

# The Pileup

*March 1995 Charlotte Hamfest Edition  
and CDCA Membership List*

## President's Message.....

A good old Southern welcome to all of you visiting the Charlotte Hamfest! ! ! I hope you and yours find all the goodies you wanted to find here. The hamfest is promising to be one of the best ever, and I am praying for good weather for all our friends who are traveling to Charlotte.

On Saturday night, the CDXA party will take place at Valentino's. Make your plans now to drop by for a visit, some good food and drink, and lots of fellowship.

I would like to thank Bill Taylor, KD4IL, for his untiring efforts to put together this issue of the Pileup. Bill was our Editor in days gone by, and we appreciate his helping with this issue. If you like what you see, please tell Bill. It would mean a lot to him.

The progress of our PacketCluster backbone is slower than I would have liked. We have been beset with a barrage of technical problems at N4ZC's Node. Work continues daily to solve these interruptions to enable us to get Roger up and running on the high speed backbone. Talk about a learning curve! Please bear with us as we grow through this period. Thanks to K4QO, AB4WD, KI4HN and many others who have added their efforts to problem solving. I certainly could not do it without such knowledgeable and generous helpers. Thanks again!

The officers elected at the Christmas Party are as follows:

Bill Jennings W4UNP	Secretary, Treasurer
Scott Douglas K2SD	Vice President
Joe Simpkins WD4R	President

Please let us hear from you folks. We welcome your input into your Association. All of us are on Packet, if that is most convenient for you. Scott has already put several ideas on the table for the year ahead, so look for some fun events coming soon.

So come by the CDXA booth at the Hamfest and lets visit! You can have your DX cards counted right next door at the ARRL booth.

73 & Good DX! ! Joe WD4R

# INDEXA

## Q S L ROUTE INFORMATION::

Many members of CDXA, SEDXC and the cluster often request the QSL route for worked stations on packet. This is a good place to obtain the needed information.

However, if you still need help, try the INDEXA information net. You have a better chance of getting the info you need because this is the only purpose of the net. Information only without any DX checking in, no LIST operation and no BS. You may check in to obtain the info you need and also to give the net new good info about DX you have, that would help others.

If you listen long enough, you may be able to provide info that some fellow amateur is looking for which is why we are there.

INDEXA Information net, 14236, starts 2330Z daily for about 2 hours. Staff members are VP2MO, W6CNA, NS6B, N5QGO, KF7SH and KA3HXO.

For further info about membership, contact Bill W4UNP, Gary K4MQG or Murphy W4WMQ.

Tnx & good DX. Murph.

## FROM THE CLUSTER

Msg #168 From: K2SD Date: 3-Feb  
0056Z

Subj: CDXA DX KING UPDATE

The deadline for CDXA members to submit their 1994 DX totals has been extended to March 10, 1995. List your total number<sup>ar</sup> of band countries, plus satellite and digital dx contacts (digital includes packet, AMTOR, PACTOR, RTTY, ASCII, and GTOR - they all count as digital). Please submit to me via the cluster or by mail :

K2SD, 2440 Williams Rd, Matthews,  
NC 28105.

73, Scott

KD4IL de WD4R 8-Feb 0127Z >

## FROM THE CLUSTER

Msg #1173 From: AG4L Date: 24-Jan 2305Z

Subj: Pileup

Please note in the Pileup that the CDXA DX Information Net has changed frequencies and times. It is every Wednesday night at 9PM Local time on 145.17 repeater. We are looking to increase checkins. The 145.17 machine has great coverage and all members, potential members, and non-members are encouraged to check-in and participate.

TNX

Bruce, AG4L

KD4IL de WD4R 24-Jan 2308Z >

## MARCH (Hamfest) CDXA MEETING

The March 11 (Saturday) Meeting is at Valentino's (2 Blocks East of the Merchandize Mart on Independence Blvd). This is our annual Hamfest get-together. A nice buffet will be provided. (Suggested contribution is \$5 per member). Meeting will start at 7:00 PM. There will be a cash bar if you want anything stronger than coffee or tea....

## ARE YOU A REAL DXER?

Let's imagine, just for the moment, you're interested in working DX. Indeed, you think of yourself as a DXer; it's what you do when you're on the radio. Let's imagine, as well, you've been DXing for a number of years—say 40. You've worked everything—you're #1 Honor Roll. You've worked 5B-DXCC, twice, from different locations. (Three times, actually, although you've only bothered to send for two of the plaques.) You've worked SB-WAS, three times, but again have only sent for two of the plaques. You've got a bunch of other awards on the wall, as well. What's left?

Obviously, there are several other areas of ham radio you might pursue. But remember, you think of yourself as a DXer, so your thoughts just naturally center around that definition first and foremost. Whatever you do, you want it to be related to working stations far away—at least in some sense.

During 1993, the above scenario presented itself to N4ZC, Roger Burt, of Stanley, NC. Roger's a prominent DXer, and his station has also been well represented in contest circles for the past several years. Several members of his local DX club, the Carolina DX Association, faced a similar dilemma. They'd worked everything. Faced with declining sunspot numbers, the club organized a local competition designed to bolster DX interest.

The idea was simple: work as many different DX countries as possible. Countries could be worked once on each band, either phone or CW. RTTY and satellite modes counted as "separate bands" or multipliers. To level the club playing field a bit, contests were ruled out.

