

**BREAKING NEWS**

**VK0TH QRT**

Details on page 9

**The North Florida DX Association**

# PileUp

**The NFDXA Newsletter**



**In This Issue**

New Club Contest	1
N4CC Injured	1
Most Wanted	1-5
2012 Officers	2
Silent Keys	2
Dots and Dashes	3
Happy Campers	3
Tower Work	4
N4NN T-top Vert	4
NF4L 900 MHz Ant	5
9M2MRS	6
5H3MB	6
TN2T	6
Ex 5X1VJ now a 9Q	6
21 New 9N1 hams	6
9N7FOX	7
9M2TO	7
XW4XR	7
A52JF	7
JW6VJA	7
3D2C	7
CQ Site Hacked	8
5th Yrof No-code	8
FCC in Court	8
VK0TH QRT!!	9
Jan DX Calendar	10
Feb DX Calendar	11
Club DX 'Test List	12
ARRL DX Challenge	12
SETI Resumes Search	13
IBEC Closes BPL Opr	13
Yesu Reorganizes	13
Cartoon	14
The Last Word	14



**Volume 4 Number 1**

**January 2012**

<http://nfdxa.com/>

## N4CC Hurt in Fall

NFDXA members were saddened recently by news that a former member and past club president **Gregg Wilson, N4CC**, had been seriously injured in a home accident. According to **N1NN**, Greg fell and fractured his neck at his home in Boise, Idaho. **Dale** reports there is nerve damage but doctors are optimistic and say Greg is expected to make a full recovery.



Gregg N4CC

## 2012 Club Contest TBA

NFDXA president K3LB will announce a new club DX contest for the 2012 at the January 21st meeting. According to Larry, the new contest, as with prior year inter club competitions will be loosely based on the annual CQ DX Marathon. However, 2012 competition will have a number of new categories that will make it more participant-friendly to the membership.



Larry K3LB

## 2011 Most Wanted DXCC Entities Survey Results

The results of the annual survey taken by *The DX Magazine* of the top 100 Most Wanted Countries have been released and were posted January 15 on the magazine's web site (<http://www.dxpub.com>) and published in the January/February edition of the magazine.

As expected the countries that make up the top 20 in the list have shifted a few positions one way or the other, but overall their positions haven't changed that much.

World-wide, the top three most wanteds, P5, North Korea, KP1 Navassa and 3Y/B Bouvet are still 1, 2 and three. 2010's number 4 and 5, VK0/H Heard Island and 7O Yemen, reversed positions in 2011 and are now placed 5 and 4, respectively.

FT/Z Amsterdam remains in 6th place followed by another rare French island, FT/W Crozet which climbed from 9th all the way to the 7th most wanted entity.

Scarborough Reef, BS7, last activated by an international team of operators in 2009, is inching back up the list again, moving from 10th to 8th this past year.

VP8/S South Sandwich is now the 9th most-wanted. Marion Island still is in the top ten despite a year-long effort by Pierre,ZS1RF, QRT since last May, that dropped ZS8M from the 7th most wanted down to the 10th-spot.

*(Most Wanted...Continued on page 5)*

The January meeting of the North Florida DX Association will be 5 pm Saturday, January 21 at the St. Johns Seafood and Steaks, 1161 Lane Ave South,

**St. Johns  
Seafood & Steaks**





## NFDXA OFFICERS 2011

The North Florida DX Association, Inc. is a group of Amateur Radio Operators located in north Florida and south Georgia whose interest are DXing and Contesting. NFDXA meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month at a place selected by the meeting organizer. Officers elected for the calendar year 2012 are:



### President

Larry Bostic, K3LB [lbostic@aol.com](mailto:lbostic@aol.com)



### Vice President

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



### Secretary

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



### Treasure

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)



## Silent Keys

We open 2012 on a note of both respect and sadness as we honor the memories of all those from the NFDXA who have passed on in recent years. May they rest in peace.

Jacques Bernier, W4LZZ  
 Joe Cumm, W4USN  
 Ray Donovan, W0AX  
 Bill Douglas, WA4ECA  
 Ed Edwards, WA4SGF  
 Al Harbach, WA4DRU  
 Thomas "Mac"  
 McNeish, KM4WE  
 Al Moore, W3QO



John Moore, W5HUQ  
 Pete Nissen, W4PTT  
 Larry Rich, WILR  
 Ham Robinson, W4ZR  
 Neil Russell, W4WEG  
 Doc Staples, W4SME  
 Hubert Story, NX4Y  
 George Werner, W4ORT

## ... Dots and Dashes - - -

Since I am brand new to the column writing business, I will keep this edition of "Dots and Dashes" short and sweet. First of all, many thanks to last year's officers for a great job. Also, much appreciation for each member's efforts in making last year such a success. What we lack in numbers, we certainly make up for with enthusiasm.

This coming year offers the opportunity for another great year of DXing. We have the promise of more sunspots, as well as continued advancement in the quality and capability of ham radio equipment. Additionally, many "brave souls" have planned to undertake DXpeditions to remote corners of the planet so we can work some of the stations on our "most wanted" list.



