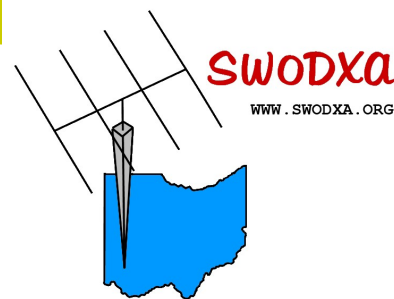




Volume 3, Issue 1

9/2019

the exchange



SouthWest Ohio DX Association

2019 Officers

President NR8Z
Tom Inglin
Vice-President W8KJ
Kevin Jones
Secretary KC8CKW
Mindi Jones
Treasurer W8RKO
Mike Suhar

Club Call : W8EX

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

TA4LYL Interview	2
Code Proficiency Update	3
W4DXCC	4
California Earthquake and Propagation	5
SMOM	7
Field Day with K7NM	11
TF3VS Interview	14
Summer E-Skip	16
60 Meter Update	19
ARRL Contest Update	21
CWOPs Contest	22
DX Donation Policy	23
Club Fact Sheet	24

The Prez says....Tom, NR8Z

Summer is fading and Fall is just around the corner. I say that because the high temperatures are starting to moderate and the Ohio QSO Party has been held. That also means SWODXA's summer meeting hiatus is almost over. Meetings start again on the second Thursday of September and in the Fall (September through November) we meet at the Marion's Piazza in Mason (6176 Soundwave Blvd., off Tylersville Rd. at the intersection with Snider Rd.).

We'd like to develop more operating activities for SWODXA beyond the club DX contest. Thanks to all the SWODXA members who participated in the Ohio QSO Party this past weekend. I worked some of you or saw your calls appear in our log. Band conditions weren't great but there were a lot of Ohio counties on and there was plenty of activity with non-Ohio stations until late evening. I had the pleasure of operating in a multi-op from K8DV's station. Dave's station is loud so it was a lot of fun to have DX stations calling me, something that doesn't happen at my home QTH.

This summer I put some time into FT-8, mostly from Cape Cod and all QRP. I'm still not a full believer yet, I feel a little helpless at times with little to do to make the contact happen but watch. It can be addicting though, just one more double click to see if I can work that station. I used an Elecraft KX3 and either a Cushcraft R5 or the LNR EndFedZ trail ready antenna mounted on a second story balcony. While the location is not right on salt water, you can definitely tell the difference in signal levels to Europe compared to W8-land. Like real estate, DX can be location, location, location!

So now that Fall is almost here, get out and do some antenna projects. Also, this Fall, I hope to see you at a meeting. Remember, if you miss a meeting, you miss a lot!

73,
Tom NR8Z



Interview with Yigit, TA4LYL

I recently worked Yigit (Adam) and was really impressed with the things on his webpage. His accomplishments and activities are really interesting. He agreed to answer my questions right away. Hope you work him in the future and enjoy what he has to share.

AJ8B: How did you first get interested in amateur radio & when did you get on the air?

TA4LYL: I was born in 1971 in Istanbul. I studied Electronics. When I was 17, I got my first radio as a 27Mhz CB. Also, My father in love was a CB guru.

The conditions of propagation at that time were much better. I didn't know CW at the time. We were just using SSB. There were no digital modes like FT8.

For several years, I kept improving myself by listening to HF frequencies from SDRs. 14 years ago I gained the class A license. Then I bought a Yaesu FT-847. A year ago I added an Icom IC-7300 to my station after a long and arduous road.

AJ8B: Do you have a favorite band or mode?

TA4LYL: 20m, 40m and AMSAT is my favorite band, CW mode certainly.

AJ8B: I know that you very successful with chasing countries. Any secrets to your success?

TA4LYL: Patience first. Good antennas and timing are other factors.

AJ8B: Do you participate in Contests?

TA4LYL: Yes, of course. I certainly will if I find time.

AJ8B: If so, what are your favorites?

TA4LYL: CQWW DX CW, CQWWDX SSB, CQWW WPX CW/SSB contests are my favorites for the new DXCC. I also, have 1st place in the CQ DX Marathon competition. You can also see some on my page: <https://www.qrz.com/db/TA4LYL>.

QSL: LoTW Info: QRZ.com Born: 1971
I Love Real CW.

 **Turkey**

TA4LYL

Peace at Home, Peace in the World.

CONFIRMING QSO WITH			DAY MONTH YEAR		
UTC	MHz	RST	2-WAY	QSL	

ITU Zone: 39 CQ Zone: 20 Grid: KM37 **73, YIGIT (ADAM)**
e-mail: ta4lyl@gmail.com

AJ8B: What license levels do you have in Turkey?

TA4LYL: Now I have the highest level "class A" license for Radio Amateur in my country.

AJ8B: Describe what you are currently using:

TA4LYL: Icom IC-7300, Yaesu FT-847 (soon Icom IC-9800), HEX6B antenna up to 22m on tower. Handmade magnetic loop Antenna for 40m and 80m.

VHF/UHF Antenna.: Diamond 144S10R and 430S15R.

I definitely use Common Mode Choke "CMC-230 5Kw" in my antenna inputs.

Handmade CW paddle (You can see it on my QRZ page or on my youtube channel.)

Yaesu G-5500 rotor - For Satellite LVB Tracker - Icom external speaker - Diamond GSV-3000 Pwr. unit.-

To avoid cable losses, I use Amphenol Helix 1/2 for all cables.

Log Software.: Log40M and AMSAT software SatPc32. Contest Software N1MM...

AJ8B: What advice do you have for those of us trying to break pileups to work DX?

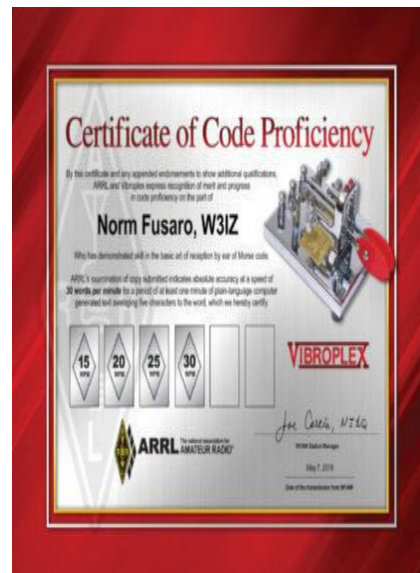
TA4LYL: First of all, your position and antenna must be good. Then choose a device with good and (QRM-QRN) quiet listening. Because, There is nowhere you can not go with 100w.

