

ANDEX



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CLIMBING COTOPAXI



World's Highest Active Volcano

The HCJB QSL card for November and December of 1974 will feature Cotopaxi. Roger Stubbe, our HCJB engineer in charge of frequencies, recently climbed this mountain. He describes his adventure as follows:

"With temperatures well below freezing and winds of 50 mph, I felt like curling up in the snow and going to sleep!

"It started the afternoon before, when three cars carrying 15 of us, ten high-schoolers and five adults, left for Cotopaxi. This 19,500 foot mountain is the goal of nearly every climber in Ecuador. While not the tallest, nor the most difficult to climb, it holds a certain attraction for climbers. Perhaps it is its visibility from Quito, its perfect cone shape or even the fact that it is the world's highest active volcano.

"We spent Friday night at a stone and concrete shelter at the 16,000 foot snow line. Few slept more than a couple of hours, and the activity began at 2:30 AM. After a hot breakfast, heavy on calories, the first group of three left at about 4:00 AM, tied together with a 100 foot nylon rope and equipped with ice axe, crampons, dark sun glasses

(for use after sun-up) and plenty of warm clothing, including face coverings.

"The first couple of hours were done by flashlight, following a course chosen by the fading hours of sunlight the afternoon before. Little conversation is exchanged at times like these. Breathing is enough effort; to waste it on useless talk is poor use of the rarified air. I recall, after an hour of plodding up the steep slope, saying, 'I hope you all are as tired as I am.' The answer came back by the wind, 'Worse!!'

"One has to take precautions against accidents such as falls and avalanches. Still fresh in our minds was the tragic death of three climbers on Cayambe, another Ecuadorian snow-capped peak, a week before. Altitude does strange things to one's body, and sleepiness is the most noticeable. Without sufficient oxygen one gets listless, the mind slows down and sleep is so attractive. But to sleep could be tragic. Forced, deep breathing is the only way to stay reasonably alert.

"Hour after hour, one foot before another, stopping only to catch our breath, then on again for another 20 steps . . . until, finally, there it is . . . the peak! Just 100 yards ahead, and only six feet higher, but it still took more than five minutes and three stops for rest . . . and then we were there! There is an undescrivable feeling of having reached the goal, the top of the mountain. The six hours of continued climbing, panting and suffering are more than compensated. We made it! One can think of the beautiful ice falls, crevices, the view, and all the other beauties of the climb, but the arrival at the top -- that is the ultimate thrill!

"A brief word of prayer, some pictures to prove the feat and back down again. Two and a half hours of careful descension brings us back to the

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THE BEST GIFT

Thanksgiving is a rare commodity. Ingratitude and complaint seem to be in better supply. If you doubt that pessimistic assessment, listen to one of the "phone-in" radio programs. Inevitably, the "beefs" outnumber the "bouquets." The person who is quick to register complaint may be slow in expressing gratitude.

If thanklessness is common in our dealings with one another, what about our relationship with God? He has done so much for us, but do we thank him? "His compassion never ends. It is only the Lord's mercies that have kept us from complete destruction. Great is his faithfulness; his loving-kindness begins afresh each day" (Lam. 3:22, 23). Yet in a moment of disappointment we are likely to say: "How could God do this to me?" Years of never-failing provision don't rate a "thank you."

The Psalmist surveyed his life and wisely asked, "But now what can I offer Jehovah for all he has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12). He wondered how he could best thank God who continually gave him good things. His answer is an amazing one. He concluded that the best way he could thank God for his countless gifts was by accepting another one! By accepting God's choicest gift: "I will take the cup of salvation" (Psalm 116:13).

Now what about your personal relationship with God? Thank him for his regular gifts by taking the one gift of salvation which he most desires to give to you. Daily you receive good things from him even though you never asked for them . . . health, friends, necessities of life, joys, and life itself. One gift, however, is reserved only for those who ask for it -- the gift of salvation or eternal life. And you best express your thanks to God for

himself and for all his other gifts by accepting this one which he freely offers to you.

