# The Eastern IowaDXer



**July 2014** 





# Eastern IowaDXer

Official Newsletter of the Eastern Iowa DX **Association** 

**NØDX** 

**Established** 1975

Our 39th year

An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League

July 2014

**JULY 2014** 

Membership Committee:

Page 1

WB8ZRL

Club Officers:

President: Craig Fastenow KØCF Vice President: Jerry Rappel

WWØE Secretary Treasurer: Richard Haendel W3ACO

Repeater Committee: Al Groff

Joe Finkstein

Jim Spencer

Tom Vavra **Nelson Mover** 

Web Master Extraordinaire: Jason L. Joens **Packet Cluster:** 

147.51, 144.91, WB8ZRL.no-ip.org:7300

Repeater: NØDX/R

144.59 / 145.19 (tone 192.8)

Next EIDXA meeting: Friday, July 18th at 7:30 PM, Campus of Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids. In the Amana Room in Iowa Hall. Program: XRØZR DXpedition video, provided by W3ACO.

KØVM

**WØSR** 

KUØA

NRØX

WB8ZRL

WØMJN

The Eastern Iowa DXer copyright © 2014 EIDXA. All rights reserved.

### www.eidxa.org

# **April 2013 - Contents**



- ◆ 4 President's Propagation, Pronouncements & Pontifications
- 5 "Now that's DX"
- ◆ 12 Minutes
- ◆ 13- RTTY Corner
- ◆ 15- EIDXA News
- 24 Members Spotlight WØFG
- ◆ 33 Feature Story3

• •• -•• -••- •-

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. The views expressed in the EIDXA newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the Eastern Iowa DX Association, or the editor. All newsletter contributions, comments and suggestions are welcome at WWØE@q.com.

Thanks in advance for your newsletter input.

## President's Propagation, Pronouncements & Pontification





# EIDXA President Craig Fastenow, KØCF

I am afraid that I will not have anything for the newsletter this time. Next meeting July 18th. The program will be the XRØZR DXpedition video, provided by W3ACO.

Picnic dates will be September 13 as the primary date, with September 27th as the rain date. The Peoria hamfest is on September 20, so we will want to avoid that date. We can discuss this further at the July 18th meeting, but this is what works for Terry and he is cooking the brats.

A new restriction from Kirkwood is that no outside food or drink may be brought into the meeting room. (The contract I had to sign specifies that any refreshments must be provided by Kirkwood Café at extra cost, which we are not willing to pay.)

Sorry about not having a column this time, but things have been just too hectic around here. Thanks!

73, Craig, KØCF

## "Now that's DX"





# EIDXA Vice-President Jerry Rappel, WWØE

Seems as if most of us are being kept busy chasing W1AW/\_ this year. The cover of this issue is Jason's new homebrew Model **antenna - NRØX-**56 - didn't see it when I Googled ...



# Dashboard of the NRØX Jeep.

Next issue: Psycholoial Test of Amateur Radio Operators in Ø-land results.

And, weekly updating of your PSK-31 brag file ... making sure everyone knows about your bladder infection and current rainfall totals.

# That's DX, de Jerry, WWØE

I've been fighting a nasty/scratchy cold this past week and trying to get the newsletter assembled, bear with me.Also my computer has been playing games trying to get this published. Had to delete a couple articles, I'll use them next time.

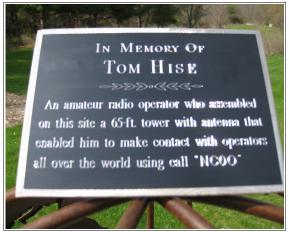




I had a fellow outside of Stone City come up with a sculpture that I have put on the concrete pad where the tower resided in Tom's memory. The perennial flower bed to the west of the pad will be extended to the east with dirt/mulch placed over the concrete pad. Hopefully, once completed, it will look as good as I envision.

Jan Hise.





