



Bring Lots of DX!

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April NFDXA Meeting

5pm Saturday April 21

Cedar River Seafood
2475 Blanding Blvd #1
Middleburg, FL



The North Florida DX Association

PileUp

The NFDXA Newsletter



Volume 4 Number 4

April 2012

<http://nfdxa.com/>

Records Fall Worldwide in 2012 WPX SSB Despite Up and Down Propagation

— By **Jamie Dupree** *NS3T radio-sport.net*

The rollercoaster that has been propagation in ham radio contesting was once again up and down in the 2012 CQ WPX SSB Contest, but that didn't stop another big turnout and maybe a new Single Operator record and new marks in the Multi-Op section.

In the Single Operator ranks, Jim Sullivan W7EJ has a chance to break his world record of 2010, as he claimed a score of 28.3 million points, ahead of his 2010 mark of just over 27 million.

Sullivan did most of his damage on 15 and 10 meters with 3573 of his 5572 contacts.

The biggest head turning score though wasn't in the Single Op ranks - it was submitted by the EB8AH Multi-Multi team, which checked in with 12,125 contacts, 1824 prefixes and a total score of 82 million points - that would absolutely shatter the DRIA Multi-Multi record of 63.3 million set in 2011.

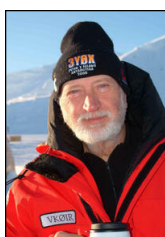
Team members EA8AH, EA8CAC, EA8ZS, EA5DY, EA4BQ (OH0XX), OH1MA, OH6RX, IK1HJS, ES2RR, ES5RW and ES5GM did much of their work on 10-40 meters. — *Continued on page 11*

K4UEE Again Denies Imminent KPI Navassa Operation

A rumor that's been repeated many times since the first of the year has a major DXpedition going to KPI, Navassa Island, the second-most wanted DXCC entity worldwide. The supposed start date was even listed as March by some sources. The story was 'headlined' on the DX World web site (<http://dx-world.net/>) with this announcement: "Rumors coming out of Georgia, USA – with separate confirmation from a trusted source – suggest a major Dxpediton to Navassa Island (**#2 Most Wanted DXCC**) is now in full planning stage for Spring 2012."



KPI Navassa Island



Bob K4UEE

One of the first to cast doubts on this report when it first appeared last November was **K4UEE, Bob Allphin**, president of the KPI-5 (Navassa-Desecheo) Project, the group planning and organizing the DXpedition. Allphin said at the time: "I live in Georgia and have close contacts with USFWS. I am not aware of any operation being planned or allowed. He added, "I suppose there could be an illegal operation being planned without USFWS approval. If that is the case, it certainly won't count for DXCC !"

K4UEE ended his statement with a bit of Asian philosophy and advice: "All good things come to those who wait! Patience is required!" But the rumors persisted, especially the one focusing on a March activation date.

As you have noticed by now, March has come and gone with no KPI DXpedition, not even a stealth operation. To this K4UEE notes in a recent e-mail to your editor: "As president of the KPI-5 Project and tied fairly closely to USFWS, (the March operation date) was news to me." Allphin went on to say "I believe that an operation will occur in the next couple of years (emphasis added), but we have a lot of work to do to make it happen."

—More on page 5



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

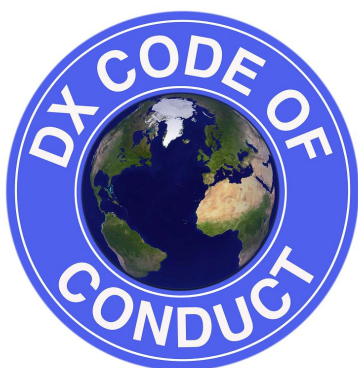
NFDXA Attendance at March 17 Meeting

Name	Call	# Attending	Name	Call	# Attending
Steve Brown	AB4UF	1	Dale Conner	N4NN	0
John Hale	AC4ET	0	Billy Williams	N4UF	0
Larry Bostic	K3LB	1	Mike Reublin	NF4L	1
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	0	Dave Mains	NO4J	0
Dick Hicks	K4UTE	1	Jim Iori	NU4Y	0
John Silberman	KB4CRT	0	Warren Croke	NW4C	1
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	1	Pres Graham	W4FDA	0
Bill Walker	KX4WW	0	Gary Liljegen	W4GAL	1
Cory McDonald	NIWON	1	Bob Lightner	W4GJ	0
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	1	Steve Barber	WA4B	1
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	0	David Price	WA4ET	0
Joe Barnes	N4JBK	0	Robert Frey	WA6EZV	1
Ron Blake	N4KE	0	Dick Knox	WR4K	0

Attendance 11 NFDXA Members

Notice to NFDXA Membership

All NFDXA members are requested to go to the club web site and check their entry on the on the Roster page. If any changes in address, e-mail or other information are need please notify NFDXA Secretary Mike Reublin, NF4L at your earliest convenience.



... Dots and Dashes ...

The month of March seemed more like June this year, lots of very warm days with the trees and shrubs all green. It was "antenna weather" very early in the year. In spite of the good weather, I spent quite a few very happy hours in my shack chasing DX. As most of you know, I am a "morning person", and most of my DX contacts are between 1000Z - 1400Z. If the DX is good enough, I'll stay up till 0100Z - 0200Z. That reluctance to chase DX late in the evening is probably why I am stuck firmly in fourth place in the club contest. Some folks are really piling up the points.



Larry, K3LB

I wanted to mention, and maybe get some feedback on, something I noticed this past month. Several of the DX stations I worked were operating simplex. If it is a rare station, I mix it up with the BIG GUNS in Russia and Eastern Europe and eventually get into the log. My question is, why would a very desirable DX station choose simplex. Equipment limitations come quickly to mind, but doesn't everyone have a rig that can listen and transmit a few Khz apart? Oh well, there are worse things than working DX on simplex I suppose.

Hope to see everyone at the April meeting. The March meeting at Athens Cafe was great. Very interesting program and of course great conversations among the unique "personalities" in our wonderful club.

— 73, Larry K3LB



Minutes of March 17 NFDXA Meeting

The meeting was called to order by president **Larry, K3LB** at 6:24 pm EDT.

Treasurer - Jim KC4FWS reported a balance of: \$1253.02

Old business - There was no old business to be discussed.

New business - The January 2010 minutes were approved as published in the February issue the NFDXA **PileUp**.

Larry, K3LB, read a request from DJ8NK for a donation to E5IM N Cook W8CAA, NH8S Swains Is. **Larry and Warren NW4C** will formulate a reply explaining the club's DXpedition donation policy. Further discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

Gary, W4GAL told about getting his next door neighbor involved in ham radio to mitigate RFI issues. This led to a trip to KP4 for the ARRL DX contest. Even with an amp failure and some antenna problems the 2 operators made 1673 QSOs as **KP4MM**. (See story on page 5)

Program - Warren, NW4C brought a DVD of how the British used amateur ops as radio interceptor ops in WW II.

Their work led to the discovery and cracking of the code from the Enigma machine.

