



THE EASTERN IOWA

DX'ER

WINTER 1992

JAN. '92

OFFICERS:

PREZ:..... K0JGH.GLEN KESSELRING
V.PREZ..... W0ZKG.CHUCK DENNIS

SEC/TREAS. K0GVB.GARY ERNST

N/L EDITOR:W0ZKG

RPTR GURUS:K0VM.AL GROFF
W0MJN,JOE FINKSTEIN

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:
W0SR.JIM SPENCER
W0IZ.DALE REPP

CLUSTER SYSOP:
W0BZRL.TOM VAVRA

EIDXA RPTR. 145.190.W0MJN
DX CLUSTER 144.910 W0BZRL
223.420
NET FREQ. 3.780 MHZ
SUNDAY EVE.9:30 LOCAL

From YASME N/L 1959 DX DAZE



Yep, Ed. She has an 8db forward gain, 20db front to back, 1:1 SWR and gets 52 miles to the gallon! How's that compare to your bug catcher?

PREZ'S CORNER

Greetings from a cold evening near Ottumwa, Ia..guess its pretty cold when the windows are so covered with frost that you can't see the Mercury in the thermometer.

As most of you are aware by now, a big gust of wind took the whole antenna system. Tnx for all the sympathys. As "zrl" assured me, the 521 will, without a doubt, show in the next few weeks.

The contest season is now underway and from the sounds of the activity, there have been quite a few EIDXA'ers smoking the air waves and loading up those buro packs.

CQWW ph/cw saw several participating and, although the shak of JGH & ICI did not fire up for the Sweeps.

The 160 meter test is coming up [ed. note, gone] and the big holiday season is upon us.

As the New Year approaches, please give some thought to goals and new ideas you would like to see in the '92 year. If there are activitys or directions you feel we should be moving toward, please let your desires to be known. I have prepared for more VCR type programs by moving the meetings site to Kirkwood college for 1992.

We will meet in Benton Hall, rm. 304

Several members have completed there "worked all countrys" and now are patiently watching the mailbox for the last few cards to dribble in. I guess it will be bands, modes then. Thats the great thing about are hobby, theres always a challenge, ...total, bands, modes. QRP, alphabetically on Tuesdays, for the big, big guns.

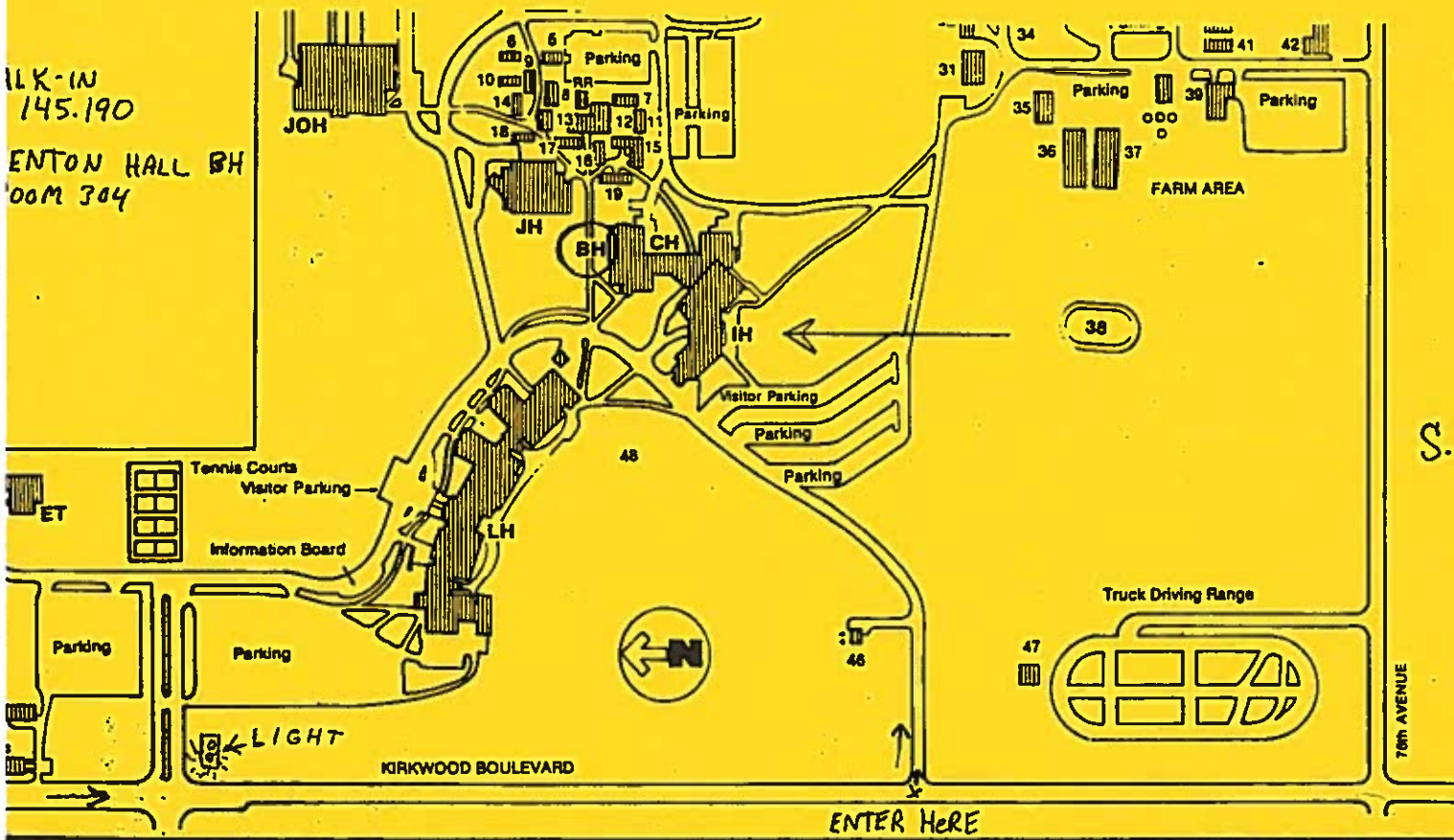
Well, thats about all for this round. I'll be looking forward to seeing all of your smiling faces at the JANUARY 17th meeting at Kirwood Community College., bring a guest or prospective member.....

