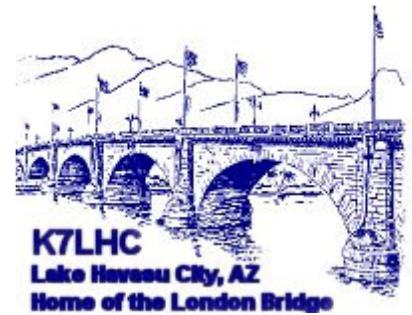


STATIC



October, 2008

DXing for Beginners By a Beginner

Brennen P. Ernst, KI4PRK

(Do You Think It's Hard to Work DXCC? Read This Article Written By A 13 Year Old Ham Who has Over 188 Countries Worked!)

In a just over a year and a half of being a ham, the only thing I've found that I can do for hours on end without getting bored is DXing.

I've found that many people claim that DXing is too hard, or that they don't have the equipment, or that QSLing is too expensive.

I have one of the most basic setups a ham can have. Being 13 years old, I certainly don't have money to throw around, nor do I have the experience time in ham radio to be an expert.

So how did I end up with 188 countries?

DXing is something that EVERYONE can enjoy. And nobody says that you have to QSL to be a DXer. Many hams I talk to are DXers with over 200 countries but not a single QSL to speak of. DXing is not hard. You simply need to remember these five, simple rules:

- 1) Always listen before transmitting
- 2) Always be courteous
- 3) There is always propagation to somewhere
- 4) Know your propagation, at least basically
- 5) Be patient

If you already follow these 5 rules, you have 90% of what you need. For those who don't have unlimited time, a computer can be useful to pick up some DX spots. Some good spot sites are DXwatch.com, or DX summit. Your equipment matters very little for the first 50 to 75 countries. If you are very patient and willing to learn a little technique, you can stick with QRP to a wire for those earlier catches. But the easiest way to go is 100w plain transceiver and a Dipole or a good vertical.

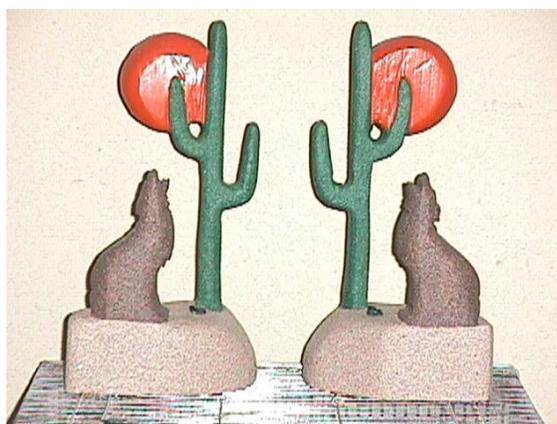
(continued on page 3)

LBARA MEETING SCHEDULE

MONTH	BOARD	REGULAR
OCTOBER	NOTE: BOARD	10/16
NOVEMBER	MEETINGS WILL NOW	11/20
DECEMBER	TAKE PLACE ONE	12/20
JANUARY	HOUR PRIOR TO THE	1/15
FEBRUARY	REGULAR MEETING	2/19

WANTED: LOST TROPHY

Someone out there is the current custodian of the Club's Fox Hunting Trophy. The traveling trophy to hunts that had years and we once again. Hope will jog someone's trophy will be re-

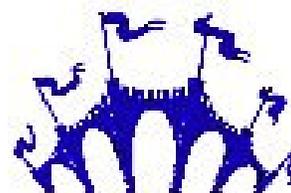


Club gave out this the winners of fox been held in past would like to do so fully this picture memory and the turned the Club.

The London Bridge Amateur Radio Association
Fox Hunt Traveling Trophy

Monday Night Net (7 PM)

System	Location	Freq	Offset	PL
MCARS	Bullhead City	145.27	-	131.8
	Kingman	146.76	-	131.8
	Kingman	448.25	-	131.8
	Lake Havasu	146.62	-	131.8
	Willow Beach	147.12	-	131.8
CRRRA	Lake Havasu City	146.96	-	162.2
	Lake Havasu City	224.24	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	146.64	-	156.7
	Lake Havasu City	449.95	-	141.3
BARN	Lake Havasu City	447.54	-	136.5
	Las Vegas, NV	449.95		136.5
	Onyx(Palm Springs)	449.34	-	136.5
	Orange County, CA	447.54	-	100



(DXing for Beginners.....cont. from page 1)

If you already follow these 5 rules, you have 90% of what you need. For those who don't have unlimited time, a computer can be useful to pick up some DX spots. Some good spot sites are DXwatch.com, or DX summit. Your equipment matters very little for the first 50 to 75 countries. If you are very patient and willing to learn a little technique, you can stick with QRP to a wire for those earlier catches. But the easiest way to go is 100w plain transceiver and a Dipole or a good vertical.

