

# W9JOZ

Volume 7, Issue 10

October 2017

## Next Meeting is October 19, 2017

**Fox Hunts**  
October 15th will be the next one.

Foxhunts are the third Sunday of each month.  
Miles and a two-hour time limit  
Meet at 1:00 CST at the Sandy Acres Park on the south end of Knox.

**September meeting was the Annual Auction.**

There were some sales made. Maybe there will be more buyers next year.

Fall is here. Get those antennas fixed or installed before the cold weather comes.



Meetings are at the Henry F. Schricker Library on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of December.

The library is located on west Culver Road, two blocks west of Highway 35.



**Are you on the air?**

Richard, K9QA is an official ARRL DXCC Card Checker. Contact him at [k9qa@arrl.net](mailto:k9qa@arrl.net) to have your cards checked.

DX Century Club

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## **October Events**

### **Birthdays**

**October 3 - Joe KB9KE**

**October 4 - Jack WA9ZTP**

**October 5 - Rich K9QA**

**Radioville Special Event is next Saturday the 7th.**

**About time to start Starke County Amateur Radio Club  
Weekly 2 Meter Net back up.**

**Let me know at next meeting if anyone is interested in having  
this net again.**

**Suspended until Fall**

DAY OF WEEK: Saturday 8:00 p.m. Central time

HOST: KN9OX Repeater

FREQUENCY: 145.410 - 600

PL TONE: 131.8

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Saturday Breakfast is always interesting.



At Fingerhut Saturday September 30th -- Vickie decided to sit down for a minute to take our orders.

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Interesting article on batteries.

<https://www.lion.com/lion-news/july-2015/how-lithium-batteries-become-a-workplace-hazard>

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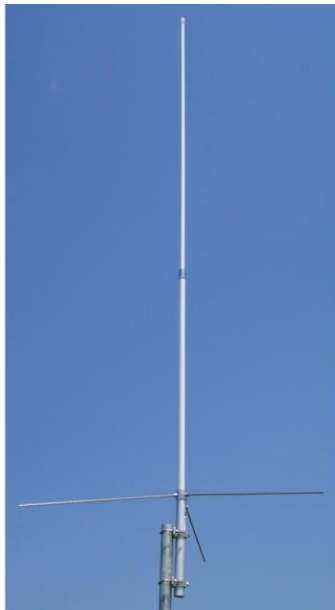
## *Home Depot in the Ham Radio Business?*

**By Steve Mollman –KD9HL**

**Is Home Depot dipping its toes into the Ham Radio business? A search of their on-line catalog reveals a number of ham antennas being offered. All are dual bander's for 144-148 MHz/430-450 MHz. Most are designed for mobile use but there are several base verticals listed. The manufacturer is "Tram" supposedly out of Texas.**

Of particular interest for an omni-directional vertical is the TRAM 1480 Amateur Dual-Band Base Antenna. This antenna appears to be a clone of the Diamond X-200, an antenna that retails for about \$120. The Tram is under \$43 + tax delivered to your local Home Depot.

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While probably not a “cup of tea” for a hard core HF DX'er, these antennas may be of interest to someone who does dabble in the 2 meter and up world.

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**We will not see this island activated again in our lifetimes.**

## **3Y0Z BOUVET DXPEDITION**

(Press Release #8, dated September 21st).

Our team Meeting in Atlanta, GA, from Sept. 7th through the 10th was a great success. Eighteen of our 20 operators were present, coming from as far away as Japan and representing 7 of the 8 home countries of our team members.

Our meetings began with a review of our goals, the challenges we have met, and those we have yet to encounter. We had a Skype conference with the CEO of our transportation company in Punta Arenas, Chile, and then discussed safety, our shelter deployment plans, antennas, transceivers and amplifiers, propagation, medical and emergency issues, operating practices, scheduling, and propagation.

We spent many hours unpacking and then staging our equipment. We inventoried everything and then began moving it from temporary storage to our 40-foot sea container. We also prepared our customs documentation which included the 6,000 items on our inventory. We ran a tank of gas through each of our eight 6.5 KW generators, drained the oil from them, and readied them for shipment. There were many of trips to local stores for more shipping cases, duct tape, nuts and bolts, electrical supplies, fuel cans, etc.

Our EME team needed to be certain there were no problems with their complex station and antenna system. They worked until 4:30 AM assembling their 2-meter station and antenna array and were rewarded by completing a QSO off the moon with PA2CHR, our EME pilot station. The station works!

Our sea container leaves Atlanta the first few days of October. It will be placed aboard a ship bound for Punta Arenas, Chile. We are hopeful that it will there no later than December 1st. Our team members have all purchased their airline tickets to Punta Arenas for a couple days of meetings and orientation. Then we will fly across the Drake Passage on the morning of January 13th to board our ship at King George Island in the South Shetland Islands. We plan to sail for Bouvet that same afternoon. We will arrive at Bouvet sometime between January 23rd and 25th. Our actual landing date is weather dependent. We will be lucky to be on the air within a few days.