see you then..73 The PREZ.GLEN

UJA	Y	Nelson Moyer	28 Ealing Dr.	Iowa City,	Ia	52246	319-351-8775	319-335-4500
F0AD	N	Pat Wilcox	3122 Sue Lane NW	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52405	319-396-5232	
0AL	N	Al Culbert	1218 Oakland Rd NE Unit 'C'	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402		
00AWL	Y	Terry Cellman	703 Lincoln St.	Ainsworth,	Ia	52201	319-657-3681	319-648-2891
1B0B	Y	Larry J. Newby	P.O. Box 185	West Burlington,	Ia	52655	319-752-8700	319-754-4692
20C	N	Jim Bohnsack	1169 Rainbow Dr.	Waterloo,	Ia	50701	319-233-7189	
A0CS	Y	Jeff Barker	Box 325	Toledo,	Ia	52342		
A0CWR	Y	Mary Dennis	400 E. Vine	Toledo,	Ia	52342	515-484-4837	515-484-5080
V0D	Y	Terry Perkins	3119 Falcon Dr NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-393-5503	319-395-5610
0DGE	Y	Tom Irwin	1023 Kirkwood Ave.	Iowa City	IA	52240		
0EJ	Y	Wade Walstrom	7431 Macon Drive NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52401	319-393-8982	
0EL	N	Joe Ratkiewicz	2622 Avalon Dr.	Bettendorf	IA	52722		
1A0FYG	N	Rick Hadley	115 Scenic Dr.	Vinton	Ia	52349		
0GT	Y	Gary Toomsen	2730 Tower Dr.	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52401	319-395-9329	
0GVB	N	Gary Ernst	RR 2	West Branch,	Ia	52358	319-643-2287	
0GWK	Y	Frank Apple	1935 16th St.	Marion	IA	52302	319-377-5563	319-395-1924
F0H	N	Jim Harvey	819 N. Main St.	Goldfield,	Ia	50542	515-825-3323	
J0H	N	John Schwandke	1406 N. Marion	Washington,	Ia	52353	319-653-3606	319-653-2113
00H	Y	Jack Muckler	2084 Eastern Blvd. SE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52403	319-362-3462	
0HNJ	N	David Corio	38 Leisure Blvd. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-395-7973	319-395-0462
K0I	Y	Terry Parker	535 Sierra Dr	Burlington,	Ia	52601	319-753-1557	319-753-8591
0ICI	Y	Grant Kesselring	RR #7 Box 160	Ottumwa,	Ia	52501	515-934-5320	
0IIR	Y	Clark Pantel	1610 Hershev Ave.	Muscatine,	Ia	52761	319-263-9150	319-263-6141
0INR	N	Tom Taylor	RR 1	Shell Rock,	Ia	50670	319-885-4400	319-236-1500
0IZ	N	Dale Repp	1618 Texas Ave. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-393-6724	
0JCM	Y	John Mayer	500 37th Ave N	Clinton,	Ia	52732	319-243-2414	319-244-2389
0JGH	Y	Glen Kesselring	RR #7 Box 160	Ottumwa,	Ia	52501	515-934-5320	
00M	N	Vern Lang	110 E. 2nd St.	Muscatine,	Ia	52761	319-263-2697	319-263-5041
E0M	N	Tom Gordon	6904 Brentwood Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-373-0757	319-851-7219
0MJN	Y	Joe Finkstein	2210 Empire St.	Marion,	Ia	52302	319-377-6573	319-395-2294
K0N	N	Orville Duecker	226 Southcrest	Waterloo,	Ia	50702	319-296-2390	319-233-3569
0NB	N	Jim Livengood	R.R. 1, Ferre's Lane	Burlington,	Ia	52601	319-752-9310	319-752-2701
4NIM	N	Bob Hill	2037 SW 61st Ave	Miami	FL	33155		
C0C	Y	Tom Hise	PO Box 104	Shellsburg,	Ia	52332	319-436-7786	
90K	N	Al Broendel	2712 38th St.	Rock Island	Il	61201		
U0P	Y	Steve White	5820 Sanden Rd. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52401	319-393-4547	319-395-4641
0PPF	Y	George Carsner	411 Terrace Rd.	Iowa City,	Ia	52245	319-338-1601	319-351-5033
C0C	Y	Jeff Kussell	2125 Linmar Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-363-4139	319-395-4664
W0Q	N	Rich Binsham	707 12th Ave.	Coralville	IA	52241		
K0R	N	Bob Tillman	P.O. Box 1	Eldora,	Ia	50627		
4RR	N	Roger Hoffman	17215 Timber Drive	Sterling,	Il	61081	815-625-6647	
D0RT	N	Brad Farrell	1401 Greenwood Dr	Ottumwa,	Ia	52501	515-684-7768	515-682-4535
0RW	Y	John Lenahan	923 N. 9th St.	Burlington,	Ia	52601	319-753-6883	319-752-2731
0SM	Y	Steve Miller	Route 6 Box 100	Ottumwa,	Ia	52501	515-684-4753	
0SML	N	Doug Byal	4431 Deer View Rd. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-393-2974	319-395-4283
0SR	Y	Jim Soencer	3710 Tanager Dr. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-393-7353	319-395-2305
00SY	N	Rick Gordie	515 20th St. SE	Mason City,	Ia	50401	515-424-1535	
A3TIH	N	John Simander	Box 763	Muscatine	IA	52761		
K0U	Y	Paul Feddersen	703 Eclipse Lane	Clinton,	Ia	52732	319-242-9910	319-242-6214
E0U	Y	George Gruenther	1105 S. Leebrick	Burlington,	Ia	52601	319-753-1461	319-753-6253
R0U	Y	Scott Augsburgur	310 S. Wilson St.	Mt. Pleasant	IA	52641	319-986-5856	
0UYH	N	Timothy Allan	732 Wildwood Rd.	Waterloo,	Ia	50702	319-234-4215	319-292-8796
0UZ	N	John Nelson	3109 Terry Dr. SE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52403	319-365-4432	
Y0V	N	Tom Vinson	10211 Hall Road NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52401	319-393-8087	
ADVAA	N	Ralph Gearhart	5040 Broadview Dr. SE	Cedar Rapids	IA	52403		
0VM	Y	Al Groff	1446 Council St. NE	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52402	319-393-8134	319-395-4666
0VZR	N	Tom White	2027 Carter Ave	Jesup,	Ia	50548	319-827-6738	319-334-7166
60W	N	Keith Erickson	1810 Hillside Dr. NW	Cedar Rapids,	Ia	52405	319-396-8510	319-398-3551
0WF	Y	Tom Lindgren	9786 Blairs Ferry Rd.	Cedar Rapids	Ia	52401	319-395-0946	319-395-1953
E0Y	Y	Tom Kramer	905 LeRoy	Muscatine,	Ia	52761	319-264-3259	
F0Z	N	Jan Clute	320 College Blvd.	Mount Vernon,	Ia	52314	319-895-6635	319-927-2143
00ZKE	Y	Chuck Dennis	400 E. Vine	Toledo,	Ia	52342	515-484-4837	
00ZRL	Y	Tom Vavra	682 Palisades Access Rd.	Ely,	Ia	52227	319-848-7604	

