

EDITORS NOTE

Please note that this issue is a combined Sept/October newsletter. Sorry about that, but business needs have interfered with the writing, typing, printing, folding, stapling, licking stamps, and mailing of this rag...

DX NEEDS

In the last newsletter, I suggested that members send in their need lists for DXCC, and there was one response (that's pretty good!). Dick, W4UW, in Winston-Salem, would be glad to accept an collect call (919-765-4697) at any time for the following PHONE prefixes:

A5	Bhutan	XW	Laos
A6	Un. Arab Em.	XZ	Burma
C9	Mozambique	ZA	Albania
FR/T	Tromelin	1S	Spratly Is
S2	Bangladesh	3W	Vietnam
VK9	Christmas Is	3Y	Bouvet
VK9	Mellish Reef	4W	Yemen
VP8	So. Georgia	7D	Dem Rep Yemen

That puts Dick at 302 for Phone, not too far from the honor role. If you hear any of these, after you have called K2SD, give Dick a call....

ROANOKE DIVISION ELECTION

Don't forget to return your ARRL ballot! John Kanode, N4MM, is running for Director, and is well-known to DXers as a person interested in DXing. John has served as Assistant director 1974-1980, and as Vice-Director 1981-1988. He managed the W4/K4/N4 QSL bureau from 1974-1979, served on the ARRL DX Advisory Committee from 1976 to 1980, and was ARRL Board of Directors liaison to the DXAC from 1981 to 1987. He is presently serving ARRL Board liaison to the Contest Advisory Committee.

John's list of qualifications is quite long, and he is certainly on the side of DXers. I am voting for him and hope you will too. K2SD

ROTUMA

The following information comes from Rusty Epps, W6DAT:

On September 9, K3NA filed petitions with the DX Advisory Committee and the ARRL Awards Committee to create the new DXCC country of Rotuma. Rotuma is a small island group containing nine islands, surrounded by a barrier reef, and located at about 177.12 degrees east longitude by 12.5 degrees south latitude. Rotuma is part of the territory administered by Fiji and is located approximately 286 statute miles north northwest of the "parent" Fijian island group. The open water separation forms the basis of the application for separate DXCC country status under rule 2(a) of the DXCC rules adopted by the ARRL Board of Directors on January 23, 1988.

That this petition seeks country status under rule 2(a) of the new rules is significant because Rotuma clearly did not qualify for separate status under the DXCC rules prior to January, 1988. The old rules made a distinction between "mainland" nations and "island" nations. An island could count as a separate country if there was more than 225 miles of open water between it and its "mainland" parent, but 500 miles of water was required between an island and its "island" parent. The wording of the new rules attempted to eliminate this seemingly pointless distinction between whether the parent DXCC country is on a continental mainland or is itself an island nation (such as Fiji). New rule 2(a) requires only that the island (i.e., Rotuma) has at least 225 miles of open water between itself and its "parent" DXCC country (Fiji), and that the parent exists as a DXCC country under the Government criteria of Rule 1 (and Fiji does meet this criteria).

When John Lindholm, the ARRL Communications manager, announced the new wording of the DXCC rules in the January, 1988, issue of QST magazine,

he stated that the new wording had been arrived at only after an exhaustive multi-year study by the DXAC and that the new wording was not intended to make any substantive changes to the DXCC program. K3NA's petition thus presents the ARRL with something of a dilemma because a literal reading of the new DXCC rules clearly mandates that Rotuma should qualify as a separate DXCC country. Therefore, either the "exhaustive multi-year" study of the DXAC was wrong and the rules must again be rewritten or else the new wording did introduce substantive changes.

Concurrently with the petition, K3NA announced plans for a Rotuma DXpedition by himself, KN3T, VK8XX, and W6SZN for October 22 through November 5. They expect to operate two stations on SSB and CW on all HF bands. The timing of this expedition is dictated by the terms of the operators' invitation to visit Rotuma. Normally visits to this island are discouraged because there are no accommodations for tourists. However, KBXX has family relatives living on the island who have agreed to provide shelter for the operators during this particular time period. Although the operators would have preferred to await DXAC action on their petition before undertaking such an expedition, they decided it was better to go now than later because of the generally unstable political climate in Fiji. They might not be able to get an invitation for a later date.

