



NCDXA DX NEWSLETTER

Editor: David Collingham
December 15, 2011

Issue: 11-01
FALL 2011



NCDXA making a difference with Youth Development on Rotuma Island –
3D2R – September/October 2011

President's Introduction

The year 2011 was very exciting for our Association as we made progress with enhancements in the club image. This included enhanced club logo, new web domain and site (www.ncdxa.org), Members Only section for electronic record retention and voting, NCDXA DX Newsletter development, establishing project goals for 2012 and 2013, adding active membership validation and accounting and sharing of leadership responsibilities within our club.

I want to thank Mike Czek (W3MC), Bud Governale (W3LL) and Richard Hambly (W2GPS) for stepping up and accepting the responsibilities for DXCC-EAST Convention Leader, New Membership Leader and NCDXA Strategic Planning Meeting with ARRL 2013 Leader respectively. Also Rick Murphy (K1MU), our new Secretary who without reservation took on the role with minimum notification and has been key to many of the recent changes you have seen in our organization. I greatly appreciate each of their efforts.

We are making progress with our DXCC-EAST Convention 2012 (www.DXCCEAST.com) project. The new web site (www.DXCCEAST.com) is in its final stages of edit and will be ready by December 30, 2011 to go on-line. The convention will be Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012, so keep your calendar free for this weekend of great fun. I think each of you will be very happy with guest speakers and the use of the Holiday-Inn Convention Center at FSK in Frederick, Maryland. It's close proximity to I-270 and I-70 will make it ideal for travelers to get to our event.

I want to wish each of our valued members a wonder and safe Holiday Season and New Year.

Sincerely,

David Collingham, K3LP

NCDXA President

December Meeting 2011

The next NCDXA meeting will be held at the home of Marlene Hammond KB4FAS on Saturday, December 17th at 4:00 P.M. Please make sure to let Marlene know if you're coming for dinner and what side dish you will bring! (703) 273-0941 or marlenehammond@cox.net

Directions:

Directions to KB4FAS QTH - 3322 Saddlestone Ct. Oakton - (703) 273-0941

1. From I-495 Capital Beltway, take I-66 west toward Front Royal.
 2. Take second exit (Rte 123) north toward Oakton.
 3. At second light (Jermantown Road), turn left.
 4. At 1.0 mile on Jermantown Rd, turn right at 2nd light (Oakton Rd).
 5. At 0.6 mile on Oakton Rd, turn right onto Miller Heights Rd. (Note: this is difficult to see. If you get to a traffic light, you have gone too far).
 6. At the third left, turn left onto Cranbrook Lane.
 7. At the second right, turn right onto Saddlestone Ct. We are on the northwest corner of the intersection of Cranbrook Ln. and Saddlestone Ct.
- Park in the driveway or on the street.

Meeting Agenda

4 PM: Cocktails

5 PM: Dinner (\$5.00 Contribution)

6 PM: Awards

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM - Presentation

8:15 PM - Gift Drawing

1. Call to Order - Thanks to Marlene KB4FAS
2. Introduction of Members & Guests
3. NCDXA Officers' Reports (President's, Treasurer's, Secretary's, as available)
4. ARRL/DXAC Report by N4MM/John Kanode
5. W3 Bureau Report by Fred Laun K3ZO
6. Voting in of new members
7. Discussion of Date and Venue for NCDXA February 2011 Meeting
8. Program presentation; ET3AA Youth Development by K3LP
9. Holiday Gifts drawings

Holiday Gifts at National Capitol DX Associations Holiday Dinner – December 2011

ICOM IC-V8000 VHF FM Transceiver, \$219.95 (*)

ARRL Handbook, ARRL TAH-2012-HBK - \$51.00 (*)

ARRL Antenna Handbook, ARRL AB 22ND-HBK - \$51.00 (*)

CQ Calendar (CQ ARC-12) \$10.49 (*)

ICOM Cups, Qty 6 x \$2.00 = \$12.00(*)

