

# Report from the AGM 2009

by Anker Petersen

20 persons enjoyed the Annual General Meeting of the Danish Shortwave Club International at Vardeborg in Vejers on May 15-17, 2009.

They were: Tibor Szilagyi (Sweden), Andreas and Gertrud Schmid, Bernhard Hein, Eckhard Röscher, Simon-Peter Liehr, Hella and Karl Helt, Edith and Klaus Krüger (all from Germany). From Denmark: Anker Petersen, Bent Nielsen, Kaj Bredahl Jørgensen and Else Malmstrøm, Kurt and Edith Ærenlund Pedersen, Torben Dahl, Vagn and Karin Nielsen and Knud Eriksen.

Upon arrival, the DSWCI flag was hoisted and receivers and antennas were put up in the DX-Camp. Unfortunately the reception conditions appeared to be poor this weekend.

Saturday morning it was raining, so we did not have our traditional walk in the dunes, but instead saw an exhibition from one of the founders and the first Chairman of the DSWCI, Niels Jakob Jensen, who passed away in August 2007. Last year Kurt and Anker were invited to Thisted by his widow Ulla who handed his unique DX-collection over to our Club. The exhibition included about 200 QSL's from 1951-1966, his last DX-receiver (an OTRA 9R-4J), 55 pennants and many valuable souvenirs, particularly from Radio Japan and HCJB.

The two new books by our member Jerry Berg: "Broadcasting on the Short Waves 1945 to TODAY" and "Listening on the Shortwaves, 1945 to TODAY" were also shown.



Again this year we found "Die Deutsche Ecke"

At 1400 hours the AGM began with a welcome from Anker Petersen who also read greetings from several DX-ers who could not attend.

As usual, Tibor Szilagyi was elected as chairman of the AGM. He found that it was legally announced and that the report from the AGM 2008 could be approved.

Anker Petersen then read the Chairman's Report: "Again this year, I am happy to report to you that the past year has been a good and stable one for the DSWCI.

The global Finance crisis has not touched the Club. We have not had any big problems and our economy is still very good. The six-weekly Shortwave News, the bi-weekly, electronic newsletter DX-Window and the annual Domestic Broadcasting Survey have been published as planned and our website has been working very well.

Our total membership is very stable and continues to increase

slightly. A year ago we had 247 members. Today we have 250 members in the same 33 countries. We still have members in all continents of the world as we have had continuously since 1963! We are still THE DX-club publishing a printed magazine with the most worldwide membership.

The present members are living in these countries: Germany still has most: 42. But for the first time we have more members in Sweden than in Denmark which still has 25. But the number of members in Sweden increased from 22 to 26! The United Kingdom has 22, Italy 18, U.S.A. 17, Japan 14, the Netherlands 10, Finland and France each 9, Spain 7, Belgium 6, Russia 5 and Austria 4. Australia, India, Ireland, Norway, Portugal and Ukraine have 3 each.

We have 2 members in Argentina, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Luxembourg and the Republic of South Africa. Finally these countries are represented with one member each: Bangladesh, Greece, Honduras, New Zealand, Poland, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Trinidad & Tobago. The number of so-called "E-members" who pay a reduced membership fee and read SWN on our website instead of getting the ordinary, printed version by postal mail, is included in the 250. Of these, 113 today are E-members which is 45% of the total membership. A year ago we had 102 E-members. This proves that our internet services are working satisfactory.

One of our main activities has always been the production of Shortwave News edited by Kaj Bredahl Jørgensen. Again during the past year it has been published regularly and each issue has been full of news and loggings on shortwave and mediumwave. In April Kaj fell and damaged his right shoulder, so the latest edition was typed by Kaj with his left hand.

Our popular, electronic newsletter, the DX-Window, continues to be sent out as bulk e-mails every second Wednesday to those interested who have access to the Internet. It has a good support with many contributions from our active members around the world. 170 members or 68% of our membership receive the DX-Window by e-mail, but others read it on our website. A year ago 153 members received it by e-mail.

Our webmaster Rolf Wernli is doing a supreme job in managing our website [www.dswci.org](http://www.dswci.org). This includes putting all pages of the SWN and the DX-Window on the Member Area as soon as Rolf receives the pages by e-mail from Kaj or me. The well organized and stable website no doubt has had a positive effect on our membership. In the Public area can be found general information about the DSWCI and some examples of old club publications which might attract readers to join the club. Thank you to Rolf for doing this outstanding job for the Club!

