The LongPath

February 2025 — Volume 49 Issue 2 A North Alabama DX Club Publication

Contents:

Contributors:
AC4G
AG4W
K8KI
N4NM
NG3K

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From the President

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

Last month, the NADXC membership approved our club's budget. This is usually a big hurdle, but we have overcome due to the diligence of our Board of Directors and membership who understands the work ahead of us this year. With the budget out of the way, this allows us to focus on other issues such as our banquet and other areas of business needing attention.

Please remember that club dues are being collected to fund our club and accomplish our goals once again in 2025. Our web site (www.nadxc.org) provides the details for paying club dues. To date we have approximately 25 paid members. Please make this a priority on your list to accomplish, paying your dues as soon as possible.

On a sad note, I regret to announce the passing of Ted Pounders, W4RJ (aka. KI4M and WA4ENJ) from Florence, AL a longtime member of the NADXC. I met Ted when his callsign was KI4M many years ago. In his twenties, he climbed a tree to hang an antenna, the branches broke, and he fell 30 feet or more, putting a lump on his spinal cord. Ted did not let that stop him, he continued to work, DX, and enjoy life while struggling with crutches to get around. Later in life, crutches had damaged his shoulders and arms, limiting what he could do.

Ted always had a FB Ham station and signal. Back in those days, either using the club repeater or the club packet cluster, he as well as other members were always busy working DX and passing along spots to help other members gain new DXCC countries. It wasn't too often that I would get NADXC visitors to stop by my QTH. One day in the early 2000's, Ted and Lyle (K4NA), both from the Florence area, came to my QTH. They made a trip to southern Tennessee, visiting not only myself but many of our club members that resided across the state line, including Charlotte (KZ4V) from the Winchester area and Dick (KB8DB) from the Lynchburg area, both now silent keys. Ted was a great person. RIP my friend, and thanks for the memorable DXing times, the new DXCC countries that I obtained with your help, and your kind friendship!

I hope all members will consider writing articles this year for the Longpath newsletter. By doing so, you will be in contention for the best Article of the Year. I also hope that we can get members to step up and prepare & present a program at the end of the business meeting each month. Writing articles and presenting a program will put

From the President
(continued)

you in contention for the end of year awards.

As far as DX goes, we have had some good DX operations from amateur radio operators in late January and early February. Please continue to read my article regarding Mount Athos (SV1GA/A) later in this newsletter. It never ceases to amaze me of the regular DX and new DXpeditions on the air every day of the year. I am waiting for 6m to reappear after some good long distant QSOs last Fall. Also, please take advantage of 10m and 12m DX and propagation as we continue down the slope of Solar Cycle 25. I cannot wait to hear the DX worked this month from our club members.

Our next NADXC club meeting will be held on February 11, 2025, at 6:30 P.M. at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE), 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, AL 35801. I look forward to seeing all members, visitors, guests, etc. at our meeting and hearing your stories regarding DX worked since last meeting. ZOOM will be setup to facilitate those members unable to attend in person. Good DX and 73, Bruce (AC4G).

Mt. Athos DXpedition 2025
By Bruce Smith, AC4G

In late January 2025, I heard rumors of a DXpedition to Mount (Mt.) Athos [SV2/A] under the callsign SV1GA/A. I heard that this DXpedition was being conducted by several well-known DXpeditioneers, including Aris, SV1GA; Marti, OH2BH; Adrian, KO8SCA; Gabi, YO8WW; and Niko, OH2GEK. It has been fifty (50) years since the first Mt. Athos operation was on the air from the monastic community in Greece. This was to be an anniversary DXpedition.

Today, the monasteries are undergoing restoration and maintenance. This DXpedition team indicated on their web page that all proceeds from donations will go to help Mt. Athos for their restoration efforts.

Mt. Athos ranks 27th on the ClubLog Most Wanted List making this DXCC entity one that many DX'ers around the world will be chasing, resulting in massive pileups. If you will recall, one of the Mt. Athos team members, Adrian (KO8SCA) was the speaker for our NADXC Banquet in the past here in Huntsville, AL. Adrian was also a DXpedition mate to Steve, AG4W (NADXC Club Member) when they went to Djibouti (J52MD) and Cameroon (TJ9MD).

Mt. Athos is very rare, due to the lack of amateur radio operators licensed. One Mt. Athos operator, Monk Apollo was active, but seldom on the air. He is now a silent key (SK). However, since the passing of Monk Apollo, another monk received his amateur radio license. Since SV2/A is seldom on the air by the only local operator, SV2RSG, many hams and DX'ers need a new DXCC entity and new DXCC bands for this DXCC entity; hence, its rarity. It was great news to hear that a team was on site for this rare DX country.

The SV1GA/A Mt. Athos DXpedition began on January 26 and was expected to run through February 3, 2025. On January 27, the team had approximately 10K QSOs in the logs. I was fortunate to have worked them on several bands (17m, 30m, 40m), mainly CW, on the first day. I hope other NADXC members were able to make QSOs with this DXpedition and it counts for DXCC.

