



The North Florida DX Association

PileUp

The NFDXA Newsletter



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The next meeting of the North Florida DX Association will be 5 pm Saturday, March 17 at the Athens Café, 6271 St. Augustine Rd, #7, Jacksonville, FL 32217



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<http://nfdxa.com/>

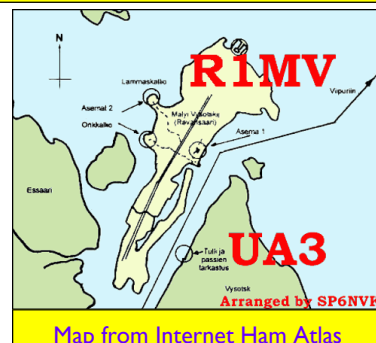
MVI Deletion Affects N1WON Honor Roll Application



Cory, N1WON

The deletion of **RIM Malyj Island** from the DXCC entity list in February has had an adverse 'ripple effect' effect on the Honor Roll application of an NFDXA member.

NIWON reached the then 'magic number' when he received confirmation of his contact with VK0TH on Macquarie Island. **Cory** submitted his application which included a QSO with RIM and the card from VK0TH. But



Map from Internet Ham Atlas

then he got word his VK0 contact was rejected because at the time there was no documentation for Trevor's operation on file at the time with the ARRL DX Desk. This dropped him one below the required total. Not to worry, Cory thought, because it would only be a matter of a day or two before the Macquarie documentation was received and all would be OK.

As luck would have it, before the Macquarie operation was approved the DXCC desk deleted Malyj Vysotskij Island (MVI) from the approved list. Even with the VK0 approval Cory was still one below the needed 331 entity total.

Like many who have reached this level there aren't that many left for NIWON that he hasn't already worked, and those few that remain for him as possibilities, like P5, VK0H or 7O aren't likely to be activated anytime soon.

— Continued on page 3

Mandated FCC survey could lead to relief from "unreasonable" restrictions on residential antenna installations— Report to Congress due in 6 months

The payroll tax cut extension bill signed into law in February by President Obama contains an FCC mandate that may prove beneficial to many Hams. Hidden deep within the many provisions of the *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Bill of 2012* is a section directing the FCC to study the "uses and capabilities" of amateur radio in emergencies and disaster relief.

In particular the Commission is directed to identify "impediments to enhanced (amateur radio) communications, such as the effects of *unreasonable or unnecessary private land use restrictions on residential antenna installations.*" (Emphasis added)

The mandated study is to be done in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security and the Commission is required to make recommendations "regarding removal of such impediments" and report its findings to Congress within six months. — *CQ News, ARRL Letter*



President Obama signs payroll tax relief extension bill into law February 22.

— White House photo



NFDXA OFFICERS 2011

The North Florida DX Association, Inc. is a group of Amateur Radio Operators located in north Florida and south Georgia whose interests 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



Vice President

Warren Croke, NW4C nw4c@cox.net



Secretary

Mike Reublin, NF4L nf4l@nf4l.com



Treasurer

Jim Hughes, KC4FWS 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

PileUp story ideas, manuscripts and photographs should be sent to nw4c@cox.net

2012 NFDXA DUES ARE PAST DUE

This is the final reminder and report on club dues. The executive board decided that the dues will remain at \$20 for 2012. Please note the 2010 changes made to the bylaws concerning dues and how it affects the total amount you pay:

9.01 DUES - Yearly dues shall be due and payable on the first day of January of each new year, and, if not received by the Treasurer prior to the first day of February, the member will be assessed each month an additional amount equal to 50% of the current dues. The member will be dropped from the roster if all outstanding dues and fees are not paid by May 1. Any member dropped from the roster may reapply for membership as outlined in section 1.0. If a new member is installed prior to July 1 of any calendar year, he must pay the full yearly dues. New members installed on July 1 or after will pay one-half the yearly dues.

To date I have received 2012 dues for the following dues paying members:

K3LB, K4EB, K4UTE, KC4FWS, N4GFO, NF4L, W4GJ, WA6EZV, AB4UF, N4EPD, N4NN, NW4C, KB4CRT, N1WON, N4JBK, N4KE, W4FDA, NU4Y, WA4B, WA4ET

If you are not listed above, I have not received your dues. Honorary members do not pay dues.

I will be at next meeting. If your name is not listed above and you wish to continue membership, please pay your dues as follows:

In accordance with the bylaws provision above, dues if paid in February would total \$30 and increase to \$40 if paid during March.

Cash: Always accepted at meetings.

Checks: Make all checks payable to: **James L. Hughes, NFDXA** (checks not made out this way will not be accepted by VyStar) and mail to: Jim Hughes, 11432 Lowndesboro Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32223-1376. If you need to discuss any problems with the above, please give me a call. Home 904-262-1736 or cell 904-982-6884.

—Jim Hughes, KC4FWS

LIFE IS SIMPLE



... Dots and Dashes ...

In spite of Sun Spot numbers that have descended to depressingly low levels, there are lots of DX stations out there to be worked. Especially noteworthy are the numerous DXpeditions to rare and semi-rare geographic locations. My hat is off to the hearty folks willing to plan and execute a trip to countries high up on the most wanted lists. Having traveled to twenty-seven countries (but only operating from four of them) during the past fifty years, I am well aware of the "adventure" involved in international travel.



Larry, K3LB

I would like to make a couple of observations from chasing a few of the exotic call signs this past month. First of all, some of the pileups are HUGE. Even with a Kilowatt and a four element monobander pointed right at some of these stations, I have to remain patient. I guess DXing, like some other things I have tried to master (golf), serves primarily to keep one very humble. Operating technique and experience, in addition to terrific stations, are probably the reasons some of our club members work DXpeditions on all modes and all bands so quickly. If you all care to share your DXing secrets with us neophytes, I'm all ears.