(Cont. on next Page)

ARRL Code Proficiency Award Updated (Norm, W3IZ ARRL Director of Operations & The Radiogram)

I have some exciting news that I want to share with you! The ARRL has reinvigorated the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate program. Several things have changed beginning with our new sponsor, Vibroplex, a legend in Morse telegraphy equipment. If you see Scott Robbins W4PA and the Vibroplex team at a hamfest or convention, please be sure to thank him for his support.

The Vibroplex logo will appear on the newly designed certificates (see below) and in the award recipient page that will appear every month in QST. That's right, each month in QST we will publish the most recent recipients of the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate, beginning with all the 2019 recipients. As a bonus, we are sending all the 2019 CPC holders a new certificate at no cost to replace their older style award. The award is available to anyone who copies one solid minute of code during the qualifying runs. Complete program details can be found on the web at: <http://www.arrl.org/code-proficiencycertificate>. And to make the award available to more people, we will double the number of opportunities to copy the CW text. Beginning September 2019, the qualifying runs will increase from twice per week to four times per week. I am sharing this advanced notice with the Morse code clubs so that you can share it with your members. I have attached PDF files of the new certificate and the announcement that will appear in August QST, available in digital format July 8. I hope you are as excited about this as I am. In closing, I want personally thank all of you who promote the use and proficiency of Morse code on the air waves and ask that you challenge your club members to submit their copy for the W1AW Code Proficiency Certificate



Interview with Yigit, TA4LYL —cont.

AJ8B: When it comes to pileups, how do you feel about "tail ending"?

TA4LYL: I feel like I'm out of the war. LoL..

AJ8B: Any QSLing hints?

TA4LYL: Lotw is the best for me...

AJ8B: What coaching/advice would you give new amateurs?

TA4LYL: Please consider using the LoTW, it's free, it's safe, reliable and very important for those who take DX seriously.

Then, Suitable band, good timing and persistence...

Finally, please try to learn CW. As Ft8 becomes widespread, real radio amateurism is dying. and Be on air..!

AJ8B: Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Is there anything you would like to share with us?

TA4LYL: Thank you for your interest in me.

vy 73 de TA4LYL

Countdown to W4DXCC

September 20th – 21st, 2019
Mainstay Hotel and Conference Center,
Pigeon Forge, TN

W4DXCC is a DX and Contest Convention held in Pigeon Forge, TN and it's our 15th year. If you're a DXer, Contester or just an active ham you should attend this year.



The attendees enjoy the fellowship of other hams and share experiences. They meet old friends and make new ones. Once you attend you will be back every year. Representatives from Top equipment manufacturers will be on hand to demo new equipment and answer your questions One on One. It's an Easy drive from 2/3rds of the country.

This will be the most informative and relaxed DX and Contest convention you have ever attended, not to mention the many great prize drawings.

Radio BootCamp

This year convention attendees can attend a day long Radio BootCamp training session on Friday. Experienced hams teach new and old hams about building shacks and antennas, learn how to operate better while DXing and Contesting. There is something for every ham, New and Old.

It's time to make your hotel reservations

Call the Mainstay convention hotel at 865-428-350 to book your room,
ASK for W4DXCC by SEDCO special rates

Go Online at **W4DXCC.com** for Convention and Banquet tickets.

For More Details Visit us at **www.W4DXCC.COM**

Report: California Earthquakes Disrupted HF Propagation on West Coast

07/08/2019

British Columbia radio amateur Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, said that an Independence Day magnitude 6.4 earthquake in California's Mojave Desert and multiple aftershocks negatively affected HF propagation on the US west coast. Schwarz, who maintains the "RF Seismograph" and has drawn a correlation between earthquake activity and HF band conditions, said the radio disruption began at around 1600 UTC on July 4, and continued into July 5. He said that on July 4, the blackout was total except for 20 meters, where conditions were "severely attenuated," Schwarz said. The RF Seismograph also detected the magnitude 7.1 earthquake on July 6 in the same vicinity, Schwarz reported. The distance between the monitoring station in Vancouver, British Columbia, and that quake's epicenter is 1,240 miles. "Things are back to normal after the strong quake, as far as the ionosphere is concerned, but the unrest has not stopped yet," Schwarz told ARRL on July 8. "There were over 7,000 mostly small quakes, and these do not seem to have the energy to affect the ionosphere. We all hope that this will settle down soon." Schwarz said the RF Seismometer detected a magnitude 6.9 earthquake in Indonesia. Over the holiday weekend, Schwarz had reported "a massive short-wave radio blackout" on the west coast. "It is not caused by the sun (the sun is quiet), but the field lines of the 'quakes themselves," he said. A magnitude 6.2 earth-

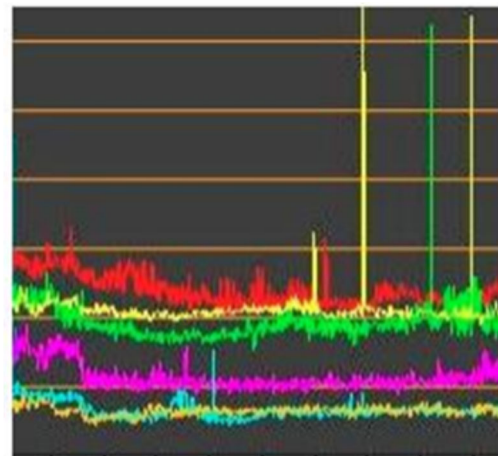
quake took place off Vancouver Island, British Columbia, on July 4.

On July 6, Schwarz said, the RF Seismograph showed an increase in noise on 80 meters some 13 hours beforehand, as well as some propagation changes on 40 and 30 meters

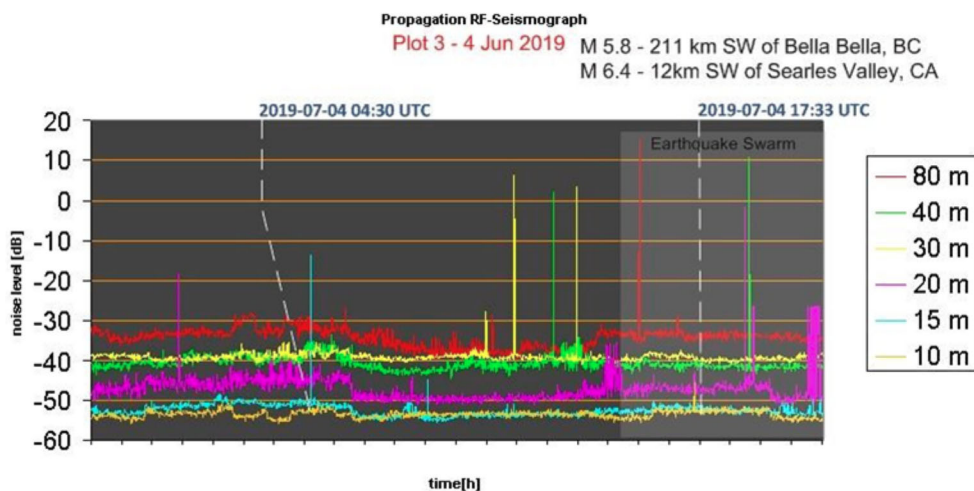
— low before the quake and increasing in its wake. Increases in noise on 15 and 10 meters were detected some 10 hours before the earthquake, diminishing about 3 hours afterward. In addition, noise level and propagation changes on 20 meters some 3 hours before the earthquake.