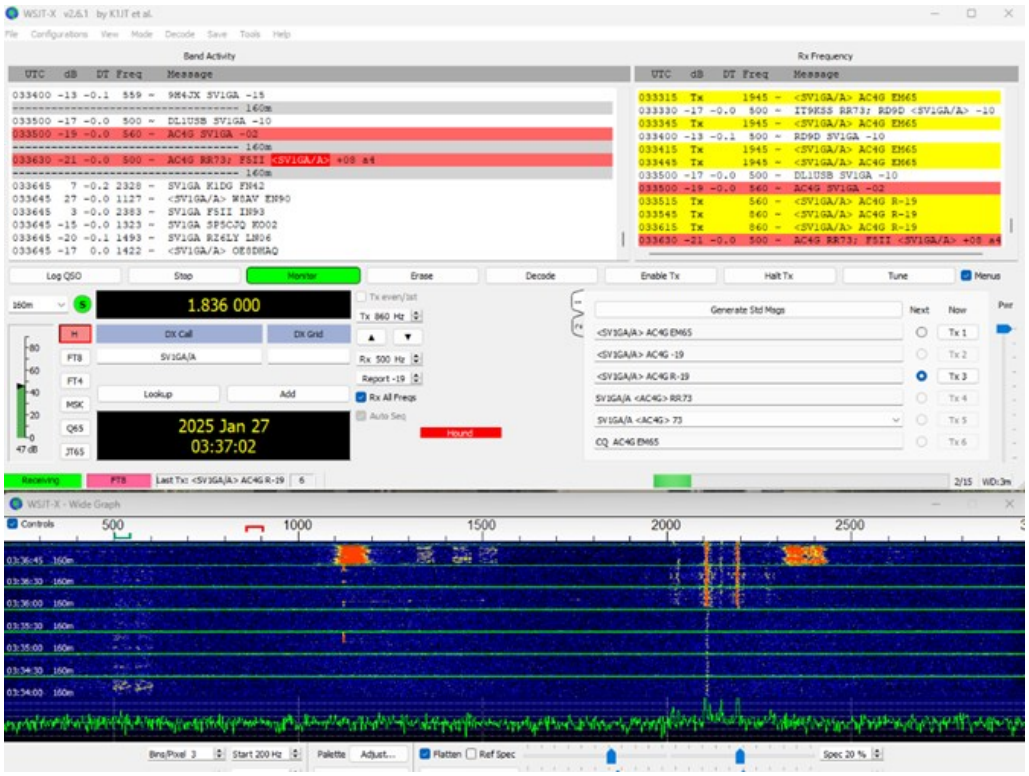
Mt. Athos DXpedition 2025 (continued)

I called out all the QSOs I made on the NADXC repeater on 147.90/147.30 MHz. The first logs were uploaded to ClubLog on January 26.

On January 27 at approximately 0000Z (early evening of the first day for NADXC members), I saw stations in Europe making QSOs with SV1GA/A on 1.836 MHz, but I saw only one side of the QSO for a long while. I was not able to copy Mt. Athos. I sat in my operating position for three and half hours hoping that I could receive the team's top band signals. At approximately 0330Z, I began to receive the Mt. Athos signals. I called and they came back to me giving me a report while we both were in Fox-Hound Mode. After three more transmissions from my station giving them a -19 report, I received the wonderful, "RR73" and I logged the QSO. The picture below only shows my 160m FT8 Digital Mode QSOs, since there was no way to show my other CW and SSB QSOs.

As I continued to search the bands for the station on Day 2 of this DXpedition, nothing never materialized. Later on January 27, the DXpedition was announced to be "halted", leaving many DX'ers wondering why the team stopped operating. The spotting clusters and news reels were going crazy, indicating that this team did not have approval to operate. Some said the team had been arrested. The clusters go on to show many unfounded and unconfirmed comments and reasons for the halt, but DX'ers were still intrigued that no stations were on the air. There were many horrific comments made attacking the team.

Many DX'ers on this side of the pileup were hoping that Marti, OH2BH and the team could use their diplomacy skills to make this DXpedition continue. The last I heard was that the team left "SV/A" and were home. The ham community will have to wait to find out the actual truth of the matter, which I still have not heard.



Picture: AC4G 160m QSO with SV1GA/A Mt. Athos

I was able to make QSOs on 17m, 30m, 40m, and 160m, which I needed. My fingers are crossed that the above information is incorrect regarding lack of licenses and permits. My hope is that these QSOs will count for DXCC credit. The SV1GA QRZ page clearly shows a license. I need these QSOs for my DXCC Award. I am sure others in the North Alabama DX Club (NADXC) need SV2/A for a new one, so I hope many of our members made QSOs with this rare entity. Even

Mt. Athos DXpedition 2025 (continued)

though it is not an all-time-new-one (ATNO) for me, I still need the band QSOs. I believe this would be an ATNO for many NADXC members.

At this time, I am looking forward to hearing the complete story and details from the SV1GA/A team. Based on previous experience, I have heard other DXpeditions stop for various reasons, such as weather, rebels, other, etc. For these reasons described above, I always jump in early to try to work super rare DXpeditions in case something like this or another unexpected situation occurs. Perhaps we all are hanging on, hoping that the QSOs will count, but I am not going to hold my breath. I hope you made the logbook and we all can achieve a new DXCC country for our DXCC Award. I wonder what happened causing the sudden end of this Mt. Athos DXpedition?

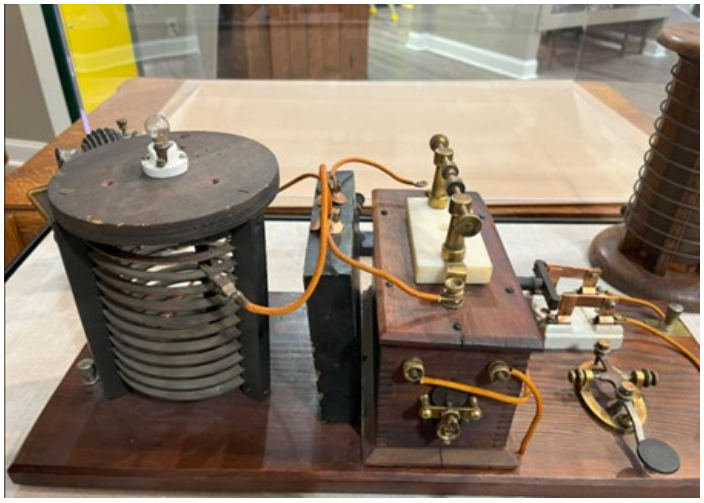
Tales From the Museum: Spark Transmitters on Display

