



ADXA Minutes



The 4th quarter meeting of the ADXA was held at US Pizza Company in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Those that signed the sign in sheet include Glenn Wolf, N5RN, Paul Wolf, AA5PW, Scott Wolf, KG5CCU, Frank Fahlander, N7FF, Dawn Gray, N5QT, Roger Gray, N5QS, Joel Harrison, W5ZN, Ken Blevins, K5ALQ, Pat Patterson, W5VY, Dennis Schaefer, W5RZ, Bruce Plantz, K9OZ, Robert Love, KE5FNA, and Earl Smith, N5ZM. Guests included Rodney Rex, KC5PAR, Kim Harrison, Josey Larimore, Sharon Smith, and Edwynne Love. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 by President N7FF. Frank recognized our guests and

visitors.

DXPeditons

Two DXpeditions were brought up for discussion. EP6T and K1N. The Executive board made their recommendations to the membership. After some discussion, it was decided to support these DXpeditions and N5RN will take care of sending our support.

Old Business

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

N5RN gave the Treasurers report. N5ZM motioned

that it be accepted. W5VY seconded. Motion carried.

Joel Harrison gave a report. The ARRL Second Centennial was a success. He talked about the successful W1AW/5 operation. Follow up to this highly successful event will be a challenge. N5QS indicated that he's seen a renewed interest in DX as a result of the W1AW/x operations.

New Business

AI5P Awards:

Grenada and Tobago

SSB—K5UR

CW—W5RZ

Mixed—N5ZM

(Continued on page 6)

Upcoming Dates

The next meeting for ADXA is:

March 21 2015 —181 Schaefer Drive, Dover, AR 72837. Please let Dennis know if you are planning on attending at den-nisw5rz@gmail.com After

the business meeting we will be going to the "BAT" north of Dover.

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 March 21, 2015 — Home of W5RZ and then a trip to the BAT. 1:00PM*

Words of Wisdom From the President

Frank Fahrlander—N7FF

Hi all,

Well I hope all of you worked our latest DXpeditions. I was out of commission, radio wise, until the very last day of the K1N expedition. I had my reasons, sure, for not turning on the radio. The amp was at MFJ for repair. I was involved in other important activities with neighbors and family. My computer was on the fritz. I was involved in learning how to program an Arduino. I was learning Java Script on Khan Academy. But, in the back of my mind I kept thinking that the chance to work Navassa was running out. Then Pat sends me an email mentioning that he didn't see my call in the K1N Club Log. Oh, how embarrassing. I'm the president of the ADXA and I haven't got it in the log on any band or mode. Have I somehow lost the bug? Is DXing now something I don't care about? It certainly could seem that way.

So, with Pats urging, I turn on the radio and find them operating on 80 meters SSB. This isn't my favorite band or mode but I join the pileup. After an hour, I get him in the log! I feel a ton of weight go off my shoulders. I'm still a Dxer. So I go to bed and think I'll still be able to perhaps work them on CW in the morning. I go to bed relaxed and confident.

In the morning I get down stairs and listen to them on 20 CW. My band! My mode. But what? They are directing the listeners to answer only if they are in Asia. I listen and listen and listen. Just for fun I go to Clublog and check my call. What? It is not in their log! How could this be? It was a clear QSO. I checked the time that ClubLog was last updated. Damn. It was later than my QSO. I am now thinking that I'm out of luck. I patiently watch as the opportunity went away.

The next day I checked the web site and it was clear they were QRT. I had blown it. Darn. But, just for kicks I checked Clublog again. What? There I was! I was delighted with my solitary little green check mark..

Well, my amp is back from MFJ and I think I really know how to set the ALC now! My computer is now operational thanks to a restore to a January restart point. My Arduino project is on hold and so is my Khan Academy. I'm now looking forward to operating in the ARRL DX Contest this March.

I wonder if any of you did as I suggested last year and used this year's ARRL DX contest as an opportunity to get new hams interested in HF and DX. I hope so. Thus year I invited folks to join me for a few hours and I got 3 visitors. We operated from 10am to 2 pm on Saturday. Originally my plans were to enter the contest as a low power multi-operator single transmitter class. We ended up running 400 watts and the visitors each logged DX QSOs with their own calls. This worked great because they had the added incentive to get DX into their own logs. It was very heart warming to see these fellows get into the swing if things and, eventually, they were very enthusiastic at taking the microphone and making a call. The all time highlight of the event was watching a ham make his first ever QSO. He had gotten his license and had equipment but had never operated it. Perhaps we may see a couple new DXers from this group!

I'm looking forward to our next meeting. Much thanks to Dennis for setting it up at the "BAT." This will be my first time seeing the tower and facility. Hope to see you there!

Card Checking Tips

Earl—N5ZM

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

Grenada

AI5P—Rick Harris

Caribbean 2014

This year I had planned to make another trip to the Caribbean. After some study and contact with amateurs who had operated there, I set my sights on Grenada and Tabago.

