



# The ADXA Quarterly

Volume 19 Issue 2

Promoting DX and DXing throughout Arkansas

June 2011

## ADXA OFFICERS

Bill Harper, K9IW  
PRESIDENT

Frank Fahrlander, N7FF  
VICE PRESIDENT

E. Glenn Wolf, Jr.  
N5RN  
SECRETARY/TREASURER

## ADXA MEETING MINUTES

**T**he 2010 first quarter meeting of the ADXA was held on Saturday, home of Earl and Sharon Smith.

Those that signed the sign-in sheet included the following members: Glenn Wolf, N5RN, Jim Burkhart, AD5BV, Dave Jacques, K5DV, Lenny Mendel, K5OVC, Jim Barron, WB5AAA, Pat Patterson, W5VY, Earl Smith, N5ZM, Ollie Gade, W5GO, and Dennis Schaefer, W5RZ.

Guests included Jonathan Setcer, N5QJ, and Patty Patterson,

Due to various reasons, Earl, N5ZM led the meeting which was called to order at 1:06 PM.

Earl recognized our guests—Jonathan, N5QJ, and Patty Patterson.

## Health and Welfare

The passing of Norma Mendel was noted. W5BPT was having a difficult time this week due to no circulation in his legs. President Bill Harper has been diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Treatments have begun. K5UZ's wife is doing well.

A motion by K5DV was made to have the minutes as presented in the newsletter be accepted. The motion was seconded by WB5AAA and the motion carried.

N5RN gave the treasurer's report. K5DV motioned that they be approved. N5ZM seconded. The motion carried. The treasurer's report was accepted as

presented.

### Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

### New Business

With Paul Wynne's passing (AF5M) we discussed what we are going to do with the club call AD5XA. This needs to be discussed some more as I don't believe the issue was ever resolved. Possible options: (1) let it expire and not renew it. (2) cancel it or (3) update the records to reflect a new trustee. N5RN was to contact ARRL for guidance on updating the trustee

### DXpedition support requests:

**T32**—Christmas Island

**4A4A**—WB5AAA made a motion; K5DV seconded and the motion carried.

**T31**—Baker Island—W5VY to check with K9IW.

### AI5P Prizes where awarded for FM:

11 points possible.

Winners:

SSB—W5BPT;

CW-K9IW;

Mixed: N5ZM

There being no more business. A motion was made to adjourn by K5DV. Seconded by W5RZ and the meeting adjourned at 1:36 PM.

## Mark Your Calendars

These are the dates for future ADXA meetings.

June—3rd Saturday (18 June 2011) - The Whole Hog Café in Hot Springs, AR

September—3rd Saturday (17 September 2011) - Spillway Pavilion, Hot Springs, AR

## Dayton Hamvention 2011 Experiences

Frank Fahrlander, W7FF



Another Dayton Hamvention has passed and even though I didn't win any prizes, it was a good one, from my point of view.

Bill, K9IW, and Ken, K5ID, and I drove the 13 hours to the Hara Arena and were surrounded by flea market tables just about as early as possible. While there had been significant rain the day before the start of the show, it stayed away during the whole event. The only real problem during the show was the shut down of essentially all of the rest rooms on Saturday. That problem was fixed by the end of the day.

There were approximately 18,000 participants this year, based on the ticket numbers that were called on Sunday. There was the usual assortment of vendors and difficulty to get to them all in one day. I managed to spend several hundred bucks on things for my antenna projects as well as a new HT. I renewed my ARRL membership and received the 2010 ARRL Periodicals CD.

The DX Dinner was a real treat as always. Besides an enjoyable talk by N1ND, it was again really en-

joyable meeting other hams at our dinner table. Don, VE7DS, was celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year in the hobby and was the only person who won a prize at our table. I was able to spend some quality time with my old buddy, W8HFY. Although I've known Dave for 56 years, I was surprised when he began speaking in Hindi with Sarla, VU2SWS. I found that Dave had lived in Delhi for several months. It was delightful listening to Sarla and seeing her interest in the hobby. Richard, K5NA, and his wife were also at our table. I've worked Richard many times. After hearing about his station and antenna systems, I now know why his 160M signal nearly pegs my S meter. Richard won the DX count-down at our table but the final DXer left standing in the room had a count of 390! I bet many of you probably know who that was.