# FCC Releases Warning Notices to Several Radio Amateurs, June 02, 2014

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has made public several warning notices issued over the past few months to radio amateurs. A couple of the letters from Special Counsel Laura Smith involved alleged infractions on 20 meters. On April 15, the FCC wrote Larry S. King, KI8NGS, of Owosso, Michigan, regarding failure to properly follow station identification rules on March 21. Smith told King that he was monitored by staffers at the FCC High Frequen cy Direction Finding Center (HFDFC) "operating your Amateur Radio on 14.313 MHz for 20 minutes without identifying in a timely manner." Smith said the HFDFC used direction-finding equipment to confirm that the transmissions were coming from his location. She said the Center recorded the transmissions.

"This incident constitutes a failure to properly transmit your assigned call sign, in violation of the Commission's rules," Smith wrote. "Your operation as described is contrary to the basis and purpose of the Amateur Radio Service, as set out in Section 97.1 and is a violation of Section 97.11(a) of the Commission's rules."

On March 31, Smith sent a warning notice to Daniel G.Churovich, N9RSY, of Ripley, Tennessee, alleging that Churovich engaged in an extended communication on 14.313 MHz with a station that may not have been operating in the Amateur Service.

"On Friday, March 28, 2014, you were heard by staff at the Commission's High Frequency Direction Finding (HFDF) Center communicating repeatedly on 14.313 MHz with an individual who you identify only as 'cowboy,'" Smith wrote. "This individual failed to provide his call sign during your conversation, a fact that you were aware of as you repeatedly demanded that he provide his name, call sign, and location. Despite being aware of the rule violation on the part of this other individual, you continued communicating with him for an extended period of time."

Smith told Churovich that the incident constituted "unauthorized transmissions" in violation of Commission rules that permit radio amateur to

engage in two-way communications with "other stations in the Amateur Service."

"There is no evidence that the individual with whom you were communicating with on March 28 was an Amateur Radio operator, as he failed to provide his call sign as required by Commission rules," Smith pointed out.

Smith also wrote to Amateur Radio licensees in Tennessee, Michigan, and Wisconsin, to note that they all had failed to comply with formal written requests not to use local repeater systems. Smith advised four licensees that the FCC expected them to "abide by the request of the trustee and/or control operator that you stay off [the repeater] - and any other similar requests to cease operations on any other repeaters by any other repeater licensees, control operators or trustees."

The warnings went out on March 31 to Robert J. Doll, WQ4E, and Todd W. Phillips, N4QWZ, both of Greenbrier, Tennessee; Bryan K. Waddell, W9MUP, of Monroe, Wisconsin, and Stacy Hunt, KB8RNN, of Yale, Michigan.

Smith advised all recipients that any recurrence of the alleged violation after receipt of the warning letter could subject them to "severe penalties, including license revocation, monetary forfeiture (fines), or a modification proceeding to restrict the frequencies upon which you may operate."

"Fines normally range from \$7500 to \$10,000," she concluded.

de ARRL



# Secretary/Treasurer Richard Haendal, W3ACO

.Minutes of the EIDXA meeting April 18, 2014

50 people answered the CQ call.

The treasurer's report was read and approved.

The minutes of the January 2014 meeting were in the April newsletter.

KØCF presented a crystal trophy to Tom, NYØV for winning the CQ marathon among EIDXA members in 2011. Tom captured 284 DX and all 40 zones for a score of 324. Tom was also the North American winner. Congratulations Tom!

NRØX discussed the results of the W1AW/Ø operations. The Iowa Team made 36,000 QSOs, A second chance to participate will be in December, led by WØGJ.

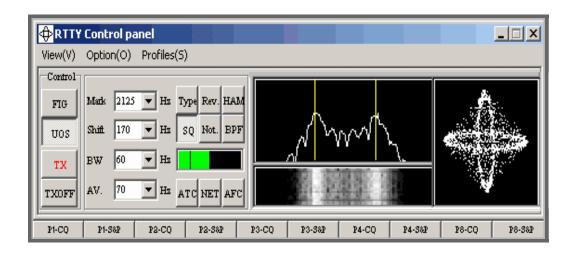
There was a discussion of the Tom Hise fund and whether or not EIDXA should become a 501C(3) charity organization. Information pro and con was provided by W0SR and WB8ZRL. WØAWL made a motion NOT to convert into a charity group. The motion was passed by the club. WB8ZRL is working on changing by-laws of the club to describe how the club will manage the funds. Details will be presented at our next meeting.

