



Northern California DX Foundation

www.ncdxf.org

Fall/Winter 2007

35 years...

HOW TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING FUN

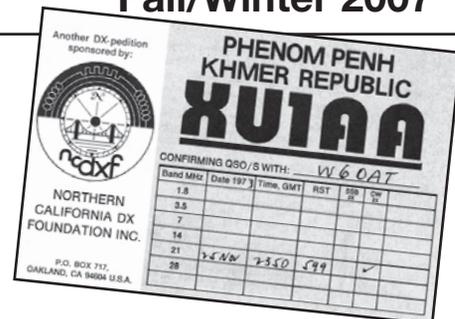
IT WAS OCTOBER 1972. The Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty (ABM) between the United States and the former Soviet Union was signed. "The Godfather" was breaking box office records, and Don McLean's "American Pie" was at the top of the pop music charts. Sunspot numbers averaged 174, but for 24 out of the last 30 days, there were zero sunspots! The honor roll high-mixed DXCC total was 322.

On 11 October 1972, the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) was born. The brainchild of former IRS auditor Vince Chin, K6KQN (now W6EE), it was Vince's idea to create an educational and scientific foundation that would qualify as a tax-exempt entity under IRS rules. Contributions to NCDXF would be tax deductible for U.S. DXers, and thus an incentive to give larger amounts to support projects such as aiding DXpeditions to new and rare entities, providing QSLs for rare DX stations and helping with equipment donations. NCDXF's

organizers hoped that maybe 20 to 25 DXers would provide funding (having absolutely no idea just how large NCDXF would grow over the next 35 years). Lee Shaklee, W6BH, stepped right up with a very generous donation of his company's stock to create NCDXF's initial endowment.

The first DXpedition funded by NCDXF was XU1AA from Phnom Penh, Khmer Republic, in November 1973, conducted by Chester Lunsford, XV5AC, and Jack Troster, W6ISQ. Since then almost every major DXpedition has had some funding from NCDXF.

The second NCDXF-supported DXpedition took place in June and July 1974 to Palmyra Island (KP6PA) and the brand new DXCC entity, Kingman Reef (KP6KR). NCDXF asked the DXpedition operators to conduct a QRP experiment onboard the boat on their way home. The operators reduced their transmitter power from 100 watts to 1 watt and solicited SWL reports from anybody who could copy them. NCDXF expected to get a few reports



from relatively nearby W6 and W7 stations; instead, it was deluged with hundreds of reports from Hams all around the globe! The success of this experiment planted the seed that germinated to become the NCDXF/IARU International Beacon Network.

The first NCDXF beacon was built in 1979 and came on the air from Stanford University in California signing WB6ZNL (and later, W6WX) on 14100 kHz. It transmitted for one minute at powers of 100 watts, 10 watts, 1 watt and 0.1 watt. Over the next couple of years, NCDXF added eight more beacons to the network. Each beacon transmitted sequentially for one minute at the four different power levels on 14100 kHz. Allowing for the one minute of "dead air" time, this

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W9DXCC 2007

— *Tim Totten, N4GN*

THE 55TH W9DXCC Convention took place on 15 September in the Chicago suburbs, and it certainly lived up to its reputation as one of the world's best annual DX conventions. Organized by the Northern Illinois DX Association (NIDXA), W9DXCC

2007 featured a very impressive program.

Of course, there were presentations on recent major DXpeditions: BS7H by Mike McGirr, K9AJ; ZL8R by Ralph Bellas, K9ZO, and the featured

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The 2007 DXpedition to Scarborough Reef

— Paul Pescitelli, K4UJ, and
Tom Harrell, N4XP

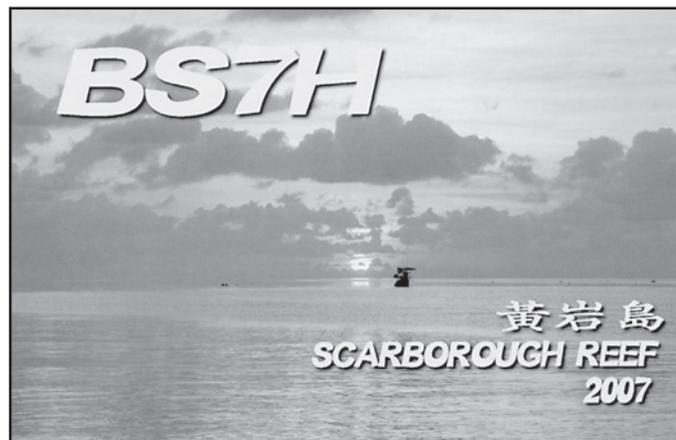
45,820 QSOs. CHASED BY a Chinese fishing vessel. Seasickness in the night. Dynamite blasts. Long days in the sun followed by great camaraderie. The good, the bad and the ugly, all in the span of five minutes at times. What an experience this was!

The 2007 effort to activate Scarborough Reef was born in 2002 by Paul Pai, BV4FH, and San Hutson, K5YY, while in the midst of an operation from Pratas Island. From 2002 to 2004, we repeatedly received signs of possible approval but it never materialized. BV4FH was able to get Chen Ping, BA1HAM, involved as the President of the Chinese Radio Sport Association and as the operation's point of contact with the Chinese government. Luckily, the government never said "No," they just said "Maybe, at a later date."

It wasn't until early 2005 when BA1HAM advised BV4FH that the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs was now involved and permission

might be given for a date in October. BV4FH and K5YY decided to initiate more in-depth planning and other preparations and asked Tom Harrell, N4XP, a veteran of many DXpeditions to join the team. Bob Vallio, W6RGG (veteran of the 1997 BS7H team), and James Brooks, 9V1YC (another well-known DXer), were brought in, along with Don Greenbaum, N1DG (another experienced DXer, webmaster and pilot). So far the team had two operators with previous on-site experience, backed by a support team with fundraising, logistics and IT experience.

It was during this time that we ap-



Contributions

The NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION relies heavily upon the generosity of its members to fund various projects. We urge each member to consider making an annual contribution of US\$50 or its equivalent in foreign currency. However, we do not wish to exclude anyone from the FOUNDATION for financial reasons. If \$50 is not within your budget, then please give what other amount you can. Naturally, we welcome contributions in excess of \$50! The NCDXF is an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and all contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law for U.S. taxpayers. Use the envelope supplied with the newsletter to send your contribution. If the envelope is missing, send your contribution to: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION, P.O. Box 1328, Los Altos, CA 94023-1328, USA. You may also contribute and order supplies online via our secure server, visit www.ncdxf.org.



proached major sponsors and support was lined up for radios, amplifiers and antennas. ICOM provided radios, SteppIR sent verticals, Acom loaned its 1010 amplifiers, Butternut added low-band antennas, and Heil donated the headsets.

The next step was to add more operators. Mike Mraz, N6MZ; Joe Blackwell, AA4NN; Max Mucci,



K4UJ towing the boat over the coral at low tide.