Your best expression of thanks to God is to accept Jesus Christ who gave his life to secure acceptance with God and eternal life for all who receive him. "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Small wonder, then, that the apostle Paul enthusiastically exclaimed, "Thank God for his Son -- his Gift too wonderful for words!" (2 Cor. 9:15).

The act of receiving Jesus Christ by faith as your personal Savior is your "thank you" to God for all that he is and all that he does for you. What better time than at this Thanksgiving season?

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RADIO ZARACAY



Radio Zaracay - Control Operator

Santo Domingo de los Colorados is a rapidly growing town about 60 miles west of Quito. It is located on the Toachi River in a very fertile region. For many years it was best known as the home of the colorful Colorado Indians. In more recent years good roads have been built in the area, and it has attracted thousands of settlers because of the wealth of agricultural products that can be grown. It is at a low altitude and has a warm climate.

There are only a few hundred Colorado Indians left, but they continue to dress in their brightly colored clothing. Most characteristic is the unusual hair arrangement of the men. They color their hair bright red with a dye made from the seeds of the achiote plant and then form it into what appears to be a helmet. The chief of these Indians

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is an old man who is also a witch doctor. Not only do the Colorado Indians come to him for physical cures, but many other people from all parts of the country also make trips to Santo Domingo to visit him. His name is Zaracay. The best known radio station in Santo Domingo, Radio Zaracay, has taken its name from this old witch doctor.

Radio Zaracay, HCOT1, operates on both medium and short waves. On medium wave they transmit on a frequency of 965 kHz with an output power of three kilowatts. For this frequency a "T" type antenna is used. The shortwave service is broadcast on 3.390 MHz with an output power of four kilowatts fed into a simple dipole antenna. Both transmitters were constructed in Quito by a national engineer.

The studios of Radio Zaracay are located on the 4th floor of a modern concrete building which is under the same ownership as the station. Connected to the building is a large sports arena which makes it very convenient to broadcast the major athletic events in the city. The control room is well equipped with an eight input console constructed locally. Two Russco turntables and three Sony tape recorders complete the technical facilities.

All programming from Radio Zaracay is in the Spanish language, and the same programs are carried simultaneously on both frequencies. Programs are primarily commercial with some cultural and sports events being included. Transmissions start at 5:00 AM local time and run continuously until 1:00 AM (1000-0600 GMT). On special occasions they may stay on the air after 0600 GMT.

Radio Zaracay is one of the stations in Ecuador that is frequently reported by DXers in many parts of the world. The station receives many reception reports and requests for verification. Their reputation for sending QSLs, however, is not the best. If you are able to pick up Radio Zaracay and want to try for a verification, send your reception reports to: Sr. Holger Velástegui D., Director, Radio Zaracay, Edificio Zaracay, Santo Domingo de los Colorados, Ecuador. Your reports should be in Spanish, and it would be good to enclose return postage, preferably in the form of unused Ecuadorian stamps. This is one station many of our ANDEX members should be able to receive.

DXer OF THE MONTH



Mrs. Rita Kelly - ANDEX No. 224

For the first time the ANDEX "DXer of the Month" award is being given to a young lady. Among the 1,050 members, there are 32 ladies who live in nine countries: Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Japan, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Trinidad and the United States. They range in age from 13 to 71. Ten of them are teenagers. It is only right that one of them be granted the honor being chosen "DXer of the Month."

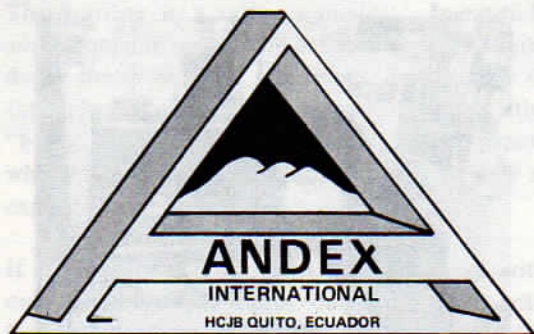
Rita Kelly lives in Nashville, Tennessee. She and her husband, Robert, joined ANDEX soon after the Club was formed. Her membership number is 224. Not only do they share their interest in DXing, but they are also both employed as psychiatric technicians and work the night shift at the same hospital in Nashville. She became interested in shortwave a little less than two years ago and enjoys shortwave listening, DXing and collecting QSL cards from around the world. The Kellys use a Sony World Zone CRF-230 receiver with the built-in telescoping antenna.

