

The North Florida DX Association

Pile Up

The NFDXA Newsletter



Volume 6 Number 2

February 2014

<http://nfdxa.com/>

FT5ZM QRT - 170,140 QSOs



FT5ZM AMSTERDAM ISLAND 2014

The party's over, my friends... It was a royal DX-blast while it lasted but Tropical Cyclone Fobane brought an earlier-than-expected end to the FT5ZM Amsterdam Island DXpedition. The FT5ZM team is now QRT; they, the DXpedition logs and all equipment are now safely aboard the Braveheart heading back to Australia. The 1900-mile voyage is expected to take 9 days.

While QRV on Amsterdam, the DXpedition team amassed a total of 170,140 QSOs. According to *The Daily DX*, all of the operation's logs have been updated through 02:20:11Z on February 12, 2014 – including the so-called ‘missing’ QSOs from February 9 and 10. (<https://secure.clublog.org/expeditions.php>)

The team's departure was not without drama as Tropical Cyclone Fobane is expected to deal Amsterdam a glancing blow this weekend. Even several days out seas surrounding this desolate southern ocean island had become rough. The water inside the island's harbor where the 128-foot Braveheart was anchored became so choppy that at times it was too dangerous for the Braveheart's Zodiac to ferry people and equipment back and forth from the shore.

The FT5ZM DXpedition set a number of marks during its 18-day visit to the DX World's number 5 most wanted entity. To start with the operation's collection of 18 world class operators compiled an amazing 170K-plus QSO count starting with their first contact January 24 and ending with the last QSO which was with AA4SC at 0220Z Feb 12. Included in that amount were 78 contacts made by NFDXA members (see breakdown elsewhere in this edition).

NFDXA Members Score with FT5ZM DXpedition

Six NFDXA members made contacts with the FT5ZM DXpedition for an All Time New One (ATNO); NF4L, KB4CRT, NU4Y, NW4C, KI4DLS and NIWON. NF4L and NIWON are already on the DXCC Honor Roll and the FT5 QSO has moved them a step toward #1 HR.

Other club members made numerous QSOs with the DXpedition team for additional bands and modes. These members and their contact totals are as follows: Dick K4UTE (17); Dale N4NN (9); Greg N4CC and Dave KI4DLS (7 each); Dr Jay AA4FL and Larry K3LB (6 each); Mike W1FO and John KB4CRT (4 each); Pres W4FDA (3), Warren NW4C, Mike NF4L, Jim, NU4Y, and Ron N4KE (2 apiece); Larry K4EB, Bob W4GJ, Cory NIWON, Jim KC4FWS, Mike N4EDP, Ron N4GFO and Dick WR4K (1 each).

As expected, Europeans made the most contacts scoring almost 50% of all QSOs. US DXers made about 25% of the total. Almost 36,000 of the QSOs, about one quarter of all the calls, were ‘uniques’. Stats on the ClubLog site (<https://secure.clublog.org/charts/?c=FT5ZM#r>) indicate that for 18% of all callers the contact with Amsterdam Island was for an all-time new entity! Six NFDXA members are included that 18%.

Another high mark was the overall cost of the DXpedition. The operation was budgeted for \$450,000, a total which makes it one of the most expensive—if not the most expensive—DXpeditions ever. At this writing, however, donations fall about \$95,000 short of that stated goal -- something DXers should keep in mind when they request their QSL confirmation(s) either by OQRS or direct via N200..

The FT5ZM OQRS site on ClubLog is expected to be opened up and running shortly.

— 0 —

In This Issue

FT5ZM QRT	1
NFDXA FT5 QSOs	1
2014 Club Officers	2
Jan Mtg Attendance	2
President's Message	3
Dec Mtg Mnts	4
Pictures	4
NU4Y's World	5
Sig Corps in 'Nam	6-7
Dues 'R Overdue	8
Special Events	9
DX Europe	9
Code Readers	9
DX Africa	10
DX Asia	11
DX Indian Ocean	11
DX Arctic-Antarc	11
DX Pacific – Oc	12
DX NA-SA-CA	13
How Cass Sees It	14
DJ9ZB Interview	15
OK for DXCC	15
Feb DX Calendar	16
Mar DX Calendar	17
Club Contest	18
CW Ops Contest	18
ARRL CW 'test	18
Pile-Up Phonetics	18
W4RA Ham of Yr	19
FCC-AEI Merger?	19
60M in Cuba	19
R0000OR	19
DX Status	20
The Last Word	20





W4ZR

The North Florida DX Association, Inc. is a group of Amateur Radio Operators located in north Florida and south Georgia whose interests are primarily Contests and DXing. NFDXA typically meets on the 3rd Saturday of the month at a location selected by a meeting organizer. Visitors are always welcome. Officers were elected for the calendar year 2014 are:



President

Mike Garcia, WFO mike6t7@cfl.rr.com



Vice President

Warren Croke, NW4C nw4c@nfdxa.com



Secretary

Mike Reublin, NF4L nf4l@nf4l.com



Treasurer

Jim Hughes, KC4FWS k4fws@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@nfdxa.com or nw4c@cox.net

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

Attendance at January 2014 NFDXA Meeting



Name	Call	Attending	Name	Call	# Attending
Jay Garlitz	AA4FL	1	Joe Barnes	N4JBK	0
Steve Brown	AB4UF	0	Ron Blake	N4KE	1
John Hale	AC4ET	0	Dale Conner	N4NN	0
Larry Bostic	K3LB	1	Billy Williams	N4UF	0
Larry Junstrom	K4EB	0	Mike Reublin	NF4L	1
Richard Hicks	K4UTE	1	Dave Mains	NO4J	0
John Silberman	KB4CRT	1	Jim Lori	NU4Y	1
Jim Hughes	KC4FWS	1	Warren Croke	NW4C	1
David Smith	KI4DLS	0	Mike Garcia	WIFO	1
Bill Walker	KX4WW	0	Pres Graham	W4FDA	0
Cory McDonald	NIWON	1	Bob Lightner	W4GJ	1
Greg Wilson	N4CC	0	Steve Barber	WA4B	1
Mike Parnin	N4EPD	0	Robert Frey	WA6EZV	1
Ron Tivey	N4GFO	1	Dick Knox	WR4K	0

Attendance: NFDXA Members 15 (* = Attend via Oovoo) Guests 4

Notice to NFDXA Membership

Keep your records up to date. All NFDXA members are requested to go to the club web site and check their entry on the NFDXA Roster page. If any changes in address, e-mail or other information are needed please notify NFDXA Secretary Mike Reublin, NF4L (nf4l@nf4l.com) at your earliest convenience.

President's Message



Mike WIFO

Hello fellow NFDXA members. Well, another Orlando Hamcation comes and goes. It was great to spend time with the club members who attended. This year was my third go at the convention and, as usual, an enjoyable time was had. Obviously missing was the annual luncheon put on by **Jim KC4FWS** and I am sure I am not the only one who missed the great food and camaraderie associated with this annual event.

This year's hamfest was marked by a constant rain; at times quit hard which seemed to have a marked affect on attendance. The small crowds provided the ability to casually visit each of the venders at their booths with little to no interference—which was great. Unfortunately the rain also caused most of the tailgaters to fold up their tents eliminating what I always find to be some of the best hamfest buys a guy can find. I took my time looking through the test equipment vendors and finally ended up purchasing a new Digital Storage Scope. It is amazing how cheap one can buy good test equipment for these days.

As much as I enjoyed strolling the hamfest grounds and talking with people, **Dr. Jay's (AA4FL) T33A** presentation was the highlight of the day for myself and many others. Even with the rain, we still had 25 individuals attend Dr. Jays presentation. We all agree that the time slot was not ideal, but, Jay still made the best of it and as **Larry (K3LB)** said, it was even better than the presentation he gave at last month's meeting. Thank you again Jay for bringing the presentation to the DX community, the NFDXA is proud to have been a part of it.

Finally, I enjoyed seeing everyone emailing each other in an attempt to help their fellow DXer work the FT5ZM DXpedition. Who says Dxing is not a team sport. I only worked them on three bands but, I figure that leaves me a few band spots to work them next time. By all the emails I was reading on FT5ZM, it looks like our members did a good job of putting a dent on the DXpedition. Well guys, I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting. Good DX and keep working on the Club contest.

— Mike Garcia WIFO



Minutes of January 18, 2014 Meeting

The meeting was **called to order** by President **Mike WIFO** at 6:32 pm.

The December minutes were approved.



Treasurer's Report - Jim KC4FWS reported a balance of 1295.73

Old business - Richard K4UTE and Dick WR4K were announced as winners of the 2013 club contest.

The discussion continued about doing a contest from **W4FDA's QTH**. Rotor is fixed.

No news on a new club regalia supplier.

