



DX

BY JOHN A. ATTAWAY,* K4IIF

THE DX HALL OF FAME

"A public not to be bribed, not to be entreated, and not to be overawed, decides upon every man's title of fame."

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Several months ago the decision was made to create a DX Hall of Fame. An appropriate announcement appeared in the July issue, and as a result 14 names were submitted to the CQ DX Awards Advisory Committee for consideration. Each person nominated was carefully evaluated by the committee. It was concluded that a certain few of the nominees had made contributions to DX which merited this honor. However, in the committee's judgment the majority still had not made a contribution worthy of the *ultimate award*. The name of one man was mentioned more than any other. This man was the clear choice of both the readers and the committee to be the first member of the DX Hall of Fame. He was Mr. Gus M. Browning, W4BPD, the distinguished Doctor of DX (D.D.X.) from South Carolina.

There is little I can say to describe the DXploits of Gus Browning that would not be trite. Only 59 years old and a virtual dynamo of activity, he is already a legend in his own time. Since first licensed as NU4ADB in 1925 he has signed a total of 123 different calls in 117 countries. To our knowledge he is the only licensed amateur in history to make DXCC in terms of the number of countries from which he himself has actually operated.

Gus Browning has conducted three major worldwide DXpeditions, traveling as far north as the Faeroe's Islands, 62° north latitude, and as far south as Bouvet Island, 55° south latitude. He has operated twice from Tibet and even for a 4-day period from Red China. Gus calculates that he has made over 380,000 QSO's from rare DX locations,

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many more than he has made from his home station. In fact, he has made more QSO's from Bhutan than from South Carolina. During his great WPX DXpedition from Bhutan he used the prefixes AC1, AC2, AC5, AC6, AC7, AC8, AC9, and ACØ. These, coupled with his AC3 from Sikhim and AC4 from Tibet probably did more to separate the men from the boys in the WPX Honor Roll than anything before or after.

Since temporarily retiring from the DXpedition scene Gus has entered the DX publishing business. In cooperation with his wife Peggy he edits and publishes the *DXers Magazine* from his home base in Cordova, S.C.

While most of the publicity has always gone to Gus's DXpeditions, he has also compiled a formidable DX record from his home QTH. His DXCC certificate is Number 4, and his WAZ certificate is Number 40. He also has a large prefix score waiting to be totalled up for WPX. He is a member of OOTC, OTC, TOPS, FOC, NCDXC, ORC, Bhutan Yak Club Kiwanis and the WGDXC. He has four children and ten grandchildren.

CONGRATULATIONS TO GUS M. BROWNING, W4BPD, DX HALL OF FAME NUMBER ONE.



Gus Browning, W4BPD, DX Hall of Fame No. 1. Judging from this photo the old master's eyes are roving again to the far horizons, the jungles of darkest Africa to the lofty peaks of the Himalayas.