



The North Florida DX Association

# PileUp

The NFDXA Newsletter



W4ZR

Volume 2, Number 6

June 2010

<http://nfdxa.com/>

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Take Part  
Get Involved  
ARRL Field Day  
June 26-27, 2010



## ARRL Rejects URE Protest Over 2009 IARU Contest Future of Competition Unclear



The ARRL has rejected charges by the Spanish Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles (URE) that the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club and operators at DA0HQ were soliciting contacts in violation of IARU contest rules. The ARRL's David Patton NN1N, acknowledged "fervor" had led to the extended fight between the URE and DARC" and basically declared there would be no official winner of the HQ category for 2009. "Effective with the 2010 IARU HF World Championship, no adjudication of HQ station logs will be conducted by the ARRL", wrote Patton, "A certificate of participation will be awarded to each IARU member society HQ station," Patton wrote.

"DARC has acknowledged that DA0HQ benefited from the fact that German amateurs were "overly eager" to assist" in the effort for a higher score, the ARRL statement said, but "URE has provided no evidence, and the ARRL Awards Committee is aware of none, to contradict DARC's contention that the DA0HQ operators did not solicit contacts in violation of the contest rules."

—IARU continued on page 10

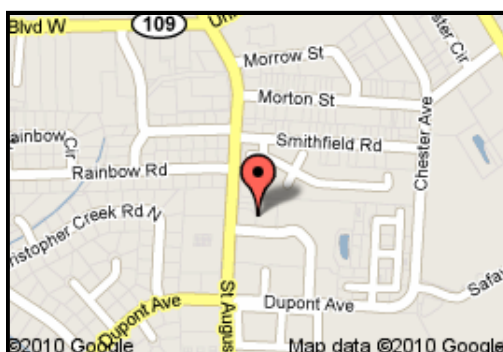


David Patton, NN1N

## June Meeting Set

Make your plans now. The June NFDXA meeting will be at 5 pm Saturday, the 19<sup>th</sup> at the Athens Café, 6271 St. Augustine Road in Jacksonville. Check the map below.

As the facilities' name suggests, both the décor and cuisine will have a definite Greek flavor. Don't forget to RSVP at <http://nfdxa.com/meeting>.



## HALF MARATHON UNDERWAY

It's 'tally time' for those NFDXA members taking part so far in the club's **2010 CQ Half-Marathon Contest**. The clear leader at this stage is **Larry, K4EB** with 28 countries, 16 zones, and 10 IOTA contacts for a total of 54 points. Close on his heels is **Mike, NF4L** with 46 points from contacts with 24 countries in 12 zones and 10 IOTAs.

The scores posted so far are as follows:

**K4EB 28-16-10-54**  
**NF4L 24-12-10-46**  
**NW4C 14-10-6-30**  
**K4UTE 5-5-3-13**  
**NIWON 5-4-2-11**  
**KC4FWS 3-2-2-7**  
**W4FDA 1-1-0-2**

The contest runs until 31 December, 2010.



## North Florida DX Association, Inc.

The North Florida DX Association, Inc. is made up of a small group of Amateur Radio Operators located in and around Jacksonville and northeast Florida whose interests are primarily contests and DXing. The NFDXA generally meets monthly on a date and location selected by an organizer picked for that meeting. The following officers were elected for the calendar year 2010.



### President

Mike Parnin, N4EPD [mparnin@fdn.com](mailto:mparnin@fdn.com)



### Vice President

Warren Croke, NW4C [nw4c@cox.net](mailto:nw4c@cox.net)



### Secretary

Mike Reubin, NF4L [nf4l@nf4l.com](mailto:nf4l@nf4l.com)



### Treasurer

Jim Hughes, KC4FWS [kc4fws@comcast.net](mailto:kc4fws@comcast.net)



### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee consists of the elected officers of the Association <http://www.nfdxa.com>



### Editor, NFDXA *PileUp* Newsletter

Warren Croke, NW4C [nw4c@cox.net](mailto:nw4c@cox.net)

