

The Pileup

Newsletter of the CDXA

Back to Navassa

In case someone missed the press release, from the KP1-5 Project, here it is:

“Date: Oct. 29, 2014

We are pleased to announce that the new Navassa 2015 DXpedition website is up and running. It can be found at

www.navassadx.com.

Also, it is official...our call sign will be K1N.

Team members are: AA7JV, K0IR, K4UEE, K5AC, K9CT, KT4TTT, N2OO, N2TU, N4GRN, N6MZ, NA5U, NM1Y, W0GJ, W6IZT, WB9Z.

We will update the website often as more information becomes available. We are working closely with the USFWS and are pleased with their "can do" attitude. We should have specific dates shortly, but the team has cleared their



| | | |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 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 Bureau Manager |
| WB4BXW | Wayne Setzer | Webmaster |
| NV4A | John Forbus | Editor |

schedules to be available for the two week operation starting in late January 2015.

Fundraising has begun. [...see their website for information]

73, for the DXpedition team. Bob K4UEE, Glenn W0GJ, Mike NA5U”

So one of the two most wanted entities in the world is going to be active early next year! ...and our fellow CDXAer and intrepid DXpeditioner, Lou, N2TU, is going along. CDXA is donating \$2,000.00 to the DXPedition. Members are encouraged to contribute individually as well, either via CDXA's Secretary-Treasurer, Cliff, W3ZL; or directly to the website. If you contribute directly, please let Cliff know so we can keep track of all CDXA donations. INDEXA also gave a donation, and here's a picture of INDEXA Officers (...and CDXAers) Dick, W3OA; Gary, K4MQG;; and John, K8YC, presenting a check to Lou, N2TU.

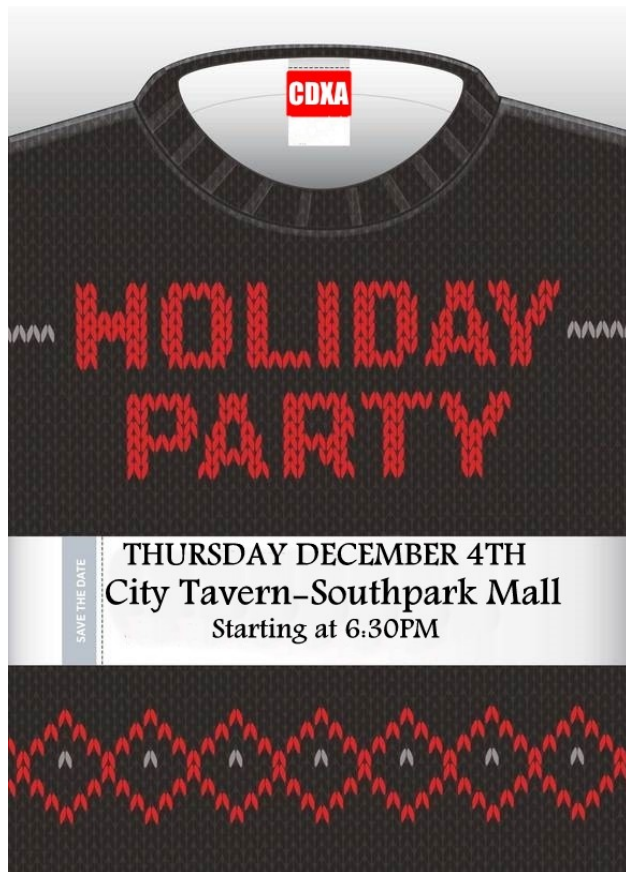


Read about Navassa in the (really) old days at [Navassa 1928](http://Navassa.1928), and if you want a sense of how much work it is getting ready for a major DXpedition take a look at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u86nglgw7Tg>.

| 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 |

2014 Holiday Party

This holiday sweater (complements of Bill, W4GRW,) pretty much tells it all. We hope you'll sign up [here](#). All the additional information you need can also be found with the sign-up sheet. Remember that there's a limit of 85 people, get your name in the pot soon!