Next meeting planner (Apr 21) is **David, WA4ET**

Guests: KI4DLS Dave Smith (Guest of **Warren, NW4C**) , Dick Klein, W4PCM (Visitor)

The meeting was **adjourned at: 7:15**

Respectfully submitted, **Mike, NF4L, Secretary**.



Faces in the March 17 Meeting Crowd



If you aren't shown here, then you weren't at the Athens Café Saturday, March 17
 Top Row, l-r: Steve, WA4B; Larry, K3LB; Dave, K14DLS (visitor); Steve, AB4UF
 Middle Row, l-r: Dick, W4PCM (visitor); Rich, K4UTE; Mike, N4EPD; Jim, KC4FWS
 Bottom Row, l-r: Mike, NF4L; Gary, W4GAL; Cory, NIWON; Bob, WA6EZV

—NW4C photos



April NFDXA Program



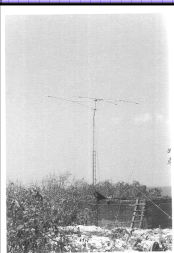
If you were among the 121,286 who made contact with the newly declared Republic of South Sudan last summer then you will have an interest in seeing the DXpedition video scheduled for the April NFDXA meeting. The operation was voted the "DXpedition of the Year 2011" in a DX World.net survey.

The 41 minute video is a DX Friends Production—DX Friends being one of the two groups conducting the expedition along with The Intrepid DX Group. The video covers the operation from its inception through the entity's activation July 22nd by a 13-man international team from seven countries to its shut-down August 10th.

In one respect STOR differs from most DXpedition videos in that it uses natural sound throughout but no covering narration. All scene transitions and descriptions are shown on a printed frame which serves as a sub-title for whatever follows. However, the natural sound is clear and one can easily follow the operation's progress.

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**

No KP1 Operation Anytime Soon — from page 1

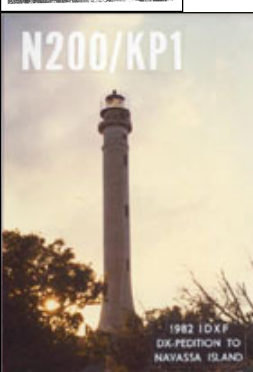
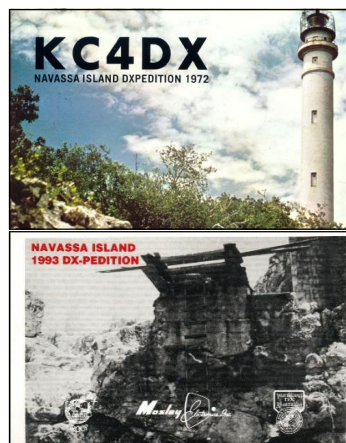


The first recorded 'major' DXpedition to this rocky two square-mile Caribbean island was back in 1958. The black and white photos at <http://hamgallery.com/qs/country/Navassa/kc4af2.htm> document the effort to put KC4AF on the air. At the time several buildings existed along with a lighthouse and a working crane to help with any cargo transfers. Since then operations have been increasingly sporadic as jurisdiction of the island passed from the US Coast Guard to the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The KC4DX DXpedition put Navassa on the air again in 1972 (<http://69.89.25.185/~trexsoft/t-rexsoftware.com/kc4dx/>)

Navassa was activated briefly in 1982 by an IDXF team of 9 men as N200/KP1 that made 34,000 QSOs. The DXpedition was reported in an article in *Time Magazine*. [KP2A/KP1 Navassa Island](http://www.qsl.net/jh4rhf/dxp/kp1/kp1_1.html).

The last major activation of KP1 was a 25,000 QSO effort in 1993: http://www.qsl.net/jh4rhf/dxp/kp1/kp1_1.html and <http://www.kp1-5.com/n-photos.html> By then the buildings that existed on the island had collapsed and the cargo crane inoperative. Any future access may require a helicopter. As for any operation in 2012, not very likely. In 2013? Who knows? Stay tuned.



W4GAL heads KP4 'Field Day Fun Style' effort in ARRL SSB

A contest operation can be *both* fun and games and a semi-serious effort. NFDXA's **W4GAL** recently demonstrated how to do both during the ARRL SSB DX competition the first weekend in March.

Gary Liljegren and three fellow Hams from Tioga, a community west of Gainesville, set up **KP4MM** on the top floor of a luxury condominium in Rincon on the west coast of Puerto Rico. Two of the four, Gary and **Jim Murphy**, **W4GVL** did the bulk of the operating, making 1600-plus contacts. The other two, Tech licensees

VP4OJA and KI4EEE were not particularly interested in operating but both spent earphone time listening to the action. They were along mostly for the fun and games part. "They specialized in eating and consuming Mango Margaritas or 'MMs', the official KP4MM drink", Gary says, while at the same time acknowledging with a smile that he and Jim managed to sip a few themselves in-between contest Qs.

KP4MM operated with rooftop dipoles for 10, 15, 20

and 40 meters. According to Gary: "The 20 and 40 antenna was an MFJ combination that I couldn't make work on 40. So, I surgically removed the 40 meter coils, and thus, when 20 faded out, we joined the other two members of the group concentrating on mango margaritas."

The linear amplifier they brought along was a lost cause because "We

never could get it working. So we operated 100 watts for the entire event. We all were surprised at how astounding well perfectly cut dipoles work at 90 feet above the ground with short feed lines just across the street from the Caribbean, looking straight at the US. We constantly had comments about our great signal" Gary concluded: "Out of the 48 contest hours, 24 were operating hours and 24 were Mango Margarita hours. 1673 Qs with half on 10 meters. Next time: 48 hours, a working amplifier, and 4 full length slopers with the high end of each at 90 feet. The most enjoyable part: running the pileups."



KP4MM Condo Rooftop QTH



W4GVL, W4GAL take an 'MM' break



Looking towards the US from KP4MM



KP4MM Dipole Setup

News and Notes from the World of DX



PIRATES ON THE AIR (POTA)

5T0JL - The counterfeit operation of 5T0JL on February 22nd drew quite a bit of attention as 5T0JL is the only licensed call sign in Mauritania. However, the real 5T0JL (ON8RA), wasn't there on the 22nd. Jean didn't come back to Mauritania until late March. Since then the real 5T0JL has been spotted numerous times on 40 through 15 meter CW.

9N111 - If you worked a station identifying itself as 9N111, you, indeed, worked a pirate. Information from Nepal's Ministry of Information and Communications (MoIC) indicates the license 9N111 has not been issued to a foreigner--or anyone else for that matter. Likewise the ministry reports BG6JPZ, John Wei, who reportedly was using the call sign has never applied for a 9N license. Satish, 9N1AA says the activity of 9N111 is definitely a bootlegged operation.

TO4E - In late March someone was pirating the call TO4E. This was the call sign of the 2003 Europa Island DXpedition, the last legal operation from this rare island. Didier, F5OGL was the QSL manager for the 2003 TO5E DXpedition and will not be answering any requests for QSOs for the pirated March 2012 activity.