***PileUp*** story ideas, manuscripts and photographs should be sent to [nw4c@cox.net](mailto:nw4c@cox.net)

## Minutes of May 22, 2010 Meeting at NU4Y's QTH

The meeting was called to order by N4EPD at 5:45 pm

Treasurer's Report - Jim, KC4FWS reported a balance of: \$786.03

Old business - None

New business - None

Guests - None

### Roll Call

Name	Call	# Attending	Name	Call	# Attending
Steve Brown	AB4UF	?	Ron Blake	N4KE	1
John Hale	AC4ET	0	Dale Conner	N4NN	0
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	0	Billy Williams	N4UF	0
Dick Hicks	K4UTE	1	Mike Reublin	NF4L	1
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	0	Dave Mains	NO4J	0
Bill Walker	KX4WW	0	Jim Iori	NU4Y	1
Cory McDonald	NIWON	1	Warren Croke	NW4C	?
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	1	Pres Graham	W4FDA	1
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	?	John Moore	W5HUQ	0
Joe Barnes	N4JBK	?	Steve Barber	WA4B	?
Ron Blake	N4KE	1	David Price	WA4ET	?

The next meeting planner is WA4B

The meeting was adjourned at 5:53 pm

Respectfully submitted, Mike NF4L, Secretary



## Book Review: *A Year of DX* by Bob Locher, W9NKI

*A Year of DX*, is an appropriate title because this book's 278 pages and 28 chapters cover with considerable detail each step from the author's first thoughts about entering the CQ DX Marathon and why to the strategy that he would use in his attempt to win. (It's a marathon, not a sprint).

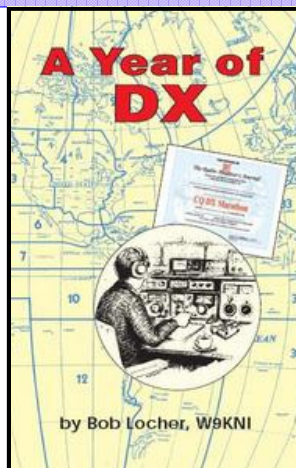
W9NKI's equipment is detailed. He used an Elcraft K3 driving an Alpha linear, a Skyhawk 10-through 20m beam with a separate custom design 3-element "killer" beam for 40 meters plus a Butternut vertical for 80. Bob makes considerable use of DX clusters and alert networks even to the extent of tying them into his cell phone with text alerts when a 'needed' country came on. And, much the same as we complain about getting through the 'west coast wall' when we try to work the Pacific, Bob shares his unhappiness over getting past us east coasters when trying to work Africa.

The author's comments are skillfully blended into a month by month description of his efforts to get the needed countries. Remember, 2008 was the bottom of the sunspot cycle. For a change of pace there are several 'guest' chapters on specialty topics (*Transmit Audio Optimization for DXers* and *Propagation in Time of Low Sunspots*) written by outside experts. W9NKI even devotes an entire chapter to linears, lamenting his Apha's lack of an "instant-on" capability while giving high marks to the Ameritron units that have it.

Like Bob's previous book, *The Complete DXer*, now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> edition with over 28,000 sold, *A Year of DX* is written in W9NKI's trademark conversational style. He combines narrative with instruction in an easy-to-read way that gets you involved with every aspect of his effort to win.

However, there are several shortcomings in this otherwise very complete book—at least in my mind.

—Continued on page 11



## 1S Spratly Island To Be Activated January 2011



(Update). A Web page is now available online for the 2011 **DX0DX** DXpedition to (Thitu Island) (AS-051), Spratly Islands.

Activity will take place between January 6-24th, with operations on 160-6 meters (possibly 2m, 70cm, 23cm) using CW, SSB and RTTY.

Bios on the operators are available on the new Web page.

Thitu Island (Pagasa in Filipino) is the second largest island in the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. The island has a landing strip (Rancudo Airfield) and

a small harbor. There are 100 inhabitants, mostly military, fishermen and a weatherman. An aerial view of the island shows the landing strip apparently covered in sand and taking up a disproportionately large amount of area of the island.

There is also a survey being taken on the page for bands and modes needs. Visit the DX9DX page at: <http://www.dx0dx.net>

The Spratly Islands currently are #41 on the most wanted entity list.







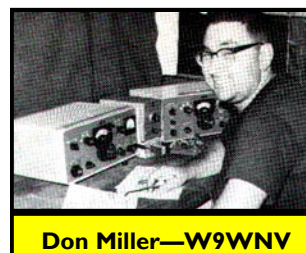
## Gone (for the moment) But Not Forgotten

It would appear that old discredited DXers never die, nor do they fade away. At least that's the situation with two of the more notorious, Don Miller, ex-W9WNV who held the DXpedition spotlight throughout the 1960s, and Roman "Romeo" Stepanenko, UB5JRR, whose DX star shone back in the early 90s as AH0M, 3W3RR, ISØRR, XYØRR, P5RS7, and a host of others.

