



# Long Path



Volume 23 Issue 2

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

October, 2005



## President's Report

Greetings Fellow Dxr's.

Well, last months meeting was certainly interesting and once again Dr. Rick put on a very nice presentation. I wish I could have the HCJB antennas next week when **K7C** comes on as I still need that one on 10, 40, 80, 160 and RTTY, and my guess is, I will need a lot more than I have for a QSO on 10 meters.

I don't want to spoil Sean's moment but next months meeting is going to be a VERY good one but you might want to bring a couple bucks extra as T Shirts will be on sale and donations accepted. Once you read Sean's words you will understand why. In fact the gentleman doing the presentation is flying in via his own plane into Troy airport. I think that might be a first for any of our guest speakers

Besides money for donations, etc. don't forget it is that time of year again and it's time for your dues if you have not already done so. Don't forget if the dues are late you will loose access to the GoList.

Several have asked me how Buck (**N8CQA**) our Treasurer these many years is doing and I am sorry to say he

is not doing well. I spoke with his son in-law today and was told Buck has Dementia as well as Colon Cancer. He said he most likely will be coming home Monday so anybody wishing to send a card, etc. can do so to his home address. Let's remember Buck in our thoughts and prayers. See you all on October 14th at the Troy Elks and this time we will not be eating Pizza. Hi Hi Till then 73 and good luck with Kure Island.

**K8SIX**

## October Program

As Program Chairman, it is somewhat hard to come up with material for the **SEMDXA** monthly meetings. I would like to thank **K8SIX** for his help. Any and all **SEMDXA** members are invited to help out through their amateur radio community contacts. If you know of someone who might be able to provide an interesting evening's program, let us know and we could arrange something.

The program for our October gathering will feature **N6JRL** speaking about the Peter I Island (Antarctica) DXpedition. This DXpedition is scheduled for early 2006. This remote place off the coast of Antarctica has been the home to two previous DXpeditions in 1987 and 1995. The logistics and planning necessary to mount such a trip are not only daunting but extremely expensive. DXpeditions such as this one benefit more than just hams interested in getting a great QSL card.

Equipment must be selected with

care and size must be minimized. Equipment must be set up and operated under harsh winter conditions. Success in the Peter I DXpedition will be a benefit to Amateur Radio across many disciplines including DXing, Contesting, Emergency Services, Science and Education, International good-will and the casting of Amateur Radio in a good light to the public at large.

How can fellow **SEMDXA** members help? You can support the DXpedi-

## SEMDXA CLUB OFFICERS

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

*Vice-president:* Ken Schang, **W8LU**

*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 Chair:* Sean Fleming, **K8KHZ**

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

tion directly. Go to their web page at [http:// www.peterone.com/](http://www.peterone.com/) and browse around. There's a link that will allow you to provide direct financial support. **N6JRL** will be selling T-Shirts at the meeting to raise money. So lets support him and his comrades.

**K8KHZ**

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## September Minutes

Called to order at 7:45 p.m. by President **K8SIX**. Twenty-five members and guests present. **KA8AMX** reports that our Treasurer **N8CQA**, is in Beaumont Hospital. He has had two surgeries so far. Cards and notes to his home would be appreciated. **K8NWD** reports that Bill, **N8KF** is doing well after a stress test led to two stints. He is at home and looking forward to knee replacements.

Gerry, **W8GF** informs us that a beacon is now running on 222.060.

**K8KHZ**, introduced **NE8Z** who told us of his May, 2005 trip to Ecuador.

Rick first related his experience with Homeland Security when the used Bird wattmeter he was asked to bring triggered alarms with TSA in Detroit. Seems the Bird was military surplus and must have had some proximity to explosives in its career. Lots of levels of security and anxious moments has taught Rick that from now on it's new or nothing!

**HC1MD** operations started at Tumbaco where Maria, Ricks XYL's family has a second home. Located at 8,000' elevation above Quito. Rick showed pictures of sites in Quito including a visit to the Quito Radio Club. Not much activity there, but

lots of great looking older rigs. Urban sprawl has enveloped the club building.

