



Long Path



Volume 27 Issue 2

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

October 2009



President's Report

Since the leaves are starting to slowly change color, it looks like we're getting down to the wire on antenna work! Check the guy wire tension, anchors, bolts and replace the rusty parts. And replace the two year old ropes holding the dipoles up in trees!

The beginning of the Fall season is marked by the **W9DXCC** DX Convention & Banquet in Elk Grove Village, IL. This year **SEMDXA** was represented by Lee, **N8LJ**, (looking for programs for upcoming meetings), Stan, **AC8W**, and myself. It was a great day of forums from **PY0F** to Thompson Island (**VY0**) to San Andres six meters and a look at the different receivers and front end performance by Rob Sherwood, **NC0B**. And a banquet with Glenn Johnson, **W0GJ** and his **K5D** show. And, of course, there were DX suites Friday night by the Northern IL DX Assoc and Saturday night by the Greater Milwaukee DX Assoc. It was well worth the trip to Chicago land and the DX convention and if you go once, you will want to go back again!

There was finally a **SEMDXA** election sponsored by Grand Trunk. There is now a full cast of officers again, looking about the same with a shift and an addition – Bob, **K8VFF**, moved from

Program Director to Vice President and Dave, **K8ESQ**, and Lee, **N8LJ**, are now the Program Committee. The rest of us – Stan, **AC8W** Secretary and Brad, **N8SNM**, Treasurer - are in the same positions.

Something **SEMDXA** could use is a Membership Chairman/Committee. Not a hard job - Make up some signs and maybe a banner with our name & logo. Print a few copies of the Long Path and membership applications and go to all the Swap & Shops and Hamfests in lower Michigan. This really sounds like a great way to get to go to all the swaps and have the table paid for by **SEMDXA**! And after every DX contest scan the results and pick out the calls in SE Michigan and either email them, or send a post card, with an invitation to come to a **SEMDXA**

Dues Are Due

Thank you to the many who have already paid their dues!

INSIDE ...

- ◆ **ARRL Forum, LoTW Award Process**
- ◆ **Windows 7**
- ◆ **Timor-Leste**

meeting. We have seen some new faces in the past few months, but it would be nice if we could fill the room at Jimi's and maybe even open the divider when we run out of room. So - any volunteers before we send our largest member out to do some arm twisting?

73 es DX! - Hank, **K8DD**

September Minutes

Minutes of the September 11, 2009 **SEMDXA** Meeting

Called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Hank, **K8DD**. Thirty-four members and five guests present at Jimi's

SEMDXA OFFICERS

President: Hank Kohl, **K8DD**

Vice-president: Bob Crawford, **K8VFF**

Treasurer: Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

Secretary: Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

Program Directors:

Dave De Rain, **K8ESQ**

Lee Dziekan, **N8LJ**

Director: Sean Fleming, **K8KHZ**

Club Appointees:

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

LP Publisher: Chet Sprinkle, **K8YTO**

ARRL and CQ Appointees:

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

DXCC Checker: Bill Jones, **N8KF**

VUCC Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

VUCC Checker: Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

CQ Checker: Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

CQ Checker: Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

Restaurant in Royal Oak.

Minutes of the June 12 meeting were printed in the Long Path. Stan, AC8W, reminded all to sign-in.

Treasurer Brad, N8SNM, reports a balance of \$541.29. DUES ARE DUE!

Old Business:

New officers were elected. (*see SEMDXA OFFICERS on Page 1—ED*)

Secretary AC8W will send a news release to the ARRL and the Daily DX

Treasurer Brad informs us that the plaque for the Western US High Score in the Michigan QSO Party was paid for tonight.

New Business:

Marsha, N8FE, is available to take orders for new SEMDXA badges.

Program:

Bob, K8VFV, introduced Larry, K8UT, who shared PowerPoint pictures of his May 2009 trip and brief operation as HL9A at Camp Yongsan, Seoul, Korea.

Larry's son is with the Army in Military Intelligence at Camp Humphries at Son Anjeong-ri, Korea.

His presentation included some interesting pictures of the tour around the country.

A highlight was the visit and chance to be in North Korea at the DMZ (sorry, Ham radio operation). Security was extraordinary and the fact that North Korea test fired several missiles heightened the general tension.

His chance to operate came via Harry, WX8C who is a civilian contractor with access to Camp Yongsan and

permission to operate.

He operated CW and RTTY "field day" style on a picnic table and worked lots of Pacific/Asia and few US. It was a thrill nonetheless. A very entertaining trip.

Thanks for the tour Larry.

Meeting evolved to general fellowship at 8:35 p.m.,

Stan, AC8W, Secretary

From the ARRL Awards Forum...

