 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 17 | 75 | 5 | 2 |
| 2005 Nov 18 | 75 | 5 | 2 |
| 2005 Nov 19 | 75 | 5 | 2 |
| 2005 Nov 20 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 21 | 75 | 20 | 4 |
| 2005 Nov 22 | 75 | 10 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 23 | 75 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 24 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 25 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 26 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 27 | 80 | 12 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 28 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 29 | 80 | 12 | 3 |
| 2005 Nov 30 | 80 | 20 | 4 |
| 2005 Dec 01 | 80 | 20 | 4 |
| 2005 Dec 02 | 80 | 12 | 3 |
| 2005 Dec 03 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Dec 04 | 80 | 8 | 3 |
| 2005 Dec 05 | 80 | 5 | 2 |

KA7EXM Power Meter

By Raj Dewan - N2RD

An Accurate, Low cost, Absorption Power Meter

I recently built an RF power meter that measures power in the range -70 to 7 dBm for the frequency range 1-500Mhz. It is based on a design by Roger Hayward, KA7EXM, and published in the May/June 2005 issue of *QEX*. It uses an AD8307 log amp with careful buffering to generate a DC voltage that is proportional to power in dB. The output is sampled by a PIC microcontroller that drives an LCD. So far, it is hardly exciting. There are many such designs on the web. What sets this unit apart is:

- An AD7391 D-to-A converter, driven by the PIC controller, is used to set up a differential voltage. The difference between this voltage and the output from the log amp is amplified and re-sampled by the PIC. This method enhances the accuracy by 3 bits or so.
- The differential mode can also be used to measure amplifier gain, return loss, and VSWR.
- Calibration can be done from the front panel and the information is stored in the flash memory of the

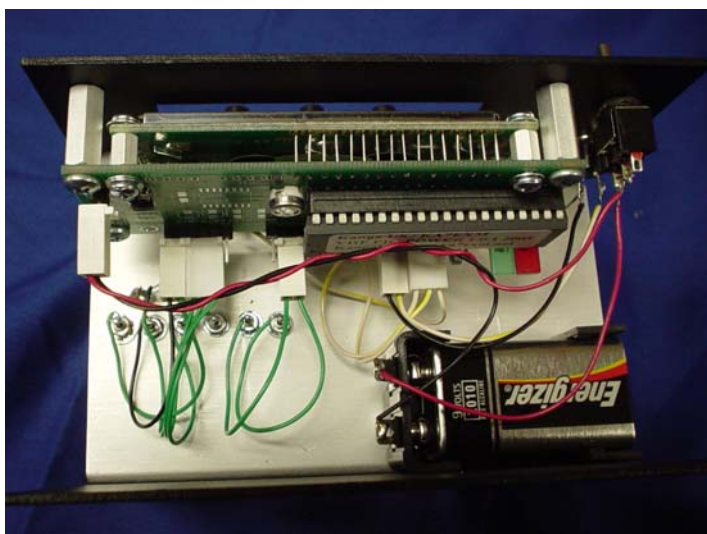
processor. Flash memory is also used to store any offset to account for a coupler. The PIC processor correctly displays the power in dBm or watts and takes the coupler factor into account.

- A complete kit for the unit is available from Kanga US for \$99. The kit includes a silk-screened enclosure. Check out: <http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/>



The KA7EXM Power Meter, available as a complete kit, including the enclosure from: <http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/>

The kit is well designed. The electronics are on two separate pc boards: the RF board has the log amp and the buffer amps. The PIC board has the microcontroller and the D-to-A. The BNC connector on the front panel attaches right to the RF board. The RF board is in a shielded compartment and all the interconnection wires are routed through feed-throughs. The LCD display attaches to the back of the PIC board and the whole assembly is mounted on the front panel. A 9V battery holder, buttons and an on/off switch complete the unit. Very compact and simple. The RF and PIC boards have some surface mount parts but they are of a size that is easy to deal with. It took me just a couple of hours to assemble the kit.



Inside the KA7EXM. You can see the PIC microcontroller mounted to the main PC board, and the LCD display on the opposite side of the board.

The unit itself measures power from -80 to 7 dBm, i.e., 10 picowatts to 5 milliwatts. Not very useful for measuring station output unless you are into qrpptpp. This can easily be changed by

adding a directional coupler, like the one described in the *ARRL Handbook* for the TandemMatch power meter. This coupler samples RF at -30dB level. With this coupler, you could easily measure power up to the 5W QRP level. BTW, directional couplers for higher frequency bands often appear on eBay and sell for just a few dollars. Add another 30 dB attenuation, easily done using resistors, and you can now measure power up to the California Kilowatt level. The 87dBm dynamic range of the instrument will allow for accurate measurement of return loss of VSWR. If you could build a coupler with good enough characteristics to match the power measuring range, you could measure SWR down to 1.000001 for ham bands from 160m to 70cm. You gotta have this if you are a ___, ahem, fixated about SWR. It is also useful if you are into homebrewing and want to measure the RF output of any low power source.

As a future enhancement, the PIC can be field programmed using its in-circuit programming connection. There also is a provision for a MAX232 chip to allow easy logging/connection with a PC. This way one can easily monitor the RF power right at the station PC. Another enhancement that I am contemplating is to replace the AD8307 log amp with AD8362 which goes to 2.5GHz and can deal with arbitrary waveforms.