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

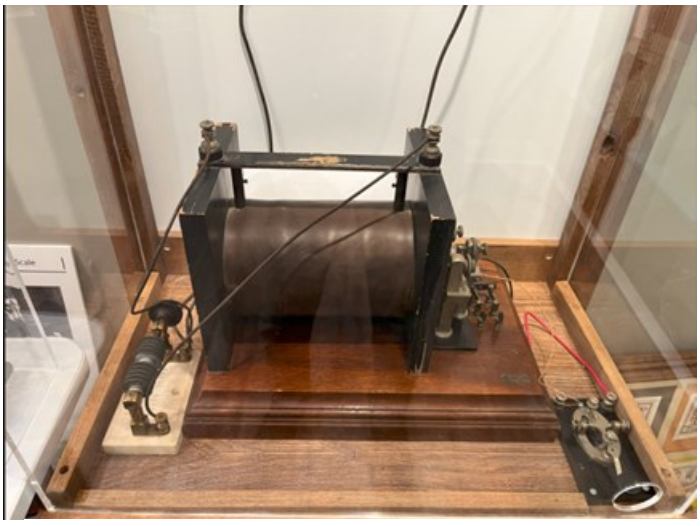
The Sparks Museum has several ham spark transmitters and one Marconi transmitter. The Marconi sparker is on display adjacent to the WWI aircraft. Its coil is larger than the coils in the ham rigs, and it is connected to a battery so you can test it with the key.

In the early days of radio, hams home-built all of their equipment, of course to their own standards. By 1910 many of them were on the air, and all on the same wavelength as each other, as well as ship-shore and military (all Navy) systems. It was bedlam. Then came the Congressional Radio Act of 1912, which imposed restrictions on hams (call signs, power limits, testing for licenses), but not on the other services. Hams were relegated to "200 Meters and Down," i.e., all frequencies above 1.5MHz. It would seem just awful. But that was before frequencies were invented. All spark radios were a bit broadbanded up to, and past, 200MHz. You can tell the difference between the ham sparkers we have, and the Marconi unit on display.

The ham sparkers all have an inductor and capacitor between the coil and the antenna, whereas the Marconi doesn't. The presence of



Ham spark transmitter



Marconi spark transmitter

Tales From the Museum: Spark Transmitters on Display (continued)

this circuit indicates to me that these units were subject to the 200 meters and down law. I had to wonder – this was a resonant circuit and not a highpass filter, so what did folks at that time expect it to do?

So first, I grabbed my RLC meter to measure the components. I found L= 1.5uH and C= 2000pF, which should resonate at 1.65 MHz. I've used the below equation so many times that I take it for granted.

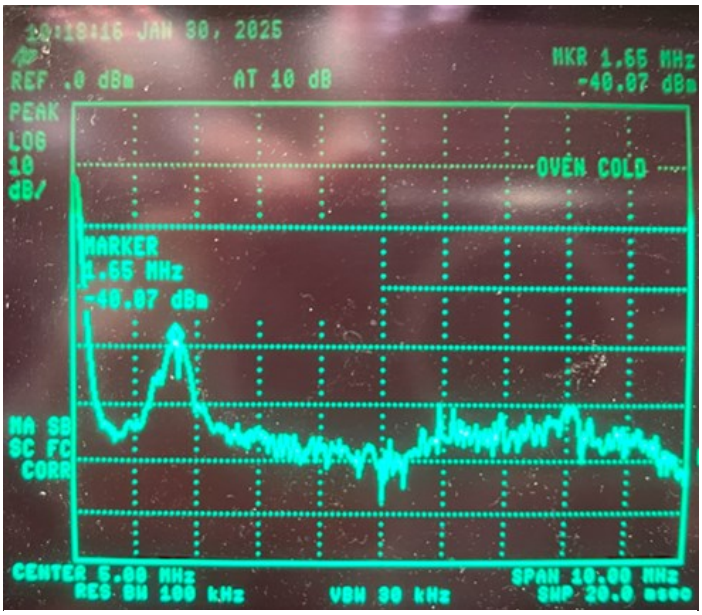
$$f = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{LC}}$$

Actually this is the solution to a differential equation, and it assumes a sinusoid function. This was at least three years before we could first generate a sinewave. But we knew enough to use it!

The resonant circuit has a passband, which is also a function of the values of L and C. If you want a narrow passband, you use an inductor with a lot of turns along with a small capacitance. This inductor only has 10 turns, which is small compared to many others I've seen, and the capacitor is five times larger than what I'd expect to see in other resonant circuits. Those values would give you the right frequency, but a wide passband. So I turned the sparker on and listened to it with my spectrum analyzer (Marconi didn't have one of these).

The image on the right shows the sparker's spectrum from 0 to 10MHz. The peak of the curve is right at 1.65 Mhz, exactly what I expected. That's just barely below what the "200m and down" law required. The bandwidth is about 400 kHz. So this unit does indeed have a fairly reasonable and calculable performance for its time. Its peak is some 20dB above its noise floor! In contrast, the Marconi sparker has no such resonant circuit at the antenna, hence no such selectivity.