Y111RQ - If you heard someone using Y111RQ, it is not an active call sign. Any use of this call sign is a PIRATE. Any QSL sent to Y111RQ will be returned unanswered

ZD9GI - A few weeks ago ZD9GI was reported on the air. Don't waste your time on this bogus activity. The real ZD9GI (ZS1LF), John, went QRT in early September of last year. John says ZD9BV, Andy Repetto, is the person who authorizes the ZD9 callsigns for the United Kingdom of which Tristan da Cunha and Gough Islands are British overseas territories. Andy tells John that ZD9BV is currently the only ham active from this DXCC Entity.



Finally, after all is said and done, keep in mind that some stations get wrongly listed as "Pirate Stations". However, it may often be the case, that a call sign has been incorrectly heard or logged. As always, you never know, so "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

— The Daily DX, DX World and Pete's Newsdesk <http://www.dx-newsdesk.co.uk/dxnews.htm>

French Southern and Antarctic Lands Prefixes

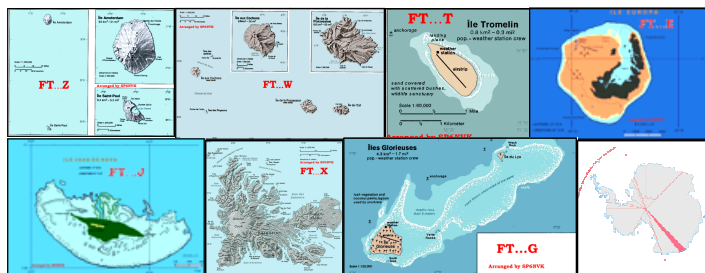
As a follow-up to the Pirates on the Air (POTA) story above keep in mind the French changed the prefixes of entities they administer in the Indian Ocean back in 2005. This group—which sometimes was referred to as the Eparses Islands—includes the rare entities of Europa, Glorioso and Tromelin plus the Bassa da India atoll.

Today the Eparses Islands prefixes have been grouped with those of the French Southern and Antarctic islands and the prefixes changed to FT5 followed by a single letter. Note: FR5/G, /T, /E and /J prefixes are no longer issued.

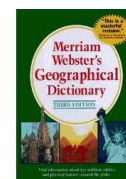
The eight principle territories involved in the prefix change include some of the most wanted DXCC entities worldwide:

- Amsterdam and St. Paul Islands - FT5Z (No. 6)
- Crozet Islands - FT5W (No. 7)
- Tromelin Island - FT5T (No. 13)
- Europa Island - FT5E (No. 20)
- Juan de Nova Island - FT5J (No. 20)
- Kerguelen Islands - FT5X (No. 30)
- Glorioso Islands - FT5G (No. 34)
- Terre Adelie, Antarctica - FT5Y

Now that the prefixes have been sorted out it would be nice to have a first class DXpedition or two operate from one or more of these island entities before the current sunspot cycle runs its course.



An Internet Entity Pronouncer—Have you ever wondered how to properly say country names like Seychelles, Vanuatu, or Myanmar? No, it's not S7, YJ or XY. Check out <http://inogolo.com/guides/countries>. Here you'll find in alphabetical order an entity list from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe plus a multitude of countries in between like Cote d'Ivoire. In addition to a phonetic breakdown there's even a link to a human voice saying the country name correctly, in English, no less! The authority for this 'correctness' is the 3rd edition Merriam Webster Geographical Dictionary.



News of Special Event Operations



DUBAI (Mar 31- Apr 2) The world's richest thoroughbred horse race took place at the Dubai World Cup, which runs annually in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. This year's event ran on March 31st. Members of the Emirates Amateur Radio Society operated special event station **A60DWC** and were QRV from March 31st to April 2nd. Activity was on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters on SSB, CW and RTTY. If you had an inside track and managed to work them cash in your QSL via NI5DX.



FRANCE (Ongoing to April 22) Attention, CW buffs and historians there's still time—although not that much. Special event station **TM27UFT** is QRV in recognition of the 27th Meeting of the Union Francaise des Telegraphistes (UFT), now underway in Vineuil, France **until April 22nd** on HF and VHF **on CW only**. QSL via F6ICG either via the bureau or direct.



SLOVENIA – (Ongoing throughout 2012) If you haven't heard them yet here's one to listen for. Members of the Radio club Cerkno, S50E, will be active with special event call sign **S555E** and **S55CERKNO** throughout 2012 in celebration of the 55th anniversary of the club's foundation. A special full color four face folded QSL will confirm each contact via the bureau in early 2013. S555E and S55CERKNO logs are also uploaded to LoTW on a regular basis. Online logs can be found at the club website <http://www.s50e.si>. For those who want to send for a direct card please send SASE with 2\$ to cover return postage to Radioclub Cerkno, P.O. Box 16, 5282 Cerkno, Slovenia. Cards with insufficient postage, etc., will be returned via the QSL bureau.



AZERBAIJAN – (Ongoing to June 15) Music, music, music . . . In recognition of the Eurovision Song Contest, being held in Baku, Azerbaijan in late May special event stations **4JSONG** and **4KSONG** are QRV now through June 15th. QSL both via RU3SD.

Two airplane-related special event operations...



ENGLAND - To commemorate 60 years of the British Avro **Vulcan** bomber special event station **GB60VUL** will be manned by members of the Newbury and DARS and Finningley ARS from April 30th to May 24th. QSL via M0JEC.



SWEDEN – (June 16-17) **SG2SNF** is a special event in Sweden, also reported by OPDX, this one June 16-17 from Porjus, actually operating from a World War II **Lancaster** bomber "Easy Elsie" that crashed in Porjus on October 29, 1944. SM2TOS, Richard, and others will be operating. There are photos and further details on the SE2EE (Swedish Expedition 2 Easy Elsie) QRZ.com page.



OLYMPICS – (July 27 – Aug 12) There will be several special event stations with unusual call signs on the air throughout the London 2012 Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games. One special one is **2O12L**, that's **Two Oscar One Two Lima**, from Eitham Palace southeast London. They will be on 160-2M all modes. www.2O12L.com. G4IRN, John Warburton (email press@2o12.com), is the press officer. **2O12W** will be a station in Wales, 160M -23cm, all modes including SSTV and satellite from Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales. www.2O12W.com. GW0ANA, Glyn Jones, is the station manager (email glyndxis@talktalk.net.) There will be special QSL cards. Visiting hams will be made welcome at the stations. Organizers hope to leave a lasting legacy by encouraging visitors to learn more about radio communications and the social, career and recreational benefits that it brings.



RMS TITANIC Operations - Many Amateur Radio stations were on the air commemorating the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the luxury line Titanic. The **RMS Titanic**, the largest ocean liner afloat at the time, went down April 15, 1912 after striking an iceberg on its maiden voyage. **EI100T** was on from Cobh, the Titanic's last port of call before she sank. Other Special Event Stations included **GI0MGY** (Belfast), **MI00T** (Southampton), **VOIMCE** (Cape Race) and Maritime Mobile station **VE0MGY** at the location of the sinking. The newly formed Titanic Wireless Association (**K3MGY**) was QRV at the National Electronics Museum on April 14 and 15.

