

The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

The CDXA Fall BBQ Is Coming

Fall is coming, and that means the CDXA Fall BBQ is not far off. Chef Ric (AA4SC) will again be bringing his delicious BBQ, and everyone who comes is asked to bring a salad or dessert. Here's the full scoop:

The BBQ is on Saturday, October 3rd beginning @ 5PM at the QTH of Bob and Wanda Burton at [10420 Country Lane, Charlotte NC 28214](http://10420CountryLaneCharlotteNC28214).

Our resident chef, Ric Porter AA4SC, is catering the event, and will provide BBQ Pork, BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Slaw and Drinks.



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

The price is \$18 per person, \$36 per couple.

We are accepting PayPal in advance, and cash and credit cards at the door.

As in past years, everyone is encouraged to bring something to share. We are requesting that if your last name begins with the letters A-L that you please bring a dessert item, and if your last name begins with M-Z, please bring a salad item.



Group Picture from our last BBQ at the Burton's in 2013. A couple of those attending will be sorely missed this year.

We are now accepting reservations. To RSVP, please click on this [LINK to the RSVP form.](#)

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



The Shelby Hamfest is over for another year. Once again, CDXA had a booth in a prime location next to the W/K4 QSL Bureau, the QSL Card Checking Booth, and the ARRL booth, with Kay Craigie, N3KN,



ARRL President, in attendance. The booth all set up and ready for action is shown in the right column. Our raffle of a Toshiba Windows Tablet was a success. The lucky winner, shown above with his prize, is Irv McWherter, K3IRV. Paul, W3GQ, held the box full of raffle tickets while



Kay, N3KN, drew the winning ticket. Kay is shown right after drawing K3IRV's ticket, and announcing "...I know him!" We also had a CW message ditting and dahing away from a little recorder sitting on the CDXA table. The message said, essentially, that anyone who copied the code should tell the CDXAers behind the table what it said to win a free year's membership. We gave away two CDXA memberships to a couple of hams who paid attention, and copied the message. The astute hams, and new CDXA members, are David Bear, K2DAB; and David Keever, K8IP. Congratulations and Welcome.

The weather for this year's event was almost perfect. The temperature was pleasant, and it was at least partly cloudy most of the day. As usual, there was an amazing amount of "stuff" to look at and haggle over.

Finally, Thanks (once again) to Bill, W4GRW, who made it all possible with his planning and hard work.

"Dr. Sam" makes DXCC Honor Role

In case you missed it on the web site:

"Posted 9/1/2015:

The ARRL has informed **Sam Hawes, K4DGJ**, that he is now on the DXCC Honor Role, Mixed, with 333 current DXCC credits and 343 total credits.

Gary Dixon, K4MQG, performed a Field Check of Sam's last application at the CDXA Wednesday lunch on August 19th. So that's a turn-around in under two weeks.

Congratulations Sam!"

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.

Carolina DX Foundation

CDXA President Hal Bouton, N4QT, says “We are pleased to announce the formation of a new 501(c)(3) foundation, the Carolina DX Foundation. CDXF is a separate entity from CDXA, and all funds placed in this new foundation will be used to support various high priority DXpeditions around the world. As we grow our foundation we will also grow the influence of our organization in DX activities around the world. We look forward to the participation of our members, and thank Frank Dowd, K4BVQ, for the donation of his equipment to CDXA, without which the CDXF would not be possible.”

A CDXF FAQs Sheet is presented below, to provide CDXAers with more information, and it is followed on the next page by a copy of the Press Release announcing CDXF, which is being sent to DX Publications around the country to generate interest beyond CDXA members.

CDXF FAQs

What was the impetus to create the foundation?

Frank Dowd, K4BVQ, generously donated his radio collection to the CDXA several years ago, netting the CDXA over \$15,000 for DXpedition donations. The prominence of the CDXA in the DX community has increased enormously as a result. At that time the creation of a 501(c)(3) foundation was difficult for our type of organization. Recently, application was streamlined and broadened, so we pursued it.

Why donate to the CDXF vs. other 501(c)(3) DXpedition foundations?

To raise the prominence of the CDXA in the amateur and particularly the DX community, and to showcase its activities and its outstanding operators and members.

What is the structure of the foundation?

The foundation is a pool of donations. The officers of the CDXF make all decisions regarding DXpedition donations. The officers are currently designated as the President, Vice President, and Treasurer of the CDXA.

Will the CDXA donate part of your annual dues to the CDXF?

