

March-April-May 2013

"Ohio's First DXCC Field Checking Club"



# The NODXA RAG



## Poolside (not just yet!) Chat With KB8NW

Fellow DXers,

Since I last wrote, a big line-up of some major DXpeditions have been announced for this year and 2014. Look for Wake Island (KH9) to be activated between beginning in October. They are calling this a "Commemorative DX-pedition", and will use the special callsign K9W. Complete details are available at <http://www.wake2013.org/>. NODXA has already donated funds to this DXpedition and our club logo is now posted under sponsors. Operations will be on all bands and modes.



Also announced is a DXpedition to Amsterdam Island (FT5Z) in January 2014. The tentative start date for this one is January 24th, and the operators will have 18 days to set up, conduct the DXpedition, and tear down for departure. The callsign will be FT5ZM. Complete details for this DXpedition can be seen at <http://www.amsterdamdx.org/>. Operations will be on all bands and modes. Amsterdam Island is a very rare island ranking #4 on the most wanted list. During NODXA's May meeting, the the NODXA club also voted to donate funds for this operation. Funds will be sent after the Dayton HamVention, so look for the club's logo on the FR5ZM Web site and on the FR5ZM QSL card.

A DXpedition is also planned for Heard Island to take place in the time frame of January-February 2015. This is another very rare island and is ranked #5 on the most wanted list. The callsign has not yet been announced. For more details, see the Heard Island Web page at: <http://www.heardisland.org/>. No discussion on a donation has taken place yet by the members of NODXA because no letter for request of funds has been received yet from the organizers of the Heard Island DXpedition.

All three DXpeditions above are very expensive to go to and operate from, so funding is very important. Both Amsterdam and Heard Islands will cost the most. Amsterdam costs around/over \$400,000 and Heard around/over \$1,500,000.

As you can see, NODXA has or will be providing funds for these DXpeditions.

I guess now is the best time to mention that it is time to renew your NODXA membership. Our fiscal year runs from May to May. Without your club dues, NODXA would not be able to help fund these DXpedition.

In closing, the Dayton Hamvention took place a few weeks ago as I am writing this, and once

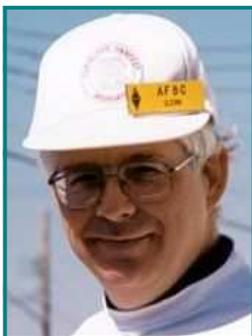
"The Mission of the Northern Ohio DX Association is to promote and support Amateur Radio and the DX Community around the world."

again the NODXA Hospitality Suite at the Crown Plaza was well attended by well-known DXers from all over the world. Also, this is an early reminder that the ARRL's Field Day will take place on June 22-23rd. Please make plans to attend NODXA's Field Day Site.

73 and Good DX de Tedd KB8NW

## Minutes of the February 4th, 2013 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7:32 p.m. by Tedd, KB8NW. There were 15 members and guests present. After the usual round of introductions the minutes for the meeting of January 7 were read by Glenn, AF8C. Corrections were noted. Mary, N8DMM reported the treasury balance as \$Ka-Ching!



In the matter of the status of the repeater, reports were that the repeater has been in full noise overload all day today. Tedd said he heard some noisy conditions on the repeater at 4 a.m. Sunday morning also. Denny, WB8K, will need to be informed of the problem.

For the newsletter, Dave, WD8IOU, is getting the next issue ready. Pictures, tips, and articles are welcome.

Tedd has received an announcement for the March 9 Indiana State University hamfest.

Note that during the following Old/New Business discussion the secretary received a cellphone call inquiring as to why the repeater was so noisy this evening.

### Old/New Business:

The winter NOARSfest was reviewed by Dennis, K8LBT. Tedd said it was an OK hamfest but not well attended. The location for the hamfest was the Elyria VFW, where parking was tight.

Regarding the ZL9HR situation, Tedd said that Bob, K4UEE, wrote an opinion. The INDEXA policy statement was read and it included a form upon which to vote Yes or No. A Kentucky amateur radio society wrote an opinion. Eight of the ZL9HR operators wrote a formal report. Rick, K8ZH, moved that in the future any money we donate to a DXpedition should be declared as only to be used for that DXpedition. This would follow the INDEXA lead. Ron, K8VJG, seconded that motion. The motion passed after a bit more discussion. Tedd will put "adopting the INDEXA lead" in his next OPDX Bulletin.