DXpedition News

SPRATLY ISLANDS 9M0L (Apr 12-24) The Spratlys, No. 29 on the DXCC Most Wanted list, are usually a tough catch for DXers here in the southeast. First, because of their distant location; catching them at the grayline is the usual practice. Second, many of the islands are claimed by five nations—some of which don't like each other very much and in general don't look kindly upon DXpeditions. However, you should have a better than average chance with this particular operation. A 12-man international Team working under the auspices of MARTS, the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society should be QRV now through April 24 from a hotel on the island of Layang-Layang. Malaysia's claim to this island cluster known to the locals as "Swallow Reefs" hasn't been challenged. Several successful operations have been mounted from this island—most recently Pekka's one man effort in March as 9M6/OH2YY. The call sign for the current operation is **9M0L** and QSLs go direct to (9M2TO) 9M0L Team Penang, P.O. Box 125 GPO 10710, Penang Island, Malaysia or via the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society QSL bureau. The MARTS team has a web site at <http://9m0l.legendchew.com>.



Layang-Layang Island

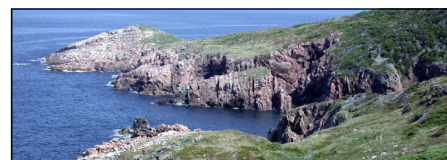


MACAU - XX9 (May 17-23) This one is being referred to by the nine-man team planning to activate most-wanted entity No. 78 Macau as a "DX-perience". Team members include EA1ACP, EA5BZ (Team Leader), EA5CEE, EA5FX, EA6DD, EA7FTR, EB5BBM, EB7DX and F5VLY. Plans are to be QRV with at least three complete stations operating from Coloane Island (AS-075, grid OL62SC) on 1.8 through 50 MHz on CW, SSB and the digital modes. The DXpedition is sponsored the Mediterraneo DX Club and much of their effort (most likely) will be focused on Europe. Current plans are to announce the call sign at the beginning of the operation. The team has a Website with more details and a band and mode survey at www.adxg.org.



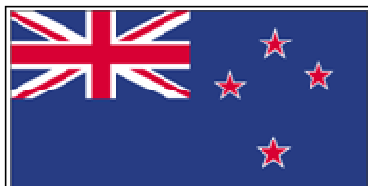
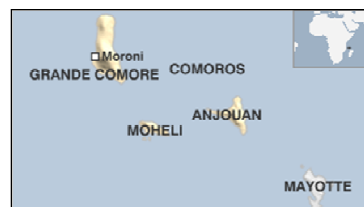
St PAUL ISLAND - CY9M (July 26-August 1) There are reasons small and rocky St Paul Island in between Newfoundland and Nova Scotia has not activated more often. It was last on the air seven years ago. In 2010 it became the highest mover on DX Magazines most wanted list, moving from #77 to #47. In spite of its nearness to Canada St. Paul Island is hard and sometimes dangerous to get to because of rough seas and sudden dense fogs. St Paul Island is not called the Graveyard of the Gulf without cause.

Another reason is the rocky shoreline with many sheer cliffs that present no easy place to land a small boat. In spite of these difficulties an international team of seasoned DXers will make an attempt to activate St Paul which is now 'wanted' more than either Tokelau (ZK3) or PY0T (Trindade & Martim Vaz). You can keep up with their goings-on by checking the website: <http://www.cy9m.com/>.

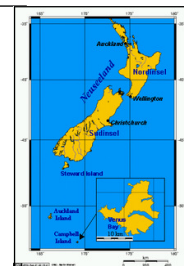


COMOROS ISLANDS (August) Another summertime operation in the works is a European-led effort in August to the Comoros Islands (AF-027) off southeast Africa featuring the unique call D64K. Reportedly, all the necessary paper work for certification has already been forwarded to the ARRL DXCC Desk. Supposedly, the team's license authorizes activity on 1.8 through 50 MHz on all modes and the group is considering operating on both 60 and 6 meters. However, given the current political situation in the Comoros Islands the exact dates and operating QTH are being withheld by the DXpedition team for "safety reasons".

The license authorizes activity on 1.8 through 50 MHz on all modes and the group is considering operating on both 60 and 6 meters. The D64K team will have an official Website at www.d64k.com, which is expected to go live about 30 days before the DXpedition. Inquiries can be sent to qsl@d64k.com. QSL via IV3DSH.



CAMPBELL ISLAND (November) – Next winter a nine-man team headed by expedition veteran VK2IR has plans for a DXpedition in November to go to Campbell Island. Auckland and Campbell Islands ranks 15th on *The DX Magazine's* 2011 Most Wanted Survey. Experienced operators who might like to go on this DXpedition should contact vk2ir@vk2ir.com for more information. The team has a Web Blog at www.zl9hr.com.

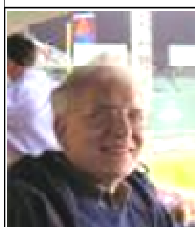


More DXpedition News

KH3 DXPEDITION CANCELLED – For those hoping to have a chance to work semi-rare Johnston Island the hoped-for operation by single-handed voyager W7KFI has been cancelled. In an e-mail to your editor Susan wrote: “KH3 is cancelled,” noting that she’s had permission to operate from the USAF in hand “for many months” but that the problem has been with the USFWS. “Fish and Wildlife has been dragging their feet for nine months,” she said and called the whole thing off. It is not known where the feisty septuagenarian will head for next after leaving Hawaii where repairs were being made to her cutter-rigged sloop Dharma. Chances are it will be interesting. Check out her web site: http://www.w7kfi.com/album_index.php?id=1 Earlier Susan announced she’d probably continue on to Borneo after leaving Johnston Island. KH3 Johnston Island is ranked as the 24th most wanted DXCC entity world-wide.



TZ CIVIL WAR INTENSIFIES - It doesn't appear that there will be a DXpedition operating from TZ Mali anytime soon. The civil war which forced cancellation of the April 12-24 Italian-led TZ5T effort drags on. The DXpedition team was denied an operating license when government officials became concerned they might be attacked by Taureg rebels for their radio equipment. Separatist Tauregs tribes seeking to carve out a desert homeland began a rebellion in the west African state in January. In March Mali army officers organized a coup alleging the government wasn't properly supplying them to fight the rebels. The Tauregs have since joined forces with another desert group known to have ties with Al-Qaeda. Washington, meanwhile, has expressed concern the region will becoming a new hub for Al-Qaeda activity. And you think our country has problems . .

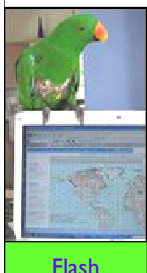
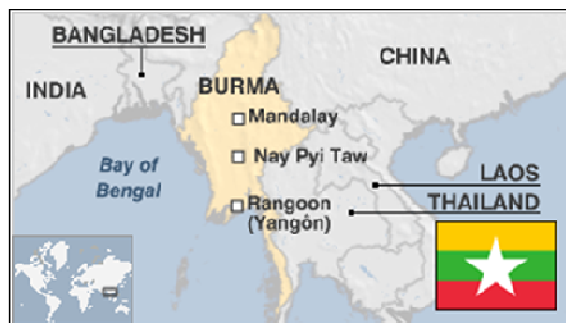


Simon HS0ZIB



Kawthaung

HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL -- HS0ZIB is a British ex-pat businessman and hotel owner living in Thailand who has been trying for some time get permission to operate in neighboring XZ Burma. Myanmar, as the country is now called, is ruled by a military-led government. It's considered a 'pariah' nation and is heavily sanctioned by most western countries. However, recent elections there have raised Simon's hopes of getting a license. The party of Burma's pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi won 40 out of 45 seats in a historic vote. Among Simon's announced plans—which he implied hinged on the outcome of the early April vote—was to build resort in the southern Burmese city of Kawthaung. One function of the resort would be to have it used as a permanent, licensed amateur radio station. According to a post HS0ZIB made earlier this month on the DX Word site: “Kawthaung is 2,000km away from the ‘trouble spots’ in north Myanmar (drug smuggling, ethnic fighting etc), and the feedback that I'm getting from those with contacts in the government is that obtaining a permanent amateur radio license should not be impossible.” Myanmar/Burma currently is the 28th most wanted entity.



