



**The Carolina DX Association**

# The Pileup

## Newsletter of the CDXA

### Field Day 2013

Joe Barkley, KI4TZ, and  
Dick Williams, W3OA

|        |               |                             |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| N4QT   | Hal Bouton    | President                   |
| W4GRW  | Bill Fisher   | Vice-Pres.                  |
| W3ZL   | Cliff Wagoner | Sec.-Treas.                 |
| K4MD   | Joe Simpkins  | Cluster Mgr.                |
| W3OA   | Dick Williams | Contest Mgr.                |
| W3GQ   | Paul Sturpe   | W4 QSL<br>Bureau<br>Manager |
| WB4BXW | Wayne Setzer  | Webmaster                   |
| NV4A   | John Forbus   | Editor                      |

CDXA is planning on continuing its streak of very competitive Field Day entries. This year we will return to the QTH of Joe Barkley, KI4TZ, just north of Chester, South Carolina. All stations will be in *air conditioned* space. We will be using the callsign W4DXA.



In 2007 and 2008 CDXA made history by setting two Field Day class records, Class 4E (home station, four transmitters, emergency power) in 2007 and Class 5E (home station, five transmitters, emergency power) in 2008. In 2009, 2010, and 2011 we won Class 3E (home station, three transmitters, emergency power). We are out to win Class 3E again.

Here's our plan:

- Time/Date: 2 p.m. Saturday, June 22rd, to 2 p.m. Sunday, June 23rd.
- Location: QTH of KI4TZ north of Chester, SC.
- Class: 3E (home station, three transmitters, emergency power), 150 watts or less.
- Stations: Three stations in the house:
  - One will be SSB, all bands, 80 through 10.
  - One will be CW, 160 through 10.
  - One will be CW and SSB on 40 and 15.
- Antennas:
  - 160 – G5RV
  - 80 – Dipole, G5RV
  - 40 – Vertical loop, dipole, G5RV

(Continued on page 2)

| CDXA PacketCluster & Other Communication Systems |  |
|--|--|
| K4MD (AR Cluster via Telnet)                     | k4md.no-ip.com   |
| W4DXA (AR Cluster via Telnet)                    | w4dxa.no-ip.com  |
| CDXA Repeater 147.18 MHz (+600 )                 | W4DXA, Near Fort Mill, SC                                      |
| World Wide Web Homepage                          | www.cdxa.org   |
| Wednesday Luncheon (11:30 AM)                    | Skyland Family Restaurant, 4544 South Boulevard, Charlotte, NC |

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- 20 – Log Periodic, Tribander
- 15 – Mono Bander, Log Periodic, Tribander
- 10 – Log Periodic, Tribander
- 6 – Five Element Yagi and PAR Loop.

Work Days: Saturday, June 15th, one week before Field Day, beginning at 9 a.m.  
 Friday, June 21st, the day before Field Day, to complete set up if needed.

Members participating at W4DXA will receive an official CDXA Field Day T shirt similar to last year's shirt being modeled in the picture by KI4TZ, AA4NN, AA4SC and K2SX. In order to be guaranteed a shirt in your size you must sign up by June 7.

We need operators - If you want to join our winning operation please contact Dick at [w3oa@roadrunner.com](mailto:w3oa@roadrunner.com). Let him know when you can be available and your preferred operating mode (s). There is room to sleep inside on your air mattress and sleeping bag so don't be afraid to spend the night with us. And don't forget to provide your T shirt size. Do all this by June 7.



### The Pileup

Official Newsletter of the Carolina DX Association  
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Published monthly 10 times per year, excluding the months of June and December.

The purpose of the association is to secure for the members the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons having a common interest in Amateur Radio.

Members of the CDXA shall adhere to "The Amateur's Code" as published from time to time in *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs*, and shall consist of those valid licensed amateur operators having an interest in promoting amateur radio. Long distance communications (DX) is of special interest to members of the association, but said interest is not a requirement of membership.