Larry, K3LB

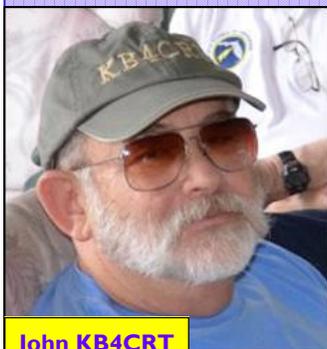
Two areas that I do plan to keep in mind are (1) Meetings and (2) Club Activities. I do hope that everyone gets as much enjoyment out of our meetings and "get-together's" as I do. So, I will be looking for ways to keep the "NFDXA FUN METER" pegged this year. Please speak up and offer ideas at meetings or send me an email ([lwbostic@aol.com](mailto:lwbostic@aol.com)). See you on the radio. ... Larry K3LB



**Notice: There won't be a Secretary's Report posted in this issue of *PileUp* as there was no NFDXA meeting during the month of December 2011.**

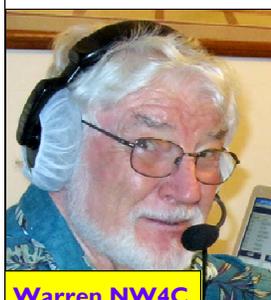
**Next NFDXA Meeting 5 pm Saturday, January 21, 2012, St Johns Seafood and Steaks, S Lane Ave, Jacksonville**

## Early 2012 NFDXA Happy Campers



John KB4CRT

The new year 2012 began with a happy note for a several NFDXA members. Among the smiling faces was that of **John, KB4CRT** when he learned that two entities he'd been chasing had confirmed their contacts with him. First was a QSL card from **VK0TH** whom **John** had a QSO with shortly after **Trevor** landed on Macquarie Island. (As a side note, **VK0/M Maquarie** is now ranked as the 11th most-wanted DXCC entity world-wide in the just-released 2011 survey by *The DX Magazine*.) The other good news for **John** was the **LoTW** confirmation of **XU7ACY, Cambodia** had been on **John's** want list for some time. His DXCC totals now stand at 327 worked and 325 confirmed



Warren NW4C

**LoTW** brought similar good news to **Warren, NW4C** when he checked on-line and found his recent Cambodian QSO with **XU7ACY** had been validated as well. An added plus was receipt of a card from the **3D2R Rotuma DXpedition**. These two validations move Warren's total up to 321 confirmed of 322 worked and his only outstanding card is from the **9N7MD DXpedition** last December. Reportedly the 9N7MD cards are to be mailed in February . . . But we all know how that story goes. nothing can or will be counted until the card is in hand.

Stay tuned. . .

## A little preventive maintenance goes a long, long way . . .



Swinging the beam to the right direction

Antenna and tower repairs always seem to be needed regardless of season. It's just a lot nicer when you have a chance to get the job done in weather that's a lot more spring-like than wintery... and the temperatures are, well, balmy . . .

One example noted recently in Gainesville was former NFDXA member **KB4HF**. On a recent Saturday, **Rich** was spotted atop his 80-foot tower making adjustments to a tic-ring rotor which was pointing his 40-meter beam 180-



Replacing a broken feed line jumper

degrees in the wrong direction! Later, Rich worked himself up into the mid-part of his multi-antenna array where he replaced a broken feed line connection to his TH-7. Both the miss-directed antenna and the broken feed line connection apparently occurred during a cold snap in early January. At the time temperatures plummeted to 20 degrees throughout north Florida driven by two days of 20 and 30 mph winds.

## T-TOP VERT -- N4NN's LATEST 160M ANT



T-top Vertical - Google images

**N4NN** reports he now has a new 160 meter transmit antenna in operation. It's a T-top vertical with an 80 ft vertical section made from ladder line and a 130-foot top section strung between his two 130-foot towers .

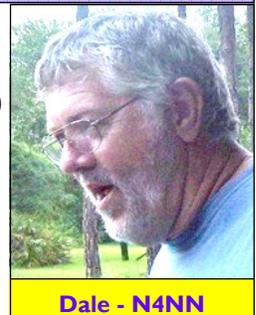
At the present time there are only 30 radials, each 81 feet in length, laid out. But **Dale** says more will be added at a future date.

Currently the SWR is below 2 to 1 from 1800 to

1880 kHz and it's absolutely it's flat at 1830 kHz. There is a matching L-network made from roller inductor, with a vacuum variable capacitor and a 1-to-1 balun common mode choke. At this point Dale is quite happy with the antenna's performance saying the array seems to be working out very well.

The proof has been in Dale's ability to be able to break some pretty big pileups to into JA with only one call. In addition, Dale has also received reports from several stations that he has regular QSOs with. They now say he's louder than ever before. The real test came recently when N4NN was able to work 9M2AX right at sunrise — and he was the *only* station from North America that was able to work him!

It looks like the T-top Vertical is going to be a 'keeper'. Dale says his plans are to give the new antenna a real workout over the rest of the 160-meter DX season.



Dale - N4NN

## More Antenna Work at NF4L?



WD4ASW Prepares to Climb

If you happened to be by the **NF4L** QTH recently and noticed some activity high up on his big tower, not to worry. **Mike** was NOT having another round of problems with his SteppIR. This time the work was focused on installation of a 900 MHz antenna. And what would that be for, you ask?.

Back in December, Mike ran into **Barry Baines, WD4ASW**, at the December meeting of the local Mac Users Group (NFMUG). Mike picks up the story from there.

“Barry used to live in Jax, working for CSX RR. He now lives just outside Boston. Barry is a train fan, and (he’s) part of a nationwide group that monitors train signal data, and voice communications.”

Mike continued: “The monitored data is sent it to a central computer where it’s dispensed to rail fans everywhere in real time. Sort of a DX cluster for train traffic.”

Mike said where his tower became involved in this process is when Barry cited a need to have a receiving point in his neighborhood that would fill a gap in the system and “I agreed to let them install a setup here.” The folks you may have seen at work on the tower were **Barry** and **Dave Sheppard, KJ4NJK** of Naples, FL.

“They installed a 900 MHz antenna at 80’ on my tower. It feeds 4 Motrac receivers, which in turn feed a dedicated computer, which feeds the aggregator.”