Marconi was a giant of an inventor, and we owe a lot to him. His equipment made him the hero of the Titanic incident in 1912. But he was a spark inventor from beginning to end. He never bought in to the sinusoid after WWI, which led to the downfall of his company. But there's an argument that the beginning of his demise was the event that made him such a hero. The Titanic used all Marconi equipment. Other ships around the Titanic used transmitters with spectra shown in Fig.2 above. Those ships could change the location of their resonant circuits, and have 20dB isolation from each other. Not so with the Titanic – it could hear everyone else at the same time, and everyone could hear anything the Titanic transmitted. The ship closest to the Titanic was forced off the air due to the interference. If the Titanic had the resonant circuit that other ships had, there's a chance help could have arrived 4 hours earlier than it did.



Spectrum of the ham sparker

Ham Radio 60 Years Ago

By Steve Werner, AG4W

It has been 60 years since that exciting day when I opened the letter from the FCC with the Novice call sign WN3EJG. My mom held the letter up to the light to see the call sign and made a cake with my call sign on it. I passed my test at the YMCA radio club. Back then the Novice license exam could be given by another ham, but not the General. The General exam had to be taken at the Federal Building in downtown Pittsburgh, PA where I lived. Exams were given every 3 months. It included a 13 WPM code test and a theory exam. The Novice license was a 5 WPM code test and mostly a test on regulations for the written exam. The Novice license was for 1 year and not renewable.

In 1965, at 12 years old, I had put up a 40-meter inverted V with my dad and my station was a used Heathkit DX-20 transmitter and HR-10 receiver. The DX-20 was a 50 watt input transmitter. I used a knife switch to transfer the antenna from transmit to receive. Initially the transmitter didn't work. I was concerned I was not tuning it up right. I had no SWR bridge to check the antenna. A ham friend brought one over to my house. I had made my first shorted coax connection and blown my first final tube. PL-259 connectors sure can be a pain at times. Crimp connectors sure have made life easier now. That next Christmas I asked for and received a new Heathkit SWR bridge.

Back then Novices had to use crystal control and a maximum of 75 watts input power. Output power was not easy to measure then. In the beginning I had one crystal. You called CQ or listened for a CQ across the whole novice band. At about one year I got ready for the General license exam. I studied the Ameco book for the theory all summer and listened to W1AW code practice. I took off school to go into town to take the test. At age 13, that was a stressful test. I passed and was issued WA3EJG.

Then in 1966 I upgraded my station to a used Heathkit DX-40 and got a VFO. I could now also work AM. I bought a new Astatic JT30 crystal microphone. They had a bullet shape, as seen in the picture below, and a black painted wooden handle. I also upgraded from a straight key to a left-handed Vibroplex Original Deluxe. I still have it. I bought it for $20 used at a hamfest.

Steve, then WA3EJG, at his station

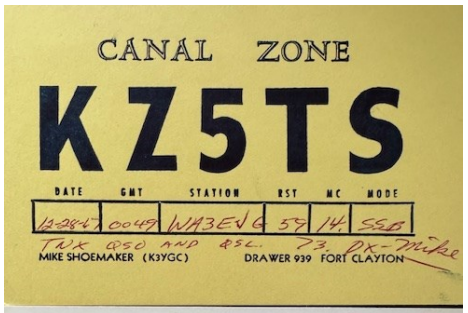
After mowing countless lawns in the fall of 1966, I upgraded my receiver to a Hammarlund HQ-129X. It was much older than me. I had a friend help replace some of the paper wax capacitors. I still like the warm glow of tubes. The purple glow from the voltage regulator tube was special. My first DX was Puerto Rico using the 40-meter inverted V on 15 meters.

The YMCA radio club that I belonged to, K3HUO participated in Field Day every year. We operated 2 stations and did very well. I was now hooked on contesting. Initially my job was to fill the generator. Back then it was a manual job to figure out duplicate contacts after the contest. Using paper dupe sheets was so much more difficult in contests. When CT computer logging came out contesting really got a lot more fun.

Steve, then WA3EJG, participated in Field Day with the YMCA club

In the summer of 1967, I upgraded the transmitter to a used Heathkit DX-100. That's when I learned a very important lesson. Not everyone sells you working equipment at a hamfest. More than 25 percent of the tubes were bad, as well as numerous other components. I learned a lot repairing that transmitter. Next, I sold both my DX-100 and HQ-129X and bought a new Heathkit HW-32A single band 20-meter SSB transceiver. The DX-100 and HQ-129X were sold from the trunk of my dad's car at a hamfest when I was not present. I still wonder if he sweetened the deal because he did not want to haul that equipment home. The rigs were very heavy back then. I really enjoyed building Heathkit equipment. I made my 40-meter inverted V into a 20-meter inverted V. Not long after I got the HW-32A, I had my first European contact. I was hooked on DX. SSB was so much better than AM for DX.

There were no DX spots back then. DX was done with lots of tuning and listening. I believe operators from that period are better non-assisted contesters now. The pileups were not as bad as today, but DXpeditions were not as large and most didn't have amplifiers. My next upgrade, in 1968, was a homemade tower my dad and I made of surplus steel pipe and threaded rod. It was a 30-foot self-supporting tower and had a Hy-Gain 203BA 3-element 20-meter yagi. My first DXCC was on Phone in 1969. Back then Iran was our friend and the Panama Canal was a US entity. How things have changed.



Above: Steve's first DXCC award

Left: QSL cards from the Canal Zone and our (then) ally Iran

Contesting as a Source of New DXCC Countries

By Bruce Smith, AC4G

Being a DX'er and working the HF Amateur bands, I find myself wondering how and when I can add another DXCC country to my "Confirmed" list. I am sure we all have wondered this from time to time, especially after looking over our own "Countries Worked" list that we all maintain. Many DX'ers keep records in Microsoft Excel, while some merely track their countries on the back of a napkin. However you choose to track your DXCC countries worked, we all may wonder how long we have to wait for another DXpedition to occur to chalk another country to the list.