Awards Branch e-mail change

Sep 17, 2009 15:10 ET

There has been a change in one of the awards branch e-mail addresses.

This address is no longer accepting e-mail: awards@arrl.org

The address has been changed to award@arrl.org

Anyone sending an e-mail to awards@arrl.org will get a return message noting this and advising you of the new address. This address mostly affects the Worked All States awards program.

E-mail to dxcc@arrl.org and any of the other e-mail addresses that come to me are not affected by this.

Bill Moore, NC1L

DXCC and WAS applications via LoTW

Aug 27, 2009 18:54 ET

On the main LoTW site (www.arrl.org/lotw) you can now find links (power point presentations) explaining the application process, for each award, in good detail. We spend a lot of time on the telephone and by e-mail explaining the application process so these posted presentations will now serve to help everyone through the process, and get information to applicants much quicker.

Before contacting DXCC or WAS please take some time to review these instructions. If, after this, you have questions regarding the application procedure, you can contact the awards branch.

Also, please feel free to save and use this information at club meetings etc...as presentations to clubs and other groups as long as these presentations are used as designed by ARRL.

Bill Moore, NC1L

September Omission ...

Last Month the author credit for the article "Top Ten Six Way Antenna Relay" was omitted.

Thank you Larry, K8UT, for the article.



Windows 7 is scheduled to begin shipping on October 22.

To learn more about Windows 7 features and benefits see the following link. The bottom of the web page contains many useful links including "System Requirements" and "Compare Editions" of Windows 7. Microsoft Windows 7 Home Premium is the edition most home PC users will consider getting.

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/discover>

There are 32 bit and 64 bit versions. If you are currently running a 32-bit version of Windows, you can only upgrade to another 32-bit version of Windows.

According to Microsoft, most programs designed for a computer running a 32-bit version of Windows will work on a computer running 64-bit versions of Windows.

Notable exceptions are many antivirus programs, and some hardware drivers. Drivers designed for 32-bit versions of Windows don't work on computers running a 64-bit version of Windows.

As usual the computer vendors will be offering a free upgrade to Win 7 if you have purchased a new computer after January 26, 2009 (?) but you must check with the vendor website to be sure your system is qualified for a free upgrade.

"New computer" includes certain refurbished computers (by the manufacturer) for some computer manufacturers.

The common requirement is that the purchased computer must have been supplied with Vista Home Premium (or higher versions of Vista). If it is not Vista Home Premium or higher, your system is not qualified. You should still check with the manufacturer to be sure.

Windows 7 Upgrade Advisor Software

For those considering an upgrade, Microsoft has created the "Upgrade Advisor" software. You download it from Microsoft, run it on your computer, and it should tell if your computer can run Windows 7.

My computer is a DELL 3000, vintage 2005, with 1 GB MB (not enough for Vista or Windows 7). It has USB, one serial, and one LPT port.

I expected to see a laughing face after the Update Advisor ran.

Instead it offered for sale an upgrade, and 3 areas requiring attention

The System
Devices
Programs

Each had links to sites that should help.

See the next page for Windows 7 system requirements (read minimum).

(Source—Microsoft)

October Meeting

Presentation

The October presentation will be the Desecheo Island ,**K5D** , DXpedition DVD.

CQ Diamond Jubilee WAZ Award

In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the WAZ award, for a limited time CQ is offering: "The Diamond Jubilee Worked All Zones Award."

To qualify, contacts with all 40 CQ zones must be made during the period from November 1, 2009 to December 31, 2010. See:

<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/DiamondWAOct09.pdf>

CY0 Sable Island 2009 On Hold

The October DXpedition to Sable Island has been put on hold.

One of the members of the team, Randy, **N0TG**, has a son who is ill with cancer of the kidney which has spread to the lungs.

Our thoughts and prayers are for the family, Randy, and his son.

If you want to run Windows 7 on your PC, here's what it takes:

1 gigahertz (GHz) or faster 32-bit (x86) or 64-bit (x64) processor

1 gigabyte (GB) RAM (32-bit) or 2 GB RAM (64-bit)

16 GB available hard disk space (32-bit) or 20 GB (64-bit)

DirectX 9 graphics device with WDDM 1.0 or higher driver

Additional requirements to use certain features:

Internet access (fees may apply)

Depending on resolution, video playback may require additional memory and advanced graphics hardware

For some [Windows Media Center](#) functionality a TV tuner and additional hardware may be required