L-R: Barry, WD4ASW; Dave, KJ4NIK  
Below: Motrac receiver stack



## Most Wanted ...Continued from page 1

The next 10 entities from 11th through the 20 positions on the most wanted list shuffled up and down with no real surprises other than South Orkney. That Antarctic Island was dropped from the 11th spot in 2010 all the way down to number 72 in the 2011 survey by a superb 64,000 QSO effort by the Microlite Penguin DXpedition team last November.

Details of the “Most Wanted DXCC Entity Survey” methodology and a world-wide breakdown are covered in detail in the January-February 2012 issue of *The DX Magazine*.

The HK0NA Malpelo Island DXpedition is getting underway as this issue of *PileUp* is being posted and this operation is expected to lower the demand for this Colombian island entity considerably from its current spot as the 12th most wanted. A four-man advance team from the DXpedition has been on Malpelo for a week, installing and testing a variety of antennas the operation will be using. In their spare time the four operated during the antenna checks, first using their own call signs, then later in their stay switching to the DXpedition call sign of HK0NA. The DXpedition web site says contacts with the advance team will count for DXCC. At this writing the tried and true rule of WFWL (Work First Worry Later) applies as this still has not been ‘officially’ confirmed.

The DX Magazine’s Most wanted Survey was conducted during September and October of 2011. This explains the obvious absence of the DXCC’s newest entity, South Sudan, which was being activated for the first time by a major DXpedition at the same time the survey was underway.



## News and Notes from the World of DX *Illustrations from <http://www.qrz.com>*

**9M2MRS, Rich**, has been on since the first of the year from Western Malaysia, Penang Island, IOTA AS-015. He already has been spotted on 5 bands (40, 30, 20, 12 and 10 meter CW) and plans to be QRV until February 13. Back home in the Netherlands Rich is **PA0RRS**, and operates primarily CW. But he plans to work in some PSK and RTTY on this trip. In addition, He has a hand microphone available and will do SSB on request. Rich told The Daily DX "Penang Island is our second home and 9M2MRS (has been) my fixed call sign there for a lot of years now." Rich operates barefoot with an FT-897 working into an AT-897 tuner and a G5RV junior 40-10 antenna. The antenna hangs in several bends going around the balcony of the apartment. His signal may not be the strongest, so take your time and listen close. QSL direct to his home call, bureau, LoTW or eQSL



For the 'futures file': **5H3MB** in **Tanzania** will be March 4-April 4. The operator will be **IK2GZU, Maurizio**, who is there at the Mission Ilembula doing work at the new hospital and orphanage. Maurizio will do some HF operating with his own FT-100 rig and the TS-850 that belongs to the mission. There is a tribander that is fixed on Europe. There is also Windom antenna mounted in a papaya tree 6 meters from the ground and a vertical and dipole at the mission which is located 800 kilometers south of Dar es Salaam. Maurizio says he'll upload his log to LoTW when he's back home. QSL via IK2GZU.

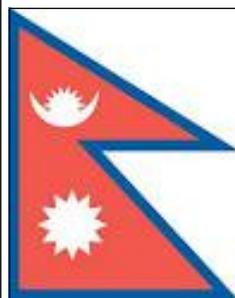


Here's an update on the late **January 2012 DXpedition to Congo** by **TN2T**. The Belgian and Dutch team has received the license after 6 months. This is the same basic team that put 9Q500N on the air last year. The dates for this one are **Sunday January 22nd through Tuesday January 31st**. Team members include: ON4HIL, ON6CC, ON4IA, PA3EWP, ON4BR and ON4FG. Plans are to have three K3 Elecraft transceivers, two Expert 1K-FA and one home made 500 watt amplifier. They will be using Hexbeams on 20 through 6 meters as well as verticals on 10 through 28 MHz. A four square will be used on 40 meters. On the low bands they will have an 18 meter high vertical on 80 meters and a 26 meter high vertical on Topband. The TN2T crew plan to improve their low band ability a K7TJR receiving system using 4 verticals. This gives them a better S/N ratio and the possibility to switch in 4 directions. Check out the TN2T Website at <http://www.tn2t.be/>, which also has a band survey. QSL via M0URX direct, via the bureau or LoTW. – *The Daily DX*



**UV5EVJ, Sergei**, was formerly active from Uganda as **5X1VJ**, has announced that he plans to be working with the United Nations at the Monusco mission from the Katanga province in the **Democratic Republic of Congo (9Q)**. Sergei will be in the Congo March 12th through May 9th. His plans are to be QRV on 3.5 through 28 MHz on CW and SSB in his spare time. At this writing Sergei's 9Q call sign is yet to be announced. If you work him in the Congo QSL via UV5EVJ either direct or via the Ukrainian QSL Bureau. Examples of his 5X1VJ and his home call QSLs are shown on the left and to the right.

–*The Daily DX*



**9N1AA, Satish**, has provided DX World.net (<http://dx-world.net>) with information on the recent Amateur Radio examinations that were held in **Nepal**. A total 41 people passed the written AOC Exam, of which 31 went on to take their CW test. Only 17 of the amateur license candidates were successful in passing the CW test. The code portion of the exam was conducted by personnel from the signal corps division of the Nepal Police Department. In order to obtain a 9N license a candidate must pass both the written AOC exam as well as the CW portion. The results have been posted at the police HQ and there are now 21 newly licensed Amateur Radio operators in Nepal. Each will soon be assigned their 9N1 call signs. Four of the newly licensed operators are YLs. **9N7AK (K0YAK), Sam**, is currently working with Satish, on establishing a club station, as well as getting equipment for the new hams of Nepal.



