

The MHDXA Wire

*The Newsletter of
The Mile High DX Association*

<http://www.qsl.net/mhdxa>

July/August Issue

2001

**MHDXA has "Best Ever" Field Day effort - See write up and QSO summary on pages 9 & 10.
[Photos by KØMP]**



Paul Sobon, NOØT and Laura Sobon, AD4PU on the 40/15 meter station.



KØAB Field Day site approximately 90 miles west of Denver in the Lost Park area at an elevation of 9800 feet above sea level



Field Day Site, Sunday morning



The "Hot" Operating chair in the 80/20/10 meter station after suffering "meltdown".



Larry Agabekov, N2WW /UA6HZ operating the 80/20/10 meter station after an "all nighter" on 40 meters.



L-R seated: Don McCoy, WØDM; Greg Dunn, WØZA, operating the 40/15 meter station. Standing L-R: Hugh Matheson, KØQD; Hank Luthe, W6NIZ.

In This Issue:

- * KØAB Field Day Photos - Page 1
- * *The DXcorsist Sez...* - Page 2
- * MHDXA Meeting Notes - Page 3
- * MHDXA Treasurer's report - Page 3
- * MHDXA Meeting Sked - Page 3
- * The 2001 Hamfest Calendar - Page 3
- * Mining Your Logs for DX Gold - Page 4
- * BQ9P QSLs a Bit Slower Coming - Page 4
- * Outgoing QSLs Top Million already - Page 4
- * MHDXA DX Ladder - Page 5
- * DXCC Announces 12 mtr. Award - Page 6
- * WRTC Choses Team Captains - Page 6
- * High Tech Humor - Page 7
- * MHDXA Field Day Summary - Pages 8 - 9
- * "Open Garden" Announcement - Page 10
- * Some DX Ramblings - Page 10
- * Last 8 weeks Solar Chart - Page 10
- * Membership/Renewal Form - Back Page

---- Serving the Front Range DX'ers ----

Mile High DX Association

6360 S. Oak Way
Littleton, CO 80127

President

Bill Leahy, KØMP
303-841-6146
KØMP@arri.net

Vice President

Don McCoy, WØDM
303-933-1112
WØDM@arri.net

Membership - Treasurer - Secretary

Greg Dunn, WØZA
303-973-3787
WØZA@arri.net

Newsletter Editor

Jack Ciaccia, WMØG
303-665-8037
FAX: 303-666-8613
WMØG@arri.net

MHDXA Web Page

<http://www.qsl.net/mhdxa>



NOTE: The MHDXA Wire Newsletter is copy-right 2001 and published by the Mile High DX Association.

The design and content may be reproduced in any form, by any publication, without prior consent, as long as proper credit is given to the source, this publication and the issue date. Permission is limited to use for non-commercial purposes for the benefit of the amateur radio community.

Permission for other purposes must be obtained in writing.

To submit items for the MHDXA newsletter send them to: Jack Ciaccia, WMØG at PO Box 21362, Boulder, CO 80308-4362 or Fax them to: 303-666-8613 or Email them to: WMØG@arri.net

Articles need to be to the editor by the end of the month. Please be sure to put your name at the top of the article. -- ed.

**The DXorcist Sez:**

Well, here's something I didn't think I'd be doing or saying I will have to resign as the editor and publisher of The MHDXA Wire. This will be my last newsletter edition. I have already resigned the same position as editor and publisher of "BARC's Bark", the monthly newsletter of the Boulder Amateur Radio Club. I've also relinquished my position as Emergency Coordinator of the Boulder County ARES District 11 group too.

No, it's not "burnout" or anything like that, nothing to do with the club, the members or anyone else. Strictly a decision based on my own current personal situation.

With my present position, I will not have the time to work on this newsletter (or any others) as before and therefore, I just don't feel I will be able to put out timely, quality products. I also will not have the time to spend on this or any other of my volunteer duties -- including Board positions.

Editing and publishing these newsletters has been a most educational and rewarding experience and I really enjoyed meeting the deadlines of these club news rags. I went into this hoping to learn a little about desktop publishing and I feel I have been more than amply satisfied with what I have experienced and learned through the editing and publishing of this and the other newsletters. I will miss working with those of you who have contributed faithfully to our club's news organ and I would like to again say that without the input from the MHDXA members who have provided the great articles and information, this wouldn't have been much of a publication.

I expect that whoever decides to pick up the responsibility of editing and publishing this newsletter will get the same wonderful cooperation.

I will still be an MHDXA club member and a BARC and BCARES member and in my shy and introverted way, I will still take part in their activities and even voice my suggestions and opinions from time to time.

anyone who takes on this newsletter as the people who published this newsletter before me have. I'm sure a new and refreshing look to the newsletter and its contents would be welcome too. Thanks to each and every one of you who have contributed to making The MHDXA Wire the best damn DX radio club newsletter around.

73 ES TU DE JACK WMØG ... --

Mills College Prof Crowned The Sexiest Nerd Alive In Contest

By Meredith May, San Francisco
Chronicle Staff Writer

Ellen Spertus strives to be a "geek fertility goddess" and the 32-year-old computer science professor was crowned "Sexiest Geek Alive" in an annual Silicon Valley pageant that drew 10,000 nerdy hopefuls.

Spertus showed up in a corset made from a circuit board and a slide rule strapped to her thigh in a leather holster, a la Sandra Bullock in "Miss Congeniality." The computer science prof from Mills College in Oakland trounced the competition at the San Jose Convention Center to become the first woman in the contest's two years to capture the title. Her resume was geekalicious:

She's "MIT cubed," meaning she has bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from the geekiest school in America -- Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her car is electric, of course, with the license plate V EQ IR. That's a reference to Ohm's Law of Electricity, V equals IR (volts equals current times resistance). "Sometimes when I'm driving in Silicon Valley, someone figures it out and gets really excited." And just for good measure, she told judges that she didn't learn to be a geek, she was born one. At 11, she ran electricity through her braces to attract the attention of a he-nerd. "It worked," she said. "He looked at me." Sadly, she hasn't seen the geek of her pre-pubescent dreams since he moved to Earlsboro, OK.

Spertus won a Caribbean cruise, geek style, which includes a conference of high-tech speakers to entertain the guests. She's taking her husband, a rocket scientist she met at an artificial intelligence group at the University of Washington. Although the attention has been a bit overwhelming, Spertus said she's glad she entered because it could inspire more women to get into the computer world.