Both men have been in prison for crimes unrelated to Ham Radio DXing. Miller, however, has done his time and now resides in Walnut, California where he has a new call sign, AE6IY and a stated desire to get back into DXing and hinting of a DXpedition to a new country.

An interview with Miller that's believed to be about two years old has surfaced. In it he partially confesses to several fake operations and apologizes to the Amateur Radio community. But at the same time he's defiant about several expeditions the ARRL discredited that he insists were legitimate. Here's a link to the interview which runs about 19 minutes.

[http://dokufunk.org/upload/miller\\_highlight%281%29.mp3](http://dokufunk.org/upload/miller_highlight%281%29.mp3)



Don Miller—W9WNV

Two corrections need to be made from the interview. The late Gus Browning's call sign was W4BPD, and Miller was an Air Force Flight Surgeon, not a "flight sergeant", as stated by the interviewer.



'Romeo' Stepanenko — UB5JRR

Roman Vega, a.k.a. Roman Stepanenko, but known to most 90's DXers as "Romeo" (or by any one of a number of his call signs) is still in jail, specifically, the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn. He was extradited from Cyprus seven years ago charged with online credit card fraud but has yet to come to trial--which is curious, to say the least. Supposedly Romeo's case is still under investigation by the US Department of Justice.

Ed Kritsky, NT2X, had a recent contact with Romeo and he reports: "(Romeo's) English has improved to the point of becoming his 'official' second language. He has spent (the) last 3 years studying Japanese and other languages. Romeo is busy - his own library of about 150 books and a stack of books and periodicals waiting to be read (he is subscribed to about 20), extensive letter writing to all sorts of people, excelling at yoga. His mood is upbeat and he keeps a very positive outlook on life and his own fate. This is the same unbending Romeo I knew back when he was in zenith of his worldwide fame, except showing more wisdom and reserve."

For those who wish to contact Romeo for any reason (confirmation for P5/RØMEO, perhaps?) his current and near future address is Roman Vega, # 59198-004, MDC, PO Box 329002, Brooklyn, NY 11232, USA. For what it's worth, don't bother sending any money or IRCs.

As for connecting with Don Miller, try his AE6IY call book address.

## Allen Moore, W3QO SK

The son of **Alan W. Moore, Jr., W3QO**, reports Alan passed away Saturday, April 24 in Palm Bay, Florida at the age of 71. Alan was an avid DXer. He lived in Germany for 17 years where he was active as **DAIQQ**. W3QO was on the **DXCC Honor Roll** and had 330/356 (current/total) countries confirmed at the ARRL DXCC Desk. In addition, Alan belonged to **AMSAT, ARRL, AWA** and **QCWA**.

To those who knew Al, he will be missed, especially for the memories on Provo!

— Richard, K4UTE



## Mystery Solved

Some feared it must have been a problem with their TV remotes. Others suspected ghostly goings-on. As it turned out it was neither.

When TV viewers in parts of England started complaining their sets were changing channel by themselves, few could have guessed that the real culprit was their new fangled Philips energy saving light bulbs!

Experts say the infra-red light from modern fluorescent bulbs can be 'mistaken' by electrical equipment for commands sent to it from its remote. The experts warn that while moving or changing the offending device usually solves the problem, the proliferation of gadgets in homes increases the likelihood of such interference.

Traditional bulbs produce infra-red too, but because they don't 'flicker' like some fluorescent bulbs there is no danger of interference with electrical equipment.

What's next? Text messages on our microwave?



Philips CFL Low Energy Fluorescent Bulb



## JEA Fixes NF4L Noise Problem

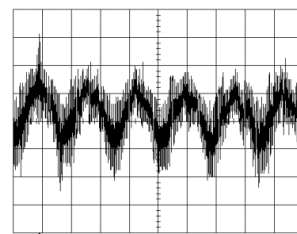


JEA sent a crew out recently in response to a request I had made of them to see if they could solve a horrible noise problem I had. It was never less than an S9, and most of the time was 10-20 over. A couple of us had walked around with one of those MFJ line noise receivers and a 3 element beam, and had found what we thought was the pole in question.

The lineman called me and told me he thought he had found the noise source, although not on the pole I thought it was on. He said there was a bad lightning arrestor, and it was VERY loud on his gear, and was radiating for more than a mile.

I turned on the rig, and..... S1 and below!! There are some good guys out there.

