



"Ohio First DXCC Field Checking Club"

The NODXA RAG

NO8DX - Special Event Callsign
W8DXA - NODXA Repeater 147.360
K8MR - PacketCluster 144.91 & 145.57

Web-site: <http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>

Newsletter: wd8iou@arrl.net

Northern Ohio DX Association
P.O. Box 450783
Westlake, Ohio
44145 U.S.A.



October 2003

Fireside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DX'ers,

Last month I mentioned that Europa Island would be active late November. However, since I last wrote, the planned dates have been changed a bit; actually for the better. The French operators will arrive on Europa on November 24th, but will stay until about December 15th (a little longer than first announced). The team will be traveling on a French Naval ship to the island.

The team will consist of 5 to 8 operators, and they expect to have three stations on the air. The operators have requested the callsign TO4E, and they will use the callsign TO4WW during the CQWW CW DX Contest (November 29-30th).

As mentioned last month, this is a rare French island to be active and who knows when it will be activated again. For updates on this operation, visit their Web page at:

<http://europa2003.free.fr>

If you missed the announcement in the

OPDX, Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A, is back on the air in a big way thanks to George Varvitsiotes, K6SV. George has been planning for the last several months to deliver (while in Greece on family business) a new Icom IC-756 Pro II donated by Icom. I hope to have more details (maybe a story) from George once he returns.

Lastly, I hope to see you at the next meeting. Also, I hope everyone has a safe and great Thanksgiving Day holiday.

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

New Meeting Time

The NODXA monthly meeting now starts at 7:30 PM but still occurs on the first Monday of the month at *Laura's Kitchen Restaurant* on RT.82 just west of Interstate 77 in Broadview Heights. If you haven't been to a meeting in awhile, why not come over, catch up with old friends, and brag about all the DX you've worked?

Minutes of the October 6th, 2003 NODXA Meeting

The meeting, which was held at Laura's Kitchen in Broadview Heights, Ohio, was called to order by Tedd KB8NW at 8:00PM. The room introductions followed by the 19 members/guest in attendance.

The treasury has a balance of \$Ka-Ching! as reported by Mary N8DMM.

Pete N8TR informed us on the status of the packet cluster.

Tedd KB8NW relates to us a letter from Mary Hobart K1MMH of the ARRL thanking our club for the donation toward BPL anti-legislation and that NODXA is on the ARRL Honor Roll list.

A discussion on an e-mail from the Florida Dx-pedition group for a donation was opened by Tedd KB8NW.

Tedd KB8NW opened a discussion on the changing the start time. John K8YSE made a motion to move the starting time of the meeting to 7:30PM and was seconded by Ray W8BIN. A vote was taken and passed. Starting in November, 2003 the meeting will begin at 7:30PM.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Dave WD8IOU. His share was \$17.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM by Tedd KB8NW.

Secretary: Ron, K8VJG.

HAMVention 2004 a Go!

ARRL Letter

Hamvention <http://www.hamvention.org> will be at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio, at least for another year. General Chairman Gary Des Combes, N8EMO, announced the one-show contract this week. The last Hamvention contract with Hara Arena was for five years. Des Combes also expressed confidence that behind-the-scenes management changes he's instituted since taking over July 1 will translate into success for "the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering and trade show."

"Overall, I think things are going very well," Des Combes said of progress toward pulling together Hamvention's 53rd show, which will take place May 14-16. "I'm confident we're going to be successful." The always popular annual gathering attracted slightly more than 22,100 visitors in 2003. That figure was down by more than 10 percent from the 2002 crowd, and it marked the third year in a row of declining Hamvention attendance.

Des Combes is banking that the management team and "best business practices" approach he's put into place for next spring's show will turn things around. One significant change is a shift away from jobbing out Hamvention's production to paid professionals and returning to the strong reliance on volun-

teers that was a hallmark of past Hamventions.

"Some of the volunteers, quite frankly, felt they were not welcome," said Des Combes, who believes that moving away from an all-volunteer Hamvention was a mistake and created some unease within the organization. Under his regime, some volunteer staffers from the past now have returned to the fold, Des Combes said. Most of the volunteers for the 2004 show are from the sponsoring Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA).

The new order at Hamvention means that Garry Matthews, KB8GOL, is out as the show's paid production manager. Matthews had served as the backstage impresario for more than three decades of Hamventions. Des Combes said he intends to spread out Matthews' former duties among several volunteers, saving money in the process. He's also establishing--and in some cases reestablishing--a set of committees responsible for various aspects of Hamvention. The Hamvention assistant chairman is Jim Nies, WX8F.

"We have to just work smarter and tougher," he said, adding that the management change will be invisible to those attending. "I don't think John Q. Ham will see anything much different."

While the show is still in the planning stages, Des Combes said one possible change would be to have the award winners' recognition ceremony during

Hamvention itself. The recognition event has replaced the traditional Saturday evening banquet, done away with this year because of slack attendance.

A project management professional, Des Combes says he anticipates the all-volunteer approach will make it possible for Hamvention to more economically mount a show that's of the same quality or better than those of past years.