ILK-IN
145.190

ENTON HALL BH
OOM 304



← 30

SAVE THIS MAP!!

W.

TNX:
CARTOONS DE THE
COLLECTION OF
WØIZ

25 Nov 1991
OM John,
Treasurers report:

Last Balance	\$367.83
Dues (last Meeting)	215.00
Cash on hand	20.00
	\$602.83.
Expenses (stamps)	-10.00
Total Balance-----	\$592.83



Well, Heitland, this may be your version of TVeye, but it's not mine!
From YASME NL, 1959

SOVIET AMATEUR LICENSING

To become a ham in the USSR, one needs to pass an amateur exam. And to pass an amateur exam, one comes to the nearest local or regional radioclub, where qualification commissions reside. Each such commission consists of a number of most experienced local hams selected and adopted by the local radio sports federation. The exam for every class of amateur license is conducted according to the programs worked out by the Radio Sports Federation (RSF) of the USSR (usually they require knowledge of code and theory).

Soviet citizens may apply for several classes of licenses. The newcomer to our hobby may get the so-called "novice" ticket (4th class license). One can get such a license at the age of 14. No code knowing is necessary, and parents' permission is a must in this case!

Those who know the code may apply for a shortwave license (this class of license is issued to persons who have reached 16 years as well as to club stations). There are now three different subclasses within this class of license, each involving different limitations imposed on bands and modes (see Chart 1 and Chart 2)

(TNX Soviet Ham Press Digest)

TNX

INSIDE DX

No. 276 November 29, 1991

SUBMITTED BY NBØH

Contest Corner

We are now in the midst of the contest season. I know that many of you have turned in scores for the CQWW tests last fall, thereby satisfying EIDX requirements for maintaining FULL membership status. The other two contests that the bylaws allow to satisfy that requirement are the ARRL DX contests in February and March. Pick a challenging band and dive in there. Afterwards, let the Secretary (K0GVB) know you score and send in your results. See you in the pileups.

DX contests scheduled for JANUARY 1992:

18-19	2200-2200	HA DX Contest, CW
24-26	2200-1600	CQ World Wide 160 Meter Contest, CW
25-26	0600-1800	REF French Contest, CW
25-26	1300-1300	Union of Belgium Amateurs Contest, SSB

DX contests scheduled for FEBRUARY 1992:

2-3	0000-2400	Ten-Ten International Net Winter Phone QSO Party
9-10	1200-1200	FACC Contest, CW/SSB
15-16	0000-0000	ARRL International DX Contest, CW
21-23	2200-1600	CQ World Wide 160-Meter Contest, SSB
22-23	1300-1300	Union of Belgium Amateurs Contest, CW
	0000-0000	ASCW-DL Handasten Party (Straight Key Party)
22-23	0600-1800	REF French Contest, SSB

DX contests scheduled for MARCH 1992:

7-8	0000-2400	ARRL International DX Contest, SSB
8-10	2300-2300	Japan International DX Contest, CW
16-17	0001-2400	The Bermuda Contest, CW/SSB
16-18	1600-1600	Union of Clubs Contest, CW/SSB
16-18	0200-0200	BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
30-31	0000-2400	CQ World Wide Prefix Contest, SSB

DX contests scheduled for APRIL 1992:

1	0000-2400	Fools Unite DX Contest, CW
6-7	1500-2300	The SP-DX Contest, CW
7	0000-0000	Soviet-American Goodwill Contest, CW/SSB
14	0000-1600	The Yuri Gagarin Cup, CW
20-21	1400-2200	QST QSO Award Party, SSB (Time: each day)
27-28	1400-2200	QST QSO Award Party, CW (Time: each day)
27-28	1300-1300	The Helvetia Contest, CW/SSB

1991 CQWW SCORES (tnx K0GVB)

CALL	MODE	OP	BANDS	QSO	ZONES	COUNTRYS	PTS
N0DGE	SSB	Single	ALL	129	46	82	38,016
NY0V	CW	Single	10 M	105	27	58	24,415
KE0Y	CW	Single	ALL	263	79	145	156,352
WB0ZRL	SSB	Single	ALL	158	73	133	85,490
WB0ZRL	CW	Single	ALL	105	41	88	37,410
KF0H	SSB	MULTI	ALL	942	125	339	1,155,824
		(KF0Z and KZ0C Operators)					
W0SR	SSB	Single	ALL				318,288
W0SR	CW	Single	10 M				43,878
N4RR	SSB	SINGLE	15 M	570	33	108	230,394

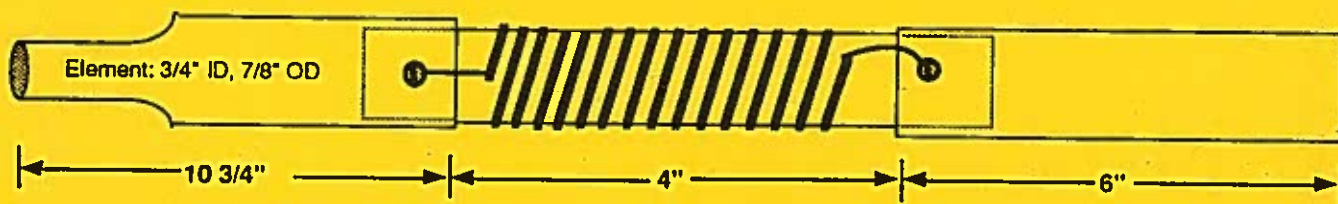
Being off the air for over a year, HF I mean, had been an interesting experience. Being busy, very busy building a new QTH had kept my mind and body occupied to say the least. Did I miss it much? Yes, CW the most. The feel of the keyer between the fingers and the tiny whisper of a weak Asian calling CQ over the pole, the finesse of conquering a large pileup, and of course talking to old friends we have grown to know on the HF bands, are some of the trauma the withdrawal held captive.