Roger, who's keen on competition of this sort, decided to enter the fray in a serious way. He wanted to establish a club record which would stand for several years. Or at least until sunspot activity restores the high bands to prominence. Looking at the DXCC country list, he figured 1200 band and mode countries could be worked during the course of the year. Reaching 1000 rather quickly in his operating, Roger decided 1600 band and mode countries might be within reach. For once, the "alternative modes" made sense; after all, each one would count as a new multiplier.

Since CDXA's club competition allowed a variety of modes, including the digital ones which he'd never tried, Roger expanded his operating horizons a bit, using RTTY and satellite operation on RS-12. It's this latter mode which is the subject of this article.

What started out as a very simple project-oriented goal—to "work a few US and Canadian stations" to augment his club contest total—became a quest for the elusive 100 countries. N4ZC became the first station to work and confirm the magical number on RS-12. The DXCC quest meant Roger became something of an ambassador for the Russian satellite and its mode of communication. This is the story of his success.

## BACKGROUND

RS-12 was launched from Plesetsk, Russia on February 5, 1991, attached to the COSMOS 2123 navigation satellite. In round numbers, its orbit is about 620 miles above the earth, and circles the earth every 105 minutes in a polar orbit about 83 degrees above the equator. Moving from pole to pole, with the earth turning under it, means the satellite will pass your QTH between four and 11 times a day. The number of passes will be around four if you live near the equator, and around 11 if you live near the poles. N4ZC gets six passes daily with his location on latitude 35N.

You can think of the satellite as a repeater—one 620 miles high, using an input frequency (uplink) on 21 MHz and an output frequency (downlink) on 29 MHz. You transmit on any frequency within the 40 KHz uplink window and listen within the 40 KHz downlink window. A CW beacon on 29.408 will tell you when the satellite is within range and you can use it. You'll hear a string of letters and numbers at 25 WPM. RS-12's transponder operates in a proportionally linear fashion—meaning if you transmit on 21.210 your output will be on 29.410. An input of 21.230 will output on 29.430; input on 21.240 will output on 29.440. The output frequency will vary slightly—what's known as "doppler shift"—because of the speed of the moving satellite. As RS-12 moves toward you, the downlink signals will move up in frequency (as much as 1.3 KHz). As RS-12 moves away from you, the downlink signals will move down in frequency (again, as much as 1.3 KHz). Generally, all signals will seem to drift downward in frequency as you listen to the downlink, but this really isn't a problem once you become accustomed to it. DO NOT move your transmit frequency; simply shift your receiver to keep stations tuned in during the QSO. (This is quite different from other satellite operation, like OSCAR—where you DO MOVE your transmit frequency. But the chances of QRMing someone are much greater on 21 MHz than they are on 70 CM, especially considering propagation, so shift your receiver only.)

There are no mode limitations on RS-12, but the following has become standard practice—CW in the lower portion of the 40 KHz window and upper sideband SSB in the upper portion of the window. Other standard practices include learning the offset. An easy way to remember where to set your transmit frequency is to use the last two numbers. For instance, if you hear a station you wish to call on 29.431, you remember 31—and set your transmitter on 21.231. As long as both your VFOs are within the correct uplink/downlink window, you will be very close to the right frequency. It's easy if you use the last two numbers.

Having two VFOs, or the ability to transmit and receive on separate frequencies is the only really "hard" requirement, and one that's easily met. Two rigs with two antennas would be ideal, but one rig with antennas for both 21 and 29 MHz will work. Just about any antenna system will allow you to make satellite contacts on RS-12. You do NOT need tall towers and a big beam.

Hearing yourself DOES help—so even a second receiver for listening to the downlink will improve your ability to use RS-12. If you can hear your own signal, you can work anyone in the world—within the footprint of the satellite. And, if you can hear your own signal, you will work people who appear outside the footprint of your tracking program—people below the horizon. Again, the ability to listen to your own signal will do more to improve your RS-12 operating ability than tall towers, big antennas or having a second transceiver. "Because people will answer you, but on 15 meters. They won't know what 'CQ satellite' means. I've heard QSOs where people thought they were making a satellite contact, but it was really just a 15 meter exchange. You need to ask, 'Are you listening to me on 10 meters?' Be specific. Because they won't know what you mean otherwise," Roger advises. "A clue to whether they're really hearing your downlink is the signal report

they give you. A 59 or 599 probably means they're hearing your 15 meter signal. I've rarely heard RS-12 at S7. It's usually between S0, right at the noise floor, and S5. Another thing to consider is if the station is exactly zero beat with you on 15 meters, chances are good they're just responding to your uplink signal. Not your 10 meter signal."

Knowing this, and having towers and beams can help, of course, especially for difficult contacts under adverse conditions. But the downlink is only running one watt of power, so there's no need for you to run a kilowatt. Dipoles, verticals and beams can all be used to work the satellite. A beam will improve your chances of success when working with the satellite near or even below your horizon. Working with RS-12 three degrees below your horizon can provide you an extra minute of time at each end of your workable window. This time can be critical to DX success on the satellite.

"The tracking programs sometimes won't indicate a usable pass. When the satellite is one degree below the horizon, it won't show up on my program, for instance. But you can maximize your DXCC exposure—there's an additional layer of countries you can work—by using passes just below the horizon. You have to watch for them, though, because they happen every third day. RS-12 is ever so slowly drifting east. These below-the-horizon passes, when they occur, extend your country possibilities."

