



The DX HUNTER

JUNE 17

MDXA CLUB INFO

**MEETINGS: 2nd SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
7:30 AM @ GOLDEN CORRAL HWY 49
GULFPORT**

MDXA WEBSITE: MDXA.org

Net Frequency: 147.375 Tuesday @ 8:00 PM

Editor E-mail: KE4MBP@GMAIL.COM

"More than a Club – We are Friends"

CLUB NEWS

June Events:

Radio Merit Badge, Camp Tiak

Field Day 2017, Success Community Center

We need to start getting ready. Since we have not been able to get CW operators we will have a digital station. Each contact will be 2 points. This could help us raise our score. Any other ideas you have to help will be greatly appreciated.

We will meet at Success on Friday 23 around 5PM to shoot up pull crows for our antennas. It won't take but an hour so come out and help.

MDXA Field Day Progress

Success Community Center, Saucier

Power: We will be running generator power for all rigs.

Ancillary equipment: fans, lights and computers will be run off commercial power that will be delivered to each station via drop-cord.

Shelter: All stations will be under cover of the shelter and air-conditioned with real bathrooms.

Activities: We will have three (3) areas of activity broken down as follows:

SSB Mode HF Communications Station

Digital HF Communications Station

Guest and Participant Sign-In and Public Information Station

Equipment: All stations will be equipped with one antenna. Rigs are being supplied by various members and we still need some back up rigs and tuners

Contact KE4MBP (Howard) at 228*222*5184 if you can provide additional equipment, antennas, tuners, tables, fans (etc).

We want to see **every member of MDXA** at Field Day. Even if you just "drop by" for a quick cup of coffee. Come out and show your support for our club.

FIELD DAY JUNE 24-25



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Last month we talked about Station Grounding and how to properly ground your shack & equipment. This month I'm going to show you a way to install ground rods. It's called:

NO BEATING GROUND RODS

In the "old days" we got a 8 ft solid copper clad solid rod and a 5 lb sledge hammer and beat the rod into the ground (maybe). We hit rocks and other construction debris and bent the rod, had to pull it out and relocate it. Busted our knuckles when we missed the rod and hit our hand or our a friends hand, who was holding the rods for us. There was a lot of cussing going on.

Now - how do we fix this problem and make installing a ground rod easier, less painful and actually double the surface area of the ground rod, for the same money? Easy, and here's how: Go to your local hardware store and get the following 'stuff' and your new ground rod.

- 1 - 8 - 10 ft piece of 1/2" copper water pipe (double the grounding surface of a regular ground rod)
- 1 - 1/2" 90 deg copper elbow
- 1 - 1/2" ball valve
- 1 - 1/2" copper fitting to standard female hose fitting
- Flux, soldier and a gas torch

You are now ready to install you ground rod(s) the fast, easy and painless way.

Soldier the elbow onto the end of the ground rod. Now soldier or screw on the ball valve to the other end of the elbow. Now connect the hose fitting to the open end of ball valve. Once you connect your water (garden hose) to the female hose fitting on the ball valve you have create a water jet. Cool huh..

(Note: you may want to dig a small hole where you are installing the ground rod, just to get it started) Turn on the water at house and pressurize the hose/water jet to the ball valve. Get on your ladder so you can reach the ball valve and get the ground rod vertical. Now open the ball valve and push the ground rod into the ground. The water jetting out of the open end will push dirt and rocks out of the way and the rod will sink into the ground. Move the ground rod up and down slowly while sinking it into the ground, this will allow the water to soften the ground below the end of the rod and allow stones and debris to flush out of the way. Keep moving the rod up/down until the ground rod is installed. You can leave the rod above ground or sink it below ground depending on you needs. Now turn off the water at the house and undo the hose from the ball valve. Since the hollow water pipe is full of water, you will need to use the gas torch to heat the pipe, below the 90 deg elbow, to boil the water out of the pipe. BE CAREFUL the water will turn to steam so heat the pipe away from the open end. Once the water has steamed off you can un-soldier the elbow and you have a perfectly installed ground rod and no mushroomed head to file or grind off and no busted knuckles.

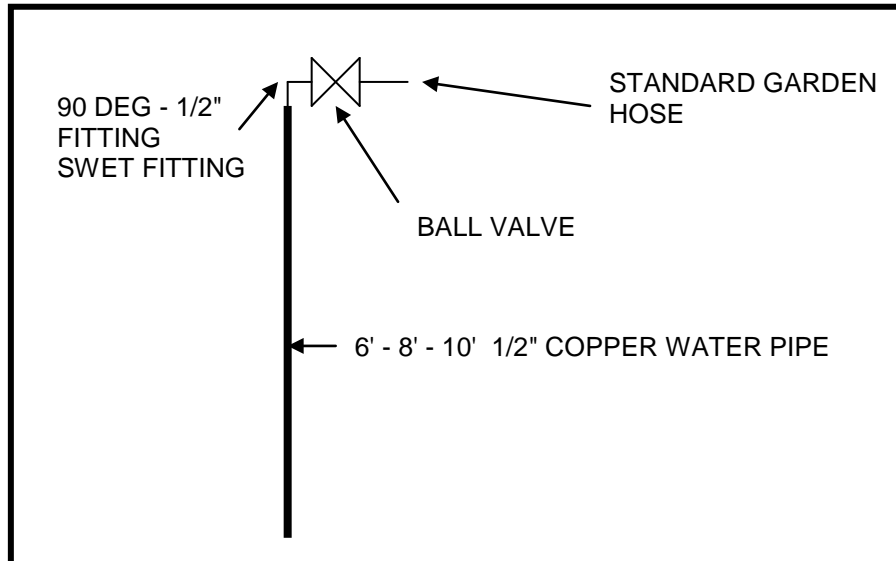
Another way to do this and cheaper is, if you have an old 1/2" water hose just connect it to the house hose bib and using a couple of airplane clamps, insert the 1/2" copper pipe and clamp it tight. The only difference is you can't control the water pressure at the ground pipe unless someone stays at the hose bib at the house.

