

The Eastern Iowa DXer

The Official Newsletter of the
Eastern Iowa DX Association



An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League



January 2005

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Vice President:	Tom Hauer, K0YA	147.51, 144.91, 223.40, CRNETROM	
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From the President

Gary, K0GT
President, EIDXA

As I write this the reports of death and destruction from the earthquake and resulting tsunamis are being broadcast everywhere. These are trying times. As if poor propagation is not enough to make working VU4, this natural disaster interrupts. The upside may be that the government may recognize the contributions of the operators being on site to provide emergency communications. This exposure might even lead to licensed residents in the future. I hope that members that need this one for an all-time new one were able to get through before the earthquake.

The next big operation to look forward to is Peter 1. Bring your success stories to the January meeting. Something to be thinking about for discussion at the meeting is a group or committee for help with antenna and tower projects. Antenna parties can be a lot of fun and be of

service to those that need assistance. Bring your ideas and I will see you there.

73's
Gary, K0GT

Editor's Corner

By Tom K0YA
Vice President, EIDXA

I know that all of us are having a difficult time comprehending the magnitude of the disaster caused by the Tsunamis in the Indian Ocean. I cannot imagine over 150,000 dead! I agree with Gary in hoping that the contribution by Amateur Radio to this disaster is recognized. I also hope there is not a single Amateur Radio operator who is disappointed that he could not work VU4 as a result of the disaster. Rather, I hope that all Amateur Radio operators are trying to do whatever they can to help out in this unbelievable situation.

If you want to look to people who exemplify the values and ideals that we should all look up to look at Carol

Bellamy, the Executive Director of UNICEF. As she has done for the ten years she has led the organization, she is again personally trying to do everything she can to prevent the exploitation of those unfortunate children who were orphaned by the Tsunamis. She is but one of, I am sure, many people who have put the welfare of others above their own safety and security. Pray for all of them as they work to help those that survived recover from this terrible disaster.

On the home front, a little snow is insignificant in comparison! But, there are still plenty of opportunities for all of us to help our community and our hobby.

The FCC is very active in issues that may have an impact on the future of Amateur Radio. As Wade mentions in his column there is still much to do in the battle to ensure BPL does not interfere with licensed services. Our local BPL Steering Committee continues to work with Congressman Leach in an attempt to impact the FCC process and decisions with respect to BPL.

There is much more going on that could influence the future of Amateur Radio as well. Spectrum reassignments are ongoing in the movement away from analog TV to HDTV in order to provide additional spectrum for cellular systems and other high bandwidth data applications including WiFi, WiMax, UWB and other new and evolving services. Discussion continues on the potential to increase the allowable noise temperature in the spectrum, some of which includes amateur frequencies. This is not a time for complacency, but a time for diligence in understanding the changes and in working to ensure that they do not have a negative impact on our hobby.

I hope that every member of our organization will participate in some level

in the ongoing effort to protect our spectrum in order to ensure the future of our hobby and in helping in some way in the community to keep focus on the valuable asset that we all can be to the community and to the world as Amateur Radio Operators.

Oh, and I guess you are all wondering about the repeater survey and what we are going to do about the performance issues with the repeater. Well, while I was disappointed in the number of responses I received to the survey, I was encouraged to see that those who did respond were overwhelmingly in favor of keeping the repeater operating and getting it fixed. There was, however, a clear concern over the cost of repairing the repeater. Say thanks to Al Groff, KOVM, as he comes to the rescue!!! Join us at the club meeting on the 21st and learn what Al has as a proposal to get the repeater back up the level of performance we would all like to see! He will be at the meeting and will present a plan for our consideration.

73's

Tom, K0YA

Thoughts from the Director

By Wade Walstrom W0EJ
Director, ARRL Midwest Division

It is another January so another EIDX meeting and ARRL Board of Directors meeting must be around the corner. As seems to have been the case for the past several years, both meetings coincide so I will not be attending the EIDX meeting again this year.

Amateur Radio has enjoyed some very positive publicity as a result of relief efforts following the recent tsunami in Southeast Asia. I had been unable to work the VU4 expedition so far and had

hoped to give it a try over the Christmas break. When the tsunami hit, the DXpedition crew was pressed into service providing communications during the disaster aftermath, what Amateur Radio does best. Bravo!

The Board of Directors look will be a bit different, as it does each January. We will have a brand new director from the Southwestern Division and the vice director from the Rocky Mountain Division moved up to the director "front row". There are also 2 new vice directors, again from the Southwestern and Rocky Mountain Divisions. It is interesting to note that the new Rocky Mountain vice director is the youngest person to ever serve as either director or vice director. That is an encouraging sign.