Rita finds time to spend about three hours a day listening to shortwave, frequently between 000 and 0300 GMT. Among the many stations she listens to is HCJB which she heard for the first time back in March of 1973.

Rita is also a member of the American Shortwave Listener's Club of Huntington Beach, California. Other interests that occupy part of her time include sewing, knitting, music, art and nursing. A recent letter from the Kellys expressed their joy at the arrival of a new addition to their family -- another reason why they are an extremely busy and happy couple!

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SEAL CONTEST WINNERS



Official ANDEX Seal

The response to our ANDEX Seal Contest was very gratifying. Seventy-four members, from 12 countries, sent in a total of 147 entries. These were carefully studied by a group of judges, and the first prize was given to the seal printed above. This is now the official seal or emblem for the Andes DXers International.

Winners in the ANDEX Seal Contest are as follows:

1st Prize

Glenn G. Schmid, Port Washington, NY

2nd Prize

Helmut Heindl, West Germany

3rd Prize

Miyajiro Tsuji, Japan

Honorable Mention

Alan W. Brooks, Oakdale, CT

John T. Downes, Schenectady, NY

Chester R. Johnson, Alexandria, IN

Mark Lamborn, Coatesville, PA

Douglas Wicks, Mineral Point, PA

Our sincere thanks to all who took part in this contest. We are enclosing with this issue of ANDEX International a copy of a beautiful street scene in Quito as our token of appreciation to all those who sent in entries for this contest.

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shelter, where now the conversation runs free. A quick lunch is prepared while backpacks are filled, then back down to the cars and back to Quito.

"Before going around that last hill with the car, I had to stop, look back, and meditate a bit. Just think . . . I was there!"

ANDEX MEMBER 1000

Recently an important milestone was passed when the Andes DXers International reached a membership of 1000. Mr. John H. Budgen of Attleborough, Norfolk, England, was the DXer who received the membership certificate bearing the number 1000.

Mr. Budgen is one of our older members and is employed as a Clerk of Works (Building and Civil Engineering). He has been interested in shortwave listening for about three years. For most of his DXing he uses a Grundig Satellit 2000 connected to a long wire antenna. He also has a Philips GH-944 and a Grundig Elite Boy. He finds time for about five hours of listening each day, mostly between the hours of 1750 and 2100 GMT. He first heard HCJB during May of 1974. In addition to shortwave listening and DXing, he enjoys contests, so we are glad to be able to announce that he will receive the special award for member 1000.

In addition to shortwave listening, Mr. Budgen enjoys cricket and opera. He has also joined the Radio Budapest and Radio Canada DX Clubs.

As ANDEX continues to grow, thanks to the excellent response from so many DXers, our next goal will be 1500 members. We will have a special award waiting to send to member number 1500.

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Our congratulations go to Rita Kelly, "DXer of the Month" for November, 1974. We wish her and her husband many years of continued success as DXers.

Listen to DX Party Line and invite your friends to tune in. Heard 3 times each week on HCJB.

For South Pacific: Monday-Thursday-Saturday
0930 GMT 31 m - 9.745 mHz
49 m - 6.130 mHz

For Europe: Monday-Thursday-Saturday
0930 GMT 25 m - 11.915 mHz
1930 GMT 16 m - 17.705 mHz
19 m - 15.300 mHz

For North America: Tuesday-Thursday-Sunday
(Monday-Wednesday-Saturday 9:30 PM EST)
0230 GMT 25 m - 11.915 mHz
31 m - 9.560 mHz
49 m - 5.970 mHz