MHDXA June Meeting Notes

The June 3rd meeting was called to order at the Blue Bonnet Cafe at 1:30pm. The members attending were: KØMP, WØDM, WØZA, WMØG, WØNF, W6NIZ + Sara, NØZM, NØKV, NØLFV, WØCP, WØTM, KAØCDN, WØJR, N2WW, NOØT, and NØZA.

KØMP welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming. KØMP thanked Ross NØZA for coming from Grand Junction and introduced him as the newest western slope card checker for Colorado. A moment of silence was given for members who has passed on. Guy W5GR, Dean ACØS, and Ed NMØC. Walt WØCP was asked to comment on any ARRL happenings. Walt commented on W4DR who won the DXCC Challenge DeSoto cup for 2000. ARRL is getting ready to allow cards for the 12 meter band, and is discussing the 30 meter situation. ARRL has a back log of DXCC applications and also getting info on how to implement the E-QLS's in the future. ARRL has spent one million dollars on new hardware and software to relieve the labor costs of hand computing DXCC info into the computer database. Also, Walt discussed the ARRL involvement on the problems of the 40 meter band for the WARC 2003.

Bill KØMP added that the MHDXA members should support the DXCC submission process to give ARRL funds to keep the DXCC going. Bill also added that Wayne N7NG told him in Dayton that the DXCC challenge is going better than ARRL thought it would. Bill gave the info that Paul NØAH asked the club to donate to VU-2WAP a KAM for RTTY, and all the MHDXA members who work RTTY would benefit. Bill got the KAM from eBay and sent it to a friend of VU2WAP in the US. The club cost was \$73.56.

The officers gave their reports, WØDM and WMØG had nothing to report, WØZA gave the treasurer's report of \$2553.41 in the bank. Bill KØMP thanked Tim NØZM for the \$20.00 donation from the Pikes Peak Swapfest which was held June 2nd in Monument, CO. Bill discussed the Club insurance from ARRL, which has been kindly donated, Yahoo sign up problems and the Rocky Mountain Convention in Utah. Also Bill gave the info on the Field Day site this year. Bill also noted no funds from the club will be used for Field Day and every participant will help in the effort. Also MHDXA board

members are going to come up with a fair plan to support Dxpeditons by rating where they are going, how many stations, and how long, etc. Walt WØCP noted the trends now are how better can a ham radio Dxpediton leave an entity when they leave. Examples are: donated equipment to radio clubs, donations to hospitals and donated time to various functions in certain countries.

The main topic was the incorporation of MHDXA as a Non-profit corporation. With this incorporation, the club can now buy insurance from ARRL to protect us from any lawsuits that might incur while doing club activities. This will help keep the Club Officers from getting sued directly. Club member Greg NDØV has drafted all the necessary paper work for us to file with the state and the IRS. Greg has also has revised the MHDXA bylaws. His fee has been donated and the cost is \$50.00 per year to keep MHDXA in good standing with the state and IRS. The members agreed to give Greg NDØV something for his efforts. When the elections are held in March 2002, there will be 5 MHDXA directors nominated to help guide the club. A vote was taken for incorporation and it was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18pm and everyone who remained watched the 4W/K7BV and K5K videos.

Respectfully submitted
Greg Dunn WØZA

MHDXA Treasurer's Report

May Balance forward:
Checking \$1324.52
Savings \$1228.89

Income: \$134.00
Savings interest: \$3.09 (thru May 30)

Expenses:
NDØV gift certificate \$50.00

Checking Balance: \$1408.52
Savings Balance: \$1231.98
Total balances: \$2640.50

Year to date income: \$1343.00
Savings \$14.29

Year to date expenses:
Dxpeditons \$373.56
Newsletter, QSLs, etc. \$179.95
Picnic \$27.38

Total YTD expenses \$580.89

The 2001 HAMfest Calendar

August - MARC - Mountain Amateur Radio Club Campfest/Swapfest -- Woodland Park, CO. Info at

<http://www.qsl.net/nx0g>

September 23 - BARCfest 2001 - Boulder Amateur Radio Club - Held at Boulder County Fairgrounds, Nelson & Hover. Roads, Longmont, CO. 8AM to 1PM. VE Exam begins at 10AM. Forums, Demos, Refreshments and Door Prizes. Admission \$5/person, \$10/table advance -- \$15 at the door. Talk-in on 146.70(-). Table reservation forms, County Fairgrounds map and BARCfest 2001 Flyer are available at:

<http://www.qsl.net/wm0g> then click on "BARCfest Info" in the index. Visit BARC Club page at:

<http://www.thisistrue.com/barc.html>

October 20 - RMRL HAMfest - 8 AM - 2 PM at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds, 15200 W. 6th Avenue, Golden, Colorado. Directions: Indiana exit from 6th Avenue. Talk-in: 144.62/145.22 MHz. Admission: \$4/person, \$10/table in advance and at the door. Four Grand Prizes, VE testing, ARRL forum, refreshments. Information: Ron Rose, NØMQJ, (303) 985-8692 or email to: n0mqj@arrl.net. Visit web page at: <http://rmrl.hamradios.com/hamfest/hamfest.htm>

MHDXA Meeting Sked

The MHDXA will have this years meetings at the Blue Bonnet Cafe, 457 S. Broadway, Denver, CO. Reminders for the meetings will be sent via email through eGroups two days in advance. The schedule is as follows:

Sept. 9
Dec. 2

There will be a cash bar available at 12pm lasting until 1 pm when we will have lunch. There will be a choice of two items on the menu. Both items will be the same price and will include the meal, soft drink or coffee or tea, tax and gratuity. The meal will be paid for at the time of order.

There will be a meeting and program after lunch.

73,
Bill, KØMP



Mining Your Logs for DX Gold

By Rod Vlach, NNØTT

Earning DXCC requires skill, attention to details, and lots of patience. Paying close attention to the details hidden in your own logs could help you earn that certificate sooner than expected.

Some of the DX prefixes that I learned as a teenager—such as KZ5, Panama Canal Zone—no longer exist. Today, The ARRL DXCC List contains more than 300 prefixes. It's not likely that most hams have memorized them all. I had a lot of learning and re-learning to do following my 27-year hiatus--1971 to 1998--from Amateur Radio.

