

# THE EASTERN IOWA DXer

Eastern Iowa DX Association Newsletter - January 1987

**HAPPY NEW YEAR de W0VX**

## JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting of the EIDX will be held on  
Friday, January 16, 1987

Place: Linn County REC  
999 35th St., Marion

Time: 7:00 PM - Social Gathering  
7:30 PM - Business Meeting  
8:30 PM - Program

Program: How to Contest by W0EJ

Learn how to do it! What to do before, during and after a contest. How to scope out the propagation. When to run and when to hunt. How to get the multipliers and more. If you have been wondering what contesting is all about, this is for you!

## ELECTIONS

The following were elected at the October meeting:

President - W0VX  
Vice President - KF0Z  
Sec/Treasurer - W0IZ

In addition, the following appointments have been made:

Net Manager - KQVZR  
Refreshment Chairman - W0IZ  
Cleanup Chairman - OPEN  
Banquet Chairman - OPEN  
Program Chairman - OPEN

Special thanks to VZR and IZ for their help with the net and meeting refreshments. As you can see, we still need help in a couple of other areas.

## EIDX NET

The EIDX Info Net continues to meet on 145.19 at 9:00 PM local time every Monday night. With things happening on Peter I, Heard, and Spratly Is., can you afford to miss net? You may have Heard and Spratly but I know you don't have a card from Peter I! Get the straight scoop on Monday night.

## EIDX REPEATER .....de W0MJN

It has been nearly six years since we put the EIDX repeater on the air in 1981. Those of you who were members of the EIDX at that time will recall that our repeater project was made possible by passing the hat among the membership for financial donations, a donated 150 watt PA, and a lot of time and effort from Al Groff (KQVM) and Bob Hill (W4NIM) to put the repeater on the air. Considering the length of time that we have had the 145.19 repeater on the air, the maintenance and operating expenses that we have incurred over the years has been very minimal. Al and Bob have continued to provide the maintenance and Bob has been donating the electricity and tower space for the transmit site.

As many of you now know, our 145.19 repeater has recently been plagued by chronic PA problems; and with the PA's most recent failure, it is now beyond repair. To say it bluntly: the old PA is dead, we need to buy a new PA, it will cost \$250, so it's time to again pass the hat. Prior to the last meeting, the repeater fund had a balance of \$69. During the last meeting, the hat was passed and an additional \$42 was collected, increasing the balance to \$111. Of the \$111 balance, we spent \$90 for new PA transistors the last time the PA got sick, leaving a current balance of \$21. Considering the size of our club, the minimal club dues, the coverage area of the repeater, and the dollars we each spend on HF gear and QSL cards, I don't think it is unreasonable for each of us to kick in \$6 to \$10 at the next club meeting to get our repeater back to good operating and good coverage condition.

When the hat is passed at the next club meeting, keep in mind that the EIDX is your club and that the 145.19 machine is your repeater. They are your responsibility too, not just the other guy's. Be generous so we can keep the machine on. Consider contributing the cost of a few hundred QSLs. If you can't make the meeting, send a check to W0IZ and let him know it is for the repeater fund.

DUES DUE - SEE PAGE 7

## From the VP - de KFOZ

The infamous Mr. Jaksa is manipulating my guilt over not being available to produce the first issue of the newsletter as stipulated in my job description. He seems to think that one can snatch these things out of thin air. But then again, of course, being haas, we're all accustomed to snatching things out of thin air, aren't we? In fact, this past weekend, after a longish lull in activity (most of the last two years?), I found myself getting hooked by the 1986 10 Meter Contest. I have never run very high power (200 - 220 watts input; who knows what out?). After moving across metropolitan Mt. Vernon this summer, I have only had occasion to put up a fairly large dipole (90-foot legs, inverted vee configuration, center point (inside the attic!) up about 30 feet). To make matters worse, I am well down a hill that rises to my northwest and is covered with trees (an aesthetic boon, but a minor propagation disaster). What kept me from getting out of the habit of getting on the air altogether this summer during the move, an endless wait for the room destined to be my shack/office/study finished out, cataract surgery (I couldn't read for a month or so), and the adoption of a toddler from Central America, was packet radio. My second best two meter rig, my computer, and my second best mag mount antenna first sat on a window air conditioner at the old house, and then on a bookcase in an upstairs bedroom at the new house, while I plumbed this weird new mode.

