

# Long Path



Volume 27 Issue 7

SEM-DXA NEWSLETTER

April, 2010



## President's Report

No report available at press time.  
See next month.

## April Program

The April program will be presented by Larry Pasma, **W8VVG** and the Battle Creek Bunch. Older members may recall the last visit by these dudes in which they described their famous 160 Meter portable antenna system. That particular visit resulted in the largest member and non-member meeting turn-out in **SEM-DXA's** long history.

The subject once again will emphasize Low Band operation but with a twist, receiving antennas. More specifically the Waller Flag Antenna.

Here is a brief highlight pulled from the Internet website.

*"The Waller Flag antenna is very quiet and has a very good directivity. The performance is comparable with the BWF and it has -53dB gain. Two 18-20dB preams are necessary to bring the signal at a comfortable level. The polar plot is from a 1680*

*kHz AM station 20 miles from my home and the diagram represents what you can expect on directivity. The RDF is close to 12 dB and better than an 800' Beverage. The WF does not have a high angle back lobe and this helps to attenuate local signals and QRN coming from high angles. The TOA is 20 degrees and very good for DX.*

*The WF can be installed at any height including the very top of your tower. This new Waller Flag is very easy and simple to build using hardware from a 5 element, 10 Meter Yagi. All elements are isolated from the boom. The tips are connected using a #14 AWG copper wire forming loops. The mast is fiberglass with a 2-1/4" wall. The two chokes are made from 14 turns of RG58 coaxial cable....."*

**We expect a large turn-out, so come early and enjoy dinner and fellowship at Jimi's Restaurant, 714 South Washington Avenue near 7th Street in Downtown Royal Oak. The date? April 9, 2010.**

**W8GF**

## Michigan QP

**The Michigan QSO Party takes place on April 17/18! See details inside this issue of the Long Path.**

## March, 2010 Minutes

Called to order at 7:37 pm by President

**K8DD.** Twenty-two members and four guests present at Jimi's Restaurant in Royal Oak.

Minutes of the February 2010 meeting were printed in the *Long Path*. **AC8W** reminded all to sign-in. We still need a volunteer to take minutes at the April meeting as **AC8W** will be in JA.

Treasurer **N8SNM** reports a January

## SEM-DXA CLUB OFFICERS

*President:* Hank Kohl, **K8DD**

*Vice-president:* Bob Crawford, **K8VFB**

*Treasurer:* Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

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

*Director:* Sean Fleming, **K8KHZ**

*Web Master:* Ken Schang, **W8LU**

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

*DXCC Checker:* Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

*VUCC Checker:* Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

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

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

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

*Program Co-Directors:*

Dave DeRain, **K8ESQ**

Kee Dzirksn, **N8LJ**

31 balance of \$910.78. \$30 in dues were deposited. \$150.00 was sent to the **Y19PSE** DX-pedition. Balance now \$790.78. Motion to accept by **K8SIX** and seconded by **KB8RJ**. Motion carried.

**Old business: None**

**New Business:**

**K8SIX** tells us Chet, **K8YTO** had emergency gall bladder surgery and should be home recuperating soon. Best wishes for a speedy recovery;

The Mad River Radio Club is requesting support once again for the "High Score West of the Mississippi plaque for the Michigan QSO Party April 19/20 according to **WD8S**. Motion to approve by **K8SIX** and supported by **AC8W**. Motion carried.

**K8NA** observes that we are receiving many request for monetary support for upcoming DX-peditions. His suggestion is to "pass the hat" as we did with **Y19PSE** since our treasury cannot meet demand. Our income is not great enough. Discussion followed.

**K8DD** reported on the visit to Nicaragua by **SEMDXA** members **K8DD** (**YN2DD**), **N8LJ** (**YN2LJ**), **KB8TXZ** (**YN2TX**) and **AC8W** (**YN2WW**) from Granada, Nicaragua. Around 12,000 QSOs total including over 5,000 by **YN2WW** in the ARRL CW DX Contest. Great fun and a good time was had by all.

**AC8W** says to look for **JD1/O**, Ogasawara for two weeks starting April 1. **K8AQM** (**JD1BNM**) **KG8CO** (**JD1BNJ**), **K8QKY** (**JD1BNQ**), **JF1MYA** and **JD1BNK** will take the 25-hour ferry to Chinhi Jima. A lot of Hams go there but not many non-JA tourists visit. Limited space antennas will make this a challenge for North and South America on the low bands but they will make 30 through

160 a priority. Propagation forecasts are in hand and there will be limited openings to W8 on 20 and 15 Meters during the 21-23 Z time slots but we will try.

