



## Eastern Iowa DX Association

*An ARRL affiliated club - Established 1975*



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October 2025

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Club Officers:

President:

Glen Kesselring, KØJGH

Vice President:

Todd Le Mense, KKØDX

Secretary:

Bill Caldwell, NØLNO

Treasurer:



...from the  
President's  
Pen

Greetings, Fellow DXers and  
Contesters

Fall is just around the corner, and the cooler weather is perfect for tackling those antenna projects. Band conditions have been good at my QTH, and the SFI has been running higher than usual. I'm still holding out hope for more 6-meter activity. Google Groups has been buzzing with reports of new band countries—always fun to read. On my end, I've logged three new ones on 60 meters—PJ7, FP5, and YJ—bringing my total on that band to 158 worked.

Bob recently suggested we share a memorable contact. Mine goes back to 2010 and the Route 66 on the Air event. That year my late wife Pam (now SK) and I started from downtown Chicago, the eastern starting point of the legendary highway.

There are 22 towns named in the famous Route 66 song, and each town hosts an on-air station during the week. Working all of them—plus the rovers—earns you a clean sweep. Each stop uses its own special W6 call sign, and Pam and I were W6S.

Along the route we'd pull over to meet fellow hams for lunch or

Mike Nowack NA9Q

Repeater Committee:

Jason Joens NRØX

Membership Committee:

Jim Spencer WØSR

Nelson Moyer KUØA

Repeater: NØDX/R

144.59 / 145.19 (tone 192.8)

[www.EIDXa.org](http://www.EIDXa.org)

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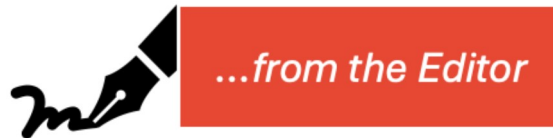
Bob Lee WØGXA

[rclee2266@gmail.com](mailto:rclee2266@gmail.com)

dinner, swapping stories and signals. When we finally reached Santa Monica, we cranked up a recording of the Route 66 song and drove straight to the pier for our final photo. The W6A club welcomed us for dinner as honored guests.

After fifteen years of participating in Route 66 on the Air, I still look forward to the ragchews that break out in the middle of the pileups. It's always a thrill to be remembered!

73,  
Glen KØJGH, President



Bob WØGXA



It has come time to sunset my stint as newsletter editor. It has been fun reading and helping share your stories. I started this job ~8 years ago when I was on the road almost weekly. Being able to do it when I had spare time (hotels and airports) was key.

We've had some changes over that time. The first is Craig's outstanding work in his series of bulletins. He provides up to date information on DX, propagation and contesting. Second, the trend in getting member content each quarter is down (meaning more effort to assemble the newsletter). I make no assessment on the cause. Maybe we're just all getting a little older. Finally, there is still robust use of the email reflector when someone has something to say. My recent question on most memorable DX could easily be shared via email.

I think we're at a crossroad with the need for the newsletter. Between contemporaneous information via the bulletins and use of the email reflector, we should ask if we need the newsletter and if it should take on a new form.

73, Bob



October 10, 2025

Meeting & Program 7PM  
Meeting and location information [here](#)

Program: TBD - Watch the website/email for details!



We have club members who can check your QSL cards

- Glenn, WØGJ
- Mike, NA9Q

Contact info can be found here:  
<http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search>





## 50 years

by Bob WØGXA

The following is reprinted from EIDXA.org:

*Band conditions were good in early 1975. Several of us had just put up new antennas, the TH6 on a 48 foot tower being the one of choice. DX was all over the place and it was almost all new. Contests were fun and a good source of new DXCC countries for those less interested in the competition. Attempts to get the Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club involved in contesting were not successful and we started discussing the idea of forming a new club.*

*After doing some homework looking at some of the well established DX clubs on the East coast, we collected some names of locals who we thought might be interested. Dave Jaksa, WAØVDX and Jim Spencer, WØFHE, chose a name and prepared a draft constitution and bylaws.*