Surge Protector, Alpha-Delta (ATT3G50U), Qty 8 x \$63.00 = \$504.00 ()**

Telephone RFI Filters, Qty 8 x \$15.00 = \$120.00 ()**

Reisling Wine, Qty 3 Bottles x \$9.00 = \$27.00 ()**

KP5 Desecho Island Coral Souvenir - Priceless ()**

ET3AA Celebration Gown - Priceless ()**

Budget: \$995.44

(*) These gifts were donated 50% each by Ham Radio Outlet (HRO) Virginia and David Collingham (K3LP)

() These gifts donated 100% by David Collingham (K3LP)**

\$172.22 Donation by HRO

\$823.22 Donation by K3LP

FEBRUARY MEETING 2012

February 25, 2012, Saturday

5:00 PM – Dinner; All You can eat Buffet

6:00 PM to 6.45 PM – Presentation – STOR – Republic of S. Sudan by David Collingham

6:45 PM - Gift Drawing

Location:

Golden Corral

5621 Spectrum Drive,

Frederick, MD 21703

(301) 662-5922

Cost of Meal: \$13.50 with tax



Take I-270 North to Rt. 85 Buckeystown Pike North (go right). Go 1/8 mile and make a right at first signal light onto Spectrum Drive. Restaurant is on the left hand side in 0.5 mile next to FSK Mall.

3D2RI - Rotuma High School Amateur Radio Club – Rotuma, Island

3D2R DX-Pedition Team and Rotuma Island Officials rally together for Student Success!



The 3D2R DX-Pedition Team conducts teacher and student training, provides all radio station equipment including computer and antennas, obtains official 3D2RI License and provides financial support to the Rotuma High School Amateur Radio Club, Sept. 29 thru Oct. 6, 2011.



All 3D2R Team Members participated to make this a successful event.

Team Leader - Hranislav "Hrane" Milosevic (YT1AD)

Co-Team Leader - David Collingham (K3LP)

Communications and Sponsors - Paul Ewing (N6PSE)

Other Team Members:

K1LZ - Krassimir "Krassy" Petkov, PY5EG - Atilano de Oms, N6PSE - Paul Ewing, YT3W - Dragan Acimovic , UA4HOX - Aleksej Romanov, WD5COV - David Jorgensen , AA4NN - Joe Blackwell, YU1UA - Miki Markovic, RU4SU - Victor Vasilenko, JT1DO - Badruun Chadraawal, HL5FUA - Choi Jong-Sool, RW4NW - Vasily Kozerodov, JT1CO - Chuck

Chadraawal, UA4HBW - Victor Pronin, SV2BFN - Vangelis Gekas, LZ1GC - Stanislav Valev and 3D2TR - Tevita Rokobaro

Donated Equipment to Rotuma High School valued at \$6,500.00 USD

- ❑ TS-570SG - Hrane (YT1AD Donation)
- ❑ Semlex SCEC-1223, Switching Power Supplies; 23 Amp, Qty 1 (N6PSE Donation)
- ❑ A3S Tri-band Antenna (3D2R Team Donation)
- ❑ Coax: 200' (3D2R Team Donation)
- ❑ 5 Meter (16') Pole for Beam and Support Ropes (3D2R Team Donation)
- ❑ PC HP Laptop Computer with WinTest Software Version 4.80 (UA4HOX Donation)
- ❑ Heil Proset with HC4 and Foot Switch (K1LZ Donation)
- ❑ \$1,500 USD Cash for School Projects - (David - K3LP Donation)
- ❑ QSL Cards; Qty 2,000 - (Oms - PY5EG Donation)
- ❑ Satellite Internet Equipment (High Speed Internet) + 1 Year Fees (approx.\$2,500. USD) - (Oms-PY5EG Donation)