New business - Jay, AA4FL, will give his T33A presentation at the Orlando Hamcation, sponsored by NFDXA. He's scheduled for 3-4 pm Saturday. Attendees at this month's meeting got a preview.

Mike, WIFO, donated an Icom 706 for use at VP5DX. Jim, NU4Y repaired the rig and negotiated a trade for a defunct TS950. If it turns out to be unrepairable Mike has an Icom 775DSP available.

Next meeting planner (March 2014) is **AB4UF**. (No 'official' Feb meeting due to Orlando Hamcation)

Guests: Jackie Garcia, Randi Garlitz, Dick Klein, W4PCM and Vic Moore, N4QK.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 6:42 pm.

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



Faces in the crowd at the January 2014 Meeting



Scenes from the Orlando Hamcation



The January meeting was held at the Athens Café with a nice-sized crowd of members and guests. The highlight of the Orlando Hamfest was Dr Jay's T33A presentation at a DX Forum sponsored by NFDXA.



The World According to NU4Y

We were talking while having lunch after NF4L's tower party, about the RTTY contest and operating. Sitting around with a group of accomplished operators in both phone and cw, it was mentioned that working RTTY is like a computer game of sorts. Yes, you click on a call, push a button, click on the report, push a button, and your contact is in the log.



Jim NU4Y

This came up because there were times during the fray that I didn't even know whom I had worked. I had to look up into the log to see the call. I was running on automatic completely. I was just pushing buttons. At least in phone or cw the call of the other station was going through my head then my hands to the keyboard. Call signs meant something, maybe a friend or an interesting call sign. But, doing this stuff, the call sign was just another green, or yellow square inserted into the logging program.

And I read after the contest that some operators had more than 10 decoders running at the same time on 3 or more receivers, which are on the same freq., different freq. or even different bands. This requires some skill, but more important requires a lot of computing power. The radio, setup, antennas surely play a role, but when the contest starts they are basically invisible and hardly even touched. The role of the operator could be automated completely with a little ingenious programming. Heck the SDR receivers on the cluster are doing it now. As a matter of fact the SDR receivers are copying cw as well as RTTY that way.

Years ago I read about a guy with a very modest computer and a FT-101 (as I remember) operating Field Day without even being in the shack. He wrote a program to tune the radio slowly up the band, answer a station calling CQ and put it in the log. He would come into the shack every now and then and see how he was doing. With the computers of today plus the control of current radios, this is a reality and probably could outperform even the best operators. Good operating, I had always thought, was a learned skill. Something to be proud of not only in my own shack but to the stations that were listening, or calling me. A good operator has the skill and the mind set to set the pace. Where is this all going? I forget now, I am running on automatic. — **Jim NU4Y**

"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them." — Albert Einstein



Part 1

A Brief History of the Signal Corps in Viet Nam

LT Robert L. Lightner



NFDXA member Bob Lightner, W4GJ, witnessed many of the transitions he describes in this article while serving as a Signal Corps officer in Vietnam. Bob is a graduate of the University of Florida and remains an ardent Gator fan to this day. He retired from Santa Fe College in Gainesville, FL as the director of the college television facility and currently divides his time between chasing DX and being a substitute teacher in the Alachua County school system.

The military downsizing that Congress and the president mandated on the U.S. Army at the end of the Korean conflict forced the Signal Corps to enter this new conflict with civilian contractors doing the better part of its job for them. And in short order this first step was followed with a similar outsourcing of the Signal Corp's mission to contractors that designed, built, and in many cases operated parallel networks in Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand.

The first of these efforts occurred in May 1960, when [Page Communications](#) undertook to build what was called the [Pacific Scatter System](#), a telecom and data network designed to serve the Army by linking the Philippines with Hawaii. Following a course of 7,800 miles, it leapt along a chain of islands and countries stretching from the Philippines to Guam, Midway, and on to Hawaii. Linking South Vietnam to the Philippines was accomplished via a portion of the military's Strategic Army Communications (STARCOM) network, which was terminated at [Phu Lam](#) (Phu Lam translates as Rich Forest), outside of [Tan Son Nhut air field](#). To complete the track, Hawaii was linked to the U.S. at Davis, California, via circuits that were originally part of the old ACAN network... yet another ironic example of how a once important piece of the U.S.'s global communication network was taken out of service because Washington dictated that the military be cut back at the end of one conflict, only to find a few years later that the systems taken down had to be hastily rebuilt to serve again when the next conflict popped up.

With the Pacific Scatter System in place, in 1962 Page Communications was awarded another contract (by the Secretary of the Air Force), this time to install a network called BACKPORCH. BACKPORCH was eventually to be a 72 channel, AN/MRC-85 [Tropospheric Scatter](#) system, with terminal sites at **Da Nang, Nha Trang, Phu Lam, Pleiku, Qui Nhon, and Ubon, Thailand**. In its early days however it started out with AN/TRC-90 tropo equipment. Why did the Air Force contract for the system instead of the Signal Corps? Again, the primary reason was that the Signal Corps' budget had been cut back so much that it didn't have the funds to build the networks needed to handle combat operations on the ground. Instead, equipment had to be scavenged from other places and other services.

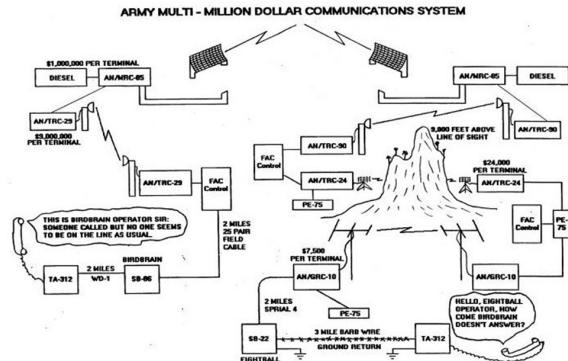


The MRC-85 Site at Qui Nhon

Cost wise, for the Air Force, it was a good decision, as the BACKPORCH contract was for only \$12 million and that included Page operating and maintaining the system for a year. For us Signal Officers who served in Vietnam but may not remember BACKPORCH, while you may not remember it well, you surely saw it, as BACKPORCH was the beast that caused all of those huge 60 foot "billboard" antennas to be placed all over the cities listed above, the mountain tops around them, and the rest of the country too. Perhaps the most important part of Vietnam's overall battlefield, combat, area, and base camp communication net, BACKPORCH made it possible for standard Army short range multichannel radios to be connected literally from any active field combat area into the entire country wide network, covering all of the I, II, III and IV Corps Tactical Areas.

Unfortunately, while all of this was going on the Philippines-to-Vietnam portion of the STARCOM network set up by Page was proving to be a problem. STARCOM's radio links suffered from major QSB, proving unreliable in the steamy, stifling environment of South Vietnam's tropics. Needing something more dependable, the Signal Corps requested approval to supplement STARCOM with an underwater military cable. In 1962 the Joint Chiefs finally approved this request, with the construction of the new [WETWASH](#) cable system... Again, the contract went to Page Communications because the DOD had long since stripped the Signal Corps of its cable laying ships. WETWASH linked South Vietnam to Clark Airbase, at Luzon, in the Philippines. However, as it would take time to complete WETWASH, an alternative 60 channel tropo scatter bridging link was requested by the Signal Corps, to try and connect South Vietnam to the rest of the world via still another route.

— Continued on next page



(Signal Corps in Vietnam...Continued from page 5) This bridging link was designed and built by [Philco](#), and linked Vietnam at Phu Lam to Bang Ping (near Bangkok), Thailand. At the Thailand end it was integrated with additional radio links to take it from Bang Ping to both Pakistan and Okinawa, and then on to the rest of the world.

Sadly, the Philco tropospheric scatter bridge proved to be as unreliable as Page's STARCOM link, to the point that the Signal Corps finally decided to take things into its own hands by replacing Philco's work with a new link designed and installed by the 1st Signal Brigade, instead of yet another outside contractor. This link reconfigured the Philco approach by relocating the Bangkok terminal to [Green Hill](#) in Thailand, and the Saigon terminal to Vung Tau Hill. Not too strangely, it worked, perhaps because it was designed by junior level Signal Corps Officers with far less training and far less compensation than the well paid engineers at Page! Either way, when the Signal Corps took matters into its own hands, the work got done, and what was done worked. From these new locations the circuits were then brought into both Bangkok and Saigon via microwave links.



In the end, while it took time for the lesson to be learned, the U.S. military got the message that while outsourcing to civilian contractors might be expeditious, if you wanted to get the job done to the point that the communication links actually worked under rigorous combat and environmental conditions, what the Signal Corps had to do was do it itself. Unfortunately, and here again we are beating a dead horse, while the Signal Corps seemed to have learned this lesson, Congress and the president seemed not to, as shortly after the Vietnam conflict was over, budgets cuts again tore into the Signal Corps' ability to maintain and man the global network it had so rigorously built.