Propagation plays an important role with RS-12—much more so than with the well known VHF-UHF satellites, of course. You will sometimes hear stations within the uplink window, using the frequency for normal terrestrial-style QSOs. You will sometimes hear stations "skipping" into the satellite on 21 MHz. Even if they were knowledgeable about RS-12, they might not hear the downlink on 29 MHz—the MUF is simply not high enough. Knowledge of propagation can enable you to make contacts on over-the-horizon paths. You will sometimes find over-the-horizon signals, or those near the horizon, sounding quite odd—like a signal passing over the pole through the auroral zone. At times, conditions will require you to switch to CW to complete your QSO. Another problem is because this satellite is above the F layer. At times of high MUF, the 29 MHz signal may make it through the F layer, but your 21 MHz signal up to the satellite cannot make the path—especially when the satellite is low to the horizon. More information on using RS-12 can be found in: "Working the Easy Sats," by Steve Ford, WB8IMY in September 1992 QST, and in "Working RS-12—The Ultimate Satellite Primer," by Robert Capon, WA3ULH in February 1994 QST, and in "Using RS-12," by Pat Gowen, G3IOR in March 1992 73.

## **N4ZC 's QUEST BEGINS**

"When I began listening to RS-12, if you heard three or four stations on during a pass, that was really good," Roger says. "By the time I had finished DXCC, things sounded, at times, literally like 20 meters. Signals upon signals upon signals. The article in February 1994 QST really had a lot to do with it. Plus the PR I'd done myself—sending people info on the satellite, setting schedules, my end-of-pass procedure, and getting people to just listen for the satellite. That made for some QRM, all right, but QRM means activity."

The information packet Roger distributed to DX stations was full of details. He included: a month's worth of passes, dated two weeks in the future to guarantee plenty of time for overseas delivery. Details of how to operate on RS-12. Times when the satellite was above the DX station's horizon—so they could listen to it, as well as times when it was above both their horizons. How did this technique work for Roger? "I had some success mailing stuff out blind. OY9JD called me on our first available window, but my wife and I had gone out to eat. People then told me he'd been calling me, though, so I was waiting on our next pass and worked him."

When N4ZC began working on RS-12, he did what everyone said he'd do. He worked several US and Canadian stations right away. Then he worked some Caribbean stations. Like all good DXers, Roger did some research. He began to try to determine what he could work—exactly. A primary ingredient to satellite success is a tracking program—a way to determine where the satellite is, and more importantly, what its footprint is. Knowing where—on the surface of the earth—it is possible to "see" (and acquire) the satellite is crucial to successful QSOs. K2SD downloaded a tracking program from a local BBS for Roger. Then N4ZC began to look at the various footprints which were possible during his six daily passes. And like all DXers everywhere, the idea of working a variety of countries became enough of a challenge that Roger began to pursue it actively.

Part of the challenge became informing people of the possibilities. Remember, RS-12 was launched in 1991. Roger encountered people fully two years later who didn't even know what the RS-12 satellite was—let alone what it could do. And he was learning some of the possibilities himself. In short, as he tells it, he was excited by those possibilities.

"If I found someone who could be within the footprint, I would explain the satellite to him, tell him the times to be on, tell him which way to point his antenna. The tracking program I use gives me what's called a "mutual window" display—which tells you when the satellite is above your horizon as well as the DX station's horizon. And I would work people on the bands, look at the program and the footprint, and tell a guy to meet me between, say, 1755 and 1757 UTC. I'd explain we only have a two minute window, so make sure your clock's right. And give him the beam headings. And quite often, they'd show up. If my request to try this was within a short span of time—usually an hour or so, they'd do it. And I'd work a new country. Word began to spread, or people would hear me doing this on the air. And the pileups after my QSO on some of this guys would be tremendous. I know I talked operators at CY9, CY0, D44 and ZD7 into the first-ever satellite operations."

By talking stations into trying the satellite, Roger began to work more and more DX. People began to listen for him on the satellite. And to follow his progress. "I had worked my way into the 20s, in terms of my country count, and I began to wonder. I looked at the footprint; I looked at the DXCC list. Since I found I could actually work RS-12 over the horizon—out to minus three degrees—I counted everything up. There were 107 countries. But that includes Clipperton, Malpelo, Navassa—stuff that's just not going to be on the air."

"That's one operating technique. Another technique is to "skip your signal" into the satellite. It's passing over a DX location well below your horizon, and if the MUF is high enough, and remember, at this stage of the cycle, the MUF isn't going to get to 29 MHz very often? you have to access the satellite when line-of-sight geometry would indicate it can't be done. Running one watt output, with such a low MUF, makes this hard. Very hard. And there's another little catch-22 as well. Since the satellite is above the F layer, with the MUF too high, a low angle signal doesn't penetrate it at all—it bounces off the top. Then I found that on the Eastern end of the path, if you try to work it when the MUF is falling over there, someone in Europe or Africa has a line-of-sight path to the satellite. The MUF doesn't really matter. So if you work late in the day, say within a couple of hours of

their sunset, the MUF has dropped enough so the ground signal goes through the F layer and hits the satellite. Comes back down through the F layer, but the next time it comes up, it bounces off the bottom of the F layer, into the US. The geometry of the satellite's path is such that it's only going to be in place at the right time of day to work Europe every three months. It's a very short window. It's not direct, but it's advantageous to working Europe. The geometry allows the signals to make it to the satellite, and back down."

