



## ADXA Minutes



The 3rd quarter meeting of the ADXA was held at Spillway Pavilion near Blakely Dam in Hot Springs Arkansas. Those that signed the sign in sheet include Frank Fahrlander N7FF, Paul Wolf AA5PW, Scott Wolf KG5CCU, Jim Barron WB5AAA, Ollie Gade W5GO, Glenn Wolf N5RN, Dave Jacques K5DV, Pat Patterson W5VY,

Dennis Schaefer W5RZ, Earl Smith N5ZM, and Bruce Plantz K9OZ. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 by President N7FF.

### Health and Welfare

Libby Jacques is doing better.

### Old Business

A motion was made to dispense with the reading of the minutes by W5VY. Seconded by N5ZM.

Motion carried.

N5RN gave the Treasurers report. K5DV motioned that it be accepted. WB5AAA seconded. Motion carried.

ARRL LOTW was discussed. Some of the performance issues have been traced huge logs being uploaded creating duplicates which boggs the system down.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Upcoming Dates

The next meeting for ADXA is:

**December 6 2014** —4001 McCain Park, North Little Rock, AR 72116 501-753-2900

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 11:00 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 December 6, 2014 — US Pizza Company 4001 McCain Park, North Little Rock, 1:00PM

## Words of Wisdom From the President Frank Fahrlander—N7FF

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Hi all.

No “wisdom” to pass along this time. Also, I’m not sure I realized the President had this deep responsibility.

I hope each of you worked the latest DXpeditions. Perhaps, at our next meeting, we might just get a chance to hear from some of our more seasoned DXers about how they did.

Anyone going to the Visalia DX convention? I sure would like to get back to California for the next one but so far my plans are pretty full with our trip to Dayton and a trip North afterwards.

We will be watching “Nine DXpeditions to DXCC (rarest of the rare entities)” video at our next meeting. I think you will find the video to be interesting. I hope you all come!

See you at the meeting.

73,

Frank, N7FF

# Card Checking Tips

## Earl—N5ZM

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DXCC Card Checking will be available at the meeting. To avoid problems with field checking your application be sure to follow the instructions on the ARRL website. Note that as of April 2, 2012, there are 2 ways of doing a paper card submission, online and traditional. You can no longer do a hybrid LoTW and paper card submission on a single application. It is absolutely necessary that you follow all the instructions and have all the paperwork properly filled out or I will not be able to check your cards.

If you use the preferred Online Electronic DXCC Application <<https://p1k.arrl.org/onlinedxcc/>> for your paper cards it will be easier and cheaper for you. It will also go a lot faster at HQ when they get your paperwork since you already entered your card data in the ARRL system. With the online application you can enter the cards in any order. Just make sure to enter the QSOs on cards with multiple QSOs together to facilitate checking. The reason you don't have to sort by band then mode is because there is minimal data entry work at HQ when they get your field checked application.

You can also use the Traditional Application forms <<http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-forms>> where you fill in and print the PDF forms for the application and record sheets. Make sure to follow those instructions. A traditional application will cost you roughly twice as much as the online application to cover data entry costs at HQ. With a traditional application you must sort cards by band then by mode with all the multiple QSO cards being listed last to facilitate data entry at ARRL HQ. If you use the traditional application make sure you include valid credit card info on the bottom of the PDF application form.

Whichever way you do it, follow those instructions and make sure the cards are properly sorted in the same order as your DXCC Record Sheet. Also make certain that all the QSL card information (call, date, band, mode, country) has been entered correctly on the record sheet.

Bring the following:

- Cards sorted per your Record Sheet
- Printed copy of the signed and dated Application Sheet
- Printed copy of the DXCC Record Sheet
- Stamped envelope addressed to DXCC Desk, ARRL HQ, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111, so I can mail your application to HQ.

Thanks, Earl N5ZM

# Nicaragua

## AI5P—Rick Harris

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On September 12<sup>th</sup>, I was scheduled to fly from San Salvador to Managua, Nicaragua. Arriving at the airport, I discovered that my afternoon flight had some issues and was asked to move my flight to an evening flight. The only concern I had was that Octavio, YN2N, had arranged for my pickup at the Managua airport and bring me to his home near Granada, about one hour from the airport. Fortunately, the very professional ticket agent called him and informed him of the change in plans. She then arranged for a hotel, meal vouchers, an upgrade to business class, and transport. She was so professional in helping me I wrote a letter of appreciation to TACA airlines, something I had never done in all my years of travelling.

I was still a bit under the weather from my cold. The travel time from San Salvador to Managua is only 40 minutes so I didn't get much of a chance to enjoy my upgraded travel! The entry into Nicaragua was easy and I was soon looking for my ride. Nothing. Great! Then after about 15 minutes two guys show up with my name on a card. Neither spoke English but I managed to confirm we were going to Granada. We got into a ancient Honda and headed out into the pitch dark night. My medicine was making me sleepy and I was half-asleep most of the time. Finally we turned off the main road and began looking for Octavio's house. Still pitch dark. Turned out these two were making their first airport pickup for Octavio and had never been to his house. Up and down the country road. Finally we spotted Octavio with his flashlight! After a very long day, I had arrived!