I attended the ARRL Youth forum. Again, Carole, WB2MGP, and her volunteer staff, did a great job putting on this event. Eleven kids gave very well done talks that covered subjects like scouting and ham radio, working contests, QRP building, D-Star repeaters, handicap hams, hiking and ham radio and mountain top ham radio. MFJ and other vendors were very generous once again and donated some really good gifts for the kids and the drawings. A surprise visit to the Youth Forum by Colonel Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, was great. Doug gave a humorous and inspiring impromptu talk to the youngsters. I recorded his talk and I'll be bringing it to the next ADXA club meeting

## Words of Wisdom

### From the President—Bill, K9IW

It was a pleasure to see some of you in Dayton again this year. I remember seeing N7FF, W5VY, N5RN, and WB5AAA. I suspect there were more of you there that I didn't see (or remember). It was fun seeing several of my old NIDXA friends there as well. No new ham gear for me this year but I did buy a new scanner.

I decided earlier this year that I would like to try for RTTY DXCC in 2011. I had only a couple of dozen confirmations before that. Thanks to LoTW, it went faster than I thought and I had 102 confirmed by the

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time Dayton rolled around so the very first thing I did at Hamvention was get in line to get my cards checked. I looked to my left and there was Jim, WB5AAA doing the same thing. It was fun working the 100 and I'll probably work a DXpedition here and there on RTTY but I don't think I'll be trying for Honor Roll or challenging Earl's mark.

I have completed my chemo (5 sessions) as of June 2 and the Doc says my PET scan looked "really good". Now I get a drug called Rituxan (still an IV) every couple of months for about two years. It looks like I have reason for optimism.

Hope to see you all at Whole Hog in Hot Springs Saturday.

....Bill, K9IW

### **Martinique - The FM/AI5P Story**

2010 was the first time in a number of years that I had not operated overseas somewhere. The CYO Sable Island effort in October didn't come off so my operating streak was broken. I decided to get an early start on 2011 and Martinique was chosen. I had wanted to come here in 2004 but had to return home from Guadeloupe after getting ill. I got in touch with Laurent Bellay, FM5BH, about renting his contest station and soon the trip was arranged for January 2011.

Getting to Martinique is a two-day process - Albuquerque to Dallas to Miami (Overnight) to San Juan to Martinique.

All went smoothly and Laurent kindly met me at the airport and we soon had my rental car and were off to his home in Ducos, only about 10 minutes from the airport. The radio room, along with a small bedroom and bathroom, is in the

basement area of the house and quite comfortable. I was greatly impressed by the station - a Yaesu FT-1000MP Mark V with an OM2500 amplifier from the Slovak Republic. And the antennas - Wow! A 20 meter tower with a two element 40 meter Cushcraft beam below which was a 14 element 10-15-20 Force 12 C31XR beam. He had just put up a Spider Beam 15 meters high which had 14 elements of wire covering 10-12-15-17 and 20 meters. To round off the antennas an 80 meter inverted V (apex at 18 meters) and an Inverted L on 160 meters with a K9AY Loop 160 meter receiving antenna. All this on a city lot! Very impressive.

I operated quite a lot between tourist runs in my car or on the bus. I didn't hear anything on 12 or 10 meters and I elected not to operate on 160. I had a total of 3846 contacts - 2749 (71%) on CW and 1097 (29%) on SSB.

A number of contacts with the ADXA group. Interesting stations contacted included: HS0ZDY, 3Y8XSA (Norwegian Polar Station), 7P8JW, VP8LP, 7Z1HL, 4K8M, XT2RJA, H44MS, SV9ANK (80m), FY5HH, A45XR, TK5IH, GD4RAG, and AH7C (80m). Locals worked included FM1HN, FM4NB, FM4LV, FM5WD, FM5DN, FM5WE, FM5AN and another visitor F5LBG/FM/QRP. Lots of local activity!