*A meeting was called for October 6, 1975 at Joe Finkstein's (WØMJN) house for the purpose of starting the club. Those in attendance were:*

- Vern Garman KØEGA (SK)
- Jim Spencer WØFHE (now WØSR)
- Gayle Lawson KØFLY
- Mike Nowack WBØHOG (now NA9Q)
- Jim Maccani, WØHUP
- Joe Finkstein WØMJN (SK)
- Art Goddard, WØMOQ (now W6XD) (SK)
- Fred Benson WØMUH (now KØAT)
- Lynn Schriener WØPCO (now W5FO) (SK)
- Doug Byal WØSML (SK)
- Steve Towle KØSVW (now WØHT) (SK)
- Dave Jaksa WAØVDX (now WØVX)
- Dave Wilson, WAØVUY (now KØRN)
- Tom Lindgren WAØWCR (now WØWP)

I was first licensed at age 15 around the time the club was formed. WNØUBL at the time. I lived right across the road from Art Goddard. He helped me debug my first Heathkit receiver. We tracked it down to four VFO mounting screws that were too long and were shorting out the VFO. Once we fixed that problem, it

worked.

I thought it would be fun to look through some of the old newsletters for tidbits of the early days. What follows are excerpts from those days.

Fall '76

The Fall '76 meeting was held at Art's house (MOQ farm) out in the sticks north of Mt Vernon.

Dues were \$2.00/year. In today's dollars that's about \$11 and change.

Apparently we were all a lot younger back then. Many of you were having babies, which interfered with ham radio activities. WAØV DX and WØMJN were specifically mentioned.

Many members were installing new, higher, larger antennas.

There was some mention of KØFLY, the bicycle freak, still being single.

July '77

VHF was used to stay in touch. A nightly informal net was conducted on 147.57. There is some evidence that everyone had a crystal controlled radio due to the specific mentions of who is on "57". I've heard one had to make your own crystals in those days.

KØFLY (WØFO) rode across Wisconsin after having ridden across Iowa the year before.

KØEGA (SK) acted as a bus driver to Dayton. He calmed the masses when the hotel elevator got stuck on the way to the hospitality suites (I bet there's a story here).

WØWP is the CW DXCC king... being the first EIDX A'er to achieve this award.

More babies and more members getting on .57.

Jan '79

Rick Heinrich joined (ADØF, now NØYY)

Dec '79

The club grew 71% in two months (21 to 36 members) with KØVM being one.

There is a report of a discussion on putting up a repeater in order for members to be able to hear DX announcements on 2m. Several years before, a repeater was rejected because "We're DXers, not VHFers". As the club grew, staying in touch with other members became more important.

Oct '80

KØVM gave a report on the repeater. The repeater was operational from a temporary location until a receive and transmit site are finalized. Frequencies were 144.57/145.57.

Mar '81

Rick (NØYY) left to W2 land for better low band propagation (and

his job), leaving a vacancy for VP.

KWM-380's were showing up in the shacks of members.

Preparations are well underway for the ARRL National Convention in '82. WØWP is leading that effort for the club.

Apr '82

Computers arrive in the shack. Demonstrations were planned for May with the Apple II interfacing to the KWM-380, featuring computerized RTTY and computerized CW.

There's much more in the newsletters on the website if you're interested.

73, Bob

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## The story of the 3C3W and 3CØW expedition

The expedition had originally been planned for April of last year, but since an opportunity arose for ZS8W, it had to be postponed. The license was issued for one month only, so a new one had to be arranged.



Photo 1

On August 29, we flew to Malabo. (photo 1) There was no clarity about transport to Annobón Island. We had planned to wait for the

ferry, but its schedule was not available. However, it turned out that air service had been restored once a week, so we bought tickets for September 6th outbound and September 29th return. We spent a week at Hotel Kolytero (photo 2).