I have found that I do not have to wait for a DXpedition to occur to work a new DXCC or band country. I found that contesting is another avenue to attempt to add DXCC countries to our logbooks. Contests occur every weekend of the year, allowing new and seasoned DXers an opportunity to make QSOs with DXCC countries. There are contests in the VHF and HF Amateur Bands and for every mode, such as CW, SSB, Digital, and a mix of all of these modes.

I operate in many contests, always hoping to add a new band country to my logbook. I operate many 160m contests. Typically, I have found that both the ARRL 160m Contest and the CQWW 160m Contest occur when propagation is shabby and most of the QSOs made are with U.S., Canadian, Mexican, and Caribbean hams. I always operate in these contests for the fun of it, but hoping that we will have good propagation to the rest of the world.

In late January, I operated in the 2025 CQWW 160m CW Contest, hoping for a chance to work a new country. The contest on Friday night occurred like it typically does, allowing me to work station after station and state after state. After an hour or two, I began copying and working Caribbean stations. As I tuned the bands, I continued to work states, Canadian Provinces, and Caribbean stations. Then it happened. I began working European stations on 160m, coming in across the pond. This was about 8:30 P.M. local time. I continued to work European stations, but eventually, around 10:00 P.M. local, it began getting more difficult to receive Europe, so I hung it up for the night.

The following night (Saturday), the same scenario played out as Friday night. But this night, the bands were fantastic as I began working strong signals emanating from Europe. As I tuned the bands, working European stations one after another, I could not believe how strong the signals were received by my station. Signals ranged from above the noise to S9 from differing areas of Europe. I worked many German stations, but after all was said and done Saturday night, I ended up working approximately fifty (50) Europeans, which resulted in thirty-nine (39) DXCC countries worked in tallying my score.

My best catch was when I tuned the 160m band and found 4L5O (Country of Georgia) calling CQ after CQ with no takers. He was a true 599 during this CW contest. I called and he came back providing me a report and "TU". This QSO added a new country to my 160m DXCC list. Wow, I was floored. After the contest and checking the cluster, I never saw a cluster spot for 4L5O, leading me to believe not many worked him. This is why I never rely on or use the cluster during a contest. You may say that I miss many countries by not using the cluster, but this is an example showing if one begins at the bottom of the band and works their way up to the top portion of the band,

Contesting as a Source of New DXCC Countries (continued)

logging station after station, one can sometimes work rare, new DXCC entities when other stations miss them. See LOTW Confirmation in Picture 1.

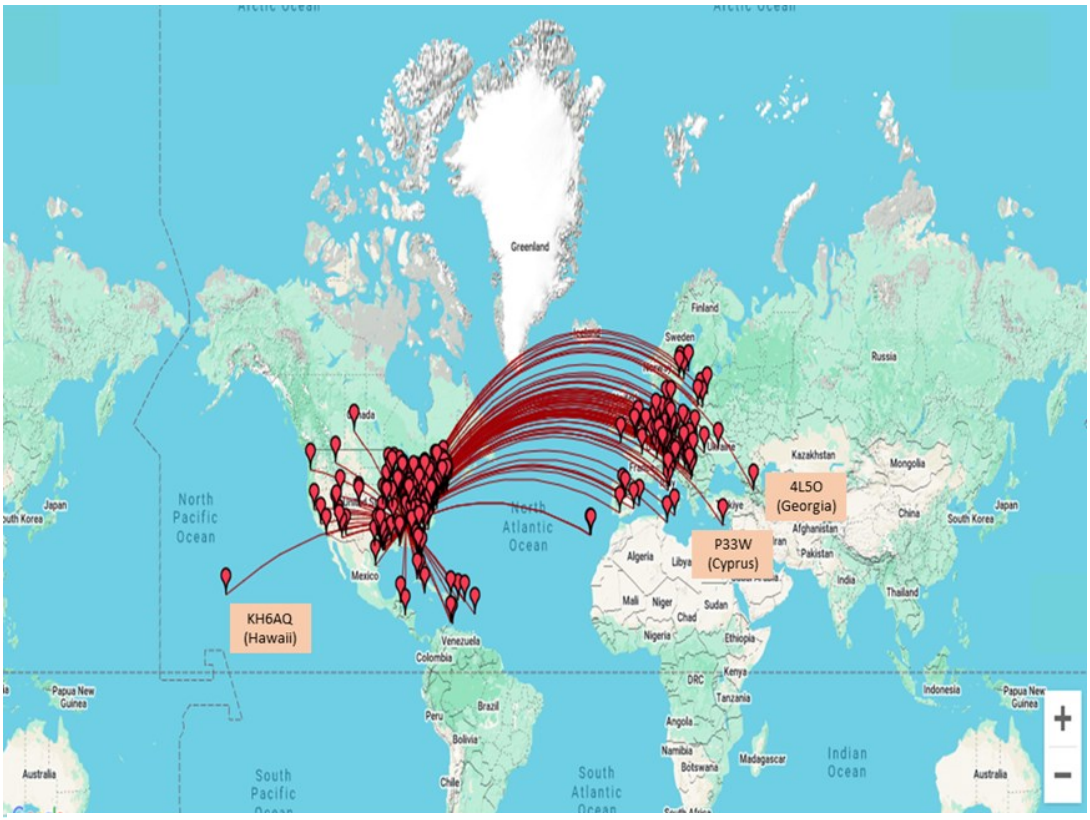
On Top Band, new countries are hard to find and I get an adrenaline rush when I find a new one. In Picture 2 below, I have shown the countries that I worked during my time in the 2025 CQWW 160m CW Contest.