Schwarz said larger quakes spur longer periods of 80-meter noise which cross the day/night boundary. "The difficulty is the 80 meter noise difference between day and night, which is hard to subtract from the graphs," he added. , Schwarz told ARRL.

(Cont. on next Page)



A detail of the RF Seismograph plot after the July 4 earthquake.



CA Earthquakes Disrupted HF Propagation on West Coast—cont.

With earthquakes of lesser magnitude (4.0 to 5.9), the RF Seismograph displays the rise and fall typically within daytime or nighttime propagation, making it more obvious. “The measurement on the other bands is more consistent, and the quake can have either an amplifying or attenuating effect on propagation

All of the earthquakes of the past few days occurred within a 4-square-mile area in and around Ridgecrest in Kern County. Several injuries were reported, along with property damage. ARES and the Sierra Amateur Radio Club (SARC) have actively supported communications during the earthquake swarm and magnitude 7.1 quake in and around Ridgecrest, in the Mojave Desert. “Many club members are busy collecting information, running an emergency net, as well as staffing a back-up communication van,” Mike Herr, WA6ARA, told ARRL on July 7. The RF Seismograph propagation tool employs an omnidirectional multiband antenna to monitor JT65 frequencies (± 10 kHz) on 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10 meters. Recorders monitor the background noise and display the result in six color-coded, long-duration graphs displaying 6 hours of scans. When signals are present on a band, its graph trace starts to resemble a series of vertical bars.

The RF Seismograph recorded the magnitude 7.5 earthquake in Ecuador on February 22. Schwarz recounted that noise on 15 meters began to be visible about 1 hour before the quake; then, 2 hours after the quake released, 15 meters started to recover. It did not affect 80 meters. “The earthquakes show up as RF noise because of the electric field lines, now scientifically confirmed to change the way the ionosphere reflects RF,” Schwarz said.

Schwarz has cited an article in the October 2018 edition of *Scientific American*, which, he says, explains the phenomenon. (See Erik Vance’s “Earthquakes in the sky,” *Scientific American*, October 2018, p. 44.)

The *Scientific American* article explores measurements in Japan and how earthquakes can create electric field lines that extend into the atmosphere. Schwarz said 171 earthquakes — all magnitude 6.0 events or greater — were studied, and only 15 of them had no RF noise associated with them. RF Seismograph is now a project on Scistarter.com, facilitated through Arizona State University. Contact Schwarz for additional information.

www.PhotoQSLs.com

Your Photos or Your Design
Order On-Line
Simple 5 Step Process
Inquiries:
PhotoQSLs@yahoo.com

Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM Intro)

I worked SMOM, 1AOC, for the first time in 2015. I had not heard them since and I made sure that I have my band slots filled this time around. However, a visit to their website (www.1a0c.com) indicates that they had 2 goals with the DXPedition. The first was to make another entity available to DXers all over the world. The second goal was to raise funds



for their noble cause. The intro says it all *“1AOC is the amateur radio volunteer call-sign belongs to ‘The Order of Malta’s Italian Relief Corps (CISOM)’”, an organization specialized in bringing assistance and relief during emergencies. This underscores the dual value of this activation. On the one hand, there’s the fun side of ham radio, giving a not so easy “new one” to as many stations as possible (especially from the US and Japan). On the other hand, however, there’s the noble goal, as often seen in ham radio, where a spirit of cooperation and mutual aid are shared by operators all over the world.*

The volunteer team’s aim, in fact, is to raise funds – thanks to donations and contributions from QSL requests – in order to support the The Order of Malta’s Italian Relief Corps daily activity with the homeless. The UDS (Street Unity-a charitable organization) are present in several Italian cities as Padua, Florence, Naples, Milan and Palermo, hoping to expand this service in few other cities within 2019.

It has been estimated that one quarter of the world’s population lives without shelter or in unhealthy and unacceptable conditions, a great many of whom are minors. The problems that lead to homelessness pervade every part of society; family breakdown, natural and man-made disasters, overcrowding, drug addiction and illness. In addition, homelessness accelerates social exclusion, so those affected are often in a downward spiral of unemployment, marginalization, poverty, drug problems and illness.

Please consider supporting our ongoing efforts with homeless with an extra donation while requesting your QSL card to the manager. We promise to use the funds wisely to fulfill our mission with homeless, regardless of their race, religion or gender.

The Order of Malta’s Italian Relief Corps (CISOM) Amateur Radio Volunteer Team includes: EA1SA, EA5EL, EA5KA, EA5KM, EA5RM, EA7AJR, EA7KW, F8ATS, F9IE, IK5RUN, IWODJB, IN3ZNR, IZ4AKS (1A0X), and LA7GIA.

1AOC will be active between July 15 to July 21, 2019 on HF+6m and 60m and that will be all time new one on this band.

The QSLs for contacts with 1AOC can be requested via EA5RM following the instruction reported on the website: www.1A0C.com .

More details about the history of the order have been supplied by the DX News – www.dxnews.com. This is reprinted with their permission. (I encourage you to sign up to receive updates from DX News)

(Cont. on next Page)

Sovereign Military Order of Malta (cont.)

The Sovereign armed organization of Malta is the older chivalry order that survived until today. It is also known as the ruler Military Hospitaller Order of (Saint John) of Jerusalem of Malta and Rhodes, Order of Malta or the Knights of Malta. This is a {Roman-Catholic spiritual} order and it also has a armed, chivalrous and noble nature. At this moment the headquarter of this order is situated in Rome, Italy, because the European island known as Malta is very close to Italy. The history of this order is very old, because everything started in Jerusalem around 1050, according to historical data. After the 1st crusade Sovereign Military Order of Malta develop into a military order in 1099 and it had its own character. At the beginning this order was designed to treat and cure the poor and sick from the (Holy-Land) and even today Sovereign Military Order of Malta has 20,000 medical personnel as members of the order. There are also 13,000 members and more than 80,000 volunteers. They are all members from different countries all over the world, not only from Malta or Italy. The purpose of the order remained pretty much the same because today they are taking care of elder people, orphans, handicapped, refuted persons, homeless persons and those who have severe diseases such as terminal cancer.

