



"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@adelphia.net

Northern Ohio DX Association
P.O. Box 361624
Strongsville, Ohio
44136 U.S.A.



March-April 2007

Fireside Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DX'ers,

As I am writing this on April 24th, DXers



around the world are waiting for the most sought after DXCC entity to hit the air waves. Scarborough Reef (BS7H) is what I am talking about. A large international group of about 18 operators are expected to activate DXCC's small-

est entity any day now. The reef itself is quite large, but mostly under water. Last activity was about 10 years ago. The group that went there last time operated from three rocks (about the size of large picnic table) that were sticking above the water's surface (about 4-6 ft.) during high tide. Just imagine, operator(s), radio, antenna(s), generator, operating position (table), and etc... all have to fit on each rock.

Under these conditions, this new operation from Scarborough Reef will have a real challenge to fill the needs of many. Also, this is a very expensive operation, the NODXA membership has donated a large amount of funds (the largest ever) to this DXpedition. I would like to wish the BS7 team the best and let's hope that the propagation will be with us. Good luck in the pile-ups.

In closing, on behalf of the NODXA officers, I would like to thank the membership for re-electing the same slate of officers for 2007-2008. Thank you for showing your confidence in us.

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

P.S. Just a reminder that it is time to renew your club dues.

"The Mission of the Northern Ohio DX Association is to promote and support Amateur Radio and the DX Community around the world."

Minutes of the February 5th, 2007 NODXA Meeting

Open: about 7:30 p.m.

Presiding: Tedd, KB8NW

Attendance: 13

Minutes: none

Treasurer's Report: \$Ka-Ching!

Tedd began the meeting with a round of introductions.

With the secretary under the weather these minutes were recorded by AF8C, Glenn.

Tedd reminded us that dues are due by April.

Pete, N8TR, said that he had found some old NODXA newsletters. The club started in 1979, and he had Vol. I number 2. He also had one newsletter from a year later.

This prompted Glenn, AF8C, to inquire as to the status and location of the club's constitution. Actually no one seemed to know where it could be found. So Tedd asked for anyone who can bring in constitutions from other clubs, to do so by the next meeting. These will then be used by someone to type up a new club constitution.

Per Pete, N8TR, the cluster is working fine on the frequency he usually connects to every day.

Dave, WD8IOU, is seeking articles for the club newsletter and also is awaiting Al, N8CX, to send him all the back minutes started with the October, 2006 meeting.

Sunshine: Stan, K8VI, was in the hospital for a few days (per Dave, WD8IOU).

Tedd announced that the Great Lakes Convention Committee has moved the convention site to the Sheraton on Rockside Rd. The convention will start Friday evening September 21 with a get-together at the hospitality suite. On Saturday there will be forums all afternoon and a dinner banquet in the evening. There will be door prizes including a grand prize, an FT897D. This part will be run by CARS and LEARA. The hospitality suite will be open Friday evening and all day Saturday until the Banquet.

Dwaine, K8ME, moved that the club donate \$100 toward funding the hospitality suite at the Convention. This was seconded by Bruce, N8DJX,

and passed unanimously when voted. This also should get our club's name on the flyer.

Dwaine announced there will be DXCC and WAS checking by NODXA member Keith, N8KOL, at the Convention. There will be VUCC card checking by Randall, KD8JN.

Also, some cards will be checked by the Great Lakes Division Director, Jim Weaver, K8JE. The ARRL president W5ZN, Joel Harrison, will be checking 160 meter cards and cards older than 10 years, but by appointment only.

Pete, N8TR, announced there also will be card checking at the Mansfield Hamfest, February 11. DXCC and WAS will be checked by Keith, N8KOL.

Tedd had received a letter from the group forming up a new St. Brandon DXpedition, seeking financial support. St. Brandon is number 45 on the world most wanted list. The Five Star DXers Association (FSDXA) team is scheduled to operate as 3B7C from Isle du Sud from September 7 until September 24. Bruce, N8DJX, moved that a \$100 contribution be sent to that group. Ron, K8VJG seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Tedd had received a letter from David, EB7AEY, wanting support for a Gibraltar operation to be ZB2/4O3AL. The club took no action on this request.

Miscellaneous DX that is up, and includes J2, CE1 lighthouse, and 5W.

Two Swain's Island visits are coming, one in the spring and possibly one in September. None of those has requested financial support, yet.

The 50/50 raffle was \$24.00, with Dwaine, K8ME, taking his share for \$12.00 as the winner.

Tedd reminded everyone of the Dayton dinner banquet seating purchases.