Octavio (YN2N) rents out a bedroom in his home and access at any time to his station. Three meals a day are provided by his wife Martha and I ate very well! Since he's actually about 6 miles outside the city of Granada, he has a big property and room for a variety of antennas.

His primary radio is a Yaesu FT-950 with a Drake L-4 Amp. I didn't use the amp during my visit. The antennas include:

1. A-3S beam for 10-15-20
2. 160 meter dipole
3. 60 meter sloper dipole
4. 30 meter sloper dipole
5. 6 meter 3 element Quad
6. 40 meter Quad
7. 17 meter Quad
8. 3 element 12 meter Quad
9. 40 meter 3 element wire beam to the Pacific
10. 80/40 meter dipole

The first few days I got the feel of the bands and rested a lot with my cold still lingering, I got fairly active after a few days. I ended up with 3,224 contacts with 2,649 (82%) on CW and 575 (18%) on SSB.

The two most active bands were 30m CW (1,004 contacts) and 17 meters CW (824 contacts) or 57% of the total contacts. I made 18 contacts on 60 meters CW – a first for me. And the first contact on 60 was San, K5YY. A total of 77 DXCC entities were worked.

With it being the "wet" season for Central America, there were several days with rain ranging from a downpour to a light drizzle. Several thunderstorms passed through and the electricity went off a couple of times.

I did manage to get some sightseeing in. Granada is a beautiful city and is the oldest Spanish city in Nicaragua. Founded in 1524, it stands at the foot of the Mombacho Volcano and on the north-western shore of Lake Nicaragua. It is a quiet town that retains its colonial character, although many of its buildings reflect economic hard times. It has a number of beautiful churches including the Granada Cathedral with its magnificent interior. My QSL card has a picture of the Church of La Merced which was completed in 1783, remodeled in 1862, and has a wonderful baroque façade.

One day I went on a hike at the Mombacho Volcano Park. Fortunately, you can take a bus up to the top and hike from there! I was lucky enough to get a one-on-one guided tour and saw quite a variety of plant and animal life. Imagine seeing a sloth in his natural environment! We also saw a fresh paw print in the mud that the guide thought was a Puma.

Another day I took a boat tour around Las Isletas in Lake Nicaragua. It is a group of 365 small islands formed thousands of years ago by volcanic activity. There are a number of homes on the small islands – some just for vacations or weekends; others appeared to be full time residences. The variety of wildlife was amazing: egrets, kingfishers, pelicans, cranes, macaws, and even some howler monkeys.

Soon it was time to head back to the States. I flew from Managua to Miami and spent the night at the Airport Hotel. On September 24<sup>th</sup> I flew to DFW where I had the unfortunate experience of a major flight maintenance issue. After changing planes and sorting out a center of gravity problem, we finally took off for Albuquerque after a 3 ½ hour delay.

The 25-day trip to Central America was certainly worth it. I got to meet some very interesting amateurs and see some amazing sights. I hope you had the chance to contact me and I'll be happy to QSL anyone who needs a card.

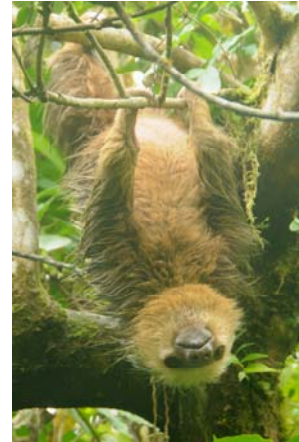
73 Rick AI5P

# El Salvador AI5P—Rick Harris (continued)

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Granada Cathedral with  
Lake Nicaragua in background



Sloth



Inside the Cathedral



Possible Puma pawprint



Macaw Parrot



Octavio, YN2N

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*(Continued from page 1)*

Bill Moore, NC1L, is in the hospital as a result of a car accident. In rehab. Sharon Taratula is your contact if you have questions while Bill is out.

Navassa looks to be 1 year to 18 months out before it will be activated. (**Editors note:** Looks like Navassa will be activated January 2015)

N5RN shared his experiences working the W1AW/5 station last June. Reminded the group about the Red Badge weekend coming up.

N5ZM reminded the group that both N5QS and N5ZM are card checkers.

### New Business

No new DXpedition requests have been received.

DXIS book is available on Amazon. Check it out.

A motion was made by N5ZM to keep the current slate of officers for next year if those currently serving agree. It looked like it everyone agreed to continue serving.

N7FF asked for suggestions for the December meeting. The December meeting will be in Little Rock/North Little Rock.

Meeting locations for next year: March meeting (March 21 2015) will be in Dover Arkansas where the group will get to see the BAT site/setup. The September 2015 meeting will be at the Spillway.