I always have The ARRL DXCC List of entities and its "Allocation of International Call Signs" table close by. But even these do not always tell the whole story. The latter combines the prefixes of a country and its possessions under the country only. For instance, Guam, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and Alaska are not listed separately. All are

listed under United States only. That's why The ARRL DXCC List is so important.

Many possessions are listed individually, but even that list is not foolproof. I worked two somewhat rare DX stations and didn't even realize it--R1AND, Russian Antarctic Expedition, and HFØPOL, South Shetland Islands. At the time, I glanced at the International Call Sign prefix list, and saw that HF was a prefix for Poland. I assumed I had worked another Poland station, which is quite common. And R1AND was just another European Russian operator--or so I thought!

But one day, glancing at Antarctica on my ARRL Radio Map of The World, I noticed that R1AN is one of the prefixes for Antarctica! This made me realize that perhaps there was other unrealized DX lurking in my log.

I now have QSLs from these two stations, and one of them was part of my initial DXCC application. The R1AN prefix was not listed on the DXCC List, and HFØ was listed below other South Shetland Island prefixes, so I didn't spot it. Since then, I have been keeping close tabs on my DX prefixes.

secondary prefix is XQ-XR. A DXpedition sometimes may use a secondary prefix, such as Chile's Easter Island. The main prefix for Easter Island is CEØ, but the prefix could also be XQØ. Again, what might appear to be another Chilean station can actually be a semi-rare DX island. A quick check of the international prefix list at least will tell you which nation is represented, if a station is using a secondary prefix.

he number or letter following the prefix sometimes--but not always--will tell you which island is being represented. For instance VK9W, Australia's Willis Island, also could be AX9W. But sometimes a prefix like FO designates several islands--Clipperton, Austral, Marquesas, or French Polynesia. In that case you must obtain the location from the operator--or check for a listing in one of the DX newsletters or on the Web. Packet spots can be another source of information--but be careful! Incorrect or garbled information in DX spots is commonplace. For best results, make sure you copy the call sign correctly yourself.

While we're on this topic: Most of us have had trouble copying a call sign at one time or another, for the usual reasons associated with ham radio--QRM and QRN. A while

back, I wasn't sure if I had copied all of a DX station's call sign correctly. Even though I had made a QSO in the pileup, I couldn't be sure of the call sign before the operator signed off. I did see the call

sign I'd copied posted later on a Web site. This is one way the Internet can be a big help.

You should keep up with the latest DXCC information. Check for new DXCC entities that you may not be aware of. For example, Chesterfield Island was added to the list in 2000. It is listed as prefix FK (under the control of New Caledonia) on the DXCC List, but the first major DXpedition from Chesterfield in 2000 used the French secondary prefix of TX, not FK.

When Austral and Marquesas islands (FO)

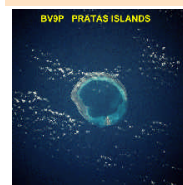
worked a DX that you thought you still needed for DXCC, an endorsement, or some other award. I discovered at least four new ones. Some night when the bands are mostly dead, start looking through your logs--and don't forget those contest logs. You might be pleasantly surprised to discover that you already worked another DX entity or two and didn't know it.

Editor's note: Rod Vlach, NNØTT, lives in Willmar, Minnesota. He holds DXCC, DXCC Y2K, WAC, WAS, and WAZ--all on CW. He earned his Extra class license in 1998 and obtained a vanity call sign this year. Readers may contact him at :

nn0tt@arrl.net .

(from www.ARRL.org)

BQ9P QSLs Could be "a Bit Slower" in Coming

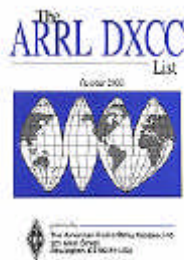


Steve Wheatley, KU9C, who's handling the BQ9P (Pratas) QSL duties, says he expects see BQ9P QSL cards by mid-July. He says, how-

ever, that due to family commitments, he'll be "a bit slower than normal" in getting QSLs out the door. He said he plans to start processing the cards immediately, but since he has some 6500 envelopes to fill". I don't anticipate having the cards out completely before mid-August." Wheatley said he would do the best he can to improve on that schedule. He asked that operators awaiting cards to be patient and to refrain from e-mail requests on the status of a particular card. "Someday I'll post a picture of what my 'process station' looks like," he said, "but with perhaps 12,000 envelopes in the queue, I can't find yours, but it takes an amount of time that I'd rather devote to sending cards!"--Steve Wheatley KU9C

Outgoing QSL Service Tops One Million Cards for 2001

The ARRL's Outgoing QSL Service Manager Martin Cook, N1FOC, reports that as of June 29, 2001, the service had shipped 1,043,316 QSL cards. This includes cards going to US incoming bureaus and cards sorted and mailed by contractor. "This is an increase of 135,456--15%--more cards than we had compiled at this time last year," Cook said. The Outgoing QSL Service handled 1,868,895 cards in 2000.



DX LADDER -- OR WHAT DO ALL THOSE NUMBERS MEAN ?

For many of us MHDXA DXers, we know exactly what the DX Ladder is and what those number represent. For others new to MHDXA or DXing in general, the matrix of numbers and awards may not be clear at all. For you Old Timers, bear with me, you may get something out of this, even if its just food for thought. For you new to DXing.....read on.

1. The first column is "CALL" which is, of course, your call and this assigns all the following information in the row to you.
2. "DX CHALLENGE" is new to our DX Ladder and actually consists of two columns. The first is whether you have the premier award in DXing. YES means you have submitted your QSL cards and have confirmation of the award from ARRL. NO can mean you haven't reached the 1000 qualified band/countries or you just haven't submitted your information to the ARRL. If you want to be at the top of our DX Ladder, make your submission to the ARRL! The number listed under this award is your total number of band/countries that qualify for this award, whether you have the minimum number of 1000 or not. The bands that qualify for this award are 160-6 meters with 30 meters and deleted countries omitted from the total.
3. "5BDXCC" states whether you have this award, YES or NO. It consists of at least 100 countries confirmed on 80,40,20,15 and 10 meters.
4. "DXCC" states whether you have at least one of the 15 possible DXCC awards for working 100 countries.
5. "5BWAZ" states whether you have this award for confirming all 40 CQ zones on 80,40,20,15 and 10 meters.
6. "WAZ" states whether you have this award confirming all 40 CQ zones on mixed bands.
7. "MIXED" is the total number of countries you have confirmed on all bands, including deleted countries.
8. "CW" is the total number of countries you have confirmed on this mode, including deleted countries.
9. "SSB" is the total number of countries you have confirmed on this mode, including deleted countries.
10. "RTTY" is the total number of countries you have confirmed on this mode, including deleted countries.
11. "160-6" each of the columns represents the total number of countries you have confirmed on each band, including deleted countries.