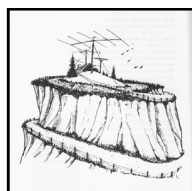
— Mike, NF4L



## June 2010 DX Calendar from *The Daily DX*



Date	End	Prefix	Call	Manager	Ref	Vol-No
11-Jun	20-Jun	3C0	3C0C (AF-039)	EA7FTR		14-103
11-Jun	30-Jun	3W	XV7ZSJ	K6ZSJ		14-106
11-Jun	14-Jun	4J	4J0WFF	4J5T		14-107
11-Jun	22-Jun	7Q	7Q7BJ	G4AHK		14-105
11-Jun	25-Jun	8Q	8Q7TB (AS-013)	PF4T		14-007
11-Jun	13-Jun	9A	9A2AA (EU-016)			14-107
11-Jun	28-Jun	9V	9V1/AD6ZJ	AD6ZJ		14-080
11-Jun	13-Jun	CT	CQ7OA (EU-040)	CT1FMX		14-034
11-Jun	13-Jun	CT3	CT3/CS1GDX	CS1GDX		14-103
11-Jun	30-Apr	D2	D2AK	G7COD		14-087
11-Jun	6-Jul	EA6	EA6/MODLL (EU-004)	MODLL		14-097
11-Jun	13-Jun	F	TM24H	F6KFI		14-076
11-Jun	12-Jun	F	TM5Q (EU-065)	F4ELI	14-092	002
11-Jun	13-Jun	F	TM66SME	F6IPS		14-098
11-Jun	19-Jun	F	TM6OVE	F4GAJ		14-090
11-Jun	15-Aug	FH	FH8ND (AF-027)	F1OKV	14-095	094
11-Jun	20-Jun	FJ	FJ/DL1DA (NA-146)	DL1DA		14-102
11-Jun	17-Jun	FS	FS/K9EL (NA-105)	K9EL		14-084
11-Jun	17-Jun	GU	2U0WMG (EU-114)	2E0WMG		14-067
11-Jun	21-Jun	HK0/S	5J0BV (NA-033)	K7BV	14-110	083
11-Jun	15-Jun	JW	JW1EOA (EU-026)	LA1EOA		14-107
11-Jun	17-Jun	LA	LA/SP7IDX (EU-062)	SP7IDX		14-059
11-Jun	30-Jun	OA	OA6/OE3NHW OA4/OE3NHW	OE3NHW		14-078
11-Jun	12-Jun	OZ	OZ/DL4VM (EU-125)	DL4VM		14-067
11-Jun	26-Jun	PA	PC100AR	PC2F	14-087	082
11-Jun	20-Jun	PA	PI65SRA			14-102
11-Jun	12-Jun	PJ7	PJ7/IK1PMR (NA-105)	PA3LEO	14-103	093
11-Jun	12-Jun	PJ7	PJ7/PA3LEO (NA-105)	PA3LEO	14-103	093
11-Jun	30-Jun	PY	PQ7S	PR7JP		14-107
11-Jun	15-Jun	PY	PX8J (SA-041)	PY7ZY	14-108	107
11-Jun	20-Jun	SV5	SV5/IZ4JMA (EU-001)	IZ4JMA		14-101
11-Jun	30-Jun	UA	R90K	RN1NU		14-107
11-Jun	19-Jun	UR	UT/IZ3GWJ			14-102
11-Jun	14-Jun	V3	V31XB (NA-073)	VE2XB		14-096
11-Jun	30-Jun	V5	V5/DH8AF	DH8AF		14-102
11-Jun	31-Oct	VK	VK100WIA			14-065
11-Jun	19-Jun	VP2M	VP2MRT (NA-103)	KB4CRT		14-084
11-Jun	17-Jun	VP5	VP5/KD2JA (NA-002)	KD2JA	14-030	013
11-Jun	17-Jun	VP5	VP5/WB2REM (NA-002)	WB2REM	14-030	013
11-Jun	13-Jun	VP5	VQ5M (NA-002)	KD2JA	14-030	013
11-Jun	30-Jun	VP8/F	VP8DND/P (SA-002)	GM0VMW		14-107
11-Jun	30-Nov	VP8/H	DT8A (AN-010)	HL2FDW		14-016
11-Jun	9-Aug	VQ9	VQ9JC (AF-006)	ND9M		14-054
11-Jun	23-Jun	VQ9	VQ9RD	KI1G		14-095
11-Jun	24-Jun	ZA	ZA/HA5X	M0XXA	14-103	077
11-Jun		ZS8	ZS8M (AF-021)	ZS1X	14-089	087
11-Jun	1-Aug		Seventh Six Meters Marathon			14-024
11-Jun	11-Jun		W5DXCC DX Dinner			14-008
12-Jun	25-Jun	9H	9H3BS	G0SGB	14-071	052
12-Jun	19-Jun	9H	9H3XW	G5XW		14-067
12-Jun	12-Jun	CT	Portugal Day Contest			14-107
12-Jun	17-Jun	GM	GM6TW/p (EU-010)			14-102
12-Jun	13-Jun	KP2	KP2/JA1BPA	JA1BPA		14-107
12-Jun	25-Jun	SM	SD1B/6 (EU-043)	DL8AAV		14-107
12-Jun	21-Jun	VP2E	VP2ECF	PA3LEO	14-103	093
12-Jun	21-Jun	VP2E	VP2EMR	PA3LEO	14-103	093
12-Jun	13-Jun		WFF Green Day			14-107