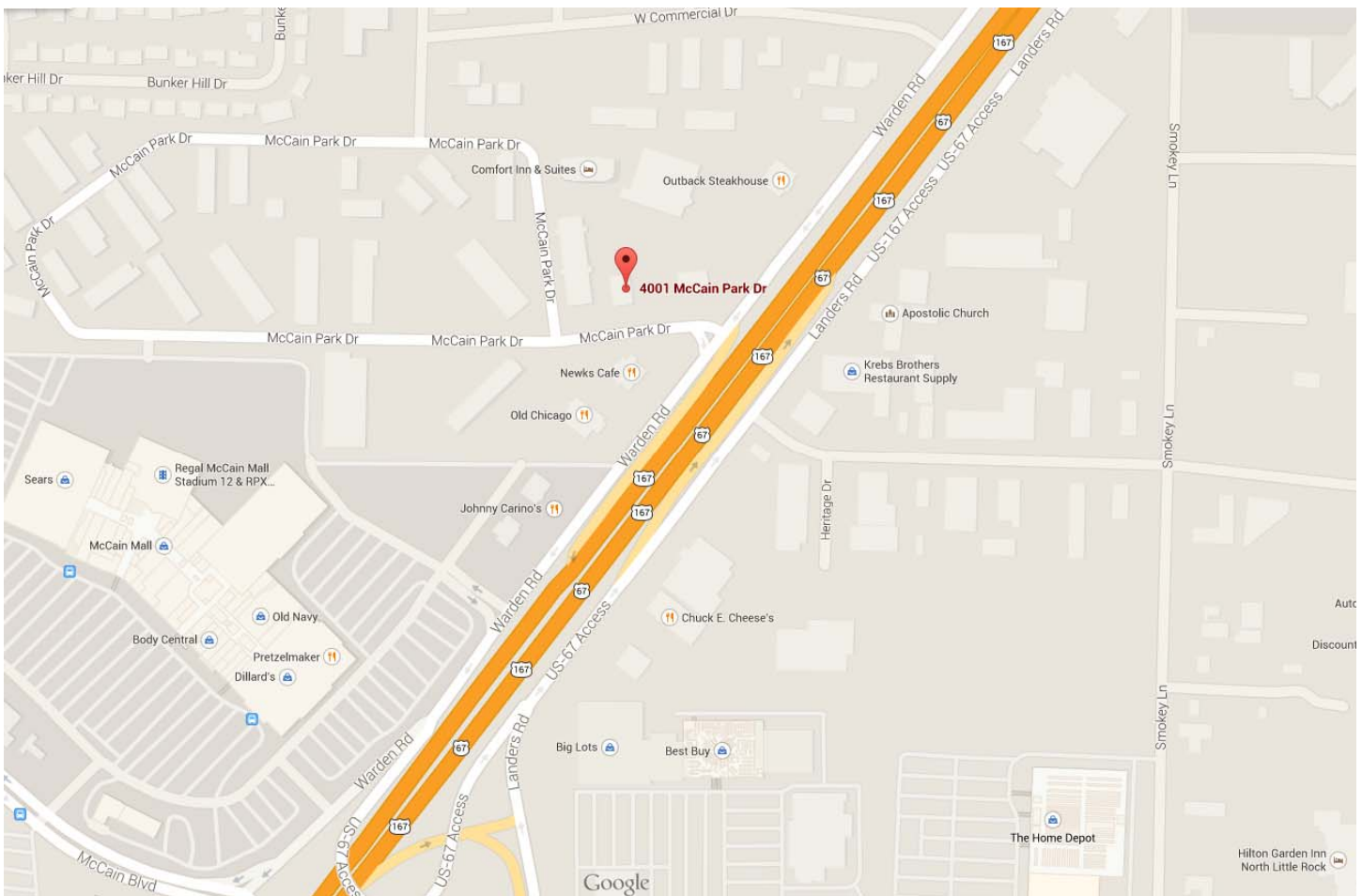
### Closing remarks

K5DV moved to adjourn, N5ZM seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

# Directions To Next ADXA Club Meeting—December 6, 2014

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## US Pizza Company 4001 McCain Park Drive North Little Rock, AR



## ARKANSAS DX ASSOCIATION

### MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

**BUSINESS NAME**

President: Frank Fahrlander, N7FF  
Vice President: Jim Barron, WB5AAA  
Secretary/Treasurer: Glenn Wolf, N5RN

Club Mailing Address:  
E Glenn Wolf Jr  
210 S Estates Cove  
White Hall, AR 71602



**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**

**Dues can also be accepted via PayPal:**

**Using your PayPal account send your dues payment to  
n5rn@adxa.org**

**Make sure you select the personal tab and identify this payment as a gift  
or there will be a surcharge.**

**MAIL APPLICATION TO:**

E Glenn Wolf, Jr., N5RN  
210 S Estates CV  
White Hall, AR 71602 -8216