ARRL's DX CHALLENGE

The ARRL has a new award for DXers when it comes to measuring your DXing prowess. For many years, the ARRL's venerable DXCC program is the way we have measured ourselves when it comes to our DXing skills. With the addition of the "DX Challenge" award to this program, the League has raised the bar another notch. The rules, which have been taken directly from the ARRL web page, are as follows:

The DXCC Challenge Award is given for working and confirming at least 1000 DXCC Entities on any Amateur bands, 1.8 through 54 MHz (except 30 meters), for which a separate DXCC is available. The Challenge award is in the form of a plaque, which can be endorsed in increments of 500. Entities for each band are totaled to give the Challenge standing. Deleted entities do not count for this award. All contacts must be made after November 15, 1945. Credits on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 10 and 6 meter bands may be counted for the Challenge Award. (12 meters will not count towards the DXCC challenge until the next period starting October 1, 2001.)

The DXCC Challenge plaque will be available (at a cost to be established) beginning January 1, 2001. This award gives those who are Honor Roll members a reason to continue to be active DXers while waiting for the elusive "P5". The award also gives DXers who do not have Honor Roll status, the possibility to achieve the premier award in DXing. The award is essentially an open-ended challenge for all DXers that can be endorsed throughout their entire Amateur Radio life.

For many years, the MHDXA has used the "DX Ladder" as a way to measure ourselves with reference to our fellow club members. That Ladder included band/countries long before the DX Challenge award was established. If you have the required number of band/countries to qualify for the plaque, please support the program that has supported you in your DXing activities. With the new field card-checking program in place and the logging software available, you can have that distinctive bit of hardware hanging on your wall. For all the effort you have put into those countries, you deserve nothing less. For those who do not have the required number of band/countries, perseverance is the key. The reward is worth the effort.

MHDXA DX LADDER as of July, 2001

CALL	DX CHALLENGE	5BDXCC	DXCC	5BWAZ	WAZ	MIXED	CW	SSB	RTTY	160	80	40	30	20	17	15	12	10
K0CS	YES	1391	YES	YES	YES	347	235	337	0	192	263	236	0	255	0	208	0	264
K8ZTT	NO	1624	NO	YES	NO	338	330	337	0	33	156	261	151	334	192	304	135	278
K7XM	NO	1520	YES	YES	NO	339	336	330	128	26	146	244	97	325	158	304	100	262
KF0LA	NO	1423	YES	YES	NO	335	238	335	0	23	132	149	67	309	198	251	156	213
N0ZA	NO	1340	YES	YES	NO	336	309	328	0	27	148	251	95	319	26	290	8	244
N0KV	NO	1081	YES	YES	NO	291	218	273	0	21	131	139	15	225	93	203	77	175
N0AH	NO	1073	YES	YES	YES	304	259	257	0	42	156	154	54	208	105	167	77	162
WM0G	NO	942	NO	YES	NO	286	221	265	0	8	112	188	41	250	44	150	44	146
K0MP	NO	930	YES	YES	NO	302	240	223	115	63	102	127	37	191	52	195	43	156
W0DM	NO	707	NO	YES	NO	318	143	305	0	0	4	2	46	256	99	192	42	112
W0ZA	NO	705	NO	YES	NO	285	263	200	0	0	1	41	124	221	146	115	83	98
W6NIZ	NO	697	NO	YES	NO	342	1	341	0	0	34	30	0	281	2	181	2	165
N7NG	NO	674	YES	YES	NO	333	230	133	1	5	107	146	0	155	5	144	1	112
NA5S	NO	709	NO	NO	NO	253	186	199	0	1	54	99	44	129	52	151	61	162
W0QL	NO	669	NO	YES	NO	316	83	311	19	1	18	44	0	260	0	180	0	166
W0NF	NO	616	NO	YES	NO	252	148	200	43	33	56	55	22	140	35	136	38	122
N0ZM	NO	497	NO	NO	NO	250	86	225	0	13	26	31	5	135	36	99	30	127
KI0RH	NO	218	NO	YES	NO	135	0	135	0	0	0	1	0	42	3	45	31	95

DXCC Announces New 12 Meter Award

June 26, 2001

For Further Information Contact: Bill Moore, NC1L

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DXCC is pleased to announce the addition of the 12-Meter Single Band DXCC award. Applications for this award will be accepted beginning July 2, 2001. 12 Meter DXCC certificates will be dated but not numbered. 12 meter credits will not count toward the DeSoto Cup competition until October 1, 2001, but they will be included in the DXCC Challenge totals.

If you do not know what credits you have on 12 meters, you may contact DXCC for a copy of your record. Note: the 12-meter band was added to the printout on January 1, 2001. If you received a copy since then, you already have a copy of your 12-meter credits. This will help avoid duplicates and additional costs. If you have web access and can handle ADOBE (.pdf) files, contact DXCC at dxcc@arrl.org for a copy of your record. If you do not have web access, please send a note to DXCC along with \$2.00 for postage and handling. For further information, please contact DXCC at:

dxcc@arrl.org

MHDXAers,

Here is an excerpt from the press release:

"Applications for this [DXCC] award will be accepted beginning July 2, 2001.

12 Meter DXCC certificates will be dated but not numbered. 12 meter credits will not count toward the DeSoto Cup competition until October 1, 2001, but they will be included in the DXCC Challenge totals."

I guess I could have stated this more clearly by saying that "they will be included in the DXCC Challenge totals IMMEDIATELY", however, by using "but" to contrast when the 12 meter credits will be credited with the fact that they will not count for the DeSoto Cup competition (which is not directly related to the Challenge Award until October 1, 2001, is what was clear to me. In any event, you may claim 12 meter Qs for Challenge Award credit as of July 2, 2001.