Photo 2



Photo 3

On the morning of September 6th (photo 3), we went to the airport and paid an extra fee for 4 pieces of luggage. The plane departed on time, and by 1 PM we were already in Annobón (photo 4). According to the license conditions (photo 5), our equipment and antennas had to be inspected by an ORTEL representative before transmission, and a fee for this was included. We had planned to set up the antennas and equipment, and then the representative would fly in the following Friday, inspect everything within two hours, and return to Malabo the same day. There were no facilities for him to stay overnight, and there are no hotels on the island.



Photo 4

**ortel**  
Órgano Regulador de Telecomunicaciones Guinea Ecuatorial  
Técnico y Calidad de Servicios

Núm: **672-241061075**

**LICENCIA DE ESTACIÓN DE RADIOAFICIONADO**  
**LICENCE DE STATION D'AMATEUR**  
**LICENCIA DE ESTACIÓN DE RÁDIO AMADOR**  
**METEUR RADIO LICENCE**

Queda autorizada a instalar y utilizar una estación de aficionado en la República de Guinea Ecuatorial cuyas características se reseñan a continuación, de conformidad con el reglamento de estaciones de aficionado Art.16/4 de la ley n.º 7/2005, General de Telecomunicaciones.

Est autorise à établir et exploiter une station d'amateur en République de Guinée Équatoriale, dont la caractéristique que sont indiquées ci-après, en conformité du règlement de station d'amateur, approuvé par l'article 16/4 de loi num. 7/2005, Général de Télécommunications.

Está autorizada a instalación e utilização de estação de amador na República da Guiné Equatorial, cujas características se encontram a seguir descritas, conforme o regulamento das estações de amador Art.16 / 4 da lei n.º 7/2005, General Telecomunicações.

Is hereby authorized to set up and operate an amateur radio station which an Equatorial Guinea the specifications are below, pursuant to Regulations of the amateur stations adopted by art.16/4 of law num. 7/2005, of Telecommunications of Equatorial Guinea.

Titular:  
Titulaire/Titulo/The holder

<b>Nombre y apellidos:</b> JURIS PETERSONS	
<b>Pr'nom et nom/Nome e Sobrenome/Full name</b>	
<b>Fecha de nacimiento:</b>	<b>Nacionalidad:</b>
<b>Date de naissance/Date de Naascimento /Date of Birth:</b>	<b>Nationalité/Nacionalidade/ Nationality</b>
29.11.1983	LATVIA
<b>DOMICILIO: HOTEL ANNOROB</b>	
<b>Domicile/Morada/Address:</b>	
<b>Ubicación de la estación: ANNOROB</b>	
<b>Emplacement de la station/ Localização da estação/Location of the stations:</b>	
<b>(Guinée/Equatorial/ Guiné Equatorial /Equatorial Guinea).</b>	
<b>Indicativo de llamadas</b>	<b>Clase de licencia,</b>
<b>Indicatif appelle/</b>	<b>PROVINCIAL (P)</b>
<b>Indicative de chamada</b>	<b>Type de licence/ Categoria de licença/ classoflicense:</b>
<b>/Calling:</b>	SCW

EL PRESENTE CARNET ES UTILIZABLE EXCLUSIVAMENTE EN LA REPUBLICA DE GUINEA ECUATORIAL, CON LOS INDICATIVOS SCQPP ANNOROB Y SCBP/SCW MALABO, CONFORME LAS NORMAS ESTIPULADAS POR EL MINISTERIO DE TRANSPORTES, TECNOLOGIAS, CORREOS Y TELECOMUNICACIONES EN SU ART.16/4 DE LA LEY NÚMERO 7/2005, DE FECHA 7 DE NOVIEMBRE, GENERAL DE LAS TELECOMUNICACIONES.