Project Approach and Major Events

- 1) Formal Introduction Meeting with High School Principle and Staff on Oct. 1, 2011 - Hranislav "Hrane" Milosevic (YT1AD - Team Leader) and David Collingham (K3LP - Co-Team Leader), Oms (PY5EG), Chuck (JT1CO) and Dragan (YT3W) participated
- 2) Formal Presentation (1 hour) to all 200 plus Rotuma High School students with Speeches from Hranislav "Hrane" Milosevic (YT1AD - Team Leader) and David Collingham (K3LP - Co-Team Leader), Tarterani Rigamoto - Chairman; Council of Rotuma, and Perry Gabriel - Rotuma High School Principle on Oct. 1, 2011 in school main court yard
- 3) Selection of 10 boy and 10 girl students plus Principle (Perry Gabriel) and three teachers to participate in Amateur Radio Training - Selection completed by Hrane (YT1AD) and Perry Gabriel (Principle) on Oct. 1, 2011
- 4) Formal Class Room; Theory and Operation of Amateur Radio - Trainers: Hrane (YT1AD) and Oms (PY5EG) - Two Days, Oct. 2-3, 2011
- 5) Hands-On Training using UHF Hand-held Radios; Students broke up into five groups and operated initially from campus area 1 day and 1 day from remote locations, Oct. 4-5, 2011 - Trainers: Hrane (YT1AD), Oms (PY5EG), Paul (N6PSE), Dragan (YT3W) and Chuck (JT1CO)
- 6) All 20 students plus teachers, each make their own first live DX QSO from the 3D2R DX-pedition Station, Oct. 6, 2011 - Trainer: David (K3LP) and Hrane (YT1AD)
- 7) Formal Request for 3D2RI Club License; Hrane (YT1AD) with assistance from Tevita Rokobaro (3D2TR) made formal request for 3D2RI License via Mr. Tevita Navila, A/Manager Technical Regulatory Telecommunications Authority of Fiji, locate in Suva, Fiji - on Oct. 6, 2011
- 8) 3D2R Team Donations HF Radio, HP Laptop Computer, Coax, Tri-band Beam Antenna, Logging software, Mast pole for beam, Heil headset and cash on Oct. 6, 2011

9) Supervised installation of radio equipment at Rotuma High School site on Oct. 7-8, 0211-Oms (PY5EG)

10) 3D2RI License issued by Mr. Tevita Navila, A/Manager Technical Regulatory Telecommunications Authority of Fiji, locate in Suva, Fiji - License granted on Oct. 12, 2011

11) 3D2RI - Rotuma High School Club station makes first QSO - 14.253 Mhz., Operator: Dennis - 0515 GMT on 12 October 2011

Our Journey

Our Boat, Sere Ni Wai (Island Dancer II; Leave A Boat Class), departed Suva, Fiji at 8:30 PM, Monday, Sept. 26, 2011 and arrived near Rotuma at 8:30 PM on Sept. 28, 2011. We slept at sea to avoid damage to the boat. In the morning, Sept. 29, 2011 we finished the trip and arrived 9:00 AM. The boat ride is almost exactly 48 hours each way from Suva, Fiji to Rotuma Departed Oct. 6, 2011, 11:30 PM. Our team stayed at the Hotel Novotel Suva Lami Bay in Suva, Fiji next to where we loaded and unloaded.

Other Trip Related information:

Departure LAX and Arrive Nadi, Fiji (10 Hrs travel Time; 5 hrs time difference to LAX and 8 hrs to east coast)

Depart Sept. 22, 2011, Thursday at 11:30 PM, Flight FJ811, Air Pacific Airlines

Arrive: Nadi, Fiji on Saturday. 5:15 AM, Sept. 24, 2011 (We lose 1 day in travel)

Traveled via Rental Car from Nadi, Fiji to Suva, Fiji about 3 hrs travel time

Stayed at the Novotel Hotel

Boat Travel Time; Suva, Fiji to Rotuma

Departure Suva: September 26, 2011 at 8:00 PM

Arrive Rotuma: Sept. 29, 2011 at 8:00 PM – Could not land boat because of darkness, so slept on the boat.

Arrive onto Rotuma Island with boat docked: Sept. 20, 2011 9:00 AM

Total Boat Travel Time: 48 hrs

By David Collingham –K3LP

Your 2012 NCDXA Membership Roster Is Available

The National Capitol DX Association membership roster has been updated for 2012 and is available to you via our website www.NCDXA.org. You can access the roster at any time and even print your own copy. The on-line version of the roster is always kept up to date with membership changes by Rick Murphy (K1MU) working with Bud Governale (W3LL).

Here is the link to the latest roster: <http://www.ncdxa.org/members.shtml>

NCDXA Membership Only Section on our Website

In an effort to make our club a little bit more efficient and organized, we added a Membership Only section onto our website (www.ncdxa.org).