The Sovereign armed organization of Malta had also headquartered on Rhodes Island in 1310. Everything was caused by the fall of the last Christian stronghold from the Holy Land and before establishing in Rhodes, the order also had headquarters in Cyprus. There a fleet was established with the purpose of conquering other regions, and the order fought crusades in Egypt and Syria. The members of the order were divided according to the language they spoke by that time.

There was a rough time for the order in 1523 because they had to left Rhodes after a battle with Suleiman the Magnificent and they had no territory until fifteen thirty. In 1565 the knights had to defend their territory against a Turkish siege and they were the winners of that fight. The order was evacuated from Malta in

1798, but the order was able to settle in Rome in 1834 and it was a final decision. However, the order has control over the Fort St Angelo from Malta and the flag of the country is placed right next to the flag of the order.

There's also a membership scale for those who are part of the order: The first class, the second class, and the third class. The ones who are part of the order even today are having the titles of knights and dames. At this moment this is probably the biggest order from the whole world and their main purpose is to help those who are unfortunate.

Sovereign Military Order of Malta has a long history and those who are members of the order are highly respected everywhere around the world. They have immunity and rights in some countries including France, England and Italy. The official language spoken by the members of the order is Italian, but some of them are still speaking Latin too.

The order activity took place on islands for most of their time and between 1651 and 1665 the order used four islands from the Caribbean and those islands were Saint Barthelemy, Croix, Saint Martin and Saint Christopher. The order sold the islands in sixteen sixty five to the French West India Company.

(Cont. on next Page)



Sovereign Military Order of Malta (cont.)

Even during the colonial time and during the World War periods the order was always involved. Even today The Sovereign armed organization of Malta is still part of the politics in Italy and they also have a strong connection with Vatican too.

It's hard for the ordinary people to really understand the purpose of this chivalry order and what they really want to do, but people should consider them as a big organization designed to help others. This is actually what the order does.

Even if they were exiled from Malta, The Sovereign armed organization of Malta still has a bit of influence in there but they are not immune to the Malta laws, but they have some privileges. Two-sided treaties were signed in order to allow the order to come back in Malta. The first one was signed in 1991 but that one is not available anymore and the second one was signed in 1998 although everything started after three years, in 2001. By this treaty the order is allowed to use the Fort St Angelo from Birgu for its own activity, and the accord has duration of ninety nine years, but after 50 years since the treaty was signed it can be renewed for a new period of 99 years.

Thanks to this chivalry order a lot of people were helped and not only in Italy or Malta. This is a global organization and it always was. They are helping other people from all over the world and they have members joining their ranks from everywhere, even from Asia or North

America. They are also having a religious nature because most of the members of this order are Roman Catholics. If someone wants to join this order it must convert into a Roman Catholic otherwise it is not allowed to do it.

It's quite hard to enter into the ranks of The Sovereign armed organization of Malta but not impossible. Everyone can do it as long as they can prove their loyalty and their good ambition. There are a lot of doctors and nurses who are part of the orders, so it can easily be seen that those who are following a medical carrier can also join The Sovereign armed organization of Malta. There's no price to pay for joining but those who are members should attend charity events and to help when it's necessary. People can also join as volunteers too.



<https://youtu.be/neelaXWbsh4>

LIFE IS SIMPLE



The radio... **YAESU**

The Conclusive Choice

Pulling out weak signals during extremely harsh band conditions

Narrow Band SDR + Direct Sampling SDR

A unique Hybrid SDR Configuration utilizing YAESU's Legendary Powerful RF Front-End and improved local oscillator C/N characteristics combined with a Sharp Crystal Roofing Filter and 18-bit Narrow Band SDR produces unsurpassed critical receiver performance when faced with challenging on-the-air interference situations.

The Narrow Band SDR portion is combined with Direct Sampling SDR output on the LCD display. The operator enjoys an astounding visual awareness of activity across the entire band plus detailed activity focus in the immediate proximity of the selected operating frequency.



14MHz Band Blocking Dynamic Range (BDR)



14MHz Band Reciprocal Mixing Dynamic Range (RMDR)



1st Local OSC Phase Noise (14.2MHz)



In Homage to the Founder of Yaesu – Sake Hasegawa JA1MP

FTDX101MP 200W
HF/50MHz TRANSCEIVER

The Ultimate

FTDX101D 100W
HF/50MHz TRANSCEIVER

FTDX101MP: As of Apr.2019, this device has not been approved by the FCC. This device may not be offered for sale or lease or be sold or leased until approval of the FCC has been obtained. The information shown is preliminary and may be subject to change without notice or obligation.

YAESU USA

6125 Phyllis Drive, Cypress,
CA 90630 (714) 827-7600

For the latest Yaesu news, visit us on the Internet: <http://www.yaesu.com>

Our Attempt at Field Day K7NM—Lee

As you may know, Lee is a club member located in Utah. He has supported SWODXA every year by printing our programs for free! He also donates a prize whenever we ask for it. Thanks to Lee for the submission..



My group who went to Montserrat (the "Geezer Contesting Club") decided to go do FD this year. Our local city parks have an ordinance that no one is to be in them after 10pm without written authorization from the City Manager or City Council.

I reserved the park and had the support of both the City Manager and the City Council - including written permission from the City Manager.

We arrived on Saturday and put up two antennas: A dual nested V-Beam for 40 - 15m pointed SE and A C-Match Wire Vertical (made from speaker wire) mounted on the bleachers behind the baseball diamond. The 40m element was hung from a tree to the C-Match with 16 radials (8 - 125' and 8 - 62.5') with a passive reflector pointed SE. Both antennas were working extremely well.

Along about 10:30pm, catastrophe happened - the park sprinkler system came on. We tried to contact the city but all we had was the phone number of the City Council member and his phone went to voice mail. We had no choices but to stick it out or quit. We had two stations in the park itself - one in a bowery and the other in a tent - each on separate generators. We also had a 6m station but on a trailer in the parking lot.

At around 12:30 while walking to the tent from the 6m station, the next round of sprinklers came on and I got blasted with a full frontal stream and was soaked. It was uncharacteristically cold that night (around 55F) and soon I had the chills and shakes. I decided to go home and change/warm up a few blocks away.