In summary, I highly recommend this kit.

DX Advisory Committee Roster

September 2005

Chris Shalvoy, K2CS, our DXAC Atlantic Division representative, provides this updated DX Advisory Committee Roster. These are the folks who make and interpret the DXCC rules. Got a DXCC beef, a concern, or a suggestion? Contact 'em. Ed.

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Contest Commentary

CQWW SSB, K2CS – Another year, another CQWW SSB. I had high hopes that we could squeeze one more year with favorable conditions but that was not to be.

This is the “end” of my first cycle, being licensed in 1991 and it was amazing while it lasted. From what I could see, it was a good



cycle with the most amazing thing of all V7 on 6 meters.

I remember a few years ago working Asia on 10 meters, countries I had never heard before easily worked with 100 watts and a wire, 20 meters open *all night long*, but that was then, this is now.

I got on right at 0000z and went to 15 meters (knowing full well, no JAs on 10m). Much to my surprise, no JAs on 15 meters either. First Q at 0005z with FY5KE, second with HC1JQ four minutes later. That’s it, nothing else on the band, nothing. OK, let’s head off to 20m, where my next thought is, “Do I have an antenna problem, it seems to tune ok...?”

20m is dead, got VP9I and said that’s enough, let’s go watch TV! You know we have problems now. A few more hours of screaming and I’d had it. 33 Qs in 3 hours. Time to take a nap overnight.

I stayed with 15m all day Saturday until 10m opened up about 1900z. Back to 15m for a few mop-up Qs and finally off to 160m for sunset and the grayline openings.

Through the course of the contest, I managed 16 Qs on 160m, with a shorted G5RV and 100 watts. 5 countries (yes USA and Canada are in that total). Sunday was much the same though I started on 20 meters because I hadn’t worked anything there Saturday.

All told, same amount of operating time and about half the Qs and points as last year. Fun nonetheless but it’s always nice to take the battery out of the Telex 2000 and put them back in the drawer.

Qs ----- 528
Zones ----- 68
Countries --- 202
Points ----- 390,690

Look for the exciting details of “W2RDX IARU 2006” in an upcoming bulletin.

DX Logbook

By Chris Shalvoy - K2CS
Atlantic Division DXAC

From the DXAC – The following operations have recently been approved for credit:

KH9/AH8H – Wake Island: for operations in 2003 and 2004

TT8BZ – Chad: 31 March through 23 August 23, 2005

5X1B – Uganda: Operation from 3 Aug through 12 Aug, 2005

600JT – Somalia: 30 Sept 2004 through 30 April 30 2005

5X1W – Uganda: 3 August 2005 to 12 Aug 2005

DX0K – Spratly Islands: 1 Feb 2005 through 30 April 2005

Hope some or all of these made it into your log.

In The Log (Non Contest)

| Station | Bands |
|------------|------------------|
| FO/N6NJ | 17m, 40m CW |
| CY9SS | 80m CW, 30M RTTY |
| EX2M | 20m CW |
| S9SS | 17m CW |
| ET3TK | 40m, 30m CW |
| PY0S/PS7JN | 40m, 30m, 20m CW |
| TF4M | 40m CW |

| Station | Bands |
|-----------|------------------------|
| C21XF | 17m CW |
| HF0POL | 40m CW @ A-index = 40! |
| RU3HD/ANT | 40m CW |
| A61Q | 20m CW |
| ZS5LB | 30m CW |
| H40HL | 20m CW |

See you in the pileups.

Best DX es 73



W2RDX - DXCC Project 2006

Do you like to DX? Have you worked everything there is to work?

Well, have we got a project for you!

W2RDX is looking to obtain DXCC by our 60th anniversary, which will be celebrated in 2007!

Through the efforts of the very popular W2RDX/50 and several W2RDX/IARU competitions, our current DXCC status is around 60 countries.

We'd like club members to "sign up" for 2 week timeframes and use the W2RDX call to work as much DX as possible: random operation, contests, whatever. Bands and modes are of no concern (as long as they count for DXCC).

Make sure to keep a log of your activities because during this "event". A special column in the RDXA newsletter will tally results for the Club and by individual operators. We'd like to hear who you've worked at the general membership meetings and we may well fill out a few cards for a "buro" pack or two.

I'll have a signup sheet at the January meeting so think of a favorite contest, upcoming dx-pedition that you may have already worked or a time in the upcoming weeks you'd be able to get on the air!

Another thought is that W2RDX has most probably worked WAS and with the possibility of KH6 & KL7, we could apply for that as well.

OK, lets work some DX and look forward to the 60th anniversary (and W2RDX/60) in 2007!

Best DX es 73,

Chris - K2CS

DX Chairman, RDXA

Atlantic Division Director - DXAC

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION

W2RDX

rdxa.com

This Bulletin is the official organ of the Rochester DX Association and is published monthly, September through June. Email your articles, tidbits, ham ads, etc. to Mike, N1OKL at the addresses below by the first Tuesday of the month for inclusion in that month's issue.

All those with an interest in amateur radio and DXing and contesting are cordially invited to any meeting and to join RDXA. Meetings are held at 19:30 local time on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, September through June.

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Packet Cluster Sys Op ----- Bob Hunter, NG2P

Webmaster ----- Scott Hoag, K2ZS

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