## More DX News and Notes

If you still need **9N Nepal**, read on . . . **JA8BMK, Toshi**, says he's going back to **Nepal** where he plans to be QRV from February 29th to March 9th. He has requested the call sign **9N7FOX**. If Toshi gets 9N7FOX it will be the fourth Nepalese Ham call sign he's held. The others include **9N1BMK, 9N7BMK and 9N1WW**. Toshi's activity will be holiday style on CW, SSB and RTTY on 3.5 through 28 MHz. *He plans to listen specifically for North American stations.* QSL via JA8UWT either direct or via the JARL QSL bureau.



**9M2TO, Tex**, is the **9M0L DXpedition** coordinator heading to Layang Layang Island, the Malaysian **Spratly Island** in April. Plans are to have 15 team members from Malaysia, Japan and England. Activity is expected on 1.8 through 50 MHz, including satellite. The exact dates have not been announced, but it will take place over the second and third weekends of April. Full official details are yet to be released.

**AA4XR (3W3B, HSOZCY, XU7ADF, XW1B), Bruce Ault**, is heading back to **Laos** next month and plans to be very active while there, for about a two week period. His XW license has been renewed, unfortunately his call has changed from XW1B to **XW4XR**. There are also several new stipulations, restrictions, etc. which have been brought on by someone. Due to new rules and regulations operation will be confined to 40, 30, and 20 meters for the time being. QSL XW4XR via E21EIC.



Next month there will be another activation of the tiny Asian mountain kingdom of **Bhutan**. **G4SGX, Iain**, says he plans to be QRV from Bhutan as **A52JF** from February 11th to 15th. Iain will have a K3 and 400 watt amplifier along with a 10 meter telescopic mast with 40 meter dipole and Spider-beam. Activity is planned on CW, SSB, PSK and JT65 on 7 through 28 MHz. Iain says he plans to upload his logs daily to ClubLog, which can be accessed from his Website at <http://www.g4sgx.org/>. QSL via G4SGX.

Here's a good one but you'd better be quick. Torkel, LA6VJA reports he will be QRV from **Svalbard** for **24hrs only**, on February 11, 2012. Considering it is dark around the clock this time of year from JW-land Torkel, who will be using the call sign **JW6VJA**, will most likely be working the low bands only. He anticipates the bands above 10 MHz will be dead. Daylight or dark, if you manage to get him QSL via LA6VJA CBA or the LA buro.



There's a multi-national team scheduled to activate **Conway Reef** at the end of September of this year. This will be the same group of operators that put 3D2R on the air from Rotuma Island in September and October of last year. The Conway Reef operation is expected to use the call sign **3D2C**. The operation plans to be QRV on HF on 1.8 through 144 MHz on CW, SSB, RTTY, SSTV and PSK31 from September 25th to October 6th. If you are looking for an opportunity to 'get away from it all', DXpedition leader YT1AD says there are still two positions open on the team. Hey, you only go through life one time . . .

## CQ DX Marathon Website Hacked



John Sweeney, K9EL

If you were trying to upload your CQ DX Marathon log to the Marathon website earlier this month and you were having a problem it wasn't your equipment that was at fault. Apparently, hackers were able to access the CQ DX Marathon website on January 11th where they proceeded to create more than a little mischief by sending spam. This caused the entire Marathon website to shut down! The Website ([www.dxmarathon.com](http://www.dxmarathon.com)) is now back up and running normally. **K9EL, John Sweeney**, CQ DX Marathon Administrator, says "If you had any difficulty sending in your 2011 DX Marathon score sheets, please resend". The website will show all the logs that have been received. The deadline for log submission is January 31.

**The CQ DX Marathon!**  
**THE PREMIER ANNUAL DX CONTEST!!!!**

The website will show all the logs that have been received. The deadline for log submission is January 31.

## February: Five Years of Code Free Licensing

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February, 2012, will mark the 5th anniversary of the end of Morse code testing for all levels of FCC Amateur Radio licenses. The Final Code Tests were administered on February 22, 2007, after being part of the US license exams since the beginning of Amateur Radio licensing nearly a century ago. Over the decades, code test speeds rose and fell with the changing times. Code testing for the entry-level Technician Class was eliminated in 1991.

Since the end of code testing, the ranks of radio amateurs in the US have increased by nearly 50,000 and many newer hams are learning CW even though it is no longer required. Detailed looks and commentary on the fate of Morse code in the five years since the end of code testing will be published in the February issues of **CQ** and **World radio Online** magazines.

By the way, if you can't 'read' what the Morse code message above this article says, this is your opportunity to start learning!

— CQ Newsroom 22Dec2011



## SUPREME COURT HEARS CHALLENGE TO FCC INDECENT LANGUAGE RULES



On January 10th The United States Supreme Court heard arguments whether the FCC should still have a role in policing the nation's airwaves or whether its indecency regulations violate guarantees of free speech and due process. Whatever the justices decide could also impact on other, non-broadcast services as well.

Broadcast networks have argued successfully in lower courts that they exist alongside cable channels, the Internet and satellite provided programming which are outside the FCC's jurisdiction and that singling them out is nonsensical and unconstitutional. But broadcasters are still denied some basic First Amendment freedoms enjoyed by other media.

This case is important to ham radio because enforcement of indecency violations in amateur radio has always been tied to the standards used to guide commercial broadcasters. If the high court rules the FCC cannot control indecent language in broadcasting it could be in effect saying that the government has no power on this issue in other services, including what's said on the ham radio bands.

