

## ADXA Minutes



The fourth Quarter meeting of the Arkansas DX Association was held at Corky's BBQ in Little Rock on December 3, 2011. Those attending included: Earl Smith-N5ZM, Jimmy Ballew-N5ZIV, Dave Jacques-K5DV, Lenny Mendel-K5OVC, Dennis Schaefer-W5RZ, Bill Harper-K9IW, Jerry Fay-WU1U, Tonya Geater-KE5SNS, Randy Geater-K5NDX, Jim Barron-WB5AAA, Pat Patterson-W5VY, Ollie Gade-W5GO, Frank Fahrlander-N7FF, Jonathan Setcer-N5QJ, and David Norris-K5UZ. Guests include Sharon Smith, Andy Schaefer-AA5DL, and Sonia Picado-KE5EIW.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill

Harper at 1:05 PM. Bill recognized our guests and welcomed them to our meeting.

### Health and Welfare

Jean Gade is doing better.

### Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

### New Business

A motion was made by K5DV to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as printed in the newsletter. W5VY seconded and the motion carried.

N5ZM gave the financial report. N5ZM Confirmed that contributions to HK0NA and 4W6A were okay.

W5VY gave an update on

the webpage. Pat is asking for any photos of ADXA members or any information that be good for the webpage. Send this information to Pat.

Dave Norris-K5UZ-Newly elected Delta Division Director gave a report. LoTW software is being upgraded along with the software used to create contest results. David also thanked ADXA for their support during his campaign.

K5DV made a motion to adjourn. N7FF seconded and meeting was adjourned.

A video on the VP8ORK DXpedition was presented.

## Upcoming Dates

The next meetings for the ADXA are as follows:

**March 17, 2012** - Home of N5ZM

**June 16, 2012** - Rod's Pizza in Hot Springs, AR

**September 15, 2012** - Spillway near Hot Springs,

AR.

**December 1, 2012** - Little Rock. Location to be determined.

All meetings begin at 1:00 but food and drinks are served beginning around 12:00.

If you have cards that you would like to have checked, please contact Earl at n5zm at adxa dot org. You should plan on arriving early around 12:00 to give Earl enough time to check cards and then grab a bite to eat.

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### Special points of interest:

- Club Meeting March 10, 2012 at N5ZM's.

## Words of Wisdom From the President

Well, spring is here and it's time to meet at Earl's QTH. Thanks, Earl & Co. I'd also like to thank Pat, W5VY for arranging our December meeting at the Whole Hog Café in Little Rock.

Lot's of DX on these days. It was fun working the Pitcairn and Malpelo groups when they were on simultaneously in January. This round of chemo has been pretty rough on me and I haven't been very active otherwise. I get a PET scan next Thursday to see how things are going.

It'll seem strange to have an ADXA without Lenny around. We wish him the best in his new adventure. I'm sorry to have missed his farewell party but it



was the day after two consecutive days of chemo and I just couldn't make it.

Congratulations to David, K5UZ, on his election to ARRL Director.

My request for input on data for a membership list card was underwhelming. I'll try to send a picture of what I'm proposing and hopefully get some corrections and additions before the March meeting. The card would only be distributed to members at a meeting

(unless someone wants to send an SA-SE).

I hope you have all paid your dues by now. Hope to see you all at Earl's.

Bill, K9IW

## Card Checking

If you have cards that you want checked, please bring them to the meeting. Earl would appreciate you arriving early so that he can take care of your cards and still be able to enjoy the fellowship before the meeting starts.

Earl would also appreciate a heads up if you are bring cards. Just drop him a brief note at n5zm at adxa.org. Please consult the ARRL web page on how to prepare

your cards for submission.

