

The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

A Letter from CDXA President, TedGoldthorpe, W4VHF

October 8, 2012

Greetings to all CDXA members,

W4VHF	Ted Goldthorpe	President
W4GRW	Bill Fisher	Vice-Pres.
W3ZL	Cliff Wagoner	Sec.-Treas.
K4MD	Joe Simpkins	Cluster Mgr.
W3OA	Dick Williams	Contest Mgr.
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	Cluster Mgr.- North Area
WB4BXW	Wayne Setzer	Webmaster
NV4A	John Forbus	Editor

Make no mistake about it, I have enjoyed these many years as your President of The Carolina DX Association. How many years? Sorry, I haven't counted 'em all up. I don't count my winnings, and this has been a winning combination for yours truly. Yes, it has been a total of two different, uninterrupted terms...if that makes any sense? But, the bottom line is that these many years of being your President has given this person the opportunity of working with so many talented people in the world of DX and Amateur Radio as a whole. I will not attempt to list all of you who have assisted me these many years. Why? Because,

I will leave someone out and that's when embarrassment can set-in in a big way. Just **THANK YOU** to you all who have made my tenure a successful one with the CDXA. You know who you are. – Now, let's do away with all that has happened over these past many years. Where are we now? 225 strong and growing every week, during a recession. Growing membership is Priority One, and then how we manage it is right behind. Both are in order, for which I **THANK YOU**. This club is indeed rockin' in amateur radio operating around the world...no more, no less. January 1st, 2013 will be the beginning of the new term for the new President of the CDXA. The vote will take place on December 13th at our annual CDXA Christmas party. Try to be there, won't you? Thanks for your help...it has indeed been a great ride-around-the-world for yours truly.



Thanks Ted, and Itice too!

73 'n gud DX de Ted Goldthorpe (W4VHF)
President, Carolina DX Association

CDXA PacketCluster & Other Communication Systems	
K4MD (AR Cluster via Telnet)	k4md.no-ip.com
W4DXA (AR Cluster via Telnet)	w4dxa.no-ip.com
CDXA Repeater 147.18 MHz (+600)	W4DXA, Near Fort Mill, SC
World Wide Web Homepage	www.cdxa.org
Wednesday Luncheon (11:30 AM)	Skyland Family Restaurant, 4544 South Boulevard, Charlotte, NC

Election of 2013 Officers

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting/Holiday Party of the Carolina DX Association is scheduled for Thursday, December 13, 2012 at Toast of Dilworth; 2400 Park Road, Charlotte, NC. Immediately following dinner, the CDXA will elect its officers to serve for the 2013 calendar year.

The position of President is open, all other current officers have expressed a willingness to stand for reelection for 2013. Anyone wishing to run for any office should make his/her desire known to Dr. Sam Hawes (K4DGJ), the Nominating Official, on or before the 4th of Nov., at hamk4dgj@aol.com to have his/her name put into nomination at the Annual Meeting. If you would like to nominate someone, please make sure that person is willing to serve, if elected. A Proxy Form and nominee list will appear in the November *Pileup*.

Welcome to New Members

We're happy to have the following new members: W4TUN, Ray McCarty, 310 Heatherbrook Dr., Lyman, SC 29365, 864-334-5048, ray_mccarty@hotmail.com. W3SA, John Eigenbrode, 320 Thompson Court, Indian Trail, NC, 704-219-2194, jeigenbrode@windstream.net K4AMA, Tony Austin, 59 Sorrento Blvd., Hanahan SC 29410, email2012@k4ama.com. Tony has a nice looking website: www.k4ama.com. Be sure to check it out.

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.

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.

2012 CDXA BBQ Has Good Luck with the Weather

On October 6th, the annual CDXA BBQ was held once again at the home of Ken and Bev Boyd. Almost 70 CDXAers and spouses made their way to Mint Hill to enjoy good company, perfect weather, great BBQ, fried chicken, and plenty of other good stuff, including some scrumptious desserts. Ric Porter, AA4SC, performed his magic with the BBQ and chicken. Check out the pictures on this page and the next for a few scenes from the festivities. Oh, and the reason for the headline is that the weather during the BBQ really was ideal ... but it started to pour rain just a few minutes after the post-party clean-up was finished. We must be living right.