Flash

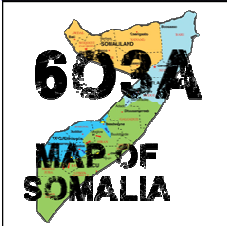
VP2 CONTESTPEDITION - Although not ranking all that high on everyone's most wanted list let's not forget the annual Caribbean pilgrimage by one of NFDXA's own. Montserrat is the destination once again for KB4CRT in early June. John plans to be QRV as VP2MRT on HF and 6 Meters from June 6-13 and plans to be active in the ARRL VHF June Contest on 50 MHz. In addition, John says he'll also try PSK this year. Not known is whether the free-flying green parrot Flash will again be John's logger as he's been on past visits. “Flash uses the ‘Scratch and Peck’ method,” according to John, “but he only shows up when he feels like it.” QSL via KB4CRT direct with SASE or SAE and two green stamps. Once back home he'll upload his log to LoTW.



John KB4CRT/VP2MRT

NFDXA Meeting Saturday, 5 pm April 21, Cedar River Seafood, Middleburg, FL

More and More News and Notes from the World of DX



603A - Another big operation scheduled in November is the Intrepid-DX Group's DXpedition to Somaliland, no. 40 on the most wanted list. The Intrepid Group is one of two organizations that combined forces to do the first DXpedition from STOR South Sudan last summer. Other significant Intrepid DXpeditions include the recent ET3AA and YI9PSE operations. The Somaliland call sign will be 603A and the projected dates are Nov 6-14. Intrepid group's initial stated objective is to provide as many DXers as possible with a "new one"... "and, as a secondary objective, to give as many band-slots as possible." When propagation is there they say they'll focus on North America, KH6 and ZL/VK. More details at: <http://www.intrepid-dx.com/603a/>

ZD9UW - If all goes according to plan, the world's most remote *inhabited* island is scheduled for an operation in September 2012. A DXpedition has been announced to the volcanic isle of Tristan da Cunha, located in the middle of nowhere in the far South Atlantic between South Africa and South America. DXpedition organizers G3ZAY and M0VFC caution **the trip isn't confirmed at this writing** because they won't know if they have places on the ship from Cape Town to Tristan until later this year



AFGHANISTAN OPERATIONS - Four current T6 operations have been being reported. **T6JP ... Jørgen "Joe"** (5Q2J/OZ2JBC) is now active as **T6JP**. Joe is an electronic mechanic in the Danish Army. He will be there until late July. Activity will be on 80-10 meters depending on the conditions. However, due to background noise, Joe will work primarily on 20-10 meters using RTTY, PSK and SSB, with a Yaesu FT-857D (100W). If you work TJ6P be sure to check the important QSL info for direct and Bureau QSLs at: <http://oz2jbc.dk/page3.html>

T6M ... Jose (CT1FKN) is now active as T6JM from Kabul until June 13th. He is a member of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) based inside a military compound where there are restrictions to what size antenna can be installed, so he will only use a small horizontal loop wire. When on Jose's activity is mainly on 20 meters using SSB and the Digital modes. QSL via CT1FKN, direct or by the Bureau.

T6RH ... Ron (N3HU) started up again earlier this month but apparently has a bad problem with QRN, indicating he's spending more time tweaking the noise abatement than he is operating. Rob's license is due to expire in May but says he's working to extend it. If you catch him QSL via NI5DX.

T6MO ... One of the more active operations and frequently spotted operations is that by **Eric** (K9GYT) who has announced plans to try some six meter operating. Eric says it may be a little early for the 6M season but he figures with the solar numbers we have had some days that he would CQ on 50.090. He tried recently but didn't get any answers but says he will keep trying as the 6M season arrives. On 160 and 80, Eric hopes to try to be operational by fall. If you don't get him on the air you can get an eyeball T6MO/K9GYT at Dayton in May,

MINAMI TORISHIMA (Marcus Island) Two reports related to JDI Minami Torishima. First, if you haven't worked JG8NQJ/JDI you better 'git 'er done' before April 21. That's when Take wraps up this stint at the weather station and heads back to Japan. For the past 3 months he's been operating in his spare time running 50 watts to a dipole on 30 and 17 meters. QSL direct to JA8CJY (you'll be surprised how fast your QSL will be returned) or via the bureau to JG8NQJ.

As for the second item, Harry, JG7PSJ is NOT going to Japan's easternmost island as has been reported by several DX publications. The story appears to have been an April Fool's trick, reportedly by Harry himself!



OGASAWARA - Further to the west three operations will be active in the sub-tropical Ogasawara Group of islands, the so-called Galapagos of the Orient. JDI BMH on Chichijima Island, Ogasawara, AS-031, will be April 22-May 4 by JG7PSJ, Harry. He plans 160-10M operation, CW, SSB and RTTY. Apparently Harry is NOT pulling an April Fool on this one (See story above). QSL to JDI BMH at the bureau or direct to JF7PSJ. <http://sapphire.es.tohoku.ac.jp/jdi/bmh>.

Another Ogasawara operation is JDI BLY by JI5RPT, Makoto. His operation is April 29-May 5, 80-6M activity including satellites, CW, SSB and digital, but no 6M EME. QSL to JI5RPT. <http://www.ji5rpt.com/jdi/>

And a third one, JDI BLC and JDI YBT on Ogasawara, April 29-May 5, 160-6 CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL both to JPI IOF.

Still More News and Notes from the World of DX



SWAZILAND – A group of South African Hams set up shop in neighboring Swaziland Apr 6-10 with an all-band, multi-mode operation. Calling themselves the “Fox Charlie” DXpedition they operated using the call sign 3DA0FC. Among other things the 10-person team included four XYL ops, several of whom are DXpedition veterans. Check their web site (<http://www.filipstattooshop.be/Swaziland2012/>) for pictures and other information.



3D2R DXpedition QSL

ROTUMA – If you missed the big Rotuma DXpedition last summer, here's a second chance for you to work this 42nd most wanted entity. Hrane, YT1AD, who organized and led last fall's multi-band, multi-mode effort is visiting the remote Pacific island again, this time in the company of 3D2TR, Tavita, the Rotuma Minister of Tourism. The pair will visit and do some work on 3D2RI, the high school radio club station, which last summer's DXpedition supported with equipment donations and license classes. Work this trip includes installing a new antenna system and a linear amplifier.