Yearly dues are \$25.00. A second licensed Amateur family member living in the same household can join for \$5.00 for a total family price of \$30.00 per year. The total price for 3 or more licensed family members living in the same household is only \$35.00 per year. All family members enjoy full member status. Dues are payable annually in December by check or through the CDXA website, to the Secretary/Treasurer:

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL  
 P. O. Box 577  
 Davidson, NC 28036

Address, telephone, and email address changes should be directed to the Secretary/Treasurer at the above address or via email at: [jcw53@cornell.edu](mailto:jcw53@cornell.edu).

## Report from the Visalia DX Convention

Don Daso, K4ZA

With airfare in hand, courtesy of my XYL as a Christmas gift, I headed to the annual DX Convention in Visalia, California, an event I'd long wanted to attend. Here are some observations.

John, W2GD, and I agreed to go together, fresh from tower work in NY. John had been to Visalia previously, but at the old location at the Holiday Inn, so neither of us knew anything about the new site. Nevertheless, we were certainly primed for a break in the WX (the forecast was for temperatures in the mid-80s) and some contesting camaraderie.

Here's a recap:

1) The Venue: The Visalia Convention Center is a perfect location for this Convention. After years in the Holiday Inn, EVERYone agreed that the new location works wonderfully. Sponsorship of the Convention rotates annually between the Northern California Contest Club (NCCC) and the Southern California Contest Club (SCCC.) On Sunday morning, the SCCC representative spoke briefly about next year's Convention. Three times, he used the phrase, "We don't believe we should be working to balance the City of Visalia's annual budget," which everyone took to mean they (SCCC) were considering returning to the Holiday Inn. Had a rope been immediately available, I'm not certain he'd have gotten out of the room alive.

2) A new Flex 6700 with a SteppIR DB-18 outside on a nifty US Tower trailer tower was set up as the official event station. Whenever I passed by, the line of both operators and observers was long. A review by someone willing to wait for his turn at the new radio posted on eham recently. It's interesting in that this reviewer already has a Flex 5000, and had pre-ordered the 6700. I'm still running OMNI VI's, so this is all wayyyyyy out of my league!

3) I ate lunch on Saturday with Mike Mertel of

*(Continued from page 2)*

SteppIR. He queried me about every single client of theirs I've dealt with, and every SteppIR antenna I've put up over the past two years. He remembered every single one of my clients, except K2QWD, who is the ONLY client with a problem. This may or may not be indicative of something. Lunch was BBQ, and not bad. There were lots of complaints about the heat (84 degrees), but of course W2GD and I loved it.

4) I spoke with Mike at the Force-12 booth and resolved the bad-out-of-the-box balun issue for client K0COP. Mike has promised to send me a new balun right after the show. But he waited until today (Friday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of April) to query me for my address, which I'd given him at the show. *(Sigh....)*

5) GD and I spent a fair amount of time with Tom, N6BT, discussing his new "Next Generation" antenna line, now that his two year-long non-compete clause with the buyer of Force-12 has expired. They look very promising and are certainly competitively priced.

6) I bought a RadioSport headset, I like them so much.

7) The line at the InnoVation antenna booth was always long. I'm still a tad suspect of their ad claims, which seem to be filled with hyperbole.

8) As everywhere else one goes, the Elecraft booth was mobbed. Always.

9) I got to stand in the courtyard later on Saturday afternoon and chat with Joe Taylor, K1JT, for an hour. You'd never know you were speaking to a Nobel Laureate. He's perfectly down-to-earth and clearly credits ham radio for much of his career path and success. I know it may be a cliché, ..but that's just neat!

10) There were over \$50,000 worth of prizes given away. I won nothing.

11) The poster for the event was very nice. I asked the hotel where we stayed (the Fairfield, 3 miles away) if I could have their lobby copy on Sunday and they said yes. When I turned back to get it, some guy

ripped it off the wall in front of me and ran out the door. "Some souvenir, huh?" he hollered back over his shoulder.

