



SFDXA Jan 3, 2018 meeting report.

Venue: Florida Medical Center auditorium

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

We pledged allegiance to the Flag. We introduced ourselves; 31 of us were in attendance.

REPORTS:

Vice President – Bill, W2CQ, (out of town)

Secretary – Kai, KE4PT, ballots for Directors and By-laws changes are being counted. Our members' current publications include:

- Pete Rimmel, N8PR, "Novel Way to Hear Weak CW Signals", *CQ*, Jan, 2018. *Use your dual receiver and your ear-brain filter to extract weak CW signals from noise.*
- Kai Siwiak, KE4PT, and Rich Quick, W4RQ, "Live Trees Affect Antenna Performance", *QST*, Feb 2018. *Live Trees Matter! Living wood resembles human tissue more than you might think, and it can increase the losses of nearby antennas by several decibels.*
- ANY MORE CLUB MEMBER PUBLICATIONS OR PRESENTATIONS?

Treasurer – Ray, N4RU, SFDXA checking account balance \$9,718.41 as of 11-30-17. Our hurricane related damages were covered to the extent of \$6904.88 by our ARRL insurance. We've adjusted our coverage based on that real-world experience. Expenditures for new radios, antenna and tower damage.

President – Pete, N8PR, report:

1. As a result of our substantial donation, a SFDXA banner will fly in front of one of the 3YØZ operating tents.
2. Station repairs: We will need help. We must move the tower guys for the new roofing at FMC, drill holes, rewire. WE have new radio, new computer.
3. The 2 meter repeater vertical antenna and damaged tower are replaced along with a temporary Butternut vertical for 80 - 10 m.
4. DX dinner is set for January 31st at the Outback Steakhouse, 725 S. University Dr, Davie; Drinks at 6 PM, Dinner 7-7:30 PM, Individual checks.
5. Election Results, to be handled by Kai – with help from members.

BOD members comments

Ed, N4II – no comments.

Lou, W9IL – no comments.

Al, N3EA – no comments.

Don, N4TZH - absent.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Mark, K2AU: **Eric Spero, WA1SXX, Elected Full Member, Jim Elias, AJØIM; Jeannette Lucado, KM4TMU; and Bill Lucado, K4WHL, joined as Associate Members.**

Programs - February Tropical Hamboree (Miami Hamfest) has been cancelled.

Technical + Repeater - Elliot KB2TZ; Pete N8PR; Bill W2CQ

Web Site – Sebastian, W4AS

By-Laws and Election Committee – Kai, KE4PT; Bill, NZ5N; Ed, N4II:

Bylaw Changes ballot results:

DXpedition funding methods: clauses [A.4., K.6] Approved

Full member honorees: clauses [D, E.4.a, M.1.] Approved

Secret ballot methods: clauses [J.3., J.4, K.3] Approved

The new By-Laws changes are appended here, and full text will be posted on the Meeting Reports web page.



Officers for 2018 take over at the March 7, 2018 meeting, and run to March 2019.

Please note that, "All Directors are expected to be active participants, rather than passive observers, in sharing with club officers the workload entailed in maintaining club functions. These functions include general activities (such as programming, special events, etc.), membership development, technical affairs (repeater and HF station operations and maintenance, website development, etc.), and inter-club relations."

**President – Pete, N8PR,
Vice President – Bill, W2CQ
Secretary – Kai, KE4PT
Treasurer – Ray, N4RU**

**Director – John, K2SHA
Director – Randy, N4QV
Director – Tom, N4MEO
Director – Vant, K4LM.**

New Business:

Tom, N4MEO Jan 27, 28, "Winter Field Day" at Markham Park, pavilion #5.

Short Takes:

Pete Rimmel, N8PR, hints for working the weak and rare ones:

- Dual Tone CW (see his *CQ Magazine*, Jan, 2018 article)
- Use Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) reports to be first on a new band
- Use internet SDR to find holes in the pile-ups.
- Call-ins on 147.33 – help spot for those needing Bouvet.

Adjourned: 20:05.

Program

Jim M. Talens, N3JT, and John R. Silva, N3AM, will talk about "Why CW Today?"

I post meeting reports and meeting presentations on the club web page, www.sfdxa.com. Send comment about the records to the club Secretary, Kai, KE4PT, at k.siwiaak@ieee.org.

Next SFDXA meeting, Wednesday at 7:33pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 PM in the FMC cafeteria. The club collects a member donation of \$7.00 for Dinner.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

**Mar 7, 2018
May 2, 2018
Jul 11, 2018
Sep 5, 2018
Nov 7, 2018
Jan 2, 2019**

73,

Kai, KE4PT,
SFDXA Secretary

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Changes to The SFDXA By-laws. Additions are underlined; and strike through text are deletions.