YT1AD Instructs Student



The Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group is going back to YJ0 Vanuatu again. This will be the third visit to YJ0 for the Australian club which plans to run three stations “as often as possible” on 160 through 10 meters with CW, SSB and digital. However, the six-man team cautions this visit is basically a “suitcase operation”. They're not entirely sure they'll be able to set up a working 160 meter antenna because “equipment is limited”. They'll be using the call sign YJ0VK and the stated goals are: “To work as many stations as possible, have some fun and enjoy a bit of a break on a beautiful Pacific Island!” The dates they hope to be QRV are April 21 until May 5.



Clusters... I keep swearing off of them then I keep looking at them because without it I am like a one legged man at an A\$ kicking contest. I just gave up and gave in, now I embrace all things cluster. The Genie is out of the bottle and unless the Internet goes dead it's never going back in. – KD8MJK

New WPX SSB Records...continued from page 1

The numbers weren't quite as off the charts in the Multi-Single category, but there it was Team 5D5A (@CN3A) which claimed 40.7 million points, just ahead of Team P33W at 39.6 million - both claimed scores were above the current M/S record held by 5D5A at 36.7 million points.

"Big score but not enough. Congrats to 5D5A guys," wrote Team P33W in a good sportsmanship touch on 3830 after the contest.

Team 5D5A described conditions on 10 meters as "amazing," as that popular contest band again left many contesters with a big smile, though 80 meters - and its double points on longer QSO's - was a disappointment to many on the other end of the spectrum.

Another record likely to fall was the Single Op Assisted High Power record of Helmut Mueller DF7ZS, who claimed 24 million points from P41P in Aruba, almost doubling the next best score. Mueller already holds the Assisted mark at 17.4 million from back in 2010.

Across the island, there was no record in the Low Power category for John Crovelli W2GD, but he ran the P40W station to over 14 million points for what looks like a slam dunk win in LP.

On 3830, Crovelli described conditions as "good but not great" thanks to a solar disturbance during the weekend, but it didn't ruin the show.

"One highlight of the contest was being called by a significant number of very young operators," Crovelli wrote. "It's wonderful to see parents and grandparents encouraging these activities."

No East Coast Bias in WPX SSB 2012

A quick look at the top scores in the United States for the 2012 CQ WPX SSB showed something right away - and that was you didn't need to be on the East Coast in order to be on top.

Yes, Ed Sawyer NIUR did his usual top echelon showing, possibly setting a new US Low Power record for SO with 5.9 million points.

And yes, Malcolm Davenport KIIG is leading in the Single Operator Assisted race with over 12 million points.

But in the Single Op High Power battle, it was Arkansas and Texas that came out on top in the top two spots, with Kevin Stockton N5DX leading the way at 12.1 million points and George NR5M next at 11 million.

The top US QRP score was from the Black Hole in southwestern Minnesota, as Randy Shirbroun posted 653k.

In the Multi-Op categories, Team WW2DX leads Multi-Single, Team KE3X has the top slot in Multi-Two and Team NX5M is tops in Multi-Multi, edging out WX3B on the East Coast.

If you live in a CC&R restricted community, have deed restrictions or homeowners association covenants that have prevented you from erecting amateur radio antennas, then the ARRL wants to hear from you. Upload your comments to the ARRL web-site at www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information, or, they can be sent as an e-mail attachment to CCRinfo@arrl.org

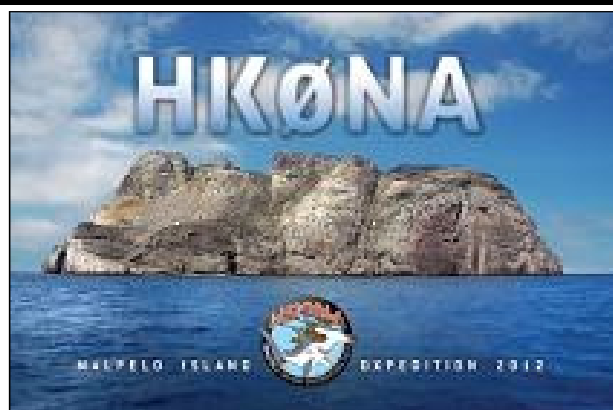
2012 April-May DX Calendar (Edited from <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>)

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	QSL via	Details
2012 Mar28	2012 Jun12	Vietnam	XV2W	W6NWS	By W6NWS fm Cai Be; 80-10m; CW RTTY, perhaps SSB;
2012 Mar29	2012 Apr29	Jan Mayen I	JX9JKA	LA9JKA Direct	By LA9JKA fm EU-022; 160-6m + up; SSB + digital; Ongoing until Mar 2013
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	ON4CJK	By ON4AEO et al; SSB RTTY PSK
2012 Apr04	2012 Apr11	Virgin Is	KP2		By AGILE as KP2/AGILE fm St Croix (NA-10 ,IOTA 2477); KP2M contest station
2012 Apr06	2012 Apr16	Cameroon	TJ6RM	OM3CGN	By OM3CGN; 40-10m
2012 Apr07	2012 May12	Haiti	HH8		By EA3OW as HH8/EA3OW; 40-10m; SSB + digital; spare time operation
2012 Apr08	2012 Apr13	Malta	9H3GK	DDIAY	By DDIAY; 40 20 15m; SSB
2012 Apr08	2012 Apr16	Montserrat	VP2M	LoTW	By W3FF et al, 100w; Buddipoles; QSL also OK via home_call
2012 Apr08	2012 Apr27	South Cook Is	E51GMH	VK4FI Direct	By VK4FI, also VK4VWR using E51BKM; 40-6m; CW SSB
2012 Apr09	2012 Apr11	Samoa	5W7A	YT1AD	By YT1AD fm Apia, Upolu I; HF
2012 Apr09	2012 Apr16	Do-decanese	SV5	IZ4AKS	By IZ4AKS as SV5/IZ4AKS fm Rhodes (EU-001); QSL OK via ARI Buro or direct
2012 Apr10	2012 Apr12	South Cook Is	E51	See Info	By VK4VWR and VK4FI as fm Aitutaki I (OC-083); 40-6m; CW SSB; QSL home call
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 DJ8NK	By DJ8NK et al, fm Rarotonga; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; verts & 6m yagi
2012 Apr12	2012 Apr21	Maldives	8Q7UY	UT5UY UT Buro	By UT5UY fm AS-013; 80-10m; CW SSB; holiday style operation
2012 Apr13	2012 Apr20	Rotuma	3D2R	YT1AD	By YT1AD; HF
2012 Apr16	2012 Apr30	St Barthelemy	TO3X	LoTW ON4CIT	By ON4CIT OSIT ON4BEC; 40-6m; SSB CW RTTY; hexbeam + verts;
2012 Apr18	2012 Apr18	Liberia	EL2RL	EL2BA Direct	By Liberia Radio Amateur Association; 20 17 15 10m; SES for World Amateur Radio Day
2012 Apr18	2012 Apr21	Mariana Is	WH0VU	JH4VUC Direct	By JH4VUC fm Saipan (OC-086); HF; all modes
2012 Apr18	2012 Apr23	Virgin Is	KP2	KF6JOQ	By W6DXO as KP2/W6DXO fm Cruz Bay, St John (NA-106); holiday style
2012 Apr19	2012 Apr24	Vietnam	XV4LC	VK6LC Direct	By VK6LC fm Vinh Long; 20 17m; CW SSB
2012 Apr21	2012 May05	Vanuatu	YJ0VK	LotW	By ODXG team fm Efate I; 160-10m; CW SSB RTTY PSK; QSL also OK via VK2CA
2012 Apr22	2012 Apr29	Albania	ZA100I	F4DTO	By F4DTO F4GFE; 40-10m; SSB