George, K8KR, had an update to his last month's Show and Tell. He has accomplished two lifetime goals, finally visiting Idaho as the 50<sup>th</sup> state and acquiring an Arizona 1953 license plate. The license plate was shown and passed around at the meeting. The members all applauded his accomplishments in these regards.

The next topic was discussion on the repeater status. In the history, research showed that the 145.15 machine went down in 2004. And that is also when BART went permanently off the air. Since last month, Denny, WB8K, wrote a letter to NOARS rebutting their letter discussing the antenna status. At the NOARSfest, Al, N8CX, told Tedd that the repeater antenna discussion was now moot.

Tedd said the V84SMD (Brunei) QSL card has our club logo on it. During the month, we received one request for a donation: the DL group led by DL7VEE will be going to 5W as 5WOM, IOTA OZ-097, during April 4-18 with 15 operators and 5 stations. Tedd announced that in January-February 2014 an expedition will be going back to Heard Island. The Clipperton group will be up next month. ZS8C will be coming up on Marion Island this year.

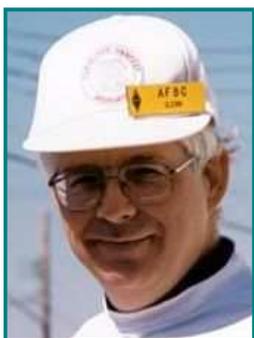
The next meeting will be on March 4. The April meeting will have "the video" of K8AZ antenna work. Tedd reminded us that March 4 is also nominations night.

For the raffle, \$22.00 was collected. Dwaine, K8ME held the winning ticket. Then Dave, WD8IOU moved and Ron, K8VJG, seconded that the meeting be closed. The meeting ended at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary

## Minutes of the March 4th, 2013 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. by Tedd, KB8NW. There were 18 members and guests present. After the usual round of introductions the minutes for the meeting of February 4 were read by Glenn, AF8C. Corrections were noted. Karl, K8BCK moved, and Ron, K8VJG seconded that the minutes be approved. That passed on a show of hands.



Mary, N8DMM reported the treasury balance was \$Ka-Ching! The repeater was reported as working well. The newsletter is out.

Per Tedd, KB8NW, after the ZL9HR situation as reported last month, the NODXA club's new policy was published and "went viral". W3VR, QRZ-DX, the South FL DX web page and others noted our policy. People should also see our last newsletter on this topic.

Denny, WB8K, does not have enough published information on the repeater to know which knob is the squelch. The receiver is a Yaesu "Virtex". Nothing was adjusted after that last previously reported big noise outage, but the problem went away. Our thanks are due to Dave, WD8IOU, for the flyer for Dayton. A local ham was in an Eastlake newspaper article.

### Old/New Business:

Discussion will be short tonight. Daylight savings time starts on March 10. Dwaine, K8ME, says the Dayton bus is a GO. Seats are available for \$48.00. The bus information is on the [2CARS.org](http://2CARS.org) Web site.

Dave, WD8IOU, announced having a spare bed available in the Crown Plaza, and that includes privileges to the Executive Suite. K8ZH also has one bed available there.

John, K8YSE, says hello from FL. For QSLs due to Cuba, try to sending your cards again. The post office situation for Cuba has been cleared up. Ron, K8VJG, reported on donating a VHF/UHF antenna to a Cuban.

Tedd announced that here with March we must have nominations for new officers for 2013. Nominations were as follows: Secretary, Glenn, AF8C, nominated by Dave, WD8IOU and seconded by Karl, K8BCK. For treasurer: Mary, N8DMM, nominated by Jim KE8G and seconded by Dwaine, K8ME. For vice president, nominated by Ron, K8VJG, seconded by Jim, KE8G. For president, yet again Tedd, KB8NW, as nominated by Dwaine, K8ME, and seconded by Bruce, N8DJX. Dave, WD8IOU, moved to accept and close the nominations. This motion was seconded by Ron, K8VJG. The official vote will happen at the April 1 meeting.

Clipperton Island is up as TX5K until March 9. At the end of the month is the CQ WPX Phone contest. An expedition is planned for Wake Island in October. The raffle was for splitting \$32.00. KE8G won that drawing and donated his winnings back to the club.

