

THE ECDXA PILEUP

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
FCC Reports and Orders	2
ECDXA Receives Award	2
KA2ANF—IEEE Interview	2
Hudson Division Dinner	3
ECDXA & Public Service	3
Homeland Security News	3
DX Opportunities	3
K2VK Receives Award	3
ARRL News—QSL Info	4
ARRL News—Band Info	4
FCC License Renewals	4
ECDXA VE Testing	4



Some Upcoming Contests, DXpeditions And Special Events:

ARRL HELLO Operating Event—December 29-30 2006
www.hello-radio.org/event

ARRL RTTY Roundup—January 6-7 2007
www.arrrl.org/contests

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes—January 20-22 2007
www.arrrl.org/contests

ARRL International DX Contests
 CW—February 17-18 2007
 SSB—March 3-4 2007
www.arrrl.org/contests

ECDXA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2006 DRAWS TO A CLOSE WITH GOOD DXING OPPORTUNITIES—LATE BREAKING FCC NEWS—CELEBRATIONS AND AN ECDXA DONATION!!!

Back in the mid-90's when East Coast DX Association was first formed; the bands were alive with new countries. DXpeditions were abundant and contributions to those DXpeditions were sought after by all. ECDXA did it's part contributing to many of those DXpeditions and hopefully many benefited. Since we don't charge dues at this time, I am not campaigning for donations, but I would like to remind all that these DXpeditions do cost quite a bit of money and donations are certainly permitted from individuals as well as Clubs.

Speaking of DXpeditions, there's one coming up in the month of December that will provide an increase in my DXCC count, should I be lucky enough to work it! According to our friend Bernie, from The Weekly DX, Lakshadweep Island, VU7 will be on the air from December 1-30! The callsign for this DXpedition is VU7LD and the QSL card is via W3HNK. This country also has the distinction of being the second on the most needed list! Good luck to all who will be in the pileup along with me! Let me know if you work it!

Anyone need Burkino Faso – XT? Well, this one is coming on the air in January 2007. Callsign to be announced. Five Star DXers Association is planning an operation from 3B7, St Brandon in September 2007. This group is planning on being on the air 24 hours a day for the period of three weeks. They, too are accepting donations.

On November 11th, The 2006 ARRL Hudson Division Awards Dinner took place! If you missed this one, you missed one of the best! Special Door Prizes, Special Guest Speakers and even Special Guest Attendees, along with great, great stories from the Award Winners!!! Thanks to the members of the hosting club, BARA and many others in the Division as this dinner was indeed a success! With an attendance of more than 120 people, over \$2,000.00 was able to be raised for the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. And to top it off, we were able to come together to enjoy some fellowship and honor 4 very wonderful individuals who have made great contributions to this grand hobby! Thanks to all who attended and to those who gave generously, by your ads, your door prize donations and/or your financial contributions.

A BIG thank you also goes out to the members of East Coast DX Association who rose to the call for action, by sending donations to the Club enabling

us to make a financial presentation to Mary Hobart – K1MMH at the dinner of several hundred dollars from the members of ECDXA! We received a fine letter of thanks from Mary on behalf of the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund giving thanks for YOUR generosity! ECDXA now challenges all clubs in the Hudson Division to do their part by stepping up to give support for the ARRL Hudson Division Dinner and the cause, The ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund.

ECDXA members are already gearing up for contesting in the upcoming season! Remember whenever you operate contests from your home QTH, please submit your score using East Coast DX Assn as your club affiliation! Contesting and inviting new and prospective hams over to view your station is the key element in mentoring. I would love to hear about your contesting experiences and perhaps you could share a photo or two of your operating station or a portable setup. Send us your photos so other ECDXA members can see them here in The Pileup!