I8NHJ; Paul Pescitelli, K4UJ, and Tom Berson, ND2T had joined the team. As time went on, the CRSA added to the team the following: David Chen, BA4RF; Fan Bin, BA1RB; Chen Fang, BA4RC; BA1AAX, and Christian Entsfellner, DL3MBG. Chin-Ta Ko, BV6HJ, a construction engineer by trade, was also added to build and maintain the platforms designed by Johnson Wong, BV4DP, as well as keep all facilities running and operating properly. Later, Mike McGirr, K9AJ, joined the team as our on-site doctor.

However, 2005 would end without the promised approval from the

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and we moved into 2006; 2006 became 2007, but we kept applying and never gave up hope.

Finally, on 3 February 2007 BV4FH received an e-mail from BA1HAM telling him the Ministry had finally given permission for a spring operation — just 90 days away. The team was notified and all the planning and preparation kicked into high gear — transportation needed to be arranged, sponsor's equipment needed to be shipped and a fund-raising effort had to commence. We also decided to contact the Philippine DX community and the Philippine Amateur Radio Association (PARA).

By the middle of March, 9V1YC had traveled to Hong Kong and secured transportation, *Deep Blue*, a working vessel of some 75 feet in length with all the resources the team needed. More importantly, the *Deep Blue's* captain had been to Scarborough Reef many times and was familiar with the uniqueness of the area.

As April approached, there was a major roadblock that could have scuttled the entire operation. Despite friendly and productive talks with PARA (DU9RG, DU1JMG, DU2JAK and DU1EV) word was received that the DXpedition would meet the same fate as the 1997 DXpedition. The operation needed help from someone who knew all parties involved, including those in China and the Philippines. Enter Martti Laine, OH2BH. The future of the DXpedition was in

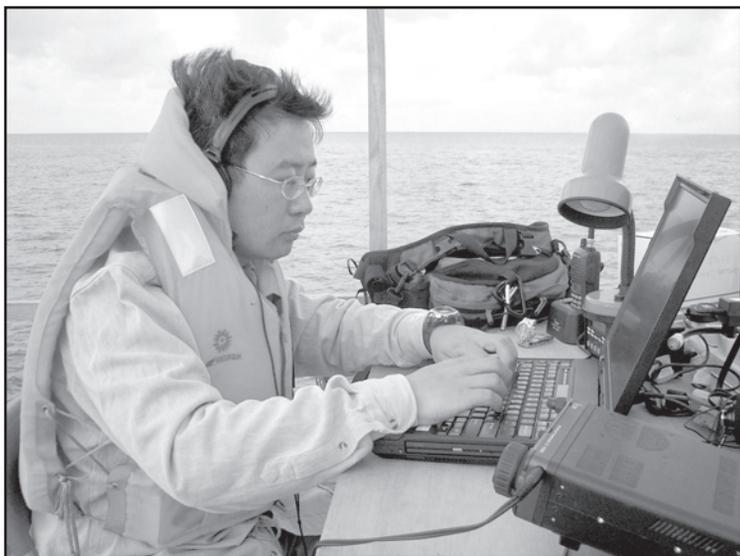
question but, like a determined soldier, Martti worked the telephones, e-mail and Skype around the clock for a week and was able to overcome all expressed concerns. The DXpedition was back on track. In doing so, not only was the fire put out but the team gained another experienced operator, and one with BS7H experience. Special thanks from the team go to those key players in the Philippines Amateur Radio Association as well as Tim Totten, N4GN, for his assistance.

In late March, N4XP, AA4NN and K4UJ assembled and tested the equipment at the QTH of W6XA and, in April, the equipment was shipped to Hong Kong. The team assembled in Hong Kong on 21 April to find that the equipment had arrived safely and was already loaded on the *Deep Blue* by 9V1YC, VR2BG and N6MZ.

The good, the bad, the ugly

Our plan was to depart as soon as possible, but we encountered several delays and potential cancellations due to additional political hurdles. The management team worked diligently to overcome those and we set sail on 25 April at 0600Z.

During the three-day trip, we experienced rough seas, but Captain Desmond made it as bearable as possible. On 26 April at 0800Z we were intercepted by a Chinese fishing vessel (apparently we were in the middle of their fishing territory) but after a slight change in course we were back on track for the reef.



BAIRB operating on Rock No. 1.

Sleeping on the boat was a challenge due to the constant rocking side to side as well as fore to aft. When everyone finally fell asleep, we were awakened by seasick teammates with dueling barf buckets sliding around the sleeping quarters.

We finally arrived at the north side of the reef just before sunset on 28 April. The first sign of civilization was that of a Philippine outrigger trolling around the reef. It was a very surreal scene to be traveling along the open sea and, boom, out of nowhere are hundreds of tiny rocks sticking out of the water. Adrenaline flowed through the whole team, but we had to wait until morning. The conflict of adrenaline and the peacefulness of the reef staring at us made for some strange emotions; kind of like those times when you should be scared but instead feel really comfortable.

The next morning, we continued toward the southern tip of the reef to seek haven from any rough seas that may linger during the operation. Then the real work began, both physical and mental. It was readily apparent that the team suffered from cultural differences; it would take an immense amount of coordination and nurturing to keep things running smooth. James, 9V1YC, did an excellent job at managing the tasks at hand.

After spending most of the day scouting the rocks, gathering GPS coordinates and getting the first platform built (Rock No. 2), we were

pressed for time to get the first station on the air before nightfall. In a mad rush, several operators loaded what they could into a small boat and basically dumped the equipment and two operators, AA4NN and I8NHJ, onto

the platform at dusk and wished them luck! Struggling through darkness and myriad small technical hurdles, they were able to get the first station on the air.

30 April began with BV6HJ finishing the platform for Rock No. 4 and several hours later DL3MBG and K4UJ began assembling the equipment. We put that station on the air on 15M for several hours until the regular shift operation took over.

Shift duty

A word about operating shifts on the reef. Due to the time of the year, high tide and low tide changed quickly and by as much as 25 minutes each day. The morning shift started about one hour past sunrise and lasted until shortly after lunch time (five to six hours), then the afternoon shift began and lasted until just before sunset, then the long shift began. The graveyard shift would be on the rock for 12 to 13 hours, as it was unsafe to change operators in the middle of the night due to limited visibility and low tide. Needless to say, the operators on the night shift were really worn out when

the boat arrived the next morning.

The day began about 5:30 a.m. with a shower and breakfast; the surprise meal of the day. Our cook, "Little Sister," made up a big batch of fried eggs and most mornings we had beans and franks, too. Yum, comfort food in the middle of the South China Sea. We all felt great after breakfast and were ready to either do our time on the day shift, or tend to chores. By 7 a.m., the water taxi started its rounds to each rock by dropping off a fresh operator and returning the tired one to the "mother ship." This process repeated itself three times a day.

For the long night shift, we designated one person to stay up all night on the *Deep Blue* and monitor the HF activity to ensure all stations were operational. As well, this person monitored the 2M base station in case someone needed assistance with a setting on the radio. BAIHAM took this shift many nights, allowing the other operators to get some much-needed rest.

Getting things done

1 May quickly turned into a day of reckoning, reaching a point where every aspect of setting up and becoming operational became a major roadblock with the limits of each operator stretched. As events unfolded, 9V1YC, in an effort to move



The BS7H team on one of the operating platforms.



I8NHJ and AA4NN setting up the first station, Rock No. 2 at dusk.

things along, turned to DL3MBG and K4UJ and asked “Can you two have that rock on the air in less than two hours?”