By 1965 all of the kinks had been worked out of the Vietnam-conflict -zone-to-the-rest-of-the-world communication system, with the troops in the field finally being able to depend on multichannel radio relay equipment to complete what were in fact intricate interconnections, tying together all manner of VHF, UHF, microwave, tropospheric, ionospheric, satellite, and undersea cables. Unlike in previous conflicts, the network put in place allowed combat commanders on the ground to have instant access from the field through standard field radios to anyone they might wish to talk to, from FACs in the field, to Arty at fire support bases, to Westmoreland's HQ, any pilot sitting on any aircraft carrier in the entire Navy, all the way up to the president himself. With an effective combat communication network now in place, unit mobility greatly improved, allowing commanders to finally let loose with their Hueys, using them to full advantage in taking the fight to the Viet Cong and NVA. Perhaps best of all, having moved far beyond the days of field commanders having to depend on strung wire to communicate with, commanders could now move and shoot at any time they wanted, without losing communications for a minute, even while they were en route to their new positions.

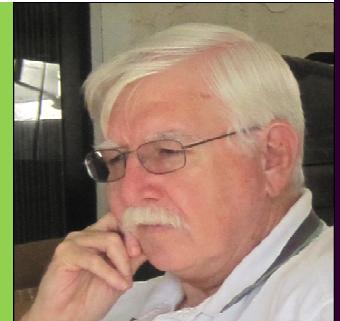


Interestingly, a key part of the mobile capabilities the Signal Corps delivered came about not because of the fancy long haul links running over the tropo and other networks set up by the outside contractors, but by a simple airborne FM repeater system set up by Signal people in units such as the 13th Signal Battalion. For example, in trying to meet the needs of the 1st Cavalry Division, their client, the Signal guys (mostly HAMs) in the [13th Signal Battalion](#) came up with the idea of mounting radios in fixed-wing aircraft and then circling those aircraft at 10,000 feet over the 1st Cav's daily battle area. By doing this the 13th was able to set up a method for retransmitting messages between widely dispersed combat units on the ground. Through this simple expediency the LOS limits and electro-magnetic absorption effects of the triple canopy jungles on [PRC-25](#) transceivers could be overcome, effectively extending the PRC-25's range from around 5 miles to over 60. When the word got out as to what the 13th Signal Battalion had done, Signal units throughout Vietnam found themselves besieged with similar requests by battalion and brigade commanders to help them set up their own helicopter borne command centers, equipped with radio consoles and no-nonsense solutions that would make any Signal HAM smile with pride.

By 1965 all of the kinks had been worked out of the Vietnam-conflict -zone-to-the-rest-of-the-world communication system, with the troops in the field finally being able to depend on multichannel radio relay equipment to complete what were in fact intricate interconnections, tying together all manner of VHF, UHF, microwave, tropospheric, ionospheric, satellite, and undersea cables. Unlike in previous conflicts, the network put in place allowed combat commanders on the ground to have instant access from the field through standard field radios to anyone they might wish to talk to, from FACs in the field, to Arty at fire support bases, to Westmoreland's HQ, any pilot sitting on any aircraft carrier in the entire Navy, all the way up to the president himself. With an effective combat communication network now in place, unit mobility greatly improved, allowing commanders to finally let loose with their Hueys, using them to full advantage in taking the fight to the Viet Cong and NVA. Perhaps best of all, having moved far beyond the days of field commanders having to depend on strung wire to communicate with, commanders could now move and shoot at any time they wanted, without losing communications for a minute, even while they were en route to their new positions. (**Part II—Conclusion In March PileUp**)

It's that time of year ... Due\$ Are Past Due

Dues for 2014 are \$20 and they are now being collected by NFDXA Treasurer Jim Hughes, KC4FWS. In line with that notice Jim has submitted the following:



This is your annual reminder that 2014 club dues need to be paid. The executive board did not make any change in dues and will remain at \$20 for 2014. Please note the 2010 changes made to the bylaws concerning dues:

9.0 DUES

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.

Cash: Always accepted at meetings. (I will be at next meeting)

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**

PayPal:

If you use PayPal, I will not absorb any transaction fees to accept payment. You must do an electronic fund transfer direct from your bank account. **It is Free** for sender and recipient in the US when you send using your bank account or PayPal balance. You are not paying for an online product or service, but a personal money transfer via PayPal. Also, if you use PayPal, please send me an email to kc4fws@comcast.net that you have sent the dues via PayPal. I will then log into PayPal and transfer the funds to the club's account.

Send dues via PayPal to: fine_treasures@comcast.com (NOTE: Please note the underscore between "fine" and "treasures")

If you need to discuss any problems with the above, please give me a call: Hm 904-262-1736 or cell 904-982-6884.

Thanks,
Jim, KC4FWS

Special Event Operations



DK40 - GERMANY (CQZ 14) (Special Event). Look for special event station **DK40BOSCH** to be on the air until December 31st. Activity is to celebrate 40 years of Ham Radio activity within the Bosch group. QSL via LoTW, by the Bureau or direct (see QRZ.com). -- **OPDX**

J6 - ST. LUCIA (CQZ 08) Ernest, J69AZ, reports that he and a group of hams (not named) are planning to be active as portable every weekend. Their group (called the **J6DX Portable Group**) is in place to help Hams coming to St. Lucia (for a day cruise, or for a week or more) to meet and greet them, as well as let them use their radios at the beach for the day, or at their hotel until they leave the island. The group is also planning to celebrate St. Lucia's 35th anniversary of independence by activating Rat Island (which is about 1/4 mile from the main land) by using a special call sign (not yet approved, possibly J6SLI35) between February 21-23rd. Operators mentioned are Ernest/J69AZ, Fay/J69EJ, Frans/J69DS and Francis/J66CA. They will be operating QRP for the three days using Buddipole antennas.

LI/LJ/LM1814 - NORWAY (CQZ 14) (Special Norwegian Prefixes). Tom, LA4LN, informs OPDX: "During all of the year 2014, Norwegian LA stations may use the LI (Lima India) prefix, and LB stations may use the LJ (Lima Juliett) prefix, as part of the celebration of 200 years since the Norwegian Constitution which was approved on 17 May 1814. QSL will be via the respective LA and LB permanent calls. The special prefixes may only be used from the Norwegian mainland.

There will also be a special station active with the call sign: **LM1814** (QSL via LA2G). ... -- **OPDX**

PA400 - THE NETHERLANDS CQZ 14 (Special Event). Fred, PA0FAW (ISWL PA-11092), will be using the special call sign **PA400SM** to promote 400 years of friendship between The Netherlands and Sweden until Mar 7. As usual, most operating will be CW, with some digital modes and some SSB when he has a suitable QTH available. Some QSOs may be from WFF-PA-005. QSL via PA0FAW (see QRZ.com). SWL-reports welcome, no postage required. -- **OPDX**

PA530, THE NETHERLANDS (CQZ 14) (Special Event). Look for special event station **PA530ROT** now QRV until Feb 28th. Activity is on all bands on CW, SSB and RTTY. Every year members of the WFS foundation are hiking non-stop in a 100 hours relay race from Paris (France) to Rotterdam (Netherlands). A distance of 530 kilometers. Read more on <http://www.paasw.nl/> (home-site of the Gatti-Hallicrafters Expedition of 1948). QSL via PA0ABM. -- **OPDX**

S5 - SLOVENIA (CQZ 15) Special callsign **S567O (Sierra Five Six Seven Oscar)** will be QRV on all bands throughout 2014. Activity is to celebrate the long-term of the president of the Radio Club Cerkno (S53E) by S50O, Miran Voncina, who was first licensed in 1967. QSL cards will be ready to be printed by the end of the year and will be shipped soon after. For those who wish to send direct please include an SASE with 2\$ to Radio Club Cerkno, P.O. Box 16, 5282 Cerkno, Slovenia. QSL requests without return postage will be returned via the bureau. All QSOs will be verified via bureau and LoTW. -- **DDX**

UE80 - RUSSIA (CQZ 16) (Special Event). Look for special event station **UE80HS** to be active Mar 1-31. Activity is to honor and celebrate the 80th anniversary of the first astronaut Yuri Gagarin. QSL via RVV6HS.