I could always hit SOMETHING that would allow me to digipeat to the local bulletin board or to those I wanted to talk to in CR and along the more dependable digipeater routes in surrounding areas. This is a mode that takes some figuring out. Between TNC's, computers, modems, an entirely new jargon, and some conceptual differences from anything else I've tried, it took a goodly while to figure out. It kept a mild hankering for RTTY and other bands alive in me, though, and once established in the new shack, getting on RTTY got me to wanting to get back on CW (ragchewing on 30 meters and chasing DX wherever), antennas notwithstanding.

This all came to a head during the 10 meter contest. I didn't do much in that contest. I didn't have the time and propagation was the pits. But there was the old challenge to do as well as I could with what I had when I had the chance. For years I kibitzed in any contest I might stumble across. I even took the rig to Waldoboro, Maine one summer and got #2 mixed mode award for the state of Maine in the first Radiosport I had ever entered (I could have gotten #1 CW if I had known that no one else had entered that category!) as KFOZ/1. I used my Ten Tec Delta barefoot to a 75 meter dipole borrowed from KBOPR, about 110 feet of bare braid strung over the branches of scrub pines at a mean elevation of about seven feet. I was so far east that the only thing due south of me was Brazil. When the bands went out for the big guns, they were still open to me for as much as an hour. I have sent innumerable 40 and 80 meter CW QSL's to Ukrainian and Yugoslav stations who worked me when I was the only thing in North America they could hear. From Iowa, I've never worked ANY DX on 40 or 80! I didn't really believe it was possible.

But back to the contest. As little as I had, I finally had a working station set back up. My CW was rusty, but there were virtually no signals on SSB (W0EJ doesn't count). The QSB was so quick during the short intervals when I had time to operate that it was possible to tune down the bottom 100 kHz and hear NO signals, then tune right back through again and hear four or five. Sometimes they would be in South America and Texas, sometimes New England, and sometimes California. After getting tired of trying to crack piles or guess whether I was strongest to the station I was calling when he was strongest to me, I started noting the frequencies (last three digits to 100 Hz), calls, and last heard serial number. I'd call twice then move on. Sometimes I got them when they were almost inaudible, sometimes when they were peaking here. Tail-ending KJOH when I could hear him worked a couple of times. To give you some idea of what a handicap my hill might be, NCOO was the weakest station I think I have EVER successfully worked on CW. I told him in a message on the packet bulletin board that I would expect a stronger signal from a SUBMERGED Russian sub. He is less than 20 miles from me.

I wound up with a lordly 20 Q's, and I probably spent 5 hours total working that few. Still, it had been a long time and more fun than a lot of the intermittent operating I have done in the last couple of years (CW ragchewing still comes in a close second to contesting; but not all THAT close). I managed to bag a CE and an LU, and some of the W5's and W6's were even harder to work. I think I'll look around for some more contests, especially on CW and RTTY. Even with a low wire and low power, I'm still crafty enough to get in if I'm patient and figure out patterns of operation. I'm still surprised how many people rely on brute force and repetition to make a contact.

Sooner or later I'll put the beam back up along with some bigger wires (I finally have ROOM for them!). But that really doesn't matter so much as the adrenaline rush of all those folks out there making as many contacts as possible in as short a time as possible. There ain't nothing quite like it.

So, if you have the DX or contest blahs, and haven't been in the pileups recently, you might find that if you force yourself to sit down at the rig (and the EIDX net on Monday nights at 9 is a good place to find out when those times are), you might find as I did that the old thrill is still there! You might not take a first for your call area, your state, or even your town (if you live in Cedar Rapids or Marion, especially!). But it would still be fun to see if you can do better in a four-hour period than you've ever done before! Or even as well as you did in your heyday! Give it a shot!

