

The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

Presidential Ponderings

It is hard to believe that we were just chatting here about the successes of the Charlotte Hamfest in mid-March and now Summer is about over, kids are back in school and DXers are tweaking-up their antennas for the Fall and Winter. You'll find in this issue of the *Pile-Up*—and issues forthcoming—information about our very neat 2003 CDXA - CQWW 'Contest Within a Contest'. PLEASE join-in, enjoy, and let's see our CDXA score climb again for the fifth year. Last year's score put us in 20th place and only 3 million points out of 19th place. Let's do it again this year and move-up, **at least**, one notch.

I thank you all for your support and willingness to enjoy the *Pile-Up* via the internet, in lieu of the USPS. This is going to allow us to provide more funds for future DXpeditions. While on the subject, your club has sent a nice donation to the 3C0 operation coming-up in October. The CDXA logo is currently posted on their website and, of course, will be on their QSL cards.

W4VHF	Ted Goldthorpe	President
N4PQX	Bob Burton	Vice-Pres.
K4SQR	Jim Miller	Sec.-Treas.
K4MD	Joe Simpkins	Cluster Mgr.
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	Assoc. Cluster Mgr.
WB4BXW	Wayne Setzer	Webmaster
K8YC	John Scott	Editor

The 3C0 website is at <http://personal.telefonica.terra.es/web/ea5yn>.

Finally, I would like to encourage all members to take advantage of the CDXA Email network. Once you've registered...simply click on the Email button (found on the left-hand side of the webpage), type in your message and send. The message is filtered through AA4NN and then forwarded to all registered members. This is a great communication tool for our club. For those who've not registered, go to <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/cdxa> and follow instructions.

Have a nice Fall. I hope to see many of you at the barbecue on the 18th of October.

—73 Ted Goldthorpe, W4VHF

CDXA PacketCluster & Other Communication Systems		
W4DXA (11 mi. NE of Mooresville)	144.93 MHz (1200 bits/second)	441.00 MHz (9600 bits/second)
K4MD (Charlotte, NC)	144.91 MHz (1200 bits/second)	441.075 MHz (9600 bits/second)
Digipeater near Wingate, NC	144.91 MHz (DXWIN)	
CDXA Repeater 147.18 MHz (+600)	W4DXA, Near Fort Mill, SC	
World Wide Web Homepage	www.cdxa.org	
Wednesday Luncheon (11:30 AM)	Shoney's, 355 Woodlawn Road, Charlotte, NC (704-525-4395)	

Wright, KT4HN, Speeds to VUCC

A man possessed, you might say. Tom Wright, KT4HN, decided in early June, 2003 that he wanted to earn VUCC, and quickly. Thus, he began a quest to work, using VHF/UHF, the one hundred grid squares needed to earn the VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC) Award.

On August 20, 2003, Tom brought his 100+ cards to the regular CDXA weekly luncheon to have Gary Dixon check his VUCC submission—a time period of less than 90 days to make and confirm his QSOs.

“They saw a lot of me at the Post Office.”, relates Tom about his frequent trips there to buy stamps and post his outbound QSL cards. Congratulations, Tom, on showing that organization and perseverance can pay dividends.

Have you Ordered your CDXA Shirt Yet?

Dick Williams, W3OA, is still accepting orders for shirts embroidered with the CDXA logotype. An order blank, and samples of the goods can be seen on the CDXA website. Look for the button labeled “Shirts” along the left side of the page at: www.cdxa.org. If you have any questions, you may call Dick at (704) 658-0915 or email him at W3OA@adelphia.net.

If you want a shirt style other than that shown on the website, call Dick and talk to him. Land’s End does have shirts with different detailing, and many styles fall into a product category which applies to our six shirt minimum order, but Dick will have to check with Land’s End to make sure. If you simply “must have” a certain style for which we can’t meet a six item minimum, you

can still get that item for paying an embroidery fee of \$11.00 instead of the usual \$5.50.