12) Yes, I would definitely go back, although likely not yearly, but it's more focused than Dayton, and therefore more interesting in some ways. It may not be politically correct to express it like this, but everyone there is interested in DXing or contesting. No shack-on-the-belt folks or boat anchor hoarders.

13) At Saturday night's banquet, the DX stand-up-sit-down as DXCC totals were called out was over super fast. Everyone had 350, half had 360-370 total, and one guy with 390 was left. But I did notice that everyone is gray or white-haired, or bald. I would have loved to glean a median age from this crowd. The hobby is definitely in need of new, younger folks following behind us!

vy 73 Don K4ZA

### Hammin' it Up on TV

Ham radio was a central feature in a recent episode of ABC's "Last Man Standing", starring Tim Allen (..aka Tim "The ToolMan" Taylor) as Mike Baxter, who's a ham with a station in his basement, and another one in his office at work. In past episodes, the ham stations have shown up in the background. On the episode aired on March 15th, hamming was central to the theme, which involved one of Mike's daughters learning about WWII history first hand talking to hams on her dad's home station. While we never heard her use a call, she was familiar enough with the rig (an Icom IC-7700 complete with prominently displayed manual, and a small Ameritron amp) to assume she's licensed ...besides, it *is* just a TV show. ARRL and CQ have supplied lots of wallpaper for the walls of both stations, with DXCC, WAZ, and WAS awards prominently displayed. A strategically placed QSL card was from K2TV. ...An appropriate call to show on a TV show. The interesting thing is that it's a real call, and belongs to a ham who spent much of his career at ...CBS. If you want to watch the show, go to [http://abc.go.com/watch/last-man-standing/S155126594/VDKA0\\_onva5o18/the-fight](http://abc.go.com/watch/last-man-standing/S155126594/VDKA0_onva5o18/the-fight)

## CDXA Posts Great Results in the 2012 CQWW Contest

Dick Williams, W3OA

The final results of last year's CQ World Wide Contest have been published in CQ. The SSB results are in the April issue, and the CW results are in the May issue. Once again, CDXA had good results and is well represented on SSB and CW.

This was the seventh year we entered the team contesting competition. CDXA's five-man SSB team (K4LY, N4ZC, W3GQ, W3OA and W7DO) scored 12,363,413 points. That was enough to place fourth among the 27 teams entered, and we were the highest scoring team with all members operating in the U.S. Our CW team (N2TU, N4ZC, W3GQ, W3OA, and W7DO) scored 14,021,610 points to place sixth among the 22 teams entered, world -wide. This was also the highest score for a team with all members operating from within the U.S.

The tables below show, in alphabetical order, the calls and stats of CDXA members who contributed to CDXA's Club score and scored in the top half of their class in SSB (listed first) and CW (second table) as listed in CQ. The last column shows the entrant's place in his class and the number of entrants in that class. Those calls shown in bold face will receive certificates from CQ.

Some highlights:

On SSB, W4ZV placed second in the U.S. in the Single Band, 10 Meter class.

On CW, W4ZV placed first in the U.S. in the Single Band, 10 Meter class. K4LY was second in the U.S. in the Single Band, 40 Meter, Low Power class. K2SX was one of the four operators at K2LE. That team scored 12,088,960 points and was fifth of the sixteen U.S. multi-op, two-transmitter, entries.

Mark your calendar for this year's CQWW contests. SSB is the weekend of October 25, and CW the weekend of November 22. Get going on those antenna projects now so you'll be ready in time!