With the TH6DXX back up in the air at our new Blairs Ferry Road QTH, it didn't take long for the cob webs to loosen between the finger tips and the ears to reunite with the white noise of 20 meters on a DX night. The thrill of hearing those signals was music to my ears. The distinctive warble of polar flutter, hearing the ever so prevalent UA9s and UA0s so persistantly CQing made me realize what a great hobby ham radio HFing has been for me. I squeezed off a few QSOs that evening and, as most of you know in the CR area, I have been keeping the paths to DX land ionized by being quite active most days. I'm still working on the house but find time for play also, hi. I'm still not on packet yet, but the time of my breaking down to install a system is approaching. KK0U sold me a dumb terminal (such a "dumb" term), so we are part way there. With most of the area active operators on the DX system and with the hookup to W9 land and beyond it will be a new experience to say the least. I remember vividly the days that two or three of us would 'troll' 20 CW looking for a DX-peditioner not knowing what QRG or call for that matter, the operator would sport. The countries logged for hours spent tuning most certainly will be reduced for a packet tuner. As for contesting, switching bands to catch those multipliers flying across the CRT must be a most interesting experience. It's a neat system but I'm a hard knock old school type reluctant to change.....

I see that the SSB pileups still bring out the worse in some people. Human nature, till the end of time will always produce the rotten fruit, it's too bad it has so infiltrated DXing. Marti Lane's operations seem to some how escape most of the BS associated with these types by operating a good loud station and ruling the piles with a stern stick. It seems to work. I did miss a couple of club meetings last year but did make the last one at the REC. It was good to see the membership so healthy with a good enthusiastic core of officers headed by Glen K0JGH. I hope that I can be a more active participant in future EIDX activities.

de W 0 Whiskey Papa

Cushcraft A3WS 12/17 Beam 12-Meter Trap



13/16" diameter fiber form,
6 1/2" long. 27 turns of ca.
3/32 diameter wire.

(Original sketch by Chuck, WB0ZKG. Redrawn using
DeskDraw for the Macintosh by Jeff, AA0CS.)

As I keystroke this column this last day of the year, there are 7430 DX alerts in the PacketCluster database. This covers only November and December. I have watched a number of SH/DX requests over the last few weeks that are looking for the beginning of advertised operations from some rare spots. I just now saw a SH/DX 5R8. This show found no hits but had to search back through the 2500 (an upper limit I place) most recent alerts. The cluster computer is not the fastest thing, and the search takes more than a minute. The cluster offers several ways of limiting the SH/DX. The most common ones change the number of alerts displayed from the default of 5 to a user defined number. SH/DX/10 will show the last 10 alerts. SH/DX 40 lists those alerts on 40 meters. To considerably shorten the long searches mentioned above, you might try SH/DX/D3 5R8 to show the 5R8s found in THE PREVIOUS 3 DAYS. Your response will be lots sooner that way.

Any cluster user has certainly seen the garbage some people use to 'TEST' their systems (and their contest logging programs). Some may issue an alert to impress their buddies visiting the shack. The current version of cluster software allows the definition of 'test-type' calls that do not get alerted to the rest of the world. On the local node, TEST, C0AX, and R8BU are 'calls' that will not be alerted anywhere EXCEPT back to the person making the alert. So, if you want to test or impress your neighbor, use one of the above calls.

Do you always do the same things when you log onto the cluster? NC00 always does a SH/DX for the 10-20 meter cw bands. WB0ZKG sets an alias for KA0CWR. Using the UPLOAD/USERCMD command, you may customize your own logon.

I turned on DX FILTERING. Page 17 of the USERS MANUAL explains this. This might also be used by the contesters to limit alerts during the contest to only the band/mode being worked. I would recommend if you do this, that you keep your normal filtering definition in a disk file for reloading after the contest.

Are your needed countries in the NEEDS data base on the cluster? See the SET/NEEDS and SH/NEEDS commands to see how it works. I have witnessed several calls on the repeater after a query to the NEEDS database when a rare one came up.

Lots of messages come through the cluster. I would ask everyone to periodically check the messages, and when they are finished with any their mail, that it be deleted.

Some slightly different commands: SP is the same as S/P, K(ill) is the same as DEL(ete) and Q(uit) is the same as B(ye). These are the standards from the BBSs and come more naturally to BBS users.

The BULLETIN area often has the recent ARRL, RTTY, W6TI and OHIO-PENN bulletins. A SH/BUL will list the available bulletins, and TYPE <name> will display it on your screen. (Thanks to KF0Z and W0IZ for forwarding some of these from CIDBBS.) I normally keep only two or three weeks worth of each bulletin. I have them archived back several years. If anyone wants to see an old one, and you can identify which one it is, I can load it back for viewing.

On the evening of 10 Dec, the cluster linked to the East coast. The following nodes (60 plus ourselves) were linked for about 20 minutes: ADBJ, AK1A, K1EA, K1GQ, K1XX, K2RW, K2SG, K2TW, K3TUP, K3WW, K4ZLE, K8AZ, K8MR, K9AJ, K9CW, K9EC, K9FN, K9RHY, KA9A, KA9LTR, KC8MK, KD3CN, KD3CR, KE2AY, KE2CG, KE9I, KJ9D, KK4L, KQ8M, KR9S, KS9K, KU9Z, N1DVS, N4RR, N8BJD, N8HTT, N8IZR, N9AOL, NB9C, NC0P, NE1R, NG2P, NK1K, VE3CDX, VE3HI, W0CG, W1BIM, W2JT, W3FRY, W3IQS, W3XU, WA1G, WB2KXA, WB2YOF, WB8BII-7, WB8COV-1, WB8NWQ-9, WD8PKF, WI9L, WX9X.