I was back in 40 minutes to a dark park and no sprinklers running anymore. As I walked to the bowery from the parking lot, I was met by another of our team who was now soaked and not a happy camper. While I was gone, the last sprinkler circuit had come on. A stream of water came through the tent window onto the K3 and laptop there. Fortunately, the operator "fell on the grenade" and shielded the gear after the first blast, unplugged the power supply and took the radio and computer to the trailer in the parking lot. |

(Cont. on next Page)



**DXers Have
A Choice**



The Daily DX - is a text DX bulletin that can be sent via email to your home or office Monday through Friday, and includes DX news, IOTA news, QSN reports, QSL information, a DX Calendar, propagation forecast and much, much more. With a subscription to The Daily DX, you will also receive DX news flashes and other interesting DX tidbits. *Subscriptions are \$49.00 for one year or \$28.00 for 6 mos.*

The Weekly DX - is a product of The Daily DX that can be sent weekly to your home or office via email in the form of a PDF (portable document format). It includes DX news, IOTA news, QSN reports, QSL information, a DX Calendar, propagation forecast and graphics. *Subscriptions are \$27.00 for one year.*

Get two weeks of The Daily DX or a sample of The Weekly DX free by sending a request to bernie@dailydx.com, or at <http://www.dailydx.com/trial.htm>.

K7NM Field Day (cont.)

Meanwhile, the last circuit sent water into both sides of the bowery simultaneously. The station there (TS-570 and laptop) was on one side and took a blast. Similar heroism was displayed by the operator and the radio and computer were moved to the center of the bowery where there was no spray. Everything on the outside tables (tools, test equipment, cables, extra antennas, etc.) were soaked.

Both generators died during the last blast as they were soaked.

There was not other choice but to pack up and head home. We took down all but the antennas and got home about 3am. We left the one ham with the 6m station in the trailer in the parking lot there to watch over the antennas until we could get there Sunday to take them down. On Sunday morning, a city maintenance truck arrives and a guy is going around emptying the garbage cans. Then it gets good...

He is near the baseball field and sees the C-Match tuner box for the wire vertical system with all the radials and elements hanging out of the trees and concludes it must be a

bomb. Before long, the supervisor is there and there is a great hubbub about it. Our ham fortunately noticed all this and went over to explain that it is an antenna. Fortunately, they had not called 911 yet.

Obviously, we had an additional member of our team we didn't recognize at first who's name is Murphy. We did learn from this - as the old saying in Engineering goes: "No experiment is ever a complete failure - it can always be used as a 'bad example'".

As I mentioned, the antennas worked extremely well - I ran 40m CW on the C-Match wire vertical and had pile-ups after about 3 CQs and could hold a frequency with my 100W. Farthest contact was ZL at around 7pm.

We have had conversations with the City and we plan to do it again next year...

Perhaps there may some humor in all this.



"So good, you'll tell your friends!"

**Reliable and Affordable
Web Hosting, E-Mail &
Domain Name Services**

- ✓ **Full-featured Web Hosting & E-mail Services from \$4.95/mo.**
 - Host multiple sites & domains under the same account, no extra cost!
 - Free Site Building Tools, cPanel Control Panel and Script Installer.
 - Email included with POP3, SMTP, IMAP, Webmail, Mailman, Anti-Spam.
 - MySQL Databases, SSH Shell Access, FTP Accts, CGI, Perl, PHP, Python.
 - Nightly On & Off-site Backups, multiple Daily/Weekly/Monthly snapshots.
- ✓ **Domain Name Registrations start at \$9.95 per year.**
- ✓ **Create your own website with our FREE Site Building Tools.**
 - Build a site with no HTML experience utilizing WordPress, Joomla, Drupal, etc. Our Softaculous "one-click" script installer will easily install these and dozens of other software packages.
- ✓ **No Questions Asked, Money-Back Guarantee!**



Owned and Operated
since 1996 by
fellow ham
Scott Neader KA9FOX

Have a Website or Domain Name Already?

In most cases, we can do all or most of the work to move your website and domain name to QTH.com. Just ask us for assistance. We do all the work, and you enjoy the savings, extra features and better support! Your website does not have to be ham radio related... we host all types of websites for businesses, organizations and personal use.

NEW 7610

The SDR You Have Asked For



7 inch Color Touchscreen Display
High Speed & Resolution Spectrum Scope
Built-in High Speed Auto Antenna Tuner
Simultaneous Independent Dual RX
Ethernet Port for IP Remote Control*

*Optional RS-BA1 Software Necessary

External Monitor Connectivity
Digital IF Filter & Twin PBT
HF/50MHz Transceiver
RF Direct Sampling
Dual DIGI-SEL Units
RX Antenna Port
SD Card Slot

For the love of ham radio.



#IcomEverywhere

©2019 Icom America, Inc. The Icom logo is a registered trademark of Icom Inc. All other trademarks remain the property of their respective owners. All specifications are subject to change without notice or obligation. 21301

ICOM

Interview with TF3VS—Villi

I worked Villi on 30M and then sent him an email asking him to answer a few questions. He agreed immediately and the results are below.

AJ8B: How did you first get interested in amateur radio?

TF3VS: I first got interested in radio technology as a child. There was only one radio station in Iceland and once a week there was a program supporting hobbies for youngsters. The host once described in detail how to make a crystal receiver and I made one. What a joy! When I was older, I got a job in a computer company where almost everybody was a radio amateur. From then there was no escape, hi.

AJ8B: When did you get on the air?

TF3VS: In 1996 I passed the tech. exam for 2m and 70cm. Two years later I passed the morse test and got my HF privileges.

AJ8B: Do you have a favorite band or mode?

TF3VS: I guess it is CW on 20m. The 20m band is often the highest open band here in the north. I must also mention that I am keen operator on many of the digital modes. I used PSK31 from the very beginning when there were only few hundred stations QRV on PSK, also MFSK16, Throb, MT63 and others, some of them have not been heard (seen) on the bands for years now, hi. FT8 is also great here up north when the bands are practically dead.

AJ8B: I know that you very successful with chasing countries and with contests. Any secrets to your success?

TF3VS: Patience is the key and also listening, listening ... Don't call unless you know whom you are calling. Monitor the K and SFI indices (the average aurora borealis is 270 days per year in Iceland). Investigate propagation, learn which times of day, for the time of year, has possible openings to various countries. For example, Japan is usually only open for an hour per day at this time of the year in Iceland.

AJ8B:

Do you participate in Contests?

TF3VS: Yes, I am not a big contester but I enjoy participating for the fun. It is also a good 'source' of rare call signs ... both go get and give.

AJ8B: What are your favorites?

TF3VS: My favorites are the shorter contests, IO-TA being on the top.

AJ8B: What license levels do you have in Iceland?

TF3VS: Now there are only two levels in Iceland, N and G (there used to be 5 classes). The main difference is the power privileges, N giving max 100W but G is the General CEPT/HAREC license allowing up to 1KW. I do have G license.