Secondly, some of our fellow DXers must get frustrated when they are not successful in working a DX station quickly. That is the only explanation I can think of for the deliberate QRM I have observed. I guess they decide, "If I can't work him, nobody else will either". This is unfortunate, and takes just a little bit of the fun out of the game. On the upside, most deliberate QRMers must not have "continuous key down" amps, because they seem to go away after two or three minutes. Here again, patience is called for. But sometimes, I sure would like to give these folks a piece of my mind.

Here's hoping for bigger sunspot numbers as 2012 progresses. Sunspots or not, I'll be out there on the bands with the rest of you all. It's truly a great time to be a DXer. ... Larry K3LB

HR Application Delayed for N1WON — *Continued from page 1*

However, hope springs eternal in the heart of every true DXer and Cory's no exception. "There have been rumors floated that a KPI Navassa DXpedition may be in the works". Cory says. "I'm hoping it's sooner rather than later". N1WON plans to contact some of the people reportedly connected with the operation. Wish him luck...and at the same time hope he'll pass along what he hears to the rest of us. :)

Since the DXCC Desk removed MVI from the current count there are now 340 entities/countries. With this in mind you now need 331 or more to be on the ARRL DXCC Honor Roll. Also, those involved in the DXCC Challenge have had their MVI credits removed.

—Various including *The Daily DX*, *CQ News*, *ARRL release*

600M and 9U3TMM Approved for DXCC

The following operation is approved for DXCC credit: **600M – Somalia**, 2011 Operation; **9U3TMM – Burundi** reported as December 2011 and January 2012. If you had either of these operations rejected in a recent application send a note to bmoore@arrrl.org to have your record updated. (Please do not contact the operator). **Note:** Due to extremely heavy e-mail DXCC may not respond to your message. Once updated, this will be reflected in your LoTW account and/or in the live, daily DXCC standings on the website. (www.arrrl.org/dxcc). — ARRL DXCC News



**There are no meeting minutes posted this month
because the NFDXA did not meet in February 2012**



A Different Twist in an Ongoing Game

Here's a new approach to the old idea of the DXCC country chase. It was posted originally in the Feb 14, 2012 edition of The Daily DX (<http://www.dailydx.com>) and is reprinted here in full with permission of the author Jim McCook, W6YA.

The Deleted Entities Chase

As with most OT DXers, I've become more interested in the history of DX over the past few years, especially after reading the W6AM book a few times. I recently visualized a new project, which improved my knowledge of world history with ham radio. I was curious to know how many of the deleted entities I have worked after they were deleted.

If you're only interested in "keeping score of entities worked," you will probably not be interested.

If you worked a German ham in Saarbrücken, you have worked the old 9S4 area. If you worked a Chinese ham with a "2" in the prefix, you worked the old Manchuria. Most likely you have worked stations in all the old PK areas of Indonesia. You quickly find that you have worked most places on the deleted list, but there are a few that you probably have missed.

There are 21 deleted entities that I never worked before their deletion, mostly because of my own inactivity between 1960 and 1968. I wondered how many of those areas I've actually worked. I went through my QSLs to find out. What I found was most interesting.

I had never worked stations in six of the deleted group: 1M (Minerva Reef), 8Z5 (Kuwait-Saudi Neutral Zone), CR8 (Damao-Diu), FN8 (French India), VS9H (Kuria Maria), VS9K (Kamran I.). Incidentally, I found only one VU QSL from Goa, the old CR8/Goa.

It was my goal to work those six areas, even though they are deleted as entities.

After checking with 9K2HN, it turned out that 9K2UU is intermittently active from Khiran, in the old 8Z5 Neutral Zone, alternating with his home station in Kuwait City. We arranged a QSO, and I was surprised to hear him 5-9+ on 20m SSB. Only 5 to go.

Apparently there is nobody active from Daman or Diu Island, but one of these days there will be. Daman is only about 100 miles north of Mumbai, so it should be possible. Diu Island could be interesting as a new IOTA. The only contacts made from that area before the 1961 deletion were the 55 QSOs made in 1948 by W6ODD/CR8. There were no operations from Daman (Damao in Portuguese).

French India was scattered among several areas along the east coast of India. The biggest concentration of amateurs is in Pondicherry. Interestingly, VU2AX (the original FN8AD) was, until recently, still shown on QRZ.com as living in the same place as he did during his FN8 days, despite his passing in the 1990s. Since there are at least a dozen hams in Pondicherry, this one should be possible. One day I'll find one.

The other three will be more difficult.

Since the Minerva Reefs were claimed by Tonga, there have been no operations. Minerva is a frequent stop for yachtsmen traveling from Tonga to New Zealand. Fiji does not recognize the Tongan claim of this area, and the issue is still under dispute. If Fiji eventually were to assume the claim over Minerva, it might become a regular entity again on the DXCC list.

There was a 1990 operation on Kuria Maria (formerly VS9H) by a group of Oman amateurs (it's now part of Oman), which I somehow missed. There were several others since then. Perhaps this will be active again as an IOTA operation.

Since Kamran (formerly VS9K) is part of Yemen, it's unlikely there will be an operation there any time soon.

In the process of studying the history of all the entities on the deleted list, it has been a most interesting view of geographic history around parts of the world. As hams, we naturally have this interest, but the deleted list is an interesting window into the past operations in our hobby. This project has really sparked my interest in DX.