At the end of April I finished editing the eleventh edition of the Domestic Broadcasting Survey which is completely updated and unique, thanks to several monitors amongst our members.

Again this year it includes the active Clandestine stations, but that will be the last time I update that section! It has become a full-time job to do that, and I have many other jobs to do within the Club, so I no longer have time for it! So if anybody is willing to continue to edit the Clandestine List, he is most welcome!

Our sale during the past year of DBS-10 has been going down with 19% compared to the previous year, probably because there are fewer stations to listen to on the tropical bands and the ever increasing noise. We sold 47 printed and 69 e-mail copies of the DBS-10. Both the printed version and the e-mail version of DBS-11 are for sale here at the AGM.

In addition to that, our Tropical Bands Monitor has been published on our website for four years now. It is updated monthly with a symbol for each month during the past year, each station has been monitored by a DX-er. In addition new

frequencies compared to the latest DBS are highlighted. In that way you can with a quick glance see, if a station on the tropical bands is heard regularly or not. Many of the small stations have irregular transmissions for various reasons, but our worldwide co-operation of experienced DX-ers is able to provide this unique tool. It gives the best possible indication of which stations are on the air right now. No other Club in the world has such a service! This monthly update is offered to all who buy the DBS-11. The complete loggings on the tropical bands in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 have also been made available free of charge via our website.

In 2008, our Czech member, Jaroslav Bohac, arranged the annual DX Contest "The Grand Tour with Cancer and Capricorn" for the 20th year in a row, this time as a Christmas contest. 12 DX-ers did participate and I wish herewith to thank Jaroslav for organizing this contest once more. Maybe there will be another one in November 2009.

One SW-station which closed at the end of November 2008 is Radio Reading Service for the Print Disabled in Levín, New Zealand on 3935 kHz. I have visited the station when I was in New Zealand. Together with its QSL-manager Kelvin Brayshaw, I convinced their Board to do a final transmission for DX-ers in March. Unfortunately, when the Technical Officer tried to start up again the old transmitter, the valves were so low that no audio came out.

Finally my sincere thanks go to all members of the Board, General Directors and the whole Editing Staff and our webmaster for your stable and very fine work done each month for the Club. Thank you also to the auditors for checking the Club account on behalf of our members."



*Some participants at the AGM. On the table items from the exhibition of NJJ's souvenirs from Japan and Ecuador*

Kaj Bredahl Jørgensen continued with the Editors Report:

"Dear friends, as the editor-in-chief it is once again my pleasure to give you a report concerning the printed version of Short Wave News. This year dealing with the period from June 2008 to April 2009 all in all 8 issues. The reason why just 8 issues this year is that the May 2009 issue will be published shortly after our AGM.

In this time span we have produced a total of 216 pages compared with 244 pages the previous period. This gives an average of exactly 27 pages for each issue. Out of those 216 pages just 8 pages were commercial ones, so as I have said many times before, you are getting very much value for your money.

Also this year I am happy to tell you, that most sections have been published in every issue. If a section was not included, the reason was simply because of lack of material. The QSL Corner has just been published every second month, due to our well-know space limit, where we have a so-called reduced

issue every second time. It is my aim to publish all news and articles in SWN, so that those of our members, who do not have access to the internet, will be able to read the same articles, as those who also can read our home page.

Again this year I am very happy to report, that all my co-editors have continued their work for our club and a very good work, I must say. This is extremely important, because it is the best to have the same editors year after year. Let me here express a big thank you to all my co-editors for their good and stable work they do for our club in their spare time – thank you very much.

Besides the usual sections, we have also this year published several interesting articles relating to our hobby, similar to the previous years, thanks to our many members, who still seem to travel a lot to some very interesting places around the world. I am always happy to receive and to publish such articles you send me, so please continue to do that. I must however ask you to have a little patience before you and our members can read your article in shortwave news – again due to our space limits.

Here follows a brief mentioning of the articles for the past year: In the June/July issue with had our usual comprehensive report from our AGM and DX Camp. As well as a short article by Maarten van Delft with a report from the Voice of the Tigray Revolution.

In the August issue we published the annual article "Trends in Tropical Bands Broadcasting 2008" made by our chairman. Besides this, an article about the Voice of Grenada written by our German member, Robert Kipp.