AJ8B: Describe what you are currently using:

TF3VS: My QTH in town is not a good one, surrounded by high buildings and hostile neighbors towards amateur radio. But I do have a summer cottage 60 km out of town, on 10,000 sq. meters property, which is my main QTH. My main rig now is Flex6400 (before that Flex5000). I do have a small tower (10m high) with a HexxBeam from DX-Engineering. I also have a Hustler 6BTV for the lower bands and various non-permanent wire antennas. Besides that I have a countless number of home brewed gear, rigs, interfaces, tuners ... you name it. I really enjoy building my gear as well.

AJ8B: What advice do you have for those of us trying to break pileups to work DX?

TF3VS: It is the classical listen, listen, listen. Try to understand the rhythm of the DX station's operator. Then call in his rhythm.



(Cont. on next Page)

Interview with TF3VS—Villi (cont.)

AJ8B: When it comes to pileups, how do you feel about "tail ending"?

TF3VS: I don't think that it is effective at all for success, can even be rude and increase the QRM.

AJ8B: Any QSLing hints?

TF3VS: Join LoTW, also ClubLog.

AJ8B: What coaching/advice would you give new amateurs?

TF3VS: Join a club and be involved in Ham activity in your club, even before getting the license. Elder experienced amateurs usually are more than willing to advise, teach and in general share their experience. The spectrum of ama-

teur radio is so big that nobody is into everything. Home brewing, contesting, field operation, community service ... the list is endless. Find your slot and improve your skills there.

AJ8B: Thanks for taking the time to answer my questions. Is there anything you would like to share with us?

TF3VS: Amateur radio is about nonstop self-learning, discovering and improving. It is also a great opportunity to bridge the gap between generations. My XYL (TF3VB) got her license few years after me, our two sons few years later in their teenage years (TF3VO and TF3VH). This is a great family hobby!

ARRL OH Section Updates

From our ARRL Section Manager,
Scott, N8SY

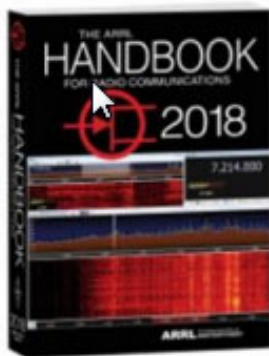
Hey Gang, Do you get updates from your ARRL Ohio Section Manager via email? If not, go to: <http://arrl-ohio.org/handbook.html> and get registered.

What's the catch? I want to get everyone checking in to the Ohio Section website as often as possible, and in order to register each month, you have to visit the website often! There's nothing else to it. I pay all expenses, and from time to time, I Give Away more than just a Handbook. And, you'll never know just what months will be those special times that I will have more than just a Handbook to Give Away!!

Did you see the ad from ARRL recently? Well, they liked my idea so much that they've copied it. Yup, they were giving away a Handbook too!

Many of you ask me just how do I know when the drawing is on? Well, that's easy all you need to do is check in on the Ohio Section Website on a regular basis and watch for the big RED Arrow that will appear on the left side of the page. This is the sign that the drawing is on and you need to get registered. So, keep a sharp eye out on the website and check in often!

<http://arrl-ohio.org>



The Monday Morning Memo...

If you aren't receiving this each Monday, you should!

The Monday Morning Memo is a free electronic newsletter sponsored by the Highland Amateur Radio Association, Hillsboro. Information published may be used in local club newsletters and distributed to others providing proper credit is given to the Monday Morning Memo or the Highland ARA.

Information for publication should be sent to highlandara@yahoo.com. All rights reserved.

Copyright 2019.
HARA, 21 Highland Drive,
Hillsboro, OH 45133

Want to Work 6, 10 or 12 Meters But No Sunspots? Don't Miss Your Chance with Summer E Skip and FT8.

Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

Thanks to Anthony for permission to reprint this interesting article. a version of this article previously appeared on eHam.net



You may have heard the doom and gloom about being in the depths of the 11 Year Sunspot Cycle:

"No propagation above 20 Meters"

"Ten is dead!"

"Might as well sell the radio"

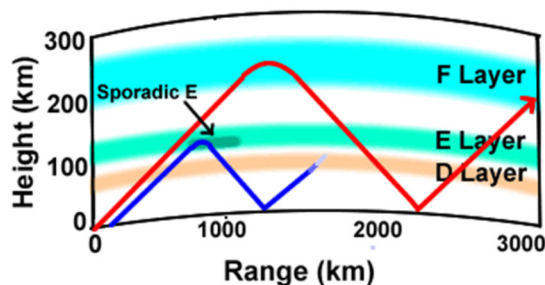
"The sun will never return"

"It's 80 & 160 Meters only for the next few years"

"#\$@&%*!"

Well, the idea to concentrate on 160 and 80 Meters is a good idea, but not until late fall or winter. In the meantime, there is a way to make contacts on 6, 10 or 12 Meters most days of the week by taking advantage of the summer enhanced E Skip season and the new mode of FT8.

Typically during high sunspot activity (solar flux) ionization of the F layer of the atmosphere facilitates refraction of signals on higher HF bands allowing worldwide communications. The E layer is below the F layer and is responsible for a propagation type known to abnormally effect VHF and higher HF frequencies called Sporadic E or E skip. This happens when ionized particles appear in the E layer of the ionosphere. Sporadic E as the name implies occurs sporadically throughout the year and is not dependent on 11-year sunspot cycle. In the Northern hemisphere, sporadic E activities are more frequent during the summer months.



The lower height of the E layer results in shorter skips than the F layer. During sporadic E events, the E layer becomes heavily ionized in specific small thin areas, sometimes called clouds. This can last a few minutes or up to several hours. The effect is normally more pronounced with lower frequencies. The short duration of this type of propagation can mean openings can easily be missed so frequent monitoring of bands is important. Fortunately, in this internet age, there are, of course, websites that can predict or at least define sporadic E,

DXMaps.com has maps similar to the one on the next page.

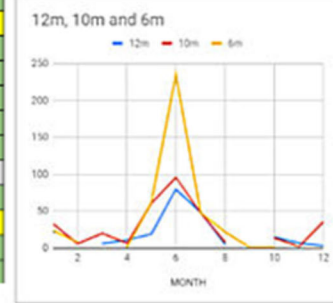
(Cont. on next Page)

Want to Work 6, 10 or 12Meters But No Sunspots? (cont.)

