



Eastern Iowa DX Association

An ARRL affiliated club - Established 1975

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July 2019

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The election was close but here I am trying again to get this job figured out. A lot of progress has been made over the years and we have had some great leadership. I'm out to see if I can catch up.

My first term as EIDXA president was in the second year of the club's existence, almost 45 years ago. Things were a bit more primitive back then. I did the first Newsletters—a real publisher's delight with two or three handwritten pages duplicated on mimeograph! No printers, no copiers and no email or websites. Most of you can remember those days but it is

Member News

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Club Officers:

President:

Jim Spencer WØSR

Vice President:

Rick Hadley WØFG

Secretary:

David Christ KØLUM

Treasurer:

Mike Nowack NA9Q

Repeater Committee:

Jason Joens NRØX

Membership Committee:

Jim Spencer WØSR

Tom Vavra WB8ZRL

Nelson Moyer KUØA

Packet Cluster:

WB8ZRL.no-ip.org:7300

Repeater: NØDX/R

144.59 / 145.19 (tone 192.8)

good at times to view the real progress that has been made.

Along with the new job comes some space in the newsletter each month. Bob tells me to fill it up with something wise.....and, that is another challenge as I start my 80th year. I will try but I'm not so sure about the wise.

(What's funny here is I worked in Jim's organization and then on his staff for a number of my 30 years at Collins. Finally, I get to "tell" him to do something. - Ed.)

This year I had my first opportunity to attend both the Visalia International DX Convention and the Dayton Hamvention (Which isn't in Dayton and to my knowledge never has been after the first few years!). Visalia has been on my Bucket List for years while I've attended most of the Hamventions since 1975. How do they compare? If you could attend just one, which would it be? Which has the best programs? I'm sure this comparison has been made a number of times over the years but I don't recall seeing it so I'll try to do it and to keep it simple.

From Eastern Iowa Dayton is almost local. An 8-hour trip, + or -, is an easy day with all Interstate highways. Driving to Visalia would take three or four

www.EIDX A.org

Web Master:

Craig Fastenow KØCF

Newsletter Editor:

Bob Lee WØGXA

rclee2266@gmail.com



Facebook EIDX A

days so unless it is part of a larger trip most people would fly. That makes it more expensive to get there.

Visalia usually has less than 1000 attendees while Dayton now has something like 25,000 (actual numbers are a closely guarded secret). Dayton is just huge. BUT, at Visalia all of the attendees are interested in Contesting and DXing so you get a straight shot at those two segments. The number of programs dedicated to antennas, contesting and DXing is similar as is the content.

One thing I just loved about Visalia was how compact it was. It was held in the Visalia Convention Center. Everything is just around the corner. You can get between rooms in a matter of seconds unless you meet someone you know along the way. Also close by are booths for various organizations and an area where various dealers have set up displays and will try to sell you the latest and greatest. There is no flea market! I guess everyone just buys new in California.

Another advantage of Visalia is that hotels are very close. My hotel was across the street, a 4-minute walk or less. The Marriott is actually attached to the convention center. When you think of the effort getting to and from the Hamvention, Visalia is a dream. It is also all pavements with no mud or places to get stuck. Visalia is much better for the handicapped or those who have trouble walking.

Dayton and Visalia are both great venues. If you are interested in flea markets and things other than Contest/DX, Dayton is the best choice. Otherwise it is a coin toss to me.

One last thing, please give some thought to what you would like to see the EIDX A do. Should we sponsor club contests? What kind of programs do you like? Do you have any particular speakers you would like us to sign up? It is your club, what do you want? If you

have an idea, send an email to one of the officers and let us know.

73, Jim WØSR

Welcome back, Jim - Ed.

Musings from the lunatic fringe

Bob WØGXA

Since I control this part of the newsletter, I'll use it to show off my two grand babies.



Lucille Jo (right) and **Harrison James Lee**

Born on 4/15/19 at 9:59AM and 10:01AM respectively

Both 6lbs and 18.5"

They're doing great and growing like weeds. Since they're here in

Cedar Rapids, I'll see a lot of them.

Mobile Telephone "5G"



Please consider...

In this edition I thought I'd talk a little about spectrum. In my day job, I deal with various acronym organizations involved in civil aviation. There isn't a month that goes by where something related to aviation radio spectrum doesn't come across my desk.

Anyone who uses spectrum should pay attention to two industries: UAVs and 5G telecom providers. They're often likened to freight trains - They can't be stopped.

Both of the market's stakeholders are hungry for spectrum. If they can't get it on an exclusive basis, they're attempting to get rights to share equally (No idea how that would work) with current users. When they do get spectrum, they are unsympathetic to potential interference to adjacent-band users who may have less than state of the art receiving equipment. I've never before seen this level of activity regarding spectrum.