There are excellent books out there. Too many to name, but my personal favorites are the DXCC handbook by the ARRL, and "The complete DXer", by W9KNI. Both are available from the ARRL.

While not necessary, an Extra class license helps. On 80, 40, 20, and 15 most of the good DX hangs out below the General class segment. But I worked 75 countries with a General class license, and you can too. 17 and 30 will be your best bands for now, and 12/10 when the sunspots come back. And once the sunspot cycle kicks in again, even the techs can work DX on 10M!

I recommend learning CW. CW has a very good signal to noise ration versus a SSB signal under same conditions. Of course, I have worked VU7RG, 9U9Z, and others running SSB but CW will be your best friend in poor circumstances. SSB works fine and some have achieved Honor roll #1 on SSB, but CW helps a lot.

And even at this point in the cycle, don't forget about the higher bands. Even 10 meters is open to Central America, the Caribbean, and northern South America at some times, at least from the Eastern USA. I have PM5JC in Indonesia confirmed on 15M! So though not as active as 20 or 17, keep an eye on the spotting net while tuning 20 and you may get a nice surprise. 12 and 15 are often open to the pacific when other bands are not, usually in the mid/late afternoon.

While I've stated before that your equipment matters little for very casual DXing, I still recommend getting the best antenna you can. Put your Dipole up high, or get a good set of radials for your vertical. For the low bands, Beverages work nice for receive (only), and for 160/80 inverted L's are good for transmitting.

Don't abandon digital modes either! PSK31 is a very efficient mode, and with my Dipole @ 40 feet I've made it all the way to Ukraine on 3 watts using this mode!

And if you do chase awards, DXCC is not the only option. IOTA, SOTA, CQ zones, Worked all Africa (very hard!), or some of the smaller awards are fun too. I enjoy the Canadian awards. And WAC (worked all continents) makes a very nice first award.

QSLing can be easy. I won't go into detail about the complicated direct process, but via the buro is cheap and easy if you are willing to wait. And LoTW costs virtually nothing! Not all DX utilize this excellent resource, but some patient DXers have DXCC using only Logbook of the World! And though not accepted for DXCC, eQSL is fun and easy.

So next time you hear a DX calling CQ, don't just listen. Join in! It's fun!

73 and hope to hear you on the bands, de Brennen KI4PRK age 13 (Tnx To eHam)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND HAMFESTS

October 18 - Annual Swapmeet, Old Pueblo Radio Club, Kino Sport Park, Tuscon, AZ (N7SQQ)

December 6 - Superstition Amateur Radio Club, Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ (K7JLF)

January 10 - Westfest, Thunderbird ARC, Thunderbird School of Mgmt, Glendale, AZ (W1ADW)

Local Repeater Frequencies

<i>Call</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Offset</i>	<i>Tone</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>	<i>Linked to</i>	<i>Comments</i>
W7GAA	145.170	-0.6			W. AZ. R.C.		
				Bullhead City			
		+0.6	131.8	Christmas			
	145.310	-0.6	107.2	Guadalupe, AZ	Cactus		
KF6BM	145.380	-0.6	162.2	Chuckwalla,			
K7LHC	146.620	-0.6	131.8	Lake Havasu	L.B.A.R.A.		
K7LHC	146.640	-0.6	156.7	Lake Havasu	L.B.A.R.A.		
KC7GSA	146.640	-0.6	123.0	Bullhead City			
K7LKL	146.680	-0.6	162.2	Smith Peak,	CALZONA	AZ TO CA	
N7SKO	146.760	-0.6	131.8	Kingman	H.A.R.C.		
KC7IFD	146.800	-0.6	123.0	Kingman			
WB7NOU	146.850	-0.6	162.2	Parker			
WA6LAW	146.880	-0.6	162.2	Blythe Black			
	146.960	-0.6	162.2	Lake Havasu		KF7X,	
	147.100	+0.6		Dolan Springs			
WM6Z	147.120	+0.6	103.5	Black Moun-	CALZONA	AZ TO CA	
WA7LAZ	147.160	+0.6	131.8	Kingman			
K6SHH	147.320	+0.6		Dolan Springs			
N7DRH	147.300	+0.6	100.0	Bouse	Rattlesnake	W7DXJ, 146.96	
KF7X	224.240	-1.6	156.7	Lake Havasu		W7DXJ,	
WB6RUF	224.880	-1.6	156.7	Kingman	Condor		
WB7T	447.540	-5	136.5	Lake Havasu City	Barn	Onyx Pk.	Closed
W7MCF	448.725	-5	100	Lake Havasu	Cactus	Guadalupe	Closed
KB7YKY	449.950	-5	141.3	Lake Havasu		W7DXJ,	