If you're looking for something new to do with your DX chasing, I highly recommend this as a fun and educational project. One thing is certain: The more deleted ones you missed, the more fulfilling this project will be.

—73, Jim W6YA



Work the DX that **IS** today because you can't work the DX that **WAS**...and the DX that **WILL BE** hasn't arrived yet—**W2IRT**

News and Notes from the World of DX

TZ5T MALI POSTPONED —

The DX community barely had time to get excited over the announcement that a full-scale, 160 through 6 meter DXpedition was being scheduled next month to the seldom-heard

North African country of Mali (TZ) when word came the operation was being postponed. The reason given was the government of Mali had refused to issue operating licenses to the Italian hams for “safety reasons”.

It seems a full scale civil war is now underway in Mali between the government and the Taureg, and fighting has been getting worse. The Taureg are the traditionally nomadic people who occupy much of the interior of Mali along with most of the Saharan regions of Algeria to the north, Niger to the east and Burkina Faso to the south. Government officials felt that the radio amateurs would be targeted specifically because of their radio equipment. TZ5T was to have been QRV Apr 12 to 27. No new date for the operation has been set. Check the team web site at <http://www.i2ysb.com> for the latest information.

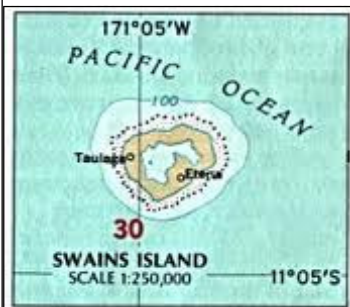


PY0S – Future Ham DXpeditions Prohibited

If you haven't managed to work the St Peter and St Paul Archipelago before now it may be some time before you get another chance. The Brazilian government has passed the word that there will be no more Ham Radio DXpeditions to this group of 15 small, rocky islands in the Atlantic that lie roughly midway between Brazil and Africa. The reason for the government's prohibition is the radio operations do not “conform to the continuing program of maintenance, conservation, management and the utilization of natural resources of the archipelago.” At this writing St Peter & St Paul is num-

ber 66 on [The Dx Magazine's](#) Most Wanted list. [Club Log](#) ranks PY0/S at number 15.

CY9M St Paul (Canada) Island - The ‘other’ St. Paul Island, CY9 in Canada's Gulf of St Lawrence is still open for amateur operations. A 10-man international team is scheduled to operate from this rocky, frequently fogbound DX entity from July 26 to August 01. St. Paul Island is sometimes called the “Graveyard of the Gulf” for the apparent reason that over the years numerous ships have run into it. Hopefully the DXpedition team will have a less dramatic arrival. The island was last activated in 2005. In the 7 years since it has jumped from 77th to its current position as 47th most wanted. The operation's QSL manager is M0URX and their website is <http://www.cy9m.com/>



NH8S Swains Island - Here's one for your futures file. A DXpedition to remote Swains Island, a privately owned atoll in the Tokelau chain, is in the planning stage for September 4-18, 2012. Swains island presently occupies the 31st most wanted entity position in *The DX Magazine* most recent survey. The only way to reach Swains is by ship from American Samoa. The island's owner has granted a 20-man DXpedition team permission to land and run a ‘tent and generator’ operation for two weeks. The September timeframe admittedly is not the best for low band operations but the dates are dictated by availability of transportation as well as the weather. Six stations are planned for all modes from 160 to 6 meters over the 14-day period. Emphasis will be placed on Europe where it's most needed. More infor-

mation and updates will be posted on the DXpedition's website: www.nh8s.org

More News and Notes from the World of DX Illustrations from <http://www.qrz.com> and <http://www.hamatlas.eu>

Nothing New on Possible XY Operation - Here's another one the DX community had high hopes for, a 'micro' DXpedition from XY, Myanmar by Simon, HS0ZIB who said he had an invitation from that country's Ministry of Tourism to come and operate PSK for about four days. But so far, no joy. The latest update from Simon posted on the DX World site is there's "no good news as yet". Simon says he hasn't made any progress in getting a license and that he's going to "pop over" to Myanmar shortly and see if he can get things moving again. There hasn't been a an operation from Myanmar in over a decade. Old time DXers know Myanmar as Burma, the name it had until it came under its present military government,. XY Myanmar (Burma) is now up to number 28 on the



KH9 Wake Island - There hasn't been much in the news recently about KH9 Wake Island which is now up to no. 19 on the DXCC most wanted list. The lone operator on this mid-Pacific island of World War II fame is Colin, WA2YUN who says his time on air is "somewhat limited" because work takes much of his time. Colin has a great antenna array (see photo) which is fed by his choice of an Elecraft K3, IC-7000 or a Flex 1500 driving an SPE 1K-FA 1200 watt amp. So whenever he does get on he should be readily heard! Colin tells The Daily DX that he hopes to have a 6 m beacon QRV on 50.014 MHz. He also says he will try to provide contacts during contests. If you do manage to work KH9/WA2YUN QSL via K2PF

Attention 6 Meter Ops – ZL2RS is expected to be QRV on VK9N Norfolk Island March 25th to April 8th with an IC706M-KIIG and stacked yagis. Bob will be using the call sign VK9N/ZL2RS and says "I will be mostly monitoring and calling CQ on 50.110 and then will QSY to 50.105 for QSOs." He also hopes to get on 6 meter EME with JT65A. Later this year Bob plans to conduct 6m activity with W7GJ from Niue (ZK2) from early September to mid-November 2012.