Rick, Maria and their son Christian and his fiance Kelly traveled to Tungurahua Volcano where Rick operated as **HC1MD/HC6** using a TS 857 and an Outbacker antenna. About 500 Qs were made from the Luna Runtum Resort.

Next they went to a resort inside the cone of the Papallacta Volcano...great resort, good food, nice hot springs, but very poor operating conditions as **HC1MD/HD7**. Signals were weak and fluttery. Make sure you ask him about the "peeping Rick" episode.

Lastly, they made their way to Puyo in the Amazon Jungle where he put **HC1MD/HC7** on the air. About 600 Qs were made there. A highlight was visiting **HC7ML**.

Most Hams know about HCJB, the Voice of the Andes, a famous shortwave broadcast station. It is located about eighteen minutes from the home in Tumbaco so Rick and Alfredo, **HC1HC** visited and took video of their operation. Very impressive antenna arrays and we even got to see the famous 24 element cubical quad that was invented and developed there by **W9LZX**, also HC1JB. Their host was **HC1HLO**, also **NL7PL**. Altogether there are 32 different antenna setups to beam various parts of the world on the different shortwave broadcast bands. We even got a look at the transmitter shack, modulators and amplifiers and computer controls. Word is that some of the antennas will come down due to an expansion of the Quito International Airport and that a new transmitting site is planned on a peninsula into the Pacific ocean.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m. to general fellowship.

**AC8W**, Secretary

## Long Path Newsletter

Our club organ it seems is not the only newsletter that bears the name "Long Path". The North Alabama DX Club has a newsletter of the same name. Their 9-page September Newsletter (Volume 29, Issue 9) carried articles about the recent Hurricane Katrina, the T33C Banaba DXpedition, an interesting piece about the recent P5 no-show, and a description of a spectacular antenna aimed at P5 with a theoretical gain of 13 dbi. Their membership roster totals about 60 (*SEMDXA's* is 56) and I noticed that the son of an old friend Al Russell (**W8WBT** [sk]) is a member, Tom Russell, **N4KG** (ex **W8FAW**). Contester Extraordinaire.

Sorting through the meeting minutes, it was noted that they had 19 members in attendance with no visitors which is similar in scope to *SEMDXA* meeting attendance. One thing that was clearly beyond *SEMDXA* was their Treasury report which indicated a balance of \$2672.00! Club meeting programs also seem to be an issue there as it is with most ARCs. Their newsletter solicits buy/sell ads at a price. Oh yes one other item, they have a similar deal with the *GOLIST*. Check them out at *NADXC.ORG*

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## Space Available

The *Long Path* frequently has space available for your use in advertising excess Amateur Radio gear that you might want to turn into cash. You may make arrangements by contacting the Editor: **W8GF@comcast.net**

Your ad will run free of charge too!

Please, only personal ads; no commercial ads are solicited or accepted.

## Kure Island K7C

The long-awaited DXpedition to Kure Island is underway (CQ Zone 31, ITU 61). From the United States, propagation-wise, Kure is no simple target. It lies approximately 1370 Northwest of Honolulu and 56 miles Northwest of Midway Island and is the Western-most island of the Hawaiian chain. Further, it is the most Northern coral Atoll in our world. Path length is approximately 5160 miles with a bearing of 295 degrees. Sunrise is 17:49Z and Sunset 0536Z. It consists of Green Island and two small Islets. Included with this issue (October, 2005) of the *Long Path* is a propagation study from the Southeast Michigan area to Kure Island. This study centered on September 30, uses a solar flux value of 85 and K Index of 2. Long Path propagation to Kure from SE Michigan is unlikely and is being ignored otherwise.

The Weekly DX (W3UR) indicated that this group will be on Kure until October 23. However, the DXpedition website noted October 5 as the termination date. My advise is to get 'em early so as not to be disappointed! QSL via K4TSJ.