73 Jan, KFOZ

## From the President - de WØVX

Well, here I am again, editing another issue of the EIDXer! Jan, KFOZ, his growing the family are off to New England for the holidays so I'm covering. Next issue will be Jan's!

One of my goals for the club during my term as president is to get as many people active in the club as I can. Part of what we will be doing is spreading around the club responsibility. The Net Manager and Refreshments Chairman positions are a start but we need more basic activity if we are to survive. What is the point in belonging to an organization if you are not active in it? Yeah, its always good for a line on a resume but so what?

It's tough to be an active DXer when the spots are at a minimum. These kind of conditions sort of separate the DX men from the dx boys. But take heart! Cycle 22 is upon us. One of the more interesting recent ARRL Propagation Bulletins is reprinted in this issue as it gives hope that things will get better soon.

As you no doubt noticed on page 1, we are making a small modification to the meeting format. The coffee will be on early and we will start to gather at 7:00 for a social half hour before the business meeting. This will give us all a chance to visit with members we don't see very often. Come join us and meet the members, swap lies, etc. The business meeting will start promptly at 7:30 and hopefully last no longer than 1 hour. Following a short break we will have the program on contesting by WØEJ.

We are also contemplating a mini tech topic program program of 1/2 hour length to augment our usual DX/Contest programs. We would in essence have 2 programs each meeting. One short technical session and one longer one on DXing or Contesting. The big problem will likely be controlling the time. If things ramble on we will have a meeting that lasts until midnight. Please let your board know what you would like to see.

While we are on the subject of meetings, the contract that we sign with the REC for our meeting room stipulates that we must return the room to the condition we find it in. Of late there has been a small problem with clean up. Please do your part to put the chairs away and generally straighten up the room. How clean does it have to be? Well, just pretend the XYL will be giving it the "white glove" test! We have a good no cost meeting place. Lets not blow it!

During December I received a letter from ARRL Headquarters indicating that a few of our members were no longer current ARRL members and because of that we no longer qualify as a 100% club. To refresh your memory, our constitution requires that you be an ARRL member in order to hold membership in the EIDXA. (You also must be an ARRL member to hold DXCC and to use the outgoing QSL Bureau!) Dropping your ARRL membership will result in being automatically dropped from the EIDXA. Those in question were send a letter advising them of the situation and the fact that they would be dropped from the

club unless they renewed with the ARRL. The new member list on page 4 reflects this action and deletes those who chose not to renew. By the way, dues are due NOW.

ARRL renewals can be handled through the EIDXA. We get to keep \$2.00 for each club member who renews through the club. To renew send your renewal notice and check made out to the EIDXA to Dale, WØIZ. He will put \$2 in the treasury and send the rest to HQ. Its a neat way to help the club and it doesn't cost you a cent!

The Iowa Section Manager elections are upon us. Unless you have spent the last couple of months on Peter I Island, you know that our own Wade, WØEJ is running against the current SM Rollie, WØAVN. Both are fine men with differnt skills and ideas. Wade is obviously more DX and contest oriented and Rollie is more net and public service oriented. You are encouraged to study the candidates and vote for your choice. As with most elections, the local ones are the most important. You should have your ballot by now. As the big boys say, vote and the choice is yours, don't vote and...

Contest scores for the Fall contests are shown elsewhere in this issue. To say the least, participation is down! It is tough to get enthused when propagation is down. There is, however, lots of fun and DX to be had. The ARRL DX Contest is coming up in February and March. Foras are in this issue so why not give it a shot for a couple hundred QSOs or so. Since the EIDXA constitution was modified several years ago, you are no longer required to participate in 2 contests per year to retain membership. But you are still encouraged to participate in the DX contests and contribute to the club score. It won't kill you and it will help the club make a decent showing.