## DX News As We Prepare to Post



**Busy, busy. "It never rains, it pours"**, as the saying goes... First, there wasn't any operation from T-30 Tarawa for some time. Then T30XG set up shop June 3 and Haru, JA1XGI/W8XGI, made a lot of North Florida DXers happy on 40 through 6 meters. On the heels of Haru's shutdown June 9 comes word from two Jack's, SP5CRH and SP5EAQ, that they plan to activate Tarawa again in February 2011. Jacek No.1 says he'll have the call sign **T-30RH** and will concentrate on 160m and 80 CW. Jacek No.2 will work the other bands on SSB as **T30AQ**. QSL Direct or LoTW.



**The same goes for the Maldives**, it's either feast or famine. Now, it appears we are in the midst of a feast. PF4T, Tom. Will be active from Embudu on 40 and 20 meter SSB, RTTY and PSK 31 until June 25th. The operation is akin to a 'DXpedition Lite' as Tom is running 100 watts PEP max with an FT897D xcvr into either a G5RV hung in an Inverted V configuration, or an FD4 80 through 10 meter Windom wire antenna. QSL direct or bureau.



**Anyone hear or work Guildas** from either **Crozet** as **FT5WQ** or as **FT5XT** from **Kerguelen**? Apparently, as we prepare to post, neither has anyone else. Guildas, who in real life is TU5KG, has both FT5 call signs assigned to him for the year 2010. As you may recall, he works on a fishing boat which wanders the waters between these rare entities and, hopefully, when Guildas gets a chance to land on one or the other he can set up his rig

and operate. Supposedly he'll alert the DX world a day or two before he comes ashore! Fingers crossed on this one.

**Another 'hope for the best' situation** is with extremely rare **SV2/A Mt. Athos** in the form of this entity's sole operator, **Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A**. A new tower complete with a StepIR antenna are expected to be set up at the monastery later this summer. But for the present his main rig, an IC756 Pro, reportedly 'endured a "static discharge"' and is in Athens undergoing repair. After repairs **Apollo** again expects to be operating SSB, RTTY and CW as his time allows.



**More Hams going to Afghanistan.** Listen for **T6MB, Merik** (SP8UFB) who will be operating in his free time from Bagram Air Base on 12 and 17 meter CW, SSB, PSK and RTTY for the next 6 months. Due to local restrictions, **Merik** can't operate 80 and 30 meters. **John, KD5NOI** and **Terry, K5TLL** won't deploy to Kandahar until October but have already been assigned their call signs, **T6TL** and **T6JC**, respectively. QSL each via CBA.

**Whatever the problem** there doesn't seem to be all that many happy campers with the recently concluded two-man **3C9B** DXexpedition to **Equatorial Guinea**. Lots of dark mumblings about them supposedly concentrating on Europe, etc. In their favor it must be noted that propagation generally was lousy with a capital "L". The same team has since moved to **Annobon**, operating until June 20 with the call sign **3C0C**.

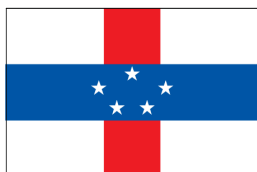


Antenna problems are now being blamed for their generally less-than-robust signals stateside...not that the ongoing bad conditions have anything to do with it, or the ever-increasing zoo of frequency cops, jammers and just plain LIDS!