As we were going to press with this Newsletter, the FCC surprised us with an announcement regarding docket 05-235—The Elimination of the Morse Code Requirement. While many are still weighing-in on this, on the air, via email or commenting on the many Amateur reflectors and websites, it's a done deal. No matter how you feel about this issue, please don't dwell on the past. Looking to the future, I believe we all need to take a more pro-active role in Amateur Radio and proper Mentoring of the new and upgrading Hams is now even more vital. Please stay informed by checking the ECDXA Website for the yet to be announced date of implementation by the FCC at: www.ecdxa.org

George—KC2GLG, Krista—KB2MER, Holly—KC2ZMM and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed safe and fun Holiday Season, full of all the DX, and Special Operating Events that you can find and special good wishes for the coming New Year! Thanks also goes out to all who took part in ECDXA sponsored VE Sessions in 2006 and to all of you, for always being there to support one another!

Happy Holidays,
 73, Joyce—KA2ANF

'Why I Love Ham Radio'

"Amateur Radio is all about Magic! It's magic to talk to a complete stranger on the other side of the world while sitting in my car watching my son's football practice. It's magic to watch the eyes of a child light up when they talk to an astronaut on the International Space Station. It's magic to see the relief in a mother's face because the Amateur Radio operators providing communications at the county fair found her lost child. It's magic to see the excitement on the face of my son after getting his license and making his first contact. And who said magic isn't real."

Kevin O'Dell, N0IRW

From The ARRL
HELLO Campaign:
www.hello-radio.org



Operate As Part Of The ARRL HELLO Event

December 29-30 2006

More Info Here

www.hello-radio.org/event

Recent FCC Reports And Orders

The FCC acted on several items applicable to all Amateur Radio operators late in 2006. Starting with the 'Omnibus' Changes to Part 97, that in part 'refarmed' the Novice and Tech Plus frequency allocations, eliminated specifically listed RACES frequency allocations, eliminated the requirement to publicly announce all upcoming VE Sessions and other changes, the FCC next acted, via an additional R&O, to remove all requirements for any Morse Code Testing of Amateur Radio Licensees in the United States, as well as granting to all Technician Class licensees, limited HF operating privileges.

The changes made as part of the 'Omnibus' issuance, took effect on December 15 2006 and the changes made regarding the Morse Testing requirement, et all, will take effect 30 days after the complete Report and Order is published in the Federal Register.

As these changes will allow more operators to be able to use the HF bands, ECDXA and its members look forward to the increased activity and to the opportunity to mentor these new and newly upgrading operators into the wider amateur radio community.

Stay tuned for more information on upcoming ECDXA sponsored VE Sessions during which Technicians possessing a current CSCE indicating they have passed Element 3 within the last 365 days can process their upgrade to General as well as where other upgrades and license renewals and testing will be offered. Updates on all items will be posted on the ECDXA Website as soon as possible: www.ecdx.org and www.arrl.org

ARRL FAQs On The 05-235 Changes: www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt05-235

THE ECDXA PILEUP—AN AWARD WINNING NEWSLETTER! AWARDED THE ARRL HUDSON DIVISION NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTH FOR THE OCTOBER 2006 EDITION!!!

Frank Fallon—N2FF, ARRL Hudson Division Director announced in the September 2006 Hudson Division Beacon that *The ECDXA Pileup* was picked as the October 2006 Division Newsletter Of The Month!

Fallon went on to say: "The September 2006 award goes to the East Coast DX Association and their editor George Sabbi, KC2GLG for the October issue of 'The ECDXA Pileup'. The club has recently been reactivated and has turned out a number of nice newsletters in the past few months."

He added: "The runner-up, which was also a past winner, (the RVWARS 'Rip's' in November 2005) went to their September 2006 newsletter that had some real 'winner' pictures from the club's picnic."

You can read all the recent winners of the Hudson Division Newsletter Of The Month Award on the Division's Website at: www.hudson.arrl.org/pages/hudsonbeacon.htm

KA2ANF Featured In IEEE's October 2006 Podcast On Amateur Radio— Amateur Radio Operators Provide A Vital Communications Link

ECDXA President and ARRL Hudson Division Vice Director, Joyce Birmingham—KA2ANF was chosen by the IEEE (Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers) to provide information on Amateur Radio and to demonstrate on-air contacts for their October 2006 Podcast SPECTRUM Newsletter.