BPL will be the usual hot topic again at this meeting. The FCC continues to make outlandish pronouncements about the compatibility of BPL with Amateur Radio, all of which are untrue, but they keep trying to sell the concept at the expense of the Amateur Radio Service. It is interesting to note that in its BPL R&O, the FCC acknowledged that BPL causes harmful interference when it set up blocks of spectrum and "quiet areas" where BPL systems could not be deployed so other services would not be bothered by the interference. The FCC does not seem to care about Amateur Radio anymore and is content to let it blow away with the effects of BPL harmful interference. I am concerned that ARRL seems to have lost its way in maintaining the attack on BPL. It is my sincere hope that this will be changed at the Board Meeting.

The Board will also be briefed on the latest bandwidth proposal. Recall that the entire membership had the opportunity to review and comment on the proposal in the fall. What the Board will see will include the changes that

resulted during the public comment. We want to get the latest proposal out to the membership again before submitting it to the FCC. Time frame for submitting this proposal to the FCC is just after the Commission releases its R&O of the license restructuring plan, probably late spring or late summer.

The Board will also hear about the new ARES national network that has been established around Winlink 2000. A lot of misinformation has been distributed about this system and we hope to help a few directors sort the issues out. This should be an interesting discussion in light of role of Winlink 2000 in the tsunami relief efforts.

I hope to learn the progress being made in selecting a new Chief Operating Officer to replace Mark Wilson who retired. There has been quite a bit of interest in that position from many on the ARRL staff.

At home our efforts at preventing more distribution of BPL seem to have diminished greatly. We still have an opportunity to have Congressman Leach forward our own questions on BPL directly to the FCC. Our local group has been unable to reconvene to draft the questions in the form of a letter for the Congressman to send directly to the FCC. There are plenty of questions that we must ask, but we have just not gotten them down on paper yet.

I am trying to get my DXCC cards ready for submittal to update my band and mode DXCC awards and I should have enough cards to qualify for the 1500 medallion to attach to my DXCC Challenge plaque. These will be in my suitcase when I go to Newington/Hartford.

My thanks to the many who helped installing the TH7-DXX on the top of my tower this fall. A problem with the rotator control slowed things up further, but that has been remedied, but the bands have not been that great. I have been able to get a few more countries on 24 MHz and 10 MHz, but have not cleared the magic 100 count yet on either band. The 87A works very nicely on the WARC bands into the Cushcraft tribander for those same bands.

By the way the 2005 Dayton Hamvention will host the ARRL National Convention. We are looking at some different approaches to try to interest more members in different aspects of Amateur Radio, not to mention also get more people interested in Amateur Radio.

Sorry I will be unable to get to the EIDX meeting. Hopefully the spring meeting will work.

All the best in 2005!

73's
Wade, W0EJ

The Accidental DXpedition

From K0HB
Submitted by K0GT

There was this DXer, who in the valley of the sunspot cycle, decided to take a cruise ship trip in the south Pacific for the first time. It was wonderful, the experience of his life. He was being waited on hand and foot. But, it did not last. A typhoon came up unexpectedly. The ship was blown onto some uncharted reef and sank almost immediately.

The man found himself, he knew not how, swept up on the shore of an island.

There was nothing else anywhere to be seen. No person, no supplies, nothing. The man looked around. There were some bananas and coconuts, but that was it. He was desperate, and forlorn, but decided to make the best of it. So for the next four months he ate bananas, drank coconut juice and mostly looked to the sea mightily for a ship to come to his rescue.

One day, as he was lying on the beach stroking his beard and looking for a ship, he spotted movement out of the corner of his eye. Could it be true, was it a ship? No, from around the corner of the island came this rowboat. In it was the most gorgeous woman he had ever seen, or at least seen in 4 months. She was tall, tanned, and her blond hair flowing in the sea breeze gave her an almost ethereal quality. She spotted him also as he was waving and yelling and screaming to get her attention. She rowed her boat towards him.

In disbelief, he asked, "Where did you come from? How did you get here"?

She said, "I rowed from the other side of the island. I landed on this island when my cruise ship sank"

"Amazing", he said, "I didn't know anyone else had survived. How many of you are there? Where, did you get the rowboat? You must have been really lucky to have a rowboat wash-up with you?"

"It is only me", she said, "and the rowboat didn't wash up, nothing else did."

"Well then", said the man, "how did you get the rowboat?"