As you saw on page 12 of your January QST, there is a special sticker to commemorate the 50th anniversary of DXCC. Although we don't have firm pricing yet, initial indications are that the stickers are quite expensive (about 6 cents) when ordered 1,000 at a time. The price drops to well under 2 cents each when ordered in quantities of 15,000 or 25,000. The preliminary info I have indicates that the price will be \$16-18 per 1,000 in these larger quantities. The samples they sent me are really classy looking but unfortunately they are not exactly like the sticker we want consequently the pricing may not be exact. We will have exact pricing at the meeting so if you want to class up your QSL this year as you go for the special 50 year DXCC award, bring along some \$. If things work out, we will place the order with the company immediately after the meeting. To simplify things, we will only take member orders for lots of 1,000 so if you only need 500, talk to a friend.

Once again this year we will be planning a late spring / early summer EIDXA Banquet. Since there are several new places to choose from we will likely be holding it in a different location this year. If you have suggestions for a program, would like to be on the committee, or would like to chair the committee, please let one of the officers know.

EIDXA MEMBERS (1-87)

CALL	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP	STAT	HOME PHONE
KUOA	Nelson	Moyer	28 Ealing Dr.	Iowa City	IA	52240	FULL	319-351-8775
KOAL	Al	Culbert	618 First Ave	Charles City	IA	50616	FULL	515-228-1443
WDOAWL	Terry	Cellman	511 Park	Ainsworth	IA	52201	FULL	319-657-3681
N9BD	Joe	Visalli	Rt. 2, Box 4	Parkersburg	IA	50665	FULL	319-346-2220
KZOC	Jim	Bohnsack	1169 Rainbow Dr.	Waterloo	IA	50701	FULL	319-233-7189
KOCF	Craig	Fastenow	1207 Wylde Green Rd.	Iowa City	IA	52240	FULL	319-351-8258
W0EAN	Bob	Joy	5750 Country Lane NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	FULL	319-393-6342
W0EJ	Wade	Walstrom	7431 Macon Drive NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	FULL	319-393-8982
W0FO	Gayle	Lawson	1509 Oakland Rd. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	FULL	319-364-6284
NOG0B	Tom	Gordon	6904 Brentwood Dr., N.E.	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	ASSOC	319-373-0757
K0BT	Gary	Toomsen	2730 Tower Dr.	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	FULL	319-395-9329
K0GVB	Gary	Ernst	RR 2	West Branch	IA	52358	FULL	319-643-2287
KFOH	Jim	Harvey	819 N. Main St.	Goldfield	IA	50542	FULL	515-825-3323
KJOH	John	Schwandke	1515 Lucas St.	Muscatine	IA	52761	FULL	319-263-5645
NBOH	Jack	Muckler	2084 Eastern Blvd. SE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52403	FULL	319-362-3462
KOIR	Clark	Pantel	1610 Hershey Ave.	Muscatine	IA	52761	FULL	319-263-9150
KOINR	Tom	Taylor	RR 1	Shell Rock	IA	50670	FULL	319-885-4400
W0IZ	Dale	Repp	1618 Texas Ave. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	FULL	319-393-6724
KOJGH	Glen	Kesselring	RR 47 Box 160	Ottumwa	IA	52501	FULL	515-934-5320
ABOM	Vern	Lang	110 E. 2nd St.	Muscatine	IA	52761	FULL	319-263-2697
AKOM	Steve	Sutterer	26 Deborah Dr.	St. Peters	MO	63376	FULL	
W0MJN	Joe	Finkstein	2501 27th Ave.	Marion	IA	52302	FULL	319-377-6573
NKON	Orville	Duecker	226 Southcrest	Waterloo	IA	50702	FULL	319-296-2390
W0NIM	Bob	Hill	2510 White Eagle Trail SE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52403	FULL	319-366-3975
NC00	Tom	Hise	Box 104	Shellsburg	IA	52332	ASSOC	319-436-7786
NUOP	Steve	White	380 Brentwood Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	ASSOC	319-377-1892
W0PLS	Fred	Young	RR 4 Box 150	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	ASSOC	319-393-0429
W0PPF	George	Carsner	411 Terrace Rd.	Iowa City	IA	52240	FULL	319-338-1601
KC0Q	Jeff	Russell	2125 Linear Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	FULL	319-363-4139
KD0Q	Glenn	Thorne	1210 18th St. SW	Cedar Rapids	IA	52404	FULL	319-366-0285
KKOR	Bob	Tillman	1257 Deloris Dr.	Waterloo	IA	50701	FULL	319-232-8223
N4RR	Roger	Hoffman	1006 Locust Drive	Rock Falls	IL	61071	FULL	815-625-6647
KORW	John	Lenahan	923 N. 9th St.	Burlington	IA	52601	FULL	515-682-0711
NOSM	Steve	Miller	Route 6 Box 180	Ottumwa	IA	52501	FULL	515-684-4753
W0SML	Doug	Byal	4601 Northwood Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	FULL	319-393-2974
W0SR	Jim	Spencer	3712 Tanager Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	FULL	319-393-7353
KA0SSZ	Jon	Rock	1410 Lucas	Muscatine	IA	52761	ASSOC	319-264-0341
W0UZ	John	Nelson	3109 Terry Dr. SE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52403	FULL	319-365-4432
KOVM	Al	Groff	1446 Council St. NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52402	ASSOC	319-393-8134
W0VX	Dave	Jaksa	2721 28th Ave.	Marion	IA	52302	FULL	319-377-7507
KOVZR	Tom	White	1244 4th St.	Jessup	IA	50648	FULL	319-827-6738
NGOW	Keith	Erickson	1810 Hillside Dr. NW	Cedar Rapids	IA	52405	FULL	319-396-8510
W0WP	Tom	Lindgren	1260 13th Ave.	Marion	IA	52302	FULL	319-377-4279
KCOXK	Brian	Joy	5750 Country Lane NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	FULL	319-393-6342
KEOY	Tom	Kramer	905 LeRoy	Muscatine	IA	52761	FULL	319-264-3259
W09YZH	Tom	Vinson	10211 Hall Road NE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52401	FULL	319-393-8087
ABOZ	Bill	Delaney	2818 Garden Ave.	Cedar Falls	IA	50613	FULL	319-277-5150
KFOZ	Jan	Clute	320 College Blvd.	Mount Vernon	IA	52314	FULL	319-395-6435