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

Dates		Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Details
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 Apr25	2012 May05	Lichtenstein	HB0	DL2SBY	By DL2SBY as HB0/DL2SBY DF1SR; 80-10m; CW SSB RTTY; vertical + Spiderbeam; will also be HB0/DF1SR on EME, 13cm Apr 28-29 and 9 + 6cm Apr 30-May 3; QSL OK via Buro or direct
2012 Apr26	2012 May06	Bahamas	C6AGW	I2VGWV	By I2VGWV fm New Providence (NA-001), Bimini, (NA-048) Berry (NA-054), Long (NA-001); focus on WARC; SSB + digital
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 JP1IOF; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via JP1IOF, 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
2012 May05	2012 May06	Guam	KH2	JH3AZC	By JH3AZC as W2AZ/KH2; HF; CW SSB RTTY
2012 May05	2012 Jun10	Gibraltar	ZQ3M	ZB3M Direct	By ZB3M, also ZB2ER using ZQ2ER; SES for Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II
2012 May08	2012 May14	Aruba	P40FM	JA3DFM	By JA3DFM, also JA3OPB using P40PB (QSL via JA3OPB); HF
2012 May09	2012 May13	Aruba	P40X	JA3AVO	By JA3AVO, also JH3PBL using P40U; HF
2012 May12	2012 May19	Guernsey	MU	Home Call	By PA0VHA as MU/PA0VHA, PA3BAG PA2A PA2AM likewise fm EU-I 14 (WLOTA 0013, IN89); 80-6m, focus on WARC; CW SSB RTTY PSK
2012 May15	2012 May23	Seychelles	S79RR	LotW	By DJ9RR fm Mahe I; 40-10m; CW RTTY; QSL also OK via DJ9RR
2012 May17	2012 May23	Macao	XX9	LotW	By EA5BZ EA5CEE EA6DD EB5BBM F5VL EA1ACP EA5FX EA7FTR EB7DX fm Coloana I; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY; at least 3 stns; QSL also OK via EB7DX direct

CQ WW WPX CW (May 26-27 2012)



HK0NA QSL—Pictured on the left is a facsimile of the multi-fold QSL card that will be sent to the deserving who worked this rare country—number 12 at the time of the DXpedition—and who sent in the appropriate postage with an SAE.

This huge rock outcrop of an island some 200 miles off the coast of Columbia will become even more rare as time goes on because indications are future access to the island will be tightly limited by the government. At present the island is populated only by a small group of military personnel who the DXpedition team gave considerable credit for helping them get on and off the island, carrying equipment to and from the operating sites plus assisting them with setup and tear-down.

No date for mailing the HK0NA cards has been posted.

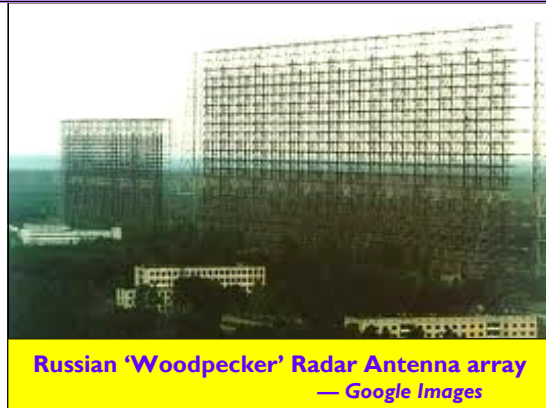
Here and There in the News

Video of Once-Secret Russian Woodpecker Radar Site

Most of us have heard about the so-called "Russian Woodpecker" over-the-horizon radar and it's huge signal which at times caused enormous wide-band QRM on a number of Ham Radio HF bands. Some of us even lost a Q or two because of its interference. In case you've forgotten, here's what the 'Woodpecker' sounded like: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?NR=1&feature=endscreen&v=9AIQ5sbSjwc>

Now we have an opportunity to see one of these radar sites in a video provided by Russian Hams who recorded their visit to an abandoned Woodpecker site in DUGA-3 the so-called 'Forbidden Zone' next door to the devastated Chernobyl nuclear plant. Here's the link for a nine-minute tour of a once very secret site. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zQfzUHeH4Eg>

(Ed. note - Although this is a interesting story one has to wonder why these guys would even go near this place due to its proximity to Chernobyl and the inherent danger posed by radiation . Hopefully, none of them has suffered any after-effects.)



Russian 'Woodpecker' Radar Antenna array
— Google Images

ICASA : 1700 SOUTH AFRICA HAM LICENSES HAVE LAPSED — The Independent Communications Authority of South Africa says that approximately 1700 amateur radio call signs have been marked as having expired. This is as a result of a substantial cleanup that the ICASA undertook during the last 12 months.

According to the South African Radio League, this is a significant number of former call signs and it's likely many amateurs just unwittingly allowed their licenses to lapse. As an example SARL says it has 43 paid up members who no longer have valid licenses.

The South African Radio Leagues advises all ZS licensees to visit its website for more information and what to do. The URL is www.sarl.org.za. (SARL) — *AR Newline 1807*



ESPN EMPLOYEES CREATE THE WORLDWIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB —

Current and former employees of the Entertainment and Sports Network, better known to the public as ESPN, have formed the Worldwide Amateur Radio Club. Located on the grounds of the ESPN facility in Bristol, Connecticut, the group has granted the club call **WE1SPN**.

At last report the club has about 40 members. Inaugural operations took place on 7.177 MHz at 21:00 UTC on March 29th. This opening gala tried to contact as many radio clubs at Disney theme parks as possible.

The Worldwide Amateur Radio Club is the latest in a long series of broadcast industry-based employee recreation entities. It joins similar employee groups at the CBS, NBC, ABC and Fox networks as well as at a number of broadcast stations nationwide and world-wide.

More about WE1SPN can be found by checking the listing page for their callsign on QRZ.com. — *KE6ZGP*



UK POSTAL INCREASE — Tom, GM4FDM, reports that as of April 30th, the UK Postal system will increase the following:

- * A 10gm (0.35 ounces) envelope (airmail type envelope and ONE QSL card) will now cost 87p to Europe and World Zones 1 and 2.
- * A 20gm (0.70 ounces) envelope will cost 87p Europe and £1.28 for World Zones 1 and 2.

Therefore for a U.S. station to send for a QSL to a UK station (Great Britain and Northern Ireland) is 2 USDs (the absolute minimum for return postage), but if you use thick envelopes or expect MORE THAN ONE CARD in the same envelope, then depending on return weight, 2 USDs may be insufficient postage, so he would suggest 3 USDs..... — *OPDX Bulletin 1056*



LoTW DELAY - The April 1, 2012 target date for being able to apply ARRL Logbook of the World (LoTW) credits to the CQ WPX Award is being pushed back to mid-April. ARRL says this delay was made necessary by its decision to launch its new DXCC fee structure on April 2 and online DXCC applications on April 3.