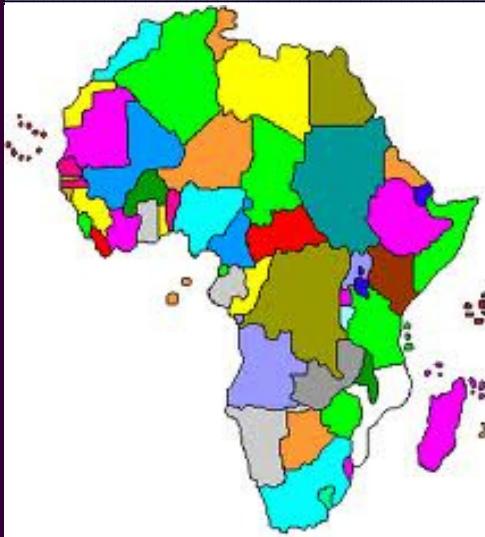
DX EUROPE

GM - SCOTLAND (CQZ 14) Now underway through Nov 30 stations from Scotland (2M, GM, MM) are celebrating the Scottish Diaspora Homecoming by substituting the second letter in their prefix M for an A. So 2M will use 2A, MM will use MA and GM stations will use GA for their prefix. -- **DDX**



Chalk up another one for code readers. **WC4U** in Gainesville reports **FT5ZM** was being spotted on 18.074 two days after the operation had shut down and left Amsterdam! Turns out the station was actually **3B9FR**, kinda weak with a small pile-up but perfectly readable. And so it goes . . . :-)

DX AFRICA



3B9 - RODRIGUES ISLAND.(CQZ 39) Just a reminder that Eric, OE4AAC, will once again be active as 3B9/OE4AAC from Rodrigues Island (AF-017) Feb10-18. Activity will be holiday style on 40-10 meters CW. QSL via OE4AAC. -- **OPDX**

5H - TANZANIA (CQZ 37) F6AML, Sam, is planning to be back in Africa at the end of the month operating as **5H1Z** from several Zanzibar Islands, which counts as Tanzania for DXCC purposes. Jan 28-Feb 17 he's planning to be QRV in his spare time from Zanzibar (AF-032), Mafia(AF-054), Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Songo (AF-074) and either Karange or Yambe (AF-087) Islands. Listen for him on CW and SSB on 7 through 28 MHz. QSL via F6AML direct or via the REF QSL Bureau. -- **DDX**

5V - TOGO (CQZ 35) Operators Phil/F5MVB and Joel/F5AOW are planning to be active as **5V7MP** and **5V7BJ**, respectively, from Avepozo March 23-31. Activity will be on CW and SSB. Details on bands have not been announced yet but will be forthcoming. QSL via their home callsigns,direct or by the Bureau. -- **OPDX**

5X - UGANDA (CQZ 37) Alan, G3XAQ will be QRV as **5X1XA** Feb 25 - Mar 16. Activity will be on CW only. QSL via G3SWH OQRS and LoTW. -- **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

6W, SENEGAL. Operators Nigel/G3TXF and Col/MM0NDX will be active as **6W/home call** from Le Calao this mid-February. Their tentative schedule is as follows:

February 14-17 - Nigel's (**6W/G3TXF**) activity will be mainly on CW on the 30/17/12 meter bands. He does plan to be in the ARRL DX CW Contest (Feb 15-16). QSL ia ClubLog's OQRS.

February 16-22 - Col's (**6W/MM0NDX**) activity will be holiday style on 160-10 meters using SSB only. QSL via IW7EGQ <http://iw7egq.jimdo.com/6w>. -- **OPDX**

7Q - MALAWI (CQZ 37) Kenneth, LA7GIA, will be active as **7Q7GIA** from Lilongwe May 31 - June 8. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW and SSB. Antennas will be a vertical and wire antennas. QSL via LA7GIA home callsign. -- **OPDX**

9J - ZAMBIA (CQZ 36) The "Italian Dxpedition Team" will be in Zambia operating as **9J2T** Feb 28 - Mar 17, Official website: <http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/> QSL Direct via I2YSB LOTW OK -- **DX Coffee**

9X- RWANDA (CQZ 36). Nick, G3RWF, will once again be active as 9X0NH from Rwanda March 3-12. Activity will be from Kigali on most HF bands and will be mainly CW with some SSB using K3 w/100 watts and wire antennas(Inverted V at about 40 Ft.). There will be no 160m, but he will be on 6 meters. Operations will include entry in the RSGB Commonwealth Contest (Mar 8-9). QSL via G3RWF. Nick states, "I use LoTW and do my own QSLing (prefer ClubLog)." -- **OPDX**

C5- THE GAMBIA (CQZ . Dom, MITKA, will be active as C5/MIKTA from a beach sea front location in The Gambia between February 27th and March 10th. Activity will be holiday style on 20/17/15 meters operating QRP using CW, SSB and RTTY. He also may try 160m. Dom states, "On the last weekend between 12:00 UTC 8th and 12:00 UTC 9th March, unless you are in a BERU country I will likely ignore you please try another time." QSL via his home callsign or the LoTW. For more details and updates, see his Blog page at: <http://m1kta>

D2 – ANGOLA (CQZ 36) Craig, MM0SSG has returned to Angola and is on the air during his free time. He plans to be QRV as **D2SG** until December on 80 to 10 meters using SSB, PSK31 and CW. QSL via GM4FDM, LotW. -- **ARRL DX**

FT/T, TO TROMELIN (CQZ 39) Between Oct 30 and Nov 10 a team of 6 operators will gear up to Tromelin, a DXCC high wanted and difficult to access. The TAAF has given authorization to access the island, last activated in 2000. They will set up 4 stations for 10 days from 160 to 10 meter using SSB, CW and RTTY. Online log will be available during the DXpedition. <http://www.tromelin2014.com/> -- **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

SU – EGYPT (CQZ 34) SUIHZ, Hassan, began operating CW starting April 18, 2013, after passing an online CW class, says his QSL manager KB9GSY, Ayman. Hassan has been operating CW "on and off since" and Ayman has all of the SUIHZ logs. -- **DDX**

XT - BURKINA FASO (CQZ 35) Harald, DF2WO is QRV as **XT2AW** from Ouagadougou until the end of February. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via M0OXO. -- **ARRL DX**

ZD8 – ASCENSION ISLAND (CQZ 36) Werner, DJ9KH, will again be active as **ZD8D** from Ascension Island (AF-003) Feb 24-Mar 11, for a holiday-style-expedition. He states, "This expedition will start in Cape Town, South Africa, on board the RMSSt. Helena. After a two days stop on St. Helena, where I hope to be QRV with a ZD7-callsign (Feb. 19th to Feb. 21st), we (me and my wife) willarrive on Ascension Island Feb.24th. Activity will then start as soon aspossible with a special focus on 160-40 meters... CW will be the preferred mode and he plans to enter the ARRL SSB 'test Mar 1-2. -- **OPDX**

DX ASIA



T6 – AFGHANISTAN (CQZ 21) N3HU, Rob, has arrived safely in Kabul, Afghanistan. He hopes to be QRV next week as **T6RH**. QSL via NI5DX. — **DDX**

XV – VIETNAM (CQZ 26) JA8BMK, Toshi, informs that on Feb 17 he will be in the resort city of Nha Trang where he plans to be QRV as **XV7BM** until Mar 28. He plans to focus on Topband, 80 meters and the high bands. QSL via JA8BMK. — **DDX**

XX9 – MACAO (CQZ 24) A Team consisting EA5HPX, Eugene; EA7FTR, Fran; US7UX, Oleg; EB5BBM, Jose; EB7DX, David; and their respective XYLs, (also one YL operator EA7JQS, Veronica) will be active from Praia de Cheoc Van, at the Pousada de Coloane Hotel in Macao from Oct 22 - Nov 1. Operations will be holiday style with an entry in the CQ WVV SSB 'test'. — **DDX**

DX INDIAN OCEAN

4S - SRI LANKA (CQZ 22) A group of German operators will be active Mar 10 - 23 as **4S7**. They will set up several stations from 160 to 6 meter using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via DL7DF. — **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

8Q - MALDIVES (CQZ 22) Kasimir, DL2SBY will be active as **8Q7KB** until Feb 24. Activity will be from 30 to 10 meter using SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via home call, bureau or direct. — **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

8Q - MALDIVES (CQZ 22) Tatsu "Ted", JF1CCH, will be active as **8Q7TS** from Hulhumale Island between March 20-31st. Activity will be on 40-10 meters, possibly 160/80m, using CW, SSB and RTTY. Operations will also include the CQWW WPX SSB Contest (March 29-30th). QSL via his home callsign. — **OPDX**

VK9X - CHRISTMAS ISLAND (CQZ 29) Operators Jon/K7CO and Christian/K7CXN will be active as **VK9X/K7CO** from Christmas Island (OC-002) March 1-11. They are looking for another CW operator to join them. Preferred is a ham that has pileup experience and also antenna installation experience. If interested, contact Jon at <k7co@vk9x.com>. Activity will be on 80-10 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. Christian will be the primary operator on PSK31 and will also do some SSB. QSL via K7CO, direct or via the QRSS on ClubLog. NO Bureau. For more details and updates, see <http://www.nielsen.net/vk9x> — **DX World.net, OPDX**