Another aid to installation is to cut a 45 deg angle on the ground rod end going into the ground. It will act as a cutter and to help move stuff out of the way as it slides into the ground.



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Here is a drawing of you ground rod driver system. This will save a ton of time when installing ground rods.

Remember our Military Heroes this Memorial Day and every day.





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ANNOUNCED DX OPERATIONS

June					
2017 Jun01	2017 Jun06	Liechtenstein	HB0	M0OXO	By GM4UYE GM0OBX MM0OKG 2M0JHN as HB0/GM4UYE; 80-6m; charity DXpedition
2017 Jun04	2017 Jun16	Reunion	FR	LotW	By F4HPX as FR/F4HPX fm St Denis; 40-15m, focus on 20m; 5-100w; SSB JT65 JT9 PSK31 RTTY, perhaps CW; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via eQSL, Club Log
2017 Jun07	2017 Jun12	Malta	9H3XG	JA1XGI	By JA1XGI fm EU-023 (JM75gv); 40-15m; SSB RTTY; QSL OK via JARL Buro or direct (w/ SASE)
2017 Jun07	2017 Jun16	Bahamas	C6A	Home Call	By K2KW as C6ATA (QSL also via LotW), K6KLY as C6ALY, K8CC as C6ACC fm FL15wc; 6m and up, some HF
2017 Jun09	2017 Jun18	Palau	T8CW	LotW	By JH0IXE fm Koror I (IOTA OC-009); 80-6m; CW SSB + digital; QSL also OK via JA0FOX
2017 Jun10	2017 Jun20	Albania	ZA	IK7JWX	By IK7JWX I0SNY I8LWL IK8GQY as ZA/IK7JWX fm Sazan I (IOTA EU-169); HF; SSB + digital; QSL also OK via Club Log
2017 Jun11	2017 Jun19	French Polynesia	TX5EG	LotW	By F6BCW F6DTZ F6IPT F1MNQ F1TCV fm King George I (IOTA OC-131); 80-12m; CW SSB; QSL also OK via F6BCW (Buro or direct), Club Log, eQSL
2017 Jun13	2017 Jun26	Faroe Is	OY	K2HVN	By K2HVN as OY/K2HVN fm Torshan; 40-10m; mainly CW; 100w; Buddipole
2017 Jun14	2017 Jun20	Sint Maarten	PJ7	Home Call	By W9DR as PJ7/W9DR, W9KXQ KK9N K9UK W9AEB likewise; 80-10m; (2 stations); CW SSB + digital; PJ7/W9DR on 6m, w/ beacon 50.115.7; 80-10m (2 stations)
2017 Jun15	2017 Jun25	Cyprus	5B	LotW	By DL6JF as 5B/DL6JF; HF; CW; holiday style operation; QRV for All Asian DX CW Contest
2017 Jun16	2017 Jun23	Palau	T8		By JA6UBY as T88RR, JO3LVG as T88MK, JH6DUL as T88VV, JL1HYH as T88HY, JM1LIG as T88FM, JI6NCY as T88NC; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY
2017 Jun18	2017 Jun28	Montenegro	4O7GD	IK5WWA	By IK5WWA; 80-6m; SSB; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2017 Jun24	2017 Jul01	Christmas I	VK9AA	LotW	By HL1AHS fm IOTA OC-002 (OK20uj); 80-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31; VDA + G5RV; QSL also OK via HL1AHS direct: Sookun Chae, 1007 Jeil Bldg, 379 Yeouidaebang-ro, Yeoungdeungpo-Gu, Seoul, 07333, South Korea
2017 Jun28	2017 Jul02	Palau	T88TJ	Auto Buro	By JR1FKR fm Koror I (IOTA OC-009; 40 20 17 15 10m; SSB RTTY
2017 Jun29	2017 Jul17	French Polynesia	TX5EG	LotW	By F6BCW F6DTZ F6IPT F1MNQ F1TCV fm Huahine I (IOTA OC-067); 80-12m; QSL also OK via F6BCW (Buro or direct), Club Log, eQSL



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CONTESTING NEWS

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Alabama QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 3 to 0400Z, Jun 4
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 10 to 0259Z, Jun 12
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 17 to 0200Z, Jun 18
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 18
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 24 to 2100Z, Jun 25

If you have info or articles you would like in the Newsletter, e-mail them to me and I will get them published.

K1AR CONTESTING HINT

If you are a packet-assisted contester or DXer, always be sure to verify the callsign and exchange of the "spotted" station you are working. Many times a busted callsign has been spotted. Make the mistake appear on your screen -- not in your log!