The Program began at about 8:05 p.m., as the viewing of the 2006 Peter I expedition 3Y0X video on DVD, taking almost a full hour.

The next meeting will be on March 5.

Respectfully, For the secretary, by Glenn, AF8C.

Minutes of the March 5th, 2007 NODXA Meeting

Open: about 7:30 p.m.

Presiding: Tedd, KB8NW

Attendance: 22

Treasurer's Report: \$Ka-Ching!

Minutes from the last meeting were not available tonight due to the absence of the secretary.

Dues are payable by May 1, 2007.

We have a new member, K8AJS, John Bastin, of Wooster, Ohio.

After a round of Introductions, Tedd and Glenn, AF8C, discussed the sunshine report about Al, N8CX, who is home recuperating after an operation.

Linda Sinko, N8LRS, has upgraded to General.

Mary, N8DMM, reported that Our donation for the 3B7, St. Brandon, operation has been sent by mail.

Pete, N8TR, reported that the repeater is operating well. The Internet K8AZ connection to the Packet Cluster was down over the weekend.

Bruce, N8DJX, reported that the K8AZ RF link to the radio-based cluster has been down for a whole month.

Dave, WD8IOU, has sent out the new newsletter. Per Mary and Pete, only about 35 hard-copy newsletters are mailed out through the post office. After an ensuing discussion, the decision was made to end hard copy circulation in September, 2007. Pete will make sure everyone is notified, by hard copy if necessary, the date of the curtailment.

The Pioneer Amateur Radio Society has announced they are offering the opportunity to reserve bus seats to Dayton on Saturday. The fee will be \$42.00 for the bus, and \$57.00 if also purchasing a Dayton ticket.

Tedd, KB8NW, announced that the #1 sought country, Scarborough Reef (BS7H) will be on at the end of April for 10 days. There will be a Pilipino operator in the group this time, which may help end the protesting over island owner-

ship. W6RGG and 9V1YC are organizing the operation. Tedd notified N7NG of the situation.

Ron, K8VJG moved, and Bruce, N8DJX seconded, that the club donate \$500 to the BS7H operation, and there was much discussion. Upon a vote, the motion passed. Bruce, N8DJX, promised to personally donate \$250, raising our total donation to \$750. Eventually a basket went around, collecting \$350 in cash donations at the meeting. This will make the club total donation \$850.00. (There was also a post-meeting donation of \$25.00 bringing the total to \$875.00)

Ron, K8VJG, asked if the same Field Day site should be reserved again this year. We said yes. The ARRL Field Day announcement should be in the April issue of QST.

Tedd, KB8NW, reminded us that this is March: the appointed time for officers elections.

Secretary Al, N8CX, was re-nominated by K8VJG. Treasurer Mary, N8DMM, was re-nominated by Bob, W8GC. Vice President Dwaine, K8ME, was re-nominated by Carl, W8AV. President Tedd, KB8NW, was re-nominated by K8YSE, with W8AV seconding. Then Dave, WD8IOU moved, and Gary NI8Z seconded, to close the nominations and accept the nominated slate. Upon a show of hands, the new slate was unanimously elected.

Tedd, KB8NW, mentioned the obvious, that our balance has been going down. The question is how to raise our balance. John, K8YSE, moved that in May 2008 the annual dues shall go up to \$15.00 effective 2008. After discussion that motion was withdrawn so that Dwaine K8ME could make a motion for dues to be \$20.00, starting in 2008. The latter motion was seconded by Bob, W8GC. The motion passed by at least a majority.

On a question, Tedd then recited the history of the beginnings of the OP/DX Bulletin.

Dave, WD8IOU, mentioned that our newsletter does not carry a mission statement. Dave suggested something like "Devoted to Promoting DX" but these minutes may need correction.

DX this month will be Spratly and Swains Islands.

Someone mentioned that March 31 is the deadline for sending in updates for Honor Roll

submissions. Glenn, AF8C, warned folks to get them in early, due to his recent experience with the time period it takes the ARRL to move mail from their mail room to the DXCC desk: two weeks.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Bill, W8BG, with his split being \$24.00. Bill donated his \$24.00 back to the club. A runner's up drawing for a new ARRL DXCC listings book which was donated by K8AV, was won by W8GC.

Tedd and Bob, W8GC, made a pitch for more help at the ARRL Convention on September 22. CARS and LEARA are running that event.

Glenn, AF8C, volunteered to ask the Hamfest Association of Cleveland if NODXA can sell food at a purchased table at the Cleveland Hamfest. Linda, N8LRS, mentioned selling cookies or donuts or pop there. Glenn feels that the Hamfest group will rule out any sales that would take business away from their contracted food vendor.