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:

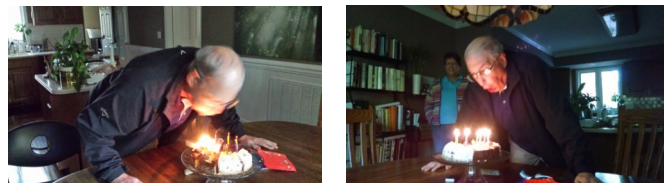
Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL
P. O. Box 577
Davidson, NC 28036

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

The Wayback Machine

The second time is the charm, apparently, since the "mystery picture" from September and October was quickly identified as Roger, N4ZC, by several members. Before listing them, I have to say that it turns out that Don Daso, K4ZA, actually identified Roger immediately when he saw the picture in September. His email went astray, probably complements of AOL, but he was also the first to identify the picture in the October edition. Others who came in with the correct answer included Steve, KZ2I ; John, W4CC; and Dirk, WA4DT. Thanks ya'll!

Remember the young boy scout pictured a few months ago, and correctly identified by Ken, K4DXA; as Cliff, W3ZL? Here's a couple of pix of Cliff blowing out the candles to celebrate hishmmmm ... most recent birthday.



We're still looking for any old pictures of you, your shack, or anything ham radio related. If anyone's brave enough to supply pictures of themselves when they were toddlers or babies, please send them to me (jtfnv4a@aol.com).

It's Election Time

CDXA's annual election will be held at the Holiday Party. As always, you can vote by proxy at <http://goo.gl/X7n7dJ>. We have lots of members who can't make it to the Party, but who vote by proxy. Just remember that if you vote by proxy, you can't vote again at the Party. With the exception of Hal Bouton, N4QT, our President (see the following page), all other current officers have expressed a willingness to stand for reelection for 2014, and Dr. Sam Hawes (K4DGJ), the Nominating Official, has reported that there were no nominations received by the November 5th deadline. However, we do have a volunteer to take over as President. Former president Ken Boyd, K4DXA has stepped up.

(Continued from page 2)

Here's what Hal has to say to the members:

"To the CDXA Board and our membership:

Thanks for allowing me to act in the capacity of your president for the last two years. It has been my great pleasure to serve our membership. We continue to grow so we must be doing something right! I think two years is a good tour of duty in this position. I have a greater appreciation of the work done by our Board on behalf of the membership. We truly are blessed with a great CDXA Board. I certainly plan to stay active in the club. As my wife comes closer to her retirement we plan to increase both our time at our mountain cabin and travels outside of the great state of North Carolina. I know you will select an excellent replacement as our next President, and I look forward to supporting the successful candidate. Thanks again for a wonderful two years at the helm of the CDXA."

...and Hal, thanks for all your hard work.

CDXA Will Award Prizes in ARRL Ten Meter Contest

(Ten Meters Is Back – Join the Fun)

The Ten Meter Contest is just around the corner. Last year our total score was 3,279,116 points putting us eighteenth among the 41 clubs in the Medium Category. But in 2012 we were number eight in that same category. In 2013 we only had 20 entries of the 50 allowed in the Medium Category. So we can improve our standing further just by increasing the number of members entering the contest. To encourage more activity we will again give Outback Steak House gift cards to three top scoring CDXA members and raffle off a fourth among all other CDXA participants making 100 or more QSOs.

More important points:

Contest starts at 7 pm EST Friday, December 12th, and ends at 7 pm Sunday. Operate no more than 36 hours.

Once again the 32 states of Mexico count as multipliers along with the 14 provinces of Canada and the 50 U.S. states plus the District of Columbia.

Make sure your logging software is up to date and scores the Mexican multipliers.

Your exchange is just a signal report and state. DX stations will give you a serial number.

Review the contest rules at <http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>.

The top three scoring entries will receive a \$50 Outback Steak House gift card.

A fourth prize of a \$50 Outback Steak House gift card will be raffled off among other CDXA members who complete 100 or more QSOs. This includes operators at multi operator stations whose score will count for CDXA.

Only members whose scores are eligible for the club competition (meet the 175 mile criteria) as defined in the contest rules can win the Gift Cards.

Prizes will be based on claimed scores. You must send your score to w3oa@roadrunner.com by December 17 to be eligible for a prize.

So get on the air and have some fun on ten meters.

...Can you believe

...that this time last year, K9W was on the air on Wake Atoll, with three CDXAers along?

Lou, N2TU, was team leader, and Dick, W3OA; and Joe, AA4N were there as well. Here's the whole operating team, with Dick, Lou, and Joe holding up the CDXA banner.