Please refer to the current By-Laws and full text of the new By-Laws at The SFDXA Web Page, SFDXA.com ⇒ Meetings and Awards ⇒ Meeting Minutes

A. 4 Spread goodwill from the South Florida area by offering support to DXpeditions. ~~a donation (not to exceed \$50) once per year to a DXpedition approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors and approved by majority vote of the Full members at a general meeting.~~

D. SOUTH FLORIDA DX ASSN. MEMBERSHIP MATRIX SUMMARY

Member Class	Sponsor Required	Meeting Attendance	ARRL Membership	Member Initiation Fee	Dues per Calendar Year	Meeting Attendance Required
Full	Yes	2	Yes	\$7.00	\$20.00(#)	2 per year(#)

(#) Members Emeritus and Hall of Fame Full Member honorees shall be exempt from paying annual dues, and from the meeting attendance requirement.

E. 4.a. Each FULL member shall attend a minimum of two regularly scheduled meetings during each calendar year. Members Emeritus and Hall of Fame Full Member honorees shall be exempt from this attendance requirement.

J. 3. All voting for Officers and Directors, amendments to Articles of Incorporation or By-Laws, motions for removal from office, or motions for termination, shall be by secret ballot either mailed by the SFDXA Secretary to all of the FULL members or, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, voting may be conducted by any other fair and appropriate means in accordance with the Articles of Incorporation.

J. 4. The By-laws may be amended by at least a two-thirds majority vote of all the FULL members. The Secretary shall advise the entire voting membership of such pending action by ballot, to be completed and returned to the SFDXA Secretary in accordance with Clause J-3.

K.3. Nominations for Officers and Directors for the following year will be accepted from the regular members and the Nominations Committee at the last general meeting of each calendar year. In accordance with Clause J-4, election ballots will be provided by the Election Committee to all FULL members following the last general meeting of the year for return prior to the first general meeting of the new year.

K.6. President shall have the authority to spend up to \$250.00 per quarter for operational and/or SFDXA project expenses without prior approval of the FULL members. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to spend up to an additional \$250.00 per quarter for operational and/or SFDXA project expenses without prior approval of the FULL members. A description of all such expenditures, along with receipts, shall be promptly submitted to the Treasurer and be a part of the Treasurer's report at the next general meeting thereafter. This authority is limited to expenditures on The SFDXA's own activities, station, and projects and shall not be used to support third party projects such as DXpeditions.

M.1. An initiation fee shall be \$7.00 shall be paid by all FULL and DX ASSOCIATE Members. Annual calendar year dues of \$20.00 will be paid by each FULL and DX ASSOCIATE member. Annual calendar year dues of \$10.00 will be paid by each ASSOCIATE member. All dues for membership renewal shall be payable no later than December 31 of each year preceding the renewal. Those FULL members remaining unpaid after January 31 for the year due will be ineligible to vote until fully paid-up. If renewal dues are not paid to the Treasurer by February 28 for the year due, delinquent members shall be automatically dropped from the Association membership roster. Members paying between January 1-st and February 28-th of the year due will be subject to a late fee of \$5.00 in addition to the respective annual dues. Members Emeritus and Hall of Fame Full Member honorees shall be exempt from paying annual dues.



SFDXA Feb 28, 2018 Board of Directors meeting report.

Venue: Ye Olde Falcon Pub, 2867 S University Dr, Davie, FL 33328

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 19:37.

2018 Board Members

President Pete, N8PR
Vice-president, Bill, W2CQ, [absent]
Treasurer, Ray, N4RU, [absent]
Secretary, Kai, KE4PT
Director-elect, John, K2SHA
Director-elect, Randy, N4QV
Director-elect, Tom, N4MEO
Director-elect, Vant, K4LM, [absent]

Officers and Directors for 2018 take over at the March 7, 2018 meeting, and serve for 12 months.

Please note that, "All Directors are expected to be active participants, rather than passive observers, in sharing with club officers the workload entailed in maintaining club functions. These functions include general activities (such as programming, special events, etc.), membership development, technical affairs (repeater and HF station operations and maintenance, website development, etc.), and inter-club relations."

Reports.