Martinique is 50 miles long and about 22 miles wide and mostly mountainous. The north of the island is covered by an enormous rain forest; bananas and pineapples are grown here, while sugarcane dominates the rest of the island.

Columbus charted the island in 1493 and it was originally inhabited by Arawak and Carib peoples. French colonists began arriving in 1635 and it has been French ever since except for three brief periods of British occupation.

Although labor-intensive, sugar soon became the focus of cultivation with slaves imported from Africa to work the plantations. It became the most precious of all French colonies in the 18th

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century due to the sugar trade. Of course, a great by-product of the sugar industry is rum! In the 1930s there were over 130 distilleries on the island! Today there are about a dozen producing a variety of rum products. I saw one bottle at the airport costing over \$ 300!

I visited the capital city of Fort-de-France one day - it was a Saturday market day and was quite a show. Lots of French-speaking tourists. I was told there are four direct flights a day throughout the year between Paris and Martinique. I only heard one other tourist speaking English the entire time I was there. The major sights of the capital city are Fort Saint Louis (now a French naval base), the harbor, the Cathedral of Saint-Louis, and the Bibliotheque Schoelcher (or Schoelcher Library) - a omanesque Byzantine treasure constructed for the Paris Exposition of 1889, then dismantled and shipped to Martinique piece by piece. Amazing!

Every day I drove out through the countryside looking at the beautiful beaches and mountainous terrain. I managed to drive over 400 miles during my stay - from the four lanes to the winding back roads. Sights included the famous Diamond Rock - a volcanic rock about a mile out to sea where the English stationed cannons in the 18th century (H.M.S. Diamond Rock); the 4575-foot Mount Pele in the north which erupted in 1902 killing almost 30,000 people in the town of Saint-Pierre; Jardin de Balata (Balata gardens), a tropical botanical park around a restored Creole house; and the quite beautiful Sacre Coeur de Balata church, a replica of the well-known basilica that dominates Montmarte in Paris. Museums visited included a Shell Museum (best I've ever seen), the Museum of Rum (no samples!), Museum of Vulcanology in St. Pierre, Museum of Sugarcane, Museum of Coffee and Coca and the Museum of History and Ethnography. I even found a McDonalds complete with drive-through - an equivalent of the Quarter Pounder meal was \$ 10.95 !

I was surprised by the weather with rain showers

almost daily (this is the dry season). But that didn't dampen the visit nor the operating. Laurent and his wife, both teachers, were great hosts and the end of the visit came quickly. I look forward to returning someday! Rick AI5P



## Card Checking

Earl will be available to check cards as usual before the meeting. If you want to have your cards checked please arrive at 11:00. Also, let Earl know that you are going to be bringing cards.

## Accomplishments

On June 8, 2011, N5RN received LOTW confirmation of TJ9PF on 40M RTTY to finally confirm 100 countries on 40M.

N5RN won the January 2011 MOLP category of the ARRL RTTY Roundup contest.

N5ZM claimed 5th place in the 2010 CQ DX Marathon (unlimited)