Yes. The CDXA will donate \$5 of all \$25 dues payments, which is approximately the size of the current CDXA DXpedition budget, to the CDXF. Therefore, **the donated \$5 of your dues should be tax deductible** (consult your tax adviser.) This will take effect with dues to be paid on 12/31/2015. The total dues amount of \$25 WILL NOT change.

Will this donation make CDXA members also eligible to vote for the CDXF Officers?

Yes.

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Charlotte, North Carolina, September 16, 2015.

Formation of Carolina DX Foundation

The Carolina DX Association (CDXA) is pleased to announce, effective immediately, the formation of the Carolina DX Foundation, a non-profit organization under the rules of the Internal Revenue Service Section 501(c)(3). The purpose of the CDXF is to support amateur radio DXpeditions through financial distributions. Specifically, benefits of DXpedition support by the CDXF include the furtherance of scientific research exploring electromagnetic wave propagation in the high frequency domain, and education through public presentations by DXpeditions supported by the CDXF. Donations to the CDXF are accepted from individuals and organizations, and are tax deductible per IRS rules and regulations. The CDXF is a separate, and separately managed, entity from the CDXA. The Officers of the CDXF will be elected on a yearly basis, in December, by all those who have donated to the CDXF in the preceding twelve months. Initially the Officers are: President, Hal Bouton, N4QT; Vice President, Bill Fisher, W4GRW; and Secretary-Treasurer, Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL. The Officers will make all final decisions regarding distribution of DXpedition donations.

The foundation of the CDXF stems from Frank Dowd, K4BVQ, generously donating his radio collection to the CDXA several years ago, netting the CDXA over \$15,000 for DXpedition donations. Hal Bouton, President of CDXF, says “Without Frank’s generosity, the CDXF would not be possible. We are excited about building on this foundation and adding to it to help fund important DXpeditions into the future.”

For more information on CDXF, or to make a contribution, contact:

Cliff Wagoner
PO Box 577
Davidson, NC 28036
jcw53@cornell.edu

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CDXA Scores in 2014 ARRL International DX Phone Contest CDXA Takes Second Place!

Dick Williams, W3OA



The final results of this year's ARRL International DX phone contest have been published. This included the results of the 2015 Club Competition. CDXA's total score in the CW and phone contests combined was 28,291,437 points, good enough to place us second of the 44 clubs in the Medium Category this year. Quoting the QST article: "The Carolina DX Association edged out the Central Texas DX and Contest Club in a very close race for second and third. Places two through eight were each separated by about 1 million points, so this could be anyone's race next year. Who is going to make it happen?"

Listed below, in alphabetical order, are the CDXA members who contributed to CDXA's 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
AA4SC	228,375	South Carolina	Single Op, High Power	1/4
AA4V	1,349,559	South Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	2/5
K4FS	1,000,746	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, Low Power	1/10
K4KAY	241,785	North Carolina	Single Op, Low Power	2/22
K5EK	1,780,350	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	1/13
K8YC	634,224	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	5/14
KD4RH	21,033	South Carolina	Single Op, Single Band 40	1/1
KI4TZ	1,136,016	South Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, Low Power	2/9
N4GBK	84,864	North Carolina	Single Op, Low Power	8/22
N4QM	108,621	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, Low Power	4/10
NV4A	197,400	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	6/13
W3GQ	1,776,420	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	2/13
W3OA	1,414,164	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	3/13
W3ZL	342,720	North Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, Low Power	3/10
W4LVH	422,688	South Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, Low Power	3/9
W4WNT	174,408	North Carolina	Single Op, Low Power	3/22
W7DO	1,644,534	South Carolina	Single Op, Assisted, High Power	1/5
WA2EMF	110,376	South Carolina	Single Op, High Power	2/4



DX King News

Dick Williams, W3OA

Item 1: Full details of our DX King Contest and your chances to win an MFJ-891 Giant SWR/Wattmeter are on page 9 of the [January Pileup](#).

Item 2: Here are the reports for the 2015 DX King competition. These are the scores I have as of August 31:

Call	Category	Countries	Zones	Total
K5EK	Unlimited	269	40	309
K7BV	Unlimited	266	40	306
AA4SC	Unlimited	260	40	300
W4HG	Unlimited	250	40	290
W3GQ	Unlimited	242	39	281
K8YC	Unlimited	202	39	241
K4HC	Limited	188	37	225
K2SX	Unlimited	181	39	220
W3ZL	Formula	182	37	219
W4UFO	Unlimited	171	39	210
K4FS	Unlimited	167	38	205
NK0S	Unlimited	145	37	182
N2TU	Unlimited	145	33	178
W3OA	Unlimited	138	37	175
KI4TZ	Unlimited	135	35	170
K2SD	Unlimited	132	31	163
NV4A	Unlimited	133	27	160
N4GBK	Limited	126	31	157
K4UWH	Limited	122	34	156
W4WNT	Formula	115	28	143
K4MLD	Formula	97	27	124
K1MIJ	Unlimited	85	25	110
KZ2I	Unlimited	77	27	104

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.