Kure Island was not included in the original Post WWII DXCC list. Kure was added in 1960 but allowed contact credit from November 15, 1945 going forward. Your editor's first Kure QSO was with Bob Huart, KH6EDY in August of 1961. Bob (home call WA6PUC) was responsible for the Loran Station that was in operation back in those days. Charlies, W5QK was his QSL Manager at that time.

We will likely have decent propagation on most bands including 15 Meters. 12 and 10 Meters however, will be difficult. This is evident after studying the W6EL propagation summary. There will be intense competition for this DXCC Entity especially

on the lower bands since it ranks number 10 on the DX Magazine's Top Ten List.

There are several unique aspects to this DXpedition including near-realtime log viewing and current band(s) active. Check their website: <http://www.cordell.org/htdocs/kure/> for all of the details. Essentially one merely plugs in their call sign and a summary of all band/mode QSOs is depicted. This should minimize multiple JIC QSOs. The progress of technology is mind-boggling.

Listening this morning September 26, mostly JAs were being worked by K7C on 80 and 40 Meters. The usual lunies were present; tuners, policemen, instigators and various wannabes. Eventually they will tire and things will settle down. 7828 QSOs had been completed with the current operator listed as AD6E.

Good luck!

W8GF

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## DUES ARE DUE

If you have not brought dues up to date, you must do so at the next regular meeting -October 14- in order to maintain your eligibility for the free-bee GOLIST tool. Dues are now \$20.00 and a real bargain at that! Our Treasurer N8CQA is temporarily at odds with cancer but an interim Treasurer has been appointed by club management. Please see him at the next meeting and be a legitimized SEMDXA member once again.

Keep in mind that our dues are almost entirely used to provide the outstanding club programs you have been able to view over the years. Pay up, we are depending upon you!

## GL Director Elections

K8IT is running against K8JE for the Great Lakes Director Position. If you recall, K8JE attended one of our meetings two years ago and spoke about his ideas in his quest for election to this important office. Well, K8IT will be in attendance at our October meeting to speak about his ideas as he runs against K8JE.

Several very critical issues with potential long-term consequences are being decided by the FCC with some input from the ARRL. Two of these are the concept of bandwidth taking precedence over the present mode distribution method and the elimination of the Morse Code portion of the license testing requirements.

These are really two hot-button items that have emerged recently and all club members are urged to attend the October meeting to get an idea where the candidates stand. The *Long Path* September issue published a short item dealing with the election as viewed by K8IT and his running mate KB6NU.

Now is the time to probe the mindset of K8IT! Read over his stance as noted in the September *Long Path* and have your questions formulated! K8JE has a regular monthly e-Mailing in which he has stated his thoughts and ideas frequently. Essentially, he is the prime mover behind the Bandwidth-over- / Mode issue and favors at least retaining present Morse testing requirements.

W8GF

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## 222.060 mHz Beacon

The 222 mHz beacon is temporarily off the air prior to putting it at its permanent home with the antenna atop KA8WYN's 140' tower located in Warren. This is a ten Watt beacon using a squalo-style antenna.

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Paid up *SEMDXA* members in alphabetical order:

<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>	<u>CALL SIGN</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
<b>AC8W</b>	AC8W@ARRL.NET	<b>N8CQA</b>	N8CQA@ARRL.NET
<b>AD4UU</b>	AD4VU@COMCAST.NET	<b>N8HZM</b>	MLS1@COMCAST.NET
<b>K8BB</b>	K8BB@COMCAST.NET	<b>N8JV</b>	N8JV@COMCAST.NET
<b>K8CC</b>	K8CC@COMCAST.NET	<b>K8KF</b>	N/A
<b>*K8CW</b>	K8CW@ARRL.NET	<b>N8KIE</b>	N8KIE@AOL.COM
<b>K8DD</b>	K8DD@ARRL.NET	<b>N8LJ</b>	N8LJ@USOL.COM
<b>K8ESQ</b>	K8ESQ@AOL.COM	<b>N8MOJ</b>	N8MOJ1@AOL.COM
<b>K8FT</b>	JIM.KUHNS@IEEE.ORG	<b>N8MR</b>	N8MR@ARRL.NET
<b>K8GT</b>	K8GT@ARRL.NET	<b>N8OZ</b>	N8OZ@ARRL.NET
<b>K8IY</b>	DFWOOD@OAKLANDCC.EDU	<b>N8QGC</b>	N8QGC@ARRL.NET
<b>K8JM</b>	K8JM@USOL.COM	<b>N8SHZ</b>	N8SHZ@COMCAST.NET
<b>K8KHZ</b>	K8KHZ@K8KHZ.COM	<b>N8SNM</b>	BNOWAK@SPEAKEASY.NET
<b>K8MSU</b>	K8MSU@JUNO.COM	<b>N8ZX</b>	N8ZX@TDS.NET
<b>*K8NA</b>	K8NA@ARRL.NET	<b>NE8I</b>	NE8I@ARRL.NET
<b>K8NWD</b>	K8NWD@ARRL.NET	<b>NE8Z</b>	NE8Z@YAHOO.COM
<b>K8SIA</b>	K8SIA@ARRL.NET	<b>W1SKU</b>	W1SKU@ARRL.NET
<b>K8SIX</b>	K8SIX@COMCAST.NET	<b>W4CEO</b>	SCAT42@EARTHLINK.NET
<b>K8UP</b>	JOHN@FLEMING-PHOTO.COM	<b>W8AP</b>	W8AP@GEOGBH@NETZEROL.COM
<b>K8UT</b>	K8UT@ARRL.NET	<b>W8GF</b>	W8GF@COMCAST.NET
<b>K8ZE</b>	K8ZE@CHARTER.NET	<b>W8LU</b>	W8LU@SCHANG.NET
<b>K8ZZU</b>	K8ZZU@SBCGLOBAL.NET	<b>W8PP</b>	W8PP@COMCAST.NET
<b>KC8JAY</b>	KC8JAY@ARRL.NET	<b>W8SJ</b>	W8SJ@AOL.COM
<b>KC8OBH</b>	KC8OBH@AOL.COM	<b>W8UA</b>	W8UA@MYVINE.COM
<b>KC8PKY</b>	KC8OBH@AOL.COM	<b>WA8BIJ</b>	WA8BIJ@ARRL.NET
<b>KK8I</b>	DL2HBX@DARC.DE	<b>WD8S</b>	WD8S@ARRL.NET
<b>KP4E</b>	KP4E@AMSAT.ORG	<b>WQ8T</b>	WQ8T@ARRL.NET
<b>KQ8D</b>	ROGER49201@YAHOO.COM	<b>WZ8K</b>	WZ8K@MIQRP.NET
<b>KT8X</b>	KT8X@COMCAST.NET		
<b>LZ4GU</b>	N/A		
<b>N4JQQ</b>	STRUTLEDGE@OIL.NET		

\*Indicates perpetual membership. 57 Total Call signs

Note: If your call sign does not appear on the above list, you will not receive further issues of the *Long Path* until your dues are brought up to date. Check with Buck, **N8CQA** *SEMDXA* Treasurer. If you have paid your 2005 dues and your call is not indicated, check with Buck to resolve any issues.

Our perpetual roster contains a total of 235 call signs. Of these 14 are Silent Keys (SK).

*SEMDXA* Membership Silent Keys include the following: **KB8IO, KC8OB, KM8Y, N8EOA, N8FGH, NG8S, W8BXM, W8KPL, W8KZM, W8LZV, W8QFR, W8URM, WB8OHO** and **WD8CRY**

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# 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: \$20.00 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***

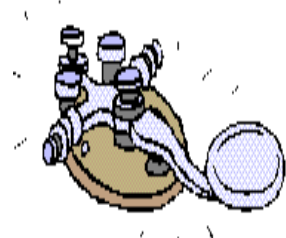
***Make payment at next SEMDXA meeting or mail with remittance to:***