(do not write above this line)



# ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST



CW Third FULL weekend in February - Phone First FULL weekend in March

CALL USED \_\_\_\_\_ CW   
PHONE  ARRL SECTION (P. 8 QST) \_\_\_\_\_

Separate logs and summaries must be submitted for each mode of operation.

	Valid QSOs	Countries
Single operator	160	
<input type="checkbox"/> All band	80	
<input type="checkbox"/> Single band(circle one) 160-80-40-20-15-10	40	
<input type="checkbox"/> QRP (10w or less)	20	
Multioperator	15	
<input type="checkbox"/> Single transmitter	10	
<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-transmitter		
Multiops list ALL operators:		
<b>Total</b>		

\_\_\_\_\_ x 3 = \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ Countries =  
(Valid QSOs) (QSO Points)

\_\_\_\_\_ Claimed Score.

DC POWER INPUT - CHECK ANY USED:  10 watts or less  11-200  Over 200

YES  AFFILIATED CLUB PARTICIPATION NO   
 ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB NAME EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION  
 (Note: Club secretary must submit list of eligibles in order for club aggregate to be listed. 3 or more entries must be submitted.)

"I have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations established for amateur radio in my country. My report is correct and true to the best of my knowledge. I agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee."

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Print or type:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Check log for duplicate QSOs.
2. Copy ALL QSO info carefully. A penalty is assessed for incorrectly copied QSO info.
3. Observe mailing deadline
4. Dupe/check sheet must accompany all entries of 500 or more QSOs

October 3, 1986 Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President KOVZR at 7:45. Those present were: KUOA, WDOAWL, WOVX, KFOZ, KOIIR, WOSR, W4NIM, NKON, KFOH, KZOC, WOEJ, KOAL, KOGVB, NBOH, KCOQ, NCOO, NUOP, NOGGB, KEOM, WA9YZN, WOIZ, WOUZ, KOJGH, KAOWKT, KDORT, NGOW, KOVM, KJOH, WOWP, KEQY, KORW, KOVZR, & KCST.