73, Wayne, N7NG/1

WRTC 2002 TEAM CAPTAINS N2IC/Ø STEVE LONDON PICKED FROM WEST

WRTC2002 Press release #3
from Ari Korhonen, OH1EH
Website: <http://www.wrtc2002.org>
on July 10, 2001

PRESS RELEASE #3 2nd July 2001 USA Team Captains

The 13 US contest clubs have done an excellent job and nominated the following testers to eventually lead the ten US teams to Finland in July 2002.

USA West:

N2IC Steven London N5KO Robert (Trey) Garlough N5RZ Ralph Bowen N6MJ Daniel Craig N6RT Douglas Brandon

USA East:

K1AR John Dorr NT1N David (Dave) Patton KQ2M Robert (Bob) Shohet W4AN Bill Fisher K5ZD Randall (Randy) Thompson

Team Croatia

Congrats to Croatia for being the first one to select a national team! The following testers will represent Croatia in WRTC2002: 9A9A Zdravko (Emil) Balen 9A3GW Robert Orehoci

73 Ari, OH1EH

MHDXA YahooGroups List Server



For members of the Mile High DX Association and it's friends.

This YahooGroup Internet list server is for the purpose of keeping the members informed as to the activities of the club and maintain an archive of information pertaining to MHDXA including: the membership list, past newsletters, files pertaining to DXing and contesting, internet links to other interesting DX and contest oriented sites, etc.

Addresses

Post Messages To:

mhdxa@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe:

mhdxa-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Unsubscribe:

mhdxa-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

List owner:

mhdxa-owner@yahoogroups.com

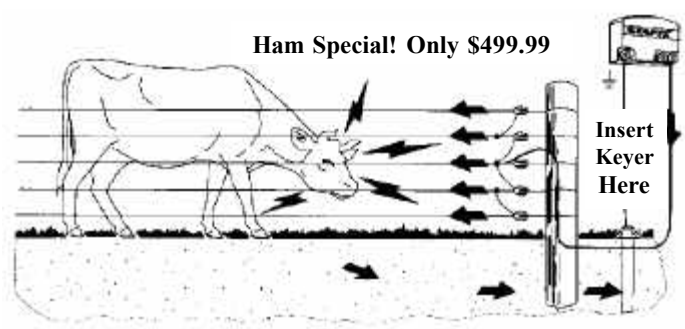
URL to this page:

<http://www.yahoogroups.com/group/mh-dxa>

Please sign on to www.yahoogroups.com and set yourself up for access to this server.

New! - THE THUNDERBOLT 2001 TRANSCEIVER - WITH DSP!

THIS HAS TO BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PRODUCT WE'VE EVER OFFERED!
Original THUNDERBOLT 2000 proved beyond doubt that leading radio amateurs demand more...
THAT'S WHY ShaZamaHamaTronics DEVELOPED THE NEW THUNDERBOLT 2001
TRANSCEIVER WITH REVERSE DSP



IF LOW-COST, PENETRATING, DX from a LOW PROFILE INSTALLATION appeals to you, then you need look no further than the ShaZamaHamaTronics THUNDERBOLT 2001. No other Amateur Transceiver radiates a HIGHER NOISE FLOOR or A MORE DISTINCTIVE SIGNAL than the THUNDERBOLT 2001 that has DOMINATED EVERY HF BAND we've worked ! You loved the Original THUNDEBOLT 2000 Transmitter with its exclusive MORSE-MODULATED QRN MODE... Now we've added A * REVERSE-DSP ENHANCED * RECEIVER TO ELIMINATE INTERFERING NON-QRN SIGNALS GIVING YOU 100% SOLID COPY, EVEN DURING THE HEAVIEST CONTEST WEEKEND CONDITIONS !!!

CALL 1-900-I-AM-A-LID TO ORDER YOURS TODAY !!!

"Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire? - Welcome to Who Wants to Marry A Software Engineer?"-- Silicon Valley's Newest Game Show

Here's your contestant questionnaire

1) What quality do you value most in your partner?

- a) A sense of humor.
- b) Emotional maturity.
- c) High bandwidth.

2) When you get home at the end of the day, you like to:

- a) Turn on the Silicon Valley Business report, and eat dinner.
- b) Hook up to your ISP, and check out the hit count on your web page.
- c) Recharge your cell phone, laptop, and wireless modem, change batteries on your pager, and resynchronize your Palm Pilot and home computer.

3) Your ideal partner is:

- a) Interesting and attractive.
- b) Emotionally mature and understanding.
- c) Extensible and polymorphic.

4) In spiritually difficult times, you often turn to:

- a) Dilbert.
- b) Kernighan and Ritchie.
- c) `comp.lang.c++`

5) If go over to your partner's place and think its a mess, you would:

- a) Complain to him/her, and tell them to tidy up.
- b) Call a maid service.
- c) make clean

6) What kind of car would you like to buy next, and why?

- a) A BMW, because people will see that I am rich and successful.
- b) A Jeep, because it's youthful, rugged, and won't break down.
- c) A Honda, because the engine control computer can be hacked for more horse-power.

7) Name the 4 essential food groups:

- a) Fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy.
- b) Coffee, chocolate, takeout, ice cream.
- c) `rec.food.cooking`, `rec.food.veg`, `ba.food`, `alt.food.chocolate`

8) You like to travel with your partner because:

- a) You share new experiences together.
- b) You learn about each other in different situations.
- c) You get more use out of your wireless modem.

9) How would you describe your attitude towards religion?

- a) "I'm not particularly religious."
- b) "I believe in emacs, but can use vi."
- c) "I think emacs can be configured as a full IDE."

10) You think a relationship is ready for a permanent commitment because:

- a) You've successfully struggled through several years of good and bad times.
- b) You're already living together, so you might as well tie the knot.
- c) You finally got your local network configured just right.

11) If you and your partner got married, you would want to:

- a) Keep your last name.
- b) Change your last name.
- c) Combine your names with a hyphen.
- d) Combine your names with an underscore.

12) You and your partner think it's time to have children when:

- a) Your stock options are vested.
- b) You've agreed on the requirements and design.
- c) You've come up with a good naming convention.
- d) You really understand the use of multiple inheritance.