SSB Results:

| Call         | Final Score | Area             | Class                           | Place/No in Class |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| K2SX         | 376,040     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 34/80             |
| <b>K4LY</b>  | 1,818,837   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted  | 1/44              |
| K5EK         | 1,883,735   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 7/80              |
| KU4V         | 909,450     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power           | 18/94             |
| KZ2I         | 1,517,615   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power           | 9//94             |
| N2TU         | 1,893,365   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 6/80              |
| N4APR        | 83,868      | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted  | 13/44             |
| <b>N4PQX</b> | 1,487,160   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 11/80             |
| N4ZC         | 3,799,899   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 1/80              |
| W1AJT        | 495,305     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 27/80             |
| <b>W3GQ</b>  | 2,454,154   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted | 5/80              |

## SSB Results, cont.

|              |           |                  |   |                       |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| W3NC         | 171,647   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power<br>Single Band – 10 meters          | 3/9                   |
| W3OA         | 2,504,440 | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                           | 3/80                  |
| <b>W3SA</b>  | 246,061   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power                                     | 43/94                 |
| <b>W3ZL</b>  | 218,986   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted                            | 6/44                  |
| W4TUN        | 400,698   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                           | 33/80                 |
| <b>W4WNT</b> | 146,298   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted                            | 10/44                 |
| <b>W4ZV</b>  | 1,009,491 | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power<br>Single Band – 10 meters          | 1/9<br>also 2nd in US |
| W7DO         | 1,786,083 | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                           | 8/80                  |
| W7WZ         | 102,843   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted<br>Single Band – 10 meters | 3/7                   |

## CW Results:

| Call        | Final Score | Area             | Class  | Place/No in Class         |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|--|---------------------------|
| AA4R        | 612,986     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power, Assisted                   | 4/50                      |
| AA4V        | 305,568     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 43/93                     |
| <b>K4LY</b> | 67,945      | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power<br>Single Band – 40 meters  | 1/2<br>also second in USA |
| N2TU        | 3,390,001   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 2/93                      |
| <b>N4ZC</b> | 3,477,084   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 1/93                      |
| NV4A        | 303,933     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 44/93                     |
| W3GQ        | 3,269,889   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 3/93                      |
| W3OA        | 2,177,156   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 6/93                      |
| W3SA        | 58,240      | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, Low Power                             | 30/67                     |
| W4HG        | 290,466     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 45/93                     |
| <b>W4ZV</b> | 552,052     | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power<br>Single Band – 10 meters | 1/1<br>also first in USA  |
| W7DO        | 1,707,480   | US – Call Area 4 | Single Op, High Power, Assisted                  | 10/93                     |



## DX King News



Dick Williams, W3OA

Item 1: Full details of our DX King Contest and your chances to win a tablet computer are on page 3 of the [January Pileup](#).

Item 2: Here are the scores for the 2013 DX King competition I have as of April 30:

| Call  | Category  | Countries | Zones | Total |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| K7BV  | Unlimited | 252       | 40    | 292   |
| K5EK  | Unlimited | 251       | 40    | 291   |
| W4HG  | Unlimited | 246       | 40    | 286   |
| K4GHS | Unlimited | 226       | 40    | 266   |
| W3GQ  | Unlimited | 214       | 39    | 253   |
| W3ZL  | Formula   | 179       | 34    | 213   |
| K2SX  | Unlimited | 165       | 39    | 204   |
| K4NC  | Unlimited | 148       | 37    | 185   |
| NV4A  | Unlimited | 140       | 34    | 174   |
| W3OA  | Unlimited | 135       | 36    | 171   |
| N2TU  | Unlimited | 124       | 32    | 156   |
| K4DXA | Unlimited | 114       | 31    | 145   |
| W1AJT | Unlimited | 103       | 33    | 136   |
| W4CWA | Unlimited | 104       | 31    | 135   |
| W4UFO | Unlimited | 104       | 28    | 132   |
| W4WNT | Formula   | 107       | 25    | 132   |
| N4PQX | Unlimited | 92        | 37    | 129   |

Item 3: Don't forget to send me ([w3oa@roadrunner.com](mailto:w3oa@roadrunner.com)) your DX marathon scores as of the last day of each month after your score reaches 100.

### Welcome to a New Member

Welcome to Paul Jones, K4VCF, 8220 White Horse Dr., Charlotte, NC 28270, 704-366-2998, [pjones100osfm@gmail.com](mailto:pjones100osfm@gmail.com). Paul says he joined at the urging of Bill, W4GRW and Tom, K4DRV. Paul is a new ham, and just became an Extra in February. We look forward to seeing Paul at lunch on Wednesdays.