"I made the rowboat out of raw material that I found on the island", replied the woman. "The oars were whittled from Gum tree branches, I wove the bottom from Palm branches, and the sides and stern came from a Eucalyptus tree".

"But, but, asked the man, what about tools and hardware, how did you do that?"

"Oh, no problem, replied the woman, on the south side of the island there is a very unusual strata of alluvial rock exposed. I found that If I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forgeable ductile iron. I used that for tools, and used the tools to make the hardware. But, enough of that, she said. Where do you live?"

At last the man was forced to confess that he had been sleeping on the beach. "Well, let's row over to my place, she said." So they both got into the rowboat and left for her side of island.

The woman easily rowed them around to a wharf that led to the approach to her place. She tied up the rowboat with a beautifully woven hemp rope. They walked up a stone walk and around a Palm tree, there stood an exquisite bungalow painted in blue and white.

"It's not much, she said, but I call it home. Sit down please, would you like to have a drink?" "No, said the man, one more coconut juice and I will puke."

"It won't be coconut juice, the woman replied, I have a still, how about a Pina Colada?"

Trying to hide his continued amazement, the man accepted, and they sat down

on her couch to talk.

After a while, and they had exchanged their stories, the woman asked, "Tell me, have you always had a beard?" "No", the man replied, "I was clean shaven all of my life, and even on the cruise ship". "Well if you would like to shave, there is a man's razor upstairs in the cabinet in the bathroom." So, the man, no longer questioning anything, went upstairs to the bath room. There in the cabinet was a razor made from a bone handle, two shells honed to a hollow ground edge were fastened on to its end inside of a swivel mechanism. The man shaved, showered and went back down stairs..

"You look great, said the woman, I think I will go up and slip into something more comfortable." So she did.

And, the man continued to sip his Pina Colada. After a short time, the woman returned wearing fig leafs strategically positioned and smelling faintly of gardenia.

"Tell me, she asked, we have both been out here for a very long time with no companionship. You know what I mean. Have you been lonely, is there anything that you really miss? Something that all men and woman need. Something that it would be really nice to have right now."

"Yes there is, the man replied, as he moved closer to the woman while fixing a winsome gaze upon her, "Tell me ... Do you happen to have a 20-meter rig around. This place HAS to be a New One for DXCC!"

[Currently Active Operations as reported at <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxod.html>]

DXCC Entity	Call	Start Date	End Date	QSL via	Reported by	Info
Acension Island	ZD8ZA	2005 Jan03	2005 Jan07	G3ZAY	425DXN 20041120	By G3ZAY fm AF-003; requested callsign
Afghanistan	YA7X	2004 Dec07	2005 Jan05	DL1JJI	425DXN 20041204	By DL2JRM
Angola	D2AA	2005 Jan31	2005 Feb07	TBA	LB8CA 20041213	By LA9IAA fm Ilha de Luanda; 160 80 40 30m; mainly CW; fm Dec 20 QRV daily as LA9IAA/MM, 130 mi NW of Luanda (7014 kHz)
Aruba	P40X NEW	2005 Jan03	2005 Jan11	W0YK	425DXN 20050101	By W0YK fm SA-036; low HF + WARC; CW; QRV for ARRL RTTY Roundup
Azores	CU7	2004 Dec27	2005 Jan03		DXMB 20041223	By DL5AXX as CU7/DL5AXX fm Faial (EU-175); low key operation with focus on CW looking for Asia in the evening
Bahamas	C6AWF	2005 Apr15	2005 Apr29	See Info	VA3RJ 20041114	By G4WFQ fm Treasure Cay, Abaco Is (NA-080); 80-10m; CW, RTTY, some SSB; QSL via G3SWH or LotW
Bangladesh	S2	2005 Feb04	2005 Feb07	EI3IO	425DXN 20041211	By S21AM EI3IO fm Bhola Is (AS-140); all HF bands; CW SSB; contacts will be uploaded to LotW
British Virgin Islands	VP2V NEW	2005 Jan26	2005 Feb05	W3HQ	W3HQ 20041230	By W3HQ fm Virgin Gorda; mainly evenings; E-mail sked requests OK until Jan 22; QRV for CQ 160m CW Contest
British Virgin Islands	VP2V NEW	2005 Feb22	2005 Mar09	DL7DF	DL7DF 20050103	By DL7DF DL7UFR DL4WK; All bands, focus on low bands; SSB CW RTTY PSK31 SSTV; 3 stns, at least 1 stn QRV 24 hrs/day
Cambodia	XU7	2005 Jan01	2005 Feb20		F5NQL 20041110	By ON6TZ as XU7POS, along with XU7AJV
Cambodia	XU7ACY	2005 Jan09	2005 Jan20	K2NJ	NO2R 20041023	By NO2R fm Sihanoukville; 160 80 40m; CW SSB
Canada	VE2	2005 Jan13	2005 Jan19	Home Call	VE3EY 20041116	By VE3JM VE3EY as VE2/homecall fm Sept Îles, PQ (Zone 2); focus on low bands; verts on 160 + 80m
Cayman Islands	ZF2PD	2004 Dec26	2005 Jan04	N2LM	425DXN 20041106	By N2LM fm Grand Cayman (NA-016); 80-10m; SSB RTTY
Crozet	FT_W	2005 Feb12	2005 Mar31	F5BU	F5NQL 20041221	By F5BU fm Possession Is (AF-008); check 14278 kHz; SSB; spare time operation
Djibouti	J20FH	2005 Jan01	2005 Apr19	F5PRU Buro	F5NQL 20041218	By F5PRU; 80-10m; CW SSB, perhaps digital; also QRV for REF contests, CW + SSB; spare time operation