We're spending a lot of money to engage consultant and legal firms to help us gain support for some changes to the Radio Regulations. We need support from many of the 193 nations who are part of the ITU as they prepare for the upcoming WRC.

I highlight this for you consider donating to the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. It takes time and resources to gain supporters for protecting our bands among the national delegations to the ITU and WRC. I had never considered a donation before now but these are unprecedented times. - Bob

Club News and Administrative Items

Minutes of the EIDX A meeting April 5, 2019

1. Meeting was called to order by Rick Hadley WØFG, at 7:30 PM. Introductions were made all around, 32 members were in attendance.

2. Mike, NA9Q, gave the treasurer's report. Mike noted that we received a partial return of funds from the failed 3YØZ Bouvet Dxpediti on. Funds will be returned to both the Tom Hise fund and the general fund proportionally.

3. Dxpediti on funding: The club elected to provide \$400 to the Pitcairn Island effort. The club elected to table the discussion re donation to the South Orkney Island Dxpediti on until the next meeting.

4. The club welcomed Frank Baker, WØQC as a new member into our club. Congratulations, Frank.

5. Request for new officers.

The club elected Jim, WØSR as the new president and Craig, KØCF as new Vice president to fill the vacant positions until the next regular elections held at the October meeting.

6. Discussion for a need for an Audio-Video person to become familiar with the equipment in our meeting room, No volunteers. Joe, K8OM needs to find that person.

7. Glenn, WØGJ gave a presentation of the upcoming Dxpediti on to Pitcairn Island, scheduled for October, 2019. Operations will be about 2 weeks long. Transportation to the island will be provided by the Braveheart. Thank you Glenn.

Submitted by
Rich W3ACO

July 19, 2019

Watch the email reflector for the program

Social Hour 6:30 PM

Meeting & Program 7:30 PM

Meeting and location information [here](#)

Save the Date



The annual picnic will be in Martelle at NRØX on September 14

Rain date is September 21

More details on the email reflector

Save the Date

Fall meeting will be on October 25th at our usual location (Mercy Hospital)

Card Checkers



We have three club members who can check your QSL cards

- Tom, WB8ZRL
- Glenn, WØGJ
- Mike, NA9Q

Contact info can be found here:

<http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search>

Don't forget...

CVARC Hamfest

Aug 3-4

Linn County Fair Grounds, Central City

Event page is [here](#)

Event flier is [here](#)

Member Spotlight



WELCOME

WØQC
Frank Baker



I was first licensed in 1976 as WNØSAX followed by upgrades to Technician-General-Advanced class. In 1988 I passed my 20wpm code and received my Extra class as KWØL. My current call is WØQC to represent my location here in the Quad Cities and the fact I'm a retired Quality Engineer from Caterpillar, Inc.

I'm a collector of Vintage Radios which consists of a Collins KWM2-A and all the accessories. Drake TR7A and all the accessories.

The AM stuff is Globe King 500B paired with a Hallicrafter's SX-115, Johnson Valliant paired with a Collins 75A-4, Johnson 500 and many other radios in the herd.

Current modern equipment is Icom 7800 with a Expert 1.3k FA amplifier, Flex 6400M with a Expert KPA-500 and various accessories.

Current antennas are a Mosley TA-54M 10-12-15-17-20 meter Yagi, Cushcraft XM-240 40 meter beam, and a butternut HV-2 ground mounted 40-80 meter vertical with a bunch of radials. This vertical enabled me to finish my 5 Band DXCC as I needed many countries on 80 meters and it played very well this past winter.

Current DXCC country count is 337 all time countries confirmed and 325 current countries confirmed. I also have DXCC on digital and Five Band DXCC with 17 meters also.

For Worked all states all I need is North Dakota on 15 meters to finish my Five band WAS. I also have WAS on 160 meters confirmed.

My goals of course are to get on the DXCC honor roll and get DXCC on the 12-30 and whatever else excites me!!!



Collins S-Line



Collins 75A-4 with Johnson Valliant



Restored Globe King 500B



Flex 6400M with Elecraft KPA-500
K7DYY AM transmitter with a Drake R8B



Icom 7800 with Expert 1.3K-FA



Mosley TA-53M 10-12-15-17-20 meter beam
Comet GP-15 2-440-6 meter vertical on top



Cushcraft XM-240 forty meter beam



Butternut HV-2 40-80 meters vertical



Microphone collection



A neon clock with my call and a picture of the Mississippi River bend here on the Quad Cities

DX News

In the spirit of late summer storms below 50 degrees south... a nice educational piece on rogue waves.