9M0L-Spratly Islands - Those who need the Spratlys for DXCC credit are keeping a close watch on the movements of an International team that's heading to Layang-Layang, one of the islands in Spratly chain claimed by Malaysia. Operators from Malaysia, Japan and England plan to set up stations in a 90-room three-star hotel and begin operations April 10 and run to the 24th. Not too many details have been released about this operation, but you might get a few more details when the team posts them on their website at <http://9m0l.legendchew.com>

3DA0FC – SWAZILAND (Apr06-10) The Fox Charlie DXpedition Team expects to be in Swaziland April 6th to 10th. They will be signing 3DA0FC on PSK, RTTY and SSB on 80 through 10 meters. Suggested frequencies are as follows: SSB - 3780, 7063, 14185, 18136, 21290, 24930 and 28490 KHz RTTY - 3590, 7040, 10149, 14084, 18104, 21084, 24924, 28084 KHz PSK - 7038, 14072, 18102, 21072, 24922, 28122 KHz Check out the 3DA0FC Website at <http://www.filipstattooshop.be/Swaziland2012/> which will include an online log. QSL via ON4CJK either direct or via the bureau.



No Longer Available ! — A Commentary by Jim Iori, NU4Y**Jim NU4Y**

I am just venting here... Don't have an answer.

It started with a outdoor hose valve that started to leak. Went to get a new washer... That size is NO LONGER AVAILABLE. So I bought a new brass valve.

Then I went to shut off the water to change it. The main shut off gate valve would not shut off. (I have been told it is a dropped gate).

So I dug up the water meter, had to remove the transmitter to get at the ball valve and turn it off. I removed the top of the gate valve and took it up to get a replacement... That size is NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

I bought one anyway, (the gate inside is smaller in diameter) but the threads of the top would fit. It will not completely shut off, but at least would not leak and allow the water to work.

I know the whole valve should be replaced, but to dig up the pipe underground, cut the copper, re-solder, etc. was way too big of a project not to mention it is not easily accessible. I am not into digging up 10 feet of dirt. I am still searching for a valve with the correct size gate in it... All of them now are made in China, different size etc.

Then while weed whacking the yard, the cut off knife broke off of the whacker. Went on line with the model number and the part is NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

I now carry a pair of wire clippers with me to cut the line.

Then the switch on the leaf blower broke. The switch is available, but to get to it you have to remove a glued ring. This ring is to be replaced when changing the switch. You guessed it, the ring is NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

A new leaf blower is now hanging in the garage. The old one is in the trash.

Noticed the grass near the front of the yard not looking good. The sprinkler was broken. (I have replaced this sprinkler five times already this year.) Either the garbage truck, mail truck or recycle truck keeps running it over. Even the concrete doughnut was broken.

Changed to a smaller sprinkler head and replaced the concrete doughnut.

The screen door to the garage (this is a roll away unit) needs to be replaced. I called the company. NO LONGER AVAILABLE. A new door is now about \$250 and would have to rebuild the frame around the old door to replace it.

I am living with the holes in the screen's edge. Bugs are not that bad I guess.

Then my computer refused to boot up. Windows XP problem. I installed the disk to repair it. When the guy who installed Windows on the computer he put in a password. Good luck with that. Can't get there from here.

New computer, new software, many, many hours of re-installing, etc., etc., etc. Large \$\$\$\$.

Wife wants to repaint the house. Paint looks good, no peeling or fading, but it has been 16 years. The pressure washer is frozen up solid. Can't pull it at all. Took it up to get it repaired. The guy basically talked me out of sending it to the repair shop. Said they probably would just replace the engine for \$100 more than a new one. The thing is like brand new. Have only used it two or three times over the last few years.

I spent a day tearing it apart. I did get it repaired. Thanks be to ... I didn't need any parts.

Then I went to Sears to get more paint. The paint department is gone. Yep GONE! NO LONGER AVAILABLE.

Spent a half a day trying to get a match of color and I hope the quality is up to the last paint.

Last Monday the wife went up to Lexus and bought a new one. Talk about big \$\$\$! She drove it home from the dealer and it sat in the garage for two days. Then on Thursday she went up to the store. Someone hit the door in the parking lot. Great! Now it's dented and has paint chips on passenger door. Not even a week old. I haven't even been in it yet! I am just venting here... Don't have an answer.

It is a good thing the economy is getting better. I will need to get a job to retire.

No Longer Available**No Longer Available****SORRY—NO LONGER AVAILABLE****No Longer Available !****No Longer Available — Sorry****NO LONGER AVAILABLE****— Jim, NU4Y**

Recent additions to the N4NN Antenna farm



Dale N4NN

Editor's note: N4NN has made a significant 160 meter improvement to his already impressive antenna system. The latest addition is a T-Top vertical which he has suspended between his two towers. In the article below Dale provides details on his new 'killer array' along with some pictures.

The T-top vertical was designed by **Paul Christensen, W9AC**. He and **Greg, N4CC** came over and helped set it up for me.. Greg did all of the tower work, and, as usual, a whole lot more.

The horizontal part of the antenna is about 150 feet long and the vertical part is about 85 feet. We actually have a line going from the tower above where the antenna is attached to the center of the T that holds the center up keeping it horizontal. (probably not necessary for performance...but). Here are some pix we took.

The feed for the T-top vertical looks like open wire line -- #14 THHN insulated stranded copper wire space about 4" apart using commercially available spacers. I say it "looks like open wire line" because both sides of it are soldered to the center of the horizontal wire (about 4" apart - no insulator). The 4 inch spacing provides additional bandwidth.