Easter Island	3G0	2005 Jan08	2005 Jan18	LA6EIA	LB8CA 20041202	By LA team as 3G0YM (SSB) and 3G0YP (CW/Digital); QSL: Ole Forr, Frya, N-2647 Sor Fron, Norway or LA Buro
Fernando de Noronha	PY0ZFO	2005 Feb16	2005 Feb22	W9VA	W9VA 20041225	By W9VA; focus on WARC + 6m; QRV for ARRL DX CW as PY0FF
Fiji	3D2	2005 Jan01	2005 Jan07	Home Call	OPDX 20041220	By K6JAT KE6EHD as 3D2TJ and 3D2EG fm Matangi Is (OC-016); 40-10m; SSB; casual operation
French Guiana	TO7C	2005 Mar10	2005 Mar17	F9IE	F5NQL 20041015	By F6KOP + others fm Ile du Salut (SA-020)
Gibraltar	ZB2	2004 Dec29	2005 Jan04	Home Call	DXMB 20041223	By DL4WK DL7UFR DL7VEE as ZB2/homecall; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; 2 stations; QSL OK via DARC Buro
Glorioso	FR/g	2005 May15	2005 May30	F5CQ	GazDX 20041011	By F5OGL F5CW F5IRO F5PTM; dates tentative; subject to last minute change or cancellation
Guam	NH2	2005 Mar18	2005 Mar20	JH0MGJ	JH0MGJ 20041225	By JH0MGJ as AL5A/NH2; QSL OK via JARL Buro
Guantanamo Bay	KG4	2005 Jan18	2005 Jan25	See Info	OPDX 20041129	By N4BBA N4SIA as KG4SB (via N4BAA) and KG4AS (via N4SIA) + 2 other ops; 160-6m; CW RTTY Digital
Kerguelen	FT/x	2005 Mar15	2005 Apr02	TBA	N4GN 20040919	By an international team
Mauritania	5T5DY	2004 Dec26	2005 Jan09	F6GDC	425DXN 20041009	By F6GDC F6CQX F5SSM fm Nouakchott, Atar, and Tergit; F6GDC QRV for 3 days on Banc d'Arguin (AF-050) during 2d week
Mauritania	5T0CW	2005 Feb24	2005 Mar04	G3SWH	425DXN 20041218	By G3SWH G3RTE ON8RA ON5GA fm Nuachachott; 160-10m; CW only; at least 1 stn QRV 24hr/day; QSL OK via Buro, direct, or E-mail request for Buro
Mexico	XF1K NEW	2005 Jan10	2005 Jan13	N6AWD	425DXN 20050101	By N6VR NN6JV XE2Q XE2TG XE2UCT XE2DN XE2K fm Asuncion Is (NA-164); 80-6m; CW SSB; QRV for 72 hours fm 2300 UTC, Jan 10
Mexico	XF1K NEW	2005 Jan14	2005 Jan16	N6AWD	425DXN 20050101	By N6VR NN6JV XE2Q XE2TG XE2UCT XE2DN XE2K fm Santa Ines Is (NA-165); 80-6m; CW SSB; QRV for 48 hours fm 2000 UTC, Jan 14
Mexico	6F1IHF	2005 Feb06	2005 Feb13	See Info	OPDX 20041101	By XE team fm Ixtapa Is (NA-183); all HF bands; CW SSB; QSL: Porfirio Lomeli, P.O. BOX 7177, Morelia, Mich 58262, Mexico
Netherlands Antilles	PJ4	2005 Feb04	2005 Feb13	NE8Z	NE8Z 20041211	By NE8Z as PJ4/NE8Z fm Bonaire; focus on WARC + 6m, SSB CW
New Caledonia	FK	2005 Jan04	2005 Jan09		425DXN 20041218	By JA1KAJ fm OC-032; 80-10m; SSB CW RTTY SSTV