The ordering period ends on September 17, after which Dick will send the order on to Land’s End. Hope to see you wearing the colors when next we meet.

View From (Just Below) the Summit

In the August, 2003 issue of The Pileup two CDXAers were cited for attaining “Top of the Honor Roll” status.

Looking a bit further down the list identifies a number of CDXAers who have a good view of the summit. Accordingly, here are those who are able to enjoy the view from just below the summit of DXing achievement. Please notify the editor of any omission so that person can be identified in a future issue of The Pileup.

At 334 Entities, Mixed:

Steve Reichlyn, AA4V
 Larry Sossoman, K4CEB
 Joe Simpkins, K4MD
 Bruce Gragg, K4ZO
 Bud Brown, W4CZU
 Bob McNeill, W4MBD
 Dick Genaille, W4UW
 Ted Goldthorpe, W4VHF
 Bill Tippet, W4ZV

At 333 Entities, Mixed:

Steve Sullivan, KZ2I
 Jack Jackson, N4JJ
 Bill Jennings, W4UNP

At 332 Entities, Mixed:

Carl Smith, N4AA
 Henry Elwell, N4UH

At 334 Entities, Phone:

Ron Bailey, AA4S
 Steve Reichlyn, AA4V
 Gary Dixon, K4MQG
 Bob McNeill, W4MBD
 Dick Genaille, W4UW
 Ted Goldthorpe, W4VHF

At 332 Entities, Phone

Jack Jackson, N4JJ
 Bill Jennings, W4UNP

At 333 Entities, CW

Steve Reichlyn, AA4V
 Larry Sossoman, K4CEB

At 332 Entities, CW

Jack Jackson, N4JJ

Congratulations to each and every one of you and to those CDXAers who are on the Honor Roll just below you!

The Pileup

Official Newsletter of the Carolina DX Association
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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.

Dues are \$30 per year for those using the PacketCluster maintained by the Association, \$15 otherwise, payable each January. Dues are payable by check to the Secretary/Treasurer:

Jim Miller, K4SQR
 11600 Hilda Court
 Charlotte, NC 28226

What I Did on my Summer Vacation. . . OR . . . How I Worked 73 Gridsquares on Two Meters in the CQ WW VHF Contest

By Bill Fisher, W4GRW

I became interested in VHF contesting about 9 years ago when two ham friends went up on the Blue Ridge parkway and worked their first VHF contest. They told stories about how much fun it was and how they had even worked such far away places as Georgia on 2 Meter FM simplex. I have been interested and hooked on VHF contesting ever since.

Over the years, I have been fortunate to be a part of many contest teams and have learned many valuable lessons, especially from mentors like Ted Goldthorpe, Ron Bailey, Roger Webb, Paul Trotter, and countless others. In 2002, I participated in my first CQ WW VHF contest, as a single operator. I went to Roan Mountain and Mt. Mitchell and had a blast, so I was looking forward to this year's contest.

I was blessed to be able to use the AA4ZZ contest site outside of Boone, NC for the 2003 CQWW VHF. I had originally planned a multi-operator effort with my 16 year old son, Josh (W4WJF), but due to a last minute conflict, I ended up as a solo operation.

I arrived at the site about two hours prior to the contest and set up my rig. With help from Roger Webb (W4MW), I cranked up AA4ZZ tower with the huge 2 meter array (see photo taken at a recent work party), hooked up a five element 6 meter beam, complete with "armstrong" rope rotor, and was ready to get on the air. The activity at the beginning of the contest was good with lots of strong signals on six meters. During lulls, I would switch over to two meters and work SSB and many CDXA members on FM simplex. As I went to sleep Saturday evening, things were going well. As expected, most of my contacts were on six meters, and I even had CO8DM, V31WD, ZF1DC and TG9NX in the log—all worked with 100 watts and the antenna turned by rope. I had worked 13 grids on two meters.