The next meeting will be on April 1. Jim, KE8G, moved that the meeting be closed. The motion was seconded by Bruce, N8DJX. The meeting was closed at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary

## Minutes of the April 1st, 2013 NODXA Meeting

The meeting was opened at 7:31 p.m. by Dwaine, K8ME. There were 18 members and guests present. After the usual round of introductions, the minutes for the meeting of March 4 were read by Glenn, AF8C. Subsequently the minutes were accepted as approved. For the treasurer's report Mary, N8DMM reported the treasury balance was \$Ka-Ching! A motion to approve her report came from Ron, K8VJG, and was seconded by Bruce, K8DJX. The motion passed. The repeater was reported as working well. Dave, WD8IOU, said the newsletter will be out soon, and he needs articles.



### Old/New Business:

Dwaine, K8ME, brought in his purchased plaques for Honor Roll on CW and SSB. One of these was handed around the room for closer viewing.

The next topic was the plaque for the ARRL International DX Great Lakes Division Single Operator High Power Phone. This is something we provide every year. Dave, WD8IOU moved that we again endorse \$75.00 for that plaque for 2013. Joe, K8YN seconded that motion. On the vote, that motion passed.

Next was discussion on the October 2013 Wake Atoll expedition, the future K9W. Bruce K8DJX moved that the club donate \$100 for that expedition. The motion was seconded by Ron, K8VJG. Then an anonymous donor said he would match the \$100 for a total donation of \$200. That motion passed on a vote.

Funding for the annual Dayton hospitality suite was the subject of a motion by Pete, N8TR, for \$250.00 to cover that. The motion was seconded by Vicki, K8VGM and passed on a vote.

Pete, N8TR, mentioned that the Mad River Radio Club always buys four slots in the Dayton flea market. NODXA could try to buy a slot next year. These are usually reserved in January.

For the purpose of performing the election of the slate of officers that was nominated last month, Ron, K8VJG moved to have a vote by acclamation. This motion was seconded by Vicki, K8VGM. The vote to elect by acclamation was passed unanimously.

George, K8KR, discussed the sudden passing of XE1L, and how much Luis will be missed. Luis was just back from the TX5K expedition. Also of note was the passing of Ingolf, DL4JS, who died in a tragic accident during the T2YY operation. The other two operators will continue until April 4.

Dwaine, K8ME, still has plenty of openings for seats on the Dayton Bus. The cutoff date to purchase bus tickets is April 30.

Cocos Keeling, VK9C is on. Bruce K8DJX wondered how long a RTTY QSL card from Mt. Athos should take? Dwaine and Pete answered "a long time".

The next meeting will be on May 6. The raffle basket had accumulated \$35.00 and the winner was again KE8G who drew his own ticket! But he donated his portion back to the club. The meeting was declared closed by Dwaine, K8ME, at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully, Glenn, AF8C, Secretary

## Invite a Kid to Field Day by Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

If you've been around ham radio for any length of time, you'll notice that ham radio operators like to complain. One of the most frequently heard complaints is, "Kids aren't interested in amateur radio anymore." While I'm not so sure that's true, I do know that now is the time for you to do something about it.

How? Invite a kid to Field Day.



Invite them to help you set up antennas.

Show them how you power the rigs with a generator, or even cooler, by charging a battery with a solar panel.

Let them sit in front of the rig, show them how to make contacts, and log for them. To make it easier for them, make up a cheat sheet with the callsign spelled out phonetically and the exchange, also spelled out phonetically.

Let them operate for as long as they're interested. When they're done, thank them on contributing to your club's total score.

Answer every single one of their questions.

This may not win them over immediately, but I can assure you that it will make an impression on them. To increase your chances of success, find a kid that's already technically inclined. Invite a bunch of them from the high school's robotics team, for example.

If you don't have any plans for Field Day, then make some. Then, go find that kid. If you don't, then you don't have any right to complain that there are no kids in ham radio.

## Field Day 2013 by David Autry, WD8IOU

It's Field Day time again! June 22 and 23 to be exact. John, K8YSE, is the field day chairman for this year and has decided that we will do a low-key, just for fun, operation. As a result, we will not have a GOTA station this year because of all the extra work required to set it up; the club will participate in the 2A class using two stations: SSB, and CW/RTTY.



The NODXA site is the same as last year, the Mount Augustine Training Center located on 5232 Broadview Road in Richfield. A map to the Field Day site is on the next page.

Everybody is encouraged to attend this 24-hour marathon, and, most of all, to operate! (Hey, if KB8NW can operate, then you can too!). We especially need CW operators to keep that station running for the full 24 hours.