**Program:**

**K8ESQ** introduced **NF9V** who teamed up with **KJ9I** on a vacation/DX-pedition in May, 2007. Their goals were to find a Ham friendly spot with easy access, easy licensing and a location with demand.

They opted for Anguilla, **VP2E** and St. Martin/St Maarten **FS/PJ7**. Their first island was Anguilla and they rented facilities from Louis Barafield, **VP2EB**. Rudy's HF antennas included a B&W multi-band dipole. The rig was an FT-897D. Dave was interested in EME and used a 2-Meter, 13 element home brew Yagi supported by a fiberglass ladder and pointed at the moon with a 2-Meter FT-847 rig. Rudy was **VP2ERV** and Dave was **VP2EDS**. **VP2ERV** made over 1,000 QSOs on hf and **VP2EDS** made 4 EME contacts.

They moved across the strait to St. Marint (**FS**) -a CEPT member- and operated from the club station of **FS5KA**. The site was at 3,000' ASL and surrounded by communications and cell towers. Antennas included a log periodic for 10 through 20 Meters and dipoles for the low bands. On HF, **VP2ERV** managed 1392 QSOs and **VP2EDS** made 2 EME QSOs.

Crossing the border to the St. Martin side they operated **PJ7/NF9V** and **PJ7/KJ9I** and made 267 QSOs with no EME logged.

Lessons learned included becoming familiar with borrowed rigs in advance as to low EME count it could be attributed to the pass-band tuning being thrown off during transport and high random RF on FS. **NF9V** urged all of us to plan a trip and be DX some day,

**AC8W**, Secretary

## JD1/O Propagation Forecast

As noted else where in this issue of the *Long Path* Newsletter, our very own **AC8W** (Stan Arnett) will be participating in a DX-pedition to Ogasawara Island during the early days of April. This is a difficult polar path for amateur stations located in the Eastern portions of the U. S. A. A propagation prediction file for both the *Regular Path* and *Long Path* is enclosed with this issue. It is centered on the early days of the month of April and assumes a solar flux value of 91 and a K Index of 1. Most if not all **SEMDXA** low-band-DXers need this Entity on 160, 80 or 40 Meters. Stan has promised to concentrate on these bands when conditions merit.

Although *Long Path* predictions are included, pickens are sparse as you can observe. Fifteen Meter propagation via this path is ones best bet around the 2200/2230Z time slot. Good luck! Beam headings for South-East Michigan are approximately 320 degrees regular path and 140 degrees long path.

Good luck! With careful listening and timely calls it should be possible to work Stan and his crew even with modest power and equipment.

**W8GF**

## RF Connection

Just a reminder that Steve Murphy, **N8NM** continues to support an RF connection to the Packet Cluster. The two-Meter frequency is 144.950 MHz. This presently is an under utilized DX resource with only three or four users connected. The antenna is located in Pontiac at an elevation of 200 feet! Your stored-away PK232 can be put to good use in this application.

## The 2010 MiQP is Coming!

**April 17-18, 2010**

All Michigan amateurs are invited to mark their calendars for Saturday, April 17, 2010 for the 2010 Michigan QSO Party (MiQP). This is the one weekend a year when Michigan amateurs are in the lime-light, as amateurs from across the USA and around the world are looking for QSOs with us. This is a great opportunity develop HF operating skills, represent the great state of Michigan, and last but not least, have a bunch of fun. Even if you don't consider yourself a contest operator, you'll probably find its a blast to jump in to work the throng who will be looking for Michigan QSOs. If you've ever operated on Field Day, you'll certainly be ready for MiQP.

The operating period is a convenient twelve hours long, from noon local time (1600Z) until midnight local (0400Z) here in Michigan. Stations outside of Michigan may only work Michigan stations, while Michigan stations may work anybody. Activity takes place on the 80 thru 10 meter bands, on both phone and CW. The exchange is simple: a sequential QSO number (starting with 1, then 2, 3...) and your location (county for Michigan stations, and state, province or "DX" for others). A station may be worked once per band and mode, with CW QSOs counting two points and phone QSOs counting one point (just

like Field Day). Multipliers are states, provinces, and Michigan counties, counted once on phone and once on CW. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers. See the link above and to the left for complete rules.

MiQP offers an extensive awards program, with handsome plaques awarded for the in-state winners of the major categories. Certificates are awarded for the top single-operator score in each Michigan county, and there is a simultaneous competition for Michigan clubs where scores of its members are combined into an aggregate score for that club. There are also categories and awards for mobile and multi-operator stations.