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 11 of the [January Pileup](#).

Item 2: Here are the DX King scores I have as of October 31:

| Call | Category | Countries | Zones | Total |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| K5EK | Unlimited | 277 | 40 | 317 |
| W4HG | Unlimited | 263 | 40 | 303 |
| K7BV | Unlimited | 256 | 40 | 296 |
| WA4DT | Unlimited | 255 | 40 | 295 |
| AA4SC | Unlimited | 253 | 40 | 293 |
| K8YC | Unlimited | 246 | 40 | 286 |
| W3GQ | Unlimited | 246 | 40 | 286 |
| N4PQX | Unlimited | 243 | 40 | 283 |
| W7DO | Unlimited | 231 | 40 | 271 |
| KZ2I | Unlimited | 226 | 40 | 266 |
| W4UFO | Unlimited | 222 | 40 | 262 |
| W7DO | Unlimited | 231 | 40 | 271 |
| N2TU | Unlimited | 217 | 40 | 257 |
| W3ZL | Formula | 212 | 36 | 248 |
| K4FS | Unlimited | 191 | 38 | 229 |
| NV4A | Unlimited | 187 | 39 | 226 |
| W3OA | Unlimited | 180 | 39 | 219 |
| K2SX | Unlimited | 178 | 39 | 217 |
| NK0S | Unlimited | 167 | 38 | 205 |
| K4NC | Unlimited | 153 | 37 | 190 |
| K4DXA | Unlimited | 138 | 34 | 172 |
| K4MLD | Formula | 127 | 33 | 160 |
| W4WNT | Formula | 121 | 30 | 151 |
| K1MIJ | Unlimited | 103 | 30 | 133 |
| W4CWA | Unlimited | 84 | 27 | 111 |
| K4UWH | Formula | 81 | 27 | 108 |

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

New Member

CDXA is happy to have another new member: KK4ZIR, Tyler Scott, 332 Governors Grant Blvd., Lexington, SC 29072, 803-808-9603, kk4zir@gmail.com. Tyler, Welcome to CDXA!



CQWW, CW, Is the Weekend After Thanksgiving

Dick Williams, W3OA

The SSB contest was a lot of fun – the high bands were open like last year. Ten meters was especially good and was the highest scoring band for most of our entries. Let's hope the CW weekend is just as good. Last year we were sixteenth among the 69 U.S. entries in the club competition. We need a very strong effort in the CW contest to reach our goal of getting CDXA back to the top ten. Everyone's contribution will help.

The CDXA packet network will have extra capabilities during the CW contest that allow users to see spots from a world wide network of CW Skimmers. Users will be able to get spots from the traditional Packet Cluster system plus spots from Skimmers in different size geographical areas. These areas can be from one Skimmer to one state all the way up to the whole World. An article on page 7 of the [November 2012 Pileup](#) describes how to do this. There is a change since that article appeared. The spotterCqzone and spotterItuzone filters now work. So if you want to see only spots from spotters in the Eastern U.S. you can use "set dx filter ((not skimmer) or (skimmer and (master or unique>1))) and spotterituzone=8". If you want to see spots from spotters in Eastern North America you can use "set dx filter ((not skimmer) or (skimmer and (master or unique>1))) and spottercqzone=5".

Everyone who operates in the contest should submit his or her log to CQ to contribute to our Club score. CQ will send you an email confirming receipt. If you didn't get the email, you need to resubmit. Full details on how to do this are in the contest rules at <http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>. Remember to show "Carolina DX Association" as your Club.

The deadline for submitting logs to CQ is Friday after the contest at 2400 UTC, December 5. That's 7 pm EST.

But I need your results by Tuesday, December 2, so I can have the CWAC prizes ready to present at our December 4th CDXA party. Send me your number of QSOs, number of countries, number of zones, and total score. Additionally, I need your power level (high, low, or QRP) and whether or not you were assisted. And, if

you made over 1000 QSOs, your preference for a prize – trophy or Outback Steak House gift card. Send them to w3oa@roadrunner.com.

Some Soapbox Comments from the SSB contest:

K2SD: Antenna trouble - hope I do better on the CW weekend.

K4DXA: Hoped for more but just took too many breaks!