25 Signs That You've Had Way Too Much of This High Tech World

1. You just tried to enter your password on the microwave.
2. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
3. You call your son's beeper to let him know it's time to eat. He e-mails you back from his bedroom, "What's for dinner?"
4. Your daughter sells Girl Scout Cookies via her web site.
5. You chat three times a day with a stranger from South Africa, but you haven't spoken with your next door neighbor yet this year.
6. You check the ingredients on a can of chicken noodle soup to see if it contains Echinacea.
7. You check your blow-dryer to see if it's Y2K compliant.
8. Your grandmother clogs up your e-mail inbox asking you to send her a JPEG file of your newborn so she can create a screen saver.
9. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home
10. Every commercial on television has a website address at the bottom of the screen.
11. You buy a computer and a week later it's out of date & sells for half the price you paid.
12. The concept of using real money, instead of credit or debit, to make a purchase is foreign to you.
13. Cleaning up the dining room means getting the fast food bags out of the back seat of your car.
14. Your reason for not staying in touch with family is that they don't have e-mail.
15. You consider second-day air delivery painfully slow.
16. Your dining room table is now your flat filing cabinet.
17. Your idea of being organized is multiple-colored Post-it notes.
18. You hear most of your jokes via e-mail instead of in person.
19. You get an extra phone line so you can get phone calls.
20. You turn off your Modem and get this awful feeling, as if you just pulled the plug on a loved one.
21. You get up in morning and go online before getting your coffee.
22. You wake up at 2 a.m. to go to the bathroom and check your e-mail on your way back to bed.
23. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :-)
24. You're reading this.
25. Even worse; you're going to forward it!

DON'T FORGET! - MHDXA 2 Meter Net Meets Monday Evenings on CRA Repeaters

Date: Every Monday evening

Time: 7:00PM - 8:00PM MST (GMT-07:00) The MHDXA Weekly 2 Meter Net meets at 7:00 PM every Monday evening on the CRA repeater 147.225 (+). The 145.460 (-) CRA repeater in Boulder can also be accessed, as they can be linked - 11* (up) 10* (down). Anyone who has an interest in DXing is welcome to join in on this open net.

Please tune in this informative and fun DX Net on Monday evenings.

ARRL FIELD DAY 2001

On the weekend of June 24, the MHDXA participated in the 2A class of Field Day. The operation was held approximately 90 miles west of Denver in the Lost Park area. This area is a remote area forested with pines and aspen at an elevation of 9800 feet above sea level. The area has no amenities such as restrooms or water.

The initial ideas came several months ago for the Colorado effort. Barry Mitchell, NØKV had the idea for a site in Lost Park and so he and I traveled up to the area on Memorial Day weekend to pick out a site. We found a large open area with good take-off angles in most directions and also alternate areas if our primary site was taken. With the number of campers out for the holiday weekend, we thought we would see many people, but surprisingly there were few.

Even before the site was picked out, the station configurations were being thought out and more equipment purchased. Larry, N2WW had the idea of changing our low band antennas from our usual single band verticals with elevated radials to inverted Vees. This would get our take-off angle a little higher for U.S. work. Larry and I found, after running QRP on the Fox hunt all winter that the dipole on my C-4 at 60 feet out performed the 87-foot Titanex for U.S. stations. Of course the opposite is true for DX. We also added a VHF/UHF station. We changed our format of each station from "mode" to "band" based, much like a Dxpediton. Our main purpose was still to have fun, however this would help increase our efficiency and point total. With more equipment/antennas, my 18 foot "Wells Cargo" trailer was brought into service.

After we had chosen the site, Greg, WØZA and Larry, N2WW made the trip to Parker to help make up the 80 and 40 meter inverted Vee antennas and to cut the guy ropes for each antenna. Larry also brought his laptop computer to use on the VHF/UHF station. We checked SWR on both antennas and found them to be very satisfactory across the entire band using the IC-756s tuner. I used the ferrite toroid baluns on each Vee, which proved to be very efficient. Next we tested a five-element 6-meter Yagi, a 13 element 2 meter Yagi, and a A-3 tri-bander. All were in good shape.

About a week before Field Day, the latest TR contest software was loaded and set up for Field Day in the three laptops and CW

keying cables checked. The three transceivers were checked and all the peripheral equipment was assembled such as keys, headsets, pens, scratch paper, coax, ropes, test equipment, connectors, tools, antennas, masts, etc. The oil was changed in the generator and tested for about ½ an hour. I would bring one of the station tents, Greg, WØZA and Barry, NØKV would bring the other station tents. After all camping and radio equipment was packed and antennas broken down, Pam, WØNF and I loaded the trailer and pickup. We wanted to get to the



Greg, WØZA Putting the final touches on the operating tent with a little supervision.

site early to make sure we had our primary area. We arrived on the site at noon on Thursday. Greg, WØZA and Larry, KIØRH arrived later that afternoon. We set up our tents and got some sleep. We knew Friday would be a long day of setting up.

While we are sleeping, let me tell you about the stations we would be setting up the next day. We would have two HF stations. Our 80/20/10 meter station would consist of an Icom 756, ICE bandpass filters, laptop computer, Heil headset, Schurr CW key, keying cable, A-3 triband Yagi, 80 meter inverted Vee and a 500 foot Beverage receiving antenna.

Our 40/15 meter station would consist of much the same equipment as the other HF station. An Icom 756PRO would be used and the antennas would consist of an A-3 Yagi, 40 meter inverted Vee and a 500 foot Beverage.

The VHF/UHF station would consist of a FT-847 transceiver on 6 and 2 meters with the antennas consisting of a 5 element Yagi on 6 and a 13 element Yagi on 2. A laptop and CW keying cable were also in use.

The generator used was a Honda 5KW and we used about 10 gallons of gasoline during Field Day.

After a leisurely morning and more people coming in, we were ready to start work at

noon on Friday. Everyone pitched in with the set-up. Greg, WØZA was especially helpful to me as he was involved in the preliminary work done back home with the antennas. He would supervise the erection of the inverted Vees while others were working with the Yagis. As usual, Barry, NØKV was a big help with the A-3s as we have a "little" experience with them from our T32 days. That evening we enjoyed some of Pat's, NØLFV, cooking and got some rest. Tomorrow at noon Field Day would start and we still had two Beverages to put up.