Like all good DXers, Roger learned this technique because he spent a lot of time listening. Being retired, he had time to listen to almost any pass, from 7 AM to midnight. His observations enabled him to determine just what he needed to do to work certain areas of the world, especially when the satellite was below the horizon. And as a dedicated hf DXer, Roger knew enough about propagation to understand how and when to use this knowledge of "extra coverage" to his advantage. Once he knew he could work stations below the horizon, he listened (and called CQ) on every one of those passes when they occurred. And as a dedicated hf contester, his station (with towers and monobanders, along with two separate radios) enabled him to capitalize on his research.

Another technique Roger developed was to say "Now listening on 15 meters" at the end of each pass he operated. "This is where having that second radio really paid off. People would often call me on my transmit frequency then, and I'd explain the satellite to them. Sometimes I'd make a convert—someone who'd try to work me later—on the satellite."

"When I reached the 80 country mark, I began to tell myself it was really possible. I began to believe I could actually make DXCC on RS-12. My PR work was paying off. I worked an OX station—he called me—who told me he'd been watching for me because he'd read about what I was doing in the Danish national ham magazine. The story had gotten in there through some correspondence I'd had. JW8GV called me on the phone to ask me if I needed Svalbard. I said yes, and proceeded to pass him all the relevant data needed for our mutual window. I was impressed he wanted to try it. Our mutual window was 47 seconds long. And happened to fall just after midnight here, local time. So I got up, made the sked, and went back to bed. Then the phone rang. It was JW8GV. He was more excited than I was. And my knowing Spanish helped me explain the RS-12 working situation to both CP and XF4 stations. Without it, I really don't think I'd have worked those countries. And the XF4 was my 100th country."

At the end of the 1993, Roger emerged the clear winner in the CDXA's club competition, with 2074 band countries. In pure DXCC terms, he had worked 293 countries. And in terms of RS-12, he has now worked 115 countries, submitting 105 QSLs for his award.

In terms of new DXCC territory, Roger was surprised and intrigued with RS-12. "A lot of people don't feel RS-12 is a real satellite. It's not VHF or UHF. The possibility of skip exists. But there are certainly real operating challenges facing anyone who wants to get on. Working 100 countries was pretty challenging. I'm glad I did it."

Roger still listens—from time to time. He follows the progress of other stations. "KIFX, CTIEEB, EAIAUS, and D44BS have worked 100 countries, but don't have all their cards yet. There will be others earning DXCC. I just happened to get there first."

Written by Don, WZ3Q



# CDXA Membership list as of March 1, 1995

Call	Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Phone #
AA4AM	Joel Stacks	1138 Princeton Drive	Rock Hill	SC	29730	803-324-4944
AA4PQ	L.A. Simpson	3306 Old Charlotte Hy	Monroe	NC	28110	704-283-1593
AA4R	Bill Parris	16741 "100" Norman Pl.	Huntersville	NC	28078	704-892-4081
AA4S	Ron Bailey	420 Community Road	Shelby	NC	28152	704-487-0337
AA4SQ	Charlie McSwain	1708 Woodlea Road	Charlotte	NC	28214	704-392-5056
AA4V	Steve Reichlyn	4710 Meadowood Road	Columbia	SC	29206	803-762-8169
AA4VK	Ron Oates	9908 Waterview Rd.	Raleigh	NC	27615	919-847-3279
AA4ZZ	Paul Trotter	9128-G Nolley Ct.	Charlotte	NC	28270	NA
AB4BI	Karl Boxer	1000 West Morehead St.	Charlotte	NC	28208	704-372-2765
AB4ON	Bob Sidi	15929 Bayshore Dr.	Huntersville	NC	28078	704-875-2292
AB4UX	Isabelle Ledford	PO Box 826	Cooleemee	NC	27014	704-284-2414
AB4VV	Sonny Peeler	421 N. Salisbury Ave.	Salisbury	NC	28146	704-279-2773
AB4WD	David Valk	6215 Quiet Water Place	Charlotte	NC	28214	704-393-8089
AB4ZD	Bob Dalton	5049 Patillo Ch. Road	Burlington	NC	27217	910-421-9936
AB4ZM	Jim Brown	6534 Bakers View Drive	Vale	NC	28168	704-462-1628
AD4MQ	Jerry Hagan	201 Pat Stough Lane	Davidson	NC	28036	704-896-1723
AE4AT	David Leonard	740 Charter Place	Charlotte	NC	28211	704-365-4756
AG4L	Bruce Gragg	1544 Fox Dairy Road	Newton	NC	28658	704-465-3715
AK1E	Dan Morehouse	618 Leander Street	Shelby	NC	28152	704-482-6280
AK4N	Grady Robinson	902 Forest Drive	Lancaster	SC	29720	803-283-8298
K0SD	Stephen Budensiek	225 Beulah Lane	Salisbury	NC	28146	704-279-1460
K2SD	Scott Douglass	2440 Williams Road	Mathews	NC	28105	704-847-8320
K4BVQ	Frank Dowd	623 Lester Davis Road	Waxhaw	NC	28173	704-843-5968
K4CEB	Larry Sossoman	4383 Ponderosa Lane	Concord	NC	28025	704-782-2245
K4DFW	Bob Patton	2548 Aspen Terrace	Rock Hill	SC	29732	803-366-5500
K4DGJ	Sam Hawes	308 Minden Lane	Mathews	NC	28105	704-847-2355
K4DJ	Richard Moser	510 Third Ave Dr. SE	Hickory	NC	28602	704-324-7423
K4DY	Les Murphy	PO Box 626	Hickory	NC	28603	704-324-8111
K4EMN	Tony Elia	3520 Lakeview Drive	Prafftown	NC	27040	919-922-1790
K4HJE	E.V. Hicks	1467 Spring Hill Circle	Kernersville	NC	27284	919-996-5081
K4IGB	Walter Lockhart, III	3418 Foxridge Road	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-543-9344
K4JO	Ellicott Valentine	4495 Bashavia Wayside	Prafftown	NC	27040	919-924-1323