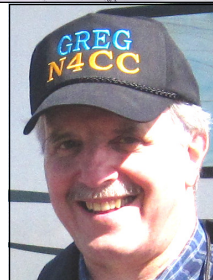
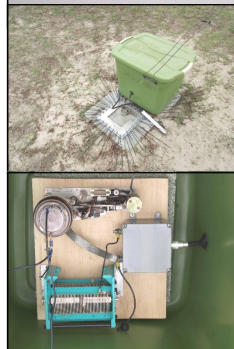
The idea of having the antenna longer than what you would normally think appropriate is to get the high current point on the antenna higher. As long as you match it properly it works great. A friend came over with a vector network analyzer and some programs that he uses with an antenna modeling program to calculate what we need for C & L values. It came out really close. I also have 60 85-foot radials at the base.

The remote matching unit is an L-network with a 3000 volt vacuum variable capacitor that varies from some small value to 1000 pf purchased at Fair Radio Sales (I think we needed about 800 pf) and we have an edge wound silver plated roller inductor (model RI-35) that we got from Surplus Sales of Nebraska.

The vacuum cap is motorized if we ever get enough energy to want to "remote tune" it...but the setting we used seems to give fairly broad bandwidth. We also use a unun (from Balun Design).

The T-top was designed by Paul Christensen W9AC, He and Greg N4CC, came over and helped set it up for me. Paul has great test equipment, according to NEC, the T-top vertical works the same as a full size 160 meter vertical. It sure helps me in the pileups. Greg N4CC likes it so much he is putting one up at his QTH.

— Dale. N4NN



IOTA Honor Roll Posted

IOTA's 2012 Honour Roll and Annual Listings are on the IOTA Manager's website, www.g3kma.dsl.pipex.com. They will be on the RSGB IOTA website soon too. F9RM, now /SK, is at the top of the listing with 1094 groups out of 1102 activated since 1945. G3KMA says F9RM, Jean-Pierre Guillou, has often been at the top of the listings but this will, sadly, be his last time, due to his passing. Also noted is a continued increase in program participation, many at the 750 Plaque and 1000 Trophy level. — The Daily DX



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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2012 Mar14	2012 Apr08	Congo (DR)	9Q6	K3IRV	ATDX 20120125	By ZS4U as 9Q6/ZS4U fm K116; 40 20 15 10 6M; CW SSB PSK; 1300-1500z, work permitting; direct QSL preferred, but Buro OK
2012 Mar14	2012 Apr16	Vietnam	XV2RZ	OH4MDY Direct	ATDX 20120301	By OH4MDY; HF; focus on digital modes
2012 Mar15	2012 Mar20	Azerbaijan	4K0CW	DL6KVA	DL6KVA 20120227	By DL6KVA; all bands; CW only; QRV for Russian DX Contest
2012 Mar15	2012 Mar21	Fiji	3D2YA	JAINLX	JAINLX 20111119	By JAINLX fm Yageta I (OC-156); 80-10m; CW, perhaps RTTY SSB
2012 Mar15	2012 Mar30	India	AT2DW	VU2SWS	VA3RJ 20120309	By team fm Shankhodar I (AS-175, first activation); 80-10m; CW SSB + digital; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Mar15	2012 Apr03	Lesotho	7P8PB	LotW	EI7CC 20120306	By EI7CC; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via EI7CC, Buro or direct
2012 Mar16	2012 Mar20	Svalbard	JW	LotW	LA8HGA 20111215	By LA2XNA as JW2XNA (SSB PSK) and LA8HGA as JW8HGA (CW); 160-10m, focus on high bands; QSL also OK via home_call, Buro or direct
2012 Mar16	2012 Mar23	Sao Tome & Principe	S9	K0KKO	VA3RJ 20110603	By K0KKO K0GUV as S92DX, S9CW and S9SX fm AF-023 (WLOTA 1622, J139gx); HF + 6m (50.105 MHz SSB, 50.105.7 MHz CW)
2012 Mar17	2012 Mar18	Laos	XW3DT	See Info	ATDX 20120229	By XW3DT for Russian DX Contest, SOSB 10m; see qrz.com for QSL details
2012 Mar17	2012 Mar27	Namibia	V5	DJ2HD	DJ2HD 20120130	By DJ2HD as V5/DJ2HD; 160-10m, focus on low bands; CW SSB RTTY; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2012 Mar18	2012 Mar22	French Polynesia	FO	J11JKW	425DXN 20120310	By J11JKW as FO/J11JKW fm Rangiroa I (OC-066); QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Mar18	2012 Mar27	Botswana	A25	K5LBU	K5LBU 20120219	By K5LBU as A25CF (QSL via K5LBU), VE7DS as A25DS, VE7MID as A25KW, N5JR as A25JR; QRV for CQ WPX SSB
2012 Mar20	2012 Mar26	Indonesia	YB8Y	YB1GJS	YB0ECT 20120312	By large YB team fm Ohoiew I (OC-221); 160-6m; SSB CW RTTY; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Mar21	2012 Mar27	Aruba	P40S	DF7ZS	DF7ZS 20120113	By DF7ZS; fm P49V; call sign tentative
2012 Mar21	2012 Mar28	Burkina Faso	XT	Home Call	DXW.Net 20120220	By JA3VWT as XT2VWT, JA3IVU as XT2IVU, JH3AEF as XT2AEF, JO3VVO as XT2VVO; 80-10m; SSB + digital
2012 Mar22	2012 Apr22	Jan Mayen I	JX9JKA	LA9JKA Di- rect	LA9JKA 20120127	By LA9JKA fm EU-022; 160-6m + up; SSB + digital; operation expected to continue until Mar 2013
2012 Mar23	2012 Apr06	Mayotte	TO7BC	DL7BC	DL7BC 20100815	By DL7BC fm AF-027; also FH/DL7BC; QRV for CQ WPX SSB

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB (Mar 24-25, 2012) Check here for pericontest activity too.