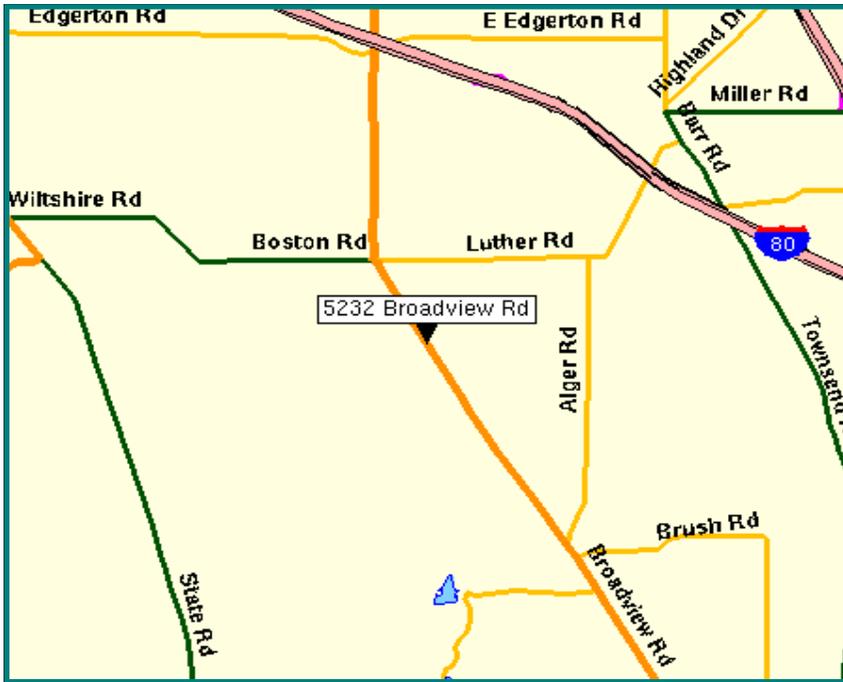
Pete, N8TR, is planning an early setup of tents and antennas Friday evening around 6 PM. Everybody is encouraged to stop by and help out; this will decrease the amount of work required on Saturday morning.

The contest starts at 2 PM Saturday and ends at 2 PM Sunday. Operators are real scarce during the "3rd shift" (12 AM to 8 PM) so it would be a great help for our club's score if we could have a couple more operators during those hours.

The club has allocated some money for food and drink so there should be plenty to eat. But we will need some cooks so, even if you don't want to operate, stop on out and flip some burgers!

Remember to bring the bug spray, folding chairs, sun screen, and 807's!

See you there!



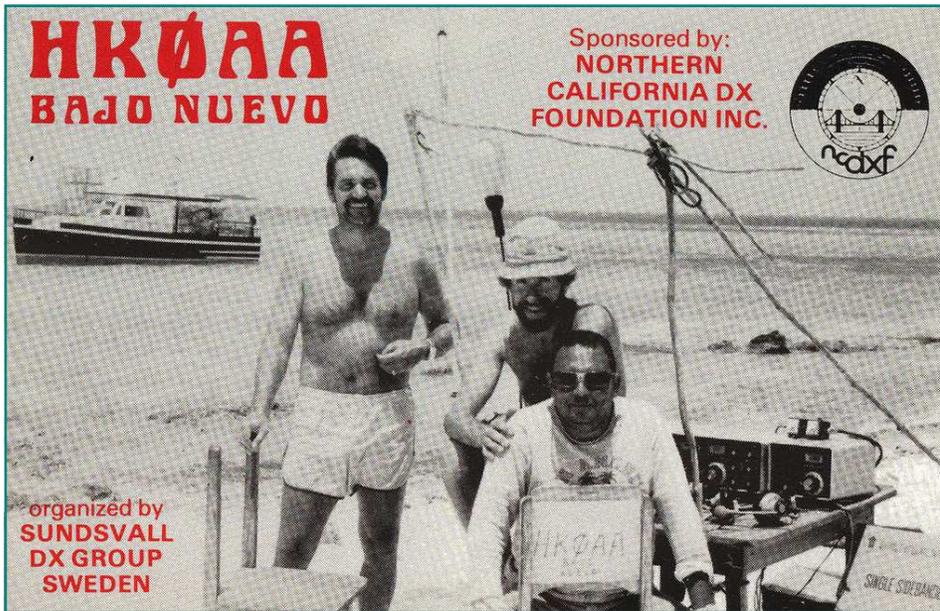
### WK3N QSL Collection By "Scotty", WK3N



From the WK3N collection, here's a 1952 QSL from a well known DXer of that era, Katashi Nose. KH6IJ in Hawaii. Note the brag statement about being Extra Class licensee number 5 !!! The extra class license came about due to the FCC licensing structure decisions of 1951. To enter this coveted level, one had to pass a 20 word per minute code test as well as a complex electronics test. I remember a number of NODXA members going for this upgrade back in the 80's, as this gave us a couple of band slots of our own. I personally traveled to the FCC offices in Detroit for my test. Returning home and having to sign as KB8SX/ interim DT, until my new license arrived in the mail. Even though the mandatory code is now a dead issue, I see mounds of DXer's still flock to cw today. CW is not dead, nor will it die. It's still the most used mode for weak signal amateur communications.



