



The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

Field Day 2013
CDXA Is Still Having Fun at KI4TZ
 Dick Williams, W3OA



CDXA put on another fine Field Day effort from the QTH of Joe, KI4TZ. This year we again operated in Class 3E (home station, three transmitters, emergency power). Our score of 9,738 points was very close to our score of 9,946 points last year.

Once again, Joe was a very enthusiastic host, taking care of the many details needed for a successful operation. And he provided great food. Thank you Joe!

emergency power, attempting to get media publicity, sending a message to our Section Manager, originating 10 National Traffic System messages, being visited by an elected official, being visited by a Red Cross representative, conducting an educational activity, having a youth operator, and submitting our scores via the Web.

The three stations were each in a separate room in Joe's house. One station was dedicated to CW and used a Kenwood TS-2000 with Joe's permanent station antennas – a Tennadyne T12 and G5RV. The second station operated SSB with a Yaesu FT-1000MP Mark-V and used a Cushcraft A-3 and an 80/40 dipole for antennas. The third station used another TS-2000 to operate both

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N4QT	Hal Bouton	President
W4GRW	Bill Fisher	Vice-Pres.
W3ZL	Cliff Wagoner	Sec.-Treas.
K4MD	Joe Simpkins	Cluster Mgr.
W3OA	Dick Williams	Contest Mgr.
W3GQ	Paul Sturpe	W4 QSL Bureau Manager
WB4BXW	Wayne Setzer	Webmaster
NV4A	John Forbus	Editor

Here's our QSO count:

	CW QSOs	Phone QSOs
80m	215	174
40m	411	362
20m	263	739
15m	576	0
10m	57	65
TOTAL	1522	1340

CW QSOs count two points each, phone QSOs one point, so the total of our CW and phone QSO points is 4,384. Our power multiplier is 2 because all our transmitters were under 150 watts. This gives us 8,768 points. We can add 970 bonus points for using 100%

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

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CW and SSB on forty meters with a dipole and the high bands with another A-3. All three stations used N1MM logging software.

Our CW operators were Joe, AA4NN; Steve, AA4V; and Don, K4ZA. Joe and Steve alternated shifts on the CW station and the two of them kept it going the whole 24 hours. They each also took operating shifts on the mixed CW and SSB station.

Phone operators were Ric, AA4SC; Paul, AD4IE; Duane, AG4C; Tom, K4DRV; Ken, K4DXA; Olivia, KJ4OTY; John, K8YC; Joe, KI4TZ; Steve, KZ2I; Brian N8WRL; Bill, WW4DD, and Chris, WW4CP.

Sam, KJ4ZM, Don, W4DEE, and Dirk, WA4DT, all visited and provided some moral support.

Here are some pictures from the big event:



Here are Bill, WW4DD, Joe, KI4TZ, and John, K8YC, installing a tribander on a tilt over tower during the work day the Saturday before Field Day. The red wire between Bill and John is a dipole for 40. We were testing the theory that red dipoles work better than black or white ones.



Here's Ken, K4DXA, cranking up his tilt over tower. John, K8YC; Bill, WW4DD; Paul, AD4IE; and Joe, KI4TZ, are providing valuable supervision.



Chris, WW4CP, and Duane, AG4C, at the SSB station.



On the left is Steve, AA4V, taking a rare break from operating CW. He's discussing how things are going with Bill, WW4DD, and Dirk, WA4DT.

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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's Joe, AA4NN, piling up the Q's at the CW station.



Here's Tom, K4DRV, at the CW/SSB station. He also earned us 100 elected official bonus points.



Ric, AA4SC, made a bunch of Q's at the CW/SSB station. He's not wearing this year's shirt but rest assured this is a picture from this year.



Olivia (KJ40TY) brought her father, Brian (N8WRL), on Sunday morning to show him some of the finer points of operating Field Day. She also earned us 20 bonus points as a youth operator.

New Members

CDXA is happy to welcome these new members:

Lewis Cheek, N4CO, 209 Iron Bridge Way, Simpsonville, SC 29681. 864-354-9026,
lewischeek@yahoo.com.

Arthur Parris, N4AWP, 128 Wilderness Dr., Rockingham, NC 28379, 910-895-6502.
aparrisjr@carolina.rr.com.

Robert Trierweiler, WA7RQP, 3847 Heather Glen Ct., Maiden, NC 28650, 704-489-6688.
doctrier@charter.net



Steve, KZ2I, was on the SSB station from 6 to 11 Sunday morning.