FECHA DE ACTIVACION: 30/08/ AL 27/09/ 2025

**DURACIÓN MÁXIMA DE OPERACIÓN VIENTICHO (20) DÍAS**

Lugar y fecha: Autoridad y Firma  
Lieu et date/ Lugar e data/ lace and date signature  
/Autoridade e Assinatura/ authority and signature

Malabo, 06 DE 2025

**FORNIDA GUINEA MELIOR**  
**EL DIRECTOR GENERAL DE ORTEL**

**Órgano Regulador de Telecomunicaciones de Guinea Ecuatorial**

Sede Social Malabo II Carretera de Aeropuerto frente Kbaa S/N  
Agencia Regional Esta I Carretera Neutoma edificio empresarial

https://www.ortel.gn | info@ortel.gn | +240 556 740 737

ORTEL.GE

Photo 5



Photo 6

At the airport, we were met by Ernesto, who took us to the house where we planned to set up the station. It was the same house used in our previous expeditions in 2017 and 2018. In the meantime, a beautiful hotel had been built on the island (photo 6), but it has not been opened for operation and cannot accommodate guests.

Afterward, we went to the police station to register. We presented our licenses, visas, and all documents. Then the police commissioner Silvestre, ordered us to bring all our luggage and display everything openly in detail. After lengthy discussions, he said that we did not have an entry permit from the Ministry of Security, and all our luggage had to remain at the police station. They had to verify whether we were even allowed to be on the island. The next day was Sunday, so naturally, nothing happened, and we could only wait.

The following days were the same—no answers. By Tuesday, we realized that nothing would be resolved, so we rescheduled our return flight to Malabo for Friday, September 12th. On Wednesday morning, the commissioner informed us that there was a flight to Malabo that day, and we would be sent back. The plane departed in the afternoon and arrived in Malabo in the evening. Our escorting policeman told us that a hotel had been arranged for us, and we would be taken there. However, we were escorted out of the airport grounds and handed over to another police unit, which brought us to the main gendarmerie station in Malabo.

We spent the night in this “hotel.” The next afternoon, the ORTEL representative arrived with documents—our licenses and the equipment list. In the presence of the police, the equipment was checked and found to be in order. Afterwards, in the main commissioner’s office, our violation was reviewed. Only one issue was mentioned: we had arrived in Annobón without the ORTEL representative, who was supposed to check our equipment. Our explanations were not taken into account. Any attempt to clarify or prove otherwise was pointless.

At 6 PM that evening, we were told that we could fly out that day with Lufthansa, but we had tickets with Air France, which departed the next day. We were allowed to spend the night at Hotel Kolytero.

This was my fourth trip to Equatorial Guinea. There will not be a

fifth.

Thank God, we have returned home safe and sound



## Hanging out on 6m:

Tom, NYØV

I was looking through my logs from last winter and spring and started seeing a trend. In the winter of course, there are the low bands as darkness is our friend on 160 through 30m low bands. But, with the cycle 25 peaked, 160m was pretty much a bust for any “new ones.” 80m was a bit better with the Asian guys arriving at our sunrise. This year VR2 was a “new one” for me. The Lowest Usable Frequency (LUF) was still pretty high and the low bands didn’t produce much in the way of filling band slots for the DXCC Challenge.

As spring came in the logs started showing higher bands. We all had some fun with VU4AX, VK9CU, VK9XU. Then came on Marion Isd by way of ZS8W. It’s great to have the chase come alive when you know you need a rare one on multiple bands! The thrill of bagging and filling the list is still a thrill after all these years! Another thing I notice in the log is now 6m logging starts to make it on the scene. This is especially noticeable when you get into June and the summer solstice. It this summer that I had the good fortune to work VK8MS on 6m FT8 on June 20th. To work VK8 on six takes a number of miracles for us in the upper Midwest to tie into the path out to the southern hemisphere. That one is on my top 5 list of my most memorable QSO’s!