## Pileup behavior drives VK0TH off the air

*(Editor's Note: The following message was posted January 14th on the VK0TH QRZ.com web page (<http://www.qrz.com/db/>), The Daily DX (<http://www.dailydx.com/>) and on the the DX World web page (<http://dx-world.net/>). In sum it states that VK0TH on Macquarie is now QRT. The message then goes on to state the reasons for the sudden shut-down. I realize for the most part what follows is preaching to the choir, a population I'm sure includes every member of the North Florida DX Association (NFDXA) to whom **PileUp** is directed, as well as those who subscribe to The Daily DX and The Weekly DX. But, as The Daily DX publisher Bernie, W3UR, noted in his introductory message: "The problem is serious and doesn't just apply to Trevor". )*

VK0TH QRT - Operator behavior has become a problem JA stations and EU stations that constantly call over other stations, don't hear or jam have turned a fun hobby into a stressful environment. I worked over 200 JA stations today (13/14 January) and when sending NO JA in the call it all got very ugly. I will be QRT for the next few days while I re-evaluate how much radio I will continue doing while on Macquarie Island and how it is done. My apologies to those that wanted VK0/M, I can't see this behaviour changing and I'm not willing to spend my free time doing something that is no longer fun. My apologies. Trevor.

*The following statement was posted earlier on January 13<sup>th</sup>. In it VK0TH threatens to close down if the situation didn't improve.*

### **\*\*Pileup Frustrations - Please Read\*\***

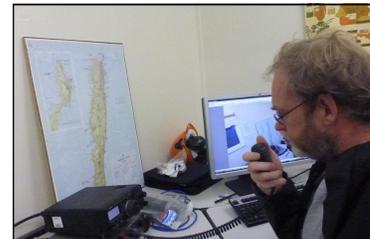
By VK0TH, Trevor Hopps

The last week or 2 pileups have been a real problem JA and EU mostly. Rude operators calling over the top of other operators, high powered stations that I can hear but can't hear me, jamming, QSO's etc. I won't presume to give you hints on how you should operate if you don't know by now then chances are good you never will. What I will do is make some observations.

I can work pileups quickly, moving from station to station over a number of hours and accrue several hundred contacts. I can only do this if signals are intelligible, I can hear you and you can hear me. When it's a dogpile and everyone's screaming for my attention by calling over the top of each other I just sit there wasting time trying to discern call signs over the hundreds that are calling. It simply doesn't work. I've tried the numbers games, working by region, working expanded splits none of these solve the real problems. I just end up getting frustrated and walk away.

My suggestions - Listen more, be polite let stations finish their turn before calling, make sure you can hear. If you do these then there's a good chance I will hear your call and respond. I can guarantee you if your a station being rude and calling over the top of other stations continuously without regard for others I will simply shut down and go QRT. Radio just isn't fun in those conditions.

*Trevor VK0TH was expected be active until April 2012 on 40 – 20 – 15 e 10 meters using a Yaesu FT-897 100W, a 5-band Vertical and wire loops for 40 and 20m. His preferred mode is BSPK-31. QSL only via direct to JE1LET*



**"Aren't you glad you use QSK? Don't you wish everybody did?" — K8MP**

## January 2012 DX Calendar *(Edited from: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)*

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Jan10	2012 Feb06	Nauru	C21HA	LotW	HA5AO 20110606	By HA5AO HA5UK; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK
2012 Jan11	2012 Jan21	British Virgin Is	VP2V	GM0LVI	<a href="#">ATDX</a> 20111214	By GM0LVI as VP2V/GM0LVI fm Cooper I; 20-6m; CW SSB
2012 Jan11	2012 Jan24	El Salva- dor	YS3	LotW	VA3RJ 20111230	By IW2CXJ as YS3/IW2CXJ; 40-10m; CW; 100w; vertical; QSL also OK via IW2CXJ direct or eQSL
2012 Jan11	2012 Jan31	Timor Leste	4W0VB	UA4WHX	<a href="#">ATDX</a> 20120111	By UA4WHX; HF; end date unknown
2012 Jan12	2012 Jan23	Bonaire	PJ4C	LotW	F5NQL 20110910	By 24 op team; SSB CW RTTY; 6 stations; 24hrs/day
2012 Jan12	2012 May09	DR Congo	9Q	UV5EVJ	VA3RJ 20120105	By UV5EVJ fm Katanga Province as TBA; 80-10m; CW SSB; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Jan14	2012 Jan22	Cambodia	XU7	Home Call	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20111212	By JA3AVO as XU7AVO, also JA3BZO (XU7AEN), JA1CJA (XU7CJA), JA3UJR (XU7UJR), JA3HJI (XU7HJI pending) and Tatsuo/JA3ARJ (XU7ARJ pending); 160-6m; CW SSB + digital
2012 Jan16	2012 Apr16	Minami Torishima	JD1	JG8NQJ Buro	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20120106	By JG8NQJ as JG8NQJ/JD1; CW SSB; 50w; spare time operation; QSL also OK via JA8CJY direct
2012 Jan17	2012 Feb02	East Kiribati	T32	See Info	VO1AU 20111115	By VO1AU et al w/various callsigns fm Kirimati I (OC-024, BJ12ha); QRV for CQ 160m CW as T32XX (QSL via KB8TXZ)
2012 Jan20	2012 Jan29	Pitcairn I	VP6T	LotW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20110725	By F6BEE G3TXF VE2TZT FM5CD F4BKV; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via G3TXF
2012 Jan20	2012 Feb03	Senegal	6W7SK	F6BLP	VA3RJ 20111014	By F6BLP fm Mbour; focus on low bands; mainly CW
2012 Jan20	2012 Feb04	Pitcairn I	VP6T	LotW	AF3Y 20111211	By F6BEE G3TXF VE2TZT FM5CD F4BKV; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via G3TXF, via usual routes, including email request (see Web pages)
2012 Jan21	2012 Jan28	Falkland Is	VP8DNT	JH1AJT	VA3RJ 20120105	By JH1AJT fm Port Stanley (SA-002, WFF GFF-024, WLOTA 1479); 80-10m; holiday style operation
2012 Jan21	2012 Feb04	Curacao	PJ2	LotW	<a href="#">ATDX</a> 20111214	By AA9A as PJ2/AA9A; 40-10; CW SSB; QSL also OK via AA9A
2012 Jan21	2012 Feb08	Malpelo I	HK0NA	N2OO	LU9ESD 20110627	By K1R HK1T HK1X HK1N HK1MW HK6F HK3JH DJ9ZB N4GRN W6IZT K4UEE K9SG LU9ESD VE7CT WB9Z K0IR W0GJ N6OX PP5XX
2012 Jan22	2012 Jan28	Mariana Is	KH0	HB9BCK	VA3RJ 20120105	By HB9BCK as KH0/HB9BCK fm Saipan I (USI NI002S, WLOTA 1333); 80-10m; CW SSB PSK RTTY; verticals + yagis; 500w; QSL OK via HB9 buro or direct
2012 Jan22	2012 Feb01	Congo	TN2T	M0URX	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20111227	By 6 ops
2012 Jan24	2012 Feb23	Wallis & Futuna	FW0R	HA0NAR	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20110602	By HA0NAR + 2 others fm Wallis I; 160-6m, focus on low bands; CW SSB RTTY; QRV for ARRL DX CW; Feb 5-10 sidetrip to Futuna I (OC -118) using TW0F
2012 Jan25	2012 Feb05	Maldives	8Q7HU	CX3AN	VA3RJ 20111124	By CX3AN CX4CR fm Maafushi I (AS-013, WLOTA 3911, WW Loc. MJ63rw); 80-6m; CW SSB + digital
<b><a href="#">CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW</a></b> (Jan 27-29, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.						
2012 Jan28	2012 Feb05	Mayotte	<a href="#">TO4M</a>	LotW	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20111210	By IK5BCM IK5CBE IK5CRH fm AF-027; 80-10m; SSB CW PSK31 RTTY; 2 stations; amplifiers; dipoles
2012 Jan29	2012 Feb10	El Salva- dor	<a href="#">HU2DX</a>	DH7WW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20111114	By DF7TT, et al fm Barra de Santiago; 160-10m, low band focus