Typically, I would have made QSOs with Japan, Alaska, New Zealand, and Australia, but I missed the morning openings to those area due to lack of sleep. In contests that occur in the dark hours of night, exhaustion can play a major role in one's dedication to continue all night or not. At my age, I have to get my rest. I elected to miss some QSOs for this reason.

I had lots of fun in this contest, making 301 QSOs. I am glad I elected to spend time in this contest for the "4L" QSO. I feel as though I won the prize by adding another country to my 160m count. I will continue to consider every avenue to add a new country to my list in the future and this includes operating in amateur radio contests. I hope other DX'ers are encouraged and will consider contesting as one avenue to add DXCC countries to their DXCC "Countries Worked" list. It is very typical that any HF Contest will have over 150 DXCC countries participating in any single weekend.

	Call sign	Worked	Date/Time	Band	Mode	Freq	QSL
Details	AC4G	4L5O	2025-01-26 02:56:53	160M	CW	1.83118	GEORGIA

Picture 1: AC4G LOTW Confirmation for 4L5O (Georgia)



Picture 2: AC4G QSOs in 2025 CQWW 160m CW Contest

Upcoming DX Contests

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

CQWW RTTY WPX Contest, (DIG), 80-10 meters

Feb 8, 0000Z to Feb 9, 2359Z
Exchange: RST & Serial No.
See page 80, Feb. QST and
www.cqwpxrtty.com/rules.htm

Asia-Pacific Sprint, (CW), 40 & 20 meters

Feb 8, 1100Z to Feb 9, 1300Z
Exchange: RST & serial #
See page 80, Feb. QST and www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

KCJ Topband Contest, (CW), 160 meters

Feb 8, 1200Z to Feb9, 1200Z
Exchange: RST + continent code; JA send prefecture
See page 80, Feb QST and www.kcj-cw.com

Dutch PACC Contest, (CW, SSB), 160-10 meters

Feb 8, 1200Z to Feb 9, 1200Z
Exchange: RS(T), + serial # or PA province
See page 80, Feb. QST and pacc.veron.nl

WAB 1.8 MHz Phone Contest, 160 meters

Feb 8, 1900Z to Feb 8, 2359Z
Exchange: RS,Serial # or Country
See page 80, Feb QST and https://wab.intermip.net/Contest%20Rules.php

RSGB 1.8 MHz. Contest, 160 meters

Feb 8, 2000Z to Feb 8, 2300Z
Exchange: RST, Serial #. UK sends district code.
See page 80, Feb QST and www.rsgbcc.org

Balkan HF Contest, (CW, SSB), 80 & 40 meters

Feb 9, 1300Z to Feb 9, 1700Z
Exchange: RS(T) + Serial #
See page 80, Feb QST and www.bfra.bg

DARC FT4 Contest, (DIG), 80 meters

Feb 11, 1900Z to Feb 11, 2029Z
Exchange: RST, 4 Char. Grid square
See page 80, Feb QST and www.darc.de

ARRL Intl. DX Contest, (CW), 160-10 meters

Feb 15, 0000Z to Feb 16, 2359Z
Exchange: RST plus State/Province; DX send RST plus pwr.
See page 80, Feb. QST and www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

YLRL YL-OM Contest, (CW, SSB, DIG), all bands except WARC

Feb 15, 0000Z to Feb 16, 2329Z
Exchange: RS(T) plus Serial, State, Province, Country
See page 80, Feb QST and www.ylrl.org

CQ160 Meter Contest, (SSB), 160 meters

Feb 21, 2200Z to Feb 23, 2200Z
Exchange: RS & SP or CQ zone
See page 80, Feb QST, and
www.cq160.com/rules.htm

REF French Contest (PH), 80-10 meters

Feb 22 0600Z to Feb 23, 1800Z
Exchange: RS plus Serial No.; F stns. send Dept.
See page 80, Feb. QST and https://concours.r-e-f.org/contest/a-propos/

Upcoming DX Contests
(continued)

UBA (Belgium) Contest (CW), 80-10 meters

Feb 22, 1300Z to Feb. 23, 1300Z
Exchange: RST plus Serial No.; ON stns. send province
See page 80 Feb. QST and www.uba.be/en

ARRL Intl. DX Contest, (PHONE), 160-10 meters

Mar 1, 0000Z to Mar 2, 2359Z
Exchange: RS plus State/Province; DX send RS plus pwr.
See www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Stew Perry Topband Challenge, (CW), 160 meters

Mar 8, 1500Z to Mar 9, 1500Z
Exchange: 4 Character Grid Square
See www.kkn.net/stew

Dates & times often change or are misprinted in the journals; beware. See also: http://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html

Upcoming NADXC Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
5:45 PM Doors open / 6:30 PM meeting

Program: "Project Malawi and 7Q6M Operations" by Don Jones, 7Q6M

Location: Signals Museum of Information Explosion, 1806 University Drive NW, Huntsville, AL 35801 and via Zoom

North Alabama DX Club

It's time to pay 2025 membership dues.

Dues can be paid electronically at the NADXC website. Contact Bob, K8KI (K8KI@comcast.net) for information about other payment options.

About the NADXC

2025 NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Bruce Smith, AC4G
Vice President	Fred Kepner, K3FRK
Sec./Treasurer	Bob De Pierre, K8KI
Directors	Chuck Lewis, N4NM
	Mick Bell, N8AU

How to Join

Come to a club meeting or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held at the Museum of Information Explosion at 6:30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Participants can also join the meeting virtually via Zoom.