Mark Sellers  
 PO Box 122  
 Yackandandah  
 Victoria, 3749  
 Australia

**VK8MS**

Loc PH57ko  
 CQ Zone 29  
 ITU Zone 55

Confirming our QSO(s)	DATE			UTC	MHz	RST	2-WAY
	D	M	Y				
To Radio NYØV	20	06	2025	0216	3.23	-16	FT8

☐ PSE QSL    ☒ TNX QSL    UXSUO print    E-mail: [radiont@me.com](mailto:radiont@me.com)  
 RIG: IC-7300    Watts 100  
 Ant: M2 6M4P2WL    TU Tom    73, Mark

There are several awards you can chase on six meters: WAS, DXCC, VUCC, and FFMA. Once you nail WAS (usually by filling in AK), you keep at it to reach that new band DXCC. Each new country is also a new grid. So then you have your VUCC (VHF/UHF Century Club) for 100 grids on VHF/6m. And then there is FFMA. Never heard of it? That's the Fred Fish Memorial Award. FFMA is named after Fred Fish, N5FF, who was the first person to work all 488 grids that are comprised of the territory of the continental US. That was back in 1995. Today the FFMA is up to 62 recipients. Not too many! But there are many who are chasing it. Ed, N7PHY, even has a "Leader Board" in Excel so that those who are chasing grids for the FFMA can build a map of the "Most Needed Grids." Today, the most needed grid is CM93 followed by CM79, CN71, and CN75. These are all along the west coast where most of them take special effort to activate them. And that means ROVERS.



FFMA Most Needed Grids

There are many rovers out there, but there are a few that go above-and-beyond the call of duty. It's similar to guys going out to some rare DXCC entity. They pack up their trucks/campers and sometimes backpacks and head for the rarest of grids. AG6EE, Petr, actually does carry battery, radio, and antenna up through mountain trails to reach some of those grids. For CM93 (and EL84 which I need) they have to arrange to have a boat haul you over to the grid. And they do! Other big time roves are N7PHY, WB8LYJ, WL7T, and K8JH. Oh yes, you may find our own KØDAS, NØLNO, WØGJ, or ACØRA out there too! On this chase, I am now up to 466 grids, which means, of course, that those last ones are the most difficult to work. On 6m just having a station in the grid is no guarantee of making it to their grid on VHF!

For example: Just two years ago I packed up my car and traveled up to the U.P./ Upper Peninsula of Michigan. I went up Mount

Brockway to EN67 which is 723ft above Lake Superior. I took along a list of guys that needed EN67. One of those was Lee, KY7M where EN67 would be his 487th grid! We set it up that I would call him specifically on 50.303MHz on the hour. Would the band open up for two days to AZ? Nope. This grid hunt can be frustrating! He still needs EN67 as well as EL58, which is one of those boat gridpeditions.

This time of year, you could wait a long time for a good opening on 6m, so it's back down to the lower bands for me for a while with one eye open to the FFMA rover calendar! But, if you go down to 10m you may find just South America! The band is definitely on the downhill for DX. I am QSL manager for V51MA. Up to early spring I could find Mike on 10m nearly daily. I was receiving cards pretty regularly. Then zip. Oh Mike is around, but the band has not been! There may still be some openings on 10m and 6m, especially around the winter solstice. But, overall it's downhill with Cycle 25. If you do happen to take a winter vacation down to the Grand Tortugas' (EL84) please take a 6m capability and let Lee- and me know!



### "Most memorable DX contact?"...

In the early 1970's the ARRL DX phone contest was held in the spring on two separate weekends a month apart. In 1971 I had just built a HB amplifier using a 4-1000A tube and had purchased a new FT-101 in Japan (well before they were available in the US). My good friend, Barry WAØRJT/KH6HOY & now WØIY, decided to get serious in this contest. Afterall, we were in the USAF, stationed in Honolulu, and Hawaii was DX! The first week-end of the DX contest was memorable, We operated as multi-single - one operating while the other one logged and kept the "dup" sheets. The first weekend was in Feb. 1972 and we were KØDAS/KH6. I remember it was a non-stop pile-up.

But the second weekend came in late March 1972 and I was working in Saigon so Barry operated my station single-handed. On Sunday afternoon in Viet Nam (it was Saturday of the contest back in Hawaii) I visited the Tan Son Nhut MARS station and made contact with the Hickam AFB MARS station in Hawaii where both Barry and I were also volunteer operators. The Hickam MARS operator patched me to my home phone where Barry answered the extension phone in my station.