A motion to accept the previous minutes as published in the EIDXer was made by KOAL and seconded by W4NIM.

Treasurer reported a balance of \$108.83 not including dues collected prior to the meeting.

W4NIM reported repairs were made to the repeater antenna but that amp problems resulting from misatch were still in process of being repaired. Expenses will deplete the repeater fund. KOAL made a motion to replenish the repeater fund. Second by WOEJ. \$41.00 was collected.

Contest committee report was in the newsletter. WOEJ suggested the club consider participation in the Iowa QSO party.

WOSR reported on DXAC activity. ARRL July board meeting approved special DXCC award commemorating 50th anniversary of DXCC. Aruba independence official in 1996 but country recognition earlier is slim. TP2I, Council of Europa, does not appear to meet criteria for country status. Terra del Fuego is being considered. The 4U1VIC issue continues to be pressed. The Alaskans are still trying for recognition of the Pribilof Islands. The July ARRL board meeting passed a resolution considering restructuring DXCC. WOSR encouraged all to write ARRL to let their ideas and feelings be known.

KFOH was nominated for membership by KOAL and second by WOEJ. Motion passed.

Nominations opened for President. WOVX was nominated by KFOZ. KCOQ was nominated by WOEJ. WOVX was elected President.

Nomination of KFOZ for Vice President was made by WOIZ. W4NIM moved nominations cease. WOEJ second. KFOZ was elected Vice President.

Nominations for Sec-Treas opened. WOVX nominated WOIZ. WOSR moved nominations cease and WOEJ second. WOIZ was elected Sec-Treas.

KEQY suggested the club sponsor an award. WOSR suggested W4VQ be contacted about a 5 Band Century Sweep award where the same country is contacted on each of 5 bands.

KOGVB invited all to the West Liberty Ham Fest Oct. 5.

A petition to nominate WOEJ as Iowa Section Manager was passed.

Congratulations to KOGVB for achieving Iowa's first 160 meter DXCC.

WOEJ moved for adjournment and second by W4NIM.

KOAL presented an informative and enjoyable slide program of his European bicycle trip.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Toomsen, Sec-Treas.

CONTEST SCORES REPORTED

CQ SSB	KFOH	1,217,370
	WOEJ	718,178
	KOGT	168,693
	NGOW	51,060
	NBOH	36,850
CQ CW	WOVX	67,450
SS CW	KOJGH	143,412
	WOEJ	136,900
	KFOH	94,572

DUES DUE

Dues are due at the Fall meeting and are considered delinquent if not paid by the January meeting. This means if you don't pay your \$5.00 dues by the January meeting you will be dropped from the EIDXA.

Members who currently owe \$5.00 dues are N9BD, KOCF, WOEAN, WOFD, NOGGB, KOINR, W0M3N, W4NIM, W0PLS, KDOQ, KXOR, NARR, WOSML, KA0SSZ, NGOW, KCOXK, and AGOZ. If you are on the list, send your \$5.00 to WOIZ pronto! A handy coupon is provided at the bottom of this page.

(cut)

EIDXA Renewal -

Enclose check for \$5.00 made out to: Eastern Iowa DX Association  
Additional contributions to the repeater fund are welcome.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: WOIZ, Dale Repp, 1618 Texas Ave. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

**FCC NEWS**

The good news is that the FCC will soon allow written examination credit as soon as the 610 form is modified. The bad news is that the Office of Management and Budget has not approved changes to FCC form 610. As soon as the new form is approved partial exam credit will be issued for the written portion as well as the code portion.

License renewals continue to confuse some of us. If you have a 5 year license, you can renew up to 5 years after expiration without having to retake an exam. If you have a newer 10 year license, the grace period is only 2 years. Either way, you will get a new call sign if your license has been expired for 2 years or more.