Congratulations to Jerry, WWØE for doing a first class job on our latest newsletter!

KØCF asked for new program materials for the next meeting. There were several suggestions but nothing was chosen. Stay tuned. Rich W3ACO.

Craig Thompson, K9CT, gave an excellent presentation on "Top-Band DXing from Wake and Amsterdam.

### RTTY Corner - Jerry Rappel WWØE



# The latest DX digi-doings



From Chatfield, MN: Tom, NYØV. HK0/UA4WHX, XW0YJY, JD1BMH, ET3AA, RI1ANT, J28NC, 7P8JR, ZL7/OE2SNL, XW1DOT, VK9MT, TO7BC (FH), TX6G. Tom, NYØV.

D2QR, ZB3R, DK9KW, EA4DEI, SM4OTI, G3YBY, DU3/NØQM, LX8RTTY, TX6G, HH2/N5JR, TG9AHM

One rare HF contact on 15 CW: SV2ASP/A (Monk Apollo).

Sam, KØAFN.

\_

K8OM radio Joe TX6G, A61E, V25M, SV5DKL, 4S7FRG, XW0YJY, ZL7/OE2SNL.

On 6 meters I've been able to snag a few contacts: CX5BL, CX2CC, LU9EH, J69DS, CE3RR,CE4WJK, YV5IUA LU5DX, XE2X, ZF35EJ,.CO8LY

KØJGH Glen's RTTY log: JD1BMH, P40F/UAQ4WHX, 9A1BRZ, I've beenspending most of the time chasing W1AW. Started out with just one Q on each mode as QRP. I have most of them on the first round with that, but then decided I'd go for the slots and now I'm at it most every day... Hi.

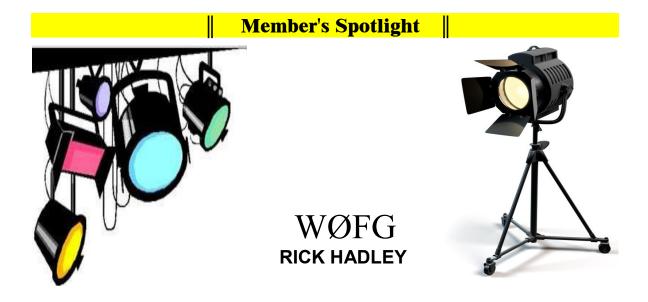
Thanks for the RTTY logs guys.

8<sup>th</sup> annual RTTY DX TEST 27-28 September

### **EIDXA NEWS**



The political dispute between Russia and Ukraine is impacting the HF amateur bands, according to CQ *Newsline*. The International Amateur Radio Union's Monitoring System newsletter reported recently that Ukraine's foreign intelligence service has been transmitting numbers and encrypted messages every Wednesday at 1010 UTC on 14.280 MHz, using full-carrier AM. In addition, the newsletter reported the Russian Air Force has been transmitting FSK signals on 7.018 MHz, which were also heard on harmonics of 14.036 and 28.072 MHz.





WWII SNJ-5 Navy trainer

I'm Rick Hadley, WØFG. I'm a 1946 model, first licensed in 1963 as WN W NØFYG, and then WAØ0FYG later that same year. After graduating HS, I enrolled at UNI where I graduated 1968. During those 4 years, I got involved in the student carrier-current station KYTC where I eventually wound up as Chief Engineer, but that association and ham radio provided me with most of

the professional positions I held until my retirement in 2006. While at KYTC I wound up working part-time at Hawkeye Amateur Radio, the only local ham radio store that's ever been in eastern Iowa, as far as I know. That job got me additional positions as an announcer-engineer at KXEL-FM, as the summer dispatcher for Cedar Falls State IHP radio, and finally as 'Johnny Fever' of Waterloo...the 6-midnite shift at KWWL-AM...1330 on the dial and at the time THE R&R station for the area. That lasted about 6 months before Uncle Sam came calling. One step ahead of the draft board, I enlisted in the US Navy where I became a CT. Back then we were called Communications Technicians ... now in an unexpected attempt at honesty the term is Cryptologic Technician. Like Tom, WB8ZRL, I spent the next few years doing things I can't talk about for people who Never Say Anything, but suffice it to say that I came away with my CW skills much improved.