October minutes: My apologies to our humble sec/treas, K0GVB ,but i didnt take notes either. hihi

TERRY PERKINS, WV0D was voted in as a new EIDX member,welcome TERRY and congrats on joining this fine organization.

Minutes were suspended at last meeting.???

W0SR,JIM gave a indept,hilarios;as usual,and interesting report on DXAC happening concerning disallowing the XY0 operation.

W0EJ,WADE the SCM report.

K0VM,AL repr. report.

ProgramL: by DAN ?? on a audio voice box.

Election of officers was held.

officers for 1992 are: Prez..GLEN,K0JGH

V.PREZ..CHUCK,WB0ZKG

SEC/TREAS. GARY,K0GVB

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED TO THE LOCAL PIZZA OASIS WHERE THE REAL BS RUN RAMPANT.

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THINGS: EIDX members have been buzzing about there new toys they've gotten recently. I hear that W0SR,JIM after exhaustive research has a new ICOM 735 as a back up to his IC-765 [nice] and also has added a computer to shack.

WBBZRL,TOM had a antenna party a couple of weeks ago and got a HYGAIN 2 e1 40 meter beam up at 100'. TOM enlisted the very abled help of JACK,NB0H...JIM,W0SR...TERRY,W0AWL...TOM,W0WP...CHUCK,WB0ZKG...and late showing field inspector WADE,W0EJ. hope to get the pictures of this event developed in time for meeting.

TOM "ZRL" also has on this tall tower the cluster antennas.A F23A DIAMOND vertical,tnx to the donations of several, a CUSHCRAFT 215WB,to link to the west to TONI,NC0P cluster. all is fed with 3/4" cable hardline.

CHUCK,WB0ZKG got up a A3WS,12/17 douband beam,tnx agn to "ZRL" who hates climbing ROHN/SPALDING towers.also trying to put out this n/1 with the IBM 286AT COMPUTER that STEVE,NU0P assembled for me.[not your fault steve,its still new.]

GLEN,K0JGH & N0ICI had some bad luck and lost all there antennas due to a late nite wind storm. understand it will be bigger and better than before. hope you guys get back on soon.

Thers something mysterious blowing in the wind.Is there really a SANTA CLAUS? Do stocks sometimes pay big dividends??? anyway,rumor has it that DALE,W0IZ ,yaa thats right, might be receiving a drop off from the big brown truck. by the way DALE, can you really talk to them on 220?

TOM,K0VZR says he got a copy of MARTI LAINE,OH2BH,s new book"WHERE DO WE GO NEXT". i did to TOM and i think its great. i think i might pull out a exerpt or two and throw them in the n/1.sometime.

TOM,KE0Y says he worked his first 2m meteor qso recently,using 40 watts,i'd call that qrp.

JACK.NB0H says his DXCC cards were sent in oct.and hasn't heard anything on them yet. I sent mine in on Sept.27 and still no answer.I did get back my worry attenuator dated Sept. 30.

SCOTT,WR0U was in BEST BUY and when he came out he said computers give him a headache. i know what you mean,SCOTT.

Do we give out a "lid or bozo"award? ask KE0Y if he thinks we should.

i was just told that JOE,W0MJN scored 368,750 pts in the C0WW phone test. not bad,huh!

JOHN,N0JCM tells me he he has 246/w and 237c on 10 meters.very nice totals.remember this is between 28.300 and 28.500 . JOHN says that PAUL,KK0U is working on him to upgrade.

JOHN,WA3TIH has been pretty quite lately,i hear tell ham radio has taken a back seat to a new femme.tsk tsk.hope she takes an interest in the hobby.

I keep running into PAUL,KK0U on 12/17 meters. PAUL also has the CUSHCRAFT

A3WS. PAUL says his has been up since last MAY and he has about 160 countrys worked already.

Anybody ever hear out of RICK,KB0SY? Its a long way up to MASON CITY,could be we need a DX PACKET CLUSTER link up that away so we could pipe some DX info to him.That would also be away to link up the north with our system.

If you haven't read BUCK ROGERS,K4ABT article in Dec. CQ. i would recommend you do.Its called "A BIG BOOM FOR BUCK'S BIRTHDAY". it givesw you plenty of time to adjust before things "lite" up here."an ounce of protection".

DON'T FORGET "DUES ARE DUE".

"Over the years,SLIM showed from most any needed spot including a couple of operations from ALBANIA. There is a persistent but yet to be confirmed rumor that when the Norwegians on the operations from BOUVET and PETER 1 Island landed,they encountered signs saying "SLIM WAS HERE".

"A DESERVING DXER"

Sounds like a lot of activity on RTTY this past weekend in the 'test,so should be a lot of expertise for new comers who will need help.hihi ETERNAL ENIGMAS...MYSTIQUE OF DX...BELIEVERS...DX IS...DESERVING DXER... OLD TIMER...LOCAL QRPER...RED-EYED LOUIE...PALOS VERDES SUNDANCERS... ALBERT, the hero of MAFEKING...the ubiquitous SLIM...BX8A, CRAY ISLAND...

AHH! The memorys,,shades of the past.,perhaps doesn't mean much to the younger generation of DX"ERs. But ask any Old DX"ER DX"ERS are always a happy lot.At the next meeting,look at the Ancients,flinty-eyed all with the corners of their mouths turned downward. Slip up to them and quietly whisper: "Remember that story about the LOCAL QRPER?" Quick as a wink the corners will turn upwards and a smile will come with an equally quick question:"Which one?"

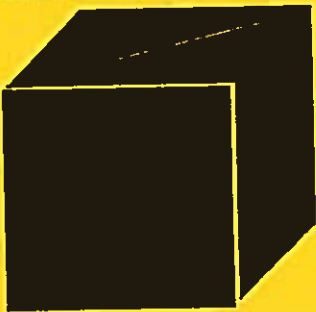
It was always thought that a true-blue DXER will understand these things.Any Local QRPER definitely should.