1. Florida Medical Center. IC-7600 replaced IC-756pro3; which is not repairable. Randy to buy the 756pro3 from club for parts. FMC roof story, upper roof done, lower needs cement still. We spent ~\$850 moving the guys wires at FMC.
2. Pete proposed that each director take over organizing the program for a meeting.
3. March meeting Kai and Pete; May meeting Norm, W4QN, on club history; July meeting Randy to do FT8 demo; Sept meeting to be handled by Tom, N4MEO; Nov will be John, K2SHA, responsibility. Pete responsible for Jan 2019 meeting.
4. Mark, K2AU, proposed that the Club members pool outgoing QSL cards for sending to ARRL bureau; club to pay the feed, but members encouraged to make donations. Approved by BoD; Mark to coordinate.
5. Mark, on membership solicitations – to other clubs like DCARC.
6. Mark, proposed a Club picnic, perhaps April, Seminole Park? Mark and Tom, N4MEO, to coordinate.

Adjourned 20:40.

I post meeting reports and meeting presentations on the club web page, www.sfdxa.com. Send comment about the records to the club Secretary, Kai, KE4PT, at k.siwia@ieee.org.

Next SFDXA meeting, Wednesday at 7:33pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 PM in the FMC cafeteria.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

Mar 7, 2018

May 2, 2018

Jul 11, 2018

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary



SFDXA Mar 7, 2018 meeting report.

Venue: Florida Medical Center auditorium

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

We pledged allegiance to the Flag. We introduced ourselves; **29** of us were in attendance.

Officer Reports:

Vice President – Bill, W2CQ, (absent), Pete carried his comments – he thanks maker of the Hog Awards.

Secretary – Kai, KE4PT; meeting notes for the Feb 28 Board of Directors meeting are posted on SFDXA web page.

Treasurer – Ray, N4RU, SFDXA SFDXA balance as of 1/31/2018 is \$5,785.49. Please note that \$1500 will be spent for the new Waller flag antenna, and there are a few other expenses not yet recognized. The eventual “true” balance will be approximately \$4,100 when all is said and done.

President – Pete, N8PR, report:

1. Board of Directors Meeting held Feb 28 (see the posted meeting report).
 - a. Welcomed new directors, directors took assignment to organize future meeting events.
 - b. SFDXA will selectively take on ARRL outgoing QSL costs for members;
 - c. Mark, K2AU, and Tom to organize a picnic.
2. Station repair status. The tower guys were moved, awaiting completion of roof work before antennas are erected. \$850+ and ~120 man-hours to do the work.
3. A temporary Butternut vertical for 80 - 10 m plus a 3 element Wilson tri-bander are up for now. In the next couple of weeks we will put up the new replacement Waller flag (Carlos has nearly all the parts ready), 6 meter Yagi and TH-11 - 5 band antenna. We need to get the 4 dipoles back up and working as well.

BOD members comments

Randy, N4QV – scanned all photos in the old Antenna Buster’s book. Ideas to grow the club: bring over hams from other clubs – demo DXing; try for Field Day effort; reach out to local Hams you hear working DX.

Tom, N4MEO – regarding Field Day, join the DCARC effort – bring people out.

Vant, K4LM – (absent) Please sign the card that is circulating... Say a prayer for his recovery.

Officers for 2018 take over at the March 7, 2018 meeting, and run 12 months.

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John, K2SHA – look to retirement homes to rejuvenate old hams.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Mark, K2AU – Neil Cinege, WB2RUU, voted in as Full Member

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau – Mark, W2AU, will coordinate for the Club – no cost to Members. Decide to have picnic at Seminole Part, Plantation, April 29. Needs help to set up.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjourned: 20:09.



Program

Pete, N8PR , presented the dramatic sea voyage video of the Bouvet expedition attempt. Bring your own sea-sick tabs!

Kai, KE4PT, introduced the ARRL RF Safety Committee; who they are, what they do, when and where it applies to you.

I post meeting reports and meeting presentations on the club web page, www.sfdxa.com. Send comment about the records to the club Secretary, Kai, KE4PT, at k.siwiaak@ieee.org.

Next SFDXA meeting, Wednesday at 7:33pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 PM in the FMC cafeteria. The club collects a member donation of \$7.00 for Dinner.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

May 2, 2018

Jul 11, 2018

Sep 5, 2018

Nov 7, 2018

Jan 2, 2019

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary

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SFDXA May 2, 2018 meeting report.

Venue: Florida Medical Center auditorium

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

We pledged allegiance to the Flag. We introduced ourselves; **27** of us were in attendance.

Officer Reports:

Vice President – Bill, W2CQ, -- Australian club wants to link to our web page.

Secretary – Kai, KE4PT; meeting notes for the March meeting are posted on SFDXA web page.