VU4 - ANDAMAN ISLANDS (CQZ 26) Krish, W4VKU, will be active as **VU4K** from Port Blair Mar 23-30. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using SSB and RTTY. He will have a 2 element SteppIR + 30/40m, Acom 1000 and may be a Butternut Vertical antenna (equipment in use is subject to change, should there be any change to the location plans). QSL via W4VKU (QRSS will be open in early April 2014). Logs: Realtime logs will be available via ClubLog. — **DDX**

DX ARCTIC-ANTARCTIC



D8 - ANTARCTICA (CQZ 30) Lee, DS4NMJ will be QRV as **D8A** from the Jang Bogo research station at Terra Nova Bay from February 1 to January 31, 2015. Activity will be on the HF bands using mostly CW with some SSB and RTTY. QSL via HL2FDW. — **DDX**

Antarctica may come to "top band" in March. W8UVZ, George, has collected some info on the possibilities. First, RIIANR, Oleg Sakharov, and two other ops from Novo Base, are there until April 6, "making the common darkness window pretty short." Oleg was the op from Bellingshausen Base in the Shetlands, RIIANF, last season. Oleg says the 160 vertical is almost ready and he starts to be QRV shortly. W8UVZ has made it clear to Oleg lots of people need him on 160. — **DDX**

DX is a marathon, a journey, and not just a sprint. There's no instant gratification at all. — N2RJ

DX Pacific - Oceania

A3, TONGA (CQZ 32) Chris GM3WOJ and Keith GM4YXI will be QRV Apr 4 – 18 as **A35X** and **A35V**, respectively.. Call signs are pending. Operation is planned from 160 to 10 meter using SSB, CW and RTTY. Real-time logging will be provided. -- **DX-World.net DX Bulletin, OPDX**

DU – PHILIPPINES (CQZ 27) Mike, W6QT, will be active as **DU3/W6QT** from Luzon Island (IOTA OC 042) until March 2014. Activity has been 40/20/15/10 meters, but he actually likes working the lower bands. QSL via his home call sign. -- **DX Coffee, OPDX**

FK – NEW CALEDONIA (CQZ 32) FK/KIHP by JE2EHP will make New Caledonia available on the air Feb 18-23. QSL direct to JE2EHP or OQRS. He plans to be on HF CW, SSB and RTTY. -- **DDX**

KH8 - AMERICAN SAMOA (CQZ32) Operators Günter/DL2AWG, Hans/DL6JGN and Ron/PA3EWP will be active as **KH8/home call** from Ofu Island (OC-077) Apr 9-20. Activity will be on 40-10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. They plan to have one station on 24 hours and the second on sometimes. The antennas they will be using are monoband GPs (40-10m). QSL via their home call signs. -- **OPDX**

P29 – PAPUA NEW GUINEA (CQZ 28) JA2VQP, Naohiro, is back in Wewak in East Sepik Province of Papua New Guinea and QRV as **P29NO**. Activity will be on 1.8-430 MHz on CW, SSB and RTTY. According to the P29NO QRZ.com entry, Naohiro is using a long wire and he says his signal may be weak. QSL via EA5GL. -- **DDX**

TX0 – AUSTRAL ISLANDS (CQZ 32) TX6G in the Austral Islands is March 20-April 1. G3XTT, Don Field, says preparations are going well. It will be CW, SSB and RTTY with no PSK planned. With other expeditions in the same time period, Don says they will choose their frequencies accordingly, when the time comes. A priority will be put on openings to far-away Europe, making sure to cover South America, VK/ZL, etc. too. JA and W/VE should be available many hours a day, not a problem, many opportunities to work them. TX6G will avoid the CQ WPX SSB Contest, using that weekend for WARC band emphasis instead, and CW and RTTY on 80-10. There will be no 60 or 6M operation. 160 and 80 will share just one antenna so they will toggle those two bands, just one or the other at a time, depending on band conditions. The website, <http://tx6g.com/>, is up and running. — **DDX**

V650 -, MICRONESIA (CQZ 27) . Haru, JA1XGI, plans to celebrate his 50th anniversary in amateur radio by using the special callsign **V650XG** in 2014 from the following islands of Micronesia:

- Kosrae Island (OC-059) - Sometime in mid-June
- Chuuk Islands (OC-011) - First week in December
- Possibly other islands

Activity is usually on 160-10 meters, including the 30/17/12m, using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the Bureau. An OQRS will be available on ClubLog. For more details and updates, visit his Web page or Blog at: <http://island.geocities.jp/v63xg/index.htm> -- **OPDX**

VK9L – LORD HOWE ISLAND (CQZ 30) The Lagunaria DX Group is proud to announce their DXpedition to Lord Howe Island in October 2014. The 15-man team is planning to have eight fully equipped HF stations QRV for about 17 days. The QTH will be a lodge with access to nearly five acres of free area for erecting many antennas. More information at the DXpedition website on <http://www.lordhowe2014.org> and subscribe to our newsletter to stay informed. -- **DX Coffee**

VK9M - MELLISH REEF (CQZ 30) Operators will be QRV Mar 28 - I Apr 9 as **VK9MT**. More to follow <http://vk9mt.com/> -- **DX-World DX Bulletin**



DX North, Central and South America

6Y - JAMAICA (CQZ 08) Yuri, VE3DZ, is QRV as **6Y2T** from Jamaica (NA-097) until Feb 18. Activity includes the ARRL DX CW Contest (Feb 15-16) as a Single-Op/All-Band/High-Power entry. Operations outside of the contest will be on 160-10 meters, including the 30/17/12 meter bands and using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via VE3DZ. -- **OPDX**

CARIBBEAN TOUR (CQZ 08) DF8AN, Mike, plans to head back to St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat and Antigua in mid to late April. He'll be QRV as **V26MN** from Antigua Apr 15-16, **VP2MMN** on Montserrat Apr 16-24, **V4/DF8AN** on St. Kitts on Apr 24-25 and ending up on St. Kitts again as **V4/DF8AN** Apr 25-29. QSL via DF8AN. -- **DDX**

C6 - BAHAMAS (CQZ 08) Tim, AFIG, is QRV as **AFIG/C6A** while living and working on Andros Island until Nov 20. He is active on 80 to 6 meters using SSB. QSL via LoTW or direct to: Tim Hardy, PSC 1012 Box 593, FPO AA 34058-9998, USA. -- **DX Coffee, OPDX, ARRL DX**

CY0 - SABLE ISLAND (CQZ 05) Aaron Carpenter, **VA1AXC**, is now active from Sable Island, CY0. Aaron is one of two Operations Coordinators for Parks Canada at the new Sable Island National Park Reserve. Aaron has been a licensed Ham Radio operator for about eight years but is new to HF radio operating. His schedule on the island keeps him very busy, but when he is "off duty", he does have some time for getting on the radio. -- **DDX**

FG - GUADELOUPE (CQZ 08) Jean-Pierre, F6ITD is QRV as **FG/F6ITD** until Mar 25. Look for him on HF using SSB and digital modes. During contests the call will be TO6D. QSL via home call. -- **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

FP- ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON (CQZ 05) Al, W6HGF, will be active as **FP/W6HGF** from Miquelon Island (NA-032, DIFO FP-002, WLQTA 1417) until Feb 18 depending on weather. Activity is on 160-10 meters but focused on the Digital modes including an entry in the ARRL CW Contest (Feb 15-16). QSL via LoTW, direct to W6HGF, also via the ClubLog QRSS. For more details, updates and daily summaries, watch: http://www.qsl.net/w6hgf/FP_W6GHF_2014.html -- **DDX**

FS - ST MARTIN & PJ7 SABA (CQZ 08) Husband and wife team KB8RJ, Jack, and WD8KUR, Cristina, will be back in the Caribbean for a little R&R which will include Holiday Style operations from the French side of St. Martin (PJ7) and Dutch island of Saba (PJ6). They'll be QRV as **FS/home call and PJ7/home call** Feb 24-Mar 3, and then **PJ6/home call** Mar 4-10. They will be using a Buddi-Pole and dipoles. -- **DDX, OPDX**

HI - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (CQZ 08) Manu, ZP9MCE will be QRV as **HI7/ZP9MCEI** Apr 7 - 14. Activity is planned in 'holiday-style' on 20, 30 and 40 meter using CW only. QSL via EA5ZD. -- **DX-World.net DX Bulletin**