While serving in Japan, and just before our base closed, my wife and I had our only child, son Ross who was 3 months prematurely which necessitated a 2 month stay at the Air Force hospital at Tachikawa, near Tokyo. By the time we got home in May of 1972, I was ready for some decompression time so I took a job with my dad at the Mt Auburn Savings Bank, just as the switch from manual



bookeeping machines to computers was beginning. We installed the first small general-purpose computer in a bank in Iowa...not bad for a town of 200 .... and I also wound up with the first personal computer in the county, a SWTPC 6800 system which wound up replacing a hamshack full of Model 28 Teletype equipment. A few years later, my wife and I opened The Solutions Store Ltd., a RadioShack dealership in Vinton which we owned and operated from 1990 until 2006.

Ham radio has been an off & on activity for me in the 50+ years I've been licensed. I built my first rigs from Knight-Kits, had a 75A4 & KWS-1 when I came home from the service, which was replaced with an S-Line. Sometime in the 80's, I replaced that with a Yaesu FT-757gxII and got interested in DX, joining the EIDXA a couple of years after I made Mixed & CW DXCC in

1990. Floods, family & life have interfered and I've had some extended periods of inactivity, but in the peaks, I've managed to pull off a QRP DXCC with a Yaesu FT-817 I acquired at Dayton back on 2001. The A4-S blew off the tower, so I had that taken down last year, but unwilling to give it up all together, I replaced the 30-old ground-mounted Butternut vertical with a new one.

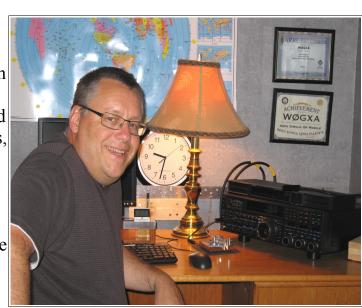
Sometime last year I began to seriously consider upgrading the station. After seeing K0VM's Flex 6500 at the EIDXA picnic, I threw that option into the mix that was primarily focused on a new Ftdx3000. On the way to Arkansas for vacation in November, we attended the Midwest Division Convention in Lebanon and I got the full dog-and-pony show from the Flex factory gang, which forever sealed my fate. The Flex-6500 arrived just before Christmas. Since then, I've logged over 1100 contacts on LoTW, finished individual DXCCs on 10, 15 & 20 and am having the time of my life, getting a new radio every 3 or 4 months via improvements in SmartSDR. Today I finished building my Glen Martin rooftop tower which will hold the Hexbeam that's just waiting to be assembled.

Future dreams include a Begali paddle and an Elecraft KPA500 amp.

73, Rick WØFG

#### Part II of the radio purchase story.

When the last newsletter was being assembled, I was in the middle of an exhausting radio evaluation. I haven't had a new HF rig in over 21 years, so it was time. I had three radios in mind: Yaesu FT-5000, K3 and Icom 7600. The Kenwood TS990 and Icom 7800 are out of my price range.



Like a good engineer, I

started with an honest assessment of my requirements based on what I wanted to do, how I like to operate, etc. My first requirement was I wanted a radio I could never use as an excuse for poor performance. It's the same criteria I used in the early 90's when I bought my first bicycle for racing and when I bought my guitars. Next I examined what I like to do and decided It was roughly 50/50 DX and contesting. This implied a second receiver or perhaps the dual/watch feature on the Icom to make pileups easier to navigate. As far as receiver performance, most anything was going to be light years better than what I had. I was on the fence about the likelihood of going on a fly-in DXpedition where portability would be a factor.