Grenada

I had gotten in touch via e-mail with several amateurs who had operated in Grenada. Most had done so in conjunction with CQ WW contests. Of particular help was Harry, AC8G, who I contacted both via e-mail and phone. It turned out he has actually been there around 40 times! He put me in touch with Findlay, J39AL. He's not much on e-mail so I actually called him a few times and got some excellent information on operating and visiting Grenada. Although I had planned to stay in a local hotel, he encouraged me to stay with him and operate from his QTH in St. George's, the capital. He also coordinated my license with the local authorities. This turned out to be a great opportunity to visit and operate.

I departed Albuquerque on August 12th and flew via Dallas and Miami and arrived in Grenada about 8 p.m. The flight from Miami was very interesting. As I boarded the aircraft, I noticed about a dozen young people with dogs—not in pet carriers but sitting with them. My seat partner was a young lady from Colorado who had her young Yorkie with her. I soon learned this group was starting the semester at St. George's School of Veterinary Medicine. There are about 700 students in the Vet school and 5,200 in the Medical School. Obviously this is a large operation and has a huge impact on Grenada's economy. One of the students I talked to in the passport line was a med school student from Smackover - small world!

Findlay picked me up at the airport and we were soon at his home. The next morning I was able to see the antenna system - a 4 element beam up around 50 feet covering 10-15-20 meters with a 160/80/40 sloper off the tower. Behind the house on another tower was a 4 element 20 meter monobander. No WARC antennas. I didn't feel comfortable trying to set up my dipoles in his garden so I

decided to just use his antennas. I was able to use the sloper for 30 meters.

As I set up my IC-706MKIIG, the tuner would not match the beam. Findlay called another ham - Dexter, J39HA, a much younger guy than us two hi.... he climbed the tower and checked out the coax and beam. But it turned out the problem was my tuner. Fortunately, Findlay had another Icom AT-180 brand new in the box and that solved the problem. I never bothered to use the monobander as the beam worked extremely well.

I made 2832 contacts with 2572 on CW (91%) and 260 on SSB (9%). Most of the contacts were on 20 meters (1508 - 53%) and 15 meters (759 - 27%). Interesting stations contacted were: HH2/PY3HB, TF3Y, 7Z1SJ, HB0CC, 3E100PC, HS0ZEE, Z39A and D44TLO. I got a QSL from an Indiana ham who noted I was # 321 for him on SSB!

Grenada is a rolling, mountainous island, covered with fragrant spice trees and rare tropical flowers. It was inhabited by the Cibony, Arawak and Carib peoples prior to European discovery. Columbus sighted the island in 1498 but it went uncolonized for more than a century. The French began settling Grenada in 1649 and it was a French colony until the English captured it during the Seven Years' War in 1762. Over the next two decades, Grenada saw-sawed between the two powers, but in 1783, under the Treaty of Paris, the French ceded Grenada to the British, under whose colonial rule it remained until independence in 1974. A Marxist coup forcibly overturned the government in 1979. In October, 1983, the coup unraveled and hard-line Marxists assassinated the Prime Minister and his ministers. With nearly 1,000 Americans on the island - including university students, faculty, families, and others—the U.S. launched Operation Urgent Fury and reestablished the pre-revolutionary regime.

I didn't have a rental car in Grenada. I rode with Findlay during some of his rounds and also used the local minibuses. I did take two tours - one a circular drive around the island and another to visit

flower gardens. Interesting sights included Fort George (formerly Fort Rupert - site of the 1983 assassinations), Fort Frederick, Fort Mathew, Concord and Annandale Falls, Gouyave Nutmeg Processing Station, Carib's Leap (where the original Caribs leaped to their deaths instead of surrendering to the French), River Antoine Rum Distillery, Belmont Estate (fabulous lunch including nutmeg ice cream!), Pearls Airport (with a couple of Cuban aircraft left over from Revolutionary days), the Rainforest, the Grand Etang Crater Lake, and two very colorful private gardens.

Grenada is known as the "Spice Isle" as it's a leading exporter of cinnamon, cloves, ginger, mace, allspice, orange/citrus peels, wild coffee, coca, and especially nutmeg. Introduced to the island in 1843 (from a ship headed to England from Indonesia), Grenada has become the world's second largest producer of nutmeg.

On August 22nd, after a farewell lunch for my host, I headed to the Maurice Bishop Airport for the 40 minute flight to Trinidad. It was a very interesting (and hot as heck) experience in the "Spice Isle!"