2012 Mar24	2012 Apr06	Guinea Bissau	J52HF	I3LDP	DXW.Net 20111221	By I3LDP + team; will also use J52EME; mainly EME, but also HF, 80-6m w/ mainly RTTY and CW
2012 Mar24	2012 Apr14	Reunion	TO2R	F5UOW	ATDX 20120124	By F5UOW; 40-10m; mainly CW; spare time operation
2012 Mar26	2012 Apr08	Norfolk I	VK9N	ZLIRS Direct	DXW.Net 20120303	By ZLIRS as VK9N/ZLIRS fm RG30xx; 50.110 MHz SSB and 50.1106 MHz CW; also EME
2012 Mar27	2012 Apr03	Jersey	MJ	Home Call	OPDX 20120305	By K8PT as MJ/K8PT and K3PLV as MJ/K3PLV; 160-2m; CW SSB RTTY, perhaps PSK; amps; directional antennas
2012 Mar28	2012 Apr10	North Cook Is	E51M	LotW	DXW.Net 20120102	By DJ8NK DJ9HX DJ9KH DK9KX DL6JGN PA3EWP SP3DOI fm Manihiki I (OC-014); 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; 11 verticals + a small 4 ele yagi for 6m; QSL also OK via DJ8NK, Buro or direct + OQRS
2012 Mar30	2012 Apr07	Senegal	6W	F8ATS Buro	F5NQL 20120311	By F8ATS as F8ATS/6W fm Somone; holiday style operation

NFDXA Meeting Saturday, 5 pm March 17, Athens Cafe

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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Details
2012 Apr02	2012 Apr09	Curacao	PJ2	LotW	By PA7JWC as PJ2/PA7JWC and PD7DB as PJ2/PD7DB; 80-10m; SSB CW RTTY PSK; QSL also OK via home_call
2012 Apr02	2012 Apr09	Tonga	A35XG	LotW	By JA1XGI; 20-6m; CW, some SSB + digital; QSL also OK via JA1XGI, JARL Buro or direct
2012 Apr03	2012 Apr30	Morocco	CN2RN	F8FGU	By F8FGU fm IM72er; HF; CW SSB; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct
2012 Apr04	2012 Apr11	Swaziland	3DA0FC	ON4CJ K	By ON4AEO ON7BK ZS6AYC ZR6APT ZS6GC ON4CJ K ZS6EB ON3AEO ZS6ACT ZS5LH; SSB RTTY PSK
2012 Apr04	2012 Apr11	Virgin Is	KP2		By AG1LE as KP2/AG1LE fm St Croix (NA-106, USi V1002S, WLOTA 2477); KP2M contest station
2012 Apr05	2012 Apr08	Guyana	8R1PY	PY2WAS	By PY2TNT PY2WAS; 80-10m; SSB CW; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Apr07	2012 Apr09	American Samoa	KH8	YT1AD	By YT1AD as KH8/N9YU fm Pago Pago, Tutuila I; HF
2012 Apr08	2012 Apr16	Montserrat	VP2M	LotW	By W3FF N7UN KB9AVO W7DGP N7QR K2GSJ N2YYZ as TBD; 100w; Buddipoles; QSL also OK via home_call
2012 Apr08	2012 Apr27	South Cook Is	E51GMH	VK4FI Direct	By VK4FI, also VK4WR using E51BKM; 40-6m; CW SSB
2012 Apr09	2012 Apr11	Samoa	5W7A	YT1AD	By YT1AD fm Apia, Upolu I; HF
2012 Apr10	2012 Apr24	Spratly Is	9M0L	TBA	By 9M2CLN + MARTS team fm Pulau Layang Layang (AS-051)
2012 Apr11	2012 Apr14	South Cook Is	E51EWP	LotW	By DJ8NK DJ9HX DJ9KH DK9KX DL6JGN PA3EWP SP3DOI fm Rarotonga; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; 11 verticals + a small 4 ele yagi for 6m; QSL also OK via DJ8NK, Buro or direct + OQRS
2012 Apr13	2012 Apr20	Rotuma	3D2R	YT1AD	By YT1AD; HF
2012 Apr16	2012 Apr30	St Barthelémy	TO3X	LotW	By ON4CIT OS1T ON4BEC; 40-6m; SSB CW RTTY; hexbeam + verticals; QSL also OK via ON4CIT (see Web for details)
2012 Apr18	2012 Apr23	Virgin Is	KP2	KF6JOQ	By W6DXO as KP2/W6DXO fm Cruz Bay, St John (NA-106); holiday style operation
2012 Apr22	2012 Apr29	Albania	ZA100I	F4DTO	By F4DTO F4GFE; 40-10m; SSB
2012 Apr22	2012 May04	Ogasawara	JD1BMH	JG7PSJ Direct	By JG7PSJ fm Chichijima I (AS-031); 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also via JA Buro
2012 Apr29	2012 May03	Mariana Is	KH0	W2GJ	By W2GJ as W2GJ/KH0 fm Saipan (OC-086, USi NI002S, WLOTA 1333, QK25uf); 80-10m, perhaps 6m; all modes
2012 Apr29	2012 May05	Ogasawara	JD1	J11LET	By J11LET as J11LET/JD1 fm Chichijima I (AS-031, QL17cd); 80-6m; CW SSB RTTY
2012 Apr29	2012 May05	Ogasawara	JD1BLC	LotW	By JP11OF; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via JP11OF, Buro or direct
2012 Apr29	2012 May05	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	J15RPT	By J15RPT fm Chichijima I (AS-031); 80-6m; CW SSB + digital and satellite
2012 Apr30	2012 May04	Micronesia	V63AZ	JH3AZC	By JH3AZC; HF; CW SSB RTTY
2012 Apr30	2012 May04	Palau	T88RF	LotW	By JJ2RCJ; focus on low bands; focus on PSK63 RTTY Hell; QSL also OK via JJ2RCJ, Buro or direct