The Food Table: Pre-Dinner



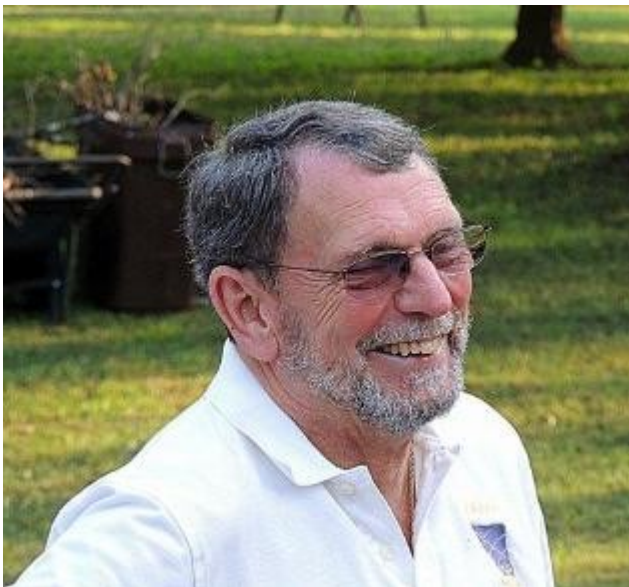
Some Pre-Dinner Face to Face QSOs



Chef Ric, AA4SC, with the Tools of his Trade, and his red Chuck Wagon behind him



More Pre-Dinner Conversation



Our Host seems to be having a good time



I'm *sure* I worked NH8S twice....

Believe it or not ...the holidays are coming, and so is the CDXA Holiday Party

Here's a first notice, so you can block off the time and date. More details will follow.

The Carolina DX Association

2012 Holiday Party



Thursday, December 13th, 2012
5:30pm

Toast of Dilworth
2400 Park Road
Charlotte, NC

Stay Tuned
for more
Information



CQWW SSB Starts Friday October 26 CDXA Needs Everyone's Help To Make the Top Ten

Dick Williams, W3OA

CDXA needs every member's help to improve our standings in the CQWW Club Competition. From 2002 to 2007 we made fairly steady progress in going from 20th place in the U.S. all the way up to 8th place. But in the last four years we have been stuck outside the top 10 – we got back to 11th place last year. Let's do our best to get CDXA back in to the Top Ten in 2010.

It looks like 10 and 15 could produce a lot of QSOs this year. Operators in the CQWW RTTY contest at the end of September reported big scores on both 10 and 15. One caution – Areas of the world you hear on Saturday may not be open for you on Sunday.

Last month's Pileup, <http://cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1209.pdf>, describes our Contest Within a Contest (CWAC.) The marvelous prizes we are offering for your participation include Outback gift cards, trophies, and certificates. *Editor's Note: The prize details, which I somehow partially edited out of last month's article, are as follows:*

1st place prizes – Each winner can choose a trophy or a \$50 Outback Steak House gift card. These will be awarded in the categories listed below. An individual can only win one trophy/gift card. The DXpedition and Multi-op prizes will only be awarded to an entrant whose score is high enough to have won one of the other first prizes.

- Top combined phone and CW score
- Top phone score
- Top phone score, low power
- Top CW score
- Top CW score, low power
- Top DXpedition score
- Top Multi-op score

Additional prizes:

- 1000 or more QSOs total in the phone and CW contests – Each winner can choose a trophy or a \$25 gift card for Outback Steak House.
- 500 or more QSOs – A photo printed CDXA certificate and a chance in a raffle for a \$25 gift card.
- 250 or more QSOs – A chance in a raffle for a \$25 gift card.

CDXA's information sharing system will again be operational during the SSB contest. See the article below for details.

Of course, it helps to read the contest rules. They are at <http://www.cqww.com/rules.php>. The rules include instructions on how to submit your scores to CQ. Remember to use "Carolina DX Association" as your club affiliation. There is a major change to CQ's rules this year. Now **all logs must be submitted within five days** after the end of the contest. That's November 2 for the SSB contest.

Be sure to send me a summary of your score (w3oa@roadrunner.com). Please include callsign used, entry category, number of QSOs, number of countries, number of zones, and total points. We will post them on the CDXA web site as we receive them.

CDXA members John, NV4A, and Chris, WW4CP, will be operating from Saint Maarten (PJ7) as PJ7/WW4CP, and, depending on conditions, also as PJ7/NV4A. Their operation(s) will start late Saturday afternoon of the contest. Work them on every band you can.