We had been very lucky with the weather. Some nasty looking lightening storms had passed us by and headed out to the plains. Saturday was another beautiful day. I had brought the usual tomato stakes for temporary Beverages but as I looked at the available real estate I saw the large grove of aspens behind our camping area AND they were in the right direction....east. Another plus was that the area was running down hill from our tents. The best of all worlds. I had decided not to terminate the ends of the Beverages so we would get both east and west directions. This would save us putting up 4 Beverages with some sacrifice of noise coming from both east and west. We were



Paul, NOØT and daughter Laura, AD4PU racking up the CW score in the 40/15 meter tent.

soon on a "walk through the woods", stringing the long wires through the grove using the aspens themselves for supports with a little help from electrical tape at key points. The stations were set up with about one hour to go until the start of Field Day. We started the generator with one pull of the cord and at noon on Saturday KØAB was QRV on 80-2 meters.

Just before Field Day started, Paul, NOØT and his daughter Laura, AD4PU joined us and told me that they could only be with us

(see "Field Day" cont. on Page 10)

("Field Day" cont. from Page 9)

for a few hours, so they opened up the 40/15 meter station. Laura and Paul are very proficient on CW and it was a pleasure to watch them operate. I hope they attend more MHDXA functions. Larry, N2WW opened the 80/20/10 meter station. Both stations were on CW and the rates climbed. The VHF/UHF station was pulling in contacts on 6 meters as far away as Louisiana. For a few, these were the first 6 meter contacts they had ever made.



Left to Right; Eric, KØEV, Sara, Melanie Van Horn, Pat NØLFV, Tim NØZM, Pam WØNF (waving) and Jenny Van Horn

Anyone who operated had a choice of mode, however CW was by far the preferred mode by most operators this year. 10 meters was really down this year as was 15 meters to a smaller degree. We were pleasantly surprised by the low bands however. After sundown on Saturday, Barry, NØKV opened up on 80 meters for a few hours with Greg, WØZA taking over for an all night run. Larry, N2WW was on 40 meters all night. The Beverages were working for us and we must have been loud as the runs on the low bands continued all night. The inverted

Veas were certainly a good choice. Our hats are off to Greg and Larry for the effort they put in on the low bands. At 11pm, Hank, W6NIZ informed us that 6 meters was now closed. Saturday and Sunday, we were treated to great cooking by Sara, a friend of Hank, Jenny Van Horn and Pat Mitchell, NØLFV. Phil, WA5JTI brought a plate of sandwiches. Hugh, KØQD, brought donuts. Everyone chipped in to do their share. During the times when we were not eating, the girls had a lively game of Yahtzee in their own special "game" tent. The kids were treated to rides on Barry's, NØKV, All Terrain Vehicle.

Early Saturday night we had an incident that could have been a real disaster but for some quick thinking by members of our group. Without going into too much detail, there was a propane heater operating in one of the tents which caught fire. We got the fire out with some damage to the tarp on the floor, a lawn chair and the screening of the tent. The fumes of the burning/melting screen and chair were very noxious to breathe. A leak in the gas fittings of the heater was the culprit. For a few moments we had a sheet of flame 6 feet tall in the tent. The fire was put out and everyone was fine. There was a similar heater in the other HF tent that we quickly turned off and set outside the tent. We were a little chilly the rest of the night, but we were safe. I mention this only as a warning to others that might be using heaters, or for that matter anything that may cause a fire, which includes amateur radio equipment. As for me, from now on, I will always have a fire extinguisher at hand in every operating position. Although, we don't need to use the insurance the club just purchased, it is for these reasons that the active amateur radio club should be incorporated AND have the ARRL spon-

sored insurance. Nuff' said.

When the smoke cleared (literally), we had our best point total in the past three years and we had over 1000 QSOs more than last year. Here are the QSO totals (pay particular attention to 80 and 40 meters).

80CW	233
80SSB	10
40CW	583
40SSB	90
20CW	622
20SSB	245
15CW	386
15SSB	70
10CW	30
10SSB	86
6CW	3
6SSB	89
2CW	1
2SSB	3

The point total was 8900, which compared with 4200 points the year before.

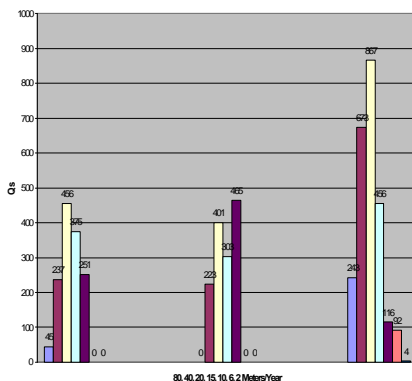
Once again the support from our membership and friends was outstanding. Here is a list of our team:

NØKV, NØLFV, WØNF, KIØRH, N2WW/UA6HZ, W6NIZ and Sara, NØZM, WØZA, WØDM, KØEV and Jenny, WA5JTI, KØQD, NOØT, AD4PU, KØMP

I want to thank everyone who participated and a special thanks to NØKV, WØZA, N2WW and WØNF for their actions above and beyond the call of duty. No MHDXA funds were used for Field Day. The generosity of our team was outstanding. WELL DONE!

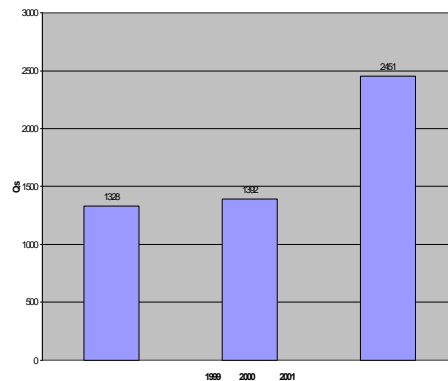
73,
Bill, KØMP
MHDXA

QSO's/band: 1999, 2000, 2001



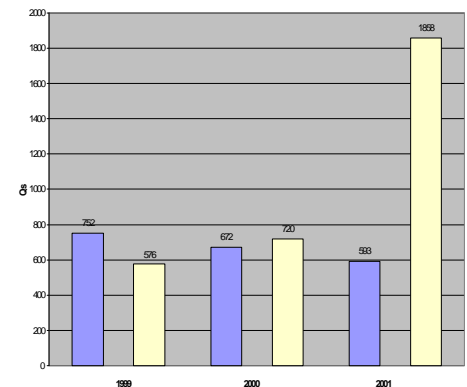
QSO's/band -- 1999, 2000 and 2001

Field Day QSO's



Field Day QSO's -- 1999, 2000 and 2001

Field Day: SSB (blue) vs CW



SSB Q's (blue) vs. CW Q's -- 99', 00' & 01'

