



# Long Path



Volume 20 Issue 4

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

January, 2003



## Presidents Report

I hope everybody had a great Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday and I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year and success in 2003.

I am going to keep this report short as I had Carpal Tunnel surgery done on my right hand recently and I am not supposed to be typing yet. There is no pain but I better do as the doctor says.

Our January meeting will feature **NE8Z**, Dr. Rick and his trip to Puerto Rico and the Arecibo Observatory. I for one am looking forward to this presentation as I remember seeing it in the Jody Foster movie "Contact". If you haven't seen that ,movie it is a must.

We also have presentations planned for February and March so we are a little ahead of the game but if anybody has any ideas for April, drop one of the club officers a note and let us know. I have a couple resources I am working on and if either of them come through I will let the group know.

See you at the meeting on January 10, 2003!

**K8SIX**, President

## November Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:00 PM by President, **K8SIX**. Twenty-one members and guests were present.

We were saddened to hear of the death of **KL7Y** in a motorcycle accident while on a DXpedition to Hawaii. **W8LU** and **KR8V** were not at the meeting because they were attending the funeral.

Treasurer **N8CQA** reported an October 1st balance of \$721.62. He deposited \$231.00 with expenditures of \$83.89. The October 31st balance was \$868.73.

Microlite DXing was the subject of the evenings program and featured an excellent video produced by **9V1YC** depicting the January, 2002 DXpedition to South Sandwich by the **VP8THU** group. A multi-national team chartered the motor vessel Ushuaia and proceeded south from the Falkland Islands and made a difficult landing on South Thule Island in the Sandwich group. They made camp near the wreckage of the former Argentinian base amongst many thousands of penguins. They survived fierce winds and extreme cold and managed to put over twenty-seven thousand QSOs in the log. Equipment was Kenwood TS50's operating barefoot with Force 12 vertical dipoles. No 80 or 40 meter operation on this trip. An outstanding job under and a great video.

**K8SIX** thanked **N8LJ** for bringing a guitar amplifier to enhance the audio portion of the program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

**AC8W**, Secretary

## SEMDXA Statistics

Our legacy roster contains a total of 222 call signs. We currently have 48 paid up members. Silent Keys (SK) total 13 and include the following: **KB8O**, **KC8OB**, **KM8Y**, **N8EOA**, **N8FGH**, **NG8S**, **W8BXM**, **W8KPL**, **W8LZV**, **W8QFR**, **W8URM**, **WB8OHO** AND **WD8CRY**.

A number of our current members reside outside of Michigan and include **K8EJ**, **N8GZ**, **N4JQQ**, **K8CW**, **W9CEO** and **VA3RD**.

## SEMDXA CLUB OFFICERS

*President:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

*Vice-president:* John Millet, **K8JM**

*Treasurer:* Buck Switzer, **N8CQA**

*Secretary:* Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

*Director:* Ted Pauck, **K8NA**

*Web Site Editor:* Ken Schang, **W8LU**

*DXCC Checker:* Bill Jones, **N8KF**

*DXCC Checker:* S.Arnett, **AC8W**

*VUCC Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

*CQ Checker:* Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

*CQ Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

*Program Chairman:* Vacant

*LP Publisher:* Gerry Fasse, **W8GF**

## "O" QSL Manager

The 8th Call Area QSL Bureau has appointed a new manager for the "O" call sign group. Effective immediately, **K9ALP** will manage "O" DX QSLs. Lou can be reached via e-mail at: **K9ALP@ARRL.NET** His home address is Louis G. Arnold, 134 Crosswell Road, Columbus, Ohio 43214.

The ARRL QSL bureau system is a near miracle of efficiency. Martin Cook, **N1FOC** and a staff of one does it all. Staff member Heather Dzamba is awaiting her amateur license. Last year (2002) the ARRL outgoing QSL bureau processed nearly two million cards! The various incoming bureaus processed a like number. And all of this for \$8.00/pound and a few cents postage. Keep your *volunteer* manager furnished with SASEs or \$ depending on the individual managers preference. Theirs truly, is a labor of love.