CWAC 2015

- CDXA Needs More Participants

Dick Williams, W3OA



It's time to get ready for the CQ World Wide Contests and CDXA's CWAC (Contest Within a Contest). The phone contest is the weekend of October 23, CW the weekend of November 27. We are again offering a lot of prizes to encourage you to participate in CWAC and thus contribute to CDXA's CQWW Club Score. The Outback Steakhouse gift cards have been very popular prizes in past years. But if the Outback isn't one of your favorite restaurants you can use the same card at Carrabba's Italian Grill, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, and Bonefish Grill.

Our CQWW Club Scores for the last ten years are shown below. You can see we made the top ten in 2007 but haven't made it back since then. We need everyone's help to regain our top ten standing.

Year	CDXA Score	Rank in USA
2005	17,672,958	18
2006	25,680,386	12
2007	34,784,070	8
2008	28,284,340	12
2009	24,942,122	13
2010	32,684,047	12
2011	60,196,309	11
2012	49,233,286	13
2013	39,074,381	16
2014	47,645,672	13

There are prizes for both serious efforts and more casual operations:

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 place prizes.

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

Other 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.

Only members whose scores are eligible for the club competition as defined in the contest rules can win a gift card or a trophy. That means their station must be within 250 miles of our club center or be on a DXpedition and live within that radius. We can choose where our club center is so don't count yourself out just because you are a little more than 250 miles from Charlotte. The rules are available in full at <http://www.cqww.com/>. All CDXA members are eligible for the CDXA certificates. Again this year **all logs must be submitted within five days after the end of the contest**. Previously we had 30 days.

Prizes will be based on your claimed score and presented at the Christmas dinner. Let me know if you have any questions, suggestions, or need help in preparing for CQWW. and please let me know if you are planning a DXpedition for CQWW.

Dick Williams, W3OA; w3oa@adelphia.net
(704) 658-0915

The Wayback Machine

With the CQWW contest coming up as discussed on the last couple of pages in the Contest Within a Contest article, asking (enticing with the promise of prizes) CDXAers to put in as much time in the Phone and/or CW portions of the CQWW as they can. it wouldn't hurt to look back at the October 2010 Pileup (<http://www.cdxa.org/pileup/archives/cdxa1010.pdf>) which includes an article on **CQWW Easy Multipliers** on Pg 3, and **Using N1MM in Contests** on Pg 4, both by Dick, W3OA. N1MM may have changed a bit over the last few years, but the ideas presented in these articles still provide some really good tips and contest operating words of wisdom.

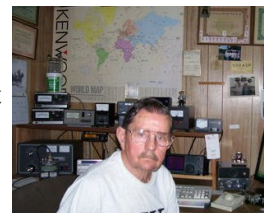
The October 2010 Pileup also had the then latest stats from Logbook of the World (LoTW) from Bob Burton. Here's a comparison across almost five years:

...That's a LOT of postage and time saved.

	Oct-10	Sep-15	Growth
Total QSOs	300,022,268	696,591,127	396,568,859
Total QSLs	32,837,237	114,508,246	81,671,009
Total Users	35,946	79,521	43,575
Total Active Certificates	54,297	118,041	63,744
Total User Files Processed	1,662,427	8,431,504	6,769,077

Jim Brown, N4ZY/sk

We recently learned from his son, Jim, KI4RAW, that CDXA member Jim Brown, N4ZY, shown here in the picture from his QRZ.COM page, passed away on August 15. His obituary is here: <http://www.bass-smithfuneralhome.com/obituary/James-Howard-Brown/Vale-NC/1537200>. Bruce Gragg, K4ZO, who knew Jim, says that he was a dedicated DXer and was always willing to help his fellow hams with antenna and other projects. Our sympathies go out to Jim's family.