## CQ MAGAZINE DX AWARDS

Gary Dixon, K4MQG

Hello CDXAers: Most likely most of you probably have a nice collection of DX cards and/or LoTW confirmations. Certainly you are proud of your DXCC country/entity count over the years and many of you have already used those cards or LoTW credits to qualify for various ARRL DX awards. There are also some very nice DX awards given by CQ Magazine that don't seem to get the visibility of the ARRL awards. CQ's awards are given for three categories: SSB, CW or Digital mode.

Most DXers just seem to go after the ARRL awards, but the CQ awards are very colorful certificates that really make nice additions to your shack. As we often say, "they are very nice pieces of wall paper." The awards from CQ just don't seem to have the same popularity as the ARRL awards, and also many DXers don't realize how easily they can be obtained. If you have already gone to the trouble of having your DX QSLs or LoTW credits approved for DXCC, then it is not necessary to go through the process of digging the cards out to be checked again. In fact, for LoTW, your total count can actually include both credits already approved for DXCC, and your *Pending* credits, which are contacts confirmed by LoTW but not yet added to your DXCC record.

A copy of your ARRL "DXCC Award Credits Listing" or a copy of your ARRL "LoTW Account Credits" sheet will serve as proof of confirmation for the CQ DX Awards. Either of these ARRL listings show what entities have been confirmed on any mode/band. You can attach either to the CQ DX Award Application, and then either mail it in with the fee, shown below, or hand it to an authorized card checker. The cost of the basic certificate for each mode is \$6.00 for CQ Magazine subscribers and \$12.00 for non-subscribers. There is an additional \$1.00 charge for each of the Country and "Special" endorsement stickers that are available,

as explained in the rules.

The picture below shows an actual SSB certificate that can be obtained by filling out the CQ DX Application and attaching your copy of the ARRL Credit Listing sheet or LoTW Credit Sheet in lieu of the actual "paper" QSL cards. (*Ed. Note: This is K4MQG's SSB award. Your award might not come with as many stickers.*)



As a QSL field checker for both the ARRL and CQ, I can assist you in obtaining the CQ awards without going through any additional QSL checking at all. Please read [CQ DX Award Rules](#) for the full set of rules and a link to the CQ DX Application form and a CQ-Awards Checkpoint List.

Let me know if I can help you.

73, Gary, K4MQG

Ed. Note: If you're a LoTW user, and want to print your award credits, log on to your LoTW account, go to "Awards" and select the desired DXCC Award Account. The Account Status page will appear, and you'll be looking at your summaries for each possible DXCC category. Select "Account Credits" on the left of the page, and then select "View ... All Credits" and select the mode (Phone, Digital or CW) for which you want to apply for CQ DX credit. The list of entities for which you have credit, and the call of the station worked and QSL'd for each entity will show up. You can just highlight everything from the top line that says "Your Logbook DXCC Account..." all the way to the bottom of the page including the ARRL copyright, and print it. It looks better printed in Landscape (at least on my printer.)

## The Back Page

- It's time to sign up for Field Day. Be sure to read the article on Page 1, and let W3OA know if/when you can operate.
- Don Daso, K4ZA, gives us his impressions of the Visalia DX Convention, complete with a brief weather report, on Page 2.
- Check out W3OA's summary of CDXA's excellent results in the 2012 CQWW Contest (both Phone and CW), starting on Page 4.
- The latest DX King scores are on Page 6. Dennis, K7BV, has taken over the lead by a single point over Ed, K5EK.
- If you need more good-looking "wallpaper" for your shack walls, you need to read the article on Page 7 by Gary, K4MQG, detailing how to easily and painlessly use your existing ARRL entity credits to apply for CQ DX awards.
- One last note: The *Pileup* will return in July, after a month's vacation. CU then.

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