**Late News** — The STOR operation to the new entity of The Republic of South Sudan has been named by DX-World.net as "DXpedition of the Year 2011. TX7M was 2nd and 3rd place went to the month-long 5-StartDXpedition to T32C. Fourth place was taken by VP8ORK South Orkney and the 9N7M 'Namaste' operation to Nepal took 5th place. Over 10,000 votes were cast for 39 operations that took place in 2011.

## February 2012 DX Calendar *(Edited from <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)*

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Feb01	2012 Feb09	Grenada	J3	LotW	N7UN 20120110	By W6HFP W3FF W7ZT WG0AT KC4VG N7UN KB9AVO K8EAB as TBD; 100w; Buddipoles; QSL also OK via home_call direct or eQSL
2012 Feb02	2012 Feb12	Jamaica	6Y5	OE3GEA	VA3RJ 20111230	By OE3GEA as OE3GEA/6Y5 fm NA-097 (WLOTA 0214); CW; 50w; Outbacker + dipole; QSL OK via OE Buro or direct
2012 Feb03	2012 Feb17	Niue	ZK2C	DL7JAN Buro	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20110912	By DK1MA, et al; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; Direct QSL fm: Jan Forerderer, Alte Poststr. 34, 69254 Malsch, Germany
2012 Feb04	2012 Feb18	Guantanamo	KG4KL	KG4KL	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20120103	By KG4KL; SSTV RTTY SSB
2012 Feb05	2012 Feb13	St Martin	FS	LotW	F5NQL 20120110	By F8PDR as FS/F8PDR fm NA-105, 80-10m; CW RTTY; 100w; dipoles, verts; QSL via F8PDR, Buro or direct; planning side trip to PJ7
2012 Feb06	2012 Feb07	French Polynesia	TX6T/p	G3TXF	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20111226	By F6BEE G3TXF VE2TZT FM5CD F4BKV fm Mangreva I (OC-063); HF; dates tentative
2012 Feb06	2012 Feb14	Guantanamo	KG4DL	WB4DNL	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20120103	By WB4DNL; mainly CW
2012 Feb06	2012 Feb23	Guantanamo	KG4WV	W4WV	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20120103	By W4WV; SSB PSK RTTY, perhaps CW
2012 Feb08	2012 Feb10	French Polynesia	TX6T	G3TXF	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20111226	By F6BEE G3TXF VE2TZT FM5CD F4BKV fm Tahiti (OC-046); HF; dates tentative
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb14	Guam	KH2	JS6RRR	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20120102	By JS6RRR as KH2/JS6RRR fm OC-026 (USI GU003S, WLOTA L-0064); 160-6m; CW SSB FM RTTY PSK31
2012 Feb10	2012 Feb15	South Cook Is	E51BKV	LotW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20111215	By F4BKV fm Mangaia I (OC-159); 40-10m; SSB + digital; 500w; verts; op fm Rarotonga I (OC-013) intransit; QSL also OK via F4BKV
2012 Feb11	2012 Feb11	Svalbard	JW6VJA	LotW	VA3RJ 20120110	By LA6VJA; likely low bands only; QSL also OK via: PO Box 1036 Jeloy, NO-1510 Moss, Norway
<a href="#">CQ WW WPX Contest, RTTY</a> (Feb 11-12, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.						
2012 Feb11	2012 Feb15	Bhutan	A52JF	G4SGX	<a href="#">ATDX</a> 20120111	By G4SGX; 40-10m; CW SSB PSK
2012 Feb11	2012 Feb24	Temotu	H40FN	HA8DD	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20111210	By DK9FN fm Nendo (OC-100); CW; also DG1FK using H40FK in digital modes (QSL via DF1FK)
2012 Feb13	2012 Feb23	Bahamas	C6	LotW	VA3RJ 20111209	By N2RFA (C6ABB, K2KJI (C6ALC), KC4PX (C6APX) fm Nassau, NA-001)80-10m; SSB PSK31 RTTY SSTV JT65; QSL home call direct
2012 Feb14	2012 Feb21	Rodrigues I	3B9	OE4AAC	OE4AAC 20111228	By OE4AAC as 3B9/OE4AAC; 40-10m; CW; QSL OK via OE Buro or direct
2012 Feb17	2012 Feb21	Palau	T88KF	JA9APS	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20111128	By JA9APS; 40-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL: Narumi Kawai, 1-10-14 Suwanokawara, Toyama, 930-0088 Japan
<a href="#">ARRL International DX Contest, CW</a> (Feb 18-19, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.						
2012 Feb18	2012 Feb25	Guantanamo	KG4AS	N4SIA	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20120103	By N4SIA; SSB RTTY PSK CW
2012 Feb18	2012 Feb25	New Caledonia	FK	LotW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20111215	By F4BKV fm Ouvea I (OC-033); 40-10m; SSB + digital; 500w; verts; briefly fm Noumea (OC-032) during transit; QSL also OK via F4BKV
2012 Feb21	2012 Feb29	Swaziland	3DA0PW	LotW	<a href="#">425DXN</a> 20111217	By G3SWH EA5ARC; 80-10m; CW; 2 stations; QSL also OK via OQRS (preferred) or G3SWH, Buro or direct
2012 Feb23	2012 Mar08	Barbados	8P9	See Info	AA1M 20120103	By W1USN as 8P9CI and AA1M as 8P9CK; SSB CW PSK31; QSL 8P9CI via LotW and 8P9CK via AA1M, Buro or direct
2012 Feb24	2012 Mar07	Senegal	6V7T	F5RAV	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20111222	By F5RAV