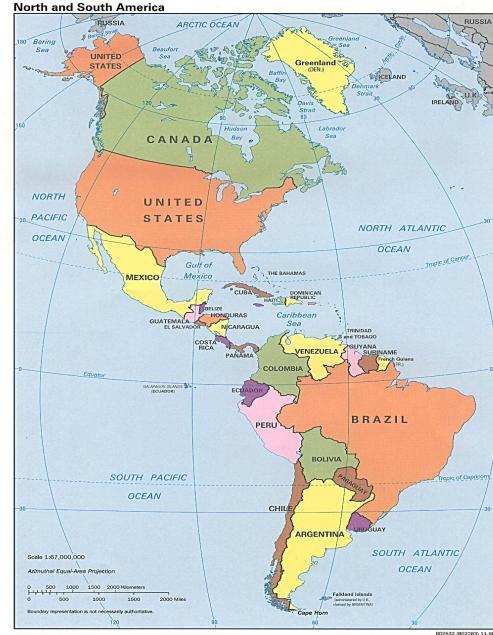
PJ4, BONAIRE (CQZ 09) (SA-006). Stan, WS5K, will be active as **PJ4F** from Kralendijk until March 9th. Activity is on the HF bands, QSL via LoTW or direct to WS5K. -- **OPDX**

YW 0 - AVES ISLAND (CQZ 09) The 4M5DX Group has announced the YW0A operation will take place sometime in April for 10 days. On January 20th, Rafael/YV5RED and Rodrigo Lazo (a research scientist) met with the Directorate of Hydrography and Navigation of the Navy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (DHN - ARBV) authorities in order to coordinate YW0A final schedule. They were told some major upgrades and maintenance work will be done first on the Simon Bolivar Base on Aves Island during February and March. It is suggested to watch the following media Web pages for updates and more exact dates at:

DXpedition's Web page - <http://www.avesisland.info>

4M5DX Group's Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/4M5DX>

4M5DX Group's Twitter page - <https://twitter.com/4m5dxgroup> -- **OPDX**



How Cass Sees It



Hugh Cassidy WA6AUD(SK)

Last week one of the local QRPers sidled up this hill, this one coming with a definite conspiratorial gait. "Heard the news I suppose," he asked in a low whisper and we immediately checked the shack microphones, turned on the taps in the sink in the darkroom and twisted the hi-fi up to full blower. We then had to back things off a bit because with all the noise we could not hear each other.

"It's about DXCC and lists...and two-meter repeaters," the QRPer cautiously advised us, "and the talk now is that once lists are banned for DXCC counters, the next move will be against two-meter repeaters. Just as with lists, they will ban QSOs made where a two-meter alert system works. The feeling is that it's like a multi-multi operation with anyone on the repeater getting the benefit of a couple of hundred stations tuning several bands. The feeling is that this is not fair, often someone locates a station and all you have to do to work it is tune to the announced frequency. It's just about one-hundred percent mechanical. Tune and call. That's it."

By this time we were not quite sure to where we were being led. We tried asking some questions of our own. "Who's this 'them' that's doing all this planning to save the amateurs?", we asked and the QRPer quickly had a finger to his lips. "Careful," he cautioned, "just don't mention anything. If word gets out that a hard look is being taken at repeaters, it will be just like those list-leaners. All up in arms trying to protect a shoddy procedure. Some think they should be allowed to work DX anyway they want. But they will just have to learn. And they will."

By this time for sure we were wondering just where things were going. We had to ask more questions. "If you're going to ban lists and repeaters, how about DX Bulletins? Isn't there often a definite advantage to know when an operation is coming and what the frequencies will be? And doesn't all the DX information make working DX a bit easier?" If you thought we would get a quick answer, try again. The QRPer was not giving any more information. All he said was: "We are just trying to restore the good old values of DXing. Where each one worked DX on his own and everyone was equal, no one having an advantage. Just like it used to be...all fun."

For a moment, we were stuck. Then we had some proposals of our own. "How about starting all over again," we asked the QRPer, "cut off the present DXCC and start DXCC II. Everyone starting off equal...no lists, no repeaters...and maybe not even any DX Bulletins. Just good old QST. How about that?"

We got scarcely a friendly look from the QRPer. "In a pig's ear," he roared, "no one is going to take away all the DX that I have worked at for years. And not with me within five of working everything. Not a chance at all!" And that was it. And do we think that lists and repeaters and DX Bulletins will vanish...hardly!

- Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD (SK) in the West Coast DX Bulletin, sometime between 1968 and 1979
 - from "DX IS! The Best of the West Coast DX Bulletin", by Charles T Allen W5DV and James M Allen W6OGV;
 - Posted on e-ham DX Forum 02/10/2014, <http://www.eham.net/ehamforum/smflindex.php?topic,94954.0.html>

— DX IS! —

An Interview with Franz Langer, DJ9ZB — by Paul Ewing, N6PSE



Franz Langer-DJ9ZB operates from Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar as XZ1J - Google Images

During the XZ1J Dxpedition, I had the pleasure to visit and operate with world-class Dxpeditioner Franz Langer-DJ9ZB.

Franz has operated as a single operator or as a team member from 4W1ZB, JY8ZB, TA2DX, C5ABL, OE6XG/A, J20CP, J20/A, 3A3WPX, T70A, HBØBOE, C3ILY, VK9ZR (Mellish Reef & Willis Is.) PYØSK, PYØSR, KB6IRD/KHØ, FOØXX, PA3CXC/STØ, ET3DX, E31A, E3ØBA, E3ØGA, 9E2A, 3XA8DX, J5Z, 6OIZ, SU7Z, XRØX, 3C0V, K7C, PJ7E, K4M, HK0NA, HV50VR

He is a member of the ARRL, NCDXF, INDEXA, GDXF, EUDXF, CDXC, RRDXA and SDXF

Franz is the author of the "DX World Guide", a publication of DXing and DXpeditions over the years.

Franz is retired as an electronics technician on hybrid and microelectronics Interview with Franz-DJ9ZB:



Paul N6PSE

Franz, can you tell us when you first obtained your amateur radio license and what aspects of ham radio appealed to you?

Franz: I was first licensed in 1965. I was interested in electronics and naturally electronics and amateur radio go together.

Franz, you are a very accomplished Dxer and Dxpeditioner. What is your favorite mode of operation:

Franz: I prefer SSB because I like to hear the excitement in the many voices calling the Dxpedition. There is more of an emotional connection. I enjoy CW at home.

Franz, what was your favorite Dxpedition that you participated in and why?

Franz: Malpelpo-HK0NA was my favorite as it was most physical and mentally challenging.

Franz, where would you most like to operate from?

Franz: I would like to operate from P5, Crozet or Bouvet would be most enjoyable. Paul, let's you and I go there together!

Franz, what nationality has the best operators?

Franz: I would say the Japanese. They are very disciplined and follow instructions well. They respect others on the bands.

6) Franz, any plans to retire from Dxpeditioning?

Franz: I retired from working in the technology field five years ago so that I could enjoy more DXpeditions. I have no plans to stop until I just cannot go anymore. This is very enjoyable and I will continue as long as I can.

The above interview is reprinted from his on-line Blog with permission by author N6PSE
<http://n6pse.wordpress.com/2014/01/30/interview-with-franz-langer-dj9zb/>

DX OPERATIONS APPROVED FOR DXCC CREDIT (Dec 2013 – February 2014).

7O2A – Yemen, 2013 Operation

7Z1ES – Saudi Arabia

9X0XA — Rwanda, 2013 operation

CY0P – Sable Island, 2013 operation

K9W – Wake Island, 2013 DXpedition

T6EU – Afghanistan, current operation through May 3, 214

T6JR --- Afghanistan, 2013 operation

T6MH — Afghanistan, 2012-2013 operations

T6TM – Afghanistan, Nov 20-Dec 10 operation

T6ZG – Afghanistan, current operation

TT8ES – Chad, 2012, 2013, now extended through Feb 28, 2014

VU7AG – Lakshadweep Islands 2013 DXpedition

T6SM – Afghanistan, August 14, 2012 to present

ZD9KX - Tristan Da Cunha 2012 and 2103 Operation

ZS8C and ZS8Z – Prince Edward & Marion Is.

Approval is for the current operation for 2013 through May 2014.

