



The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

Kenneth W Boyd

1945



2015



K4DXA/sk



CDXA PRESIDENT 1988-1992 & 2015



This Special Edition of the CDXA *Pileup* is dedicated to our good friend and President of the CDXA, Ken Boyd, K4DXA/SK. Ken left us on February 16th, 2015 after a short illness. The following pages tell Ken's story in his own words from the January *Pileup*, include just a few of the many comments from our Members in the [Guest Book](#) set up in memory of Ken, and a few pictures. The link to his Obituary is [here](#). Ken, we'll miss you.

Here's what Ken had to say in the January *Pileup*, as he was taking up the position of CDXA President for a second time:

“ Thanks to CDXA members for electing me President of a great club. I was club President from 88 to 92, and lots of things have changed since then! We have grown to over 200 members and have been able to give contributions to quite a few DXpeditions.

I have been contesting and DXing since getting my Advanced license in 1975. I got DXCC in 1978, as WA4UNZ. I reached Honor Roll status in 2002, and Top of the Honor Roll in June of 2007. I was the 160 operator and tower climber at N4ZC's contest station for many years, and have been one of the operator technicians at the AA4ZZ contest station in Boone, NC, where we placed First in this past January and June VHF contests. I became K4DXA in Oct of 1998 ...got tired of the WA4UNZ, no one got the U.

I retired from IBM in 2002 after 32 years, and then went back in 2003 as a part time employee. That means I work when they call me but I don't have to if I don't wanta!

Bev and I got married in 1998 and moved to Mint Hill in 1999 to 1.6 acres. In 2005 I acquired a 70ft crank up tower and a Bencher SkyHawk tribander, 2 el 40m Cushcraft, and 7el 6m beam.

My last two countries were Kerguelen and Scarborough Reef.

We have five boys between us and now ten grand children. The oldest grand kid is 14 and the youngest two are one and a half. Three are in Hawaii, with our son in the Marines. Three are in Colorado Springs and three are in Myrtle Beach. We just spent Christmas with the Myrtle Beach crew, and it was pretty awesome.

We really had a good year with lots of our members participating in the W1AW/4 operation! And contest within a contest continues to do quite well! We also have several members that continue to go on DXpeditions around the world....”

73, Ken K4DXA

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Official Newsletter of the Carolina DX Association Copyright 2015

Published monthly 10 times per year, excluding the months of June and December.

The purpose of the association is to secure for the members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons having a common interest in Amateur Radio.

Members of the CDXA shall adhere to “The Amateur’s Code” as published from time to time in The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs, and shall consist of those valid licensed amateur operators having an interest in promoting amateur radio. Long distance communications (DX) is of special interest to members of the association, but said interest is not a requirement of membership.

Yearly dues are \$25.00. A second licensed Amateur family member living in the same household can join for \$5.00 for a total family price of \$30.00 per year. The total price for 3 or more licensed family members living in the same household is only \$35.00 per year. All family members enjoy full member status. Dues are payable annually in December by check or through [the CDXA website](#), to the Secretary/Treasurer.

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL P. O. Box 577 Davidson, NC 28036

Address, telephone, and email address changes should be directed to the Secretary/ Treasurer at the above address or via email at: jcw53@cornell.edu.

Here are just a few of the many comments from the [Guest Book](#) created for Ken on the CDXA website:

From Harry Saunders, W4KJ: Bev, Penny and I are so sorry to learn the news of Ken's death. He was a long time friend of mine from the days I lived in Charlotte in the 70's. We did ham radio things together but also socialized together and became very good friends. He was the kind of friend that would drop anything and come help with an antenna project, pitch in at Field Day or just hang out with and enjoy a beer. He loved to laugh and was great fun to be with. We had so many good times together in those days. Our friendship didn't end when I moved to Atlanta. In fact, once I got settled here and found a place to live, Ken drove down one weekend and joined the team in putting up my tower and antennas. He was a fine man and a wonderful friend. I will miss him a great deal. My thoughts and prayers are with Bev, Charlie, Brent, Ian, Susan , Gary and all the Boyd family. Harry, W4KJ (K4GFH.)

From Ric Porter, AA4SC: Beverly, I counted Ken as one of my best friends. I loved him like a brother and respected him enormously. Through the tears and hurt to come, at least we know we will be with him again. Call on me for anything and please keep in touch.

From Bill Morine, N2COP, Vice Director, Roanoke Division, ARRL: On behalf of the Roanoke Division of ARRL, we extend our condolences over the loss of Ken. Not only was he a Ham's Ham, but also an inspirational leader as head of CDXA. We hope you will find strength and peace ahead.

From Eric Sossoman, K4CEB: Bev and Family
I'm so sorry for your loss. I only got to really know Ken over the past few years and even though it was a short time Ken made a very big impact on my life. He was always a phone call away for me to ask a crazy question. Ken would just laugh and then help me any way he could. Some people that you meet in your life stand out, Ken was one of those people. He will be missed by all.

From Wayne Starnes, KU4V: Bev and family, I am still so numb and in shock. May God be with you and comfort you all, after calling Ken to come home – way too soon for those of us left here on Earth to deal with the loss of such a super humanbeing that God created.

I have known Ken over 35+ years, as a great father, personal friend, and caring human. He and I went through many of the same life's experiences together. He recalls when I met Cathy 30+ years ago, and how happy that made me. Cathy and I recall when you, Bev, came into his life, and how so happy that made him.

I love to go to Boone with the 'boys' to hang out, but especially with Ken. We always found time, alone, to just 'share' – the lifetime friendship of our years, our love of our families, our God, our Ham hobby - and just being friends.

I know how much he loved you, Bev – he told me so many times in so many ways. I am SO, SO sorry you will be without him. It's not fair.

I hurt so bad, but Bev, I just cannot imagine your pain.