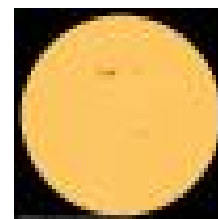


## K7RA Solar update

03/09/2012

This has been quite a week for dramatic solar activity. The average daily sunspot number was up nearly 26 points to 69.4, while the average daily solar flux rose nearly 17 points to 121.9 for the period March 1-7. Sunspot numbers for March 1-7 were 24, 24, 52, 70, 105, 109 and 102, with a mean of 69.4. The

10.7 cm flux was 103.4, 108.2, 116.4, 120.1, 131.6, 138.1 and 135.7, with a mean of 121.9. The estimated planetary A indices were 14, 10, 8, 12, 8, 8 and 44, with a mean of 14.9. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 12, 10, 8, 10, 11, 10 and 33, with a mean of 13.4.



# Roatan Island, Honduras

Rick Harris, AI5P

I'm not sure at this point why I decided to go to Roatan. I had known of it for a number of years—my first cousin had actually lived there with her family for a number of years. I had not visited here but had stories of what a nice place it was. So I decided, against my already busted travel budget for 2011, to give it a go. I sought her advice and she recommended a travel agent and place to stay. I found out that most visitors are interested in diving and snorkeling. I decided on a 2 week "Divers" package which was all inclusive.

Turned out to be one of my better travel choices! On October 22nd I flew to Houston and caught the direct flight to Roatan via Continental Airlines. All went smoothly but I noticed a slight rain once on the ground. This would be the norm for the next five days! Except the slight rain turned into torrential rains and winds as a side effect to the island from Hurricane Rina! It was off-season for the season for the resort so the kindly upgraded me to an air conditioned cabin right on the water! This was an outstanding radio operating location—probably the best in all my travels for my 100 watts and wires. More about that later.

Roatan Island is 33 miles long, 4 miles wide, and lies 50 miles off the northern coast of Honduras. Administrative capital of the Bay Islands (IOTA NA-057), it was discovered by Columbus on his fourth voyage in 1502. Between 1550-1700, buccaneers found it a haven for safe harbor. English, French and Dutch pirates established settlements and raided Spanish ships transporting treasure

from the New World to Spain. Once part of Spain's vast empire in the New World, Honduras became an independent nation in 1821. Claimed by several nations, the Bay Islands were relinquished by Great Britain to Honduras in 1860. Today Roatan and the other Bay Islands are a favorite spot for scuba and snorkelers visiting the second largest barrier reef in the world.

I was surprised to see most of the people speak English and the road signs and advertising are mostly in English.

went for a "dolphin encounter" - up close and personal! That was quite an experience!

With the poor weather and outstanding food at my resort, I stayed pretty close to the radio most of the time. I was using my Icom 706MKIIG and double bazooka antennas for 40, 30, 20, 17 and 15 and a homemade dipole for 12 and 10 meters. I had limited area for the wires so most of them went up (one at a time) in a sloping dipole configuration. I had over six thousand contacts, most-

ly on 10 and 12 meters, including almost 1200 JA contacts. Amazing! The 10 and 12 meter dipole was made with some speaker wire I brought!

Fortunately, the weather cleared the second week and I was able to enjoy some of the sights. I also enjoyed meeting Ray, HR9/WQ7R, for lunch a couple of times and to

visit his station. He had helped me sort out the license issues for my visit.

The trip back turned out to be a real nightmare. Let's just say I had multiple dealings with ticket agents, security checks, delayed flights (getting to sit on the tarmac at Roatan for an extra hour and one-half was lots of fun in a full aircraft! ), customs in Houston, etc.... but overall I had a great time and would recommend visiting Roatan to all!