2012 DX King Final Results

Dick Williams, W3OA

CQ Magazine has published the results of the 2012 CQ DX Marathon so we can now finalize the results of our CDXA DX King competition for 2012. The top standings are listed below. The calls of K5EK and W4WNT are engraved on the perpetual trophies for their class and all those listed will receive certificates acknowledging their achievement. (W4WNT is on the Formula trophy because W3ZL is on it for 2012 and our rules say you can't win that trophy two years in a row.)

First Place, Unlimited Category:
 Second Place, Unlimited Category:
 Third Place, Unlimited Category:
 Fourth Place, Unlimited Category:
 Fifth Place, Unlimited Category:
 First Place, Formula Category:
 Second Place, Formula Category:

K5EK with 320 points
 W2HTI with 312 points
 K4GHS with 306 points
 AA4SC with 304 points
 W3GQ with 303 points
 W3ZL with 232 points
 W4WNT with 179 points



K5EK was also 8th in the U.S. and 15th world-wide. W3ZL was 9th in the U.S. and 23rd world-wide in the Formula Class – 100 watts option.

Congratulations to all our winners. There are still almost six months left in the 2013 competition so everyone has ample opportunity to increase their score for 2013.

W4DEE Meets DXCC Challenge

Don Etters, W4DEE, is shown with his new DXCC Challenge Plaque. Don, who says he's been working on DXCC Challenge for a long time, looks pretty happy to have made it. Congratulations Don.



CDXA Moves Up in ARRL 10 Meter Contest

Dick Williams, W3OA

The final results of last year's ARRL 10 Meter Contest have been published. This included the results of the 2012 Club Competition. CDXA's total score was 1,736,694 points. This put us eighth among the 36 clubs in the Medium Category - much better than 2011 when we were 14th of 38 clubs. We only had 18 entries of the 50 allowed in the Medium Category. So we can move up a lot this year just by increasing the number of our members entering the contest.

Listed below, in alphabetical order, are the CDXA members who contributed to our Club score and scored in the top half of their class. The last column shows the member's place in his class in the geographic area shown and the number of entrants in that class from that area.

Call	Final Score	Area	Class	Place/No in Class
AA4R	99,216	North Carolina	Multi Op, Low Power	1/5
K5EK	195,624	North Carolina	Multi Op, High Power	5/11
KS4S	11,284	North Carolina	Multi Op, Low Power	3/5
KU4V	16,826	North Carolina	Single Op, SSB Only, Low Power	2/7
N2TU	517,524	North Carolina	Multi Op, High Power	1/11
W2ZV	4,176	North Carolina	Single Op, SSB Only, Low Power	4/7
W3GQ	396,896	North Carolina	Multi Op, High Power	2/11
W3OA	307,188	North Carolina	Multi Op, High Power	3/11

2013 CDXA BBQ Date and Location



We've just checked off the 4th of July, and it may seem a like a long time until October, but the date for the Annual CDXA BBQ is Saturday Oct 12th. Put it on your calendar, and let's hope the monsoon season is over before then.

The BBQ will be held this year at the QTH of Bob Burton, N4PQX, and his wife Wanda, KF4DDP, 10420 Country Ln., Charlotte.

SEDCO's Coming Too

Another reminder for the fall: SEDCO's September 27 and 28. Should be nice in the mountains by then.



DX King News

Dick Williams, W3OA



Item 1: Full details of our DX King Contest and your chances to win a tablet computer are on page 3 of the [January Pileup](#).

Item 2: Here are the scores for the 2013 DX King competition I have as of June 30:

Call	Category	Countries	Zones	Total
K5EK	Unlimited	263	40	303
K7BV	Unlimited	261	40	301
W4HG	Unlimited	254	40	294
K4GHS	Unlimited	233	40	273
W3GQ	Unlimited	226	39	265
W3ZL	Formula	182	34	216
K4NC	Unlimited	177	38	215
K2SX	Unlimited	172	40	212
NV4A	Unlimited	143	35	178
W3OA	Unlimited	138	38	176
K1MIJ	Unlimited	130	33	163
N2TU	Unlimited	126	32	158
K4DXA	Unlimited	114	31	145
N4PQX	Unlimited	99	39	138
W4WNT	Formula	111	26	137
W1AJT	Unlimited	103	33	136
W4CWA	Unlimited	104	31	135
W4UFO	Unlimited	104	28	132
KZ2I	Unlimited	91	24	115

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.