Call	Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Phone #
K4MQG	Gary Dixon	1606 Crescent Ridge	Fort Mill	SC	29715	803-547-7450
K4NYV	Lynn Pendleton	3617 Country Cove Lane	Raleigh	NC	27606	919-829-9449
K4PB	Alan Harp	8113 Belgium Dr.	Raleigh	NC	27606	919-362-8911
K4QO	Douglas Sanders	710 Hamlet Hwy	Bennettsville	SC	29512	803-479-0334
K4SE	Bob May	PO Box 453	Jonesboro	TN	37659	615-753-3662
K4SFI	Bob Reed	426 Boyce Road	Charlotte	NC	28211	704-366-5082
K4YYL	Art Balz	PO Box 6762	Greenville	SC	29606	803-244-4850
K8SL	Rolf Andersson	2836 Mattlyn Ct.	Raleigh	NC	27613	919-848-4033
KB2LH	William Turner	4000 Horseshoe Bend	Mathews	NC	28105	704-846-5499
KC4DBY	Nobby Mills	132 Sunset View Lane	Statesville	NC	28677	704-528-5013
KC4EDY	Bruse Lambert	2001 Killamey Place	Charlotte	NC	28262	
KC4YM	Claude Oakes	410 Cherryville Rd.	Shelby	NC	28150	704-480-0050
KC4YOM	Jack Guion	817 Lynbrook Drive	Charlotte	NC	28211	704-365-3061
KD4IL	Bill Taylor	214 Pelham Lane	Fort Mill	SC	29715	803-548-0908
KD4OM	Jim Morris	Rt. 1 Box 313	Granite Falls	NC	28630	704-495-8934
KD4RH	Gary Bader	PO Box 6212	Florence	SC	29502	803-667-6160
KD4UC	Gordon Plyler	P.O. BOX 848	Monroe	NC	28111	704-289-3453
KE4EW	Dave Immel	5618 Davis Rd.	Waxhaw	NC	28173	
KF2X	Craig England	PO Box 2243	Florence	SC	29503	803-736-1336
KF4HK	Jim Miller	11600 Hilda Court	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-542-6162
KF4NO	Robert Denton	5618 Cherrycree Lane	Charlotte	NC	28217	704-525-9297
KI4HN	Jim Stevens	16225 Leeward Lane	Huntersville	NC	28078	704-875-9642
KI4TZ	Joe Barkley	10101 Hat Field Drive	Charlotte	NC	28278	704-588-9890
KI4UD	Nestor Ravenna	7108 Potter Rd.	Mathews	NC	28105	704-821-8418
KI4YV	R.V. Southworth	142 MeadowCreek Lane	Mooreville	NC	28115	704-663-3135
KJ4TI	Wayne Rallis	334 S. Academy St.	Mooreville	NC	28115	704-663-4751
KN4CC	Steve Freeman	831 Wingrave Drive	Charlotte	NC	28270	704-366-6537
KN4FO	Larry Jones	10110 Pioneer Mill Rd.	Concord	NC	28025	704-455-9650
KO4GU	Tim Creech	8526 Dogwood Drive	Charlotte	NC	28215	704-536-4217
KO4KC	Ken Cannaday	1929 Ewing Avenue	Charlotte	NC	28203	704-372-8551
KR4PG	Larry Castner	PO Box 248	Waxhaw	NC	28173	704-843-5009
KR4RW	Bill McKay	617 Edgewater Dr.	Belmont	NC	28012	704-825-8094
KS4S	Nyles McKeithan	1308 N. Pine St.	Lumberton	NC	28358	910-738-1644
KU4V	Wayne Starnes	701 Channing Circle	Concord	NC	28027	704-782-5354
N4APR	Ray Weeks	3025 Cutchin Drive	Charlotte	NC	28210	704-553-0112