Emphatically, both answered, “Yes” and they were off, quickly launching the water taxi with the radio, antenna, amplifier and gas for the generator. Within two hours, they had the station assembled and were putting stations in the log on 15M.

There were now two stations on the air and the efforts to make Rock No. 1 operational were underway. Before it was over, the day would truly become the team’s most difficult day, mentally.

Excitement looms

Whenever you find yourself in unfamiliar territory, there is always a chance for something to go wrong. One afternoon while waiting for the shift change, the “help desk” received a call on the 2M radio from OH2BH. Two local fishermen boarded his platform and he could not communicate with them. In a mad dash, 9V1YC and K4UJ, along with the boat captain and his first mate, hurriedly raced to Rock No. 2 to scout the situation. After several minutes of attempting to communicate with the fishermen, one of them jumped in the lagoon, speared an eel and offered it to us. We could only assume they were trying to barter for gasoline; a much needed resource on Scarborough Reef.

They finally left, only to attempt

to board the *Deep Blue*. Standing firm at the top of the deck, however, was N6MZ and by his side was Little Sister, hiding her meat cleaver by her side. Those fishermen were not going to board the boat and she was there to make sure of it!

Setting new standards

Our main goal for this expedition was safety. Second to that was obvious: make some Qs and have some fun. This activation of Scarborough Reef was the first operation to activate RTTY, 30M, 80M, 160M, first HF Yagi and the first operation to activate four rocks simultaneously. Our QSO count of 45,820 almost doubled all the previous operations put together.

In addition, the method of fundraising using PayPal and online web donations made it easy for Amateur operators worldwide to contribute financial support to the operation and see their donations listed on the

website in near real time. Hundreds of individuals donated funds showing the huge demand for BS7.

There were some who had doubts about being able to activate one of the most politically sensitive DXCC entities but, in the end, we were able to announce at HamCom in Dallas that all individuals who contributed would be the first to get their Logbook of the World credits for BS7. It was our way of saying “Thank You” to all those that provided support.

The entire team extends our most sincere thanks to those around the world who worked diligently behind the scenes. We also thank our equipment sponsors, without your assistance this trip would have been impossible. We received major support from NCDXF, INDEXA, ARRL Colvin Award, The Carolina DX Association and the German DX Foundation. We thank them, too, for their contributions. 

SEDCO III

— *Rusty Epps, W6OAT*

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of the Southeastern DX & Contesting Organization (SEDCO) was held in Pigeon Forge, TN, USA on Saturday, 29 September 2007. In 2005, Lynn Lamb, W4NL; Rosie Lamb, KA4S, and George Domnick, W4UWC, organized SEDCO to promote fellowship, education and entertainment for DXers and Contesters. This was my first year attending the SEDCO gathering and from my perspective, it succeeded royally in meeting all three of those goals.

The town of Pigeon Forge is in a beautiful part of eastern Tennessee near the entrance to the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. It also happens to be only a couple of miles away from the Ten-Tec factory, just up the road in Sevierville, TN. SEDCO’s convention is timed to coincide with the big Ten-Tec Hamfest, drawing hundreds of visitors. Early Saturday morning we drove up



SEDCO organizers Lynn, W4NL and Rosie, KA4S with NCDXF Director Rusty, W6OAT (right).

to Ten-Tec to take a factory tour and check out their latest Ham equipment.

Ten-Tec sets up a big tent adjacent to the factory and inside has all their various radios running and connected to real antennas. Not only do you get to see them, you actually get to use them. The Ten-Tec Hamfest also boasts a large flea market where you can find just about anything related to Amateur Radio.

The SEDCO convention itself kicked off at 1 p.m. Saturday with a full program of presentations devoted *(continued on page 15)*

BCC goes to Norfolk Island — VK9DNX

— Dieter Schuster, DL8OH

SITUATED ON THE SOUTHWEST rim of the Pacific Ocean, Norfolk Island, which is of volcanic origin and blessed by a mild subtropical climate, offers various landscapes and lavish vegetation. The island is not only popular with many tourists but the site of a DXpedition organized and performed by members of the Bavarian Contest Club (BCC) from 15 February to 3 March 2007.

Although Norfolk Island does not belong to the rarest of DXCC entities, the demand for contacts was huge and we were very pleased to help many a DXer with a new entity, not only on the low bands but also on higher frequencies and in different modes.

Why Norfolk?

Amongst our experienced contest operators, we have two, Dietmar Kasper, DL3DXX, and Jörg Puchstein, DL8WPX, who had been to the Pacific islands several times; however, Norfolk was missing on their list, so they were the inspiration to travel to that place. Chris Janssen, DL1MGB, took the idea and within a short time, Dietmar, DL3DXX; Tom Koglin, DL5LYM, and Marc Van Bergerem, DJ7EO joined. Then rumors spread and the rest of the crew, Jörg, DL8WPX; Heye, DJ9RR; Ben Och, DL6FBL and myself, DL8OH materialized — all of us members of the BCC with excellent know-how and plenty of contest experience.

Our call, VK9DNX, brought a lot of confusion right from the beginning. Even Australian OM had difficulty understanding the logic of this call. The first letter of the suffix indicates the license class, “D” means the “highest” class, the second letter “N” indicates the location (i.e. Norfolk Island), the third letter is just consecutively or random.

Getting to Norfolk

James Cook discovered the island in 1774 on his second voyage and named it after the Duchess of Norfolk. Situated in the Southwest Pacific, 1,600 kilometers east of Australia and 1,000 kilometers north of New Zealand, Norfolk is a relatively small spot, only 5 by 8 kilometers wide. A pleasant subtropical climate made life easy; it never got too hot because of the never-ending gentle breeze.

Norfolk is easily reached by plane. During WWII, Americans built a military airfield, now renovated and mainly used by visitors from Australia and New Zealand. “Newlyweds and nearly deads,” as the islanders say, less respectfully, in their own particular kind of humour, are the majority among all tourists. The Customs officer in Sydney must have had this in mind when he mustered us with our piles of luggage and uttered, “You don’t match the profile!”

By the way, flying from Sydney to Norfolk Island officially means leaving Australia. You have to travel from the international airport, not the domestic one.

Our first impression of Norfolk, from the air, was that it was much smaller than expected; it was lovely green and there were quite a number of houses scattered over the island.

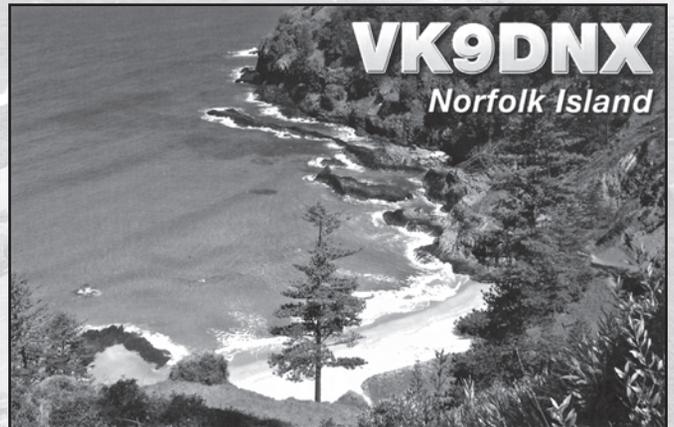
At the Norfolk airport we left the plane via gangway, went by foot to the arrival building and queued up. Customs had many questions about why and what we intended to do during our stay. We told them something of Ham Radio, antennas and radios and suddenly a smile appeared on his

face, and he said, “Oh, yes, radio, like Jim Smith!” and quickly finished his job as we assured him we would take back every single piece of equipment when leaving the island.