"How's the contest going? - OVER" I asked him

"Great he answered - listen to this (as he connected my home phone patch to the rig)". I heard a US station calling CQ Contest. When he signed, Barry says - "OVER"

So I gave the guy a call, then - OVER

He came back and we worked! - Thanks to phone patch operators Barry and the guy at Hickam MARS and their agile phone patch switching. I suppose this was a very early remote control station

contact - crude by today's standards, but memorable.

And the "rest of the story" - I found our hand written logs and dup sheets along with the calculated score of 770,517. So I looked at the results in QST and we would have placed quite high in Hawaii. BUT I did not get our entry submitted by the deadline. I think the reason was that my visit to Viet Nam was extended as the so-called "Easter Offensive" occurred at the end of March 1972.

73, Rod, KØDAS

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I came in for a coffee break and was monitoring a dead 6M band on 50.313. Then FR4OO was decoded calling CQ. Almost spilled the coffee reaching for the keyboard. Quick exchange of RR73's and in the log. No other decodes or contacts seen. That's a terrestrial propagation path of 10,108 miles. Reunion is in the southern Indian Ocean, near our antipode. LOTW confirmed within 5 minutes. In and gone within 5 minutes. He called CQ a few more times after our contact, but no takers. I corresponded with him. He worked no one else that day.

Lesson: Who knows what we miss on the Magic Band when we're not watching?!!! BIC!!!

73  
Glenn WØGJ

---

Small things can end up being large. I was trying to break through a pileup with no success when the DX station said "stand by for QRP stations, 10 watts or less" I reached over, turned down the power to 10 watts and worked him on the first call. One does what one needs to do. I have never forgotten it.

David KØLUM

---

In March 1964, I was a few months into my Novice career and we were beginning to come out of a sunspot minimum. One of my high school buddies told me that I my 40-meter dipole would work on 15 meters and I acquired a 7050 kHz crystal that would allow me to operate on 21150 kHz (in the novice CW band). I worked a few new states out west and a KP4. 21150 was in the European phone band and I sometimes heard stations CQing. I tried calling them with CW but I was either being ignored or not heard until one Saturday morning when DL3LL switched modes and came back to me on CW. That was probably my most exciting DX contact. Certainly, the most memorable. I later saw that DL3LL was near the top of the DXCC honor roll at the time.

73,

Bill  
KØKT

---

I was tuning around 15m one lazy weekend afternoon about ten years ago and I came across ZD7VC calling CQ (SSB). No one was answering him so I picked up the mic and called him. I told him he was my first DX SSB QSO. We had a nice little chat and I let him go.

Since I became a ham at the ripe old age of 15, I have 13 DX SSB QSOs made primarily while visiting K2PO/7 to see what working Asia/PAC was like from Oregon. I have a handful of domestic SSB QSOs in support of Society of Midwest Contesters in getting another log added to the pile.

In comparison, I have >22k CW QSOs :-)

73, Bob WØGXA

---

I guess my most memorable DX contact must have been working the Canary Islands from my (at the time) QTH in Anamosa. I was using a folded dipole antenna in the attic made from 300 Ohm TV wire, a 4:1 balun using cheap TV coax, and a couple of short lengths of coax to match the amplifier. I was using JT65 with my little Hermes SDR driving a Penny Whistle PA I put together that only put out 5 Watts on six meters.

Another was getting a LoTW HF confirmation from a contact I thought was from Japan, but was confirmed as Mongolia.

John, WØGN

---

It would have to be #340 For #1 HR. I worked the first Scarborough Reef dxpedition when living in Ainsworth, but that did not count.

We had moved to CR in April, I had a 35 ft tower but no yagi. It had been damaged in a storm before we moved. Tom, WB8ZRL came to my aid. We repaired and reassembled his spare Hy-Gain 204BA and I was able to log #340 WØAWL

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Here's an interesting article on remote HF stations... [Click here](#)



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