Your log in name will be your call sign and password will be initially assigned by Rick Murphy (K1MU), our club Secretary and Website Administrator. If you need help obtaining your password; please send an email message to Rick Murphy “needpassword” at Secretary@ncdxa.org

The intent of the Members Only section is as follows:

- ❑ Establish Club Member contact information section available for club members only
- ❑ Establish Electronic Data Retention for all Club Meeting Reports, Finance Reports and Membership Dues status
- ❑ Establish Member on-line electronic voting on critical club decisions (i.e. By-Law changes, Goals and Budget Decisions, etc.). We want to get a global and inclusive club participation in voting on club matters.

DXCC Status Report – We’ll add a section where each Member will be responsible for maintaining his/her own DXCC Status Report. This data will be used to maintain an overall DXCC list for our club

Members to Vote on Bylaw Changes

On December 30, 2011 club members will be asked to approve several changes to the club's bylaws. These changes are to align the bylaws with how the club is runs and to allow a more efficient means of supporting the club. Some of the changes are:

- ❑ Membership Titles; adding Student and New DXCC membership
- ❑ Responsibilities of Officers,
- ❑ New Accounting Methods,
- ❑ Club Goals establishment and tracking
- ❑ Removal of DXCC as mandatory criteria for membership
- ❑ Approving the Concept of Electronic Voting

Go to www.NCDXA.org and select Members Only. Provide your password. Don't know your password?

Your log in name will be your call sign and password will be initially assigned by Rick Murphy (K1MU). our club Secretary and Website Administrator. If you need help obtaining your password; please send an email message to Rick Murphy "needpassword" at Secretary@ncdxa.org

The changes in the document will be highlighted in red.

Thank you.

David Collingham, K3LP

NCDXA President

Looking at Sunspot Cycle 24 News

Another sunspot number record for Cycle 24 was shattered on Wednesday, November 9 when the daily sunspot number reached 220. This is the highest the daily sunspot number has been in over eight years. The last time the sunspot number was higher than 220 was November 1, 2003 when the number was 277. The next day (November 10) the daily sunspot number dropped back to 164.

Two days prior to the sunspot number reaching 277 in 2003, the sunspot number was 330, a much harder record to beat.

Average daily sunspot numbers this week rose over 53 points compared to last week, to 153.4. Average daily solar flux rose nearly 39 points to 173.7.

The latest prediction from NOAA/USAF has solar flux at 180 on November 11-12, 175 on November 13-14, 170 on November 15-17, and 160, 155, 145, 140, 135, 135 and 140 on November 18-24, and 145 on November 25-28.

Planetary A index is predicted at 10, 20 and 15 on November 11-13, then 5 on November 14-25, and 7 on November 26-27.

The A index of 20 predicted for November 12 seems to reflect a warning from IPS Radio and Space Services (in Australia) at 2330 UTC on November 9. It announced expected increased geomagnetic activity November 10-12, with quiet conditions November 10, unsettled to active with isolated minor storm levels on November 11, and quiet to unsettled with isolated active levels on November 12.

If you would like to make a comment or have a tip for our readers, email the author at, k7ra@arrl.net.

For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at

<http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of the numbers used in this bulletin, see

<http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. An archive of past propagation bulletins is at <http://arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-propagation>. Find more good information and tutorials on propagation at

<http://myplace.frontier.com/~k9la/>.

Monthly propagation charts between four USA regions and twelve overseas locations are at <http://arrl.org/propagation>.

Instructions for starting or ending email distribution of ARRL bulletins are at <http://arrl.org/bulletins>.

Sunspot numbers for November 3 through 9 were 161, 100, 135, 144, 154, 160, and 220, with a mean of 153.4. 10.7 cm flux was 160.4, 163.9, 171.9, 176.7, 182.1, 181, and 180.2, with a mean of 173.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 4, 4, 3, 4, 6, and 2, with a mean of 3.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 3, 3, 3, 4, 6, and 2 with a mean of 3.4.

ARRL Headquarters DX News- November 10, 2011

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by CO2WF, KB8NW, NC1L, Z21BB, QRZ DX, the PDX Bulletin, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, DXNL, The Weekly DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites. Thanks to all.