I spent a lot of time in front of a K3 running contests at NØMA as well as using a borrowed radio at home. Good receiver performance but there was a lot I didn't like, mostly ergonomics. Once I get it set up, most of what I need is a top level control. Every time I look at the radio, I have to think about what control I need to activate the desired function. This isn't something you want to be doing in a contest.

I spent a couple hours in front of WØYV's FT-5000 one afternoon working a little DX. I found the controls straight forward, good audio, good keyer... all

in all a very capable radio. It's also a larger, heavy radio (200W) so it's not conducive to portable ops.

I struggled a lot between the K3 and FT5k. Apples to apples comparison the K3 was about \$1k'ish cheaper then the Yaesu. Portability, lower cost vs. 200W and better ergonomics.....

It was a visit to Glenn's (WØGJ) to do a side by side compare between the K3 and the Icom 7600 that pushed be to my final decision. I discovered immediately the K3 audio is not good. It's hard to describe but when you listen to it side by side with the Icom, it's obviously more harsh. I tried for quite awhile to make the Icom sound as bad as the K3 and make the K3 sound better but to no avail. Second thing I did was examine the usability of the Icom dual-watch feature where you can listen to two VFOs in the same band. The filter settings are not independent and the audio for both is mixed equally in both ears. I found it to be a poor compromise for a 2nd receiver, so I eliminated the Icom. Note: If I was primarily a contester, I may have purchased the Icom.

In the end, the Yaesu won out with better audio and better ergonomics. Portability was a poor trade when I considered you have to live with the harsh audio and ergonomics every time you use it.

I've had the radio for a few weeks and spent quite a few hours running W1AW/0 from home. It's an absolute joy to operate.

Many thanks to WØSR, WØVX, WØYV, NØYY, WØGJ, KØMD and NYØV for their advice and counsel.

Bob Lee WØGXA

"CW forever"

#### Woodpecker Damage Follow-Up!

In the last newsletter I showed how a woodpecker had severely damaged my control cables going to my antenna. My solution was to slide a dryer vent

expandable tin tubing over the cable bundle. I also sprayed it with red Cayenne pepper!
With warmer weather at hand I took the antenna down and inspected the tubing. The tubing had been "pinged" numerous times, but I do not see any penetration through the tin.
Maybe it will keep them at bay.
But only time will tell!



-----

Jerry,

My good friend ZS1AFS, Tom Morgan offers the following article for our news letter. It you need something for a filler this may help.... Tom, W0WP.

# Ham Operators don't bounce, says ZS1AFS

Or, How do you avoid a quick trip down from your tower?

When I was lucky enough to have a tower manufactured I realised that climbing to the top to fix things needed a bit of thought before the event: not least because the station manager had misgivings about how long I would be fit and able to go up and down. My tower is 15metres high. ("You're not getting any younger!")

#### Be a Chameleon

One technique that works for me is based on the chameleon principle. Lovers of nature programmes will be familiar with the system shown when chameleons walk along a branch. It's 'One-limb-at-a-time' and 'Don't rush me'. To minimise the risk of being dislodged you should only change position of one arm or a leg at a time. Make sure you have a good grip or foothold before moving another limb. Also, if I hold the uprights of the tower as I climb I have found that it is easier, as they fit into my hand. And therefore it feels more positive. The smaller diameter of the rungs does not fit into the palm as naturally as the larger diameters of the verticals: and the area of grip on the rungs is smaller. However, the key word is concentration.

Then there was the question of 'How are you going to stay up there and work on your antennas?' Coming from a sailing background the answer was simple. I can get a harness to clip on. As it happened I had a spare boat harness that I brought out from the UK. It was redundant and superseded by those integrated with a self-inflating lifejacket. The older harnesses were only fixed around the chest and the later ones incorporated crutch straps so you could not drop out of the lifejacket.

# Modifying a boating harness

Of course, the sailing harness was designed to clip onto the jackstay as you walk along a heaving deck: not for when the wearer is perched on the side of a tower. I discovered this deficit when I used it for the first time. Every time I released the lanyard I was putting myself at risk. With nothing fixed to the tower at that time a fall was a distinct possibility. I figured that with increasing age the percentages would be stacked against me. So, the first modification was to have 2 lanyards from the strongpoint on harness. One was short and one was long. You will have to measure on your tower



but the short one goes around the stub mast and is just longer than the rung distance. The longer one allowed me to climb 3 sets of steps before changing

the attachment point. During the swapover the shorter one is used whilst I raise, or lower, the long lanyard.