This edition of The LongPath published by Fred Kepner, K3FRK

DXpeditions in February 2025

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2025 Jan01	2025 Feb08	Guyana	8R1TM	LoTW	By PY1SAD; HF; CW SSB + digital; QSL via PY1SAD direct
2025 Jan21	2025 Feb03	St Helena	ZD7DPX	IK2DUW	By IZ2DPX; @ZD7CTO; 160-6m, incl 60m; SSB FT8 FT4; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2025 Jan23	2025 Feb28	Turks & Caicos	VP5	LoTW	By K2NV as VP5/K2NV; 40-10m; CW; QSL via Club Log OQRS or K2NV direct w/ 3 USD
2025 Jan26	2025 Feb05	St Kitts & Nevis	V47JA	LoTW	By W5JON fm Calypso Bay; 160-6m; SSB FT8; yagi, verticals; QSL also OK via W5JON direct
2025 Jan26	2025 Mar01	Guinea Bissau	J52EC	IZ3BUR Direct	By IZ3BUR fm IK21dt; 20 15 10m; SSB + digital; spare time operation
2025 Jan27	2025 Feb15	Rwanda	9X2AW	LoTW	By DF2WO fm KI48xb; 160-10m; CW FT4 FT8 SSB CW; QSL via M0OXO OQRS
2025 Jan28	2025 Feb20	Mali	TZ1CE	LoTW	By DK1CE fm Bamako; 160-6m; SSB FT8; QSL via Club Log OQRS or DK1CE (B/d)
2025 Jan30	2025 Feb08	Nigeria	5N9DTG	LoTW	By 2 Rebel DX Group ops; 160-6m; CW SSB FT8 FT4; QSL via Club Log OQRS
2025 Feb01	2025 Feb06	Ghana	9G5IK	LoTW	By IK7WUL; 10m; SSB; spare time operation; QSL via I8KHC, Club Log OQRS
2025 Feb02	2025 Feb28	Senegal	6W7	Club Log OQRS	By ON4AVT as 6W7/ON4AVT fm Warang; 80-10m; SSB + digital; QSL via ON4AVT; operation to continue until Apr 10
2025 Feb04	2025 Feb18	Anguilla	VP2ECV	KG9N (B/d)	By KG9N fm Welches; HF
2025 Feb04	2025 Feb20	Seychelles	S79	LoTW	By VE3BRU as S79/VE3BRU fm IOTA AF-024; 20-10m, perhaps 40m
2025 Feb05	2025 Feb18	Cape Verde Is	D44OA	LoTW	By HB9OAU; 40-10m; CW SSB FT8
2025 Feb06	2025 Feb14	Togo	5V0DX	LoTW	By IK7WUL; 10m; SSB; spare time operation; QSL via I8KHC
2025 Feb07	2025 Feb10	India	AU2V	LoTW	By VU2RS VU3WEW VU3GDS VU2TT VU3DXA VU3TPW fm Sacrifice Rock (IOTA AS-161); CW SSB + digital; 1st activation in 24 years; QSL via M0OXO
2025 Feb07	2025 Mar11	Aruba	P4	LoTW	By KE4TT as P4/KE4TT; HF; FT8 RTTY CW SSB; QSL via Club Log OQRS, KE4TT
2025 Feb08	2025 Feb15	St Helena	ZD7KYD	KY8D	By KY8D; @ZD7CTO; 17-10m; CW; 50w
2025 Feb11	2025 Feb18	Cocos Keeling	VK9	LoTW	By W5EIT as VK9/W5EIT fm West Island; HF; CW FT8, perhaps RTTY SSB
2025 Feb11	2025 Feb23	Marshall Is	V73WW	LoTW	By DK6SP DJ4MX HA8RT M0SDV E77DX DK1YH; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY FT8; 4 stations; QSL via DJ4MX
2025 Feb12	2025 Feb16	Bahamas	C6ADA	LoTW	By K2KJD K4SGR; HF; CW SSB, some FT8
2025 Feb16	2025 Mar04	Sint Martin	PJ7	LoTW	By VA3QSL as PJ7/VA3QSL; 40-6m; SSB CW + digital; 100w; Buddipole

DXpeditions in February 2025

(continued)

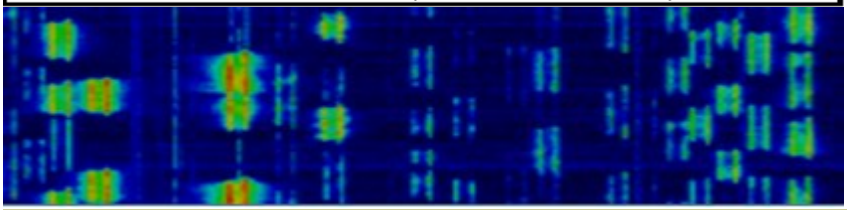
2025 Feb20	2025 Mar06	Tanzania	5H3DX	LoTW	By NK8O; HF; spare time operation; QSL via Club Log OQRS or NK8O direct (following qrz.com instructions)
2025 Feb26	2025 Mar06	Maldives	8Q7FL	LoTW	By JH3QFL fm Keyodhoo I; 40-6m; FT8; QSL via JH3QFL
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar01	Antigua & Barbuda	V26MN	DF8AN	By DF8AN; 80-6m, incl 60m; CW + digital, perhaps SSB
2025 Mar01	2025 Mar09	Montserrat	VP2MMN	DF8AN	By DF8AN; 80-6m, incl 60m; CW + digital, perhaps SSB
2025 Mar03	2025 Apr01	Turks & Caicos	VP5	LoTW	By W1DED as VP5/W1DED; HF; possibly QRV using VP5E in WPX SSB
2025 Mar04	2025 Mar12	Cocos Keeling	VK9CU	LoTW	By DL2AWG DF4GV DL2AMD DJ9RR VK6SJ VK6CQ:; HF; CW SSB FT8 RTTY; 500w; 3 stations, 24/7; QSL via DL2AWG (LoTW after 6 months)
2025 Mar09	2025 Mar10	Antigua & Barbuda	V26MN	DF8AN	By DF8AN; 80-6m, incl 60m; CW + digital, perhaps SSB
2025 Mar09	2025 Apr05	Sint Maarten	PJ7AA	LoTW	By AA9A; 40-6m; CW FT8 FT4; QSL via AA9A