The Motorola Lunch Bunch is proud to announce its latest development...

THE DARK COMPUTER

The ARNS BULLETIN
DECEMBER 1991

WITH APPRECIATION AND APOLOGIES TO MOTOROLA... the following is an actual unretouched photograph of the Dark Computer:



The Dark Computer is a technological break through destined to eclipse the recently announced "Light" computer. The Dark Computer results from years of study, research, and development in the dark. It is faster than the light computer because dark travels FASTER than light. (Proof: Before light gets anywhere, dark is already there!)

The Dark Computer used the newly discovered sub-atomic particle, the dark quark. Our research has determined that two dark quarks combine to form the basic elementary particle of darkness, the offon.

Three dark quarks combine to form the elementary particle of management, the moron. The Dark Computer requires very little power -- so little, in fact, that it is completely powered by a single lunar cell (similar to a solar cell, but more efficient in high dark conditions.)

A complete bundled software package, developed at the Arizona University of Mimes Night School, comes with each Dark Computer. The software includes DOS (Dark Operating System), LUNAR-C (a quick and dirty C compiler), Duskbase-V (an irrational database), and Nada (an objection-oriented programming language).

Some of the special hardware features of the Dark Computer are:

- Multiple shift registers for right-shift, left-shift, and night-shift.
- One biggabyte memory composed entirely of shadow RAM with fully disassociative outta cache.
- Music synthesizer with demonstration tunes, such as *Moonlight Sonata*, *Dark Eye*, and *In the Still of the Night* (which is not a hillbilly drinking song).
- Surreal-time clock with granularity of 28 days (known as 1 lunar tick).
- A display composed of one million (1000 X 1000) DEDs (Dark Emitting Diodes). These are similar to LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes) in the same way that electron-flow theory resembles hole-flow theory.
- Optional interface to the MLB Digital Holstein (we're really miking this!). With a Digital Holstein connected, the processor output increases up to 250 Complex Orthogonal-weighted Floating Operations Per Second (250 COWFLOPS).

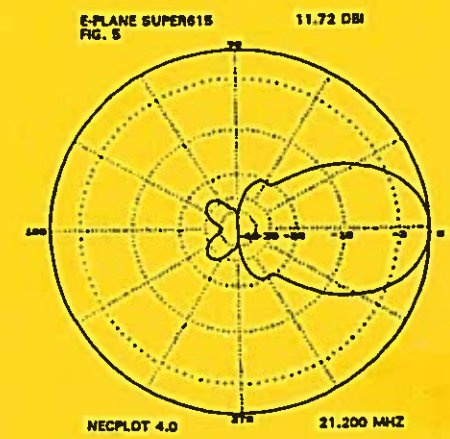
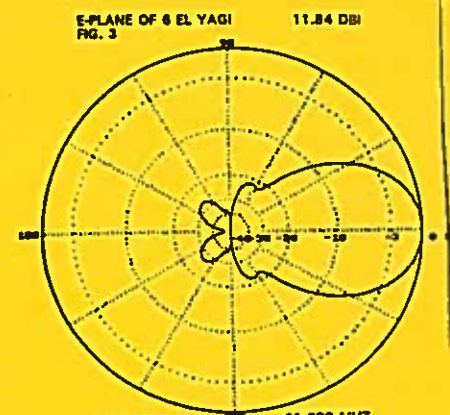
The MLB Dark Computer is especially useful for such applications as black hole research, dark-side-of-the-Force computations, blindfold tests, vampire tracking, and mushroom management. Military applications include SDI, Stealth Research and RFP generation. The Dark Computer is powerful enough to handle computations on matter, anti-matter and doesn't-matter.

DON'T BE LEFT IN THE LIGHT! Get a Dark Computer for your company and keep all your employees in the DARK!

The DX Magazine

NCS

U.S. RADIOSPORT



Navassa Island DXpedition Update

We are pleased to learn that according to *The DX Magazine* poll prior to Albania and Burma, that Navassa is on the needed list. It is Number 53 overall, Number 12 in Asia, and Number 23 in Europe. We hope to meet some of this need.

We are very excited about the support for RTTY and the provisions provided enabling us to guarantee RTTY.

Likewise, we have also been able to add 6 meters to the operation.

The boat arrangements have been firmed up and everything is set. We are currently doing a lot of the detail logistics planning.

The financial liability growth each of us are responsible for is naturally a concern. Hopefully, some support will come through to help take the edge off. Boat and shipping expense is a challenge.

Thanks to everyone from the team for the interest shown and helping us spread the word.

The 1992 Navassa Island DXpedition Team: Randy Rowe NØTG/KP1, Murray Adams WA4DAN/KP1, Will Roberts AA4NC/KP1, Ron Oates AA4VK/KP1, and Bob Stewart KW2P/KP1. The date of operation will be January 17-23, 1992 on 160-6 meters

Soviet Afghanistan DXpedition

Soviet hams are planning a major DXpedition to Afghanistan in February-March, 1992. A license, authorizing use of the call YA5MM, has already been obtained. Operation will include participation in the 1992 ARRL CW Contest and two to three weeks of intense activity on the bands, with 25,000 projected QSOs. There will be USA and European QSL managers. A stay of this duration will allow the operators to give particular emphasis to North American QSO's without slighting other closer geographic areas such as Europe and East Asia.

The primary organizers at this point are noted DXer/Contesters UT4UX and UJ8JMM. Others will be involved (with proportionate increases in projected QSOs) as finances permit.

The proposed site (Mazari Sharif City) is only 50 miles from the UJ border, keeping transport costs low. However, it is necessary to project for lodging, food, and "protection" (the major item—the reader can draw his own inferences) for the team.

It will also be necessary to have equipment—once additional transceiver (UT4UX owns a IC-735) and a tri-band. There is at present a 50% chance that UJ8JMM will be going to North Korea later in 1992. If so, this equipment will go there as well.