Solar experts predict the Sun's activity in Solar Cycle 25 to be below average, similar to Solar Cycle 24

April 5, 2019 - Scientists charged with predicting the Sun's activity for the next 11-year solar cycle say that it's likely to be weak, much like the current one. The current solar cycle, Cycle 24, is declining and predicted to reach solar minimum - the period when the Sun is least active - late in 2019 or 2020.

Solar Cycle 25 Prediction Panel experts said Solar Cycle 25 may have a slow start, but is anticipated to peak with solar maximum occurring between 2023 and 2026, and a sunspot range of 95 to 130. This is well below the average number of sunspots, which typically ranges from 140 to 220 sunspots per solar cycle. The panel has high confidence that the coming cycle should break the trend of weakening solar activity seen over the past four cycles.

"We expect Solar Cycle 25 will be very similar to Cycle 24: another fairly weak cycle, preceded by a long, deep minimum," said panel co-chair Lisa Upton, Ph.D., solar physicist with Space Systems Research Corp. "The expectation that Cycle 25 will be comparable in size to Cycle 24 means that the steady decline in solar cycle amplitude, seen from cycles 21-24, has come to an end and that there is no indication that we are currently approaching a Maunder-type minimum in solar activity."

The solar cycle prediction gives a rough idea of the frequency of space weather storms of all types, from radio blackouts to geomagnetic storms and solar radiation storms. It is used by many industries to gauge the potential impact of space weather in the coming years. Space weather can affect power grids, critical military, airline, and shipping communications, satellites and Global Positioning System (GPS) signals, and can even threaten astronauts by exposure to harmful radiation doses.

Solar Cycle 24 reached its maximum - the period when the Sun is most active - in April 2014 with a peak average of 82 sunspots. The Sun's Northern Hemisphere led the sunspot cycle, peaking over two years ahead of the Southern Hemisphere sunspot peak.

Solar cycle forecasting is a new science

While daily weather forecasts are the most widely used type of scientific information in the U.S., solar forecasting is relatively new. Given that the Sun takes 11 years to complete one solar cycle, this is only the fourth time a solar cycle prediction has been issued by U.S. scientists. The first panel convened in 1989 for Cycle 22.

For Solar Cycle 25, the panel hopes for the first time to predict the presence, amplitude, and timing of any differences between the northern and southern hemispheres on the Sun, known as Hemispheric Asymmetry. Later this year, the Panel will release an official Sunspot Number curve which shows the predicted number of sunspots during any given year and any expected asymmetry. The panel will also look into the possibility of providing a Solar Flare Probability Forecast.

"While we are not predicting a particularly active Solar Cycle 25, violent eruptions from the sun can occur at any time," said Doug Biesecker, Ph.D., panel co-chair and a solar physicist at NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center.

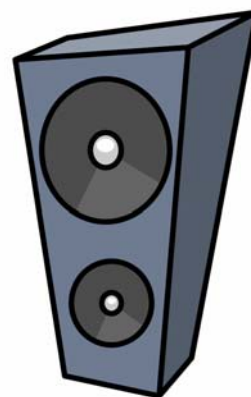
An example of this occurred on July 23, 2012 when a powerful coronal mass ejection (CME) eruption missed the Earth but enveloped NASA's STEREO-A satellite. A 2013 study estimated that the U.S. would have suffered between \$600 billion and \$2.6 trillion in damages, particularly to electrical infrastructure, such as power grid, if this CME had been directed toward Earth. The strength of the 2012 eruption was comparable to the famous 1859 Carrington event that caused widespread damage to telegraph stations around the world and produced aurora displays as far south as the Caribbean.

The Solar Cycle Prediction Panel forecasts the number of sunspots expected for solar maximum, along with the timing of the peak and minimum solar activity levels for the cycle. It is comprised of scientists representing NOAA, NASA, the International Space Environment Services, and other U.S. and international scientists. The outlook was presented on April 5 at the [2019 NOAA Space Weather Workshop](#) in Boulder, Colo.

For the latest space weather forecast, <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

Listen to Glenn Johnson on QSO Today podcast...

http://qsotoday.libsyn.com/episode-253-glenn-johnson-w0gj?tdest_id=532723



Feature Articles

Jurassic Journal

- A look back in time -

Tom Vavra WB8ZRL

Twenty years ago, summer 1999

R1MVA & R1MV ---> The 20-operator team from Finland and Russia logged 65,221 QSOs during their 6-15 July activity from Malyj Visotskij. 57196 QSOs were made by R1MVA (29775 CW, 26069 SSB, 1352 RTTY) and 8025 by R1MV (4214 CW, 3811 SSB) during the IARU Contest.

