

Northwest Indiana DX CLUB

Volume 10, Issue 10

October 2022

President's Corner

We had a wonderful meeting with 21 there. The next meeting is November 12th at Noon. Same place as always, Round the Clock in Chesterton.

See the pictures below from the meeting.

73

John W3ML

Good DXing!

"Working the World from the Black Hole"

NWI DX Club Website

<http://nwidxclub.weebly.com/>



Don't forget Steve Mollman is our QSL Card Checker.

DXCC Card Checking is available by appointment and may be available at meetings. E-Mail kd9hl@arrl.net for an appointment or to make other arrangements.

<i>Northwest Indiana DX Club Officers and Staff</i>			
President	W3ML	John Poindexter	w3ml.ohn@gmail.com
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Webmaster	W9YOU	John Reardon	kd9ron@ARRL.net
ARRL Card Checker	KD9HL	Steve Mollman	kd9hl@ARRL.net

Reminder, the NWIDX Club has a club call W9NWI.

The call is available to members for use during contests, special events, Field Day, etc. To schedule dates for its use, contact the trustee, Steve Mollman – KD9HL. kd9hl@arrrl.net

QSL cards are available.

Notice:

Articles in the Northwest Indiana DX Club Newsletter (except for those separately copyrighted) may be reprinted, provided proper credit is given.

The Question of the Month

(The correct answer is at the end of the Newsletter)

The ITU has assigned the call sign prefixes 8TA thru 8YZ to what DX entity?

- A. Maldives
- B. Barbados
- C. India
- D. Guyana

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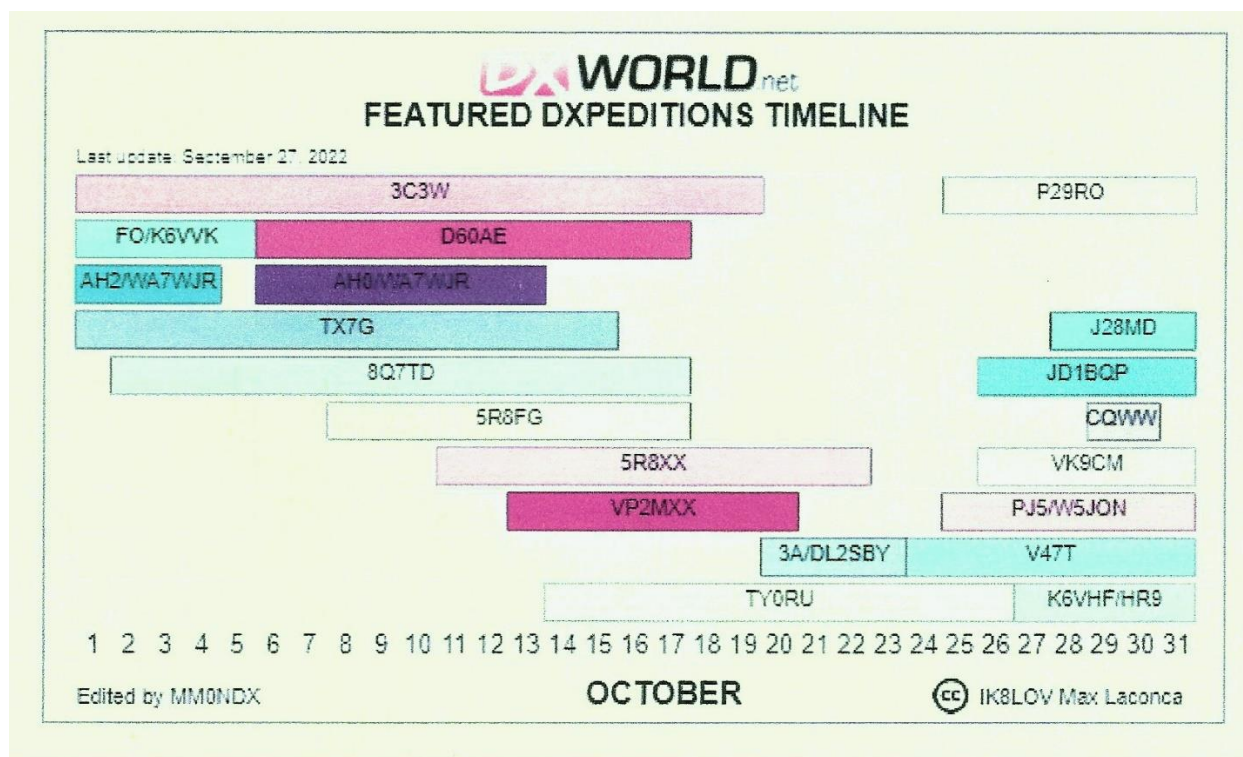
NWIDXC WAC CHALLENGE Has Ended

Those receiving trophies are listed here in the order of amount of time it took them to work all continents.

N9RD Jurgen Nittner
KD9HL Steve Mollman
WA9JNO Earl Gumm
N4SV Bill South
W3ML John Poindexter
AB9QU Bill Carter

DX LISTINGS FOR 10/2022

By
Jerry Hess, W9KTP



By Permission of MM0NDX

Handy Hint

By Steve Mollman-KD9HL

A Jig for Repair of Antenna Rotators

Repairing or servicing an antenna rotator it can be a challenge. Besides the multiplicity of small parts (ball bearings, screws, keepers, etc.) the cases are usually weirdly shaped. This makes it difficult to keep them steady during the repair process. A help is to use a holding jig that not only keeps the rotator steady but also holds it upright, reducing the chance of losing one of those small parts.