February 2014 DX Calendar (*Edited from <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>*)

Dates	Entity	Call Sign	OSL via	Source	Details
2014 Feb07	2014 Feb15	Micronesia	V6T	PA3CWN 20140131	By JH1NBN fm Woleai Atoll (OC-132)
2014 Feb07	2014 Feb18	St Pierre & Miquelon	FP	W6HGF 20140203	By W6HGF as FP/W6HGF; focus on RTTY
CQ WW WPX Contest, RTTY (Feb 8-9, 2014) Check here for pre-icontest activity too.					
2014 Feb09	2014 Mar25	Guadeloupe	FG	LotW OPDX 20131216	By F6ITD as FG/F6ITD fm La Desirade I (NA-102, FK96lg); HF; SSB + digital; QRV as TO6D weekends and during ARRL DX SSB; QSL also OK via F6ITD (see qrz.com)
2014 Feb10	2014 Feb18	Rodrigues I	3B9	OE4AAC 20131210	By OE4AAC as 3B9/OE4AAC; CW; holiday style operation
2014 Feb11	2014 Feb16	Lesotho	7P8ID	DK3ID Di-rect DK3ID 20131220	By DK3ID; 40-6m; SSB; 100w; QSL also OK via OE8IDK
2014 Feb11	2014 Feb25	Vanuatu	YJ	LotW N7OU 20131212	By N7OU as YJ0OU and NE7D as YJ0ZZ fm Port Vila; 160-10m; CW; QSL also OK via home_call
2014 Feb12	2014 Feb24	Maldives	8Q7KB	DL2SBY DXW.Net 20131223	By DL2SBY fm Ziyaaraifushi I (Feb 12-18) and Fihalhohi I (Feb 18-24); 30-10m; SSB CW RTTY; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct
2014 Feb14	2014 Feb17	Vietnam	3W2DX	JA8BMK DXW.Net 20140211	By JA8BMK fm Ho Chi Minh City
ARRL DX Contest, CW (Feb 15-16, 2014) Check here for pre-contest activity too.					
2014 Feb16	2014 Feb22	Senegal	6W	IW7EGQ DXW.Net 20140204	By MM0NDX as 6W/MM0NDX fm Le Calao; all bands; SSB; holiday style operation
2014 Feb17	2014 Feb23	New Caledonia	FK	JE2EHP DXW.Net 20140213	By JE2EHP as FK/K1HP; HF; CW SSB RTTY
2014 Feb18	2014 Feb23	New Caledonia	FK	LotW DXW.Net 20140106	By JE2EHP as FK/K1HP; HF; CW SSB RTTY; QSL also OK via JE2EHP or OQRS
2014 Feb18	2014 Feb27	French Guiana	FY	F5UII 20140209	By F5UII as FY/F5UII; HF; SSB; spare time operation, 1100z es2200z
2014 Feb18	2014 Feb28	Vietnam	XV7BM	JA8BMK DXW.Net 20140211	By JA8BMK fm Nha Trang; focus on 160 80m
2014 Feb21	2014 Feb25	Micronesia	V6P	PA3CWN 20140131	By JH1NBN fm Pohnpei (OC-010)
2014 Feb21	2014 Mar10	Dominica	J7Y	K1LI 20140115	By K1LI; QRV fARRL DX Phone; focus on low bands outside contest
2014 Feb24	2014 Mar07	Tonga	A35AX	OQRS DK1AX 20131204	By DK1AX DK1MA fm Tongatapu I (OC-049) and Vava'u I (OC-064); CW SSB RTTY; holiday style operation; QSL via ClubLog OQRS
2014 Feb25	2014 Mar16	Uganda	5X1XA	G3XAQ 20131204	By G3XAQ; CW; QRV for RSGB Commonwealth Contest (Mar 8-9)
2014 Feb25	2014 Mar21	Cambodia	XU7ACQ	KF0RQ 20121127	By KF0RQ; 40-10m; SSB PSK31 RTTY
2014 Feb26	2014 Mar08	Annonbon I	3C0BYP	EA5BYP 425DXN 20140201	By EA5BYP fm AF-039; SSB RTTY, some CW; possibly also using 3C4BYP from Equatorial Guinea (Bioko I, AF-010) before and after
2014 Feb27	2014 Mar10	Gambia	C5	LotW DXW.Net 20140203	By M1TKA as C5/M1TKA; 20-10m; QRP; holiday style operation; QSL also OK via M1TKA
2014 Feb28	2014 Mar17	Zambia	9J2T	LotW IK7JWY 20140204	By Italian DXpedition Team; all bands; all modes; QSL also OK via I2YSB direct

March 2014 DX Calendar (*Edited from <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>*)

Dates	Entity	Call Sign	QSL via	Source	Details	
ARRL DX Contest, Phone (Mar 1-2, 2014) Check here for pre-contest activity too.						
2014 Mar01	2014 Mar11	Christmas I	VK9X	K7CO Direct	K7CO 20140106	By K7CO as VK9X/K7CO; 80-10m; SSB CW PSK31; QSL also OK via Club Log
2014 Mar01	2014 Mar28	Surinam	PZ5VC	ON4AVT	DXW.Net 20131108	By ON4AVT; mainly PSK
2014 Mar02	2014 Mar17	Aruba	P4	WA2NHA	DXW.Net 20140120	By WA2NHA as P4/WA2NHA; HF; CW
2014 Mar03	2014 Mar10	Grenada	J34G	G3PJT	G3PJT 20131202	By G3PJT; QRV for RSGB Commonwealth Contest (Mar 8-9); holiday style operation outside contest
2014 Mar03	2014 Mar12	Rwanda	9X0NH	LotW	OPDX 20140210	By G3RWF fm Kigali; HF; CW, some SSB; 100w; inverted vee; QSL also OK via Club Log
2014 Mar04	2014 Mar19	Saba & St Eustatius	PJ6	KB8RJ	OPDX 20140120	By KB8RJ as PJ6/KB8RJ and WD8KUR as PJ6/WD8KUR fm Saba I (NA-145 WFF PAFF-027, WLOTA 2043); HF; Buddipole + dipoles; holiday style operation
2014 Mar10	2014 Mar18	Belize	V31SQ	KC1SQ	KC1SQ 20140201	By KC1SQ; sailboat mobile out of Placencia
2014 Mar10	2014 Mar20	Western Sahara	S0	3Z9DX	DXW.Net 20140210	By 3Z9DX as S0/3Z9DX; 40-10m; SSB; exact dates of operation not clear
2014 Mar10	2014 Mar23	Sri Lanka	4S7	LotW	DXW.Net 20131106	By DK1BT et al as TBA; 160-6m; CW SSB RTTY PSK31 RTTY; 4 stations; QSL also OK via DL7DF, DARC Buro or direct
2014 Mar12	2014 Mar29	Curacao	PJ2	DK5ON	DK5ON 20131009	By DK5ON as PJ2/DK5ON fm SA-099; 80-6m; SSB RTTY PSK CW
2014 Mar13	2014 Mar18	Aruba	P4	Home Call	DXW.Net 20131218	By JR3QFB as P40JH and JS6RRR as P40R; 160-6m; all modes
2014 Mar13	2014 Mar26	Chatham I	ZL7	OE2SNL	OE2SNL 20131114	By OE2SNL as ZL7/OE2SNL fm OC-038; 80-10m; focus on RTTY, also CW
2014 Mar14	2014 Apr11	Tanzania	5H3MB	LotW	425DXN 20140201	By IK2GZU fm Illembula; QSL also OK via IK2GZU, Buro or direct
2014 Mar15	2014 Mar22	Cayman Is	ZF2MT	LotW	DXW.Net 20140117	By W4VAB; HF; CW PSK31; QSL also OK via eQSL
2014 Mar15	2014 Mar22	Norfolk I	VK9NF	K8NF	DXW.Net 20140211	By NL8F; mainly digital; may use VK9N/NL8F
2014 Mar19	2014 Apr01	Br Virgin Is	VP2V	Home Call	SP9FIH 20140122	By SP2FUD as VP2V/SP2FUD, SP6AXW SP6CIK SP9FIH SP9WZS likewise fm Anegada (NA-023, FK78ur); 160-6m; SSB RTTY CW
2014 Mar20	2014 Apr01	Austral Is	TX6G	LotW	G3XTT 20131203	By G3BJ et al fm Raivavae I (OC-114); all bands; CW SSB RTTY; 3 stations; amplifiers; beach verticals; QSL G3TXF as ClubLog OQRS
2014 Mar20	2014 Apr01	Chatham Is	ZL7AAA	VE7NY	VE7NY 20140207	By ZS1FJ VE7NY OE2SNL ZL1GMB; HF; SSB CW RTTY
2014 Mar21	2014 Apr04	Mayotte	TO7BC	DL7BC	DXW.Net 20130908	By DL7BC; 20-10m, perhaps 40m; QSL OK via DARC Buro or direct; QRV for CW WPX SSB Contest
2014 Mar23	2014 Mar30	Andaman Is	VU4K	W4VKU OQRS	DXW.Net 20140127	By W4VKU fm Port Blair; HF; SSB RTTY
2014 Mar23	2014 Mar31	Fiji	3D2FJ	LotW	VA3RJ 20130926	By K0UU fm Beqa I (OC-016, WLOTA 0215); 80-10m; CW; QSL also OK via K0UU direct; holiday style operation
2014 Mar23	2014 Mar31	Togo	5V7	Home Call	PA3CWN 20140207	By F5MVB as 5V7MP and F5AOW as 5V7BJ; QSL OK via REF Buro or direct (US\$2 or 1 IRC, w/ SAE)
2014 Mar28	2014 Apr09	Mellish Reef	VK9MT	M0URX	425DXN 20131026	By team; OQRS available

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB (Mar 29-30, 2014) Check here for pre-contest activity too.