NEW DX AWARD

The WUST Award stands for Worked All US Territories and is sponsored by South Chicago's Metro DX Club. Work any 14 of the 16 US territories for the basic award; all 16 for the full award. The 16 US Territories existing Jan 1, 2012 are: KG4 (Gitmo), KH0 (Mariana Islands), KH1 (Baker & Howland Islands), KH2 (Guam), KH3 (Johnston Island), KH4 (Midway Island), KH5 (Palmyra & Jarvis Islands), KH5K (Kingman Reef), KH7K (Kure Island), KH8 (American Samoa), KH8S (Swains Island), KH9 (Wake Island), KPI (Navassa Island), KP2 (US Virgin Islands), KP4 (Puerto Rico) and KP5 (Desecheo Island). For more information go to: http://www.metrodxclub.com/wust_award.htm

DX

The Ultimate Contact Sport

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
WA6EZV	254	447	701
WR4K	175	279	454

The Way Things Were—W6AM



Don Wallace W6AM (SK)

In this day and age of Ham Radio DX and contesting superstations like W3LPL and others at that level, the conversation eventually shifts to the legendary Rolling Hills, California hill-top set-up of the late Don Wallace, W6AM.

Wallace initially purchased the 120-acre hill-top location in the 1920s as a QTH for Press Wireless, an overseas



W6AM Rhombic Layout

communications company. Over time a total of 14 rhombic antennas were installed on 110 telephone poles set up around the property. At the same time the property underneath this ceiling of wire antennas was a working farm producing hay! W6AM is considered by many to have been the ultimate DX station of all time and Don remained at the top, Number 1 on the Honor Roll, throughout its existence.

Don Wallace died in 1985 but W6AM continues to impress all who see the photographs posted at this web site. <http://www.qsl.net/n/ne6ii/w6am/>

Wishful Thinking



03/27/2012

The the left is a picture showing a one-time-only odometer 'report' of 599 for a P-something. P5 maybe?

How the mind wanders in these times of quiet for truly rare DX. :)

Actually, this is a for-real dashboard photo by NU4Y of his wife's new Lexus at the 599 mile mark. The 'P', sadly in this case, is Park.

Food for (lots of) Thought



"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcomings; but who does actually strive to do the deed; who knows the great enthusiasm, the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly."

— Teddy Roosevelt

Murphy's Law for QSLs

QSLs will arrive in the mailbox in the inverse order of perceived need. — NI0C

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.dxpud.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 Gravity

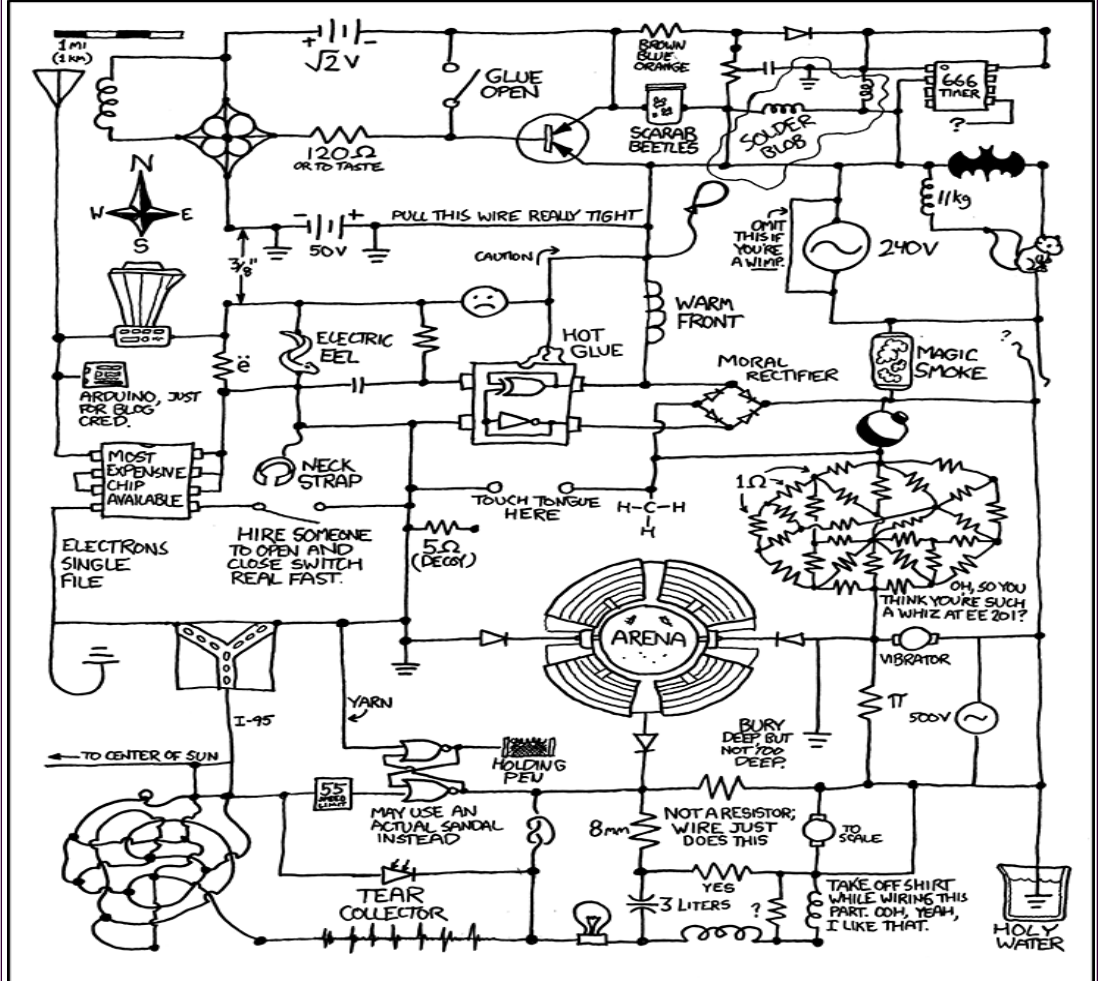
Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible corner.

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April's Mystery Circuit Diagram



The Last Word — NW4C

We go for months-even longer-waiting for a DXpedition or a lone op to appear to give us a crack at one we need.

Then suddenly, there's not one operation QRV but two that we want going on at the same time! Wow!

But along with this good news comes reality. We aren't hearing either of them well enough to even try for a contact. Propagation is on holiday, it seems. What's a deserving DXer to do?

Apparently, not much.

Just sit back and listen...and listen some more while hoping for the best.

How about a good 'burp' from a slumbering sunspot to light up the ionosphere? Not one of those big 'belches' that's so strong it activates the D layer to the point nothing gets through. But a genteel 'urp' that brings the F layer back to life for the duration of the DX operations.

I'm not asking for much . . . just an 'urp' or two. Skip the bi-carb and may the good DX be yours.

— 73, Warren NW4C