North Cook Islands	ZK1	2005 Feb17	2005 Feb24	M3SDE Direct	SM6WET 20041202	By ZK1WET ZK1XMY ZK1SDE ZK1SDZ fm Manihiki; 160-10m w/ focus on 20 17m; mainly SSB, but ZK1WET QRV in CW + RTTY; yagis for 20 17 10m + verts
Peru	OA4	2005 Feb22	2005 Mar05	SM1TDE	SM1TDE 20041113	By SM1TDEas SM1TDE/OA4 fm Lima; 80-10m; focus on CW, WARC; QSL OK via Buro or direct
Peter I	3Y0X	2005 Jan21	2005 Feb04	K4YL Direct	N2WB 20040706	By an international team
Reunion	FR	2005 Feb02	2005 Feb22	F5TNI	425DXN 20041106	By F5TNI fm AF-016 as FR/F5TNI; mainly CW, some RTTY PSK; also as 3B8/F5TNI for one week; QSL OK via Buro or direct
Rotuma	3D2 NEW	2005 Jan27	2005 Feb22		425DXN 20050101	By HA8IB HA9RE fm OC-060; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY; 2 stations; QRV for CQ 160m CW + ARRL DX CW contests; callsigns TBA
Somalia	600	2005 Feb03	2005 Feb17	M5AAV Buro	I2YSB 20041026	By I2YSB IK1PMR IK2DIA IK2GNW IK2WXV IZ5BRW as 600G 600CW; 2 stations, all bands; direct QSLs fm IK2GNW (SSB) and I2YSB (CW RTTY)
South Cook Islands	ZK1	2005 Jan31	2005 Feb17	M3SDE Direct	SM6WET 20041202	By ZK1WET ZK1XMY ZK1SDE ZK1SDZ fm Aitutaki; 160-10m w/ focus on 20 17m; mainly SSB, but ZK1WET QRV in CW + RTTY; yagis for 20 17 10m + verts
South Cook Islands	ZK1	2005 Feb24	2005 Mar03	M3SDE Direct	SM6WET 20041202	By ZK1WET ZK1XMY ZK1SDE ZK1SDZ fm Aitutaki; 160-10m w/ focus on 20 17m; mainly SSB, but ZK1WET QRV in CW + RTTY; yagis for 20 17 10m + verts
Tonga	A35	2005 May23	2005 Jun08	VK3DYL	VK3DYL 20041203	By VE7YL VK3DYL fm Nuku'alofa and Vava'u; CW SSB; 100w; QSL direct with SAE, US\$2 or new IRC or via VK3 Buro
Turks & Caicos	VP5 NEW	2005 Jan04	2005 Jan28	WA1UKN	425DXN 20050101	By WA1UKN as VP5/WA1UKN fm Grand Turk (NA-003) and North Caicos (NA-002); 40 17 15 12 10m; SSB
Vanuatu	YJ	2005 May02	2005 May21	VK3DYL	VK3DYL 20041203	By VE7YL VK3DYL fm Port Vila and Aore Is; CW SSB; 100w; QSL direct with SAE, US\$2 or new IRC or via VK3 Buro
Virgin Islands	KP2	2005 Jan07	2005 Jan14	Home Call	OPDX 20041129	By W2AZK KF2HC as homecall/KP2 fm St Croix; 160-6m; SSB CW; focus on WARC; QSL OK via Buro or direct
Virgin Islands	KP2	2005 Jan21	2005 Feb06	G4OOC	425DXN 20041204	By G4RCG KI7VR as KP2/homecall fm St Croix (NA-106); QSL OK via Buro or direct

Bill/NG3K

Bill@ng3k.com (Corrections, additions, suggestions are welcomed)

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Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Eastern Iowa DX Association will be on Friday January 21st, 2005 at 7:30 in Room 219C Linn Hall on the Kirkwood Community College campus. Doors open at 6:30 pm for eyeball QSOs. Monitor 145.19 for directions if needed. See you there!



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