## Final NFDXA-CQ DX 2011 Full Marathon Standings

Call	Countries	Zones	IOTA	Total
<a href="#">AB4UF</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">AC4ET</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">K3LB</a>	237	40	110	387
<a href="#">K4EB</a>	258	40	199	497
<a href="#">K4UTE</a>	274	40	235	549
<a href="#">KB4CRT</a>	7	7	4	18
<a href="#">KC4FWS</a>	1	1	0	2
<a href="#">KX4WW</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">NIWON</a>	232	38	143	416
<a href="#">N4EPD</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">N4GFO</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">N4JBK</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">N4KE</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">N4NN</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">N4UF</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">NF4L</a>	159	38	75	272
<a href="#">NO4J</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">NU4Y</a>	122	33	33	188
<a href="#">NW4C</a>	107	34	49	190
<a href="#">W4FDA</a>	16	12	0	28
<a href="#">W4GAL</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">W4GJ</a>	243	37	88	368
<a href="#">WA4B</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">WA4ET</a>	0	0	0	0
<a href="#">WA6EZY</a>	183	36	72	291
<a href="#">WR4K</a>	161	36	87	284

Between 1 Jan and 31 Dec 2011 the NFDXA membership was challenged to work as many DX stations as they could on any Amateur Radio band using any mode.

Participants could work each country only once—unless it spanned CQ zones. Also, they could work the country as an IOTA entity and these contacts would count an extra point

### TOP SCORE

The best overall club score in the NFDXA club marathon was compiled by **Richard, K4UTE**. As shown in the final tally on the left Rich amassed a total of 549 points by working all 40 CQ Zones and 274 countries, 235 of which were IOTA entities. Second and third place go to **Larry, K4EB** and **Cory, NIWON**, with 497 and 416 points, respectively.

### WHAT DOES K4UTE GET?

In addition to numerous spoken and written accolades, back-pats, atta-boys and expressions of envy and regret from those who either didn't do as well or take part, **K4UTE** will receive a **free dinner**—including dessert plus a coveted **Top Performance Award Certificate**.

## ARRL DX Challenge Award Announced



The DeSoto Cup trophy

The DXCC Challenge Award is given for working and confirming at least 1,000 DXCC band-Entities on any Amateur bands, 160 through 6 meters (except 60 meters). Plaques can be endorsed in increments of 500. entities for each band are totaled to give the Challenge standing. Deleted entities do not count for this award. All contacts must be made after November 15, 1945. QSOs for the 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meter bands qualify for this award. Bands with less than 100 contacts are

acceptable for credit for this award. Certificates are not available for this award.

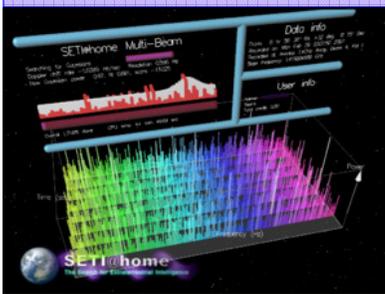
**The DeSoto Cup** is presented to the DXCC Challenge leader as of the 31st of December each year. The DeSoto Cup is named for Clinton B. DeSoto, whose definitive article, "[How to Count Countries Worked, A New DX Scoring System](#)," in the October, 1935 *QST*, forms the basis of the DXCC award. Only one cup will be awarded to any single individual. A medal will be presented to a repeat winner in subsequent years. Medals will also be awarded to the second and third place winners each year.

The unique Challenge plaque is endorsable in increments of 500 and comes with the first endorsement "medallion." A distinctive lapel pin indicating your Challenge level is also available. <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-challenge>

# DX

The Ultimate Contact Sport

## RADIO FROM SPACE: SETI SEARCH BEGINS ANEW



SETI@home Screensaver

Researchers have resumed looking for intelligent life on other planets. After a seven months shut-down due to lack of funding, radio telescopes run by the SETI Institute are again listening for radio signals from a number of alien planet candidates discovered by NASA's Kepler space telescope.