It wasn't too many years ago that the ARRL processed only incoming cards. In those days, if the DX station didn't have a state-side manager, you either sent your cards to the individual country's bureau or direct to the DX station. This was a very expensive proposition. In this case, no one longs for the "good ole days!" Also, back in those years the Call Book addresses for DX stations were considerably less than perfect. Three cheers for the ARRL QSL bureau. What a job they do.....

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## Former USSR Prefixes

Having trouble identifying those arcane Russian prefixes? What follows should help out. Listed in alphabetical order with their new prefix and old prefix in parenthesis.

Antarctica: **4K1** (no change)  
 Armenia: **EK** (was **UG6**)  
 Azerbaijan: **4J, 4K** (was **RD/UD6**)  
 Belarus: **EU - EW** (was **UC/UK2**)  
 Estonia: **ES** (was **UR2**)  
 Franz Josef Land: **4K2 (UA1, UK1)**

Georgia: **4L** (was **UF6**)  
 Kaliningradsk: **RA2, UA2** (no change)

Kazakhstan: **UN - UQ** (was **U7, R7, UL/RL7**)

Kyrgyzstan: **EX** (was **RM/UM8**)  
 Latvia: **YL** (was **UQ2**)  
 Lithuania: **LY** (was **UP2**)  
 Moldova: **ER** (was **RO5/UO5**)

MV Island: **4J1** (no change)  
 Russia: **RA - RZ, UA - UI, U1 - U4 & U6 - UØ**.

Turkmenistan: **EZ** (was **UH8**)  
 Ukraine: **UR - UZ, EM - EO & U5** (was **RB5, UB5**)

Uzbekistan: **UJ - UM** (was **UI8, UK8**)

Note: The **UN1** prefix belonged to the former Karelo-Finnish Republic which is now a deleted country (entity).

Russian amateurs operating in the Antarctic frequently use prefixes other than **4K1**.

Increasingly rare prefixes include **EK, ER** and **EY**. Bureau QSL routes are generally unproductive.

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## DX Prospects

Solar activity continues at a moderately high level - high enough to enable excellent ten meter openings but not high enough for consistent six meter openings. During the early weeks of November, several six meter openings to the Caribbean area occurred but little else. More recently -mid December- a few marginal openings were noted between the Eastern seaboard and Western Europe. But this path was nothing like last year at this time. Actually more like conditions of two years ago.

To the West, during mid-December, **KH6SX** and **NH7RO** were heard here in the Southeastern Michigan area on two occasions. But again, very marginal openings. It's probably safe to say that cycle 23 is trended down to the point where six meter F2 layer DX for US stations is concluded. Other parts of the world in more favorable locations will continue to have F2 layer DX for at least the next year or so. Fortunately, Sporadic E-Layer openings will occasionally support propagation between the US and Europe as well as the Caribbean area during the early summer months regardless of solar activity levels.

Probably everyone by now is aware that **4L4FN/P5** is history. In late November, Ed was told to shut down his station and remove all equipment immediately. The Washington Post Newspaper published a story indicating that the World Food Program of which Ed was a part had substantially reduced its aid to North Korea which infuriated their government. Other UN services were also curtailed. It is not likely that any additional P5 operations will occur in the near term.

During the year or so of Ed's operation approximately 17,000 QSOs were made.

## SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN DX ASSOCIATION

December, 2002

## CURRENT MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>E-MAIL ADDRESS</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>E-MAIL ADDRESS</u>
AA8GK		N8CQA	N8CQA@TIR.COM
AC8W	AC8W@ARRL.NET	N8CXX	
K8BKM	THAMMOND@DALYCOMMERCE.NET	N8GZ	N8GZ@PRODIGY.NET
K8CC	K8CC@COMCAST.NET	N8KIE	N8KIE@AOL.COM
K8CW	K8CW@ARRL.NET	N8LJ	
K8DD	K8DD@CONTESTING.COM	N8MR	N8MR@ARRL.NET
K8EJ	K8EJ@IX.NETCOM.COM	N8SNM	
K8ESQ	K8ESQ@AOL.COM	N8ZX	N8ZX@TDS.NET
K8FG	K8FG@COMCAST.NET	VA3RD	VA3RD@RAC.CA
K8FT	K8FT@HOME.COM	W1SKU	REDPAM@FIRSTSTEP.NET
K8GT	K8GT@ARRL.NET	W8AP	
K8JM		W8ERN	ANGELO@TIR.COM
K8KHZ		W8GF	W8GF@AOL.COM
K8MDU	ROGER49201@YAHOO.COM	W8KZM	W8KZM@PROVIDE.NET
K8MSU		W8LU	W8LU@W8LU.MI.ORG
K8NA	K8NA@IX.NETCOM.COM	W8SJ	W8SJ@AOL.COM
K8OLG	K8OLG@COMCAST.NET	W8SYR	JDBUHL@AOL.COM
K8SIA	K8SIA@ARRL.NET	W8UA	W8UA@ISML.NET
K8SIX	K8SIX@COMCAST.NET	W9CEO	W9CEO@ARRL.NET
K8UP	JOHN@FLEMING-PHOTO.COM	WA8BIJ	WA8BIJ@ARRL.NET
KA8IMZ	MIKEKA8IMZ@AOL.COM	WA8LCZ	WA8LCZ@ARRL.NET
KC8JAY	KC8JAY@ARRL.NET	WB8IMZ	LBODKER@HOTMAIL.COM
KT8X	KT8X@PRODIGY.NET	WD8S	WD8S@ARRL.NET
N4JQQ	STRUTLEDGE@AOL.COM	WQ8T	WQ8T@ARRL.NET

## Notes:

1) If your e-mail address is incorrect or not shown, connect with Ken, **W8LU** at: **W8LU@SEMDXA.ORG** and make necessary changes/additions.

2) If you are an **ARRL** member, you may have your e-mail forwarded from your normal address via **ARRL.NET** without charges. For example, the e-mail address of **W8GF@AOL.COM** becomes **W8GF@ARRL.NET**. Check into the **ARRL** website for details. This could be the answer to those yard long e-mail addresses!

# SEMDXA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

## South Eastern Michigan DX Association (SEMDXA)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Application for new membership \_\_\_\_\_ or Application for renewal \_\_\_\_\_ (check one)

Full membership \_\_\_\_\_ or Associate membership \_\_\_\_\_ (check one) Dues: \$15.00 annually

(See SEMDXA website for membership requirements)

Present Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Previous Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

***MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SEMDXA***

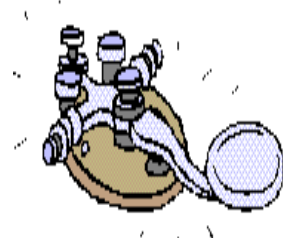
***Make payment at next SEMDXA meeting or mail with remittance to:***

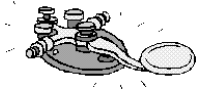
***Leon Switzer, Treasurer***

***427 Jeffrey Avenue***

***Royal Oak, Michigan 48073***

***NOTE: TO RECEIVE THE CLUB NEWSLETTER "THE LONG PATH" YOU MUST PROVIDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS!***





# January 2003

## SEMDXA Monthly Planner



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">December 02</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">February 03</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">1</p> <p>ARRL Straight Key HA Contest</p> <p>New Years Day</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">2</p> <p>New Moon</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">3</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">4</p> <p>ARRL RTTY Roundup Kid's Day SSB</p>
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<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">12</p> <p>Goshen, Indiana Swap</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">13</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">14</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">15</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">16</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">17</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">18</p> <p>ARRL VHF Sweepstakes Flushing, MI Swap Full Moon MI CW QRP Test NA SSB QSO Party</p>																																																																																				
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