XX9 MACAO in May

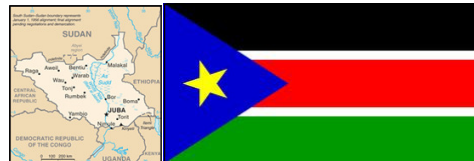
A 10-man international team of operators are scheduled to activate **XX0 Macao** May 17-23. Operations will take place on Coloane Island (AS-075). Three stations will be operating 160 through 6 meters on CW, SSB and digital modes. The DXpedition's call sign will be announced at the beginning of the operation. The DXpedition web site is located at www.adxg.org



Here and There in the News

Z8A-Z8Z SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan has finally been assigned a call sign block -- Z8A-Z8Z -- by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), according to the *ARRL Letter*. No word on why it took more than seven months since the country's independence before the call prefixes were assigned. (CQ Newsroom)



NEW US 60 METER RULES NOW IN EFFECT

Effective Monday, March 5th United States radio amateurs were granted new operating privileges on the 60 meter band. There is one new frequency -- 5.357 MHz, replacing 5.368 MHz. In addition to an increase in effective radiated power from 50 to 100 watts, hams can now transmit CW and PSK31.

There's a chance that 60 meters may become a worldwide amateur allocation in a few years. The *ARRL Letter* reports that the delegates to the just-concluded World Radiocommunication Conference agreed to put the matter on the agenda for consideration at the next WRC in 2015.

More information on what modes can be used on what frequencies is on-line at the ARRL website. The quick link to it is tinyurl.com/60-meters-now. (ARRL Letter, CQ Newsroom, AR Newsline)



UK SPECIAL 600 METER PERMITS EXTENDED

United Kingdom Notices of Variation to amateur radio licenses for special research permits to operate in the band 501 to 504 kHz have been extended to December 31st 2012. British telecommunications regulator Ofcom has started discussions with the Radio Society of Great Britain on a timetable to implement the new secondary allocation to the amateur service, 472 to 479 kHz that was recently approved at WRC-12. The agreed upon availability date for this band to begin to become available for administrations world-wide to begin proceedings to open to their ham radio communities is effective as of January 1st, 2013. A United Kingdom Notices of Variation is the equivalent to an FCC issued Special Temporary Authority or STA grant here in the USA. (RSGB via AR Newsline)



TOKYO HOME TO WORLDS TALLEST BROADCAST TOWER

A ceremony to mark the completion of the world's tallest freestanding broadcasting tower was held in Tokyo on Friday, March 2nd. Construction on the Tokyo Sky Tree tower began in 2008. It was completed a few days prior to its dedication ceremony.

The Sky Tree stands 2,080 feet tall and is claimed to be the tallest structure of its type ever built. It will eventually be the home of most broadcasting and two-way radio operations in that city.

Video of the new tower and the dedication ceremony is on-line at <http://www.tinyurl.com/tall-tokyo-tower>. And before you ask if will also be the home of any sort of ham radio relay operation we can only say that your guess is as good as ours. (RW via AR Newsline)



HIGHER POWER OK'd FOR SOME VK STATIONS

VK6DXI, Mirek, reports the Australian Communications and Media Authority is allowing higher transmitter powers, on a trial basis, in selected frequency ranges, effective March 1st. However, 160 meter frequencies are not included in the list. According to this URL, http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD..PC/pc=PC_410285, power levels are authorized to increase in the following frequency ranges:

80 meters - 3500 to 3700 kHz and 3776 to 3800 kHz, **40 meters** - 7000 to 7100 kHz, **20 meters** - 14000 to 14350 kHz, **17 meters** - 18068 to 18168 kHz, **15 meters** - 21000 to 21450 kHz, **12 meters** - 24890 to 24990 kHz and **10 meters** - 28000 to 29700 kHz.





WAPC
Worked All
Provinces of China

9M6DXX reports that there are so many Chinese stations active these days that they are going to organize a DX contest. It will be called the Worked All Provinces of China (WAPC) DX Contest, and it will be Oct 6 from 00Z-2359Z.

Additionally, a trial run will be April 21 from 00-2359Z when the logs will be submitted but no awards will be issued. Details at <http://www.qrz.com/db/BA7io>.

Between 1 January, 2012 and 30 June, 2012 work as many DX stations as you can, all bands, all modes. There are 14 possible points for each DX entity. Put in your contacts from the first of the year. Go to <http://nfdxa.com/2012/>, log in, click on your call sign, make your entries and click the "Log It" button. To delete a call, uncheck all three modes on your log page and click the "Log it" button.

Call Sign	Country/ Modes	Bands	Total
AB4UF	0	0	0
AC4ET	0	0	0
K3LB	117	203	320
K4EB	0	0	0
K4UTE	290	447	737
KB4CRT	0	0	0
KC4FWS	0	0	0
KX4WW	0	0	0
NIWON	10	20	30
N4EPD	0	0	0
N4GFO	0	0	0
N4JBK	0	0	0
N4KE	3	3	6
N4NN	0	0	0
N4UF	0	0	0
NF4L	14	19	33
NO4J	0	0	0
NU4Y	33	40	73
NW4C	15	18	33
VP5YZ	0	0	0
W4FDA	0	0	0
W4GAL	0	0	0
W4GJ	0	0	0
WA4B	0	0	0
WA4ET	0	0	0
WA6EZY	254	447	701
WR4K	175	279	454

DX

The Ultimate Contact Sport

Hollywood Movie features Morse Code, Homebrew Equipment - and Sea Monsters!