Someone said we should have a volunteer make an NODXA welcome packet for the club to advertise at hamfests, etc.

Linda, N8LRS, said she will bring a video camera to Field Day in time to film the whole start of the days events. Bill, W8BG asked about whether anyone had tried weather balloons to hold up wire antennas at Field Day.

The meeting was over at approximately 8:45 p.m. The next meeting is April 2.

Respectfully, For the secretary, by Glenn, AF8C.

Random Signals

Looking for a place to rest your weary feet, escape from the hot sun, and maybe enjoy a cool drink during the upcoming Hamvention? Then head on over to Pete's (N8TR) and Mary's (N8DMM) flea market spots #928 and #929. As usual, Pete and Mary will be selling an interesting collection of HUGE soldering irons and guns, various electronic related books, and small tools under the bright white canopy which covers their double-wide lot. This is also a good place to

drop off that precious boat anchor for later retrieval.

Speaking of the Hamvention, be sure to check out the DX forum on Saturday from 2PM though 4:45PM. NODXA icon John (K8YSE) will be giving a presentation about the totally unexpected KH8SI Swains Island DXpedition. Your humble correspondent has attended John's previous presentations on KH8SI and they have been excellent. Also, NODXA Club President Tedd (KB8NW), will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on the preparation and distribution of a little known rag called the OPDX Bulletin; just kidding Tedd! The OPDX has a subscriber list of well over 3000 and is read by many more Dxers in various DX forums and web sites.

T-Bone steaks at Field Day? That is Dwaine's (K8ME) idea of proper field day cuisine. Dwaine will be supplying the steaks at his own expense to encourage people to participate at our club's annual event. What could be better? Pitch a tent, then eat a steak! Make a few Q's then go for the T! (bone). Make your reservations today!

Looking for a better way to spin the knob on your radio? The head on over to www.fingerdimple.com and check out the "Fingerdimple" and "Kranker" products. Both of them are American made and were designed by fellow NODXA'er Wayne (K8FF). There is also an interesting video review of the Kranker at www.youtube.com/watch?v=IY-UQGTtjtE

Bob (W8GC) sent the following info on the Ohio PRB-1 bill: Please go to the Ohio PRB-1 Information site. This year an Ohio PRB-1 type bill will be introduced in the Ohio General Assembly. The reasons for this initiative should be obvious to all amateur radio operators. What we are asking is that the Ohio General Assembly pass a

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, KB8NW, N8CX, K8YSE, AF8C, W8GC, WA9WBV/6, and eHam.net.

NODXA Club Officials for 2007-2008

President - Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW (440-237-2816)
V. President - Dwaine Modock, K8ME (440-582-3462)
Secretary - Al Moriarty, N8CX (216-221-3682)
Treasurer - Mary Michaelis, N8DMM (440-236-5426)
Newsletter Editor - David Autry, WD8IOU (440-238-0417)

As of July 2006

Current DXCC Entities Total is:

337

law (and the Governor sign it) which puts the Federal ham radio antenna and tower protections of PRB-1 into the Ohio Revised Code. This information site contains a list of jobs to be filled to make this happen, news about this effort, and our historical and legal basis. <http://www.iarc.ws/ohio/ooc/Ohio-PRB1-Info-Site.html>

RF Pollution by 'Compact Florescent' Light Bulbs

A couple months back in another ham radio forum, I mentioned the RF pollution effects of various electronic devices and their danger to all frequencies below 1GHz, with possibly the most dangerous being the "compact florescent" light bulbs. A potentially much worse problem than BPL.

Well, one of my fellow hams (wa9wjb) back in my midwest roots hometown area who I first discovered this major problem with has done his impeccable research and yes, you can read up on his findings on the following website.

<http://my.inil.com/~torpor-skog/lightbulb.htm>

Read and shiver. Where does one address this challenge? The ARRL, our Federal Congress, the FCC, Wal-Mart, China manufacturers??? Who knows how to stop billions of these things being deployed? Oh, and the mercury disposal problem, well that's no different than properly disposing of billions of batteries...

Enjoy reading and save your low band dxing by offering all your neighbors free incandescent light bulbs for the asking!

73, Dale, wa9wbv/6 via eHam.net

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NODXA Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the **Gourme Family Restaurant** at 15315 Pearl Road (Rt. 42) just west of Interstate 71 and south of Rt. 82 in Strongsville 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 361624 , Strongsville, Ohio 44136

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**, and Mary Michaelis **N8DMM**

**Dated Material
Please Rush**



**The Northern Ohio DX Association
P.O. Box 361624
Strongsville, Ohio 44136 U.S.A**