Glenn and Karen Schultz
Invite you to
OPEN GARDEN
Saturday July 21st 2001
9 A.M. til 3 P.M.
Bring a Friend

The Garden is open to the public
Make plans to visit the Cat Lady's Garden on Saturday July 21st 2001 for the peak of our bloom season. Thousands of daylilies will be in bloom - the latest introductions from the leading hybridizers plus many old favorites. This is one of the largest collections of Hemerocallis (Daylilies) in the Rocky Mountain Region.
AN AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY DISPLAY GARDEN
We will have daylilies for sale again this year. They are established in 1 gallon pots and will sell for \$10.00 each. Many different cultivars will be available. A portion of our sales will be donated to The Cat Care Society for their building fund. This is your chance to add some new plants to your garden while helping us help homeless cats.

We are located southeast of the intersection of I-70 and Chambers Road. Look for a large Ham Radio tower. The garden is wheelchair accessible. Refreshments will be served.

15643 East 35th Place
Aurora, Colorado
303-366-9689

SOME DX RAMBLINGS....

3C, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Martin, 3C5J continues to be active from Equatorial Guinea on 15 and 20 Meters CW/SSB from an oil platform. It is great that he is an active operator, but it would please many if the operation were from the mainland for DXCC. His activity is around 1300-1630z and again between 0530 and 0830z. QSL via MWØBRO.

4W, EAST TIMOR

Thor, 4W6MM can usually be heard on 15 or 20 Meters a few kHz up from the band edge between 0930 and 1300z.

5R, MADAGASCAR (IOTA Activity)

Jacques, F6BUM will be active here from September 2-27th. He will also operate from Ste Marie Island (AF-090) from September 3-7th and from Nosy Be (AF-057), September 23-26th.

EP, IRAN

Yar, EP3SP can occasionally be found on 20 Meters CW/SSB/RTTY between 1500 and 2030z. Check above 14200 (SSB) or 14090 (RTTY) and 14002 (CW) kHz. QSL via W3HC. Mohsen, EP3SMH is also active and usually listens for the U.S. on 15 Meters. Check around 21300 kHz and above after 1730z. For Europe, listen on 10 Meters around 28495 kHz beginning around 1730z. QSL via CBA.

EX, KYRGYZSTAN

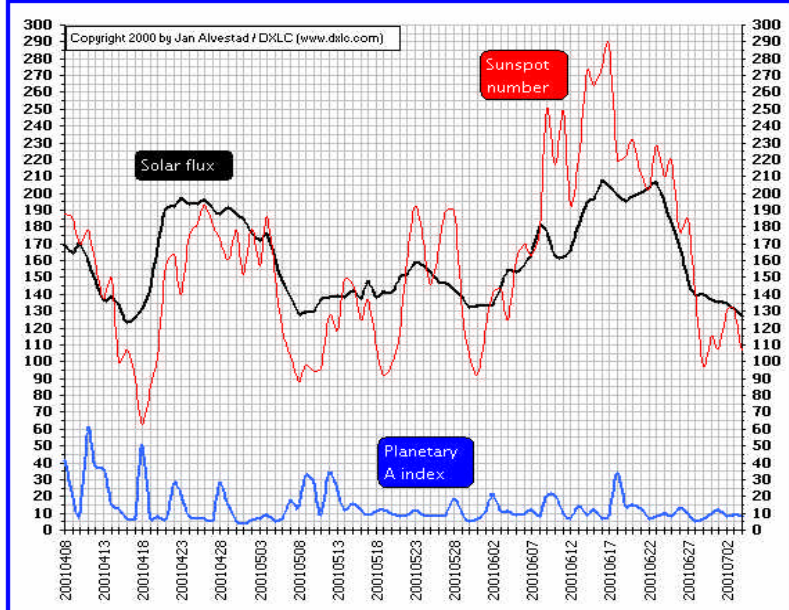
John Janssen, K4ANA is now living and working in Kyrgyzstan. He is on the air as EX/K4ANA. Anyone needing John's card from EX-land can QSL via the 4-Land bureau to K4ANA or the 2-Land bureau to W2PS. Direct requests can be mailed to: Ben Bond, W2PS, 55 Eberle Road, Latham, NY 12110 (w2ps@nycap.rr.com for E-mail requests).

FP, ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON

Pete, NN9K; Peg, KB9LIE and Paul, K9OT will be active from Miquelon (NA-032) July 26th thru August 1st, including the IOTA Contest July 28-29th. Activity before the contest will be mainly on the WARC bands and PSK31 using FP/home call outside of the contest and FP/K9WM during the contest. They plan to operate 80-10 Meters with a possibility of 6m CW /SSB plus PSK31. QSL to home call signs, the FP/K9WM call sign QSL's to NN9K.

(from OKDXA newsletter)

**The
Last 8
Weeks of
Sunspot
Numbers
Plus
Solar Flux
and
the
Planetary
A Index
(Via The
DX
Listener's
Club)**





6360 S. Oak Way
Littleton, CO 80127

*Amateur Radio
A National Policy
Public Law # 103-408*

First Class Mail

2001 Mile High DX Association Membership / Renewal Application

Please supply all the information requested below :

☐ Individual Membership ☐ Family Membership

Date: _____ Call: _____

Name: _____

Other Family Member Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____

Zip Code + 4: _____ ± _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

☐ Check here if you want to be included on our Email notification list of meetings/events.

License Class: _____ {E,G,T or none}

Circle Awards Earned

ARRL Member: _____ (Yes or No)

WAS

WAZ

Number of Countries Confirmed _____

DXCC Honor Roll

Number of Countries Worked _____

5 Band DXCC



REMINDER: Have You Paid Your 2001 Dues Yet?

Dues are only \$ 20 / year
Family Membership \$ 25 / year

Make checks payable to MHDXA
and Mail to :

MHDXA Membership
c/o Greg Dunn, WØZA
6360 S. Oak Way
Littleton, CO 80127

NETWORK WITH OTHER MHDXA
MEMBERS AND WATCH YOUR
COUNTRY COUNT SOAR !
IF YOU LOVE TO DX – WE WANT YOU!