Thanks for the many ADXA contacts! 73, Rick HR9/AI5P

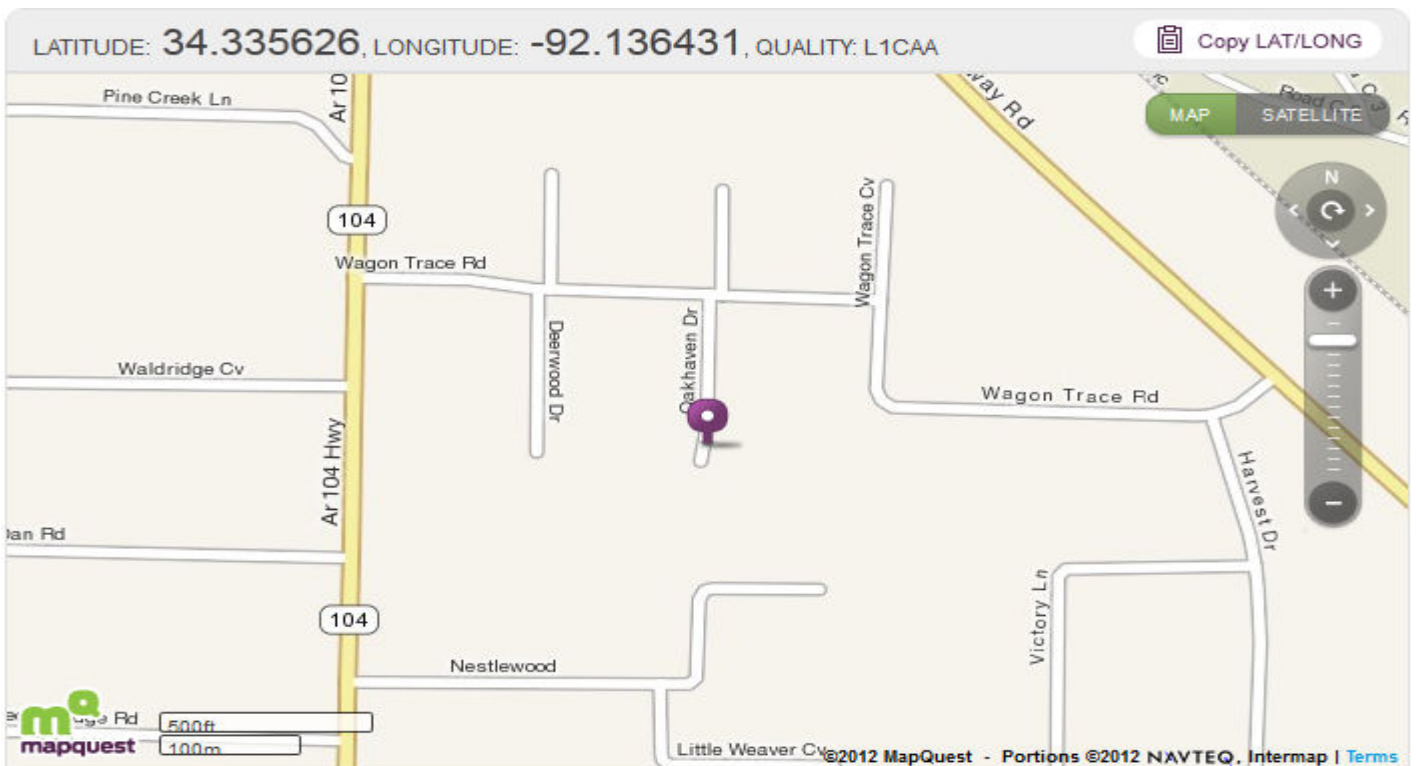
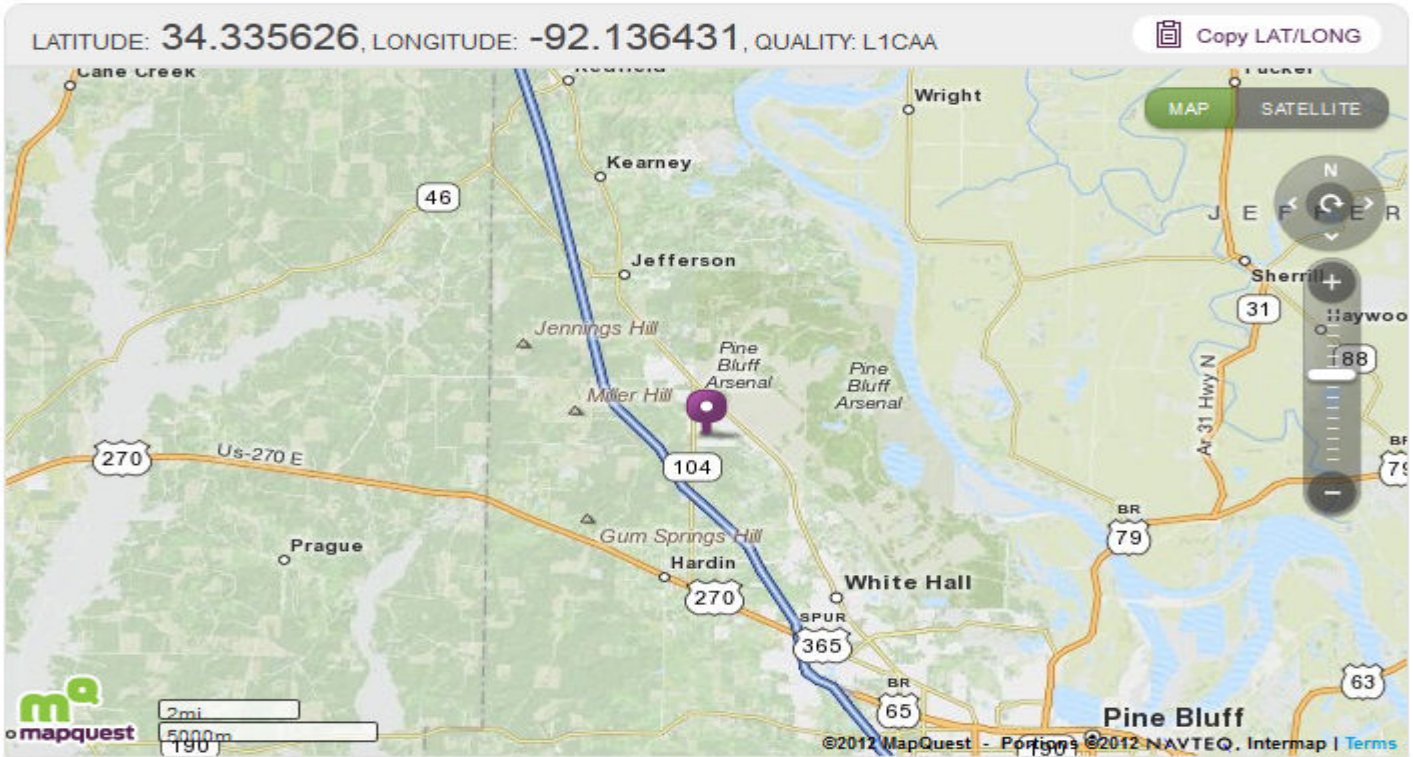


This is a holdover from the English pirates and settlers from various English speaking Caribbean islands over the years. I was most impressed by the very modern and well-stocked supermarkets! I was told that about 4000 Americans, mostly retirees, live on Roatan.

Cruise ships now call fairly often at the two ship landings on the island. So lots of shopping for "bargains" if you're into that. Other activities include deep sea fishing, beaches, replica Mayan structures, canopy "zip line" tours, a wildlife center, an iguana farm, tropical gardens, native arts and crafts, dolphin shows, and many restaurants. I even

# Directions To Next Club Meeting

The next meeting of ADXA will be at the home of Earl and Sharon Smith. Earl's address is 4323 Oakhaven Drive. Lunch will start around 12:00 and the meeting will begin at 1:00PM.





## ARKANSAS DX ASSOCIATION

### MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

#### ADXA

President: Bill Harper, K9IW  
Vice President: Frank Fahrlander, N7FF  
Secretary/Treasurer: Glenn Wolf, N5RN

Mailing Address  
210 S Estates Cove  
White Hall, AR 71602

Phone: 870.692.3846  
E-mail: N5RN@adxa.org

*Promoting DX and DXing in  
Arkansas*

**We're on the web**  
**www.adxa.org**

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