**Acknowledgements:** *The Daily DX Calendar* reprinted with permission <http://www.dailydx.com>, *Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin*, *The Daily DX*, *DX World of Ham Radio* <http://dx-world.net>, *DXInfo* <http://dxinfo.ea3bhj.com/> and *ARRL DX Bulletin*.







## DXCC DISTANCE — SABA TO BONAIRE

The date for the anticipated constitutional change in the Netherlands Antilles is now set for 10-10-10. In 2009 its anticipated that this change would lead to four new DXCC entities. However, to paraphrase the saying, "Houston, we may have a problem".

Recently the PJ2T team pointed out that measuring distance with Google Earth the distance between **PJ2**, Bonaire and **PJ5**, Saba is 798.5 km, just under the required 800 km separation to be a different entity! With this distance the BES islands would count as a single DXCC entity only.

### New Entity Hope Springs Eternal

ARRL does *not* use Google Earth. Instead, Nautical charts or Geodetic Survey charts with a high level of detail are used to determine the distance between two points.

Using the charts, the calculated the distance between Bonaire located at 12°13'18.07"N 68°11'51.25"W, and Saba at 17°36'56.26"N 63°15'06.32"W comes out to be 799.4 km. Using the spherical model, specifically the WGS84 Earth Model, where 1 minute is 1 Nautical Mile the calculated distance is 800.6 km.

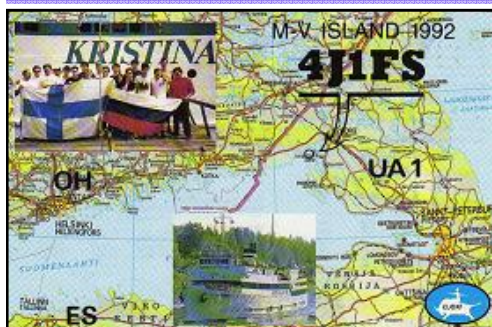
As they say in the biz, stay tuned . . .

—EUDXF Website via DX World 07June10

<http://dx-world.net>



## New Lease Agreement Affects R1MV Status



An agreement on the lease of the Russian part of the Saimaa Canal zone to Finland was signed in Lappeenranta, Finland by the Prime Ministers of the Republic of Finland and the Russian Federation on May 27, 2010.

The new 50 year agreement supersedes the initial lease of 1963 which is due to expire in 2013. The new lease no longer includes

Malyj Vysotskij Island, the present **R1MV** DXCC entity.

The coming into effect of the agreement is subject to ratification by the parliament of Finland and the Russian duma later this year.

<http://dxinfo.ea3bhk.com/Dxnews>

## HamVention DX Announcements

**KH5, JARVIS ISLAND (Update).** It was announced at the **Dayton HamVention** that the call sign for the 2010 Jarvis Island November operation would be **N5E**. The KH5 Jarvis -Palmyra Island group is presently listed as #20 on **The DX Magazine's** most wanted list.

Also announced at the DX Forum in Dayton is the Radio Expeditions Inc. new Web page called "**DXInsight**" that will go online for the DXpedition and will have all kinds of bells and whistles.



## DX Quiz "The Wing and the Wheel!"

By H. Ward Silver, N0AX

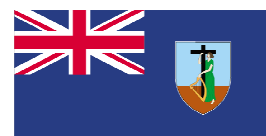


*DXpeditioners travel far and wide to capture and return our signals from far-flung places. They may fly or drive or even paddle, but let's not let them forget how much we appreciate their going. This issue's DX Quiz is about the foibles and fables of DXpedition travel. It first appeared on page 27 of the March/April 2007 edition of The DX Magazine.*