From the WK3N collection comes HK0AA. Bajo Nuevo Island. A former DXCC entity. Only contacts of 1981 and before count for this one. Contacts after September 17, 1981 count as the San Andres Island chain.



Here's another one from the WK3N collection..... 1925 via the Times World Wide newspaper division comes this headline...THE FIRST FEMALE Amateur Radio Operator is a sixteen year old high school student from Oakland, Cal. Genevieve Emerson scored a perfect score on the government test. Wonder is anyone has a copy of that test or knows the criteria that she would have studied? CW must have been mandatory ? Is so please email info to [wk3n@arrl.net](mailto:wk3n@arrl.net)



HUNDRED PER CENT. RADIO EXPERT: MISS GENEVIEVE EMERSON, sixteen-Year-Old High School Girl of Oakland, Cal., Who Has Distinction of Being the First Girl in the United States Granted an Amateur Radio Operator's License, Having Made a Perfect Score in the Government Test. (Times Wide World Photos.)

## Famous Radio Operators By "Scotty", WK3N

Airforceman private Joe Lochard of Williamsport, Pa was expecting another routine morning at Opano radar station on December 7, 1941. He had stayed at the radar site overnight due to a lack of transportation. At 4 a.m. he began training a new radar/radio op. Soon Lochard's photo's and auto-graphed remembrance cards would be sought by many. He was to be revered while his boss would be belittled. At 7:06 a.m. his SCR-170 radar screen started showing a mass of incoming airplanes towards Hawaii. He clamored to phone, notifying his superior Kermit Tyler. Soon to make a statement that would haunt him all his life.



Tyler, who was the Army Air Forces' first lieutenant on temporary duty at Ft. Shafter's radar information center on the morning of Dec. 7, when radar operator Lochard on the northern tip of the island reported that he and another private were seeing an unusually large "blip" on their radar screen, indicating a large number of aircraft about 132 miles away and fast approaching. "Don't worry about it," Tyler told the radar operator, thinking it was a flight of U.S. B-17 bombers that was due in from the mainland.

Instead, the blip on the radar screen was the first wave of more than 180 Japanese fighters, torpedo bombers, dive bombers and horizontal bombers whose surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and the island's main airfields shortly before 8 a.m. plunged the United States into World War II.

"I wake up at nights sometimes and think about it," Tyler said in a 2007 interview with the Star-Ledger of Newark, N.J. "But I don't feel guilty. I did all I could that morning."

Tyler, who suffered two strokes within the last two years, died Jan. 23 at his home in San Diego at age 96, said his daughter Julie Jones. Lochard died Nov. 2 2012, still a famous radio operator.

### FOR SALE

QRO DX-2500 LINEAR AMPLIFIER.....  
WORKS FINE.....PREFER PICKUP OR  
MEET.....MAKE OFFER ! SAVE !

BEGALI CW MACHINE \$ 150 PLUS  
\$11.00 SHIPPING LIKE NEW

(TWO) RADIO WORKS T-4+ LINE  
ISOLATORS. EX \$ 50 FOR BOTH PLUS  
SHIPPING

RIGBLASTER PLUS RC/PL/CUSB for ICOM  
NEW-IN-BOX \$ 25.00 PLUS SHIP OR  
PICKUP

CONTACT SCOTTY WK3N AT 724-927-9468  
OR WK3N @HOTMAIL.COM

### Club Item For Sale

HyGain TH3-MKIII antenna complete with  
BN86 Balun and new set of plastic trap caps.  
Antenna is in good condition.

This antenna was donated to the Northern  
Ohio DX Association as part of an estate.