Call	Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Phone #
N4AXT	Hugh Campbell	1409 Cambridge Ave.	Gastonia	NC	28052	704-864-4844
N4AYO	Mike Jackson	2568 Devon Dr.	Dallas	NC	28034	704-922-3593
N4BIG	Ervin Jackson	819 Museum Drive	Charlotte	NC	28207	704-375-6565
N4HIM	Joseph Yarborough	716N Maple St.	Pageland	SC	29728	803-672-7613
N4IYB	Terry Scaia	8510 Glenway Ct.	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-542-1028
N4JEV	Larry Ross	7148 Pitchfork Lane	Mint Hill	NC	28227	704-545-9775
N4JJ	Jack Jackson	P.O. Box 12612	Florence	SC	29504	803-669-1416
N4LUF	Carlton Grainger	652 Kenwood Lane	Rock Hill	SC	29730	803-329-0837
N4MZL	Buddy Teague	2719 Old Pardue Road	Lancaster	SC	29720	803-286-5299
N4PQX	Bob Burton	851 Brockbank Rd.	Charlotte	NC	28209	704-522-0332
N4PRV	Bill Cash	PO Box 6115	Gastonia	NC	28056	704-866-8618
N4QOG	L. E. Fairey	408 Centeridge Dr.	Columbia	SC	29223	803-788-8061
N4RTE	John Cannon	2985 Woodstream Drive	Valdese	NC	28690	704-433-1720
N4SU	Dave Kennedy	Rt. 3 Box 100	King	NC	27021	
N4SZ	Stephen Foster	102 Wedgewood Dr.	Anderson	SC	29621	
N4UFP	Marc Tarplee	534 Coronet Circle	Fort Mill	SC	29715	
N4UH	Henry Elwell	Rt. 2 Box 20 G	Cleveland	NC	27013	704-278-4423
N4UOV	Jim Bishop	108 Creek Valley Drive	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-365-6823
N4VLQ	Marc Suttle	2402 Caron Drive	Waxhaw	NC	28173	704-843-1417
N4WMB	Mack Shannon	PO Box 278	Lancaster	SC	29721	803-285-6357
N4YGY	Chris Penick	PO Box 1926	Boone	NC	28607	704-264-7557
N4ZC	Roger Burt	2421 Old NC 27	Mount Holly	NC	28120	704-263-1133
N4ZX	John Lambert	4805 Sentinel Post Rd.	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-542-0633
N4ZXW	Steve Carpenter	156 Highland Woods Rd.	Wadesboro	NC	28170	704-694-7588
NT4O	Mike Wood	PO Box 1979	Wake Forest	NC	27588	919-556-7940
NU5A	Theo Bellamy	3532 Sandy Porter Road	Charlotte	NC	28273	704-588-1901
W0ZV	Bill Tippet	PO Box 99536	Raleigh	NC	27624	919-494-7743
W1VKQ	John Kenney	107 Foxwood Dr.	Hendersonville	NC	28739	704-697-0141
W1WW	George Felber	1414 Farmstead Road	Rock Hill	SC	29732	803-366-3556
W4BZ	William A. Culpepper	900 Jefferson Drive	Charlotte	NC	28270	704-365-9995
W4CZU	Bud Brown	PO Box 447	Taylorsville	NC	28681	704-632-4828
W4DOU	Ross Sigmon	BOX 70	Glendale Springs	NC	28629	919-982-3566
W4FHI	Reagan Rowe	PO Box 33609	Charlotte	NC	28233	704-366-3058
W4HG	Wayne Ashworth	160 Bass Run	Salisbury	NC	28146	704-633-9330
W4HQF	Donald Voigt	PO Box 72	Dallas	NC	28034	704-922-3772

Call	Name	Address	City	State	ZIP	Phone #
W4MBD	Bob McNeil II	PO Box 843	Morehead City	NC	28557	919-726-7711
W4MDD	William Hutchison	73 Robinhood Circle	WinstonSalem	NC	27106	919 924 6781
W4MHF	Robert Darke	500 Lenoir Rd. Apt. 305	Morganton	NC	28655	704-437-9934
W4MPY	Wayne Carroll	682 Mt. Pleasant Rd.	Monetta	SC	29105	803-685-7264
W4PVT	Mac W. Wood Jr.	6424 Farmingdale Dr.	Charlotte	NC	28212	704-537-7067
W4UNP	Bill Jennings	630 Whitepine Dr.	Catawba	SC	29704	803-329-9095
W4UW	Richard Genaille	719 Quarterstaff Rd.	WinstonSalem	NC	27104	919-765-4697
W4WIT	Bernard Smith	5900 Masters Court	Charlotte	NC	28226	
W4WMQ	Murphy Ratterree	264 Wayland Drive	Rock Hill	SC	29732	803-366-9057
W4ZQB	Al Guin	3301 Woodwardia Dr.	Charlotte	NC	28210	704-554-7315
W5VWN	Clifford Wagoner	9108 Chimney Ridge Trail	Charlotte	NC	28269	704-598-5373
W6NWS	Larry Knain	4917 Yates Mill Pond Rd.	Raleigh	NC	27606	919-851-8839
WA4EQM	Mike Smith	7725 Hedrick Circle	Huntersville	NC	28078	704-393-5826
WA4JPT	David Millsaps	37 38th Ave. NW	Hickory	NC	28601	704-327-9999
WA4OBO	Ken Winston	3900 Brinton Place	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-542-6294
WA4PLR	Pete Eldridge	220 Pinewood Lane	Rock Hill	SC	29730	803-327-9284
WA4SSI	Bob Cranford	1369 Little Valley Lane	Lincolnton	NC	28092	704-735-0903
WA4SWY	Larry Standley	5413 Guida Drive	Greensboro	NC	27410	919-855-7095
WA4UNZ	Ken Boyd	6733 Cedar Springs R d.	Charlotte	NC	28212	704-567-9733
WA4UUP	Skip Richardson	6224 Glenridge Rd.	Charlotte	NC	28211	704-364-4750
WA4VCC	Ted Goldthorpe	209 Swamp Fox Drive	Fort Mill	SC	29715	803-547-6980
WA4VKW	Kim Hinceman	2300 Murray Mack Road	Fort Mill	SC	29715	803-547-6156
WA4ZXA	Jimmy Floyd	133 Lackwood Circle	Thomasville	NC	27360	704-475-6935
WA8EHD	Rick Kourey	4401 Asherton Drive	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-541-1663
WB2LEI	Jerry Malin	709 Madras Lane	Charlotte	NC	28211	704-364-1635
WB4IJT	Ann Lockhart	3418 Foxridge Rd.	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-543-9344
WB4IUX	Tom Skelton	105 College HTs. Blvd	Clemson	SC	29631	803-653-8801
WB4WTC	Roger Webb	PO Box 812	Mr. Holly	NC	28120	
WB4WVV	Mark Pearson	8326 Brynmar Drive	Charlotte	NC	28270	704-366-9195
WD0FQA	Donald Negus	2751 Creekbbed Lane	Charlotte	NC	28210	704-554-0799
WD4PDZ	David Purifoy	PO Box 3437	Newbern	NC	28564	919-633-4708
WD4R	Joe Simpkins	2400 Flintwood Lane	Charlotte	NC	28226	704-365-8492
WF2G	William Thomas	652 Shortspoon Circle	Rocky Mount	NC	27804	919-442-6131
WN4BBJ	John Covington	P.O. Box 217122	Charlotte	NC	28221	704-537-7653
WZ3Q	Don Daso	1260 College Avenue	Wilkesboro	NC	28697	