Not counting the equipment, the projected cost for 2 operators is approximately \$9,000, about \$3,000 of which is needed pre-expedition. There is a great advantage to this operation being undertaken by Soviet hams. The most notable are the physical proximity to UJ and the ability of UJ8JMM (apparently very prominent in the Tadjik community) to fashion this expedition to a predominantly ethnic Tadjik part of YA. The disadvantage, however, is that the Russian ruble is without value in YA land.

Thus, UT4UX asked W3XU (and he agreed) to try to put the finances in place. This is a good chance to support something unheard of until recently—Soviet DXpeditions. These operators are top-notch. W3XU knows JT4UX personally and says he vouches for his decency, good faith, and his great enthusiasm for amateur radio. Donations to: YA5MM c/o W3XU Bill Remington, 1078 Ballcross Lake Road, Middletown, Delaware 19709 USA. In the event the expedition does not materialize, contributions will, of course, be returned.)

the new bands, RTTY, CW, and SSB. QSL route: Randy Rowe NØTG, 2120 Reverchon Dr., Arlington, TX 76017. Donations would be greatly appreciated.

South Sandwich Island DXpedition

The DXpedition is scheduled for March 1992. The ship is the ABEL-J, an American research and scientific vessel of 108 feet specially outfitted for Arctic and Antarctic missions. All of our equipment was loaded aboard the vessel on October 3, before sailing from her home port in Massachusetts. The ship will do a tour in the Caribbean and then head into the Antarctic for a series of three expeditions, two scientific commercial followed by our DXpedition.

Our team will leave from London on March 9. We will fly on the RAF to Port Stanley by way of Ascension, arriving on March 10. The ABEL-J will be in port waiting for us and we will sail for the South Sandwich Islands on or about March 14. After a seven to eight-day sail through some rough waters, we should arrive at Thule, get our gear ashore (which will be a formidable task) and begin setting up our station. We plan to operate for 14 days on 160 through 10 meters with equipment also available for 6 meters and 2 meters EME. Modes will include SSB, CW, and RTTY.

The equipment now stored on ship includes all equipment needed to operate four complete HF stations consisting of four Kenwood transceivers, three linear amplifiers, two Cushcraft A4S tribanders, WARC beams for 24 and 18 MHz, and add-on rotary dipoles for 30 and 40 meters. We also have verticals for 40, 80, and 160 meters plus three power generators and over 800 gallons of fuel. Additional equipment include RTTY units; Heil microphone boom sets; computers for logging; all coax and power cables pre-made in a multitude of length; mast guy ropes; ground anchors and ground rods; power distribution boxes; tents; tables; chairs...and yes, Porta-Potties...we don't want to offend the penguins!

The ten operators will each contribute US\$5000, and those who have already contributed or made a firm commitment to are: Al Hernandez WA3YVN, Tony DePrato WA4JQS, Ralph Fedor KØIR, Terry Dubson W6MKB, John Vugteveen W7KNT, Hiroyuki Kozo JE3MAS, and Vince Thompson K5VT.

We are still looking for three more operators and at this time are talking with some well-known operators from Europe.

The projected cost of the DXpedition is well-known and we expect no

surprises. The total cost is estimated at US\$104,200. The cash and firm pledges received to date total US\$63,900. The additional amount needed is US\$39,000 by January 1992.

All contributions go to: Gerry Branson AA6B, 93787 Dorsey Lane, Junction City, OR 97448 USA.

CW and RTTY QSLs go to KA6V and SSB QSLs go to AA6BB. We will use computer logging to expedite QSL-ing process.



EVENTS

Afghanistan DXpeditions

South Sandwich

Navassa Island.

Packet

Getting Started

There are some very good books on packet basics; one is published by the ARRL and one by K4ABT. *CQ* magazine also had an excellent series by K4ABT (see the January 1991 issue). Rather than repeat that information here, I'll summarize what to do.

1) Buy a TNC. If all you want to do is operate VHF packet, get something like an MFJ-1270, -1274 or equivalent. You can find them used for about \$100. If you eventually want to also use your TNC for RTTY, fax, CW and HF packet, look at the Kantronics KAM, AEA PK-232 and MFJ-1278. They all offer lots of modes and features.

2) Get a 2-meter radio. Used radios are ideal for packet use (unless you plan on starting a PacketCluster node). Get an old 25- or 45-watt radio, and put a vertical antenna on top of your tower or on your chimney. People who try to get on packet with a hand-held and indoor antenna have a special place in PacketCluster sysop hell. To operate packet efficiently—or even tolerably—you need to hear *and be heard*. The biggest problem novice packet users run into is usually related to RF, not ones and zeros.

3) Get a terminal or computer. Any dumb terminal that has an RS-232-C serial port is capable of serving as a packet terminal. A lot of companies and colleges are moving up to PCs and workstations from dumb terminals, so it's pretty easy to pick up a working terminal for under \$25. The biggest drawback is that many dumb terminals produce a lot of RF noise. In fact, a lot of people who got on packet a few years ago, when 10 and 15 were dead, were a few years late in realizing that there were band openings underneath all that noise.

A more costly, but infinitely more flexible, approach is to use a personal computer for your packet terminal. The advantages are so numerous that it's not worth discussing here. Get a computer. It should probably be an IBM PC compatible, but a Macintosh or

Commodore or Amiga will do, as well. Given the dominance of CT in the contest-logging arena, a PC-compatible machine is certainly the preferred approach.

In addition, you will need a communications program. Again, there are two ways to go: use a standard modem program, such as *Procomm* or *White Knight*, or use a program dedicated to controlling your particular TNC. Using a modem-communications package is cheaper if you already have one, but much less flexible and less fun (except for the fun of saving money). Kantronics, AEA and MFJ all sell communications software to control their TNCs. AEA's *Pakratt* program is really slick.

4) Connect it all together. Basically, you need an RS-232-C (serial) cable to go from your computer to the TNC, an audio cable to go between the TNC to the 2-meter rig, and a PTT cable from the TNC to the 2-meter rig. Don't skimp on the RS-232-C cable—use a shielded cable. I've had better luck using cables with only the three or seven necessary lines terminated at each end; using a cable with all 25 pins connected seems to create a skinny log periodic pointed right at my TS-830S.