***Leon Switzer, Treasurer***

***427 Jeffrey Avenue***





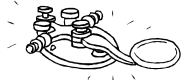



***Royal Oak, Michigan 48073***

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



# October 2005

## *SEMDXA Monthly Planner*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> CA QSO Party Oceania SSB DX Test PSK Rumble
<b>2</b> Classic Exchange CW RSGB 15/10 SSB Test	<b>3</b>  New Moon <b>W1AW Qualify- ing Run</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>Rosh Hashanah</b>	<b>5</b> YLRL CW Party	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>FISTS CW Fall Sprint Oceania CW DX Test PA QSO Party</b>
<b>9</b> <b>PA QSO Party</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Columbus Day Observed</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> K6YR Qualifying Run Traditional Colum- bus Day	<b>13</b> Yom Kippur	<b>14</b> AAF Birthday <b>SEMDXA Meeting</b> YLRL SSB Party	<b>15</b> <b>JARTS WW RTTY Test Worked All Ger- many Test</b>
<b>16</b> IL QSO Party RSGB 15/10 CW Test	<b>17</b>  Full Moon	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>W1AW Qualify- ing Run</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> ARRL EME Test Holland Mi Swap QRP ARCI QSO Party
<b>23</b>  <b>Benton Harbor Swap</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10-10 Test <b>CQ WW SSB DX Test</b>
<b>30</b>  <b>Daylight Savin- gs Ends USECA Swap</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>Halloween</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">           September            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         </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">           November            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         </div>		

W6ELProp Short-Path Prediction for 09/30/2005

TERMINAL A: 42.29 N 83.00 W w8gf Sunrise/Set: 1133/2311 UTC Bearing to B: 295.0 deg  
 TERMINAL B: 28.58 N 178.17 W Kure Island Sunrise/Set: 1749/0536 UTC Bearing to A: 49.8 deg  
 SSN: 28.5 Flux: 85.0 K: 2 Path Length: 8309 km

SIGNAL LEVELS IN dB ABOVE 0.5 $\mu$ V						
UTC	MUF	3.6 MHz	7.1 MHz	14.1 MHz	21.2 MHz	28.3 MHz
0000	19.1			15 A	24 D	
0030	18.4			16 B	25 D	
0100	17.6			17 B	25 D	
0130	16.7		-9 A	19 C	26 D	
0200	15.7		-1 A	27 A	26 D	
0230	14.7		5 A	28 A		
0300	13.9		12 A	29 B		
0330	12.9		12 B	30 D		
0400	11.7	9 A	21 A	31 D		
0430	11.2	21 A	26 A	32 D		
0500	11.2	32 A	37 A	33 D		
0530	10.8	30 A	40 A	33 D		
0600	10.3	41 A	39 A	33 D		
0630	9.9	40 A	39 A			
0700	9.5	48 A	39 A			
0730	9.2	48 A	39 A			
0800	9.0	45 A	39 A			
0830	8.9	45 A	39 A			
0900	8.9	45 A	39 A			
0930	8.9	45 A	39 A			
1000	9.0	45 A	39 A			
1030	9.1	45 A	39 A			
1100	9.3	45 A	39 A			
1130	9.6	46 A	39 A			
1200	10.0	40 A	38 A			
1230	10.9	34 A	37 A	32 D		
1300	12.5	17 A	34 A	32 D		
1330	13.2	0 A	31 A	31 C		
1400	13.3		18 A	30 C		
1430	13.3		11 A	29 D		
1500	13.2		8 A	29 D		
1530	13.1		5 A	28 C		
1600	13.2		-1 A	27 C		
1630	13.5		-9 B	19 D		
1700	15.4			17 D		
1730	16.1			16 C		
1800	18.0			14 B	24 D	
1830	19.6			13 A	23 C	
1900	21.1			12 A	23 C	
1930	22.4			11 A	22 B	23 D
2000	22.4			11 A	22 B	22 D
2030	22.4			11 A	22 B	
2100	22.2			11 A	22 B	
2130	21.8			11 A	22 B	
2200	21.4			11 A	22 B	
2230	20.9			12 A	22 C	
2300	20.3			13 A	23 C	
2330	19.7			14 A	23 D	

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