

Northeast Wisconsin DX Association

(NEWdxA)

MAY 10, 2008

Minutes

W9DXA

Call To Order

The Spring meeting of NEWdxA was called to order by President George Croy, W9MDP, at 10:15 am at Schloegel's Restaurant in Menominee, Michigan. 21 individuals were present.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 19, 2008 (Green Bay) meeting which were previously distributed to the membership by email were approved as presented.

Financials

Bob Schrader, AA9GZ reports we have \$2922.11 in the treasury. Reminder, dues are due JANUARY first of each year. There is no change in the amount of dues \$8.00 (US) annually. Please pay your dues.

Old Business

Victor E51CG 160 meter balun was damaged. John, NZ9Z arranged for a new balun to arrive in South Cook Island. NZ9Z arranged to have another amateur traveling to South Cook to transport a new balun thus saving NEWDXA money in transport cost. Great Job NZ9Z you did the job and saved the association money. Victor – E51CG became an Honorary member of NEWDXA at the January 19, 2008 meeting. The association is glad to have helped him out with a new balun. The association did provide E51CG with various antenna parts (wire, balun, etc) for a 160 meter antenna in the past.

SRI LANKA

John NZ9Z reported on the latest situation in Sri Lanka. NZ9Z is in regular contact with Victor, 4S7VK. The country is still in a state of turmoil with various factions in disagreement. Amateur Equipment is difficult to get into the country. The NEWDXA donation of funds (\$300.00) from several years ago has not been allocated as of this date. The membership discussed the question of 4S7 funding.

A MOTION - was made by Skip KE9L and seconded by Tom, W8JWN: that the NEWDXA funds are placed in a separate 4S7 bank account under the direction of NZ9Z. The motion was discussed and approved. When we can get equipment into the country these funds will be used for such costs as for equipment, shipping, etc. NZ9Z will periodically update the association regarding the status of the funds. NZ9Z indicates that

quality used equipment is ready to be shipped if Sri Lankan government approval can be obtained to get equipment entry into the country. A suggestion was made that the association explore the idea of contacting an area Congressional Representative for help and/or advice on how we could expedite the movement of emergency communication equipment into Sri Lanka. The thought being the congressional office may be able to direct us to someone in the State Department who can assist in getting emergency equipment into the country.

DX FUNDING

Skip, KE9L and Dwight, NS9R, chair the DX petition funding committee. Please send any DX-petition information to Skip or Dwight. Funding has been provided for MJ/K8PT (\$50) and VK9W – Willis Island (\$100) was approved by the membership at the 1-19-08. Those funds will be sent to the stations as soon as it can be arranged. Discussion also revolved around fund-raising opportunities to help fund additional DX-petitions.

V25OP

Mark – W9OP provided a short audio tape on his recent DX petition to V25 land - Antigua/Barbuda – Leeward Islands. Listening to the audio tape provided the membership with a clear understanding of the pile up situation on his end during this operation. W9OP had QSL cards available for the NEWDXA members who had worked him in this latest DX venture. Several NEWDXA members had worked him.

NEWDXA WEBSITE

John, NZ9Z gave an update report on the latest status on the NEWDXA website move for Steve, K9ZW website chairperson. All items are ready to be transferred to the K8IR site. We are just waiting for the individuals involved to find the time in their busy schedules to accomplish this. Presently it is www.newdxa.org (CONTROL/CLICK MOUSE)

QSL FUNDING

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark, W9OP and Seconded by Tom, K9JCM **that the association explore the concept of providing DX stations with QSL cards.** Discussion was held and the membership approved the motion. Any cards provided would have the NEWDXA logo and our website information printed on them as part of the funding operation. It was estimated that the costs would range from \$70.00 to \$140 per 1000 or 2000 cards. We would look for assisting foreign club stations and such. Our QSL donation would be for one set of cards it would not be for continual funding of a stations QSL cards. This concept will be explored and discussed at future meetings. W9OP will coordinate this endeavor for the association and report back to the membership.

HONORARY MEMBER

MOTION: A motion was made by Tom, W8JWN and seconded by Arde, KA9WAR **that Victor 4S7VK be an honorary member of NEWDXA.** Membership approved. NEWDXA has had very good relations with Victor for years and it was felt he should be brought into membership.

MEMBERSHIP

NEWDXA was founded in December 1992 with 22 charter members and today we are pleased to announce that our membership went to over 100 members. On May 10, 2008 the membership approved the following candidates be brought into membership.

- # 96 - Victor Goonetilleke - 4S7VK – Sri Lanka (Honorary)
- # 97 - Dave Palmgren - N8DP – Gladstone, MI
- # 98 - Gary Kreis – KC9CDW – Keil, WI
- # 99 - Amber Kreis – KC9LMB – Keil, WI (age 11)
- # 100 - Dan Novotny - WB9WHQ – Phillips, WI
- # 101 - Peter Coyer - N9TUW – Bowler, WI

Welcome to these 6 new members. We hope you find time in your busy schedules to support NEWDXA. Thanks for considering our group. Enjoy DX'ing!