Jim Smith, VK9NS, was well known; he opened the door for us without knowing it.

Station setup

Ben, DL6FBL, and Jörg, DL8WPX had arrived a couple of hours earlier than the rest of the crew and had already installed an HF 6V-vertical and a monoband vertical for 30M and began operation.



Jörg picked us up at the airport and took us to the Pacific Palms Lodge, our home for the next two weeks. This place turned out to be a gem, in terms of Ham Radio. Situated only 200 meters away from the 80-meter-high steep coast, it promised that all antennas would “see the water!”

The joint efforts of our highly motivated team put up all antennas by the end of the next day, two separate verticals for 80M and 160M, a 5-band Spiderbeam (10M to 20M), another Spiderbeam for 12M and 17M and a flagpole waving the flags of Norfolk Island, the Bavarian Contest Club and Germany. A 40-meter-tall Norfolk pine became the object of our desire, because it was only 100 meters away from the coastline. We hung a 20M inverted V into the top of the tree and, believe it or not, this simple dipole turned out to be the real workhorse antenna for 20M because of its prominent location.

With kind permission of the neighbor, we were able to erect the 160M vertical on his premises, which gave

us a favorable distance between the 80M and 160M verticals.

Two dipoles for 30M and 40M gave us single-band aerials for nine bands. With two Beverages, one into W and the other into JA and Europe, our antenna setup was finished and more than 500 meters of coaxial cable covered the landscape.

Our radios consisted of two Icom736s, two Elecraft K2/100s, one Kenwood TS480 as well as three Acom 1000 linears. We logged with WinTest Contest logging software in DXpedition mode and had continuous Internet (and the DX Cluster) over a DSL line.

Operation goals

Our main objective was to serve the low bands and concentrate on CW to give a chance to as many as possible. Secondly, we wanted to anticipate every opening of the high bands and react very quickly with band changes to follow propagation as close as possible. We wanted RTTY and SSB to have a decent part of operating time. Considering that Norfolk Island is not among the world's most-wanted DXCC entities, we agreed 40,000

QSOs would be a nice result.

The results were even better...

Low bands

It was a great surprise to see how well 160M was doing. More than 2,000 Qs surpassed all our expectations. Even those of us who had some experience in operating from the Pacific area were overwhelmed. Each night brought us openings to Europe; reaching 681 total, more than from Asia (599) and even more than from America (672). Unfortunately, no one from South America was worked on 160M.

We definitely noticed a change in traffic. Not too long ago there were relatively few top band specialists who not only produced good signals but, thanks to sophisticated receiving antennas, were very capable in copying weak signals.

Today, Internet and DX Clusters are bringing more casual DXers on top band; like operators with linears, but with little or no space for receiving antennas. I did observe a trend that substitutes bad ears with unlimited calling. In our case we had many callers who did not respond when

we came back to them; instead they kept calling. Someone finally spotted our new frequency in a cluster and within seconds all callers followed. This kind of traffic not only disturbs other stations considerably, but it is unprofessional and very likely those stations will not make it in the log. This behavior was noted on 160M and sometimes on 80M.

Thanks to our two Beverages and favorable propagation, our contest-proven operators could hear very well.

80M (6,376 Qs) and 40M (8,108 Qs) gave us excellent results. Unfortunately, some commercial jammers paralyzed whole segments on 80M and 40M for hours especially in SSB. QSY to CW cured most of the problem, not letting us miss any band openings. 30M was fascinating; we heard signals around the clock, from nearly all directions, but most signals were very weak and difficult to discern. In spite of this, our modest antenna made more than 6,600 Qs possible.

High bands

Surprisingly, the high bands were in a good shape in spite of the actual sunspot minimum. On 10M and 12M our expectations were fairly low. Propagation was very capricious but we had some very nice openings, which brought more 6,100 Qs into our log; 70% were Japanese. Unfortunately, the path to Europe was extremely volatile so on 10M and 12M we only had 730 Qs with Europe, of which 94% were in CW. Bread and butter business ran on 15M, 17M and 20M. With 33,000 Qs, these three bands covered more than 50% of all our QSOs.

20M was the workhorse like usual and we were fascinated by the never flattening pileups through the last day of our DXpedition. That 20M inverted V on top of the Norfolk Pine turned out to be a real pileup booster. If we would have had the luxury of an additional separate 20M station, we would have had an even better result.

On 27 February we keyed in QSO number 50,000 and there was a small ceremony with a couple of whiskies. The whole team now was determined to crack 60,000 Qs!



Clockwise, from top left: Tom, DL5LYM on 80M; Dietmar, DL3DXX on 160M in CW; Jörg, DL8WPX in the CW pileup; Ben, DL6FBL (left), on 20M, and Heye, DJ9RR in RTTY, and (center photo) Markus, DJ7EO in the SSB pileup.



VK9DNX in front of Sydney's Opera House (from left) Ben, DL6FBL; Heye, DJ9RR; Tom, DL5LYM; Dietmar, DL3DXX; Jörg, DL8WPX; Chris, DL1MGB; Markus, DJ7EO and Dieter, DL8OH.

Contests

Two major contests took place while we were on Norfolk Island and as a matter of course, a BCC member has to participate in them. VK9N was not a good place for the 160M SSB contest as our remote location was too far away from contest business to really play the game. We could copy dozens of stations but were only able to put 12 stations into the contest log.

The ARRL DX-CW contest turned out to be much better. We could operate all bands except 10M with nice openings from time to time. Our highlights were 15M with 691 Qs and 63 states/provinces and 80M with 472 Qs and 49 states/provinces. Totally we achieved 1,878 Qs and at 1.3 million points.

Duty calls

Well-known among the Amateur Radio community is that Norfolk Island houses two active DXers with worldwide reputations, Kirsti Jenkins-Smith, VK9NL, and Jim Smith, VK9NS. We sent a small delegation of four to make a visit and deliver our greetings. We presented our BCC pennant with an inscription and had a nice afternoon chatting about DXpeditions

and little stories about Ham Radio life.

Jim, a native-born Scot, is in his late 70s now and is still very active and fit. Kirsti, of Norwegian descent, came to Norfolk in her young years and they met on the island many years ago. They have organized many DXpeditions themselves and have plenty of stories to tell. We visited Jim's substantial collection of vintage Collins equipment and had a glance at the office of Heard Island DX Association.

Jim wanted to shorten his mast a couple of sections to make the beam easier to reach by a cherry picker because, at his age, tower climbing has become more troublesome. We were happy to jump in and take down Jim's homebrew log-periodic antenna and three tower sections.

Norfolk Island

Even with all the radio activities there was time to explore the island. Of the two small towns on the island, Kingston is the main town and place of the first settlements and is residence of the government today. Burnt Pine is somewhat larger and situated in the center of the island quite close to the airport. It houses many shops (some duty free), hotels, restaurants, super-

markets and even a beer brewery.