In mid-summer of 2006, IEEE sent Stephen Cass to interview Joyce at her home station where he captured the audio of her making contacts with 4O3T, the newest DXCC entity of Montenegro, and with Nobby—G0VJG, who was operating portable that day on Scilly Island, 28 miles off the most southwesterly point of the British Isles.

The interview covered not only general amateur radio operations but also how amateur radio is used during emergency situations. In addition to the SSB contacts heard in the Podcast, Joyce also demonstrated CW, PSK31, RTTY and WinLink 2000. Click On the Link below to hear the actual Podcast

www.spectrum.ieee.org/radio?date=06.10.06&segStart=2

ARRL HUDSON DIVISION AWARDS DINNER 2006

WERE YOU THERE? IF NOT, HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED!

More Info and Pictures at: www.hudson.arrl.org/pages/awardsdinner2006.htm

On Saturday evening, November 11, 2006 Amateur Radio Operators, their families and friends gathered in the penthouse like dining room of the Saddle Brook NJ Holiday Inn to honor the 2006 ARRL Hudson Division Award Winners.

Attendees included ARRL headquarters officials, our Hudson Division Director and Vice Director, Section Managers, Assistant Directors, local Club Officials and more!

Dinner featured a full buffet of Salads, several Entrees Side-dishes and Desserts and was enthusiastically enjoyed by all.

The event, hosted by the Bergen Amateur Radio Association (www.bara.org), was successful in raising over \$2000.00 for the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund. Money raised from the evening's Ticket and Program Ad Sales, as well as from raffles done at the dinner, and other donations, were personally presented to Mary Hobart—K1MMH, ARRL Chief Dev Officer, on Dec. 13, 2006 by representatives from both BARA and the ARRL Hudson Division.



AMATEUR RADIO AND PUBLIC SERVICE

ARRL SET 2006—NJ EMCOMM Agencies and ECDXA Members Take An Active Part

The ARRL SET (Simulated Emergency Test) took place on Saturday October 7th 2006 throughout NJ. The drill exercise was overseen and administered by the NJ State Police Office of Emergency Management in Trenton NJ. The purpose of the SET is to test not only the skills of the responders and operators but also to verify the operation and capabilities of the radio equipment at the local and state OEMs, EOCs and agencies.

This year's drill scenario centered around a Hurricane that

causes major communications infrastructure failures throughout NJ. With landline communications hindered, Amateur Radio was used by the NJ State Police OEM to contact counties throughout the state during the drill with there being several formal traffic messages passed from various agencies.

On the air participation was also present from the Red Cross and ARMY MARS as well as numerous NJ ARES groups..

ECDXA also used the SET to demonstrate its HF WinLink

2000 capabilities to several NNJ ARES, RACES and SKYWARN officials.

ECDXA members active in the 2006 SET included:

NO2T-Jerry
KC2KET-Tim
N2CYY-Lou
KA2ANF-Joyce
KC2GLG-George



DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) 2007 APPROPRIATIONS ACT FORMALLY INCLUDES AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS AS PART OF THE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNITY

NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 4, 2006 -- A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act."

Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications -- which the measure also creates -- RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials. The full story is available here: www.arrl.org/news/stories/2006/10/04/100/?nc=1



Where's The DX?

Some DXpeditions For You To Contact And Add To Your DX Count During 2007

YV0 - Aves Island - February 2007

S2 - Bangladesh - January 10-16, 2007

VU7RG - Lakshadweep Is. - January 2007

KH8/S - Swains Island - April 2007

This is just a sample of some of the upcoming DXpeditions in the next few months. If you need to improve your country count, visit the following for current updates:

The 425 DX Page:

www.425dxn.org/

The OPDX Bulletin:

www.papays.com/opdx.html

The Daily DX:

www.dailydx.com

CONTESTING NEWS Congratulations to ECDXA!