The separate category instituted in 2008 for Emergency Operation Center (EOC) stations has become a permanent part of MiQP, and continues in 2010. A handsome MiQP plaque will be awarded to the highest scoring EOC station and certificates for second and third place. The MiQP rules defining an EOC station are essentially the same as for Field Day - "Michigan entries located at an established EOC site, activated by an individual or group, utilizing either permanent or temporary equipment and antennas". This category was specifically created to encourage EOC stations to participate, and to recognize their contributions. Eight EOC stations from around the state participated in 2009.

We are also continuing the "MiQP Rookie Of The Year" plaque instituted in 2007, which is awarded to the top single-

operator score submitted by a Michigan station who has never participated in the MiQP before.

We hope to see a great turnout of Michigan amateurs on the air on April 17th!

73,

**MiQP Organizing Committee**

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### Dayton Hamvention

This years event is scheduled to open at the Hara Arena on May 14, 2010. The theme will be Amateur Radio Clubs World-Wide. Also, the Amateur Radio Club of the year will be announced.

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### Zenith/Central Electronics

Joel Thurtell, **K8PSV** provides us with a very interesting story about a Zenith-designed ham radio receiver, the once thought mythical 100-R! Joel eventually located this piece of Ham Radio history and discovered it was the only one of it's kind. In this same article, Joel describes the connection between Zenith and Central Electronics - probably few of even the old-timers in our midst did not know about..

You can check out this story in more detail at Joel's website: The Radio Finder. Well worth the time to read.

**W8GF**

# 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***

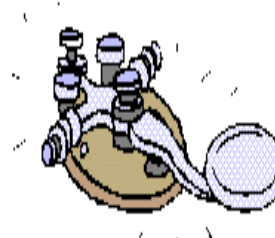
***Make payment at next SEMDXA meeting or mail with remittance to:***

***Brad Nowak, Treasurer***

***4665 Melanie Lane***


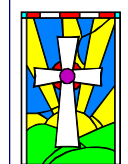




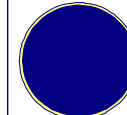

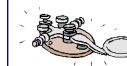
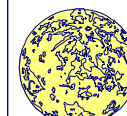
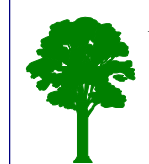
***White Lake, Michigan 48383***

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



# April 2010

## SEMDXA Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
<div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-right: 20px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">March</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></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">May</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>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </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	29	30	31						<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">1</p> <p>All Fools Day</p>  <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">W1AW Qualify- ing Run</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">2</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Good Friday</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">3</p> <p>ARCI QRP QSO Party LZ 40 Meter Test <b>MO QSO Party</b> SP DX Test</p>
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<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">4</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Easter Sunday</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">5</p> <p>Low Power Spring Sprint</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">6</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Army Day</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">7</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">8</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">9</p> <p>MT QSO Party</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">SEMDXA Meeting</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">10</p> <p>EU Spring Sprint <b>GA QSO Party</b> <b>JA DX Test</b> QCWA QSO Party</p>																																																																																										
<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">11</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Halocaust Remem- brance</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">12</p> <p><b>2-Meter Sprint</b></p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">13</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">14</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">New Moon</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">15</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Income Tax Day</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">W1AW Qualifying Run</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">16</p> <p>Holyland DX Test</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">17</p> <p>EA QRP Test EU EME 2.3 gHz Test EU Spring Sprint <b>Michigan QSO Party</b> Milford Swap <b>Ontario QSO Party</b></p>																																																																																										
<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">18</p> <p>ARRL Rookie Roundup</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">19</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">20</p> <p><b>222 mHz Sprint</b></p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">21</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">West Coast Qualify- ing Run, K6YR</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">22</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">23</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">24</p> <p>50/144 WSJT Sprint <b>FL QSO Party</b> Heliveta Test <b>NE QSO Party</b> SP RTTY Test</p>																																																																																										
<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">25</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">26</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">27</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">28</p> <p><b>432 mHz Sprint</b></p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Full Moon</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">29</p>	<p style="color: red; font-size: 24px; margin: 0;">30</p>  <p style="margin: 0;">Arbor Day</p>																																																																																											

W6ELProp Long-Path Prediction for 03/22/2010

TERMINAL A: 42.29 N 83.00 W w8gf Sunrise/Set: 1136/2341 UTC Bearing to B: 139.6 deg  
 TERMINAL B: 26.00 N 142.30 E Ogasawara Sunrise/Set: 2036/0839 UTC Bearing to A: 212.3 deg  
 SSN: 35.0 Flux: 91.0 K: 1 Path Length: 28918 km