Turning to the September issue we brought an article by Anker about the recent EDXC Conference that was held in Vaasa, Finland in the beginning of September, which proved to be a big success with more than 100 attendants – mostly Finns by the way.

In the October/November we brought the latest news from Radio St. Helena by Robert Kipp as well as the story behind the FrontPage of the DBS 2008 by Anker.

Now in the December issue. The DSWCI Clandestine List with no less 6 pages were published, edited and written by Anker. Furthermore we had an article about the recent held Radio St. Helena Day, besides an article dealing with new global ITC standards.

In the January/February issue we published the official programme from the next EDXC Conference to be held in Ireland, as well as the annual Band Scan Analysis of radio handbooks written by of chairman. Furthermore an article about two exceptional books written by our U.S. member, Jerry Berg and finally a follow-up on the Radio St. Helena Day.

Turning to the March issue, we just had an article by Anker dealing with the title "What DX-ers heard on the Tropical Bands in 2008" in connection with our Tropical Band Monitor that is published on our home page.

Finally in the April issue we could publish the fortnightly list of Shortwave and Media programmes in English, German and Spanish compiled by our German member Wolfgang Büschel.

As you can see – again lots of interesting articles relating to our hobby have also been published this year, thanks to our own members, which I of course appreciate very much. Thank you very much to all of you, who supplied me with those articles.

The activities among our members also this year were also very good, which you can see and read in every issue of

shortwave news. I am of course very satisfied with that, so we look forward to have your contributions, and articles, and then we will take good hand about it. So don't hesitate to contact us.

About a month ago the board got an e-mail from Noel telling us that he wants to withdraw as an editor of the World News. Noel is now 75 years old, and has been the editor of World news since 1979, so we fully understand his decision. He has been a very faithful editor all these years, and the quality has always been very high. I think he has never missed a single World News section from his hand during all those years. A big and warm "thank you" from me and the entire board. Now, we are looking for a new editor to this important job as soon as possible. So I'm asking you if one of you should like to take over this editor job, or if you know somebody who is willing to take this exciting and unpaid job. Please let me know.

During the entire year we have used the printing house we started with now almost 2 years ago, and I can just say we are still satisfied with the printing and the time we get SWN back. We have used this printing house since, and we in the board are all very satisfied with its quality and fastness.

To conclude my report I want to express a BIG THANK YOU to my co-editors for their good and stable work during the year. I always use to end my report to say, that without your work it is not possible at all to make a SWN with all useful information and at such a stable level, and so I will also do this year. Thank you, and let's get in touch!!"

After a coffee break, the treasurer, Bent Nielsen, explained the audited account and stated that the membership fee in DKK could continue unchanged for another year which was approved by the AGM.

Then the five Board members (Anker Petersen, Kaj Bredahl Jørgensen, Bent Nielsen, Kurt Ærenlund Pedersen and Erik Køie) and substitute Torben Dahl were reelected. The same was the case with the three General Directors (Noel R. Green, Torre Ekblom and Andreas Schmid) and the two Auditors (Vagn Nielsen and Torben Dahl).

Under "Miscellaneous" Bent Nielsen asked for proposals for location of the AGM 2010. The conclusion was that many participants prefer to have a DX-Camp included, so Bent has booked Vardeborg again on June 04-06, 2010!

Then followed an interesting discussion about the future of our Club. It was agreed that the Statutes needs an update. They can be read on our website. Every member is welcome to send proposals for change to the Board before September 01, 2009.

The Secretary General of the European DX Council, Tibor Szilagyi, then told about the current plans for the coming EDXC Conference in Dublin on August 28-30, 2009, where all are welcome.

Anker then conducted a Quiz where the participants should identify 14 of "The rarest DX in the World". Bent Nielsen was the only one who identifies all stations correctly!

Then Kurt Ærenlund Pedersen demonstrated his new portable receiver: Lumatron MR-8. Not only could it receive FM and DAB signals, but on the internet also streaming audio and podcasts from stations all over the world via wireless broadband transmissions. Thus we listened to a station on Cayman Island with SINPO 55555 !

At 1900 Karin Nielsen once more served us a delicious Danish Buffet which was followed by cozy chatting and DX-ing.



*The participants at the 2009 AGM in Vejers*