This jig is easily constructed with a minimum of parts. You will need the following:

1. A piece of scrap wood about 12" square or larger
2. One 1 1/2" pipe flange. (Menards *SKU: 6855123)
3. One 1 1/2" pipe nipple at least 6" long. (Menards *SKU: 6857422)
4. Four #12 flat head 1" wood screws. (Menards *SKU: 2332446)

Using the wood screws, mount the pipe flange in the center of the wood piece. Screw the pipe nipple into the flange and you are done. Estimated time of construction-less than five minutes. Time saved from trying to hold the rotator steady and hunting for fallen parts-??????

Note: the Menards' parts numbers are provided as a convenience. These parts are available from other sources at varying prices.

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Do you have a Handy Hint that you would like to share? Contact Steve Mollman at KD9HL@ARRL.net

DRILLING STEEL
By
Jerry Hess, W9KTP

I normally don't need to drill holes in steel and on those rare occasions not larger than 1/4" in diameter. Recently, however, I had an occasion to make some 3/8" and 1/2" holes in some 1/4" steel. My titanium coated bits, obtained at a "Big Box" supplier, failed to make more than a partial hole. After consulting with steel supplier, Buchanan Steel in Westville, I determined that I needed cobalt bits for the job. I searched the web and found some and chose the Irwin M35 29 piece set #3018002 for \$108. I have the full range of sizes from 1/16 to 1/2". These bits are an alloy with 5% cobalt in the steel. Yes, I know that's a little expensive with many years in the BOF at Bethlehem I know alloy heats expensive to make. God help a melter who misses the heat of 300 tons of steel.

The results were great. It took just less than 15 seconds to drill a 1/4" hole through 1/4" steel and widen that to a 3/8" another 5 seconds and another 5 seconds to make it a 1/2". Yes, when drilling metal, you want to clamp your work down firmly. You can get seriously hurt if the bit catches and starts the work piece spinning at hundreds of revolutions.

After I ordered them, I noticed one of the comments from someone that the Irwin bits weren't good. I was a little worried until I got my set and tested them. My guess is that he was one of those gorilla workers that didn't bother to step through sizes to obtain a larger size. Maybe he just jammed the largest bit in the chuck and watched it smoke. Yeesch!

Hopefully that helps you in your workshop.

73's,
Jerry



supplier,
my local
needed
candidates
like to have
steel/cobalt
pricey, but
of steel are
chemistry in

seconds to
hole in just
1/2" hole.
down firmly.
the work

comments
little worried

A5 – Bhutan

Are you planning on a DXpedition to A5-Bhutan? When the Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan opened its borders on September 23, for the first time in 2 ½ years, it started charging a “sustainable development” fee of \$200 per visitor per day. The Bhutan government says the charge will “help preserve the country’s heritage and environment, improve services for visitors and create job opportunities for its youth.



Bhutan is No. 95 worldwide and No. 32 for North America on Clublog’s Most Wanted List. It is a [landlocked](#) mountainous [country](#) in the [Eastern Himalayas](#), located in [Southern Asia](#) between [China](#) and [India](#).

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Question of the Month Answer:

C. India.

In addition to the common VU prefix, The ITU has assigned to India call-sign blocks 8TA to 8YZ, VUA to VWZ, and ATA to AWZ. Defunct call-signs include CR8 (for [Portuguese India](#)), FN8 (for [French India](#)), and AC3 (for the former kingdom of [Sikkim](#), which merged with India in 1975).

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FOR SALE ITEMS

Let me know when an item is no longer for sale so I can remove it.

The following equipment is up for sale. Will accept PayPal, cash, MO, or personal check. Shipping is available for additional cost. For more information on any of the listed items please email Mike at aj9c@indy.rr.com. Prices are listed below the pictures.



Remote Antenna Tuner



Remote Antenna Tuner Picture 2

I purchased this to make a remote antenna tuner. There is a vacuum variable capacitor with a motor and a ribbon inductor with the motor. The unit is complete.

Asking Price: \$125.00



SCI-6 Sound Card Interface Kit

Interface kit to use with your radio to get on FT8, PSK31, RTTY, WSJT.

Asking Price: \$15.00

Mike has additional items available for sale.

Acom 2000A 160-10 m auto tune amp. This has the older style controller and was formerly owned by KE9I and N9QX. Tubes have been replaced by me. Works fine and is in service here. Just purchased a Flex Power Genius which makes this unit available. Price \$3700. I have 2 new spare GU74b tubes if the amp purchaser wants them then the price is \$4100. The tubes will not be offered for sale until the amp purchaser declines them.



I have also a Harris RF Channel 2 TV amp unit which I have used on 6m for the past several seasons. 10-15w in will deliver 1k output. The purchaser may want to tidy up connections. This includes the power supply to operate the amp. I also have documentation. There is an extra amp deck that could be used via a combiner to increase output or as spare parts. (I have it for spare parts and have not fired up the 2d amp deck.). Included is a DPDT relay with N connectors. I have I believe 3 addition PS that come with the purchase. These again were purchased for spares....just in case.

Price for the 6m amps/parts \$1000

Acom 2000A auto tune, legal limit amp \$3500

Drake MS-4 speaker \$60

Drake R4 series INRAD 2.1 Khz SSB filter \$75

Collins 180L tuner \$125

HD-73 rotor and control box (no lower mast clamp) works \$150

Payment by check, MO or Zelle.

Contact AJ9C at
aj9c@indy.rr.com
or call 765-661-8495. Leave a message
if you call.

If you have ham items for sale, email me a list along with prices and contact information. I will put it in the next newsletter.

For Sale items will be removed from the newsletter after 3 months.

I want to thank those that have been sending in articles for the newsletter. All items are appreciated.



Until Next Time,
73

John
W3ML

<http://nwidxclub.weebly.com/>



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