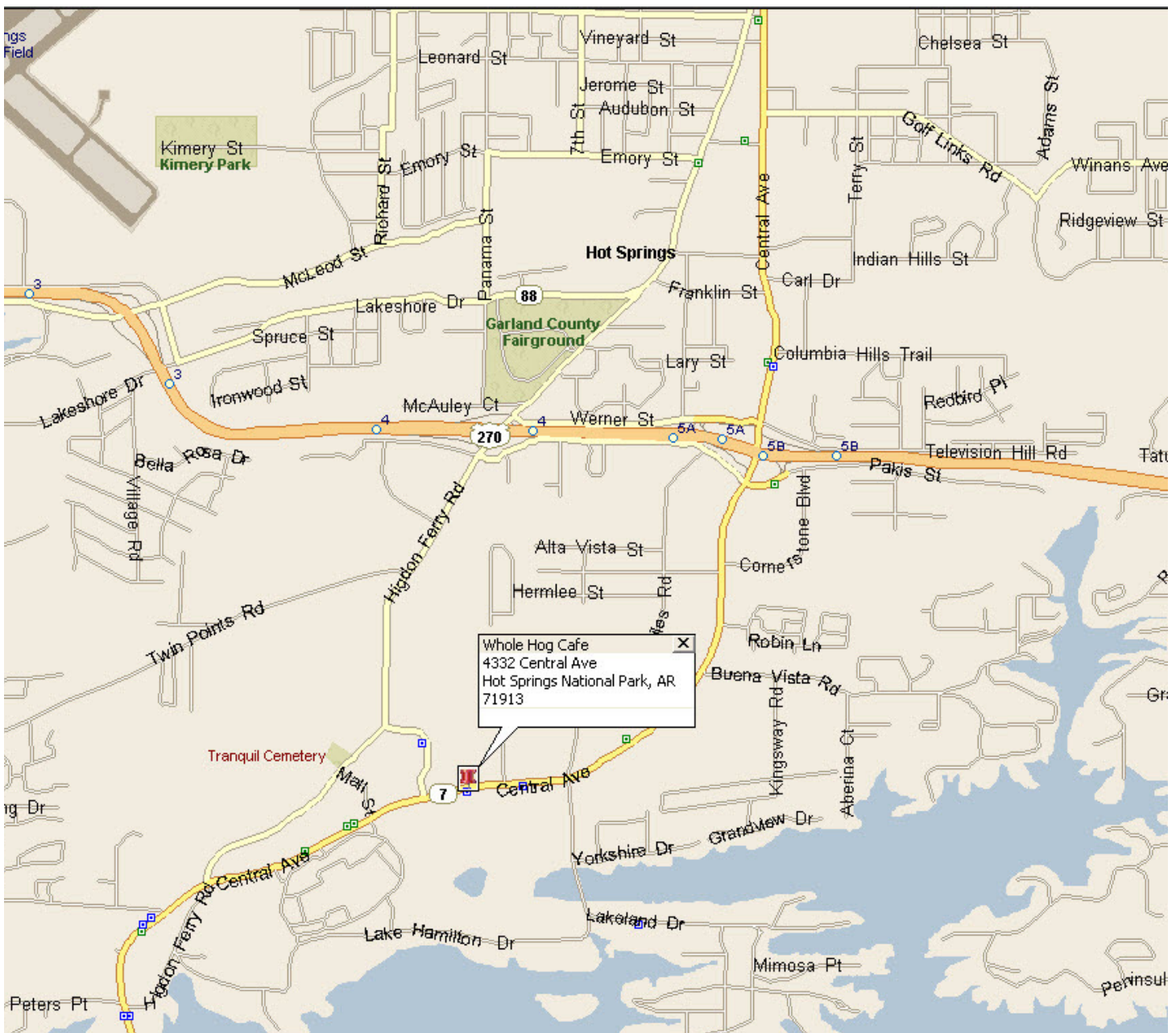


## Map to ADXA Meeting

### Whole Hog Cafe

4332 Central Avenue (Temperance Hill Mall)

Hot Springs, Arkansas







**ARKANSAS DX ASSOCIATION**  
**MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION**

CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSE CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICATION:  NEW  RENEWAL

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

DXCC MEMBER? \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES: \_\_\_\_\_.

SPONSOR'S CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARRL MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED**

(ADXA IS A 100% ARRL AFFILIATED CLUB)

VOTING MEMBERS MUST HOLD DXCC

VALID INTEREST IN DX REQUIRED FOR ASSOCIATE (NON-VOTING) MEMBERSHIP

YEARLY DUES **\$25.00**, Family membership **\$35.00**

**MAIL APPLICATION TO:**

E Glenn Wolf, Jr., N5RN

210 S Estates CV

White Hall, AR 71602 -8216