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Every detail of our landing sequence, shelter construction, antenna layout, equipment setup and radio operations is well thought out. Also, our emergency evacuation routes and plans have been identified.

We are humbled by the support of the DX community. Over 100 clubs and foundations and over 1550 individuals have supported us financially. If you have already supported us, we thank you. But, please ask your fellow DXers to join you. If you have yet to contribute, we ask for your consideration. While our operators are prepared to dig deeper into their pockets to make this DXpedition happen, your continued support would make our faces, as well as our antennas...beam.

Counting the days, 73,  
Bob-K4UEE  
Ralph-K0IR  
Erling-LA6VM

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AA6YQ, writer of the DXLABS software, posted the following:

Version 5.33 of the "PC Cleanup" tool CCleaner, which is distributed by Avast and occasionally mentioned here, contains malware:

<https://www.howtogeek.com/326742/ccleaner-was-hacked-what-you-need-to-know/>

<http://blog.talosintelligence.com/2017/09/avast-distributes-malware.html>

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## **HAM? HAM radio? ham radio? Amateur Radio? amateur radio!**

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the ARRL PR mailing list, we've been discussing the proper way to refer to amateur radio. What brought this up was an email from one list subscriber, Richard, WB6NAH, who was (rightfully) proud of the work that his club—the [Skagit Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Club](#)—was doing. He noted that they were even featured in the police department's emergency preparedness brochure:

[[download image from <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/skagit-arc-768x1024.jpg>]]

As you can see, the brochure refers to "HAM radio" and "HAM radio operators."

Referring to amateur radio in this way just drives me crazy. "Ham radio" is just a nickname for amateur radio, and "HAM" is certainly not an acronym for anything. I congratulated Richard on getting his club

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included in the brochure, but noted, "...it's not HAM radio! It's either 'amateur radio' or 'ham radio' (ham is not an acronym). I hate to be nitpicky about this, but as a professional writer, this usage just drives me crazy." He replied, "I agree on Amateur Radio, that was the city's call."

That kicked off the discussion.

One ham replied to me privately, "Thank you...I am continually trying to explain that it is not an acronym or abbreviation."

Another replied to the list:

The most correct term is "amateur radio" or alternatively "ham radio", both written in normal case. If using "ham radio", it is a best practice to first write "amateur (ham) radio" in the first non-header/non-title occurrence.

Some will write "Amateur Radio" in proper noun format (first letters in caps) and while this may be acceptable to many and in certain venues, anyone using a style handbook will say it is incorrect. Less correct is to write "Ham Radio" in proper noun format as this is a slang term, albeit a popular one. Of course either term may be written as proper nouns when part of a title or name of an organization.

Least correct is to write "HAM" in all caps; as stated by others, ham is not an abbreviation or acronym. Writing it as "HAM" is completely wrong, will drive many people bonkers, and should be avoided at all costs.

Ward, N0AX, offered this explanation:

To clarify where the capitalization originated, there is a long-standing ARRL Board Directive, decades old, stipulating that the words "Amateur Radio" be capitalized in ARRL publications and documents. Most non-amateur publications return it to the lower-case style that is used for non-proper nouns.

One guy got a little miffed that we were wasting our time discussing this at all:

You know, I've been reading this thread and I think people are getting too hung up on very minor details. The bottom line they got PR. So something wasn't spelled right or capitalized, so what. The message got out and IMHO that's the bottom line. Let's not waste any more bandwidth on this.

I agreed that it was great that they were included in the brochure, and that we were probably beating this topic to death, but I don't think these are minor details. I said that PR professionals pride themselves on getting the details right. So should amateur radio PR people.

I'll give the final word to Dan, AI4GK. He wrote:

I don't think that standardizing what we call ourselves qualifies as getting hung up on minor details. If we don't have a standardized way of referring to us, how can we expect a public, who already is confused, to understand who we are?

I don't think that you can argue with this. Let's avoid confusion by using "amateur radio" when writing about our hobby/service. I'd even urge the ARRL to rethink their use of "Amateur Radio." Sometimes, it may be OK to use "ham radio," but it's just not correct to use "HAM radio" or just "HAM."

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Dan, KB6NU, is the author of the “No Nonsense” amateur radio license study guides and blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com. When he's not picking nits about the name of our hobby, he teaches ham radio classes and operates CW on the HF bands. You can email him at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

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We have several **new** pieces of equipment for sale on our For Sale Page <http://www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm>

Please check it out.

Free: 3 Motorola-type Mobile Radios - one is set up to work cross-band 2-6 others are in the 2 meter or 440 meter band. Will not ship.

Email John at <mailto:w3ml@w3ml.com>.

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If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 20th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

73

*John*, W3ML