CY9CWI ---> St. Paul Island was activated for several weeks by VEs.

FW8ZZ ---> FW8ZZ hit the airwaves once again nearly 35 years after

the tragic original expedition by the late Ted Thorpe, ZL2AWJ and Chuck Swain, K7LMU. Participants in this memorial expedition were Eric Esposito (FK8GM), Kan Mizoguchi (JA1BK), Leena Laine (OH2BE) and Martti Laine (OH2BH), who logged more than 11,000 QSOs during the 70-hour operation.

T2 ---> Roberto, EA4DX was active as T24DX from Tuvalu for several weeks.

ZL ---> Cliff, ZL4AS, was worked on 10M SSB. There was a time when ZL/VK was often on 10M each evening. One can wish.

BV2A ---> For a long time, BV2A was the only active BV. By the end of the century he was operating less and less. I was fortunate to find him on 20 cw.

XX9 ---> Tomio, JM3DTY was active all modes, on 20, 15, and 10M. He was there about 10 days including the All Asian DX SSB Contest, where I worked him.

P29 ---> P29BI was found working the deserving one morning on 40M.

3D2 ---> Ron Wright, ZL1AMO, was once again traveling. This time to Fiji, signing 3D2RW.

3CØ ---> 3CØR was active from Annobon during September. Four EAs operated all bands and modes. This was an atno for many.

OJØ ---> Dennis, K7BV made another solo trip to the Aland Islands, OHØ and Market Reef, OJØ. The primary focus of this trip was Market Reef. He spent one week there, on all bands and modes, to include some satellite time.

3B8 ---> Jacky, 3B8CF, was worked again on the low end of 40M. He was my first QSO as a brand new Extra licensee in 1984, also on the low end of 40M.

R1AND ---> Mike, at the Russian Antarctic Base at Novolazarevskaya, was handing out 40M CW contacts.

T31 ---> A group of operators (including Mats/SM7PKK, Nils/SM6CAS, Erik/SMØAGD, Steve/G4EDG, YL operator Ulrika/SM6WYN and Lech/LA7MFA) will be active as T31T, T31K and T31YL from Central

Kiribati (OC-043) the last week of September.

V7 ---> Bruce, AC4G started a two year tour as V73CW from Kwajalein, Marshall Islands. His logs show some 28K QSOs.

PACIFIC TRIP ---> Ron Wright, ZL1AMO was not happy with one Pacific trip this quarter. He left New Zealand on 8 September for Fiji, Western Samoa and Nukunono Island, Tokelau. He operated for one week as 3D3RW, for another week as 5W1CW and for four weeks from ZK3.

Ten years ago, summer 2009

WWV propagation during the quarter had Solar Flux between 66 and 76. And the A-index between 0 and 22. Not real good HF numbers.

Having gotten the 160 meter bug the previous winter, there was not much hf interest during the summer. A few log entries:

VK9N ---> Tommy, VK2IR led a team of operators to 11K QSOs during their 7 day VK9NI operation.

TK9 ---> A team of EAs activated TK9X for 6 days and logged almost 20K QSOs.

4W ---> Chris, VK4FR working for the Australian Armed Forces, was in Dili, East Timor. He signed 4W6FR in his spare time.

CE0Z ---> The XR0ZN expedition to Juan Fernandez was postponed.

ZD8 ---> Jim, N6TJ once again was active from Ascension Island signing ZD8Z for one week.

160M ---> The low band season opened in late September providing two new ones: SM5EDX & CX5BW. I was still pretty new to top band so this was real DX.

Member News

Images from Dayton 2019

Note: The editor takes no responsibility for these pictures. I publish what people send me!

If you don't know the "radio farmers", they're a loosely organized group of hams, some of whom are EIDXА members.



Random wierdness



More random wierdness



Radio Farm



Talar du Svenska? Ove SFØF



More Farmers



Riveting...



The whole gang...

Back Row (Standing) Left to Right: Barry Buelow, WØIY; Chris Caldwell, KCØYGW; Jon Klinkefus, WØJMK; Mark Godfrey, KBØNRP; Bryan McCoy, KAØYSQ; Christian Hurst, KEØTIG; Chuck Golnick, KA7QEN ; Tom Vinson, NYØV; Ove Friman, SFØF; Al Culbert, KØAL; Bill Caldwell, NØLNO; Elizabeth Caldwell, NØUTP; Dan Veerhusen, WØWMU; Mait Bottoms, AA4HS; Barry Brown, KØYLU

Front Row (kneeling) Left to Right: Heidi Godfrey, KBØYIP; Rod Blocksome, KØDAS



This is how Terry puts down radials - he gets someone else (XYL) to do it!