# The BV / WB4IUX micro-Expedition

What started out as a simple business trip to Taiwan to hold a training class turned into a brief but memorable opportunity to operate from "the other side" again. I've always believed that you should squeeze every bit of enjoyment out of life at every possible moment, so I daringly sent a fax to the Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League with a copy of my license and a request for permission to operate (kudos to John Hennessee, KJ4KB, Regulatory Information Specialist at AML HQ, for the suggestion and fax #). The very next day I received a fax back from Dr. Bolon Lin/ BV5AF, President of the CTARL, stating: " I confirm receiving your Fax msgs of 3 pages just now. You are welcome to work ham radio in Taiwan at any BV stn, your callsign in Taiwan should be 'BV/WB4IUX'." YES !!!!!!! Following were the callsigns and phone/fax numbers of ten members of the CTARL, along with instructions to contact one of them when I arrived in Taipei. I immediately recognized the call of BV2TA, as he was my first BV confirmed on 40 meters and so a FAX went out to him very shortly. Through several FAX'es and countless schedule changes, I finally had my trip dates confirmed: I would leave the USA the Sunday after Thanksgiving, arrive Taipei Monday, meet BV2TA/Tony and operate from his station Tuesday evening (Tuesday morning East Coast time), and return home Thursday.

Words can't describe the flight time from Greenville, S. C., to Taipei, Taiwan. It didn't help that I was up the entire night finishing my presentation, stuff around the house, mail, packing, etc. When I finally left the house at 4:00 a.m. after kissing my wife and children good-bye, I stopped by the office to print a final copy of my presentation.

During the flight out of Portland to Taipei, I kept an eye on the monitors in the cabin and noted we were venturing over what I thought was Eastern Siberia and the Kamchatka Peninsula. As the headwinds were in excess of 150 m.p.h., I could only assume the pilots were trying to find a more fuel - efficient route. I had uneasy memories of the KAL flight many years ago, and promptly ordered another drink!

Taipei, finally, after 22 hours and another unending hour ride to the hotel. My class went fine, I was glad to get it done with, and I was looking forward to meeting BV2TA/Tony that evening. He had graciously promised to pick me up in the lobby of my hotel, take me to his home, allow me to operate his station, and bring me back to my hotel. An uneasy thought finally occurred to me as I rode the elevator to the lobby: How would I recognize my host? NO PROBLEMO: Tony was wearing his official BV2TA baseball cap! We exchanged greetings and Tony escorted me to his car where BV2DQ/Randson was waiting as our "designated driver."

In a few minutes I was being led into Tony's downtown Taipei apartment, we slipped off our shoes and eased into some slippers, I met his wife, and then we slipped off to the radio room. Surely I had died and gone to heaven! There, in front of me, were two transceivers (FT-990 and TS-940S) and on the roof were a 3 element tribander with a 40 meter extension and an all-band B&W dipole. I was very anxious to try 80 and 40 meters as I knew the gray-line was moving quickly. It was already a few minutes past sunrise in the Southeast. While I was firing up the radio and getting used to his keyer, Tony brought in some Taiwanese tea and pound cake. Now this guy knows how to be a great host!

I started on 80 meters with Tony's FT990 and B&W dipole at about 12:15 GMT — nothing, nil, nada, ZILCHO! Dead. I QSY'ed to 40 and in the next hour squeezed 3 JA's into the log. Hmmm...something is wrong. I remembered what a great signal Tony had on 40 meters 2 years ago, so I suggested we try the tribander with 40 meter dipole. WOW! The band comes to life but it is now 13:44 GMT. Since I had missed the chance to make any QSO's on 80, I thought I'd try 20 meters and hand out a new one to the Deserving. Nope! The solar storm that made CQWW so miserable was very much still trashing the bands. I heard 1 VK and 1 HS on 20 meters. So, it was back to 40 meters and a very nice opening to the Central and Western USA. Some notable calls that found their way into my log included W0UN, N6AW (30 dB over nine on 40 meters — scared the pants off me when he called!), K6RA, W6TSQ and 9VIYC. I had a total blast just working whomever answered my CQ on 7.009 Mhz. I signed off with James/9VIYC around 15:00 GMT and told Tony that I didn't want to keep him and his family up any longer if he wanted to take me back to the hotel (it was 11:00 pm local time and Tony has 2 school-age sons).