[Windows Touch](#) and Tablet PCs require specific hardware

[HomeGroup](#) requires a network and PCs running Windows 7

DVD/CD authoring requires a compatible optical drive

BitLocker requires Trusted Platform Module (TPM) 1.2

BitLocker To Go requires a USB flash drive

[Windows XP Mode](#) requires an additional 1 GB of RAM, an additional 15 GB of available hard disk space, and a processor capable of hardware virtualization with Intel VT or AMD-V turned on

Music and sound require audio output

(Source—Microsoft)

Timor Leste #59 Two DX Operations Continue

Timor Leste

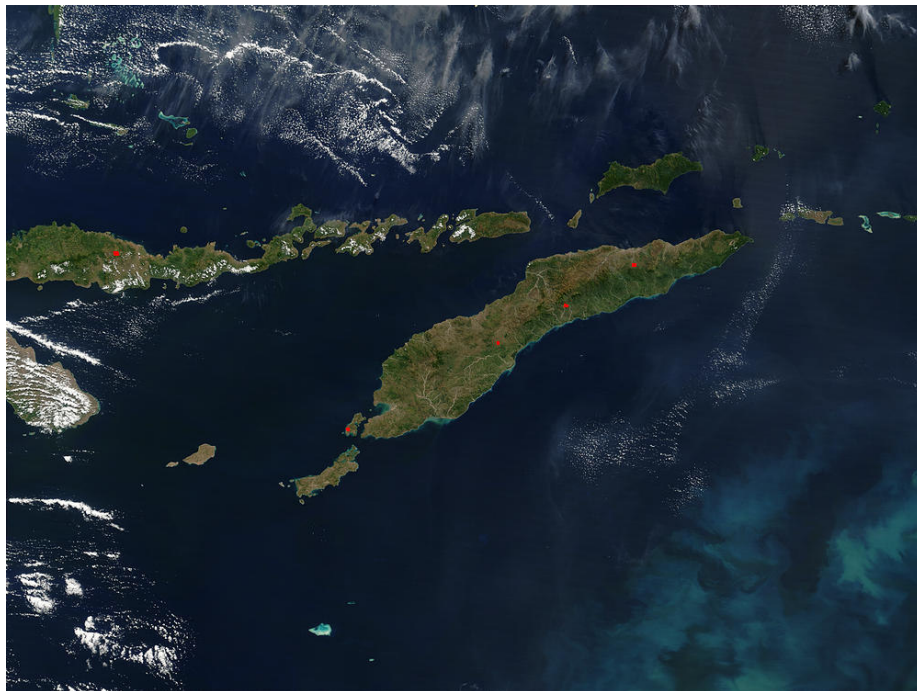
Timor Island (see center of NASA Photo) was colonized by Portugal in the mid-16th century. After many skirmishes with the Dutch, in an 1859 treaty the western portion was ceded to the Dutch.

Timor Leste (East Timor) includes the eastern part of Timor Island and a portion of north central Timor Island.

East Timor declared itself independent from Portugal on 28 November 1975 and was invaded and occupied by Indonesian forces nine days later. It was incorporated into Indonesia in July 1976 as the province of Timor Timur (East Timor). Many tens of thousands of lives were lost in East Timor over the next two decades.

On 30 August 1999, in a UN-supervised popular referendum, an overwhelming majority of the people of Timor-Leste voted for independence from Indonesia.

Between the referendum and the arrival of a multinational peace-keeping force in late September 1999, anti-independence Timorese militias - organized and supported by the Indonesian military - commenced a large-scale, scorched-earth campaign of retribution. The militias killed approximately 1,400 Timorese and forcibly pushed 300,000 people into western Timor as refugees. The majority of the country's infrastructure, including homes, irrigation systems, water supply systems, and schools, and nearly 100% of the country's electrical grid were destroyed.



Timor Island (NASA)

On 20 May 2002, Timor-Leste was internationally recognized as an independent state.

4W6AL:

AL, **CT1GPO**, has been active as **4W6AL** in his spare time from Timor Lorosae, OC-148. He has been on the air nearly every day since August 21. His stay continues through October 3. (*Bernie, W3UR, indicated he was leaving on Sep 27—ED*). He has been active on 40, 30, 20 and 17 meters SSB, and CW.

Al is in Timor Lorosae with a medical team.

Station setup is an ICOM IC-706 MK2g, dipole for 40 and 30 meters and square loops for 20 and 17 meters.

The Pilot Station and QSL manager is CT1GFK Toze.

His online log is updated periodically:

<http://www.algarvedx.com/logonline/4w6al/search.html>

4W6FR:

Chris, **VK4FR**, is operating as **4W6FR** in Dili, East Timor until mid October. He is working there and is operating when he can.