- 1) Travel to Revillagigedo (XF4) is by what mode of transportation?
    - A. Air
    - B. Land vehicle
    - C. Boat
    - D. A and C
  - 2) How do the Voodudes carry their equipment between West African countries?
    - A. Bus
    - B. Plane
    - C. Car convoy
    - D. Truck
  - 3) Which of the following entities can only be reached by helicopter?
    - A. 3Y0 - Peter I
    - B. 3Y1 - Bouvet
    - C. ZS8 - Marion
    - D. VK0 - Macquarie
  - 4) The Yasme was a ...
    - A. Plane
    - B. Clipper ship
    - C. Sailboat
    - D. Icebreaker
  - 5) How did VK9NS get to Temotu for his first H40 operation?
    - A. Yacht
    - B. Ultralight
    - C. Dugout canoe
    - D. Dog sled
  - 6) Which of the following borders can you NOT drive across?
    - A. FS/PJ
    - B. PJ2/PJ9
    - C. FY/PZ
    - D. 7P8/ZS
  - 7) The vessel Braveheart is associated with what group of testers?
    - A. Lynx Group
    - B. Cordell Expeditions
    - C. Microlight DXpeditions
    - D. Caribbean Contest Coalition
  - 8) Zodiacs are what type of boat?
    - A. Unsinkable
    - B. Unpowered
    - C. Inexpensive
    - D. Inflatable
  - 9) What famous old-time DXpeditioner took the train to many of his African destinations?
    - A. Gus Browning, W4BPD
    - B. Bob Dennison, W0DX
    - C. Lloyd Colvin, W6KG
    - D. Don Miller, W9WNV
  - 10) The Marion Dufrenoy was the transportation on what famous DXpedition?
    - A. 3B9R
    - B. FT4WX
    - C. FT5X
    - D. VK0IR
- Bonus) What vessel carried the K5K and K7C crews to and from their destinations?
- The answers (if you really need them) can be found at the bottom of page 11**

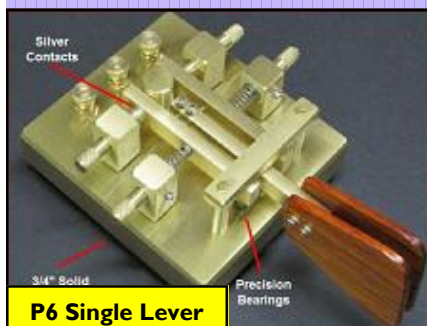


**John Silberman, KB4CRT**, a Gainesville DXer who has applied for membership in the NFDXA, is in Montserrat where he hopes to be QRV until June 18 as **VP2MRT**. John plans to operate 40-10m CW, SSB and PSK. QSL requests should go to his CBA..

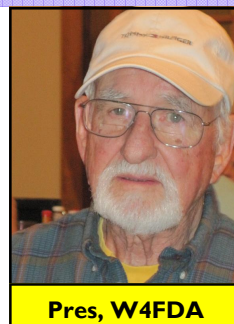




## New CW 'Toy' for NFDXA Veteran

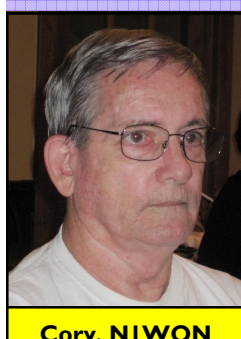


Over the years CW has the top[ mode for **Pres, W4FDA**, and he has hopes that it's going to get even better. Pres informs the **PileUp** that he's put in an order for the latest in **K8RA** paddles which is shown on the left. Says Pres, "I just hope it works as good as it looks".



**Pres, W4FDA**

## NIWON Going Up (Hopefully)



**Cory, NIWON**

What are friends for is you can't use them, right? Well, Cory, NIWON has high hopes that he will be able to convince good buddy Ken, KF4U, to drive up from Sebring and give him a hand putting up another 20 feet of tower for his WARC beam. To do any work on a tower in his heat Ken must be a REALLY good friend!



## K4EB On The Road with .38 Special



**Larry ("TJ"), K4EB**

Busy, busy, busy...It doesn't appear that Larry, K4EB will be around for the June NFDXA meeting on the 19th, nor will this top competitor in NFDXA club contests have much time for DXing.

The .38 Special rock band for which Larry is the lead bass guitarist, is on the road for the entire month appearing on the same playbill with Lynyard Skynrd group. They will be playing a number of venues from Woodland, TX to Clarkson, MI.



—IARU cont. from page 1

## ARRL ACCEPTS SOME BLAME FOR FLAP

"First, we have allowed too much emphasis to develop on competition between HQ station entries", Patton said in the ARRL statement. The special category of HQ stations was intended to raise the visibility of the IARU member-societies among active radio amateurs, and to make the contest more interesting to participants by providing additional multipliers," wrote Patton. "This underscores the principal lesson to be learned from the unfortunate acrimony of the past few months: far too much emphasis has been placed on a competition that is essentially meaningless."

Patton's official statement also made clear that the ARRL and IARU want to close the door on this chapter of the 2009 contest, and move on. But moving on to where is not clear at this time. As one frustrated British contestant observed, "With a little more thought and effort maybe we could screw it up completely and convince the ARRL/IARU to scrap the competition altogether."

## Odds 'n Ends

### —Book Review from page 3

Just filling in whatever blanks are left in the W9KNI day gives one the impression his contest effort amounts to a lot *more* than a full-time job. So, why not a summary of the hours/minutes used each day or the total for a week? I'll bet that would have been an eye-opener!