The roads are in good condition and there are no traffic lights; driving is on the left. Ducks and cows have the right of way.

On our last day, just half an hour after sunrise, electricity collapsed and shut the station down. We had more than 61,500 Qs in the log, so we called it a day, took antennas down and dismantled the operating positions. A few hours, later the job was done and we were ready to go.

Jim and Kirsti joined our farewell dinner and we had a nice evening with cool drinks, nice conversation, delicious food and a lot of fun.

Summary

Salient success factors were a good fitting team and perfect preparation. All VK9DNX operators are BCC members and active testers. They know each other in person from several contests and former DXpeditions.

There were specialists but no egotists. All antenna work was done in a smooth, effective and nearly silent way. All equipment had been tested at home, we had enough material to experiment and plenty of coax cable. The whole setup was working after only a few hours.

Our motivation was excellent and was even strengthened by positive



One way to repair a VKO knob.

feedback, which we received day after day on our webpage's guestbook, www.df3cb.com/VK9DNX.

We got used to the Australian beer very quickly and soon became the best customers of Norfolk's only liquor store. They will miss these funny Germans who bought beer four crates at a time.

We appreciate the support we

BAND	SSB	CW	RTTY
160	16	1,993	0
80	1,119	5,257	0
40	1,060	6,969	79
30	0	6,258	373
20	2,673	7,880	1,604
17	3,425	5,599	908
15	3,899	5,759	603
12	1,179	2,229	280
10	894	1,463	71
TOTAL	14,265	43,407	3,918

Total QSOs: 61,590

received from DX clubs like the Chiltern DX Club, Clipperton DX Club, Danish DX Group, European DX Foundation, German DX Foundation, Mediterraneo DX Club, Northern California DX Foundation, OH DX Foundation and Passau DX Club, and from many individuals, who contributed to our DXpedition.

Material donations (i.e. Spider-beam) were extremely useful and very welcome.

It was great fun for all of us and we happily borrow these last words: "Where do we go next?"

35 years...

(continued from page 1)

network circled the globe with beacon signals every 10 minutes. Responding to the outpouring of favorable reports from DXers and academics, NCDXF joined forces with the IARU to expand the network once again. This led to the establishment of today's 18 beacons, each transmitting for 10 seconds at four different power levels on each of five different amateur bands (20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters), and circling the globe in just three minutes. Monitoring the beacon network has become one of the most popular ways DXers and DXpeditioners alike now check on propagation from their QTHs to other locations around the world.

In 1997, Don Doughty, W6EEN, endowed NCDXF with a large grant to support scholarships for students who were active Amateurs and evidenced an interest in DXing. Ongoing

NCDXF Beacon stations

— Peter Jennings, VE3SUN/AB6WM

THANKS TO THE EFFORTS of numerous individuals and some Amateur Radio clubs, it is now possible to check on propagation from the beacons to various locations around the world by viewing a few webpages.

Each monitoring site webpage shows the paths that have been open during the past hours or days to all of the 18 beacons.

Looking closely at the charts published by monitoring stations east of your location can show openings that will occur later in your day or alert you to the general state of the bands. Even short term openings on the higher bands show up, alerting you to the possibility of openings on 10- or 12-meters as the propagation shifts around the world.

Links to the various monitoring stations are on the International Beacon Project website at www.ncdxf.org/beacon/monitors.html. New monitoring stations are appearing regularly and we hope there will soon be coverage from all geographical areas.

support by NCDXF members has expanded the scholarship endowment and permitted the NCDXF to make four scholarship grants in 2007.

It is true that NCDXF has been blessed with a few large donations over the years, but equally important are the smaller contributions year after year from active DXers. This is the core source of funding which helps us meet our main objective of activating rare DX entities. As we move into our next 35 years, NCDXF thanks everyone who supports us and we want to assure you that we will diligently strive to use your donations to fund quality DXpeditions to the new and rare countries that most certainly will be with us as long as there is DX.

Very 73,



Len Gerardi, K6ANP
President, NCDXF

Start your own station

If you have some spare computing time on your computer, and some spare listening time on your radio, you can provide a useful service by creating your own beacon monitoring station on the web. It is not necessary to provide a 24/7 service. Monitoring a few days a week can provide useful information to those studying propagation patterns.

Simple instructions are available on the web at www.ve3sun.com/faros. It is as easy as installing the Faros program on your PC, connecting a radio to your computer sound input, and using an ftp program with mirroring capabilities to automatically upload the graphic files to your personal webpage.

Installing and operating a monitoring station can be a great club project combining both radio and computer skills from various club members.

Beacon news

Gwyn Williams, G4FKH, recently completed a four-month study of long path openings from the UK to New Zealand using the ZL6B beacon. His analysis showed how the openings related to the changing sunrise and sunset times at each end of the path and the types of ionospheric reflections involved. The complete paper is available online at www.ncdxf.org/beacon/abeacon/g4fkh-longpath.html.

This is another great example of how the International Beacon Project provides a tool Amateurs can use to study various aspects of propagation.

International Beacon Project

The IBP is managed by a committee consisting of Charlie Mason, W4NJK (NCDXF and operator liaison), Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN (IARU liaison/webmaster), and Steve Lund, K6UM (technical operations). More information on the beacons is available on the website at www.ncdxf.org/beacons.

Northern California DX Foundation 2007 Scholarship Awards

JAI RIDEOUT, KD7TRP

A resident of Camp Verde, AZ, Jai was first licensed in 2003 and currently holds an Amateur Extra Class license. He is a member of the Camp Verde School Amateur Radio Club where he has tutored other students in their quest to obtain an Amateur Radio license and participated in Kid's Day. He is currently a member of SATERN.



Jai is active on 2M and checks into the Western AZ SATERN net on 75/80. His Ham Radio experience has segued into computer studies and led to a Cisco computer certification.

Jai will enroll at Northern Arizona University College of Engineering to earn a degree in computer science. His career goal is to become a software engineer/programmer. 

NICHOLAS BAUER, KC9GZY

A resident of Bloomington, IN, Nick earned his General Class license in 2005. He was a member of the Bloomington High School ARC since 2003 and held the office of President for two years. He is a trained Skywarn spotter and a member of both ARES and RACES. Nick enjoys DXing on 20-, 17- and 40-meters operating SSB.

Nick graduated from Bloomington High School with a 3.98 GPA and ranked 14 in a class of 437; he currently attends Indiana University where he is studying marketing and finance with plans for a career in real estate or financial services. 



ANDREW SWALINA, WA4JJZ

A resident of Aiken, SC, Andy holds an Advanced license, having been licensed since 1974. Andy has been an ARRL member since 1974 and holds membership in Ten-Ten, Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, the Antique Wireless Association and the Quarter Century Wireless Association.



Andy is an active operator on 80/75-, 40-, 20-, 15- and 10-meters. He prefers HF DXing and working special event stations. He has earned both WAS and DXCC. Andy has been licensed for over 30 years, having received his Novice license in the mid-1960s. He home-brewed his first CW transmitter using parts from old televisions and a 9x9 cake pan for the chassis. He became fascinated by DX in the 1970s where

every QSO became an eye-opening experience. His blend of Amateur Radio interests are led by a preference for DX rag-chewing.