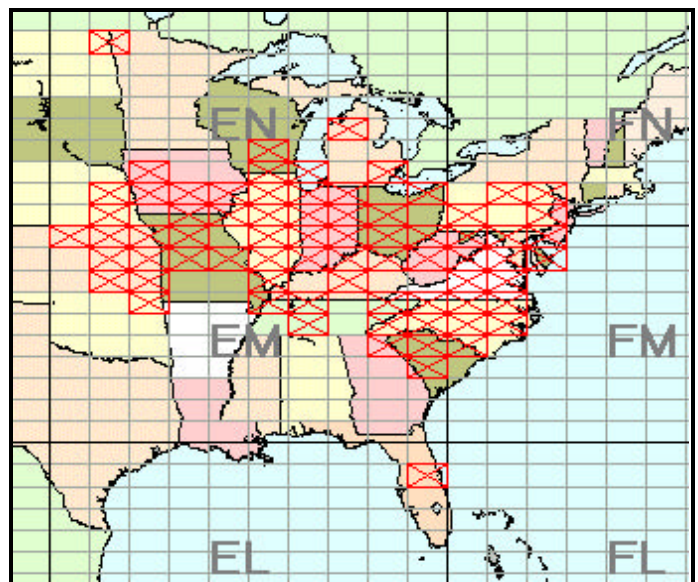
On Sunday morning, I awoke to some weak chatter on six, so perked up and got back on the air about 1045 UTC. After good contacts were made on six, I switched to two meters, and after calling for a couple of minutes, I heard some weak signals and turned my beam to the NNW. For

the next 4+ hours, I experienced an incredible opening during which I received S9 to "20 over" signal reports from as far away as North Dakota—all on two meters. The most incredible thing was a station in Kansas City, KS, who contacted me several times over a three hour period of time, to let me know I was still booming in at S9+. As quickly as it began, it was over.

After a well deserved break, I switched over to six meters and the band was hopping to the south. I was able to work all the grids in Florida. A loud station in Miami asked if anyone had a good station on two meters, and I spoke up. We switched to two and made a contact. When the smoke had cleared from the contest, I had worked a total of 73 grids on two meters and 43 grids on six meters, all in a 24 hour period. The grid map is shown below. Thanks to CDXA member support, when the results are posted for the 2003 CQ WW VHF contest, you should see two CDXA members near the top of the list—Ted (W4VHF) as the 3 time defending rover champion, and W4GRW as a single operator, single band leader on 2 meters. On to the next contest!



Please remember the AA4ZZ team will be participating in the Sept ARRL VHF contest, the weekend of Sept 13 & 14, from Boone, NC.



SEE WHACK 2003

See what? See Whack. You know, the Acronym for Contest Within A Contest....CWAC.

For the last several years, CDXA has sponsored CWAC. CWAC occurs during the CQ World Wide DX contest weekends. Our purpose is to promote our club by making a respectable showing in the National rankings. The personal score of each CDXA member who participates in the CQ World Wide DX contest is added together. This total becomes CDXA's total score.

So how have we been doing? The table below speaks for itself.

Year	CDXA SCORE	NATIONAL RANKING
1999	8,380,897	27
2000	12,494,946	22
2001	15,813,137	17
2002	17,364,657	20

These results were achieved only by the dedication and participation of our club members. As a relatively new club member I am amazed by the contesting talent within our club. We can all be proud to be part of an organization that has made such a fine showing! Can we do better? Of course we can, and we can have a lot of fun while we are doing it.

The contest dates for this year are:

CQWW-SSB October 25-26 CWWW-CW November 29-30

To encourage your participation in this important club event, we are offering a nice list of prizes. With one exception, the prizes are all from Lands' End, embroidered with the CDXA club logo and personalized with your call sign. The prize for over 250,000 is from a local supplier and will be imprinted with the club logo, but not personalized. No person will be awarded more than one prize. In addition to the prizes below, each person who participates and meets the rules below, will be given a certificate suitable for framing.