K4FS: Thanks to N1MM+ logger it seemed much easier to search and pounce on spots. It probably wasn't smart to be a first time user just one week before the big competition but reading some of the documentation helped a lot. I started out slow Friday night but both Saturday and Sunday afternoon were incredible on 10 meters. I definitely need a better antenna for 80 meters though. I had your CDXA spotter program running. I think it helped, especially on Sunday. I hope a few of my spots were helpful to someone.

K5EK: I liked N1MM+. It appears like it was made for S&P testers. With the multiplier window set to multi early in the contest I was able to work only multi. Then later set to all and could see everyone on the band and work them without touching the tuning knob. Great feature. Ten was better than I can ever recall.

K8YC: Spent virtually NO time on this contest until Sunday--just too much "stuff" going on on Saturday. For some reason, I thought the contest stopped at 7:00 Local on Sunday, and Barb had dinner ready at 7:00PM sharp. At 7:50, when I got up from dinner, I saw that the contest was still running! Managed to put about 20K points in the score in those last 10 minutes because some juicy double multipliers happened to be not too busy.

KU4V: Had a good time!

KZ2I: CQWW SSB over for another year. Equipment problems included high SWR, bad headphone cable and audio out problem. But persevered. Thank heaven for 10 meters. I don't think I worked any new band countries but there was some good stuff on. Might have picked a couple for DX King, though.

N2TU: Yuck!

N4PQX: Work interrupted quite a bit on Sunday, but good high band conditions made up for lack of chair time. Mostly S&P, had one small run on Saturday morning on 10m. Log has been submitted now, awaiting confirmation. I expect several will have big scores since I missed most of Sunday late morning and afternoon/early evening. New PC this year worked well but I stuck with N1MM classic since I updated it right before the contest on Friday, maybe move to the new version before CQWW CW. I would be interested to know how folks fared with N1MM Plus.

N4ZC: No it (the amplifier keying cable) didn't work which made a bit of a problem trying to do the contest. I had to hand key the amp on and off for each contact. There was also a problem with the radio going into split, each time I clicked on a spot. I had to hit the split button after each time I clicked on a spot to get it into xcv. It slowed down my effort but still did OK when you consider the problems for each contact. Low bands were really poor.

NV4A: Fired everything up and checked out signal and power on each band about an hour before contest start. At 0000Z I sat down, keyed the mic, and no amp! Spent the next hour troubleshooting. Short version of long sad story is that amp quits working when it warms up. From cold (like off for several hours) it'll work for awhile, and then ...no gain. Working barefoot wasn't fun. Don't know how anyone does low power phone. Fortunately, the kids and grand kids came over today. That gave me an excuse to shut down. *(Ed. Note: I think N2TU sums it up much more succinctly!)*

...and on the subject of things not working the way they're supposed to

Based on your editor's note above about my amp problems occurring just before the contest started, and the fact that during last year's contest, it was my beam not working on 20 or 40, you might think that Murphy follows me around ...and I guess you'd be right. Based on some of the other comments, I'm not the only one. For some reason, thinking about that reminded me of a couple of sayings. The first is attributed to the English: "If it jams, force it. If it breaks, it probably needed fixing anyway." When we lived in England, my auto mechanic certainly lived by that rule! Also, I once had a boss ...in an electronics lab ...who always said "Never use a screwdriver if you can use a hammer." I'm pretty sure he meant it too.

The Back Page

- At long last, Navassa will be back on the air early next year, and Lou, N2TU, will be along. Read more on Page 1.
- Sign up for the CDXA Holiday Party, being held at City Tavern on Dec 4th.. Details are on Page 2.
- Our annual election will also be held at the Party. See Page 2 for voting details. We'll be electing a new president, as Hal, N4QT; is stepping down. His open letter to the CDXA membership is also on Page 2. Hal, thanks for everything you've done!
- The CQWW/CW Contest is November 28th from 7 pm EST to November 30th at 7 pm.
- The Ten Meter Contest is also coming up, starting at 7 pm EST Friday, December 12th, and ending at 7 pm Sunday. It should be a lot of fun if 10m stays open the way it is now!
- For comments from those who operated the CQWW Phone Contest, see Page 5.
- The *Pileup* will be on vacation next month. So Happy Holidays, and we'll be back in January. Keep those cards and letters coming.

Cliff Wagoner, W3ZL
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jcw53@cornell.edu

First Class Mail

See something wrong with your address label? Notify W3ZL at once, please.