He has spent most of his active hours on PSK31, RTTY, and Olivia. His main activity is on 17, 20, and 30M. He uses Olivia mostly with Europe as it is most reliable.

At times he does self spot on DX Summit when he begins operation.

He is operating with an inverted V with the peak at around 10m.

He says: "I will try to accommodate as much as possible any request for QSO's subject to my work hours."

He QSL's via LoTW and eQSL (authenticity guaranteed).

QSL via VK4FW. Also, see Online QSL Request System (OQRS):

DX Activity

Crozet, **FT5WO**, activity picked up about September 20. He has been on 20 M using a dipole. He has been there since January. Recently he also was on 17 M briefly.

Midway, **K4M**, with it's large team should start October 9.

Conway Reef, **3D20CR**, should begin October 1. Check 3D20CR on QRZ.com for new and updates as the webpage is not to be updated again until October 18.

Glorioso, **FT5GA**, is listed to end October 10 but elsewhere it is stopping operation on the 5th. Work him now. This military operation has regular stoppages of the operation (like clockwork) for maintenance. Also, they are down to 3 working

stations from 4. Timor Leste, **4W6AL**, mat ens in late September.

South Georgia, **VP8DIF**, should begin operation in October.

Prop has been better on 15 M recently. For example, **FT5GA** was workable from our area on CW as early as 1500.

October/November 100 Most Wanted Activity as of Sept 28 — *End Date Order*

#	Entity	Station	QRV	Ending	Website	LP Issue	
88	VIETNAM	XV3RRC (AS-157)	NOW	Oct 01	http://xv6rrc.com		
33	CHESTERFIELD	FK/AI5P		Oct 01	Oct 08		
53	WESTERN KIRIBATI	T30W		Oct 06	Oct 08	Nov-08	
53	WESTERN KIRIBATI	T30M		Oct 06	Oct 08	Nov-08	
22	CONWAY REEF	3D20CR (OC-112)		Oct 01	Oct 10	www.conwayreef2009.de	Sep-09
4	GLORIOSO	FT5GA (AF-011)	NOW	Oct 10	http://glorieuses2008.free.fr/	May-08	
52	AUSTRAL	TX5SPA (OC-152)	NOW	Oct 12	http://fo2009sp.pl/		
49	TRINDADE	ZY0T (SA-010)		Oct 11	Oct 16	http://riodxgroup.dxwatch.com/trindade-2009	
89	VANUATU	YJ0PX		Oct 10	Oct 18		Mar-09
24	MIDWAY	K4M (OC-030)		Oct 09	Oct 19	www.midway2009.com	
67	BHUTAN	A52FJJ		Oct 08	Oct 20		
54	MARQUESAS	TX5SPM (OC-027)		Oct 16	Oct 22	http://fo2009sp.pl/	
98	TONGA	by XE1KK		Oct 24	Oct 25		
59	TIMOR LESTE	4W6FR (OC-148)	NOW	Oct 31			Oct-09
89	VANUATU	by VK2CCC		Oct 30	Nov 05		Mar-09
62	NIUE	ZK2DL (OC-040)		Oct 19	Nov 07	www.qsl.net/dl2fag	May-09
30	SOUTH GEORGIA	VP8DIF		Oct 06	Nov 15	www.lars-boehme.de/vp8dif/index.html	
66	CHRISTMAS ISLAND	VK9XW		Nov 28	Nov 29		Apr-09
98	TONGA	A31A		Nov 28	Nov 29	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
9	CROZET	FT5WO (AF-008)	NOW	Nov 30			Jan-09
98	TONGA	A31SN		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31IW		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31JC		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31LEO		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31NN		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31WL		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
98	TONGA	A31MR		Nov 19	Dec 01	www.ik1pmr.com/plans/a3/	
							Apr-09

October 2009

SEMDXA Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <table style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse; width: 100%;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></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></td><td></td><td></td><td></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				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						1	2	3 CA QSO Party EU Autumn Sprint Oceania DX SSB Test PSK Rumble
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4  Full Moon RSGB 21/28 Mhz Test	5	6  W1AM Qualifying Run	7 FallVHF Sprint 432 Mhz	8	9  SEMDXA Meeting YLRL Party (to Oct 11)	10 10-10 Sprint All Britain Test ARRL EME AZ, PA Party EU CW Sprint FISTS Sprint Oceania CW DX Test																																																																																				
11 NA RTTY Sprint SKCC Weekend Sprint	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15  K9JM Qualifying Run	16 (Oct 17 Sat W/VE Islands QSO Party)	17 Fall VHF 902 Mhz + IA QSO Party JARTS WW RTTY Test QRP ARCI Party Stew Perry Warmup CW																																																																																				
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