We spent a few minutes looking over Tony's wallpaper, and it is impressive! He is a very good CW operator, and has numerous DXCC, USACA, WPX, KCJ, etc., awards. Before leaving, I commented to Tony how much I enjoyed the Taiwanese tea and so he insisted I take a container home with me! Again, what a host...

When we got back to the hotel, I invited Tony and Randson back to my hotel room to show them some pictures of my own shack, antennas and family. As they were leaving the lobby, I wondered if it was all worth it. I flew 22 hours to make a 1 day presentation, I made a pauly 23 QSO's on 40 meters, I was staying over one more day and then leaving for another 22 hour series of flights to get home. Business - wise, the trip was a necessity and the benefits have already been realized. Personally, I don't think I could have been any luckier to have met 2 such wonderful hams as BV2TA and BV2DQ, and to have learned so much from Tony/BV2TA as to the true meaning of "ham hospitality." Thanks for the lesson, Tony,

Tom Skelton, WB4IUX 105 College Heights Blvd. Clemson, S. C. 29631



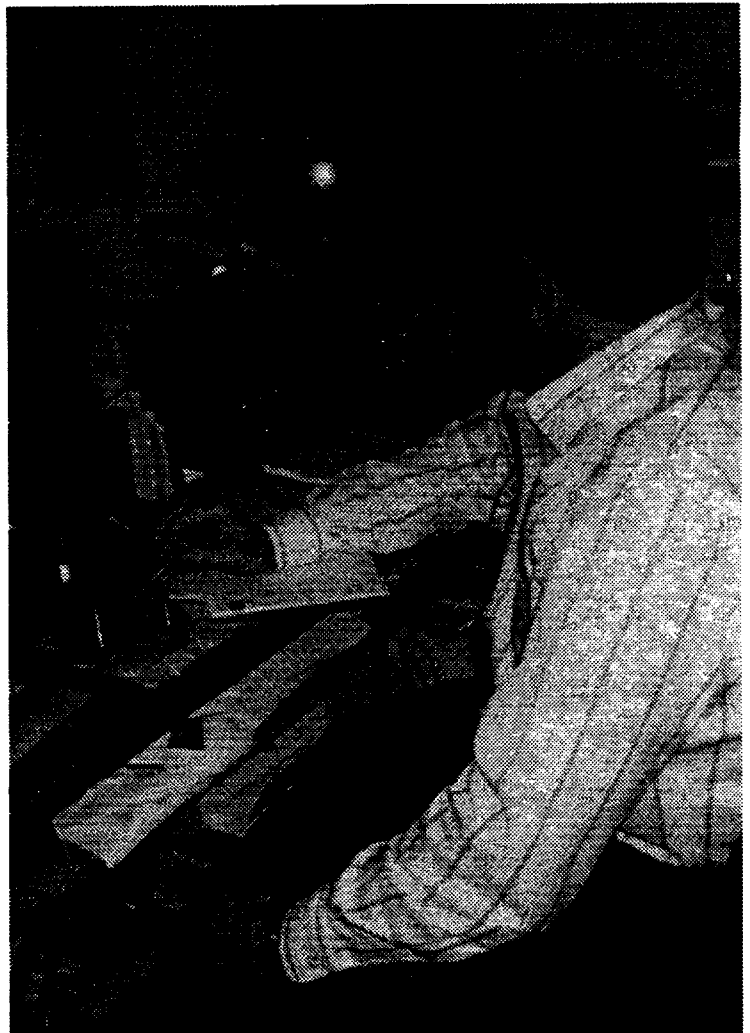
WB4IUX

Photo By  
BV2DQ



BV2TA

Working the pile-up on 40 CW!  
Photo by BV2TA



# Guide to CDXA Packet Node connections

The CDXA provides two DX packetcluster nodes with a wealth of DX information such as DX spots, callbook info, W6GO QSL MGR list, DX bulletins, and many other things of interest to the DXER. Both nodes are linked together and provide the exact same DX information. Please connect to your nearest node. In general, those users in SC and south of I-85 in NC should connect to **WD4R** in S.E. Charlotte, on **144.91 MHZ**.

Those users in NC, north of I-85, should connect to **N4ZC** in Stanley on **144.93 MHZ**. Users in northern NC can connect to **N4ZC** by first connecting to **DXYNG**. Once you get a connect line back from **DXYNG** you connect to **N4ZC**. **DXYNG** is located mid way between Statesville and Salisbury on Young Mt ( See SE PacketCluster map in this Pileup edition).

Please remember to use the high power setting on your 2 meter radio. Please call **WD4R** or **N4ZC** on the telephone if there are any problems. We will be happy to work with you to solve any problems.

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**Pileup/CDXA**  
**PO Box 232**  
**Fort Mill, SC 29715**

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