Treasurer – Ray, N4RU, SFDXA SFDXA balance as of 3-30-18 is \$5,418.37.

President – Pete, N8PR, report:

- 1 A temporary Butternut vertical for 80 – 10 m plus a 3 element Wilson tri-bander still are up. We need to have a work party either Sunday 10 AM to get the new TH-11 and the Waller Flag + 6 meter Yagi up.
- 2 How's DX? Who has worked some? What and when ? Members bragged in their introductions.
- 3 Still need more activity on the repeater.

BOD members comments

John, K2SHA – (absent)

Randy, N4QV – Finished copying and correcting the photos, these were shown at the beginning of tonight's meeting.

Tom, N4MEO – no report.

Vant, K4LM – (absent).

Committee Reports:

Membership – Mark, K2AU – Had successful picnic last week. Bill Locado, K4WHL, *voted in as Full Member*

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjourned: 20:09.

Program

Kai, KE4PT, presented joint work with Rick, W4RQ, that concludes: live trees matter to your vertical antenna performance.

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Next SFDXA meeting, Wednesday at 7:33pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 PM in the FMC cafeteria. The club collects a member donation of \$7.00 for Dinner.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

Jul 11, 2018

Sep 5, 2018

Nov 7, 2018

Jan 2, 2019

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary

=====



SFDXA July 11, 2018 meeting report.

Venue: Florida Medical Center auditorium

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

We pledged allegiance to the Flag. We introduced ourselves; 24 of us were in attendance.

We observed a moment of silence in memory of Kappy WA4WTG (SK) and Vant K4LM (SK).

Memorial for Vant's inurnment is tomorrow July 12 at 1 PM – Fred Hunter's 6301 Taft St. Hollywood Area "C"

Officer Reports:

Vice President – Bill, W2CQ, –

Secretary – Kai, KE4PT; most Club presentations, and all Meeting notes are posted on The SFDXA web page, www.sfdxa.com. The Silent Key list now includes Kappy, WA4WTG, and Vant, K4LM.

The tower-to-hospital grounding connection needs to be finalized.

Treasurer – Ray, N4RU, \$100 to qth.com, \$473 on picnic, \$146 tower workers, \$1500 Waller flag, \$50 i memory of each Vant and Kappy. The SFDXA balance as of 6/29/2018 is \$3,365.62.

President – Pete, N8PR, report:

1. Sunday 10 AM party to dismantle Kappy's antennas.
2. BOD elected Mark, K2AU, to the BOD to serve out the term of Vant, K4LM – Thank you Mark.
3. N8PR was elected to the ARRL DX Advisory Committee.
4. The Banner, signed by the Ops who sailed to Bouvet was returned to us – displayed at meeting.
5. The Bouvet team has offered to do one of 4 possibilities after their bills are paid:
 - a. Refund a portion of the funds donated to the donors
 - b. Use the funds to offset the ~\$20,000 paid by each team member
 - c. Donate our portion to the NCDXF or other designated DX foundation
 - d. Do nothing and they will donate the funds to their choice of DX foundationAll the BOD members chose (b), with one person saying half (a) and half (b).
6. What do the Club Members think? Any comments? THE CLUB MEMBERS OPTED FOR (b).
7. Still need more activity on the repeater.

BOD members comments

John, K2SHA – Pleasure to work KH1, ATNO; here to learn about FT8. The club picnic was a great success.

Randy, N4QV – Worked KH1 for K4FK

Tom, N4MEO – nothing this evening

Mark, K2AU – Worked KH1 on 40 m CW

Committee Reports:

Membership – Mark, K2AU – John Sanders, W6BXQ, up for full membership: YES by unanimous consent.

Technical + Repeater – Elliot KB2TZ; Pete N8PR; Bill W2CQ

Do we need a team to go up on the roof and tune the dipoles?

Web Site – Sebastian, W4AS – will be putting up the photos from the Antenna Buster's album.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjourned: 19:55.



Program

Randy Shirley, N4QV, presented his experiences with the new WSJT-X FT8 digital mode.

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Next SFDXA meeting, Wednesday at 7:33pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 PM in the FMC cafeteria. The club collects a member donation of \$7.00 for Dinner.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

Sep 5, 2018

Nov 7, 2018

Jan 2, 2019

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary

=====



SFDXA September 5, 2018 meeting report.

Venue: Florida Medical Center auditorium

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

We pledged allegiance to the Flag. We introduced ourselves; **28** of us were in attendance.

Officer Reports:

Vice President – Bill, W2CQ, – absent.