Business communications via amateur radio continue to be a hot and sometimes confusing issue. In general it is considered business communication, and not permitted on ham radio, if it facilitates the regular business affairs of any party whether for profit or not. The exception to this prohibition is emergency communication where safety of life or property is involved. The FCC we should not use amateur radio as an alternative to other services including common carrier. Better not order that Pizza on the autopatch!

FCC will rely on state and regional repeater councils for coordination. The coordinator must have support from the majority of those repeaters in its area. Stations operating with illegitimate repeater coordination risk FCC sanctions if interference occurs. (WOMJN/R is a coordinated repeater.)

FCC has modified its rules to permit employees to accept meals and refreshments offered at group functions if 1-the function has some business context, 2-it is a group function, 3-cost associated with the function are not lavish, 4-attendance by FCC staff does not result in or create the appearance of impropriety or undue influence. FCC will determine in advance if attendance is desirable to assist the commission in performing its duties.

HR PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN NR 51 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
NEWINGTON CT DECEMBER 22, 1986  
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

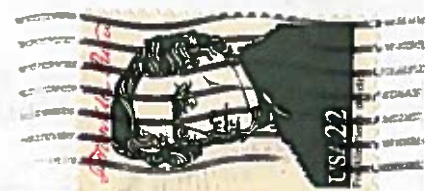
A SOLAR CALM THAT BEGAN IN LATE NOVEMBER IS STILL WITH US. SUNSPOTS ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN. THE SOLAR FLUX MOVES UP OR DOWN ONLY SLIGHTLY, BUT IT REMAINS MOSTLY ABOVE 70, HIGH ENOUGH TO KEEP DX COMING ON 21 MHZ DAILY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR. IT IS TOO LOW TO DO MUCH FOR 28 MHZ, HOWEVER. WE NEED ANOTHER EIGHT TO TEN POINTS HIGHER TO DO MUCH FOR THAT BAND, EXCEPT FOR TIMES WHEN E SKIP IS IN AS IT HAS BEEN OFTEN OF LATE. THE CURRENT SOLAR ACTIVITY LEVEL IS IDEAL FOR DX ON THE LOWER BANDS, AND 160 IS PROBABLY BETTER NOW THAN IT WILL BE FOR ANOTHER SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS AFTER THIS NORTHERN HEMISPHERE WINTER IS OVER. 80 AND 40 WILL PROBABLY REMAIN GOOD FOR LONG HAUL WORK FOR ANOTHER YEAR OR MORE.

SOME STATISTICS ARE NEEDED TO EXPLAIN WHAT IS HAPPENING CURRENTLY. WE ARE IN THE OVERLAPPING PERIOD BETWEEN TWO SOLAR CYCLES, NEW CYCLE ACTIVITY HAVING APPEARED SEVERAL TIMES RECENTLY. THIS APPEARS TO EXPLAIN THE FACT THAT WE ARE RUNNING ALONG SLIGHTLY, BUT SIGNIFICANTLY, ABOVE MINIMUM SOLAR FLUX LEVELS. SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1985, THERE HAVE BEEN FOUR MONTHS WHEN THE SOLAR FLUX AVERAGED UNDER 70. THEY WERE SEPTEMBER 1985, AND JUNE, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER, 1986. THE FIRST DAY UNDER 70 WAS SEPTEMBER 29, 1984. IT COULD BE THAT WE WILL NOT SEE ANOTHER FOR A LONG TIME.

EARLY THIS WEEK WE MAY HAVE A SLIGHT FLUX RISE, BUT PROBABLY NOT ENOUGH FOR A SIGNIFICANT PROPAGATION CHANGE. A MINOR GEOMAGNETIC DISTURBANCE BEGAN SUNDAY AFTERNOON, BUT THERE SHOULD BE MOSTLY GOOD CONDITIONS THROUGH THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY.

AMERICAN SUNSPOT NUMBERS FOR DECEMBER 11 THROUGH 17 WERE BETWEEN 0 AND 20 WITH A MEAN OF 6.6 AR

**WØVX**  
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