"I can tell you I am leading sweeping changes in how we operate Hamvention," he said. All of them, he says, will better serve the vendors, DARA and the amateurs who attend Hamvention. "I think it's going to be good for everybody."

Ticket prices for the 2004 Hamvention will remain at the prices established prior to Des Combes' taking over the reins. Advance tickets for all three days are \$20 (\$23 park-n-ride bus transportation). Tickets at the gate will cost \$25. All under 12 years of age are admitted free. Des Combes says arrangements are under way to enable on-line ticket purchases.

KE8RO Moving to KL7

Editors Note: NODXA member KE8RO, Phil, recently sent me a note detailing his move to KL7 and how he wish to work club members during his road trip. Intrigued, I asked Phil for more information; here is his response:

My friend Sean, KL1SF and his wife Mindy, KL1MF, used to

live here in Ottawa County. I got Sean involved with amateur radio way back when. Sean applied for a position at Denali National Park and is currently employed there in communications. My wife and I recently applied for positions with Denali National Park and my wife came out with a job offer working for the superintendents office. I will be looking for a job once we arrive.

How we decided to relocate was due to a visit with Sean and his wife last year (we visited Alaska in July of 2002). We fell in love with all that Alaska had to offer and not to mention Denali National Park. Such a beautiful place! We will be looking for a home to purchase in the small town of Healy, Alaska.

Healy is located approximately ten miles north of the Denali National Park entrance. We hope to purchase property with at least three acres, so I have plenty of room for antennas.

I plan on operating mainly 20, 17 and 15 meters on my way up. Look for me on the following frequencies, give or take a few depending on how busy the bands are (14.227, 21.327 and 18.157). I am looking forward to QSO's with my fellow NODXA members back here and look for me in many of the contests. I will be looking especially hard for club members to give them multipliers during many of the major contests.

I probably won't have a

station up until we purchase a home, but I will have something up temporarily. Again, if any club members find themselves taking a trip to Alaska and visiting the park, please drop me a note and let me know when they will be in town. Once we have a home purchased, I would be more than happy to accommodate any of our members who visit. I do plan on changing my callsign and I have a few in mind.

As far as the trip, we will be traveling across the states, traveling from my location here in Ohio to Bellingham, Washington. We will board a ferry, which will take us three days north into Alaska. Once there, we finish our journey by vehicle to our final destination, Healy, Alaska.

We will be leaving here on the 16th of November and will be off the air from the 21st to the 24th (on the ferry during those days). Once we are settled and I have internet access, I will be posting lots of photos and information on our personal web site, www.dempsey2.com, along with a run down of my amateur station.

The only disadvantage of moving to Alaska is starting all over with my DXCC award. I have 307 countries worked to date from here in Lakeside, Ohio. I hope to operate all bands, 80 thru 10 meters, including 6, once I can get on the air from Alaska. Good DX!

Phil Sauvey KE8RO
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73 Magazine Says "73 and QRT"

ARRL Letter

After completing 43 years of publication, 73 Amateur Radio Today magazine is calling it quits. Plans to publish a joint October/November issue fell through this week, and the September 2003 issue was the magazine's last. According to self-proclaimed "El Supremo and Founder" Wayne S. Green II, W2NSD, it was a simple matter of economics.

"After failing a last minute effort to collect on some larger accounts receivable we decided yesterday to throw in the towel--that the September issue will have to be the last," Green told ARRL October 9.

"SK after 43 years of publishing."

The first issue of 73 was published in October 1960 from what Green--a former editor of CQ--once described as "a small, dingy apartment" in Brooklyn, New York. Since the summer of 1962, 73 has been based in Peterborough, New Hampshire--Green's home state. The magazine was a pioneer promoter of SSB, FM, solid-state, easy construction projects and the marriage of personal computing and Amateur Radio.

His interest in microcomputing led Green in 1975 to found

Byte, a magazine devoted to the then-nascent and largely do-it-yourself computer hobby.

At the peak of its popularity in the 1970s and 1980s, individual issues of 73 totaled more than 300 pages of ads, articles and commentary. Heading each issue was Green's inimitable "Never Say Die"--some would say never-ending--editorial, in which he rarely missed an opportunity to tweak the ARRL and his magazine competitors for their perceived shortcomings.

QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, says 73 published his first article in the 1970s. "I was saddened to hear that 73 has ceased publishing," Ford said. "Wayne's excitement about the growing amateur FM repeater phenomenon at the time was infectious."

Green's 73 editorials and regular round of personal appearances originally concentrated on Amateur Radio and his ideas to improve, advance and grow it. In recent years, however, they've veered into conspiracy theories, cures for cancer, AIDS and other ailments and Green's proliferation of book titles on those topics.

Green says he'll continue his essays on his Web site <http://www.waynegreen.com> "for those subscribers who mainly bought the magazine for them." He told ARRL that no definite arrangements have been made yet about how to handle outstanding 73 subscriptions.

CQ Publisher Dick Ross, K2MGA, said he takes no joy

from the passing of 73. "The loss of any publication serving Amateur Radio leaves all of us a bit poorer," he said. "Thank you, Wayne, for 43 entertaining, informative, sometimes infuriating, and always interesting years of 73. We'll genuinely miss it."