Also, keep in mind the **Bob Locher** is a 'professional' Ham; he's head of Bencher, Inc., a Ham Radio-related company with resources not readily available to Joe Average. He also heads Idiom Press, the publisher of Ham-radio-related books. In his defense, however, he did mention the day-to-day running of that enterprise, has been passed on to son.

That being said, **A Year of DX** is a good read with lots of relevant information related to radio contesting in general and the **CQ DX Marathon** in particular. I can't imagine any Ham interested in DX contesting not getting something worthwhile of this book.

Further, I find it interesting that the man who says he was the one suggested to CQ Magazine that it sponsor a year-long DX competition finally decided to write a book detailing his individual effort to win the contest. I say 'finally' because **Bob Locher, W9KNI**, waited several years before entering 'his' contest, thinking it unseemly that he enter the 2009 race since the competition was his idea.

As fates and the vagaries of timing of Bob's last 2008 'new country' contact would have it, he didn't win, losing out to eventual winner, **OM3EY**. However, his year-long effort that got him second place was apparently enough to show mistakes he needed to correct. The 2009 CQ DX Marathon winner was announced this month and...  
tadah...it's **Bob Locher, W9KNI!**

Who knows? Herein may be seeds for a sequel...or at least a second edition. —NW4C



**Bob Locher, W9KNI**

## Book Reviews

## Antenna Gunk And What Can Be Done About It

Getting the solidified gunk off antennas that have been "out there" for a few years can be quite a chore. Steel wool pads are not recommended because of their tendency to leave iron whiskers embedded in the aluminum (and your hands), causing spot rust and binding problems in nested tubing. Dave WA3GIN suggests a combination of NAPA engine parts cleaner and a 3M medium foam sanding pad. The result is similar to wet sanding with an agent that dissolves or loosens the oxidized stuff so that the pad can break it loose and polish the aluminum. This minimizes the required amount of elbow grease to facilitate the operation.

—ARRL Contest Update 09June2010 <http://www.arrl.org/contests/update/?issue=2010-06-09>



**Hold Your Fire** - If you aren't blessed with an awesome and powerful signal, getting through the pileups quickly takes more than just blasting away. Little Pistols can sometimes pick off their larger caliber competition by holding off a half-second or two before sending their call. While all the other 20-over-9 four-character calls mash themselves into AGC-bending mush, you wait, then slip your call out there in the clear when the Big Noise stops.

— ARRL Contest Update 26 May 2010

### DX QUIZ Answers (from page 9)

1. D, 2. A, 3. A—due to year-round sea ice, 4. C, 5. C, 6. B,  
7. C, 8. D, 9. A, 10. D

Bonus - The Machias

## PileUp

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W4ZR

### The Monthly Journal of The North Florida DX Association



This picture comes from the product brochure on the Yeasu web site for their new \$6,000 super-duper FTDX5000. Look closely at the word TRANSCEIVER under the meter. Notice anything missing? The word is **SILK SCREENED** on the panel, so chances are it could be misspelled on the entire production run! Anyone want to break the news to Yeasu?

— Thanks to Frank, W3KT

### The Last Word — DX Code of Conduct

A DX Code of Conduct. To use an old but still meaningful phrase, it's an idea whose time has come. There's been growing concern over the on-air behaviors of some operators, especially when calling DX stations in HF band pileups. All one has to do is listen to realize how serious a problem it has become. G3PJT, W6SJ and other leading DXers in the First Class (CW) Operator' Club (FOC) have proposed a **DX Code of Conduct** with hopes DXers worldwide will adopt it as a personal operating creed and use it to teach DXing 'newbies' the proper way to do things.

1. I will listen, listen, listen and then listen some more.
2. I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.
3. I will not trust the cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
4. I will not interfere with the DX station nor anyone calling him and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.
5. I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before calling him.
6. I will always send my full call sign.
7. I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.
8. I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.
9. I will not call when a DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.
10. I will not transmit when the DX station calls other geographic areas than mine.
11. When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it incorrectly.
12. I will be thankful if and when I make a contact.
13. I will respect my fellow hams and conduct myself so as to learn their respect.

For more information check the FOC website: <http://www.g4foc.org> To express constructive comments or to support this initiative, email G4PJT directly, [g3pjt@btinternet.com](mailto:g3pjt@btinternet.com)

— NW4C