Tnx to Dick Jernigan, W7DXJ

**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE HAMS ACROSS
NORTHERN ARIZONA and ACROSS THE STATE
WHO COMMUNICATIONS AND SERVICE TO THOSE
NEEDING HELP WITH THE RECENT SUPAI FLOODING**

To: Joe Hobart (W7LUX), Dan Boone (KC7PRC), Brent Foy (W7POD), Phillip Wright (KD7VU), James Hansen (WB7W AR), Erwin Perelstein (KE7QFI), Thomas Freeman (K7MYI), Richard Wiglesworth (K7RLW), Lance Halle (KW7LH), Philip Burrington (W7ZIP), Charles Covault (W7CML), Mark Hermann (K7MCH), Ken McLaughlin (N7DPS), and Richard Jernigan.

From: Sherrie Collins, Coconino County Emergency Manager and Gerry Blair, Coconino County Community Programs Planner

Subject: Recognition of Help During August 2008 Supai Flooding Event

The above mentioned individuals of the Amateur Radio Operators group assisted with the Supai flooding event on August 16-18, 2008. They used their amateur radios for communication at the Peach Springs Shelter and Hilltop, provided service and repairs to the repeaters, and provided logistical support during the event. Their contribution helped many individuals threatened by the flooding and first responders doing their jobs. This tremendous effort is appreciated by the citizens and visitors to the County and by the officials of Coconino County.

Thank you!

ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

SWEEPSTAKES

AWARD



K7LY

2007 ARRL November Sweepstakes

**FIRST PLACE SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER PHONE
ARIZONA SECTION**

ICOM PRINCIPAL AWARDS SPONSOR

Carol Harrison W5ZN
PRESIDENT, ARRL

**IF YOU EVER WORK A CON-
TEST, BE SURE TO SEND IN
YOUR LOGS. I DIDN'T THINK I
HAD DONE WELL AND ALMOST
DID NOT SEND IN MY LOG. WAS
QUITE A SURPRISE WHEN I RE-
CEIVED THIS!**

Your Editor

Gentle Thoughts for Today--

*Birds of a feather flock together and crap on
your car.*

A penny saved is a government oversight.

*The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so
he can tell when he's really in trouble.*

*You know you are getting old when everything
either dries up or leaks.*

Are you looking to upgrade your license?

Give our VE Exam Team a call.

See Ed Gillespie, AB7EM at #453-7412

FOR SALE/TRADE

MFJ-616 Speech Intelligibility Enhancer - Recently serviced by MFJ. Like new condition. With manual and shipping box. \$130

Kenwood TS-50 Transceiver –10 through 160 meters. 100 watts. With mobile bracket, manual and shipping box. Excellent condition. \$450

MFJ - 941E Antenna Turner –300 watts. 10-160 meters. Excellent condition with manual and shipping box. \$90

Hugh Allen, WB6TQP, Phone #453.8659, Lake Havasu City, AZ

Ah, being young is beautiful, but being old is comfortable.

When you are dissatisfied and would like to go back to youth, think of Algebra.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

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www.lbara.net

FROM THE EDITOR

If you have anything you would like to see included in these issues, please let me know. I'm always looking for articles, news items, construction articles, or anything that might be of interest to our readers. You can contact me at 928.855.7941 or email at grf@unedspeed.net or francej@ajsinsurance.com.

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STATIC

ATTENTION READERS

Please note that this issue represents a “work-in-progress” and there are a number of changes to be made in subsequent issues. I would greatly appreciate your comments, both good and bad, as well as any suggestions for future issues. This issue also begins our first attempt to deliver the **STATIC** to your doorstep electronically. Please keep me abreast of any email address changes you may have and I promise to have this delivered promptly and accurately. Also, I still have a number of articles awaiting publication and will do so in the future. This is your newsletter, so keep the articles, letters, and pictures coming. I can be reached at home (855.7941), at work (855.3081) or via email at grf@uneedspeed.net .

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

EDITOR'S NOTE: List your items for sale here. Ham radio related only, please. Include a picture if you like (please use a jpg format). Email all to me at grf@uneedspeed.net along with your name and phone number.