The main parameter when working up a tower is that the upper body is held but one has movement to the front and side. So, a second webbing belt was attached to the harness, outside the chest trap. It can be extended so it could be clipped onto the eyes at the top of the mast. The most dangerous operation was marking the webbing for cutting and sewing. However, when it was finished it gave me a lot of freedom as my upper body extended above the tower and up to the stub mast/boom fitting. When working I have 4 points of attachment – two lanyards and two using the webbing belt. Originally, I used galvanised shackles to attach to the rings at the top of each leg. This was a little fiddly whilst screwing in the pins, so I changed to carbine clips. These metal items are easily available in farming areas or from boating shops. Just remember, do not stop to admire the view unless you are properly clipped on.

This arrangement was fine when I had a small 2-element linear loaded yagi antenna but then I acquired an old TA-36. This weighs over 30kg! Then it became obvious that a wider more stable platform than standing on a 10mm bar was needed! One of the most fatiguing aspects of standing on rungs is not being able to relax the foot. The bigger the foothold is, the less tiring the exercise is.

# Making a Work Platform

Fortunately, at about the same time as the TA-36 arrived, the outside decking at the Royal Cape YC was being replaced: and a piece of 2" thick and 6" wide teak plank was duly acquired to use as a step. With suitable eye bolts to fix it down I finally had a stable platform on which to stand. It was not totally straightforward because the ideal level to stand was at the base of the rotator! So, the board was shaped to fit around the G-1000DXC. (When I upgradedthe rotator to a G-2800DXC, with a larger antenna in mind, I did not need to alter the shape of the step.)



Making a pattern and trying the step until it fitted required several trips up and down the tower, under the XYL's supervision.

As you can see I have upper body movement. So, I incorporated another step to work on my fixed VHF beam, lower down. And all was fine until I was given a second tower for the WARC band antenna!

#### What you if you have two towers?

The harness in photo #1 had been adapted to suit the first tower. The second tower had a 50cm triangle section, not 30cm as before. Similarly the rungs were further apart, about 54cm. This is far too great a 'stepladder' distance, as one gets older. So I had half rungs welded in and installed pulley points at the top of each leg.

The purpose of the pulleys is to avoid having to descend because another wrench or roll of tape is needed. I have one permanently rigged. It comes in very useful when a group of large birds like the local ha-di-dahs arrive. Shaking it frightens them off.

Fortunately the XYL, Sue ZS1AFR, came to the rescue, again, and another newer black lifejacket harness has been modified. This one was originally worn during our mid-Atlantic rescue and came home with us. Of course, she removed the inflation part and added a mast retaining webbing strap. One thing I had learned on the first tower is that most of the patterning and offering up should be made near ground level.

# Two's Company

What is a fundamental safety requirement to any excursion up any structure? Always have someone else who not only knows where you are going - but also is present. So many accidents have occurred when, "I only went into the house to check on the dinner". Plan the timing so that there is someone else there when you are airborne. My XYL does gardening when I am maintaining my antennas. But I make sure she is not in the drop zone whilst I am handling tools, etc. A 8mm nut from 15m above could make a significant dent in any head.

Where do I get a boating harness?

Of course, you can buy a rigging harness or you may be lucky enough to have a sewing partner. For those who are not so lucky, one can pick up a boat harness or the trapeze that a dinghy sailor has discarded for a lot less than the price of a rigging harness. Whilst in the UK for the National Hamfest I saw a rigging harness for sale for over £200!

Just remember you cannot put a price on safety. I know there is the old joke about a novice licensee joining a radio club and the average age dropped to 66! However, as we get older we need to be more cognisant of changes due to Anno Domini and play safe. So we can do it again. Ham operators do not bounce!