ECDXA's Club Call K2VK took First Place W2 Multi-Op, Single Transmitter, Low Power in the Canada Winter Contest 2005 sponsored by The RAC!!!

www.ra.ca

East Coast DX Association

235 Van Emburgh Avenue
Ridgewood NJ 07450

Phone: 201-445-5924

E-mail: info@ecdxa.org

ECDXA Website:
www.ecdxa.org

Articles For Consideration
Or Comments On
The ECDXA Pileup
Can Be Sent via Email To:
newsletter@ecdxa.org

ECDXA Is Proud To Be
An ARRL Affiliated
And Special Service
Amateur Radio Club
Callsign — K2VK



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East Coast DX Association



NEWS FROM THE ARRL—NEW QSL BUREAU RATES JANUARY 1 2007

ARRL Outgoing QSL Service Revises Rates (Dec 4, 2006) – The ARRL Outgoing QSL Service has announced a new and simplified rate structure, effective January 1, 2007.

The new basic rate will be \$5 per half-pound (8 ounces -- or approximately 75 cards) or any portion of a half-pound. That's a change from the current rate of \$4 per half-pound or any portion. One pound will cost \$10, and packages will be assessed \$5 for each additional half-pound (or portion thereof). For example, a package containing 1.5 pounds of cards will cost \$15, while a package containing 1.75 pounds of cards will cost \$20.

For smaller packages, the fee is only \$1.50 for 10 or fewer cards, \$2.50 for 11 to 20 cards and \$3.75 for 21 to 30 cards. . The new rates are in response to the recent postal rate increase and price restructuring. More information is available here:

www.arrl.org/gsl/gslout.html

MORE NEWS FROM THE ARRL—OPERATING CHANGES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 15 2006!!!



FCC "Omnibus" Amateur Radio R&O Published in the Federal Register and it took effect on December 15 (Nov 22, 2006) -- Just a little over a month after the Federal Communications Commission released the Report and Order (R&O) in the so-called "Omnibus" Amateur Radio proceeding, WT Docket 04-140 (FCC 06-149) to the public, a revised version appeared in the Federal Register. **Note: The changes in the R&O took effect Friday, December 15, at 12:01 AM EST which was 30 days after its publication.**

The ARRL has prepared FAQs on these changes and it is available here:

www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/wt04-140/faq.html

For the latest information on this sometimes controversial change to the amateur radio bands and operations, check the ARRL Website often for updated information including downloadable copies of the new Band Charts at:

www.arrl.org

!!! Attention All ECDXA Members !!!
Do We Have Your Current Email Address And Updated Country Count?
Send Your Current Info To: info@ecdxa.org

Remember ECDXA's VE Team Can Process Your FCC License And Vanity Callsign Renewal

With the FCC's Vanity Callsign program reaching its 10 year anniversary soon, many will need to not only renew their Amateur Radio License but also their FCC issued Vanity Callsign.

The ECDXA VE Team is now not only able to help you through this process but they are also able to file your paperwork and payments via the ARRL VEC. Complete information is available from links on the ECDXA VE Webpage at:

www.ecdxa.org/ecdxaVE.htm

If you have any questions about renewing your FCC Amateur Radio License or Vanity Callsign be sure to contact the ECDXA VE Team via Email at:

ve@ecdxa.org



ECDXA Sponsored VE Sessions

ECDXA VE Sessions are held at the
Paramus Congregational Church
205 Spring Street, Paramus NJ
GPS Info: N 40.93140—W 74.05530

Saturday—February 3 2007—9 to 11:30 AM
Saturday—April 7 2007—9 to 11:30 AM

Visit the ECDXA VE Webpage for the latest information on upcoming VE Sessions.

www.ecdxa.org/ecdxaVE.htm