Good News on Charlotte-Mecklenburg Antenna Height Restrictions

About five years ago, a former CDXA member received a permit from Charlotte-Mecklenburg for a tower and antenna, which he built in conformance to the zoning rules. After complaints from neighbors and a "Volunteer HOA", the then City Zoning Administrator "reinterpreted" the zoning ordinance and determined that amateur towers should be covered under a section of the zoning code meant for commercial towers, which requires towers to be separated from abutting property lines by 200 feet. The result was not only a ruling that a legally permitted and constructed tower was "in violation" of code, but all the hams in Mecklenburg County were left in limbo. After a legal struggle, the City Attorney, in 2011, discovered that the City was in the wrong because it was in violation of North Carolina law. The City promised to make necessary changes to the Zoning Ordinance, but to make a very long and painful story short, it took until this month for a new City Zoning Administrator to issue an interpretation of the City's existing code, which should finally put the controversy to rest. It should be noted that the City is planning to undergo a complete Zoning Ordinance rewrite beginning next year, and could make additional changes to the antenna height regulations. In any case, the new interpretation and the tone of correspondence from the City seem quite positive. The "Interpretation" of the Zoning Regulation is reprinted here. Bob Burton, N4PQX, along with Larry Ford, K4AEC, ARRL Volunteer Counsel, Roanoke Division, have been involved with the case since the beginning, and have been corresponding with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg government to continue to make sure the issue wasn't forgotten. Thanks and Congratulations to Bob and Fred for all their hard work! Bob notes that, if the City forms a Stakeholders Group for the new Zoning Ordinance rewrite, he's requesting to be a member of the Group.

**CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING DEPARTMENT
ZONING INTERPRETATION RECORD**

Case No. ZIR-015

Subject of Interpretation:

What are the height and separation regulations for amateur radio antennas when located within residential zoning districts?

Zoning Ordinance Titles, Sections and Numbers:

Chapter 12, Part 1: Supplemental Development Standards
Section 12.108: Height Limitations

Interpretation:

North Carolina General Statute 160A-383.3 (Reasonable Accommodation of Amateur Radio Antennas) states "A city ordinance based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations that regulates the placement, screening, or height of the antennas or support structures of amateur radio operators must reasonably accommodate amateur radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose of the city. A city may not restrict antennas or antenna support structures of amateur radio operators to heights of 90 feet or lower unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective of the city."

Section 12.108 (Height Limitations) of the Charlotte Zoning Ordinance does not restrict the antennas or antenna support structures of amateur radio operators to the maximum height limitations in residential zoning districts which are typically 40' or 48' depending on the district. Per Section 12.108(6) of the Zoning Ordinance, such facilities are allowed to extend above the height limit of residential zoning districts with the requirement that the antenna be separated from abutting property lines by one foot for every two feet in height the antenna is above the permitted height.

Example:

If an amateur radio antenna is 90' in height located within a residential zoning district with a height limitation of 48', the antenna would be required to be a minimum of 21' from abutting property lines.

- *Antenna Height (90') minus Residential Height Limitation (48') = 42' above the permitted height.*
- *42' above the permitted height multiplied by one foot separation for every two feet in height above the permitted height (42' X 1/2' ratio) = 21' separation from abutting properties.*

These accessory structures must also comply with Section 12.106(2)(a) (Uses and Structures Prohibited and Allowed in Required Setbacks and Yards) of the Zoning Ordinance. This section contains supplemental regulations for the placement of accessory structures.

Approval:



Approved By:
Shad Spencer
Zoning Administrator

Date: 9/4/15

The Back Page

- There's a lot going on, starting with the annual fall BBQ, on October 3. See Page 1 for details.
- Page 2 recaps another successful Shelby Hamfest.
- Also on Page 2, in case you didn't see the news on the CDXA website, Sam Hawes, K4DGJ, is now on the DXCC Honor Role. Congratulations to "Dr. Sam."
- The Carolina DX Foundation. What is it? It's an exciting new opportunity to help DXpeditions with our donations and give CDXA a higher profile in the DX world. Find out the details on pages 3 and 4.
- CDXA took 2nd place in the Medium Club category in the 2014 ARRL International DX Contest: Details are on Page 5.
- Speaking of contests, the CQWW Phone Contest is coming up on the weekend of October 23rd, with the CW Contest the weekend of November 27th. Read all about this year's Contest Within a Contest on Page 6.
- At long last there's positive news to report to Mecklenburg County hams about tower restrictions. Page 8 includes a short history of the problems, and a copy of the new "Interpretation" of the zoning ordinance affecting ham towers and antennas, which effectively puts things back the way they were before the problems started five years ago.

We'll be back next month.

73, John, NV4A

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First Class Mail

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