Motel 6 and Morse Code

I was cruising down the road the other day, listening to some '60s rock, when an ad for Motel 6 came on. I tuned it out the way I do with all ads, but my ears pricked up at the mention of Morse Code. The guy was saying something to the effect that you could contact them for some sort of special deal by computer, smart phone or even dumb phone, but not by carrier pigeon ...or Morse Code. He went on to blab some more about whatever the "Special Deal" was, and summed up by saying "...so call, text, or send us an email, but if you want to send us a telegram, you're dot dot dot dash dash dash dot dash dot dot." ...An ad writer with a sense of humor and a ham license?

The Wayback Machine

10 Years Ago in the Pileup

The Pileup reported that Ted, W4VHF (with some help from Itice, K4LVV), was number one in the CQWW VHF Contest for the third year in a row.

John Scott reported in depth on his first trip to Dayton. It makes interesting reading, and it should come as no surprise to anyone that he mentioned that he won a nice door prize while he was there.

20 Years Ago in the Pileup

Joe Simpkins, now K4MD, then WD4R, CDXA President, reported that CDXA membership had increased by nine over the same time the previous year. Joe didn't tell us the actual numbers though.

The big news was a dinner meeting at the Branding Iron, featuring prime rib and a slide presentation by Bob Allphin, K4UEE, on the AH1A Baker and Howland Island DXpedition.

An Inexpensive 12 and 17 Meter Beam

I was getting tired of having only a wire dipole for 12 and 17 Meters, but of course I'm way too cheap ...make that frugal... to plunk down the money for a new WARC-band beam, and I don't have the space or the tower and rotor to rotate the log periodic I'd really like to have.. So, what could I do? My first thought was to buy 12 meter traps and build a 2 element Yagi. I picked up two sets of Unadilla 12m traps, thinking that, even though they're meant to be used on wire antennas, I could figure out a way to use them to make a beam. I got as far as making a "test" 12/17m dipole with one set of the traps just to be sure I had the dimensions right. With the usual pruning, it worked fine, and I also got as far as figuring out how to use the traps for a beam, using wire and PVC pipe. I also figured I could actually connect aluminum tubing to the traps if the PVC didn't work out.

In the middle of my tinkering, I was reading the section on traps in the *ARRL Antenna Handbook*. The Handbook points out that traps can be used off-resonance as well as on resonance. Off resonance, they just provide capacitive or inductive loading, depending on whether the operating frequency is below trap resonance (in which case the trap acts as an inductor) or above resonance (where the trap is capacitive.) That got me thinking about a different approach to an antenna. I had just acquired a "spare" Cushcraft A3S for a very reasonable price (I already use an A3S on 10, 15, 20 and 40), and decided that it might be possible to put it to work as a 12/17m antenna if I used just the 15m trap. All I had to do was come up with the element lengths. I was reluctantly about to fire up EZNEC, and also to try to figure out the L/C ratio of the trap, which becomes important off resonance. Fortunately, it occurred to me to try searching the web first. Based on previous experience, I've found that any idea I come up with has already been thought of, and published on the web. OK, so maybe I'm not a real innovative thinker. Anyway, I Googled "A3S 12 17 meter antenna." I figured I'd just get references to the A3WS, but I was really only mildly surprised to find someone else had already done all my work for me. I love it when that happens. I found just what I needed at <http://home.mchsi.com/~hidexa/antenna.html>. It's an article by John Argelius, K7HG, appropriately titled "Antennas ...They're Flexible." John gives an explanation of why it works (see above) and provides a chart giving the element lengths required to put the A3S on 12 and 17. Check out the link for the details. (and Thank You K7HG!) It took me an hour or so to reconfigure my extra A3S, and have it ready to test. ...and it worked! I had to tweak the length of the 17 meter tip just bit, making it a quarter of an inch shorter than the lengths given on the web site. But, the antenna analyzer showed a low SWR (less than 1.5:1) across both bands.

Once I got the "new" antenna up in the air (sitting under my other A3S), I found that it works very well. I never did get around to modeling it, since I figure that if it has some gain, and a decent F/B ratio, I'm happy. And did I mention that it didn't cost much? By the way, anybody want to buy a couple of sets of Unadilla 12m traps?

The Back Page

- Dick, W3OA, starting on Page 1, reports on the preliminary results for CDXA's Field Day exercise. There are also lots of pictures from the setup and operation. Thanks to all who contributed.
- Dick also gives us the final results of last year's DX King Competition (see Page 4 to see who won) and the CDXA's results in the 2012 ARRL 10 Meter contest (on Page 5.)
- The Wayback Machine has a look at what was going on in CDXA 10 and 20 years ago.
- On Page 7, I talk about my "repurposed" A3S, which I use on 12 and 17 Meters.

Till next month,

73, John, NV4A

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First Class Mail

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