

# The Eastern Iowa DXer

## The Official Newsletter of the Eastern Iowa DX Association



An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League



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**April 2007**

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### Club Officers

President: Glen Kesselring, KØJGH  
Vice President: Dave Schmocker, KJ9I  
Secretary Treasurer: George Carsner, WØPPF

**Packet Cluster** **WB8ZRL**  
147.51, 144.91, 223.40, CRNETROM

Repeater Committee: Al Groff, KØVM  
Joe Finkstein, WØMJN

**Repeater:** **NØDX/R**  
144.59 / 145.19 (tone 192.8)

Membership Committee: Jim Spencer, WØSR  
Tom Vavra, WB8ZRL

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### *From the President:*

Hello to EIDXA from your Prez. This has been a rather destructive season since last meeting. Several of you have had antennas down and trees to clean up not to say that thawing out after days without power is any fun. I guess we sometimes take a lot for granted regarding our electric power. It's a real damned if you do....damned if don't. We need the 120v but without the line noise and WITHOUT the BPL! How do we convert that hydrogen into electricity again? Despite trying to DX without sun spots as has been the case for about a week, we have enjoyed some new dxpeditions since the first of the year. A few from my log were: XT2C, VU7RG, T32MO, J20MM, YW0DX, D60VB, J5UAR, HV0A and others. If these weren't all time new ....at least I bet they helped our band countries. The band plan changes have stirred a bit of controversy. K4VX posted a recent email explanation from K1ZZ that the CW hasn't really had as much restrictions as many of us had concern over. I think what first appeared was of concern that CW would be restricted to CW and PHONE to PHONE.

However, it appears that there is no difference in that CW can go anywhere. (Exception to 60 meters). That should be a bit of relief.

Now to some business that came up last meeting. Jim WØSR brought up the idea of the club supporting a bulk mailing for QSL's to the ARRL outgoing bureau. Steve NØSM volunteered to take on the project. Steve called me today with a plan that he and Jim has worked out. With the current cost charged by the League and the cost of an individual doing their own mailing of the cards....if appears that we could do it for flat charge of 10 cents per card. Steve will have the details for us at the meeting but be thinking about how you might use the service if the club made the commitment.

Again I would like to welcome the new members that have joined this year and hope we will see them in a few weeks at the next meeting. Can we all be working on getting out digital pictures to Kenny for the website? This will help new members match up who we are with our calls and locations. Also, it sure helps dress up the sight to anyone who might drop by.

I'll be looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

**73, Glen KØJGH**

**I'm** sure most of us are pretty familiar with reading HF propagation forecasts, but with the numbers so bad I thought this reprint from KQ6XA might be of interest:

**KQ6XA RULE OF THUMB for How To Read HF Propagation Numbers.**

**The A index = LOW is GOOD.**  
**1 to 6 is BEST**  
**7 to 9 is OK**  
**11 or more is BAD**

**SFI index: HIGH is GOOD.**  
**70 NOT GOOD**  
**80 GOOD**  
**90 BETTER**  
**100+ BEST**

**K index: LOW is GOOD.**  
**0 or 1 is BEST**  
**2 is OK**  
**3 or more is BAD**  
**5 is VERY VERY BAD**

**A low "A index" is most important!**  
**For Low Power Portable DX openings at 10MHz to 30MHz, look for an A index LESS THAN 6.**

**73---Bonnie KQ6XA**

**....NØSM reports on the QSL Bureau project:**

**At** the last meeting, the suggestion was made that club members pool their QSLcards to the outgoing bureau. After checking, this is possible and allowed. Here is the information for doing that:

1. The cost will be 10 cents per card.
2. Cards will need to have the call of the receiving station printed in LARGE letters in the upper left hand corner on the back of each card.
3. Cards must be in alphabetic order according to country with the exceptions of those cards using special designators for a given country (i.e. 6E (Mexico) cards go with XE cards, etc).
4. There are approximately 225 countries served by the ARRL. Please remember to check the list of countries not served by the outgoing bureau (listed later in the newsletter). Do be aware that some countries require receiving stations to be members of their radio society to receive incoming cards. Those, too, are listed later in the newsletter.
5. The outgoing bureau requires proof of ARRL membership. We're not certain if certification by the club secretary will suffice so please bring along a photocopy of the label on your QST.
6. Steve will send them out two weeks after each EIDX meeting. He will pickup what he can at the meeting but if you do not make it to the meeting, please send them to NØSM at the QRZ.com address.

The following is a recap some of Dave KJ9I regarding ways of communicating within the club.

To use the e-mail reflector as a way to share info, send to the following: [EIDXA@mailman.qth.net](mailto:EIDXA@mailman.qth.net) with an appropriate DX related subject line. Poof: real-time DX information at all of our finger-tips within seconds of it being sent.

*How do I get my e-mail address added to or removed from the EIDXA reflector?*  
Contact our club secretary with specifics (your e-mail address) and the request (add or remove) to/from list.

*How do I access the EIDXA website?* Open your internet connection and your web browser (Mozilla Firefox or Microsoft Explorer, etc.) and input <http://www.eidxa.org/> as the URL. Hit enter to send your browser to this site. Presto: you're there! Now navigate to the links on the web to explore that which you're interested in seeing real-time, whenever your schedule permits on-demand.

Sorry the newsletter is a bit late this time. I hope the N8S Swains Is operation has been good to you all. Here's hoping the BS7H will be as successful!!!

Glen Kesselring KØJGH

### ***2007 EIDXA meeting schedule***

Look for this information on the club web-page. It will be kept updated on the website to ensure everyone has timely access to the info even between newsletters.

April 20 7:30 PM Kirkwood Room 219C  
program 2m EME, WSJT, and SU/KJ9I

June 29 7:30 PM Kirkwood Room 219C  
program WØGJ on VU4 and VU7 DXpedition.

Oct 19 7:30 PM Kirkwood Room 219C election  
of officers, and 3YØX video