Andy's academic career from high school through his current studies have yielded GPAs of 3.45 to 3.95. After receiving a BS in Physics and a position at the U.S. Nuclear Weapons Arsenal, Andy is currently enrolled at NOVA Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, where he is on track to receive a doctorate in Management Science: International Operations and Organizational Behavior. 

JONATHAN BAIZE, AD5OJ

A resident of Fort Davis, TX, Jonathan earned his Amateur Extra license in March

2003. He is a member of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club and the ARRL since 2003.

After graduating via a home

schooling curriculum with a 4.0 GPA, Jonathan currently carries a 4.0 GPA at Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC, where he is concentrating his studies in electronics and computer technology with an eye to a career in aerospace communications.

Jonathan operates SSB and CW on the 15-, 20-, 40- and 80-meter bands. He enjoys DXing and has made contacts on six continents and about 100 countries. 



IRA DISTRIBUTIONS 2007

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 offers attractive giving opportunities in 2007.

If you are over the age of 70½ and taking "Required Minimum Distributions" from an IRA then you can make a direct contribution from the IRA to NCDXF for some or all of the RMD.

The Pension Law changes are such that you DO NOT pay taxes on the RMD that is directed toward a 501(c)3. The portion of the RMD that is gifted does not add to your total taxable income so you avoid taxes at a higher level of income and also avoid a reduction in your realized Social Security benefits. These changes are only currently in effect through 2007.

As always, you should discuss this with your tax preparer and/or financial advisor.

Oregon Hams help a Bangladesh Amateur

— John Core KX7YT

GENEROUS AMATEUR RADIO operators, clubs and a radio retail store have contributed over \$1,500 to purchase new radio equipment that will keep a prominent Bangladesh Amateur on the air.

After 25 years of service and over 20,000 QSOs, Nizam Chowdhury's, S21B, Icom 730 HF radio died as a result of a passing electrical storm. Nizam is perhaps the most active HF operator in Bangladesh, passing out new country credits to thousands of Hams worldwide. In May 2007, he contacted me, his QSL manager, asking for help in locating a replacement radio. Since there are no retail Amateur Radio stores and little used HF radio equipment in Bangladesh, equipment must come from abroad.

Nizam has a long history as a prominent DXer, a founder of Amateur Radio in Bangladesh and past president of the Bangladesh Amateur Radio League (BARL; visit www.barl.org). Bangladesh, located just east of India at the tip of the Bay of Bengal, is very poor and after the War of Independence from Pakistan in 1971, it took 21 years of BARL lobbying to get the new government to reactivate Amateur Radio frequency privileges. Finally, in 1992, licenses were issued and Bangladesh was on the air; Nizam was the second Ama-

teur to be licensed.

Nizam has used his radio equipment for public service and disaster communications on numerous occasions over the years when tropical cyclones have caused widespread damage and loss of life.

The need for replacement equipment was made known to the members of the Willamette Valley DX, the Washington County ARES Clubs, the Northern California DX Foundation and numerous other Hams, resulting in generous donations. The



Nizam and his son, Farhad, and a Yagi.



The new gear destined for Bangladesh.

funds were used to purchase a new Kenwood TS-480SAT HF transceiver, power supply, filters and a Heil headset. The equipment was personally delivered to Nizam in Bangladesh, via his son who resides in Virginia.

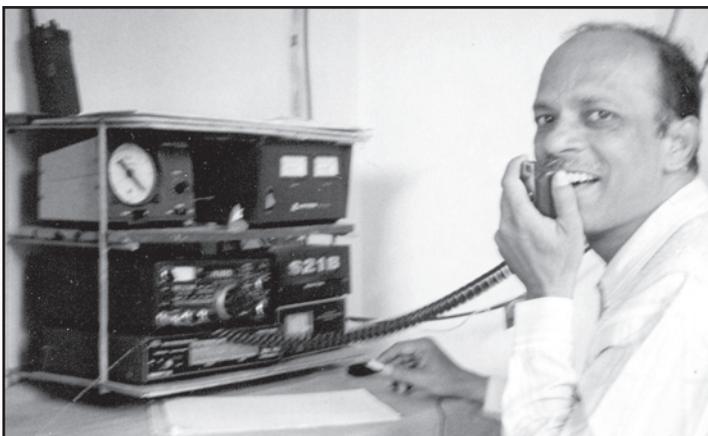
Special thanks go to the following organizations and Amateurs for

their generous support and help in keeping Bangladesh on the air: Northern California DX Foundation, Ham Radio Outlet-Portland, KE7KEI, W7KD, KE7JSS, N1KEZ, N2NS, NM7B, KA7OZO,



Leon Hummel of HRO with the purchased equipment.

N7TSZ, K7VIT, N7AAM, K7EAJ, KA7VQH, K7KWT, W9ERT, N7QQU, K7PWN, KC7PMU, K2ASP, KA7MOW, WN7O, AD7HO, K7TRP, WB6VIV, W7KXF, W7ZB, W7EYE, KC6MZY.



Nizam Chowdhury, S21B, on the air.

XF4DL – 2006 Dxpediton to Socorro Island, Revillagigedo Group

— Juergen Sturhahn, DL8LE

XF4 BELONGS TO ONE OF the most-wanted DXCC entities and, especially in Europe, the last DXpedition to Revillagigedo was unable to satisfy the existing demand. Therefore it was natural that in early 2005, when the question came up to operate from XF4, a decision was made that we get the necessary permission to start this enterprise.

Ramon, XE1KK, learned about the difficulties getting permission from the COFETEL (*Comisión Federal de Telecomunicaciones*), the Mexican licensing authority. We learned that licenses for foreigners to work from one of the Mexican islands or to participate at a contest required teams with more than 50% Mexican team-members (50-50 clause). In addition to those requirements, there were other limitations, especially from other Mexican authorities, that were not easy to overcome. With the extraordinary support of Ramon, XE1KK, and Marianne Kentzler, general man-

ager of VOGT electronic de Mexico, together with Rafael, XE1GRR, who had sent numerous faxes and e-mails and made countless phone calls, all necessary permissions were granted and we were able to plan for a DXpedition date in October/November 2006.

We obtained from COFETEL a license to work as XF4DL from Socorro Island and as XF4K from Clarion Island; landing permission of the Mexican Navy; approval of the Mexican Navy to transport all material by one of their ships and



to stay in one of their buildings on Socorro Island as well as to set up a second operation site; permission of SEMARNAT, the Mexican equivalent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and permission from the Mexican Ministry of the Interior.

Ramon also helped to set up the team by establishing the initial contact between myself, DL8LE and Jose Hector Garcia, XE2K, who could inspire a few more Mexican Hams, in particular Ismael Martinez Vizcarra, XE1AY; Antonio Rocha, XE1GRR, and Yuri Bilbatua, XE1UN who, at the end, were the main people working in the organization and planning of the DXpedition in Mexico with the support of Ramon, XE1KK. Marianne, on the other hand, organized the logistics, in particular the transportation of several tons of material.

The planned duration of the DXpedition was determined by the navy transportation schedule and together with the uncertain weather conditions we reserved a minimum of 3½ to 4 weeks time for the team members.