Secretary – Kai, KE4PT: most Club presentations, and all Meeting notes are posted on The SFDXA web page, **www.sfdxa.com**. The tower-to-hospital grounding connection on the roof still needs to be finalized. Please upload your QSOs/QSLs to ClubLog, and join the SFDXA Club Group. That is where we maintain our club member DX statistics. Follow the link to ClubLog from the SFDXA web pages, or go directly to **<https://www.clublog.org/league.php?club=121>**

Treasurer – Ray, N4RU, the SFDXA balance is \$3,917.62 as of 7/31/18. Report accepted.

President – Pete, N8PR, report:

1. Video before this meeting was of the trip to Baker Island. George, AA7JV, will present details of that trip at the Oct 2 DCARC meeting. He could not present at the SFDXA meeting due to schedule conflicts. All SFDXA Members are welcome.
2. Nominations for officers will be during the November meeting. Are you willing to serve? I will be retiring.
3. I want to introduce you all to the “Yellow Dot” Program (1 minute video), see also: **<http://www.broward.org/YellowDot/Pages/default.aspx>**
4. Jeff, WA4AW, announced that he will be moving and giving up his post as Section Manager. Thank you Jeff for all your hard work.
5. Still need more activity on the repeater.

BOD members comments

John, K2SHA – no report

Randy, N4QV – all okay at K4FK station, need some dipole work; tuning.

Tom, N4MEO – no report

Mark, K2AU – bring your QSL cards in for the bureau.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Mark, K2AU – Mac English, KM9A, voted in as full member.

Technical + Repeater – Elliot KB2TZ; Pete N8PR; Bill W2CQ

Web Site – Sebastian, W4AS – will be putting up the photos from the Antenna Buster’s album.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjourned: 19:55.

Program

We enjoyed a short video about the Baker Island DXpedition prior to the meeting.

Tony Gawel, W6TNY, presented “Battery Technology and Amateur Radio”, a look at different battery chemistries.

See the SFDXA web pages for downloadable PDF copies of many of our presentation.



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Future meetings of The SFDXA:

Nov 7, 2018

Jan 2, 2019

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary

=====



SFDXA Oct 10, 2018 Board of Directors meeting report.

Venue: Ye Olde Falcon Pub, 2867 S University Dr, Davie, FL 33328

President Pete Rimmel, N8PR, called the meeting to order at **19:26 EDT**.

Attending the Board Meeting

President, Pete, N8PR	Director, John, K2SHA,	
Vice-pres., Bill, W2CQ, [absent]	Director, Randy, N4QV, [absent]	Member, Gil, W1RG
Treasurer, Ray, N4RU	Director, Tom, N4MEO,	Member, Sue, KA2RGK
Secretary, Kai, KE4PT	Director, Mark, K2AU,	

Reports/Discussions.

1. John, K2SHA, suggested we do something with youth groups. A discussion ensued. Object: increase SFDXA membership.
2. Pete, N8PR, DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) members: ARRL asks "should DXCC have an FT8 category". Noting that a "RTTY only" award had been previously rejected, and pointing to what happened with WAS (the approximately 80 WAS categories), the BoD consensus is, "Leave DXCC as is".
3. Mark, K2AU. Suggested that Pete ask the DXAC to consider reinstating the "1-mile off shore rule" for DX operations .
4. Mark, K2AU, "The club needs more activities." (this is a new member issue).

Nominations for Officers and Directors for 2019.

They take over at the March 6, 2019 meeting, and serve for 12 months.

Please note that, "All Directors are expected to be active participants, rather than passive observers, in sharing with club officers the workload entailed in maintaining club functions. These functions include general activities (such as programming, special events, etc.), membership development, technical affairs (repeater and HF station operations and maintenance, website development, etc.), and inter-club relations." — The SFDXA By-laws.

Nominated by the Board for 2019

President Randy, N4QV	Director, John, K2SHA
Vice-president, Gil, W1RG	Director, Pete, N8PR
Treasurer, Ray, N4RU	Director, Tom, N4MEO
Secretary, Kai, KE4PT	Director, Mark, K2AU

Adjourned 20:04 EDT.

I post meeting reports and meeting presentations on the club web page, www.sfdxa.com. Send comment about the records to the club Secretary, Kai, KE4PT, at k.siwiaak@ieee.org.

The SFDXA meet o, odd months, first Wednesday at 7:33 pm at the Florida Medical Center following a dinner at 6:00 pm in the FMC cafeteria.

Future meetings of The SFDXA:

Nov 7, 2018

Jan 2, 2019

Mar 6, 2019

73,

Kai, KE4PT,

SFDXA Secretary