CWops
Monthly
Mini-CWT
Tests

CW

Note Multiple time periods.

See Web site below

Bands (MHz): 1.8-28.

Twice monthly on 2nd and 4th Wed, 28 to 38 kHz above band edge.

Exchange: Name and member number or S/P/C.

Logs due: 2 days.

Rules: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NFDXA 2014 Dual Band DX Contest

New NFDXA	High	Points	Low	Points	Total
Club DX	AB4UF			0	
Contest	AC4ET			0	
First Half of 2014 Work	K3LB	20M	3	40M 5	8
Entities on	K4EB	17M	61	40M 45	106
Two Bands	K4UTE			0	
Use CQ Entity List.	KB4CRT			0	
	KC4FWS			0	
	KX4WW			0	
	NIWON			0	
	N4EPD			0	
	N4GFO			0	
	N4JBK			0	
	N4KE			0	
	N4UF			0	
	NF4L	15M		40M 0	
	NO4J			0	
	NU4Y	20M	67	40M 60	127
	NW4C			0	
	VP5YZ			0	
	W1FO	20M	32	160M 28	60
	W4FDA			0	
	W4GJ			0	
	WA4B			0	
	WA6EZV			0	
	WR4K	20M	87	40M 43	130

ARRL International CW DX Contest



If you are into CW DX, the **ARRL's International DX CW Contest** keeps the DX aiming in your direction. With the weather so lousy and propagation so good, this might be a good weekend to spend at your radio. Here are the details:

Mode: CW only. **Time:** Runs from Feb 15, 0000Z to Feb 16, 2359Z. **Bands:** All HF Bands except WARC bands (MHz): 1.8-28. **Exchange:** RST, state/province or power. **Logs due:** Mar 18

— ARRL Contest Update

PileUp Phonetics Hint

"I have found being on so many DXpeditions that when you call the DX station, give your call twice and change your phonetics. You can't believe how that helps. Some operators will use the same phonetics over and over. By changing them the DX operator has a better chance of understanding your call and will save time. Many times I have asked a calling station to give their call many times so don't be afraid to do so." — WRGEX

Dr. Larry Price, W4RA, 2014 Amateur of the Year

Dayton Hamvention General Chairman Charles Kaiser, KD8JZR, has announced that Dr. Larry Price, W4RA, had been chosen to receive one of ham radios most prestigious honors. Dr. Price served as president of the IARU from 1999 to 2009, and prior to that as ARRL president from 1984 to 1992. The Hamvention's Awards Committee said that Dr. Price's leadership had significant and direct impact on the development of Amateur Radio throughout the world.



Among his many achievements, the panel cited the protection of frequency allocations; the adoption of an ITU Recommendation on the minimum qualifications of radio amateurs; the expansion of the 40 meter band in ITU Regions 1 and 3, and the allocation of new Low Frequency spectrum or use by radio amateurs.

— AR Newsline

THINK TANK WANTS TO MERGE FCC AND FTC



future of telecommunications in the United States.

A team of scholars affiliated with the organization argues that the country's communications law should be rewritten to combine the FCC's industry expertise and capabilities with the generic statutory authority of the Federal Trade Commission.

They contend that the current FCC structure is a poor fit for a modern and converged communications marketplace; that the Communications Act of 1934 raises questions and creates uncertainty about the FCC's regulation of the Internet. It notes that this was recently shown when the U.S. Court of Appeals threw out the FCC's Net Neutrality rules. The American Enterprise Institute appears to believe that a single agency combining the powers of the FCC and the FTC is what's needed to guide the future of this resource. — AR Newsline

The American Enterprise Institute wants to combine the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Communications Commission into a single agency to better manage the



CUBAN 5 MHZ OPERATION WILL BE DOMESTIC ONLY

Cuban hams will be getting limited access to 5 MHz, but with more strings attached than originally thought. According to an update from Pavel Costa, CO7WT, and made public via the Southgate News, Cuba's Telecommunications Regulatory Agency has made it clear that the use of the 60 meter band is for emergencies and experimentation within that nation and only in communication with other Cuban hams. As such, no contacts are allowed with other countries until further notice. The country's regulatory agency noted further that the amateur radio community will have to wait until the regulatory body creates the procedures for this license upgrade and this could take some time. — CO7WT, Southgate via AR Newsline

R0000OR CELEBRATES WINTER OLYMPICS IN SOCHI

Special event call sign R0000OR (**R-Zero-Zero-Zero-Zero-O-R**) will be on the air through March 31st in celebration of the 2014 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games being held in Sochi, Russia. The Four zero's in the call are to symbolize the Olympic rings. — AR Newsline

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 (DDX) (<http://www.dailidx.com>),
Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX) (<http://www.papays.com/opdx.html>),
DX World of Ham Radio (DX World.net) (<http://www.dx-world.net/>),
425 DX News (425 DXN) (<http://www.425dxn.org/>),
NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page (NG3K) (<http://www.ng3k.com/>),
The DX Magazine (DXM) (<http://www.dxpub.com/>),
DX Coffee (DXC) (<http://www.dxcoffee.com/> eng/),
DARC DXNL (DXNL) (<http://www.dxfh.darc.de/>),
ARRL (ARRL DX) (<http://www.arrl.org>),
Finally, Off-air and word of mouth from those who turned on their radios, listened, and then told **The PileUp what they heard.**

— NW4C

It's the Law!

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

PileUp

Editor

Warren Croke, NW4C
4092 NW 23 Circle
Gainesville, FL 32605
USA

<http://nfdxa.com>



The Monthly Newsletter of The North Florida DX Association

DX Operator Classifications

Big Gun DXer

Leaps over multiple, tall antenna structures with a single bound. Uses stacked, full-sized mono-banders on each band. His signal bends S-meter needles. Head copies code faster than a Skimmer. Rare DX calls him, then spots him on the cluster. Routinely walks on water when it doesn't part for him. Reviews ARRL DX policy one on one with God.

Average DXer

Can leap over medium height antenna structures with a single bound. Uses single multi-band beam and wires for the low bands. Wiggles S-meters a little bit but doesn't worry as long as the DX reads his call.. Copies much of the code he hears. Can jump across puddles when required. Talks to God but only after getting permission from the ARRL DX Desk.

Little Pistol DXer

Can leap over average antenna structures with a running start and the wind at his back. Uses a multi-band dipole or a GAP of some sort. Knows what an Alpha is but probably uses an Ameritron. Copies code...sorta. RareDX sometimes hears him but usually near the end of a multi-week DXpedition. Walks through shallow water. Must send his messages to God via the ARRL DX Desk.

Wanna-be DXer

Can climb over his antenna. Uses a sweep-tube amp and isn't sure what an Alpha is. Uses code reader most of the time. Generally avoids contact with water. Has been unsuccessful in attempts to contact the ARRL DX Desk so he can pass a message to God..

Frequency Cop

Trips over antenna guy wires. Can send letters "U" and "P" at speeds up to 5 wpm without injuring himself. Occasionally heard on SSB screaming "working split, dummy" or "Spleet, Spleet!" Is in water over his head most of the time. Thought he was getting regular messages directly from God but it turned out to be gas. He's not known to anyone in heaven.

The Last Word

The interesting thing about major expeditions like FT5ZM is that it brings out both the best and the worst in our DX community. The best were the world-class Ops in the FT5 team. The worst? I can't recall when I've heard so much deliberate QRM and other bad on-air behavior.

Everything thing from prolonged tuning up on top of the DX, to obviously false CQ calls being made on the DX's transmitting frequency.

An occasional tune-up slip is excusable—most of us have done it at least once. But but no DXer I know would even think about throwing 60 wpm dits on top of the DX, fiendishly timing the transmissions to coincide to when the DX was giving a contact report to some poor sod who'd managed to break through the pile-up.

In sum, it was both sad and disgusting to listen to. What makes it worse is no one in the legitimate DX community seems to have a solution for this bad behavior. We once were proud to be called "DXers". Now, I'm not so sure. Do you know anyone who would do the actions described above? Probably not. Protestations like mine obviously are being made to the 'choir', as the saying goes. 'Self policing' isn't working.

The FCC? One wonders whatever became of the 'Friendly Candy Company' of a few years back, the FCC that most of us knew and feared was always listening, waiting for us to make a misstep?

Unless someone has a better solution it appears the only thing we presently do is ignore these septic tank bottom feeders as best we can. Keep on plugging because eventually fecal matter settles to the bottom where it's out of sight and hearing. — NW4C



Warren NW4C