S-E-T-I or SETI is an acronym that stands for the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence. It has been in existence in a variety of forms since the 1960s looking

for electromagnetic signals that might indicate presence of an intelligent alien civilization.

Last year in January the SETI team began training the 42-dish Allen observatory antenna array on the 54 planet candidates Kepler had detected. Astronomers describe this area as the first so-called 'habitable zone' in space they've discovered to date. The 'habitable zone' is one where planets are at just the right range of distances from their home star where liquid water and perhaps life as we know could exist.

—AR Newsline 06Jan2012

## IBEC CLOSES BPL OPERATIONS DUE TO FINANCIAL LOSSES

One of the last remaining US operators of a Broadband over Powerline Internet access system has announced that its shutting down. A notice was made on the International Broadband Electric Communications (IBEC) web site. The reason given by IBEC was its inability to overcome financial damage from the April 27th 2011 tornadoes that ravaged its service areas in Alabama and that it has no other option than to cease operations.

IBEC was headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama. It provided Internet service using broadband over power line technology to rural communities in several states including Virginia, Pennsylvania, Indiana as well as Alabama.

With IBEC's departure, the ARRL says that there is no other Broadband over Powerline system in the United States that uses the amateur bands in their deployments. To read the full IBEC closure announcement go to its website at <http://www.ibec.net>.

—ARRL/AR Newsline

## Yaesu Reorganizes—Amateur Division now Separate from Motorola

Yaesu amateur radio equipment is once again being manufactured independently after four years as a subsidiary of Motorola. In a December 27 letter to the amateur, aviation and marine radio communities, Vertex-Standard President and CEO Jun Hasegawa announced a reorganization -- effective January 1 -- in which Motorola would take full control of the company's land mobile radio (LMR) line, while Yaesu amateur gear and Standard-Horizon air and marine radios would be manufactured by a new company with an old name -- Yaesu Musen Co., Ltd. Hasegawa said the new company would be wholly owned by members of his family. There were no changes in personnel or offices of Yaesu USA, which is now the umbrella organization for Yaesu amateur equipment and Standard-Horizon marine and aircraft equipment sold in the US.

—CQ Newsroom 04Jan2012

# ODDS & ENDS

Credit for much the DX news, illustrations and information contained in this publication goes to a variety of sources including, but not limited to the following:

**The Daily DX** (<http://www.dailydx.com>),

**NG3K Amateur Radio**

**Contest/DX Page** (<http://www.ng3k.com/>),

**OhioPenn DX Bulletin**

(<http://www.papays.com/opdx.html>),

**DX World of Ham Radio**

(<http://www.dx-world.net/>),

**The DX Magazine** (<http://www.dxpub.com/>),

**DX Italia** (<http://www.dxitalia.it/>),

**DARC DXNL** (<http://www.dxhf.darc.de/>),

**Pete's DX Newsdesk** (<http://www.dx-newsdesk.co.uk/>),

**ARRL** (<http://www.arrl.org>),

Finally, off air and word of mouth from those who turned on their radios, operated and then told **The PileUp** what they heard.

— NW4C

### It's the Law!

### Law of Logical Argument

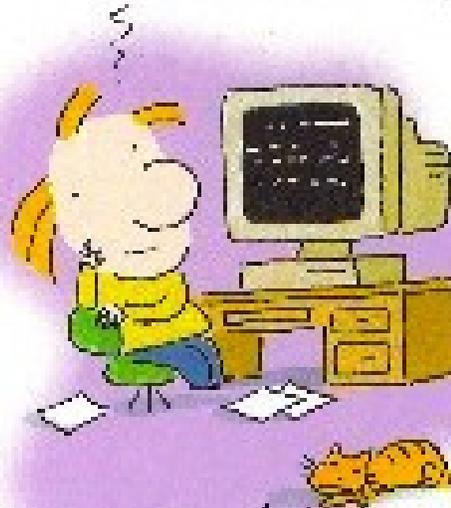
Anything is possible if you don't know what you are talking about.

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USA

<http://nfdxa.com>

## And so it goes . . .

Ever notice, the older we get,  
the more we're like computers?



We start out with lots of  
MEMORY and DRIVE  
then we become outdated,  
and eventually have to get  
our parts replaced...:)

## The Last Word . . .

It was bound to happen sooner or later and I for one am surprised it's taken this long. No, I'm not talking about the dismantling of the Tim Tebow-lead Broncos in the playoffs. I'm referring to the shut-down of VK0TH. The playoff dreams of Tebow-fans have now been dashed as have the hopes of many DXers of working Macquarie Island for a 'new one'. VK0TH is now QRT. For how long we don't know. My analogy may be a far-fetched but the end result is the same in both instances; sadness and disappointment.

Trevor, VK0TH, is currently the lone Ham operator on bleak, windswept Macquarie, a sub-Antarctic Australian island. He's gone QRT because of persistent problems with "rude operators". He cited JA and EU ops in particular: "Rude operators calling over the top of other operators, high powered stations that I can hear but can't hear me, jamming, QSO's etc. ", is how he put it, (See full story page 9).

Trevor concluded "I can't see this behavior changing and I'm not willing to spend my free time doing something that is no longer fun" and he's called it quits.

Rude pileup behavior, whether by ignorance or intent, is nothing new. What is new is it's now caused the 11th most wanted DXCC entity worldwide to go QRT. How many more operations like Trevor's will be driven off the air before something gets done about it? — NW4C



W4ZR