Check – QRZ.COM under our members call sign for more specific information.

Membership - some members have become silent keys (SK), some members are less active as they age, and some members have temporarily lost interest in DX because of the poor band conditions Cycle 24! The majority of our membership about 2/3 or more still are active and when possible attend meetings. Support NEWDXA.

NEWDXA membership Coordinator – NZ9Z, John, Kellnersville, WI

NEWEST DXCC MEMBER

NEWDXA MEMBER #94 – W9USX, Skylar received his basic 100 entities certificate from the ARRL the first week of May. He was presented with an ARRL DXCC lapel pin by the association president W9MDP today. W9USX is the second youth member of the association. W8JJC, Joe is our first youth member. Amber, KC9LMB is the third youth member.

MISCELLANEOUS

FOREIGN CAPTIALS: Arde, KA9WAR notified the association membership that he had reached the 300 entities mark. Arde, also shared that he has 100 confirmed foreign country capitals. I would guess no one else in the association can top 100 foreign capitals confirmed.

BOZO - A highlight of the meeting was when Mark also provided BOZO numbers to those who wished to have one. Many NEWDXA members are BOZO's. Visit the new website at: www.AB0ZO.com. Those still wishing to be a BOZO can contact Mark via email. Membership cost is nothing and you will *cherish* your number and the benefits are many and great!

BS7H QSL'S

Several NEWDXA members indicated they had clear contact with BS7H and found out later when they applied for their QSL cards that they were not in the log! What may have happened is that the BS7H operator did not log their call sign correctly. They were one letter off in the call sign.

One of the advantages of DX peditions with "on line logs" is (if they are available) you can check in 12 hours to see if you are in the log. If you find you are NOT in the log you can attempt to work them again.

May 10 MEETING PROGRAM(S)

Jim, K8IR had prepared a program on the Log book of the world (lotw). We did not have meeting time to do justice to his efforts. We will revisit lotw at future meetings. At this meeting of 21 individuals we found we had about one half of the members that are using lotw. If you have questions email K8IR he may be able to help you. The ARRL has a PDF program that is called "Getting Started in lotw". It seems to be a valuable tool. It shows actual computer screen shots of what certain aspects of the program look like as you are working on getting lotw up and running.

The latest member to access lotw is W9USX who with the help of NZ9Z accomplished his log upload on May 7. He found he had 90 lotw QSL's waiting for him at the ARRL lotw site.

The membership watched an outstanding DVD on Scarborough Reef BS7H – 2007. This 60 minute video was very interesting and covered the political aspects, reef history, amateur radio history and the 4 station operation of this most needed entity. Our thanks go out to Steve, K9ZW who loaned the DVD to NEWDXA so we could share it with the membership. It also was nice to see at the end of the DVD when they were providing information on organizations that helped make the operation possible to see: Northeast Wisconsin DX Association listed.

YACHT – K8KDZ

Jim, KS8O, (co-founder) Young Amateur Contest Ham Team – reported that membership is at 27. That is outstanding. Our three youth members are also members of YACHT. The YACHT group is on Echolink on a Sundays in a net at 6 pm local time on node: 44407. This node is on the K9KJM-R Sturgeon Bay, WI repeater. Got time? Check in! Thanks to the K9KJM repeater for supporting this group of young amateurs. Age range 11 -16. Tech to Extra class hams. Thanks to Ed, KG8CX (founder) and Jim, KS8O for organizing and coordinating this worthwhile group of young hams.

YACHT



Young Amateur Contest Ham Team

EMAIL ADDRESS

Please make sure you pass your email address to W9MDP and NZ9Z. If we do not have an accurate and updated email address you will not get our periodic communications. We do not use snail mail. Email is our update choice. Give us your email please.

MEMBERSHIP LISTING

A membership listing will be published soon in PDF format via email to all members. We have reached 101 members and we will get you an updated listing of members. Watch your email closely.

GOOD TO SEE

Welcome back **John, K9UP** (Appleton) who has been absent from NEWDXA meetings for some time. **Tom, W8JWN** (Iron Mountain, MI) had *total knee surgery* in mid-January it was good to see him back at the NEWDXA meeting and in good health! He had even played golf during the week. The right knee is feeling better. **Tom, K9CJM** (Wisconsin Rapids) was in attendance having returned from spending the winter in Arizona.

IN ATTENDANCE MAY 10, 2008

**JOHN, NZ9Z
TOM, W8WJN
BOB, AA9GZ
SKIP, KE9L
JOHN, K9UP
ARDE, KA9WAR
DAMIAN, N5FVM
MARK, W9OP
MIKE, KN9P
SKYLAR, W9USX
PAUL, NS8V
JIM, KS8O
PETER, N9TUW
JIM, K8IR
TOM, K9CJM
DENNIS, K9JIG
MIACHAEL, KF9X
DAN, WB9WHQ
DAVE, N8DP
JOHN, WD8RTH
GEORGE, W9MDP**



Adjourn Meeting adjourned 11: 30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Prust N9WI, Secretary

May 11, 2008