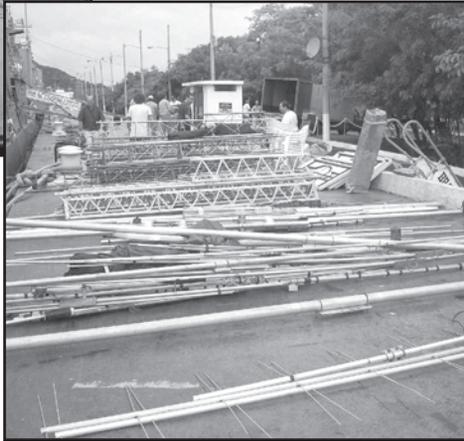
The team consisted of the following members: Joerg Tack, DF7TH; Richter Gerhard, DJ5IW; Karl-Heinz Ilg, DK2WV; Hans J. Bartels, DL1YFF; Dietmar Kasper, DL3DXX; Juergen, DL8LE; Ismael, XE1AY;



The XF4DL team.



(Above and right) Equipment ready to be loaded on board the Vallarta.



Fabian Michel Espino, XE1FRF; Daniel Palacios Esparza, XE1FXF; Saul Arias Barrios, XE1FXM; Victor Hugo Bravo Plascencia, XE1FXZ; Antonio, XE1GRR; Mireles Alba Margarito, XE1MMB; Yuri, XE1UN, and Jose, XE2K. The team was completed by pilots Chris Sauvageot, DL5NAM and Joaquin Solana, XE1YJS, and QSL managers Uwe Scherf, DL9NDS and Fred K. Stenger, N6AWD.

The DXpedition was scheduled near the minimum of the present sunspot cycle. In order to compensate a little bit with the difficult propagation conditions, we planned to use two operation sites: one a Mexican Navy camp on Socorro Island; the other, a former radar site near the airstrip, a location with a balcony more than 300 meters above sea level on the Pacific Ocean with free view between 0° and 180°. We planned to use digital modes like PSK31 and PSK63 with programs like WinWarbler by AA6YQ and Multipsk by F6CTE, which allow multi-channel decoding to provide better opportunities, especially for the little pistols, to have a contact with XF4DL. The necessary interfaces were provided by microHam.

As the location of the navy camp would not allow any low angle radiation towards Europe or North America it was mandatory to have

good antennas as well as reliable power amplifiers. In that respect, we had excellent support by Alpha Radio Products, which provided an Alpha 99 and an Alpha 8100 as well as a 6 Meter amplifier. It turned out that, during the operation, even with the low voltage of 110V we had a solid and very reliable continuous output of more than 1kW even with the

heavy usage under pileup conditions.

The detailed planning of the operation ended up with more than five tons of material, including 1,800 liters of gasoline, three generators, several hundred liters of drinking water, aluminum tubes for multi-element monobanders from 6 to 40 Meters and more than 70 meters of tower sections for aluminum towers. All this material needed to be transported, more or less manually, across three other navy ships to the *Vallarta*, the ship the Mexican Navy provided for the transport between Manzanillo and Revillagigedo, and from the *Vallarta* to smaller boats to transport the materials to the island. This was an excellent example of how well a multinational team was able to cooperate very effectively, and had only come together for the first time in Manzanillo.

On the air

The first station was set up in the Navy camp on Socorro Island, and the first QSO in the log was on 18 Oct, 2327 UTC with W6TP on 20M SSB. The pileup was as huge as

expected and QSO rates were running between 120 and 160 QSOs an hour.

Setting up the second operation at the former radar site turned out to be quite difficult. Transporting the material was time consuming because of very poor road conditions between the camp and the site, and the existing small hut was heavily damaged. Some animals inhabited it and the heavy wind carried red volcano dust through the open windows — not the nicest environment for sensitive electronic equipment. Despite those unpleasant conditions, the station was set up after 24 hours of hard work, especially by some of the Mexican team members, who were very innovative in finding a workaround for all those difficulties.

After the antennas had been set up and the generators, stations, sleeping tents and cooking facilities, the weather got even worse — Hurricane Paul was approaching Socorro Island. The commanding officer requested we dismantle the second operation immediately and evacuate to the camp for safety reasons.

Unfortunately we were unable to disassemble the three-element 20M beam, the Titanex V80 and the Butternut HF9V before the storm hit the island. After the hurricane, the 20M beam elements had a nice V-shape, but the verticals didn't show



XE2K preparing A3S for CQ WW contest.

Right: Operating on Clarion Island. Below: Operating from Site 2 on Sorocco Island.



and NA on 30M from that site as well. We had also installed antennas for satellite communication and for 6M EME, but due to power line problems, we were unable to work on 6M EME.

XE1GRR, XE2K and DL8LE went to Clarion, IOTA NA-115, about 400 kilometers west of So-

corro, at the end of the operation and worked there for some hours under the call XF4K. The last QSO in the XF4DL log was with WO7Y on 5 Nov, 1234 UTC, on 40M CW.

Results

We considered the DXpedition quite successful even though we were not able to meet all our targets. We had a good ratio between CW and SSB, but it was very clear

QSO percentage by continent

Asia	22.4%
Europe	16.6%
North America	56.4%
South America	2.6%
Africa	0.5%
Oceania	1.5%
Antarctica	0.0% (1 QSO)

that PSK was not as popular as RTTY and trying to promote PSK63 because of its far better characteristics compared to RTTY was not achieved. There were mainly some JAs and UAs working in PSK63, and it was a real pleasure to see how the QSO rate increased compared to previous RTTY QSOs but we stopped using that mode after calling CQ without any response. It seemed that people didn't use that mode as long as RTTY was offered.

The majority of QSOs were with NA; we were disappointed with the number of QSOs with Europe. The main reasons were the difficult propagation path through the auroral zones, especially the path to stations in North and Eastern Europe, all resulting from the fact that we could not use the former radar site as planned. Overall, however, the team is proud of the total QSO numbers achieved in the minimum of a sunspot cycle and under quite tough environmental conditions.

We thank all our sponsors and companies as well as organizations and individuals for their help and support; without it this DXpedition would have been impossible. 

any problem, despite having seriously bent upper portions that were not guyed. By the way, even in the middle of the hurricane, when we were unable to go outside to use a satellite phone, we could communicate with the outside world via e-mails using PACTOR-III and Winlink. It is worth mentioning that the SCS PTC-II provided a reliable communication link to a PACTOR gateway in southern California, and a large number of e-mails were transferred between the team and recipients all over the world.