MADAGASCAR, 5R. Eric, F6ICX plans to be QRV as 5R8IC from November 15 to December 17. QSL via home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Yuki, JH1NBN will be QRV as 8Q7ZB from November 15 to 29 while on business here. Activity is on a few HF bands in his spare time. QSL to home call.

NEPAL, 9N. Members of the MDXC will be QRV as 9N7MD from November 14 to 24. Activity will be on all HF bands using CW, SSB and RTTY with four stations active simultaneously and around the clock. QSL via IK2VUC.

CAPE VERDE, D4. Luca, IK2NCJ is QRV as D44TAL from Mindelo, Sao Vicente Island, IOTA AF- 086. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via IZ4DPV.

DOMINICA, J7. Walter, HB9MFM is QRV as J79WTA until December 7. Activity is on 160 to 30 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL to home call.

ANTARCTICA. Karel, ON5TN will be QRV as OR4TN from Princess Elisabeth Station from November 16 to the end of February 2012. QSL to home call.

SABA, ST. EUSTATIUS, PJ5. Gerd, DL7VOG will be QRV as PJ5/DL7VOG from St. Eustatius, IOTA NA-145, from November 13 to December 5. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters and 6 meters if it is open. He will be active as PJ5G in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX CW contest. QSL both calls to home call.

EGYPT, SU. Vlad is QRV as SU9VB and has been active on 160 meters around 0300z. QSL via UA4WHX.

TUVALU, T2. Members of Pacific DXers are QRV as T2T until December 5. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via VK4FW.

CAMBODIA, XU. Mal, VK6LC is QRV as XU7AEO until November 21. Activity is holiday style mainly on 20 meters using mostly CW with some SSB. QSL direct to home call.

VIETNAM, XV. Kurt, DL5CO will be QRV as XV2CO from November 12 to December 5. Activity is holiday style on all HF bands using mostly CW and possibly some SSB. QSL to home call.

INDONESIA, YB. Members of the YB Land DX club are QRV using special event call sign YB26SEAG until November 17 in recognition of the 26th South East Asia Games. Activity is on all bands and modes. QSL via YB2DX.

ZIMBABWE, Z2. Antonio, DL4EA will be QRV as Z24EA from November 12 to 22 from the QTH of Z21BB. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using all modes. QSL to home call.

COUNTRY NAME CORRECTION. As reported in DX bulletin ARLD045, Manihiki, IOTA OC-014, is located in the North Cook Islands, not South Cook Islands.

Upcoming Meetings:**Dec 17, 2011 (Saturday):**

Holiday Dinner, "ET3AA Youth Project 2011 –

NCDXA's Club Project" by David Collingham, K3LP,
by David Collingham
6:45 PM - Gift Drawing

Location:

Golden Corral
5621 Spectrum Dr
Frederick, MD 21703
(301) 662-5922

Articles Needed!

Articles help to make the NCDXA News Letter interesting. Please consider contributing an article, be it short or long. Plain text or your favorite word processor are fine. Send to the editor (president@ncdxa.org)

About the NCDXA Newsletter:

The NCDXA Newsletter is published four times a year (quarterly; Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall) by the National Capitol DX Association and sent to all club members via the web. Please obtain permission from the author to re-publish any article in this publication.

Location: Marlene Hammond, KB4FAS

February 25, 2012 (Saturday):

5:00 PM – Dinner; All You can eat Buffet
6:00 PM to 6:45 PM – Presentation – ST0R DX-pedition

**2011-2012 National Capitol
DX Association
Officers & Assigned Task
Leaders:**

Officers

President: David Collingham, K3LP

Vice President: Terry Hines, N4ZH

Secretary: Rick Murphy, K1MU

Treasurer: Brian Bayus, N1KC

President Appointed Task Leaders:

Editor: David Collingham, K3LP

Web Hosting & Webmaster: Rick Murphy, K1MU

DXCC-EAST Convention 2012: Mike Cizek (W3MC)

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NCDXA C/O N1KC

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(Treasure)

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RESTON, VA 20191-4225
USA

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<http://www.NCDXA.org>

Email: President@NCDXA.org