SV/A, Mount Athos

OPDX

By the time you read this, Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A, should be on the air (or close to being back on) in a "BIG WAY". Over the last several months, George Varvitsiotes, K6SV, has been communicating with Monk Apollo since his radio went down (off the air - broke) and began the project to help him get back on the air. George informed OPDX on Tuesday, October 14th, that he was leaving the next morning for Greece and would be taking Monk Apollo a new Icom IC-756 ProII and power supply donated by Icom. He stated that he had all the necessary papers (that Monk Apollo sent him) to enter Mount Athos and deliver the new radio.

George also told OPDX that it is his intentions (with Monk Apollo's approval) to install all the antennas that were previously donated and get Monk

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, W8BIN, KB8NW, K8VJG, K8YSE, KE8RO, WB8K, K8ME, AF8C, W3UR, OPDX, and the ARRL Letter.

NODXA Club Officials for 2003-2004

President - Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW (440-237-2816)
V. President - Dwaine Modock, K8ME (440-582-3462)
Secretary - Ron Borkey, K8VJG (440-237-6718)
Treasurer - Mary Michaelis, N8DMM (440-236-5426)
Newsletter Editor - David Autry, WD8IOU (440-238-0417)

As of March 2002
Current DXCC Entities Total is:

335

Apollo back on the air in a big way. George informed OPDX of his plans back in July once OPDX announced that the Northern Ohio DX Association (NODXA) was looking into collecting funds to buy Monk Apollo a new radio. At that time he told OPDX he was going to Greece on family business and wanted to keep his plans a secret until the radio was delivered. OPDX and NODXA agreed to his wishes.

Once again, OPDX and NODXA would like to thank the many "who wanted to help". We hope you get a chance to work Monk Apollo and welcome him back on the air.

Bernie is not the Man for A61AJ

This note is to inform everyone that I do not have any logs or QSLs for A61AJ. I have not been the QSL manager for A61AJ for more than two years.

Up until about a month ago N4QB was the manager. Now Ali has made a change and the QSL managers are as follows:

K2UO (All of the Americas)
DJ2MX (Rest of the world)

They have or soon will have all logs!

I am being inundated with questions about the QSLing

practices of A61AJ. I do not have any other information. If you have a question you will need to ask K2UO, DJ2MX or A61AJ himself.

Bernie, W3UR

For Sale

Alpha 87A: \$3500

Kenwood TS-450, all filters, antenna tuner and Kenwood power supply: \$500

All for \$3800

John Sepper (N8KUS)

(440) 333-7911

JohnyN8KUS@aol.com

For Sale

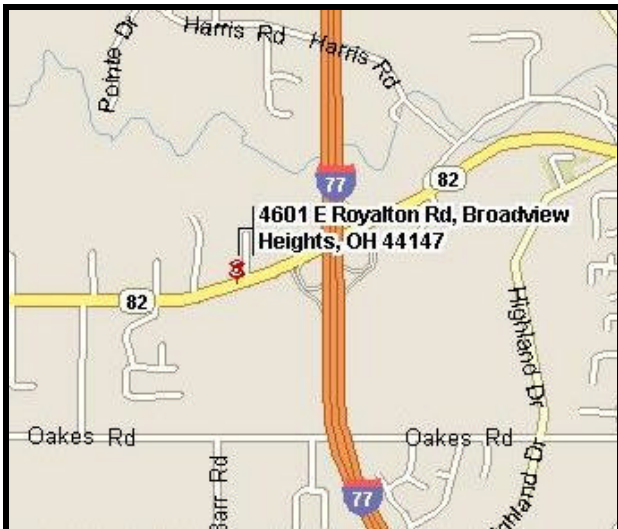
HAL Communications DS-3100 ASR Terminal Unit and ST-6000 Demodulator with manuals.

\$350 or best offer.

Dwaine (K8ME) (440) 582-3462

K8me@peoplepc.com

DX



NODXA Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the **Laura's Kitchen Restaurant** on RT.82 just west of Interstate 77 in Broadview Heights at 7:30 PM. Come early and have dinner and meet your fellow DXers and enter the 50/50 raffle.

NODXA Application and Renewal Form

The Northern Ohio DX Association is a non-profit organization with a primary interest in DXing. We encourage all DXers to join our group and share the interest and fun of DXing. Please complete the application below and send along your appropriate dues or renewal to:

NODXA, P.O. Box 450783, Westlake, Ohio 44145

- First Time Membership/Renewal (U.S.) \$12.00
- Foreign Membership (outside U.S.) \$22.00
- *Foreign Membership (no printed newsletter) (but w/Web access for newsletter) \$12.00

Name _____ Callsign _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State/Prov. _____
 Country _____ ZIP _____
 E-mail _____
 ARRL Member? ___ Exp. Date _____ DXCC Member? ___
 Special Interest _____

Newsletter circulation: Pete Michaelis **N8TR**, Mary Michaelis **N8DMM**, and "Radio Ray" **W8BIN**

**Dated Material
Please Rush**



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