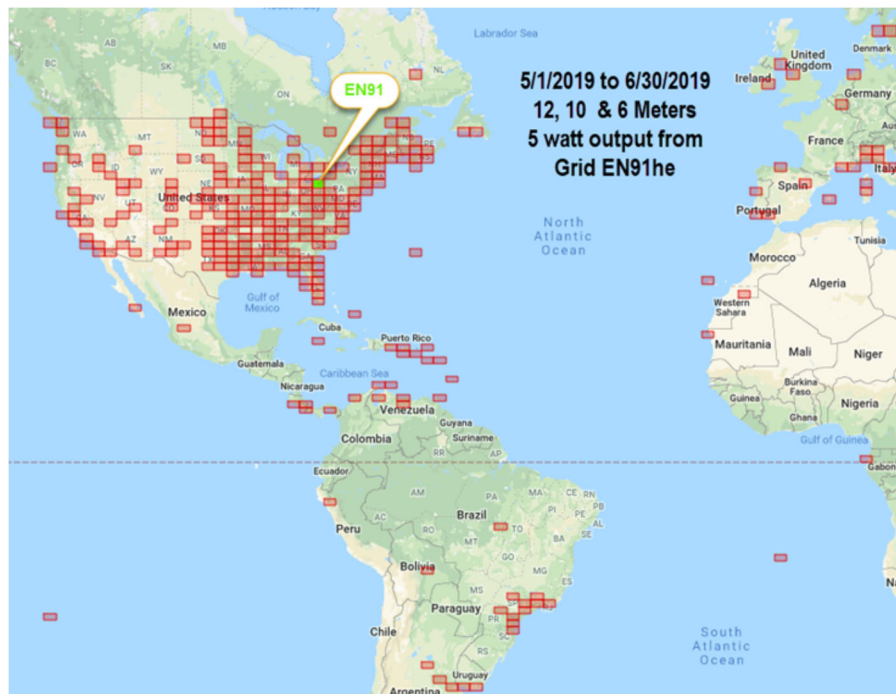
In addition to PSK Reporter, visit www.k8zt.com/propagation for other **Propagation and Spotting Resources**.

The table below shows contacts made at K8ZT during the months of May 2018 to July of

DXCC					WAS					by Month				
DXCC	12m	10m	6m	Total	DXCC	12m	10m	6m	Total	STATE	12m	10m	6m	Totals
5T		1		1	KP4	1	4	3	8	AL	5	9	11	25
8P		3		3	LU	4	8		12	AR	4	3	11	18
9Y			1	1	OA	1			1	AZ	3	5	3	11
C6			1	1	ON		1		1	CA	2	13	3	18
CE	3	3		6	P4	1	4		5	CO	5	3	12	20
CE0E	1			1	PA		1		1	CT	1	6	1	8
CP	1			1	PJ2		3		3	DE	1	2	3	6
CT		1	1	2	PJ4	1	5		6	FL	17	43	55	115
CX	1	3		4	PJ5	1			1	GA	2	3	3	8
EA	3			3	PY	10	12		22	IA	6	1	5	12
EA6	1	2		3	S0	1			1	ID	2	1	1	4
EA8	1	2	3	6	SM			2	2	IL	4	4	2	10
EI	2		2	4	TG		1		1	IN		2	6	8
F	3	1		4	TI	2			2	KS	7	7	14	28
FG	1		1	2	TK	1			1	KY	2	3	2	7
FP		1	1	2	TR		1		1	LA	8	9	9	26
G		4		4	VE	3	10	26	39	MA	1	7	3	11
GI	1			1	VP2-E	1	1		2	MD	1	3	3	7
HC		1		1	VP2-M		1		1	ME	6	5	4	15
HI	2	3	1	6	VP6-D	1			1	MI	2	2	7	11
HK	1			1	VP8-F	2	1		3	MN	3	8	2	13
HP	2		2	4	VP9		1	5	6	MO	6	4	4	14
I	4	2		6	XE		3	1	4	MS	5	5	10	20
ISO		1		1	YN		1		1	MT			1	1
J7	1			1	YV	2	4	1	7	Total	226	379	443	1048
K	165	279	393	837	ZD7	1	1		2					
KP2	1	4		5	ZF	1	2		3					
Total	440	226	1044	1710	Total	440	226	1044	1710					



2019 with a 5 watts. The 3 element



power output of antenna was a beam at 50

60 Meters—The Channel Band

By Joe, W8GEX

Build this 60M Antenna Just in Time for the Fall!

After having trouble with my 60m vertical with three elevated radials for a long time, I decided to put up a new ground vertical. My old one had a problem and I had asked several friends, but no one could figure out the problem. One day it would be great with a 1.1 swr and the next day it would be higher in frequency and another day it would be low in frequency. Janet and I would add wire if high in freq. and cut it off if low in freq. It would stay on frequency for a while but it never lasted. This had been a pain for the last two years. We would even go out in very cold blustery weather to adjust the antenna.

After discussing this with Dave K4SV, we decided to just start over and put up a new antenna. To get prepared, since this was in a field, I needed to bush hog an area about 45 ft. in diameter, then I cut it several more times with my zero lawn mower, each time lowering the mower deck. After getting the grass cut very short, I installed the 2", two foot long pipe that everything would be mounted on.

By now the antenna had arrived along with the tilt-over base plate and the radial plate.



The antenna is a DX Engineering DXE-MBVE-5Z, 10m through 160 with the add-on kit for 60 meters. Also in the package was a 1.1 unun.

As I assembled the vertical, which is 43 ft. tall, I applied Penetrox to each joint to prevent oxide buildup, and this will help make it easy to take apart it needed. I checked each joint to be sure I had continuity from one end to the other as I went. I taped each joint and then water-proofed the tape with 3M liquid tape to keep the water off and the tape from unraveling over time.

Before heading to the field, I attached the wires to radial plate and kept them separated in a garbage can until we had the antenna up.

With that being completed, Janet and I installed the tilt-over base plate which is necessary for such a large antenna. With the antenna on the ground, we mounted the vertical to the base, and then raised it. They recommend two sets of guy ropes so we installed the ropes while the antenna was still on the ground.

After it was up, it was time to install the ground radial system which consisted of forty-five # 20 gauge wires. We attached them to a DX Engineering radial plate with stainless bolts. Then we used four bi-degradable staples to secure each wire. This will help keep them low to the ground so the grass can grow up around them. The wires need to be low as this is an area that we bush hog twice a year. There is a six foot separation of each wire at the outer end, so it makes a perfect wheel.



(Cont. on next Page)

60 Meters Update (cont.)



We did the project in July; as we all know, this July was hot into the 90's. We tried to do a little each time we worked but we didn't work every day. We would start early in the day,

or wait until late in the afternoon to beat the heat. I am not one to procrastinate on any project; the sooner you get started the sooner you get done.