SIGNAL LEVELS IN dB ABOVE 0.5 µV

UTC	MUF	3.6 MHz	7.1 MHz	14.1 MHz	21.2 MHz	28.3 MHz
0000	21.8				-6 B	-6 D
0030	20.7				-7 C	-7 D
0100	19.5				-8 C	-7 D
0130	18.3				-9 D	
0200	17.4				-10 D	
0230	16.0					
0300	14.4					
0330	14.4					
0400	14.4					
0430	14.3					
0500	14.3					
0530	14.1					
0600	14.0					
0630	13.9					
0700	13.8					
0730	13.6					
0800	13.3					
0830	13.1					
0900	13.1					
0930	13.1					
1000	13.2					
1030	14.0					
1100	16.2					
1130	18.2					
1200	19.9					
1230	21.4					
1300	22.7					
1330	23.8					
1400	24.4					
1430	25.0					
1500	25.9					
1530	26.6					
1600	26.9					
1630	25.1					
1700	22.9					
1730	21.1					-10 D
1800	18.4					-9 D
1830	15.3				-10 D	
1900	13.5				-9 D	
1930	12.2					
2000	11.7					
2030	12.1					
2100	16.4			-7 B	-4 D	
2130	22.2			-3 A	-3 B	
2200	24.8			-3 A	-3 A	-5 D
2230	24.1			-6 A	-3 A	-5 D
2300	23.5				-4 B	-5 D
2330	22.8				-5 B	-6 D

Availabilities A: 75 - 100% B: 50 - 75% C: 25 - 50% D: 1 - 25%  
 Signal levels suppressed if below -10 dB relative to 0.5 µV or if predicted availability is zero

W6ELProp Short-Path Prediction for 04/03/2010

TERMINAL A: 42.29 N 83.00 W w8gf Sunrise/Set: 1116/2355 UTC Bearing to B: 319.6 deg  
 TERMINAL B: 26.00 N 142.30 E Ogasawara Sunrise/Set: 2024/0845 UTC Bearing to A: 32.3 deg  
 SSN: 35.8 Flux: 91.0 K: 1 THIS IS A POLAR PATH Path Length: 11114 km

SIGNAL LEVELS IN dB ABOVE 0.5 µV

UTC	MUF	3.6 MHz	7.1 MHz	14.1 MHz	21.2 MHz	28.3 MHz
0000	19.4			0 A	14 D	
0030	18.9			1 A	14 D	
0100	18.3			2 A	15 D	
0130	17.8			2 A	15 D	
0200	17.2			3 B	15 D	
0230	17.0			4 B	16 D	
0300	16.9			5 B	16 D	
0330	16.3			7 C	17 D	
0400	15.5			8 C		
0430	14.7			9 D		
0500	13.8			10 D		
0530	12.8			12 D		
0600	11.7			21 D		
0630	10.5		-1 A	21 D		
0700	10.0		7 A			
0730	9.7		6 A			
0800	9.4	1 A	18 A			
0830	8.9	23 A	31 A			
0900	8.9	34 A	32 A			
0930	8.9	28 A	32 A			
1000	9.1	34 A	32 A			
1030	9.2	31 A	32 A			
1100	9.4	29 A	32 A			
1130	10.6	22 A	30 A			
1200	11.9	12 A	29 A	26 D		
1230	13.1	-5 A	18 A	25 C		
1300	14.3	-3 A	11 A	24 B		
1330	15.3		7 A	23 B		
1400	14.7		-6 A	22 B		
1430	14.6		0 A	21 B		
1500	14.4		-5 A	21 B		
1530	14.5			20 B		
1600	14.3			12 D		
1630	14.2			11 D		
1700	14.2			10 D		
1730	13.5			9 D		
1800	12.9			8 D		
1830	12.6			7 D		
1900	14.0			6 D		
1930	15.6			5 D		
2000	16.6			3 B	15 D	
2030	19.0			2 A	15 D	
2100	20.5			1 A	14 C	
2130	20.5			8 A	14 C	
2200	20.5			7 A	14 C	
2230	20.3			0 A	14 C	
2300	20.1			0 A	14 C	
2330	19.8			0 A	14 D	

Availabilities A: 75 - 100% B: 50 - 75% C: 25 - 50% D: 1 - 25%  
 Signal levels suppressed if below -10 dB relative to 0.5 µV or if predicted availability is zero