Tom Morgan

# **Feature Story**

### KØIS Mobile Installation Using M Squared HO Loop

Many years before children, and I now have two great-grandchildren....I bought a Newtronics Hustler mobile mast complete with all five resonators, a large spring, and the attachment that would allow multiple resonators to be used. I had big plans for mobile HF operating, but as the years went by the whole set up got moved with me, dusted off a couple times and put back in the corner, but never used.

About a year ago I was fortunate enough to find, at an estate sale, various "new in the box" scanners, a Radio Shack HT-404, a Daiwa RS-300 DC power supply, and various other electronic toys, but the two items that really got my attention were the Yaesu FT-857D (\$250) and the M Squared HO Loop for six meters (\$5.00). All of this gear was in the original boxes and had never been powered up. The previous owner wasn't even a ham, but was reported to be a hoarder of various things....cameras evidently being another favorite category of his for example.

So here was my opportunity to go mobile, and not only on HF, but on six meters as well. I decided I was going to find a way to put the loop to use as a mobile antenna before the next sporadic E season got rolling good. In the meantime I used the rig only on 2 M FM. To make a long story a bit shorter, I discovered that the loop was designed to be mounted using 3/8 X 24 hardware to secure the horizontal element at the feedpoint, which just happens to be available at the top of the Hustler mast for mounting the resonators. Now, how

to mount the mast to a 2006 Ford Escape drilling no holes was the next challenge, and after shopping around I went with the Diamond K400 Universal Mounting bracket with which I was already familiar. The Diamond bracket would allow me to take better advantage of the halo's specs by getting the antenna as close to the recommended eleven foot "minimum"



above ground as possible. This was done by mounting the bracket just above the mid-point of the vertical edge of the rear hatch as opposed to a bumper mount or anything I might throw together using a trailer hitch type mount or attaching directly to the frame of the vehicle. M2 also recommends that the antenna be a minimum of 18 inches above the metal body, which this arrangement would accomplish with room to spare and the antenna ended up about nine feet above ground. I'll admit, I have to watch for the occasional low hanging branch, and recently WW0E had to give me an "assist" entering and leaving a parking ramp, but these have proven to be very small issues for a lot of ham radio fun in return.



So here you see the finished product which has worked out very well so far. The Diamond mount has not budged under the weight of the spring, mast, and loop, and watching the antenna through the sun roof as we travel 60-70 MPH the mast barely moves from side to side under reasonable ambient wind conditions. High crosswinds do cause the mast to generally lean in toward the car, giving less than horizontal polarization, but resulting in no other issues. To keep the mast from bending back under driving conditions, and of



course for safety reasons, the mast is secured to the frame of the car top carrier with 3/16" chute cord. During recent openings while mobile I've worked a number of stateside folks and VE5, but the most excitement so far has been working Javi, LU5FF, on six meters from my driveway during the May 24 TEP opening that occurred. This entire installation required the drilling of NO HOLES in the vehicle by the way, and in one picture you can also see how the 857D is securely mounted atop the steering column, making it easy to glance down at the rig if need be just as you would the gauges.

I normally drive with the column in the fully lowered position, so the rig only blocks your view of the very lower part of the speedometer and tachometer, leaving the remaining gauges in full view and nothing that interferes with ones driving. The rig itself is mounted beneath the driver's seat. After the E season is over it will be a simple matter to drop the coax (RG8X) down to feed the base of the mast as you normally would, put on a resonator, and be set for HF mobile and hopefully some good DX along the way like Tom, NYØV.



**KØIS** Larry

# Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club

# Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club HamFest 2014 Sunday, August 3rd 8 am – 1 pm

Cedar Rapids, Iowa Teamster's Hall - 5000 J Street SW
Doors open at 8:00 am until 1:00 pm
# LARGE open-air free flea market, plenty of parking (Handicapped parking on grounds).

# Inside, air-conditioned Trade Floor with well-known vendors including: Radio City, WBØW, and WØTOK

# Informative and enjoyable Technical Forums with Presentations.

# Homemade food and drinks/FREE COFFEE.

# HOURLY DRAWINGS with the GRAND PRIZE DRAWING at 1:00 pm! # Admission \$7\*.

Inside tables: \$10 each through July 15, \$15 each thereafter (subject to availability).