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island

In the movie *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island*, Sean Anderson (played by Josh Hutcherson) receives a coded distress signal that comes from a mysterious island where no island should exist. Sean decides to follow the signal with the unwilling assistance from his stepfather Hank (played by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson).

The movie opens in Dayton, Ohio with Sean on his motorcycle, being chased by police officers. Sean had been caught breaking in to a "satellite facility." When questioned by Hank, Sean confesses that he had received a coded message from his grandfather (played by Michael Caine), but his equipment was too weak to copy it; he decided to go somewhere where there were bigger antennas.

The message - a string of one and two syllable words taken from the books of Jules Verne -- makes no sense to Sean. Hank, a former US Navy cryptographer, offers to help decode the message; he feels this will be a good chance to bond with his stepson.

Immediately, Hank figures out that the message is really in Morse code: each one syllable word is a "dit," while each two syllable word is a "dah." Hank translates the message, which gives clues to the location of the grandfather's whereabouts.

Read the full ARRL story at <http://www.arrl.org/news/hollywood-movie-features-morse-code-homebrew-equipment-and-sea-monsters> — Southgate Amateur Radio News



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

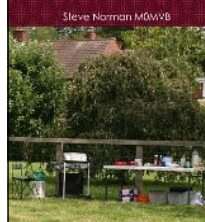
Field Day Cookbook -A Dot of Butter and a Dash of Spice

And "A Dot of Butter and a Dash of Spice" is a new cookbook dedicated to Field Day culinary delights from UK amateur Steve Norman, M0MVB. In explaining his new work Norman says that as we all need to eat, he has combined his love of doing field day and of food by writing a BBQ cook book aimed at the ham radio operator.

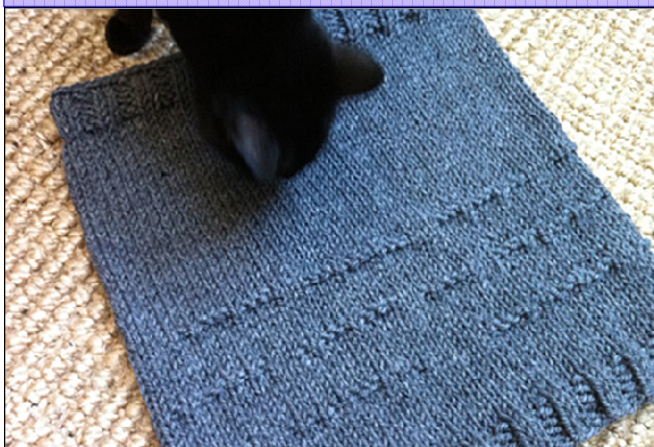
"A Dot of Butter and a Dash of Spice" contains over 100 recipes as well as covering what is the best BBQ to take on field days and loads of other help. Priced at 9.99 British Pounds or \$15.75 US dollars, it can be ordered on-line in the United State from Amazon.com and other booksellers.

—M0MVB

A Dot of Butter and A Dash of Spice



Knit One Dit, Pearl Two Dahs . . .



This one is for knitters with waaay too much time on their hands . . .

Stitching Morse code into the fabric of our lives has moved beyond the metaphorical and described in this [how-to](http://yarnover.me/2012/01/13/morse-code-cowl-free-knitting-pattern/) article on knitting. <http://yarnover.me/2012/01/13/morse-code-cowl-free-knitting-pattern/> (N5OT via ARRL Contest Update <http://www.arrl.org/contests/update/?issue=2012-02-01>)

"It is always a consideration to see whether the component or fuse crosses the finish line first." — Tom W8JI Yahoo Ameritron Amp User Group

It's the Law!



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<http://nfdxa.com>

And so it goes . . .

Working with electronics



The Last Word — NW4C

I had more than few chuckles when I read NU4Y's comments on things that were 'No Longer Available'. We've all been in that fix at some time, I'm sure. There's nothing more frustrating than finding out what was wrong, knowing exactly what was needed to fix the problem and then being told that what you required was—and here comes the dreaded phrase— No Longer Available.

To avert that problem some Hams I know have been stocking up on critical parts they feel may not be available at some future point when they might be needed. As specialized as our equipment has become there are components inside that are unique, maybe even one of a kind. As the Boy Scouts motto goes "Be Prepared. Well, there's being prepared and there's BEING PREPARED!!

A case in point, a Gainesville DXer had an apparently very specialized high voltage diode go bad in one of his linears go bad. No replacements were available locally, nor were any located in several major parts supply houses around the country. Surprisingly, the amp's maker didn't have any on hand either—or if they did they weren't willing to part with any they had in stock!

This lead my friend to search overseas where he tracked down a supplier that had a number available.

"How many do you have", my friend inquired?

The supplier replied with a number—did I mention the supplier happened to be in Europe?

"I'll take them all", says my friend., who then had to swallow real hard when he heard the supplier's obviously inflated price. But should my friend ever lose another specialized high voltage diode of this type in his amplifier at least my friend won't have to hear/read the dreaded three word phrase: 'No Longer Available', On the other hand with as many specialized high voltage diodes as he now has on hand he'll never have another go bad—ever!

Take care and may you always have on hand-or readily available- everything that you need. — NW4C



W4ZR