Club Business and Announcements

January 2025 Financial Report

by Bob DePierre,K8KI

Budget Category	2025 Budget	January
Year Start	**5803**	5803.41
Dues In	**1100**	453.31
Recurring Exp	**-1106**	
repeater elect	-63	
web hosting/domain service	-77	-16.88
repeater maintenance	0	
to HARC for Zoom	-50	
use of museum	-400	
DX Plaques	-216	
Miscellaneous	-300	
Other Transactions	**-1200**	
Donations/equipment to sell	0	
Dxpeditions	-1000	
Picnic	-200	
ARRL Bricks	0	
DX Banquet	**730**	
Huntsville Hamfest Donation	500	
venue	-700	
food	*-2400*	
speaker+room+travel	*-450*	
ticket sales	*4100*	
raffle	*400*	
grand prize	*-400*	
beer/wine/soft drinks/glasses	*-200*	
insurance	*-120*	
Year End Bank Balance	**5,327**	
Other Asset 3-month CD	5225	
Total Assets	**10,552**	
Asset delta	-251	6239.84



January 2025 Meeting Minutes

By Bob DePierre, K8KI

- 14 members attended plus 13 more on Zoom. Bill Gerth attended via Zoom, and travelled to Huntsville two weeks later for George McCanless' celebration of life ceremony.
- Loyd Richey/WB4BMQ, was voted in as a new member.
- Bruce/AC4G achieved DXCC/100 countries on 6m, thus proving you must be present to win! Kevin/ KG4TEI earned DXCC on 10 and 15m, and brought his son Charlie with him.
- Janet Duncan/KI4WLX is looking for an appropriate new home for Tom's IC746.
- Last month's minutes were approved.
- Steve Molo reports that W4DXCC will have a very large attendance at this year's hamfest and is looking to schedule big activities with the group. That could/should involve NADXC as well. Should NADXC hold the DX banquet in a location that can fit a much larger audience? He is looking for locations for possibly Thursday, Friday, and Saturday events.
- Patrick/KJ7ZSU from Geochron presented the program via Zoom. Some members have extensive experience with this mapping program, and it is certainly beautiful.

North Alabama DX Club (NADXC)

"Club Fact Sheet"

Who We Are: NADXC is a group of active radio amateurs with a deep compassion for working DX, contesting, and other aspects of Amateur Radio. We welcome everyone who is interested in joining our club. NADXC members are active in all facets of DX and contesting. The NADXC also donates funding for various DXpeditions all over the world. The NADXC sponsors a DX Banquet in mid-August of every year in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. NADXC members moderate various programs at club meetings and during the Huntsville Hamfest, covering amateur radio technical and operating topics for all to learn and enjoy. The NADXC sponsors a prestigious award at the end of year for the most deserving DXer of the Year from the NADXC club.

DX Funding Policy: The policy supports major DXpeditions that meet our requirements for financial sponsorship. Details are available on the NADXC website and in the "LongPath" newsletter.

Club History: The NADXC was organized in December 1966 by a group of 12 charter members. The original constitution was adopted and signed on December 19, 1966. The first chairman was Dan Whitsett, W4BRE (SK). In the early-1970's, the NADXC was custodian of the W4, K4 QSL Bureau which became such a huge undertaking that it eventually was passed to other larger clubs. In January of 1977, the club bought a VHF repeater for sharing DX spots and hosting a weekly net on Wednesday nights. The repeater was located on Redstone Arsenal, Weeden Mountain using the frequencies of 147.91/147.31 MHz on two meters. Today, the repeater has been relocated and utilizes the frequencies of 147.90/147.30 MHz, with a callsign of W4QB. The weekly net has been discontinued. In 1980, the club started the monthly newsletter known as the "LongPath" which currently continues to be produced every month.

While organized as a DX club, NADXC members are active in all aspects of the hobby. We trust that this information will be of interest to all and hope all hams have a long and pleasant association with the NADXC.

Requirements for Membership: The NADXC welcomes all hams radio operators who have an interest in DXing. It does not matter whether you are a new ham, a seasoned ham operator, an old-timer to DXing, or a ham who has just been hit with the DX bug; everyone is welcome! See the club website: www.nadxc.org. Dues are paid in January of every year.

Meetings: The NADX club meets the second Tuesday night of every month, with the current location at the Signals Museum of Information Explosion (MIE) located at 1806 University Drive, Huntsville, Alabama and virtually via Zoom. Some members gather early to eat their dinner, socialize, discuss DX worked, and then we have a short business meeting starting at 6:30 P.M. CT. followed by an exciting, interesting program to help, entertain, and teach members about DX and amateur radio in general.

Club Officers: There are four elected officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and three elected directors on the NADXC Board of Directors. The current roster of club officers and directors can be seen of the NADXC web site or in the "Longpath" newsletter, which is uploaded each month to the club website.

Website: The NADXC club maintains a website at www.nadxc.org. This site provides club information and activities throughout the year about a variety of subjects related to the club, DX, and amateur radio.