Please let me know if I can be of any help.

Dick Williams w3oa@roadrunner.com (704) 658-0915

Packet Enhancements During CQWW SSB Contest

Dick Williams, W3OA

The CDXA packet network will have extra capabilities during the CQWW SSB Contest. You can take advantage of these capabilities with a Telnet connection to w3oa.no-ip.org.

The setup for the SSB contest will be the same one we used for CQWW last fall and the ARRL DX Contest this winter. The idea is for each CDXA member to send a spot for every station he hears to other CDXA members. This is done with a small program that runs on each member's computer. The program looks for callsigns typed into N1MM and if you are not running stations the program sends out a spot through a telnet connection to the cluster node at w3oa.no-ip.org. This happens even if you don't work the station. After all, a station that's a dupe for you may be new one for me. I'll be distributing the program and setting up the node about a week before the contest. If you'd like to participate send me an email now (w3oa@roadrunner.com) and I'll put you on the list to get a copy of the program and detailed instructions. (We will be using the same program we used in CQWW and ARRL contests but I still need to send you an updated database to go with it.)

Meanwhile back at my tent, well crap, I left my hat in the CW tent. Walking to work with my hand on top of my poor head, no way. Quick Henry, the Flit. Get that pant leg you zipped off the other day and put it over your head. Nice. There's so many people in the world, nothing goes unnoticed. When I paused along the way near the SSB tent to catch my breath under a sliver of shade from a coconut tree, out steps Lou, packing his camera as he has been known to do. And there I am caught squarely in his view finder smiling like we're having lobster for dinner.



Lou kept us posted during the trip via emails to Dick, W3OA, who was kind enough to post them to the CDXA Digest. Some of the highlights from the emails are included below. Lou also had



a lot to say about the boat that took them to and from the island. The term "Rust Bucket" would apparently be too complementary to the good (?) ship "Lady Naomi." Note the picture with the rust cascading down the sides and the bilge pumps going full bore. It was also thoroughly roach infested. Lou says he slept on deck ...less roaches, more air. Lou's emailed comments included:

On 12 September: "We've worked a bunch of CDXA members but want to make sure those that need it get through ...although it should be a turkey shoot from there..... The pileups are still quite large...I've been doing SSB, CW and RTTY...it is a blast! ...We 'lost' one of our team members on the boat...he sustained a major wound on his leg ...I assisted in the operation to sew him back up ...The operator came with us to Swains, but returned on the boat and was hospitalized in Pago Pago. Apparently, he is doing OK now. ...It is HOT here...on the coral beach, where the antennas are it hits about 110 to 120F...putting up the antennas was a real exercise...a few of the guys became heat exhausted. It was a bad scene...the nighttime temps ... are around

80F....yesterday, it was like monsoon season...unbelievable rain...EVERYTHING was wet...us, the tents, our clothes...EVERYTHING!"

On the 14th: "Oh, what a night! Last night on the 11PM to 2AM shift, I was operating and the rain started...and then the wind...the wind blew the tents, tore some antennas down and eroded a large portion of the beach in front of the operating tents. It lasted for about 30 minutes. ...We begin dismantling the stations Sunday. The boat arrives Tuesday morning to offload the Scientific Group as we load our stuff. Everyone is dreading the trip on the boat. The ocean is VERY rough and a lot of the guys got sick on the way here...of course, not me!....."

On the 17th, we got Lou's last message from the island. "After two days of apparent food poisoning, I am coming around. It was BAD and I will not describe the symptoms! But I needed to lose weight anyway. Hi Hi. ...tore down the antennas and operating positions today and transported ...down the beach to the boat landing zone. Tomorrow, we will attempt to pack the remaining stuff in water-logged boxes. Hopefully, it will be a sunny day. ...found a stash of MMs which will be happily consumed on the way home. I haven't eaten for two days. All in all, it has been a successful, fun filled but extremely difficult trip for everyone. One of the guys who was at Malpelo, and an experienced Dxpditioner said this was the hardest trip he has ever been on. Great, I had to choose this one! AA4NN is doing FB and ready to go...as is everyone. The boat arrives on Tuesday, unloads 20 NOAA scientists...then we go to the ship and await our cargo, loaded piece by piece. The coral opening is only about 20 feet wide and the rollers funnel through the cut. There is a Samoan guy who is expert at timing the swells but it is a daunting task. He has a 20 foot skiff with a 20hp motor and we have tons of equipment and luggage to load. I cannot wait for an air conditioned room! And a good shower. I will be home next Sunday if all goes well..."