The DXpedition has sought, and been granted, substantial financial assistance from the Northern California DX Foundation. Admittedly the grant is somewhat risky in view of the fact that Rotuma has not yet been certified as a "new one". However, the NCDXF Trustees believe that the potential benefit to the DXCC program itself is sufficiently great to justify the risk, for if Rotuma counts there will be a dozen or so other islands that also should

qualify for new country status under the same rationale. The Foundation Trustees believe that the activity sure to result if the DXAC accepts Rotuma for credit is just the shot in the arm which the DXCC program now needs. Certainly it will keep the bands alive with activity for the next five years or so!

FOR SALE

MFJ 1278 with latest update and cables for VIC-20 or C-64 with program. \$180.00 plus shipping. Contact David Misenheimer, KB4FQ.

David is also looking for a station East of Charlotte he could digipeat through on 145.09.

ARRL PROPAGATION BULLETIN NR 40 October 3, 1988

September, with a solar flux average of 152.3, was the third month in a row above 150, despite a dive from 189 to 114 in the first 10 days. From that low, the flux rose, gradually at first, and then rocketed to 180 by the 23rd. Something new for this cycle, the flux was above 170 for eleven consecutive days, reaching a cycle 22 high of 195 on October 2. Still higher readings are likely, as the flux line for the past few days is almost vertical.

The higher flux triggered a major change in the 10 meter band, which is now close to worldwide coverage. Our clock shows 0200 UTC as this is being written, and two Australian beacons have just disappeared, after having been in for many hours. West coast areas and KL7s are still strong here on the Gulf coast of Florida. Beacons in Europe and Africa were in solidly all day and until well after local sunset.

Prospects for later this month and for November look very good. The 15 and 20 meter bands are active almost around the clock on the better nights, and competition is not troublesome in the small hours of the morning local time.

RIP

We are saddened to report the demise of K4PIG and O1NK, who were consumed at the annual CDXA barbecue. A great time was had by all, and Wayne, KU4V once again outdid himself as head cook! Special thanks to Gary, K4MQG, and Carol, KA4WUR for hosting the event - we had about 50 attendees, including Lars, SM0CCM, who traveled all the way from Sweden to attend.

PACKET UPDATE

We are seeing up to 60 users on the system on weekends, and, with the super conditions, DX spotting activity is at an all-time high. The entire screen is filling up with real nice DX, especially on 10 meters. It has even snagged a few all-time new DXCC countries for your editor.

The club members who have spent lots of their hard-earned money on this network have asked all users to donate as much as possible to help

THE CAROLINA DX ASSOCIATION

President:	Ken Boyd	WA4UNZ
Vice Pres:	Skip Richardson	WA4UUP
Sec/Tres:	Bill Jennings	W4UNP
Net Mgr:	Roger Burt	N4ZC

Editor: Scott Douglass K2SD
2440 Williams Rd
Matthews, NC 28105
(704) 847-8320

with the cost of this system. With thunderstorm damage, equipment purchase, etc., the value of the system has reached many thousands of dollars. The suggested contribution is \$50. Please mail your check to Bill Jennings, W4UNP, 630 Whitepine Drive, Catawba, SC 29704. Note that this request is for packetcluster users only - this is not a general club solicitation, although all contributions are welcome. In fact, we may decide to have a pledge drive, a la Public Radio, and stay on the air until we reach our goal. In order to prevent such a corruption of 147.1B, send your contribution in at once!

WINTER CDXA MEETING

For your information, our December CDXA meeting will be held in Rock Hill, SC at Rick Porter's, AA4SC, restaurant. The date will be announced next month, so mark it on your calendar now.....



FIRST CLASS MAIL

WA4UNZ
Ken Boyd
202 Horseshoe Circle
Fort Mill, SC
29715

The PILEUP is the newsletter of the Carolina DX Association, an ARRL affiliated club serving DXers in the Carolinas. The PILEUP may be reprinted in whole or in part provided proper credit is given.