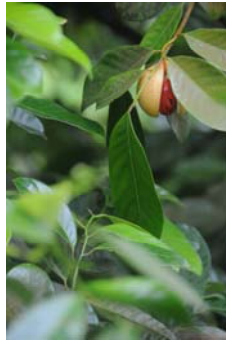
73,
Rick
AI5P

Grenada

AI5P—Rick Harris (continued)



Harbor at St. George



Nutmeg



Urgent Fury Museum Exhibit



Cocoa Pods



Rum Vats



Cuban Commercial aircraft at Pearls Airport—There since 1983 Urgent Fury Invasion



J39AL Beam



Concord Water Falls



To Left: Orchids

(Continued from page 1)

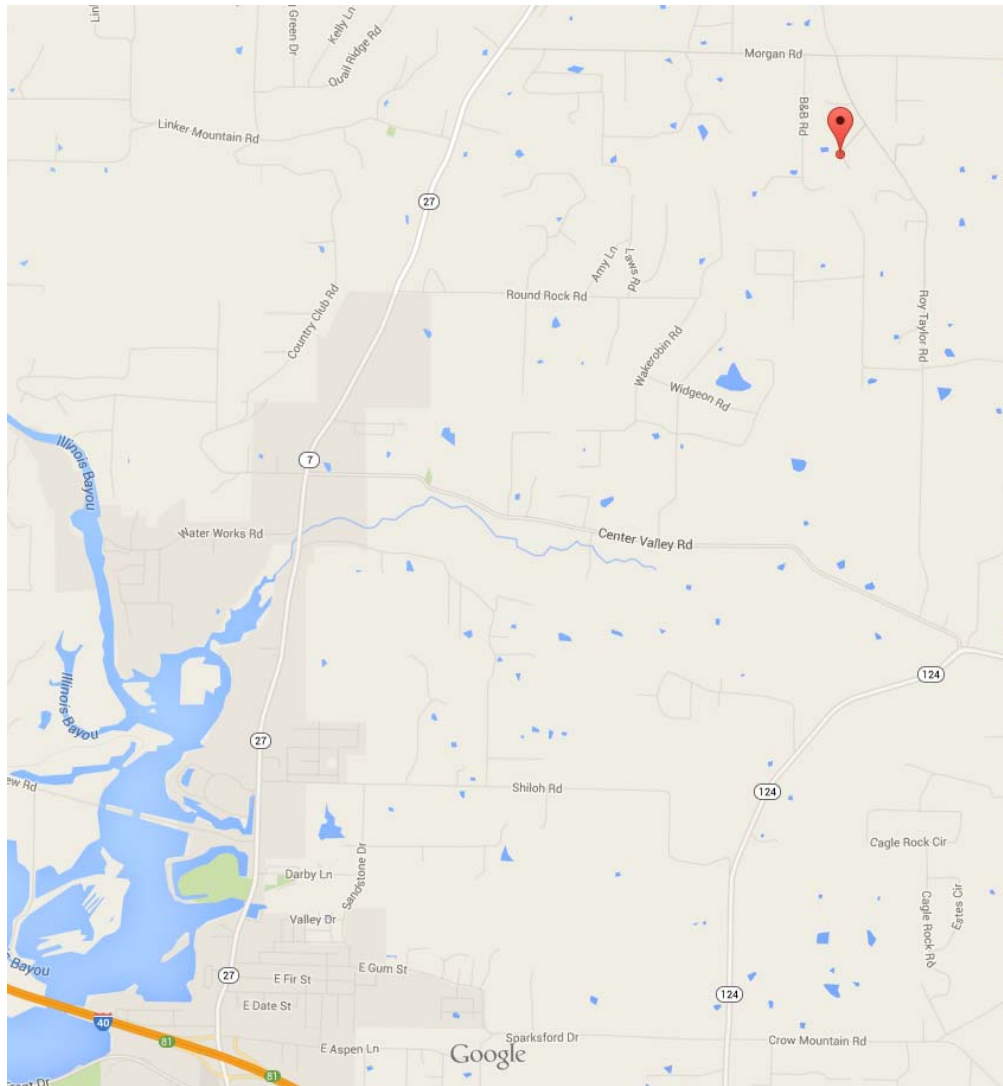
Rick and Dennis are considering a trip to the Caribbean next year. The cost is approximately \$400/week. Get with Rick and/or Dennis for full details if interested.

Closing remarks

W5VY moved to adjourn, W5RZ seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM. Several short movies on recent DXpeditions were played and enjoyed by those who remained.

Directions To Next ADXA Club Meeting—March 21, 2015

**Home of Dennis Schaefer, W5RZ
181 Schaefer Drive
Dover, AR 72837
GPS: 35.35890 and 93.09360**



The March ADXA meeting will be at W5RZ's house, 181 Schaefer Dr, Dover, AR 72837. From I-40 exit 81, go north 4.3 miles and turn right on Morgan Rd. Go 1.3 miles and turn right on Roy Taylor Dr. Go about .3 miles and turn right on Schaefer Dr. We are the last house on the left. After the business meeting, at approximately 2 PM, those who want to can visit the K5BAT station. The Big A** Tower is an old AT&T microwave station that was bought by several Russellville area hams. The BAT is about a 20 minute trip from W5RZ's location. It is located on Worshaw Mountain Rd NW of Dover. The last quarter mile is a little rough, but most vehicles will make it fine. Those with low clearances can ride up and back with someone else.

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