Lou complete with "Tux" on arrival



Lou after a few days at over 100 degrees, complete with "chill collar"



DX King News

Dick Williams, W3OA



Item 1: Full details of our DX King Contest and your chances to win a 10 inch tablet computer are on page 3 of the January Pileup <http://cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1201.pdf>

Item 2: Here are the scores I have for the 2012 DX King competition as of September 30:

Call	Category	Countries	Zones	Total
K5EK	Unlimited	283	40	323
N4ZC	Unlimited	280	40	320
W2HTI	Unlimited	277	40	317
W4HG	Unlimited	266	40	306
AA4SC	Unlimited	266	40	306
KO4DI	Unlimited	255	40	295
K4GHS	Unlimited	249	40	289
W3GQ	Unlimited	245	38	283
W3ZL	Formula	203	37	240
KZ2I	Unlimited	181	40	221
K2SX	Unlimited	178	39	217
W1AJT	Unlimited	170	38	208
K8YC	Unlimited	160	38	198
W3OA	Unlimited	160	36	196
N4PQX	Unlimited	152	40	192
W4WNT	Formula	134	32	166
NK0S	Unlimited	124	31	155
K1MIJ	Unlimited	124	29	153
N4QVM	Unlimited	112	30	142
NV4A	Unlimited	105	29	134
N2TU	Unlimited	92	31	123
K4ESE*	Unlimited	96	22	118

* All 80 meters

Item 3: Don't forget to send me (w3oa@roadrunner.com) your DX marathon scores as of the last day of each month after your score reaches 100.

SEDCO: Some impressions from a first timer

The eighth annual SEDCO/W4DXCC Conference was held in Pigeon Forge, TN on the 28th and 29th of September. This was my first trip to SEDCO, but it won't be my last. I was impressed with the number of very experienced DXers and DXpeditioners who were there, with the quality of the presentations, with the quality and quantity of good food served at the Saturday night Banquet, and with the smooth and efficient way the SEDCO team ran everything.

CDXA was well represented, and our banners (including the newly made banner shown here) were displayed on the walls of the conference facility. Joe, AA4NN, looking very spiffy in his tropical attire, along with Joe, W8GEX, told the audience about NH8S. Dennis, K7BV, described the humongous six meter array he's building at his new QTH. It's a 66 element array, on a 190 foot tower! We're all looking forward to finding out how this beast works when it's completed.



CDXA gave away a very nice Nexus 7 Tablet Computer at the Saturday night Banquet. The winner was Gary McCrorey, WQ5R, from Red Oak, OK. Coincidentally, Bill Caton, WW4DD, had spent much of Friday with Gary, after selling him a "new" rig.



Some of us also got a factory tour of Ten-Tec, which I found well worth the time, and I also enjoyed wandering around the Ten-Tec hamfest on Saturday morning. If you'd been looking for an R-390 receiver, that would have been the place to get one. There were several there, all at least looking good cosmetically. There were a lot of other nice looking boat anchors and used equipment of various sorts as well.

In summary, as Arnold said, I'll be back!

The Back Page

The big news this month is Ted's announcement, on Page 1, that he'll be retiring as President at the end of the year.

There's a Notice on Page 2 that it's Election time. Nominees for CDXA Officers are due to K4DGJ by 4 November. More details and a Ballot will follow.

Speaking of the elections, be sure to block off the evening of Dec. 13th for the annual Holiday Party/Business Meeting. There's a "teaser" about the party on Page 3, and many more details to follow.

We had a really nice BBQ again this year, with the good weather lasting for *just* long enough to get the event in. Check out Pages 2 and 3.

We need everyone's participation in CQWW SSB starting Oct. 26. See the details on Page 4, and get your contest station ready to go.

Impressions of the NH8S DXpedition from Joe, AA4NN, and Lou, N2TU along with some stats and pictures from their adventure, are on Pages 5 and 6.

Your Editor's impressions of his first trip to SEDCO are on Page 7, as is the latest summary of the DX King competition, which continues to be very hard fought.

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL
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First Class Mail

See something wrong with your address label? Notify W3ZL at once, please.