First Place (combined Fone & CW Score)	Fine Gauge Sweater Vest
First Place - Fone	Fine Gauge Sweater Vest
First Place - CW	Fine Gauge Sweater Vest
Score over 1,500,000 points (Fone and/or CW)	Long Sleeve Pinpoint Oxford Shirt
Score over 1,000,000 points (Fone and/or CW)	80/20 Fleece Crew Sweat Shirt
Score over 500,000 points (Fone and/or CW)	Short Sleeve Super Tee Shirt
Score over 250,000 points (Fone and/or CW)	Short Sleeve Tee Shirt

Rules for CWAC 2003:

1. Enter the CQWW Fone and/or CW contest.
2. Submit a log entry to CQ Communications in a timely manner and in a format acceptable to CQ.
3. On or before December 1, 2003, send a copy of your CQ submission to W3GQ (sturpe@charter.net) or Paul Sturpe, 8860 Peninsula Dr., Terrell, NC 28682.

Assistance with contest strategy, scoring, available contest logging programs, etc. is available for the asking. Let me know what you need and I'll do my best to get you the help you need. —Paul Sturpe, W3GQ

“Africa Double Jump” Revisited

Joe, AA4NN, and Margaret gave the assembled members of CDXA a treat as they recounted their “Africa Double Jump” DXpedition at a recent CDXA dinner. The DXpedition operated from Botswana and Lesotho before Joe and Margaret extended their visit to the Republic of South Africa. Their pictures of African wildlife sprinkled with a few photos of the radio operations provided a nice evening of fellowship.



Bill Turner (W4WNT), Barb Scott (KG4QEN), and John Scott (K8YC) enjoy seeing the lions in one of the African animal preserves.



Jim Miller (K4SQR) and Ken Boyd (K4DXA) watch the DXpedition shiver a bit in the African winter while operating from unheated quarters.

In the next column, we find Wilson Caselli (K1MIJ) and his XYL watching scenes of Joe and Margaret hiking the mountains near Capetown, South Africa where Indian Ocean and Atlantic Ocean currents meet.

Scenes from Shelby Hamfest



Don Daso (K4ZA) and Olaf Madsen (KF4TP) joined forces to sell “stuff” at the flea market.



Joe Blackwell (AA4NN) and Margaret manned the W4 Bureau desk while Gary Dixon (K4MQG) checked QSL cards for DXCC credit.

The Back Page

Don't forget to support the **AA4ZZ Mountaintoppers** in the September 2003 VHF Contest on the weekend of September 13-14. They'll be operating, as usual, in the Limited Multioperator category on 6m, 2m, 1.2m, and 70cm. If you only have an FM rig, they can usually be worked on 146.49 MHz or 146.55 MHz. **This contest also allows submitting your log as a club competition**, so please submit your log as a member of CDXA. See the August 2003 issue of QST (Page 103) for contest details.

September 17 is the last day to get your order to Dick Williams for your **CDXA Embroidered Shirt**. See Page 2 inside for how to order and for Dick's address/phone.

The annual "**Contest Within a Contest**" is on tap again in 2003 with more prize categories than ever. Start your planning now to participate in both the Phone and CW portions of this year's CQ WW contest, and help CDXA move up once again in the overall rankings. Details are inside on Page 4.

Put the **CDXA Barbeque** on your calendar now. This fun event will be on Saturday, October 18 at the home of Ken and Beverly Boyd.

Upcoming **Contest** Activity:

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Sept. 13-14	ARRL VHF QSO Party	August, 2003 QST, Page 103 for details
Sept. 14-15	Tennessee QSO Party	September, 2003 QST, Page 105
Sept. 20-21	South Carolina QSO Party	September, 2003 QST, Page 105
Sept. 27-28	CQ World Wide RTTY Party	See www.cq-amateur-radio.com for details
Oct. 25-26	CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest	See www.cq-amateur-radio.com for details

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First Class Mail

See something wrong with your address label? Notify K4SQR at once, please.