Voilà! You're on packet. And you will immediately hit problems: RF noise, mismatched data rates, unreliable connections, etc. On almost any 2-meter repeater you'll find someone who has already solved all the problems you are now encountering. Find a local ham and experiment connecting with him and shake the bugs out of your system before you try connecting to a PacketCluster or BBS, and especially before you try to use packet in a contest.

PacketClusters in many areas can be found on 144.95 MHz. Ask your local DX club members what frequency the nearest node is on. Monitor that frequency for a while to get the hang of it. Tell your TNC MYCALL XXXXXX, then connect to the cluster, type HELP, and you will be on the DXCC Honor Roll in a few hours. In future columns we'll spend some time on the advanced features of PacketCluster.

THE K4VX SUPER 6 YAGI

Every once in a while an antenna design appears which is so good that it must be shared with the amateur community. The design I will describe evolved while I was looking for a replacement for a six element 15 meter design I had been using for about seven years. This older design was based upon the classic simplistic Yagi and while it demonstrated adequate forward gain, it was very deficient in front to back ratio (F/B).

I started first by taking the first six elements of my Elephant Gun design for 10 meters and scaling them to 15 meters. After numerous maximizing efforts using YAGIMAX_{3.0}, I arrived at the design in this article. As the results were serendipitous rather than precisely arrived at, I have no recollection as to what sequence was followed to the final design.

An examination of the YAGIMAX derived performance of the Super 6 is shown in Table 1. The forward gain which appears to be exceptional and the best F/B occur at approximately the center design frequency. As the F/B shown in Table 1 is only the value taken 180 degrees from the front lobe, I made a series of pattern plots at 21,000, 21,200, and 21,400 mHz to evaluate the rear lobes of the design. An inspection of Figures 2-4 will also show that in no case the rear lobes exceed -20 db from the front lobe. In addition, to substantiate the YAGIMAX derived patterns I next plotted the performance at 21,200 mHz using NEC2_{3.0} code. These results are shown in Figure 5.

As the element lengths shown in Table 1 are for cylindrical tubing with no taper and without the presence of a boom, I next used the TAPER program to arrive at the actual element schedule provided in Table 2. In this case the boom is 3.0 inches in diameter and the elements are secured to the boom using 5" by 6" aluminum mounting plates.

In my case the old 6 element design used a 40 ft. boom with the mounting plate in the center. Initially, I was concerned that the additional 8 ft. extension to the director end would make the antenna unbalanced. However, this is not the case as the center of gravity for the Super 15 is 20.25 feet from the reflector end, or an almost perfect balance. I next ran the design through WA4DRU's wind loading program which indicated that only a small wind unbalance existed which could be corrected by a 3" by 6" vertical plate mounted 24" from the reflector end, but also indicated that the correction was probably not required except in those areas where high winds are the norm.

How does it work? Well, I will be better able to provide that answer after the 1991-92 contest season where it will be given a real workout!

References:

1. Lew Gordon, K4VX, "The K4VX Elephant Gun", The ARRL Antenna Compendium Volume 3, 1991.

2. YAGIMAX is an antenna modeling program written by

K4VX which uses three term integration and second order self impedance correction to derive the far field energy.

3. The NEC2 program is a method of moments solution to antenna modeling. It is available from The Applied Computational Electromagnetics Society (ACES), R. W. Adler, Code 62AB, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943.

4. TAPER, YAGIMAX, and MATCH are available from K4VX for \$8.00.

5. The wind modeling program is available from Allen B. Harbach, WA4DRU, 2318 S. Country Club Road, Melbourne, FL 32901.

Table 1

Element Length (in.)	Spacing from ref. (in.)	Dia. (in.)	VSWR
Reflector:	278.8656	0	1.00000
Driven Ele.:	265.0236	58.0000	1.00000
Dir. # 1	238.7834	128.0000	1.00000
Dir. # 2	252.7621	270.0000	1.00000
Dir. # 3	253.9089	430.0000	1.00000
Dir. # 4	245.5070	572.0000	1.00000

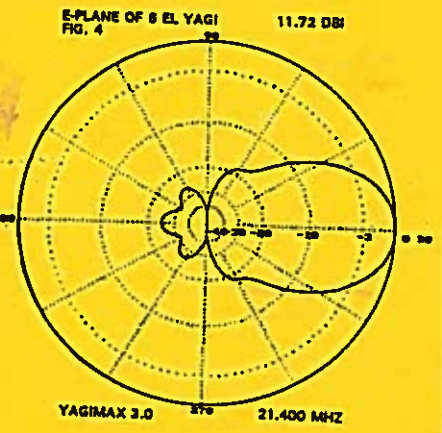
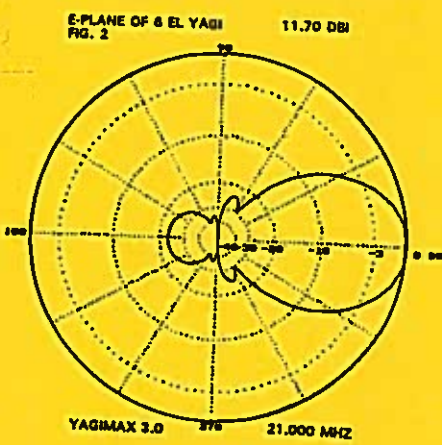
Normalized Radiation Res. at 21,200 mHz is 21.66 Ohms

Freq. (MHz)	F/B (dB)	IMP. (ohms)	VSWR
21.000	11.70	22.66	1.49
21.050	11.75	20.96	1.37
21.100	11.79	20.23	1.24
21.150	11.83	19.59	1.12
21.200	11.84	19.12	1.00
21.250	11.85	18.83	1.11
21.300	11.83	18.57	1.20
21.350	11.79	18.34	1.27
21.400	11.72	18.13	1.32
21.450	11.63	14.66	1.48

Table 2 Tapered Half Element Schedule

Diameter (in)	1.0000	0.8750
Ref.	72.0000	69.6250
D.E.	72.0000	62.7500
Dir. 1	72.0000	59.5000
Dir. 2	72.0000	56.5000
Dir. 3	72.0000	57.0000
Dir. 4	72.0000	51.7500

(The 0.8750" tip lengths assume a non-insulated mounting plate 0.125" thick, 5.0" wide, and 6.0" in length.)



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