Call early for table reservations - sooner you do the BETTER the location!
Inside Vendor Setup: Saturday, Aug 2nd, 3 -7 pm and Sunday, Aug. 3rd, 6 -8
am On Site ARRL VEC Testing\* Upgrade or Get Your First
Amateur Radio License! \*HamFest ticket purchase not required if you are only taking a Test Walk-ins Welcome

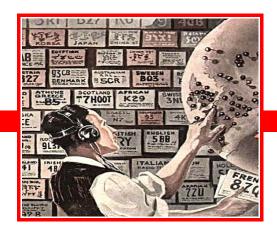
Sunday August 3rd Registration 9:30 am Testing @ 10:00 am Testing Questions? Contact: Darrel Peterson (WAØKHH@arrl.net)

For More Information/Table Reservations:

Dave Wilson—KBØDW krk9840@msn.com (319) 393-3776 Bob Klaus—NØYWB nØywb1@gmail.com (319) 521-1134 CVARC Web Site: https://cvarc.rf.org/

Directions: Take 33rd Avenue - Exit 17- from I-380. Proceed East on 33rd Avenue to the first 4-way stop at J Street and turn right. Proceed one mile South on J Street SW to Teamsters hall on right.

PSE QSL



None received.

### THE LISTENING



## Post

#### THE INCURABLE DISEASE OF RADIOTITIS

General DXing with different types of vintage radios on shortwave and broadcast bands. For example, what can you pull in with a TRF at night

Do you collect/restore vintage radios, please submit stories/pictures to this newsletter.

Advance Electric 5 tube receiver. This gem came from an estate sale in

Davenport. I won't be doing any restoration as such, just some cleaning of the exterior and the bakelite knobs to get it ready to sell. What you see here is the "as found" condition. The front panel is actually dirtier than it appears in this picture, but I think it will clean up fine. Inside it's moslty clean, just a couple cobwebs pretty much is all there is to



vauum out. The receiver uses five tubes, an AX201A, two CT201A, one CX301A, and an un-identifiable mystery tube, although it has one thing that none of the others have and that is S R & Co., 10 25, stamped on the metal base. I suspect these receivers were sold by Sears, Roebuck & Co. and this particular tube was manufactured in October of 1925. Advance Electric equipment was manufactured in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Larry - KØIS



# to the EIDXA members who made this newsletter. Jerry WWØE

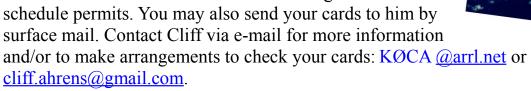
# DXCC Card Checking Is As Close as EIDXA

The club has another QSL card checker WØGJ, Glenn Johnson. If you look on the ARRL web site under searching for a checker, he shows up with a Calmar, IA address, but a MN phone number. If you look in the master list, he is still listed in MN.



EIDXA members can get their DX QSL cards checked for DXCC credit from the following club members:

• ARRL Midwest Division Vice Director, and EIDXA member, Cliff Ahrens KØCA attends EIDXA meetings as his



EIDXA member Tom Vavra WB8ZRL. Tom is able to check any cards for DXCC. In addition he can check cards for WAS, WAC, and VUCC. Contact Tom via e-mail for more information and/or to make arrangements to checkyour cards: wb8zrl@arrl.net.

EIDXA member Mike Nowack NA9Q. Mike attends EIDXA meetings as his schedule permits. Contact Mike via e-mail for more information and/or to make arrangements to check your cards: na9q@arrl.net.

# 2014 EIDXA Meeting& Events Schedule

Look for this information on the club web-page *www.eidxa.org*. Meeting information on the web site is up to date to ensure everyone has timely access to the information between newsletters.

Next EIDXA meeting:
Friday, July 18th at 7:30 PM,
Campus of Kirkwood Community
College, Cedar Rapids.
In the Amana Room in Iowa Hall.
Program: XRØZR DXpedition video,
provided by W3ACO.



Established 1975