After it was finished, I cut up six bars of Irish Spring soap and placed a piece at the end of each radial wire. A friend told me that will keep the deer away as they don't like the fragrance, and it works. The best part of this project is that the antenna has a 1.1 SWR across the 60m band.



N3FJP

Amateur Radio Software®



DX Engineering's Amateur Radio Blog for New and Experienced Hams

Visit OnAllBands.com every day for information you can use to improve your on-air experience.

ARRL Contest and DXCC Rules Now Prohibit Automated Contacts

08/19/2019

Following the direction of the ARRL Board of Directors, ARRL has incorporated changes to the rules for all ARRL-sponsored contests and DXCC, prohibiting automated contacts. These changes also apply to the Worked All States (including Triple Play and 5-Band WAS), VHF/UHF Century Club, and Fred Fish, W5FF, Memorial awards. The changes are effective immediately.

A resolution at the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting pointed to “growing concern over fully automated contacts being made and claimed” for contest and DXCC credit. The rules now require that each claimed contact include contemporaneous direct initiation by the operator on both sides of the contact. Initiation of a contact may be either local or remote.

CWOPS Update

By Bill, AJ8B CWops ID #1567

CW Open—CW Contest

The CW Open is a contest sponsored by the CW Ops organization. You don't have to be a member to participate or to be eligible to win. What I like about the contest is that it is comprised of 3 4-hour segments. You can work one or all and you can win one or be the overall winner.

I also like this contest because it allows my modest station to have chance. The purpose of the contest is to encourage contacts. Each contact is a point and each new call sign you work is a multiplier. Just work as many as you can around the world or in your neighborhood! Here are the details as explained on the CWops webpage: <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/cw-open/>

Background: CWops sponsors CWT — fun, weekly competitions at times thought to be optimum for amateurs in ITU Regions 1, 2, and 3 (<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>).

The CW OPEN (CWO), which is held on the first Saturday in September, is guided by the same principles along with enhancements to make it a serious, annual competitive event.

Object: Work as many CW stations worldwide as possible within each session. There are three separate competitions at three separate times — each is called a “session.” Each station may be worked once per band in each session. Entry can be made to any or all of the sessions. Each session is scored separately. Entry into multiple sessions will be added together for a combined score in a separate, additional aspect to this event

Eligibility: All amateurs are encouraged to participate.

Exchange: Sequential Serial Number and Name. Serial numbers start at 001 for each session.



Session	Date	Time
1	Sept. 7	000Z–0359Z (Friday Night)
2	Sept. 7	1200Z-1559Z
3	Sept. 7	2000Z-2359Z

QSO Points: One point for every valid two-way QSO with correct exchange of information. May contact for points only once per band, per session. Note: do not remove dupes from your log.

Multipliers: For each session, each different call sign is a multiplier the first time it is worked in that session. Note that a busted call sign is not a multiplier.

Score: For each session, total QSO points times the total number of multipliers. If more than one session is entered, a combined score equal to the sum of all session scores will be reported separately in the results.

Mode: CW only

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters

Class Entry: Single Operator only. Indicate power level of QRP, Low, or High; QRP is 5W or less; Low is 100W or less; High is any legal power above 100W. Packet, Skimmer, and Reverse Beacon systems are allowed.

Log Submission: - Details on the website!



SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA)

DX Donation Policy

The mission of SWODXA is to support DXing and major DXpeditions by providing funding. A funding request from the organizers of a planned DXpedition should be directed to the DX committee by filling out an online funding request.
(<https://www.swodxa.org/dx-grant-application/>)

The DX Grant committee will determine how well the DXpedition plans meet key considerations (see below). If the DX Grant committee recommends supporting the DXpedition in question, a recommended funding amount is determined based on the criteria below. The chairman of the committee will make a recommendation at the general meeting on the donation.

Factors Affecting a DXpedition Funding Request Approval

DXpedition destination	Website with logos of club sponsors
Ranking on the ClubLog Most Wanted Survey	QSLs with logos of club sponsors
Online logs and pilot stations	Logistics and transportation costs
Number of operators and their credentials	Number of stations on the air
LoTW log submissions	Bands, modes and duration of operation

H40GC	H44GC	ZL9HR	XX9D	HK0NA	FT4TA
KH1/KH7Z	EP2A	FT5ZM	C21GC	VK9WA	NH8S
K4M	CY9C	VK9MA	PT0S	FT4JA	YJ0X
6060	VP6D	T04E	XR0ZR	VP8STI	SP8SGI
W1AW/KH8	K1N	3D2C	VK0EK	S21ZBB	E30FB
ST0RY	TI9/3Z9DX	VK9MT	K5P	9U4M	TX3X
VU7AB	3Y0Z	3C0L	TX7EU	CE0Z	3C1L
		3B7A	K9W		

SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA)

Club Fact Sheet

Who We Are: SWODXA is comprised of active DX'ers and contesters with a deep passion for all aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club to please contact us. SWODXA members are active in all facets of DX and Contesting. We also travel to, and fund various DXpeditions all over the world. SWODXA sponsors the annual DX Dinner held on the Friday evening of Hamvention weekend in Dayton, Ohio. In addition, SWODXA members moderate the Hamvention DX Forum. SWODXA is proud sponsor of the prestigious *DXPedition of the Year Award*.

DX Donation Policy: The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the website at: <https://www.swodxa.org/dxgrant-application/> and elsewhere in this newsletter

Club History: The Southwest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) is one of the country's premier amateur radio clubs. Though loosely formed in mid-1977, the club had its first formal organizational meeting in August of 1981 where Frank Schwob, W8OK (sk), was elected our first President. While organized primarily as a DX club, SWODXA members are active in all aspects of our hobby.

Requirements for Membership: We welcome all hams who have an interest in DXing. It doesn't matter whether you're a newcomer, or an old-timer to DXing; everyone is welcome! Visit <http://swodxa.org/member.htm>

Meetings: The club meets on the second Thursday of each month alternating locations between at Marions Piazza on Kingsridge Dr. in Dayton, OH or Marions Piazza in West Chester. (Check the website) Members gather early in the private room for dinner and then a short business agenda at 6:30 PM, followed by a program. If you enjoy a night out on the town with friends, you'll enjoy this get together. Meeting attendance is NOT a requirement for membership.

Club Officers: Four presiding officers and the past president (or past VP) make up the Board of Directors. The current roster of officers are: President Tom Inglin, NR8Z; Vice President Kevin Jones, W8KJ; Secretary Mindi Jones, KC8CKW, and Treasurer Mike Suhar, W8RKO.

Website: We maintain websites at www.swodxa.org and www.swodxaevents.org managed by Bill, AJ8B. These sites provide information about a variety of subjects related to the club and DXing.