... Just Married ...

Fifty years ago - June 15th

Congratulations Glen KØJGH and Pam

Elmers can be invaluable...

Jim NOØB has been pleased with the performance of his new (2018) 40m JK402T mounted at 65 feet on a Rohn 45G and the 30m antenna design tweaked by Rich W3ACO which is mounted on a Rohn 25G also at 65 feet (thanks to Jason NRØX for the tower work).

Jim has been focusing on FT8 operations using a FlexRadio 6500 with Elecraft KPA500 amplifier and Antenna Genius antenna switch. Soon

after these antennas were installed he had FT8 WAS on those bands and recently received LoTW confirmation of 101 FT8 DX on 40m and is at 84 FT8 DX confirmed on 30m. Jim says, "DX has been a lot more fun with these two excellent antennas. The Antenna Genius switch is a delight to use.

"I can't emphasize enough the incredible help I've received from my two "in-house" Elmers, Craig KØCF and Rich W3ACO."

Logbook

Logs

Sam, **KØAFN** CW: 9G2HO, LX7I, 5X3C, XRØZRC, C5DL, ZB2F
SSB: 5V7EI, 5X3C, CN2AM, R3RRC/6, OD5TX, 3D2CR, 5WØH.

CQ Test

Upcoming Contests:

ARRL Field Day June 22-23 [Info here](#)
IARU HF Championship July 13
North American QSO Party RTTY July 20
CQWW VHF July 20
North American QSO Party CW Aug 3
North American QSO Party SSB Aug 17

[Full info here](#)

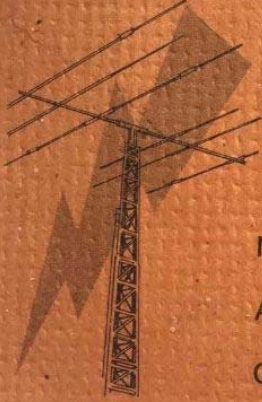
QRM

My first QSO...

While cleaning out the attic this spring, I ran across the QSL of my first QSO. I had been licensed for nearly a year before I had a transmitter! I wrote to Fred. He's still alive and kicking...still using the same QSL card design. - Bob WØGXA

AMATEUR RADIO STATION

WD8EHW



NAME FRED RAWLINGS

ADDRESS 102 JENKINS DRIVE

CITY CHARLESTON

STATE W. VA. ZIP 25312

RADIO WB0LUBL Confirming
our am/cw/ssb-rtty QSO of

9-10 PM
at 1324 - 1353 GMT
on 7107 MHz RST 589

TRANSMITTER HALLICRAFTERS
HT-40 INPUT 75 WATTS

RECEIVER HALLICRAFTERS-SX110

ANTENNA INVERTED VEE

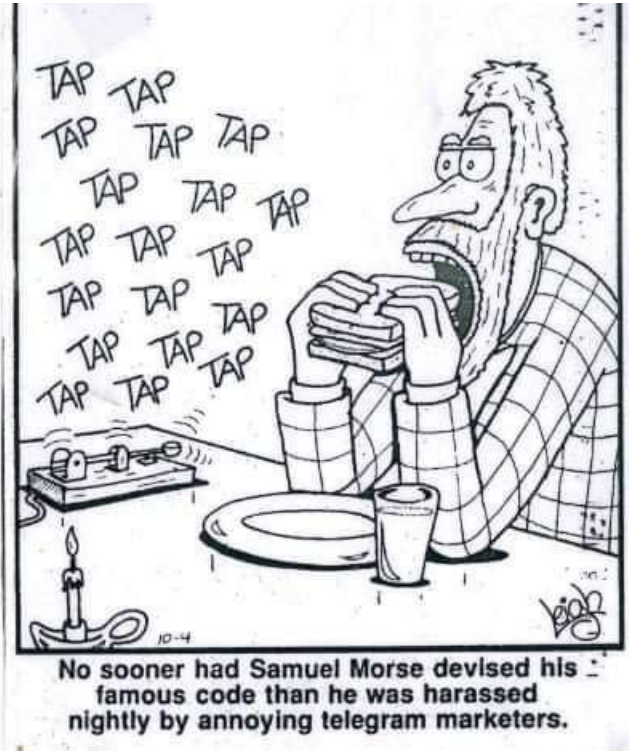
REMARKS BOB GLAD TO BE
DR FIRST QSO. I HV BEEN
HAM APT 8 MO. GUD-DX-

PSE QSL TNX
73. BOB-W. C. U. L. OPR.

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Thanks Jerry...

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