As the probability of another hurricane developing was quite high, we could only operate from the camp. The commanding officer, however, assigned a building about 400 meters away from our operation site to set up another station. The propagation from that site to EU and NA was extremely poor because the antennas were just beaming against the surrounding hills. Nevertheless, it was possible to have some nice contacts with EU

Band	SSB	CW	RTTY	FM	SSTV	PSK31	PSK63	Totals
160	584	2,457	0	0	0	0	0	3,041
80	2,512	4,132	0	0	0	0	0	6,644
40	3,275	4,939	293	0	0	0	0	8,507
30	0	5,173	324	0	0	282	63	5,842
20	9,124	4,193	1,193	0	34	423	68	15,035
17	3,363	3,548	1,557	0	0	138	61	8,667
15	5,438	2,540	0	0	0	59	0	8,037
12	1,001	801	0	0	0	0	0	1,802
10	913	123	0	0	0	0	0	1,036
2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
70cm	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	18
Totals	26,213	27,906	3,367	18	34	902	192	58,632

W9DXCC Convention

(continued from page 1)

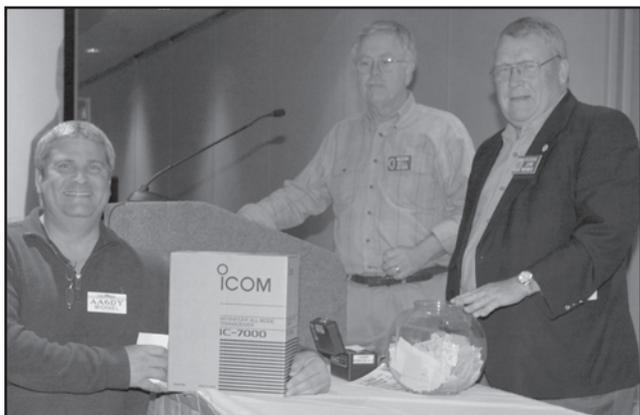
banquet presentation on VU7RG by Glenn Johnson, WØGJ. I could not help but notice that all three of these operations were made possible, in part, by significant NCDXF grants.

Tom Vinson, NYØV, really captured the audience's attention as he detailed the role of several Amateur

going to NCDXF. This year, ICOM donated the very popular IC-7000 compact HF/VHF/UHF all-mode transceiver. The raffle resulted in the very generous donation of \$2,530 to NCDXF. We thank ICOM America, NIDXA and everyone who bought raffle tickets for the continued support of NCDXF.

Mark your calendars now for W9DXCC 2008 on 19-20 September 2008. As word continues to spread, more and more DXers from outside the W9 area are showing up at W9DXCC. With a little advance planning, airfare to Chicago can be quite reasonable from almost anywhere. Bring the XYL and make a nice weekend

out of it. I hope to see you there! ☺



Michael Seedman, AA6DY, was the lucky winner of the raffle prize donated by ICOM.

Radio operators in the ongoing research effort to find Amelia Earhart's plane. Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, of Elecraft gave us all the inside scoop on the next-generation K3 transceiver; the program was rounded out with even more top-notch presentations on propagation, the IOTA program, loop antenna arrays and the ARRL Forum.

By the way, the W9DXCC Master of Ceremonies, Jim O'Connell, W9WU, is absolutely legendary and his irreverent humor really kept things moving. Jim was honored at this year's banquet for his decades of service to W9DXCC and NIDXA.

In recent years, the W9DXCC organizers have been kind enough to allow for an NCDXF update during the convention program. On top of that, NIDXA teamed with ICOM America to make available a brand new ICOM transceiver as a raffle prize at W9DXCC, with the receipts



Tim Totten, N4GN (right), accepts a check on behalf of NCDXF from Bill Smith, W9VA.



SEDCO III

(continued from page 5)

to DXing, contesting, station construction and ways to attract youth into our hobby. The presenters were a veritable who's who of famous DXers and Contesters.

The audience was filled with members from the Tennessee Contest Group, the Carolina DX Association, the East Tennessee DX Association and the Southeastern DX Club. For me, coming from California, it was wonderful to finally associate faces with all those call signs I've been working for decades. Throughout all the presentations, Gary Dixon, K4MQG, and Don Prater, W4TO, sat at a table in the back of the room dutifully field checking QSL cards for various ARRL and CQ awards.

One of the highlights of the convention was the raffle. There were many small items, but the two main prizes were an IC-756ProIII donated by ICOM America and an FT-950 donated by Yaesu. Because SEDCO is a relatively small convention, the odds of winning a main prize are good; thus, ticket sales were brisk. What is wonderful about all this is that SEDCO, as a non-profit organization, immediately donates the proceeds from the raffle right back to the DX and Contesting communities. This year's recipients of the raffle bounty were NCDXF, INDEXA and Uncle DX (who prints and widely distributes suggestions for proper DX pileup behavior). I was honored to be able to accept SEDCO's generous donation on behalf of NCDXF.

With an attendance of about 125 to 150 persons, SEDCO is the ideal size if you want to work the crowd and meet all the other attendees. It's somewhat like a "pileup of people." Just keep up the rate of shaking hands and saying, "Hello," and soon your logbook will be full.

If you find yourself in the southeastern part of the USA next fall, I'd definitely recommend the SEDCO Convention as a great place to meet a lot of top flight DXers, contesters and, generally, all around fine folks. ☺

DXPEDITION LENDING LIBRARY

The **NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION** has a number of VHS/DVD videos and Microsoft® PowerPoint presentations on CD-ROM available for loan to organizations wishing to show them at their meetings. There is no charge to use the programs in the **FOUNDATION'S** library, but clubs borrowing materials are responsible for postage in both directions. Please submit your request at least two weeks prior to your meeting and the program will be sent by First Class mail (CD/DVDs, \$2 each; VHS, \$3 each). Priority Mail rates start at \$5, depending on weight and destination.

In your request, please provide the name of the club, your meeting date and an alternate selection in case your first selection is not available. Please return all material promptly so that it will be available for others.

Submit your request in writing to Dick Wilson, K6LRN, via e-mail at k6lrn@arrl.net... or surface mail to PO Box 273, Somerset, CA 95684-0273, USA (*please allow an additional week if your request is sent via surface mail*).

The following is a very abbreviated listing of videos, DVDs and CD-ROMs; for a complete listing of programs available for your club's use, please visit our website, www.ncdx.org, and click on "Videos."

For items 1-109, please visit our website, www.ncdx.org

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 110. Ham Radio Olympics (WRTC 2000) | 117. 3XY7C Guinea 2002, DL7DF | 126. AH1A Howland Island Jan/Feb 1993 (DVD) |
| 111. K5K Kingman Reef, 2002 | 118. K4UEE Top Expeditions | 127. 5A7A Libya 2006 DXpedition by Rudi, DK7PE (VHS, DVD) |
| 112. D68C Comoros Islands | 119. 3B9C Rodrigues (VHS/DVD) | 128. J2ØMM Moucha Island DXpedition (off the coast of Djibouti) (VHS, DVD) |
| 113. I2UIY Niger/5U 2001 & 2002 (PowerPoint) | 120. TN3B/TN3W Congo 2003 (PowerPoint) | 129. 3YØX Peter I (VHS, DVD) |
| 114. VP8THU South Sandwich, 2002 | 121. Banaba T33C 2004 (VHS/DVD) | 130. WRTC 2006 Florianopolis (VHS, DVD) |
| 115. VP8GEO South Georgia, 2002 | 122. TJ3FR/TJ3SP Cameroon (VHS/DVD) | 131. ZL7II Chatham Island (PowerPoint) |
| 116. WRTC 2002, Finland | 123. FT5XO Kerguelen 2005 (DVD) | |
| | 124. K7C Kure Atoll DXpedition 2005 (DVD) | |
| | 125. 6OØN Somalia 2006 (PowerPoint) | |

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