Please contact John Papay at [john@papays.com](mailto:john@papays.com)

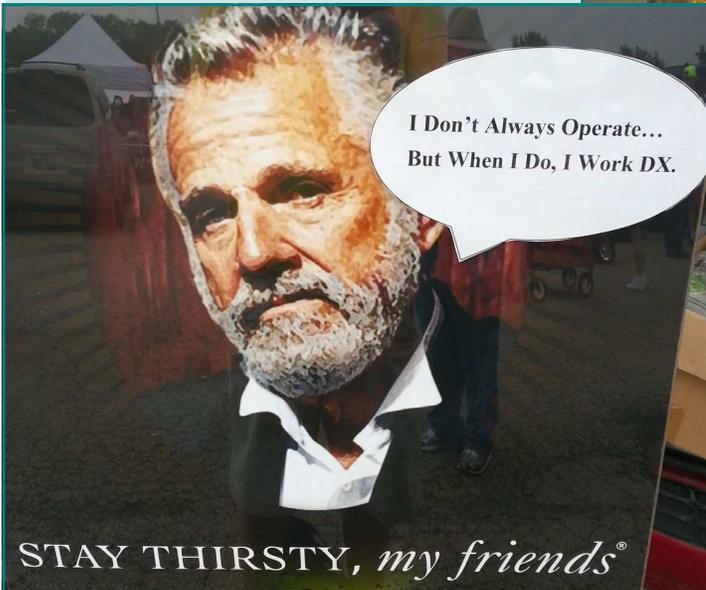


# NODXA Guys at Dayton

By Don Karvonen, K8MFO

Don sent me some great pictures of NODXA club members at Dayton, how many do you recognize?





**OBSCURE ENGINEERING CONVERSION FACTORS**

1. Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi
2. 2000 pounds of Chinese Soup = Won ton
3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope
4. Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond
5. Weight an evangelist carries with God = 1 billigram
6. Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour = Knotfurlong
7. 365.25 days of drinking low-calorie beer = 1 Lite year
8. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Serling
9. Half a large intestine = 1 semicolon
10. 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz
11. Basic unit of laryngitis = 1 hoarsepower
12. Shortest distance between two jokes = a straight line
13. 2000 mockingbirds = two kilomockingbirds
14. 1 kilogram of falling figs = 1 Fig Newton
15. 1000 cc's of wet socks = 1 literhosen
16. 8 nickels = 2 paradigms



Congratulations to K8ME for achieving ARRL DXCC Honor Roll for Phone & CW. Forty-nine years of effort has finally paid off!



World famous QSL managers Joe, W3HMK, and Bob, N200, at the NODXA Hospitality suite. Photo courtesy of Tedd, KB8NW.

## New HF Band? IARU Announces WRC-15 Positions by Radio Amateur Victoria

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has reached a view on the agenda items that impact amateur radio and amateur-satellite services, to be discussed at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2015. In Electronic Newsletter dated May 29, approved the IARU Administrative Council just days ago, spells out its approach on each of those items as it further lobbies on them.

The IARU, a federation of national amateur radio associations in more than 160 countries, representing more than three million radio amateurs, and is recognized by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). Of a major interest is WRC-15 Agenda Item 1.4 - "to consider possible new allocation to the amateur service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250 - 5 450 kHz."

The IARU describes it as being "a high priority for the amateur service" that a new allocation is made in the band. Communications in the HF bands allocated to the amateur service plays a major role in work to mitigate catastrophes in support of relief operations in areas where the telecommunication infrastructure is weak or has collapsed.

The IARU states HF bands are dependent on propagation factors, and frequencies in different bands have to be used. It noted the current gap between the 80m and 40m allocations.

The full IARU positions include those matters to do with amateur satellite service and the microwave allocations. The IARU E Newsletter can be read at: <http://www.iaru.org/news--events.html>





## Meeting Information

*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 Information

NO8DX: Special Event Callsign  
 W8DXA: NODXA Repeater 147.360

Web-site: <http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html>  
 Newsletter Submission: [wd8iou@adelphia.net](mailto:wd8iou@adelphia.net)

## NODXA Club Officials for 2013-2014

President:	Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW	(440-237-2816)
V. President:	Dwaine Modock, K8ME	(440-582-3462)
Secretary:	Glenn Williams, AF8C	(440-835-4897)
Treasurer:	Mary Michaelis, N8DMM	(440-236-5426)
Newsletter:	David Autry, WD8IOU	(440-238-0417)



## DXCC Info

As of February 2012, the current DXCC Entities total is: **340**.

## 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. and DX) \$20.00

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

## Newsletter Contributors

Thanks to the following for their contribution to this months edition: N8TR, N8DMM, KB8NW, K8YSE, AF8C, WK3N, K8MFO, K8CX, KB6NU, Radio Amateur Victoria, West Coast ARC, and the Western Reserve ARC.